Bill No. CS/CS/SB 1168

Amendment No. (for drafter's use only)

# CHAMBER ACTION Senate House Representative(s) Russell offered the following: Amendment (with title amendment) On page 2, line 28, remove: everything after the enacting clause and insert: Section 1. Section 427.012, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 427.012 The Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged. -- There is created the Commission for the 11 Transportation Disadvantaged in the Department of 12 Transportation. 13

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whom shall be appointed by the Governor.

(1) The commission shall consist of seven members, all of

- (a) Five of the appointed members must have significant experience in the operation of a business and, when making an appointment, it is the intent of the Legislature that the Governor select persons who reflect the broad diversity of the business community in this state, as well as the racial, ethnic, geographical, and gender diversity of the population of this state.
- (b) Two of the members appointed must be persons with a disability who use the transportation disadvantaged system.
- (c) Each member of the commission shall represent the needs of the transportation disadvantaged throughout the state.

  A member may not subordinate the needs of the transportation disadvantaged in general in order to favor the needs of others residing in a specific location in the state.
- (d) Each person appointed to the board of the commission shall serve a term of 4 years. A member may be reappointed for one additional 4-year term.
- (e) A member must be a citizen of the state and a registered voter.
- (f) The Secretary of Transportation, the Secretary of
  Children and Family Services, the director of Workforce
  Innovation, the executive director of the Department of
  Veterans' Affairs, the Secretary of Elderly Affairs, the
  Secretary of Health Care Administration, the director of the
  Agency for Persons with Disabilities, and an elected official of
  local government who is appointed by the Governor, or a designee

Bill No. CS/CS/SB 1168

Amendment No. (for drafter's use only)

- of each, respectively, shall serve as ex officio, nonvoting advisors to the commission.
  - (g) A person appointed to the board of the commission may not, within the 5 years immediately before the appointment, or during his or her term on the board, have or have had a financial relationship with, or represent or have represented as a lobbyist as defined in s. 11.045 the following:
    - 1. A transportation operator;
    - 2. A community transportation coordinator;
    - 3. A metropolitan planning organization;
    - 4. A designated official planning agency;
    - 5. A purchaser agency;
    - 6. A local coordinating board;
    - 7. A broker of transportation; or
  - 8. A provider of transportation services. the following
  - (a) The secretary of the Department of Transportation or the secretary's designee.
  - (b) The secretary of the Department of Children and Family Services or the secretary's designee.
  - (c) The Commissioner of Education or the commissioner's designee.
  - (d) The secretary of the Department of Labor and Employment Security or the secretary's designee.
- (e) The executive director of the Department of Veterans'
  Affairs or the executive director's designee.

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Bill No. CS/CS/SB 1168

Amendment No. (for drafter's use only)

- (f) The secretary of the Department of Elderly Affairs or the secretary's designee.
- (g) The director of the Agency for Health Care
  Administration or the director's designee.
- (h) A representative of the Florida Association for Community Action, who shall serve at the pleasure of that association.
- (i) A representative of the Florida Transit Association, who shall serve at the pleasure of that association.
- (j) A person over the age of 60 who is a member of a recognized statewide organization representing elderly Floridians. Such person shall be appointed by the Governor to represent elderly Floridians and shall be appointed to serve a term of 4 years.
- (k) A handicapped person who is a member of a recognized statewide organization representing handicapped Floridians. Such person shall be appointed by the Governor to represent handicapped Floridians and shall be appointed to serve a term of 4 years.
- (1) Two citizen advocate representatives who shall be appointed by the Governor for a term of 4 years, one representing rural citizens and one representing urban citizens.
- (m) A representative of the community transportation coordinators. Such person shall be appointed by the Governor to represent all community transportation coordinators and shall be appointed to serve a term of 4 years.

- (n) One member of the Early Childhood Council. Such person shall be appointed by the Governor to represent maternal and child health care providers and shall be appointed to serve a term of 4 years.
- (o) Two representatives of current private for-profit or private not-for-profit transportation operators each of which have a minimum of 5 years of continuous experience operating a broad-based system of ambulatory and wheelchair/stretcher type transportation, utilizing not less than 50 vehicles and including dispatch and scheduling responsibilities. Such persons shall be appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture to serve a term of 4 years.
- (p) Four representatives of current private for-profit or private not-for-profit transportation operators, each of which having a minimum of 5 years of continuous experience operating a broad-based system of ambulatory and wheelchair or stretcher-type transportation, utilizing not less than 50 vehicles, and including dispatch and scheduling responsibilities. Such persons shall be appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture to serve a term of 4 years.
- (q) Six citizens representing the nontransportation business community of the state, three members appointed by the President of the Senate and three members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (2) The chairperson shall be appointed by the Governor and vice chairperson of the commission shall be elected annually from the membership of the commission.

- (3) Members of the commission shall serve without compensation but shall be allowed per diem and travel expenses, as provided in s. 112.061.
- (4) The commission shall meet at least quarterly, or more frequently at the call of the chairperson. Five Nine members of the commission constitute a quorum, and a majority vote of the members present is necessary for any action taken by the commission.
- (5) The Governor may remove any member of the commission for cause.
- before accepting the appointment, undergo background screening under s. 435.04, by filing with the Department of Transportation a complete set of fingerprints taken by an authorized law enforcement agency. The fingerprints must be submitted to the Department of Law Enforcement for state processing, and that department shall submit the fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for federal processing. The Department of Transportation shall screen the background results and inform the commission if any candidate failed to meet level 2 screening standards. A candidate found to have failed to meet level 2 screening standards may not be appointed to the commission. The cost of the background screening may be borne by the Department of Transportation or the candidate for appointment to the commission.
- $\underline{(7)}$  (6) The commission shall appoint an executive director who shall serve under the direction, supervision, and control of

the commission. The executive director, with the consent of the commission, shall employ such personnel as may be necessary to perform adequately the functions of the commission within budgetary limitations. All employees of the commission are exempt from the Career Service System.

