

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES LOCAL BILL STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: HB 931

Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority, Pinellas County

SPONSOR(S): Farkas

TIED BILLS:

IDEN./SIM. BILLS: SB 2236

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR
1) <u>Local Government Council</u>	_____	<u>Smith</u>	<u>Hamby</u>
2) <u>Transportation Committee</u>	_____	_____	_____
3) _____	_____	_____	_____
4) _____	_____	_____	_____
5) _____	_____	_____	_____

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

HB 931 adds four members to the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (Authority), to include one additional member appointed by the City Council of the City of St. Petersburg and three additional members appointed by the Pinellas County Commission. The bill provides that the member appointed by the City Council of the City of St. Petersburg will serve an initial three year term; additional members appointed by the Pinellas County Commission will serve an initial three year term for one member, an initial two year term for another member, and an initial one year term for the third member.

According to the Economic Impact Statement, no fiscal impacts are anticipated for either fiscal year 2006-07 or 2007-08.

This document does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill sponsor or House of Representatives.

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DATE: 3/7/2006

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:

The Central Pinellas Transit Authority was created in 1970 by ch. 70-907, L.O.F. The name of the Authority was changed to the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority by ch. 82-368, L.O.F. The Authority was created to provide public transit services in the Pinellas County area. Term limits are three years and a member may not serve more than three consecutive terms. Term limits are three years and a member may not serve more than three consecutive terms. The Authority has an annual total operating budget of \$48.3 million. The ad valorem millage rate is 0.6377(cap 0.75).

The Authority is the public transit provider in Pinellas County, Florida, operating 180 buses and trolleys that serve 43 routes. In addition, two express buses travel between Pinellas County and Tampa, and the Suncoast Beach Trolley connects the Gulf Beaches from Clearwater Beach to Pass-a-Grille. During fiscal year 2004-05 the Authority transported 10,481,997 passengers.¹

The bill adds four members to the Authority to include one additional member appointed by the City Council of the City of St. Petersburg and three additional members appointed by the Pinellas County Commission. The bill provides that the member appointed by the City Council of the City of St. Petersburg will serve an initial three year term; additional members appointed by the Pinellas County Commission will serve an initial three year term for one member, an initial two year term for another member, and an initial one year term for the third member.

C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1. Amends subsection (2) of s. 3 of s. 1 of ch. 2000-424, L.O.F., providing for four additional members to the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority; provides for the appointment of the additional members.

Section 2. Provides for the staggering initial terms for the additional members.

Section 3. Provides a severability clause.

Section 4. Provides an effective date of upon becoming law.

II. NOTICE/REFERENDUM AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

A. NOTICE PUBLISHED? Yes No

IF YES, WHEN? December 30, 2005.

WHERE? *Pinellas News*, St. Petersburg, Pinellas County, Florida.

B. REFERENDUM(S) REQUIRED? Yes No

IF YES, WHEN?

¹ <http://www.psta.net/pstahistory.htm>.
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C. LOCAL BILL CERTIFICATION FILED? Yes, attached No

D. ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FILED? Yes, attached No

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES: None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY: None.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS: None.

IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE & COMBINED BILL CHANGES

Not Applicable.