2008

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to the Jacksonville Transportation
3	Authority; amending s. 349.02, F.S.; revising definitions;
4	defining the term "transportation facilities"; amending s.
5	349.03, F.S.; specifying that the authority is an agency
6	of the state and not a unit of any other political
7	subdivision; revising a requirement for membership on the
8	governing body of the authority to provide that an
9	appointed member must be a resident and elector of Duval
10	County; amending s. 349.04, F.S.; revising scope of the
11	authority to include certain services throughout Duval
12	County; revising authority, powers, rights, and
13	responsibilities of the authority to provide for planning,
14	coordinating, developing, financing, refinancing,
15	constructing, owning, leasing, purchasing, operating,
16	maintaining, relocating, equipping, repairing, and
17	managing described transportation projects intended to
18	address needs or concerns in the Jacksonville, Duval
19	County, metropolitan area; requiring the Florida
20	Transportation Commission to monitor and conduct periodic
21	reviews of the authority; providing for financial
22	disclosure; revising bonding provisions; providing for the
23	authority to fix, alter, charge, establish, and collect
24	rates, fees, rentals, and other charges for any
25	transportation facilities of the authority; authorizing
26	purchases under government contract; revising eminent
27	domain provisions to include specified procedural powers;
28	authorizing use of local option taxes or county gasoline
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tax funds to secure the payment of bonds; authorizing the 29 30 authority to establish and fund reserve accounts, adopt an annual budget, use purchasing schedules and master 31 purchasing contracts, retain legal counsel and other 32 consultants, construct and own and maintain transportation 33 facilities outside the jurisdictional boundaries of Duval 34 35 County, form public benefit corporations, require bid 36 bonds and protest bonds, prequalify bidders or proposers, 37 suspend or debar consultants and contractors, and create and operate an employees' benefit fund; providing for the 38 authority to expand its service area and enter into a 39 partnership with a contiguous county; providing that the 40 powers and obligations of the authority shall not be 41 subject to supervision, approval, or consent of any 42 municipality or county except as agreed upon in an 43 44 interlocal agreement; providing for certain contractual obligations and recovery of damages; providing for 45 relocation of utility facilities interfering with 46 47 transportation projects; authorizing the authority to 48 enter lands, waters, and premises of another in the performance of its duties; amending s. 349.041, F.S.; 49 revising provisions for funds appropriated by the City of 50 Jacksonville to the authority; authorizing audits of 51 related records; removing a requirement that the authority 52 53 utilize certain city services; removing a provision 54 authorizing the authority to employ legal counsel; repealing s. 349.042, F.S., relating to the Jacksonville 55 area planning board review of construction and operation 56 Page 2 of 35

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57 of the expressway and transit functions of the authority; 58 creating s. 349.043, F.S.; requiring a public hearing 59 prior to designation or relocation of transportation facilities or substantive changes thereto; providing 60 procedures; requiring compliance with federal requirements 61 related to new or altered transportation facilities or 62 63 services; amending s. 349.05, F.S.; authorizing bonds to be issued on behalf of the authority; revising provisions 64 65 for issuance and sale of bonds; authorizing certain refunding bonds; revising provisions for resolutions 66 authorizing bonds; revising provisions for fiscal agents; 67 providing that bonds are not obligations of the state; 68 repealing s. 349.06, F.S., relating to remedies of the 69 bondholders; creating s. 349.061, F.S.; providing approval 70 for bond financing by the authority; amending s. 349.07, 71 72 F.S.; revising provisions authorizing the Department of Transportation to expend certain funds and use its 73 resources for certain items related to the Jacksonville 74 75 Expressway System; amending s. 349.10, F.S.; revising provisions for the authority to acquire lands and rights 76 therein; limiting liability of the authority with respect 77 to certain contamination of lands acquired; authorizing 78 the authority and the Department of Environmental 79 80 Protection to enter into agreements for the performance 81 and funding of investigative and remedial acts; amending 82 s. 349.12, F.S.; revising covenant of the state related to bonds of the authority; amending s. 349.13, F.S.; 83 specifying conditions under which property leased by the 84 Page 3 of 35

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85	authority is exempt from ad valorem taxes; amending s.
86	349.15, F.S.; revising provisions for enforcement of
87	rights by bondholders; amending s. 349.17, F.S.; revising
88	provisions for application of and exemption from other
89	laws relating to issuance of bonds; amending s. 349.21,
90	F.S.; revising provisions for use of charter county
91	transit system surtax funds; creating s. 349.22, F.S.;
92	providing conditions for the authority to receive or
93	solicit proposals and enter into agreements with private
94	entities for the building, operation, ownership, or
95	financing of highways, bridges, multimodal transportation
96	systems, transit-oriented development nodes, transit
97	stations, or related transportation facilities; requiring
98	certain costs to be paid by the private entity;
99	authorizing the department to use state funds for projects
100	on or that increase mobility on the State Highway System;
101	requiring notice of proposals and providing procedures;
102	providing for agreements to authorize the public-private
103	entity to impose tolls; requiring public-private
104	transportation facilities to comply with laws,
105	comprehensive plans, and the authority's rules, policies,
106	procedures, standards, and conditions; authorizing the
107	authority to exercise its powers to facilitate public-
108	private projects; providing for application; providing an
109	effective date.
110	
111	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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113 Section 1. Section 349.02, Florida Statutes, is amended to 114 read:

115

349.02 Definitions.--

(1) Except in those instances where the context clearly indicates otherwise, whenever used or referred to in this chapter, the following terms whenever used or referred to in this law shall have the following meanings, except in those instances where the context clearly indicates otherwise:

121 (a) (1) The term "Authority" means shall mean the body 122 politic and corporate, an agency of the state created by this 123 chapter.

