

HB 923

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A bill to be entitled
 An act relating to the St. Lucie County Fire District;
 establishing an exemption from payment to redevelopment
 trust funds created by community redevelopment agencies;
 providing for the St. Lucie County Fire District to
 appropriate to the redevelopment trust fund to the extent
 funds are insufficient to cover debt service on any bonds
 authorized and issued before the effective date of the act
 but not after the effective date of the act; providing an
 effective date.

WHEREAS, the St. Lucie County Fire District is solely
 responsible for fire suppression, prevention, rescue, and
 emergency medical services throughout St. Lucie County, and

WHEREAS, the St. Lucie County Fire District derives a
 substantial portion of its revenues from ad valorem taxes and a
 substantial portion of its expenses are personnel costs, and

WHEREAS, the implementation of community redevelopment
 plans by community redevelopment agencies in St. Lucie County
 creates an increasing demand for fire and rescue services
 without providing the revenues to support such services, and

WHEREAS, the continued payments to redevelopment trust
 funds created by community redevelopment agencies in St. Lucie
 County will adversely affect the ability of the St. Lucie County
 Fire District to provide critical public safety services to the
 citizens and visitors of St. Lucie County, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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30 Section 1. Effective October 1, 2007, and thereafter, the
31 St. Lucie County Fire District shall be exempt from payment to
32 redevelopment trust funds created by community redevelopment
33 agencies in St. Lucie County.

34 Section 2. Notwithstanding the exemption commencing
35 October 1, 2007, as provided in section 1, for bonds authorized
36 and issued under section 163.385, Florida Statutes, prior to the
37 effective date of this act and which remain outstanding, the St.
38 Lucie County Fire District shall appropriate to the
39 redevelopment trust fund established for such outstanding bonds
40 an amount sufficient to pay, when due, its annual pro rata share
41 to cover debt service, to the extent funds deposited into the
42 redevelopment trust fund by other taxing authorities pursuant to
43 section 163.387, Florida Statutes, are insufficient to cover
44 debt service. The obligation of the St. Lucie County Fire
45 District to make such appropriations to a redevelopment trust
46 fund for any debt service deficiency shall not arise for any
47 bonds authorized and issued subsequent to the effective date of
48 this act, pursuant to section 163.385, Florida Statutes.

49 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.