

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to the Commission for the Transportation
 3 Disadvantaged; amending s. 427.012, F.S.; revising
 4 membership of the commission; prohibiting change of
 5 appropriated Medicaid transportation funding amounts by
 6 the commission or the Agency for Health Care
 7 Administration; amending s. 427.013, F.S.; requiring the
 8 commission use the same criteria to evaluate and provide
 9 funding for all transportation providers; providing an
 10 effective date.

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

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 14 Section 1. Subsections (1) and (8) of section 427.012,
 15 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

16 427.012 The Commission for the Transportation
 17 Disadvantaged.--There is created the Commission for the
 18 Transportation Disadvantaged in the Department of
 19 Transportation.

20 (1) The commission, which shall have no more than 11
 21 members, shall consist of the following members:

22 (a) The secretary of the Department of Transportation or
 23 the secretary's designee.

24 ~~(b) The secretary of the Department of Children and Family~~
 25 ~~Services or the secretary's designee.~~

26 ~~(c) The Commissioner of Education or the commissioner's~~
 27 ~~designee.~~

28 ~~(d) The secretary of the Department of Labor and~~
 29 ~~Employment Security or the secretary's designee.~~

30 ~~(e) The executive director of the Department of Veterans'~~
 31 ~~Affairs or the executive director's designee.~~

32 ~~(f) The secretary of the Department of Elderly Affairs or~~
 33 ~~the secretary's designee.~~

34 (b)(g) The director of the Agency for Health Care
 35 Administration or the director's designee.

36 (c)(h) A representative of the Florida Association for
 37 Community Action, who shall serve at the pleasure of that
 38 association.

39 (d)(i) A representative of the Florida Transit
 40 Association, who shall serve at the pleasure of that
 41 association.

42 (e)(j) A person over the age of 60 who is a member of a
 43 recognized statewide organization representing elderly
 44 Floridians. Such person shall be appointed by the Governor to
 45 represent elderly Floridians and shall be appointed to serve a
 46 term of 4 years.

47 (f)(k) A handicapped person who is a member of a
 48 recognized statewide organization representing handicapped
 49 Floridians. Such person shall be appointed by the Governor to
 50 represent handicapped Floridians and shall be appointed to serve
 51 a term of 4 years.

52 (g) Five additional members, one member appointed by the
 53 Governor, two members appointed by the President of the Senate,
 54 and two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of
 55 Representatives.

56 ~~(l) Two citizen advocate representatives who shall be~~
 57 ~~appointed by the Governor for a term of 4 years, one~~
 58 ~~representing rural citizens and one representing urban citizens.~~

59 ~~(m) A representative of the community transportation~~
 60 ~~coordinators. Such person shall be appointed by the Governor to~~
 61 ~~represent all community transportation coordinators and shall be~~
 62 ~~appointed to serve a term of 4 years.~~

63 ~~(n) One member of the Early Childhood Council. Such person~~
 64 ~~shall be appointed by the Governor to represent maternal and~~
 65 ~~child health care providers and shall be appointed to serve a~~
 66 ~~term of 4 years.~~

67 ~~(o) Two representatives of current private for-profit or~~
 68 ~~private not-for-profit transportation operators each of which~~
 69 ~~have a minimum of 5 years of continuous experience operating a~~
 70 ~~broad-based system of ambulatory and wheelchair/stretchers type~~
 71 ~~transportation, utilizing not less than 50 vehicles and~~
 72 ~~including dispatch and scheduling responsibilities. Such persons~~
 73 ~~shall be appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture to serve a~~
 74 ~~term of 4 years.~~

75 ~~(p) Four representatives of current private for-profit or~~
 76 ~~private not-for-profit transportation operators, each of which~~
 77 ~~having a minimum of 5 years of continuous experience operating a~~
 78 ~~broad-based system of ambulatory and wheelchair or stretchers-~~
 79 ~~type transportation, utilizing not less than 50 vehicles, and~~
 80 ~~including dispatch and scheduling responsibilities. Such persons~~
 81 ~~shall be appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture to serve a~~
 82 ~~term of 4 years.~~

83 ~~(g) Six citizens representing the nontransportation~~
 84 ~~business community of the state, three members appointed by the~~
 85 ~~President of the Senate and three members appointed by the~~
 86 ~~Speaker of the House of Representatives.~~

87 (8) The commission shall develop a budget pursuant to
 88 chapter 216. The budget is not subject to change by the
 89 department staff after it has been approved by the commission,
 90 but it shall be transmitted to the Governor, as head of the
 91 department, along with the budget of the department.
 92 Notwithstanding any other law, the General Appropriations Act
 93 shall provide for an exact funding amount to be allocated to the
 94 commission for Medicaid transportation funding and such amount
 95 shall not be subject to change by the commission or the Agency
 96 for Health Care Administration.

97 Section 2. Subsection (28) is added to section 427.013,
 98 Florida Statutes, to read:

99 427.013 The Commission for the Transportation
 100 Disadvantaged; purpose and responsibilities.--The purpose of the
 101 commission is to accomplish the coordination of transportation
 102 services provided to the transportation disadvantaged. The goal
 103 of this coordination shall be to assure the cost-effective
 104 provision of transportation by qualified community
 105 transportation coordinators or transportation operators for the
 106 transportation disadvantaged without any bias or presumption in
 107 favor of multioperator systems or not-for-profit transportation
 108 operators over single operator systems or for-profit
 109 transportation operators. In carrying out this purpose, the
 110 commission shall:

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111 | (28) Notwithstanding any other provision of this part, use
112 | the same criteria to evaluate and provide funding for all
113 | transportation providers in the state.

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