

SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: Governmental Oversight and Productivity Committee

BILL: SB 516

SPONSOR: Senators Alexander and Haridopolos

SUBJECT: Citrus Department/Districts

DATE: February 7, 2005

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Weidenbenner</u>	<u>Poole</u>	<u>AG</u>	<u>Fav/1 amendment</u>
2.	<u>McKay</u>	<u>Wilson</u>	<u>GO</u>	<u>Favorable</u>
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

Please see last section for Summary of Amendments

- Technical amendments were recommended
- Amendments were recommended
- Significant amendments were recommended

I. Summary:

This bill reorganizes the citrus districts of the state, assigning counties within the citrus production area to one of four separate citrus districts. Under current law, the citrus producing counties of the state are divided into three citrus districts.

This bill substantially amends section 601.09 of the Florida Statutes.

II. Present Situation:

The citrus production area of the state is currently divided into three districts, which are aligned according to total citrus production. The Florida Department of Citrus is governed by a board known and designated as the "Florida Citrus Commission." The commission is composed of 12 members, four from each of the three citrus fruit districts. Members are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate.

It is the legislative intent that the commission be redistricted every 5 years, based on the total number of boxes of citrus produced from each of the three districts during the prior 5-year period (s. 601.04, F.S.). Redistricting was last addressed by the 2000 Legislature.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1. Amends section 601.09, F.S., by adding a fourth district and reassigning the following counties:

- (1) Citrus District One - Osceola County is transferred from Citrus District Three to Citrus District One and Manatee, Sarasota, and Highlands counties are transferred from Citrus District One to other districts.
- (2) Citrus District Two – Manatee and Sarasota counties are transferred to Citrus District Two from Citrus District One and Glades and Hendry counties are transferred from Citrus District Two to a new district, Citrus District Four.
- (3) Citrus District Three – Okeechobee County is transferred from Citrus District Three to a new district, Citrus District Four.
- (4) Citrus District Four – This is a new district composed of Highlands county, transferred from Citrus District One, Glades and Hendry counties transferred from Citrus District Two, and Okeechobee county transferred from Citrus District Three.

Section 2. Provides that this act shall take effect July 1, 2005.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The technical amendment has the effect, in s. 601.154(4)(a), F.S., of increasing by two the number of members on the advisory council appointed by the commission chair to advise the Department of Citrus on marketing orders issued pursuant to s. 601.154, F.S. Pursuant to s. 601.154(4)(g), F.S., those two additional members are entitled to reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses in accordance with s. 112.061, F.S.

The Department of Citrus has not responded to requests for information relating to the amount of advisory council members' per diem and travel expenses typically reimbursed. In the absence of this information. Staff estimates a maximum reimbursement amount of \$500 per meeting day per advisory council member, assuming airfare to and from Tampa and an overnight stay.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

Section 601.04, F.S., creates three citrus districts consisting of four members in each district and s. 601.154, F.S., provides that when marketing orders are issued, the commission chair shall appoint an advisory council consisting of two members from each of the three citrus districts. Said sections, along with title amendments, needs to be amended in order to conform to the amendments made to s. 601.09, F.S., by this bill.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Summary of Amendments:

Barcode # 600448 by Agriculture Committee:

Technical amendment conforming reference to number of citrus districts in another section of the statute. (WITH TITLE AMENDMENT).

This Senate staff analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's sponsor or the Florida Senate.