- (8) The commission shall appoint at least four technical advisory committees to advise the commission on issues of importance to the state and to regions of the state.
- (a) One technical advisory committee shall provide information, advice, and direction to the commission on the coordination of services for the transportation disadvantaged. Its membership shall include, but need not be limited to, representatives of community transportation coordinators and private paratransit providers.
- (b) One technical advisory committee shall provide information, advice, and direction to the commission on the transportation planning issues affecting the transportation disadvantaged program. Its membership may include, but need not be limited to, representatives of metropolitan planning organizations and regional planning councils.
- (c) One technical advisory committee shall provide information, advice, and direction to the commission on business-related issues affecting the transportation disadvantaged program. Its membership may include, but need not be limited to, persons with expertise in insurance, marketing, economic development, or financial planning.

- (d) One technical advisory committee shall be a forum for users of the transportation disadvantaged system. Its membership may include, but need not be limited to, direct users of the system and representatives of the users, such as parents and other relatives, guardians, and service professionals who tend to the needs of persons who are transportationally disadvantaged.
- (e) The commission may establish the size, composition, and focus of any technical advisory committee it creates. A member appointed to a technical advisory committee shall serve without compensation and without per diem.
- (9)(7) The commission is assigned to the office of the secretary of the Department of Transportation for administrative and fiscal accountability purposes, but it shall otherwise function independently of the control, supervision, and direction of the department.
- (10)(8) The commission shall develop a budget under pursuant to chapter 216. The budget is not subject to change by the department staff after it has been approved by the commission, but it shall be transmitted to the Governor, as head of the department, along with the budget of the department.
- (11)(a) No later than 30 days after the Governor issues his executive budget recommendations, the commission shall present to the Legislative Budget Commission a proposed formula for allocating the transportation funds that the commission anticipates receiving from the General Appropriations Act for the next fiscal year. The document must specifically detail the

amount of funding expected to be allocated to each county for transportation disadvantaged services. The Legislative Budget Commission shall approve, reject, or request modifications to the formula no later than 60 days after receiving the proposed funding allocation formula.

- (b) Upon the General Appropriations Act becoming law, the commission shall present to the Legislative Budget Commission the county distribution schedule, which is the approved allocation formula applied to the funds allocated to the commission.
- (c) The commission may not change the transportation disadvantaged distribution schedule without the permission of the Legislative Budget Commission, except in the case of a disaster as defined in chapter 252.
- Section 2. Subsection (12) of section 427.013, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 427.013 The Commission for the Transportation
  Disadvantaged; purpose and responsibilities.—The purpose of the commission is to accomplish the coordination of transportation services provided to the transportation disadvantaged. The goal of this coordination shall be to assure the cost-effective provision of transportation by qualified community transportation coordinators or transportation operators for the transportation disadvantaged without any bias or presumption in favor of multioperator systems or not-for-profit transportation operators over single operator systems or for-profit

Bill No. CS/CS/SB 1168

Amendment No. (for drafter's use only)

transportation operators. In carrying out this purpose, the commission shall:

- (12)(a) Have the authority to apply for and accept funds, grants, gifts, and services from the Federal Government, state government, local governments, or private funding sources. Applications by the commission for local government funds shall be coordinated through the appropriate coordinating board. Funds acquired or accepted under this subsection shall be administered by the commission and shall be used to carry out the commission's responsibilities.
- (b) Develop an allocation methodology or formula that equitably distributes all funds, to include Medicaid nonemergency transportation funds, under the control of the commission to compensate counties, community transportation coordinators, or other entities providing transportation disadvantaged services. The formula shall take into account not only the actual costs of each transportation disadvantaged trip but also those efficiencies that a provider might adopt to reduce costs, including cost efficiencies of trips when compared to the local cost of transporting the general public.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.

251 ========= T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ==========

On page 1, line 2 through page 2, line 25,

253 remove: all of said lines

5/3/2005 2:05:19 PM

Bill No. CS/CS/SB 1168

Amendment No. (for drafter's use only)

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and insert: An act relating to the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged; amending s. 427.012, F.S.; revising the membership of the commission; establishing term limits; directing each member of the commission to serve without regional bias; providing qualifications for appointment to membership on the commission; providing for nonvoting advisory members; requiring candidates for appointment to the commission to meet certain standards for background screening; requiring the Department of Transportation to inform the commission if a candidate fails to meet the screening standards; providing that costs of screening be borne by the department or the candidate for appointment; authorizing the commission to appoint technical advisory committees; requiring the commission to present a proposed funding distribution formula to the Legislative Budget Commission for allocating transportation disadvantaged funds the commission anticipates receiving from the General Appropriations Act; authorizing the Legislative Budget Commission to approve, reject, or modify the proposed allocation formula; requiring the commission to detail the expected allocation of funding to each county; prohibiting the commission from altering the distribution schedule without the approval of the Legislative Budget Commission except in the case of a disaster; amending s. 427.013, F.S.; requiring the commission to develop an allocation methodology to equitably distribute transportation funds under the control of the commission to counties, community transportation coordinators, or other entities providing

207639

5/3/2005 2:05:19 PM

Bill No. CS/CS/SB 1168

Amendment No. (for drafter's use only)

transportation disadvantaged services; providing an effective

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5/3/2005 2:05:19 PM