

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to the use of public moneys and property;
 3 providing definitions; prohibiting the use of public funds
 4 for certain purposes benefiting a professional sports
 5 team; providing exceptions; amending s. 196.199, F.S.;
 6 providing for the ad valorem taxation of property owned by
 7 a governmental entity if the property is used by a private
 8 entity for a nonexempt purpose; providing effective dates.

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

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 12 Section 1. (1) As used in this section, the term:

13 (a) "Governmental entity" means the state, a county, a
 14 municipality, or an entity created by and acting on behalf of
 15 the state, a county, or a municipality.

16 (b) "Professional sports team" means a professional sports
 17 franchise that exists within the National League or the American
 18 League of Major League Baseball, the National Basketball
 19 Association, the National Football League, or the National
 20 Hockey League.

21 (c) "Public funds" means any moneys held by a governmental
 22 entity.

23 (2) Notwithstanding any other law and except as provided
 24 in subsection (3), a governmental entity may not spend public
 25 funds in aid of a professional sports team, to pay for a
 26 facility used or intended to be used for such a team, or for a
 27 sporting event of such a team unless the expenditure has been
 28 approved by a majority vote of the registered electors residing

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29 within the jurisdictional boundaries of the governmental entity.

30 (3) This section does not prohibit the expenditure of
31 funds to meet a legally binding obligation of a governmental
32 entity which was created before July 1, 2007, or to compensate
33 an employee of a governmental entity for an activity that is
34 within the scope of his or her employment which assists a
35 professional sports team in an incidental manner, such as
36 advising a professional sports team of applicable regulatory
37 requirements.

38 Section 2. Effective January 1, 2008, subsection (11) is
39 added to section 196.199, Florida Statutes, to read:

40 196.199 Government property exemption.--

41 (11) Property that is owned by a governmental entity and
42 is otherwise exempt or immune from taxation is taxable if the
43 property is used by a private entity in any manner other than
44 predominantly for a governmental, charitable, literary,
45 religious, scientific, or educational purpose.

46 Section 3. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this
47 act, this act shall take effect July 1, 2007.