124 (b) (2) The term "Members" means shall mean the governing 125 body of the authority, and the term "member" means shall mean 126 one of the individuals constituting such governing body.

127 <u>(c) (3) The term</u> "Bonds" <u>means and includes</u> shall mean and 128 include the notes, bonds, refunding bonds, or other evidences of 129 indebtedness or obligations, in either temporary or definitive 130 form, <u>that</u> which the authority is authorized to issue pursuant 131 to this chapter.

132 <u>(d) (4) The term</u> "Lease-purchase agreement" means shall 133 mean the lease-purchase agreements that which the authority is 134 authorized pursuant to this chapter to enter into with the 135 department of Transportation.

136(e) (5)The term"Department"meansshallmeanthe137Department of Transportation existing under chapters334-339.

138 <u>(f) (6) The terms</u> "Florida State Improvement Commission" or 139 "commission" <u>means</u> shall mean the state agency created, 140 organized, and existing under and by virtue of the provisions of Page 5 of 35

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141 former chapter 420, or the successor thereto, chapter 29788,142 Acts of 1955, now chapter 288.

143 (g) (7) The term "County" means shall mean the County of 144 Duval.

145 (h) (8) The term "City" means shall mean the City of 146 Jacksonville.

147 <u>(i)(9) The term</u> "State Board of Administration" <u>means</u> 148 shall mean the body corporate existing under the provisions of 149 s. 9, Art. XII of the State Constitution, or any successor 150 thereto.

151 <u>(j)(10)</u> The term "Agency of the state" means and includes 152 shall mean and include the state and any department of <u>the</u> 153 <u>state</u>, or <u>any</u> corporation, agency, or instrumentality heretofore 154 or hereafter created, designated, or established by, the state.

155 <u>(k)(11)</u> The term "Federal agency" means and includes shall 156 mean and include the United States, the President of the United 157 States, and any department of the United States, or any 158 corporation, agency, or instrumentality heretofore or hereafter 159 created, designated, or established by, the United States.

160 <u>(1)(12) The term</u> "Duval County gasoline tax funds" means 161 shall mean all the 80-percent surplus gasoline tax funds 162 accruing in each year to the Department of Transportation for 163 use in Duval County under the provisions of s. 9, Art. XII of 164 the State Constitution, after deduction only of any amounts of 165 said gasoline tax funds heretofore pledged by the department or 166 the county for outstanding obligations.

167 (m) "Transportation facilities" means and includes all 168 mobile and fixed assets (real or personal property or rights Page 6 of 35

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169 therein) used in the transportation of persons or property by 170 any means of conveyance whatsoever, and all appurtenances thereto, such as, but not limited to, highways; limited or 171 172 controlled access lanes and facilities; docks, vessels, 173 vehicles, fixed guideway facilities, and any means of conveyance 174 of persons or property of all types; park-and-ride facilities; 175 transit-related improvements adjacent to transit facilities or stations; bus, train, vessel, or other vehicle storage, 176 cleaning, fueling, control, and maintenance facilities; and 177 178 administrative and other office space for the exercise by the 179 authority of the powers and obligations herein granted. 180 (2) (13) Words importing singular number shall include the plural number in each case and vice versa, and words importing 181 182 persons shall include firms and corporations. Section 2. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 349.03, 183 184 Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 185 349.03 Jacksonville Transportation Authority.--186 There is hereby created and established a body politic (1)187 and corporate and an agency of the state to be known as the Jacksonville Expressway Authority, redesignated as the 188 189 Jacksonville Transportation Authority, and hereinafter referred 190 to as the "authority." Notwithstanding any other general or 191 special law, the authority created under this section is an agency of the state and not a component unit of any other 192 193 political subdivision. The governing body of the authority shall consist of 194 (2)seven members. Three members shall be appointed by the Governor 195 196 and confirmed by the Senate. Three members shall be appointed by Page 7 of 35

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197 the mayor of the City of Jacksonville subject to confirmation by 198 the council of the City of Jacksonville. The seventh member 199 shall be the district secretary of the Department of 200 Transportation serving in the district that contains the City of 201 Jacksonville. Except for the seventh member, members shall be 202 residents and qualified electors of <u>Duval County</u> the City of 203 Jacksonville.

