

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to commuter rail projects; amending s.
 3 341.303, F.S.; requiring the Department of Transportation
 4 to enter into certain interlocal agreements for public
 5 transit commuter rail projects; requiring certain
 6 conditions and provisions for the agreements; providing
 7 for counties and municipalities to provide input to
 8 address the allocation of certain funding; providing for
 9 counties and municipalities to commit future year funding
 10 for all phases of commuter rail projects; providing for
 11 enforceability of commitments; providing an effective
 12 date.

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 14 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 16 Section 1. Paragraph (d) is added to subsection (3) of
 17 section 341.303, Florida Statutes, to read:

18 341.303 Funding authorization and appropriations;
 19 eligibility and participation.--

20 (3) FUND PARTICIPATION; CAPITAL ASSISTANCE; INTERLOCAL
 21 AGREEMENTS.--

22 (d) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the
 23 department shall enter into interlocal agreements with affected
 24 counties and cities for public transit commuter rail projects
 25 provided the agreement:

26 1. Commits each affected city and county to the planning
 27 and, if appropriate, the completion of the project;

28 2. Provides specific authority and responsibility for each
29 city and county to provide input and recommendations concerning
30 the funding formula to address the allocation of the local
31 government, nonfederal share of funding between the affected
32 counties and cities for the entire cost of the project;

33 3. Provides specific authority to each city and county to
34 commit future funding that all parties to the agreement may rely
35 upon in the future, for all phases of the project including
36 preliminary engineering, final design, right-of-way acquisition,
37 and construction; and

38 4. Provides that the commitments made in the interlocal
39 agreement are legally binding and enforceable as to each county
40 and city.

41 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.