By Senator Geller

31-134A-05 See HB 1409

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to regional transportation
3	authorities; amending s. 343.52, F.S.; revising
4	the definition of "transit system" for purposes
5	of the South Florida Regional Transportation
6	Authority Act; amending s. 343.54, F.S.;
7	revising powers and duties of that authority;
8	amending s. 343.55, F.S.; providing for
9	issuance, reissuance, and redemption of revenue
10	bonds by the authority; amending s. 343.58,
11	F.S.; revising funding sources of the
12	authority; removing certain county
13	contributions to the authority; revising a
14	vehicle registration tax levied by the
15	authority; providing for annual revision of the
16	tax until a specified time; amending s. 120.52,
17	F.S.; providing that specified regional
18	transportation authorities are not agencies
19	under the Administrative Procedure Act;
20	amending s. 163.3180, F.S.; providing that
21	comprehensive plan concurrency requirements do
22	not apply to transit-oriented development
23	master plans; providing criteria for such
24	plans; providing an effective date.
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26	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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28	Section 1. Subsection (4) of section 343.52, Florida
29	Statutes, is amended to read:
30	343.52 DefinitionsAs used in this part, the term:
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(4) "Transit system" means a system used for the transportation of people and goods by means of, without limitation, a street railway, an inland waterway, an elevated railway having a fixed guideway, a commuter railroad, a subway, motor vehicles, or motor buses, and includes a complete system of tracks, stations, and rolling stock necessary to effectuate passenger service to or from the surrounding regional municipalities.

Section 2. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and subsection (5) of section 343.54, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

343.54 Powers and duties.--

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- (b) It is the express intention of this part that the authority be authorized to plan, develop, own, purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire, demolish, construct, improve, relocate, equip, repair, maintain, operate, and manage a transit system and transit facilities; to establish and determine the policies necessary for the best interest of the operation and promotion of a transit system; and to adopt rules necessary to govern the operation of a transit commuter rail system and transit commuter rail facilities. It is the intent of the Legislature that the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority shall have overall authority to coordinate, develop, and operate a regional transportation system within the area served.
- (5) The authority, by a resolution of its governing board, may expand its service area and enter into an agreement a partnership with any county that is contiguous to the service area of the authority. The board shall determine the conditions and terms of the agreement partnership, except as

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provided herein. However, the authority may not expand its service area without the consent of the board of county commissioners representing the proposed expansion area, and a county may not be added to the service area except in the year that federal reauthorization legislation for transportation funds is enacted. Section 3. Subsection (3) of section 343.55, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 343.55 <del>Issuance of</del> Revenue bonds.--(3)(a) The authority may issue, reissue, or redeem bonds that do not pledge the full faith and credit of the state in such principal amount as, in the opinion of the authority, is necessary to provide sufficient moneys for achieving its corporate purposes. (b) The bonds of the authority, whether on original issuance or refunding, must be authorized by resolution of the authority after approval of the issuance of the bonds at a public hearing, may be either term or serial bonds, and shall bear such date or dates, mature at such time or times, bear interest at such rate or rates, be in such denominations, be in such form, either coupon or fully registered, carry such registration, exchangeability, and interchangeability privileges, be payable in such medium of payment and at such place or places and at such times, be subject to such terms of redemption, and be entitled to such priorities on the revenues, rates, fees, rentals, or other charges or receipts of the authority as such resolution or any resolution subsequent thereto may provide. The bonds must be executed by such officers as the authority determines under the requirements of s. 279.06.

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(c) The bonds shall be sold by the authority at public sale by competitive bid. However, if the authority, after receipt of a written recommendation from a financial adviser, shall determine by official action after public hearing by a two-thirds vote of all voting members of the authority that a negotiated sale of the bonds is in the best interest of the authority, the authority may negotiate for sale of the bonds with the underwriter or underwriters designated by the authority. The authority shall provide specific findings in a resolution as to the reasons requiring the negotiated sale, which resolution shall incorporate and have attached thereto the written recommendation of the financial adviser required by this paragraph.

(d) Any such resolution or resolutions authorizing any

(d) Any such resolution or resolutions authorizing any bonds hereunder that do not pledge the full faith and credit of the state may contain provisions that are part of the contract with the holders of the bonds as the authority determines proper. In addition, the authority may enter into trust indentures or other agreements with its fiscal agent, or with any bank or trust company within or without the state, as security for such bonds and may, under the agreements, assign and pledge the revenues, rates, fees, rentals, tolls, or other charges or receipts of the authority.

