

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: HB 641
SPONSOR(S): Bowen
TIED BILLS:

Department of Citrus

IDEN./SIM. BILLS: SB 516

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR
1) <u>Agriculture Committee</u>	<u>10 Y, 0 N</u>	<u>Reese</u>	<u>Reese</u>
2) <u>Agriculture & Environment Appropriations Committee</u>	<u>9 Y, 0 N</u>	<u>Davis</u>	<u>Dixon</u>
3) <u>State Resources Council</u>	<u>7 Y, 0 N</u>	<u>Reese</u>	<u>Hamby</u>
4) _____	_____	_____	_____
5) _____	_____	_____	_____

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

The Florida Department of Citrus is governed by the statutorily created Citrus Commission, a board of twelve commissioners appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Florida Senate. To assure the geographic diversity of the Commission, Florida law provides for distinct districts within the citrus-producing regions of the state. The law also requires that citrus districts be realigned every five years based on citrus production volume. The last redistricting occurred in 2000. Currently, there are three districts with four commissioners being appointed from each district.

This bill reorganizes the citrus districts of the state by assigning counties within the citrus production area to one of four separate citrus districts.

The bill appears to have no fiscal impact to state or local government and goes into effect on July 1, 2005.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. HOUSE PRINCIPLES ANALYSIS:

The bill does not appear to implicate any of the House Principles.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Present situation: The Florida Department of Citrus is governed by the statutorily created Florida Citrus Commission, a board of twelve commissioners appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Florida Senate. To assure the geographic diversity of the Commission, chapter 601, F.S., provides for distinct districts within the citrus-producing regions of the state. Currently there are three districts with four commissioners being appointed from each district.

Section 601.04(4), F.S., requires that citrus districts be realigned every five years based on citrus production volume (total number of boxes of citrus produced in each district). The most recent redistricting occurred in 2000.

Proposed changes: The bill amends s. 601.09, F.S., by creating a fourth district and reassigning the counties as follows:

District 1: Osceola County is transferred from District 3 to District 1 and Manatee, Sarasota, and Highlands counties are transferred from District 1 to other districts.

District 2: Manatee and Sarasota counties are transferred to District 2 from District 1 and Glades and Hendry counties are transferred from District 2 to a new district, District 4.

District 3: Okeechobee County is transferred from District 3 to the new District 4.

District 4: District 4 is a new district composed of Highlands, Glades, Hendry, and Okeechobee counties.

To conform to the addition of a new district, provisions of s. 601.154(4)(a), F.S., are amended to increase by two the number of members on the advisory council appointed by the commission chair to advise the Department of Citrus on marketing orders.

C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1. Amends s. 601.04, F.S., relating to the membership of the Florida Citrus Commission to conform provisions to changes made by the act.

Section 2. Amends s. 601.09, F.S., revising and reorganizing the citrus districts of the state; establishing four districts; specifying the counties within each district.

Section 3. Amends s. 601.154, F.S., conforming provisions to changes made by the act.

Section 4. Provides an effective date of July 1, 2005.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

The bill appears to have no impact on state government revenues.

2. Expenditures:

Please see Fiscal Comments.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

The bill appears to have no impact on local government revenues.

2. Expenditures:

The bill appears to have no impact on local government expenditures.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

The bill appears to have no fiscal impact to the private sector.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

Adding a fourth citrus district has the effect of increasing by two the number of members on an advisory council appointed to advise the Department of Citrus in the administration of each marketing order created pursuant to s. 601.154, F.S. The two additional members are entitled to reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses in accordance with s. 112.061, F.S. As advisory councils are appointed on an infrequent basis, the possible fiscal impact is minimal.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

The bill does not require counties or municipalities to take an action requiring the expenditure of funds, does not reduce the authority that counties or municipalities have to raise revenues in the aggregate, and does not reduce the percentage of state tax shared with counties or municipalities.

2. Other:

None

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

The bill contains no grant of rule-making authority.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None

IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE & COMBINED BILL CHANGES

None