(e) Any of the bonds issued pursuant to this part are negotiable instruments and have all the qualities and incidents of negotiable instruments under the law merchant and the negotiable instruments law of the state. The Division of Bond Finance is authorized to issue revenue bonds on behalf of the authority to finance or refinance the cost of projects.

Section 4 Section 343 58 Florida Statutes is

Section 4. Section 343.58, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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343.58 County Funding for the South Florida Regional
Transportation Authority.-
(1) Each county served by the South Florida Regional
Transportation Authority must dedicate \$2.67 million to the
authority annually. The recurring annual \$2.67 million must be

authority annually. The recurring annual \$2.67 million must be dedicated by the governing body of each county by August 1, 2003. Notwithstanding ss. 206.41 and 206.87, such dedicated funding may come from each county's share of the ninth cent fuel tax, the local option fuel tax, or any other source of local gas taxes or other nonfederal funds available to the counties. In addition, The Legislature authorizes the levy of an annual license tax in the amount of  $$5\frac{$2}{$}$  for the registration or renewal of registration of each vehicle taxed under s. 320.08 and registered in the area served by the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority with an escalation equivalent to the Consumer Price Index each year until 2030. The annual license tax shall take effect in any county served by the authority upon approval by the residents in a county served by the authority. The annual license tax shall be levied and the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles

(2) In addition, each county shall continue to annually fund the operations of the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority in an amount not less than \$1.565 million. Such Funds pursuant to this section subsection shall also be considered a dedicated funding source.

shall remit the proceeds each month from the tax to the South

Florida Regional Transportation Authority.

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If, by December 31, 2009, the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority has not received federal matching

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funds based upon the dedication of funds under this section subsection (1), this section subsection (1) shall be repealed.

Section 5. Subsection (1) of section 120.52, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

120.52 Definitions.--As used in this act:

- (1) "Agency" means:
- (a) The Governor in the exercise of all executive powers other than those derived from the constitution.
  - (b) Each:
- 10 1. State officer and state department, and each departmental unit described in s. 20.04.
- 2. Authority, including a regional water supplyauthority.
  - Board.
    - 4. Commission, including the Commission on Ethics and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission when acting pursuant to statutory authority derived from the Legislature.
      - 5. Regional planning agency.
  - 6. Multicounty special district with a majority of its governing board comprised of nonelected persons.
- 7. Educational units.
- 8. Entity described in chapters 163, 373, 380, and 582 and s. 186.504.
  - (c) Each other unit of government in the state, including counties and municipalities, to the extent they are expressly made subject to this act by general or special law or existing judicial decisions.

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- This definition does not include any legal entity or agency created in whole or in part pursuant to chapter 361, part II,
- $|\mathcal{I}|$  any metropolitan planning organization created pursuant to s.

339.175, any separate legal or administrative entity created 2 pursuant to s. 339.175 of which a metropolitan planning organization is a member, a regional transportation authority 3 created pursuant to chapter 343, an expressway authority 4 pursuant to chapter 348, any legal or administrative entity 5 created by an interlocal agreement pursuant to s. 163.01(7), 7 unless any party to such agreement is otherwise an agency as 8 defined in this subsection, or any multicounty special district with a majority of its governing board comprised of 9 elected persons; however, this definition shall include a 10 regional water supply authority. 11 12 Section 6. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section 13 163.3180, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 163.3180 Concurrency.--14 15 (4)The concurrency requirement as implemented in 16 17 local comprehensive plans does not apply to public transit facilities or transit-oriented development master plans. For 18 the purposes of this paragraph, public transit facilities 19 include transit stations and terminals, transit station 20 parking, park-and-ride lots, intermodal public transit 2.1 22 connection or transfer facilities, and fixed bus, guideway, 23 and rail stations. For the purposes of this paragraph, transit-oriented development master plans are plans adopted by 2.4 a local governing body that graphically depict the locations 25 26 of transit stations, roadways, buildings, public spaces, and 27 civic spaces within a quarter-mile to half-mile radius of the 2.8 transit station. As used in this paragraph, the terms "terminals" and "transit facilities" do not include airports 29 or seaports or commercial or residential development 30 constructed in conjunction with a public transit facility,

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except as may be constructed within a transit-oriented
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    development master plan.
           Section 7. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
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