204 Section 3. Section 349.04, Florida Statutes, is amended to 205 read:

206

349.04 Purposes and powers.--

207 The authority created and established by the (1)(a) provisions of this chapter is hereby granted and shall have the 208 right to acquire, hold, construct, improve, maintain, operate, 209 210 own, and lease in the capacity of lessor the Jacksonville Expressway System (hereinafter referred to as "system"), 211 212 heretofore partially constructed or acquired by the Florida 213 State Improvement Commission in the Jacksonville, Duval County, 214 metropolitan area, as more specifically described in the 215 proceedings of the commission which authorized the issuance of \$28 million in bonds of the commission for such purpose, and as 216 217 hereafter completed or improved or extended as authorized by 218 this chapter, and all appurtenant facilities, including all 219 approaches, streets, roads, bicycle paths, bridges, and avenues of access for the Jacksonville Expressway System, and to 220 construct or acquire extensions, additions, and improvements to 221 222 the system and to complete the construction and acquisition of 223 the system.

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224 The authority may, in addition, acquire, hold, (b) 225 construct, improve, operate, maintain, and lease in the capacity 226 of lessor a mass transit system employing motor cars or buses; street railway systems beneath the surface, on the surface, or 227 228 above the surface; or any other means determined useful to the rapid transfer of large numbers of people among the locations of 229 230 residence, commerce, industry, and education in Duval County the City of Jacksonville. 231

232 (C) The authority may further plan, coordinate, and recommend to appropriate officers and agencies of federal, 233 state, and local governments methods and facilities for the 234 parking of vehicles, the movement of pedestrians, and vehicular 235 traffic (including bicycles), public and private, in Duval 236 County the City of Jacksonville, to accomplish a coordinated 237 238 transportation system for the greater Jacksonville area. The 239 authority may construct and operate passenger terminals for the parking of automobiles and movement by public conveyance of 240 persons and construct and operate all other facilities necessary 241 242 to a complete and coordinated transportation system in the Jacksonville area. 243

244 It is the express intention of this chapter that the (d) 245 authority, in completing the construction of the Jacksonville Expressway System, is not limited to the description thereof 246 contained in the proceedings of the commission which authorized 247 the issuance of \$28 million in bonds to finance part of the cost 248 thereof, but it is authorized to finance and construct any 249 additional extensions, additions, or improvements to the system, 250 or appurtenant facilities, including all necessary approaches, 251 Page 9 of 35

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252 roads, bicycle ways, bridges, and avenues of access, with such 253 changes, modifications, or revisions of the project as are 254 deemed desirable and proper. It is the intent of this chapter, 255 and to effect its purposes the Legislature determines, that 256 bonds issued under this chapter be deemed to be state capital 257 improvement bonds to finance or refinance the cost of state 258 capital projects pursuant to s. 11(d), Art. VII of the State 259 Constitution. However, the provisions of s. 316.091(2), relating 260 to bicycles, do not apply to this system.

261 (e) In addition to the other powers set forth in this 262 chapter, the authority has the right to plan, develop, finance, construct, own, lease, purchase, operate, maintain, relocate, 263 264 equip, repair, and manage those public transportation projects, 265 such as express bus services; bus rapid transit services; light rail, commuter rail, heavy rail, or other transit services; 266 267 ferry services; transit stations; park-and-ride lots; transitoriented development nodes; or feeder roads, reliever roads, 268 269 connector roads, bypasses, or appurtenant facilities, that are 270 intended to address critical transportation needs or concerns in 271 the Jacksonville, Duval County, metropolitan area. These 272 projects may also include all necessary approaches, roads, 273 bridges, and avenues of access that are desirable and proper 274 with the concurrence of the department, as applicable, if the 275 project is to be part of the State Highway System. (f) (e) The authority, in addition to the other powers and 276 277 duties provided, shall have the power and responsibility to formulate and implement a plan for a mass transit system which

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279 will serve <u>Duval County and</u> the consolidated City of 280 Jacksonville.

(2) The authority is hereby granted, and shall have and
may exercise all powers necessary, appurtenant, convenient, or
incidental to the carrying out of the aforesaid purposes,
including, but without being limited to, the right and power:

(a) To sue and be sued, implead and be impleaded, andcomplain and defend in all courts.

287

(b) To adopt, use, and alter at will a corporate seal.

To acquire, purchase, construct, hold, lease as lessee 288 (C) 289 or lessor, and use any franchise or any property, real, personal, or mixed, tangible or intangible, or any interest 290 therein, necessary or desirable for carrying out the purposes of 291 292 the authority and to sell, lease as lessor, transfer, and dispose of any property or interest therein at any time acquired 293 by it, including, without limitation, land, buildings, and other 294 295 facilities located within or comprising transit-oriented 296 developments which enhance the use or utility of transportation 297 facilities owned or constructed by the authority and administrative and other buildings for the use of the authority 298 299 in carrying out its powers and obligations granted in this

300 <u>chapter</u>.

301 (d) To enter into and make leases for terms not exceeding
302 40 years, as either lessee or lessor, in order to carry out the
303 right to lease as set forth in this chapter.

304 (e) To enter into and make lease-purchase agreements with
305 the department for terms not exceeding 40 years, or until any
306 bonds secured by a pledge of rentals thereunder, and any

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307 refundings thereof, are fully paid as to both principal and 308 interest, whichever is longer.

(f) To fix, alter, charge, establish, and collect rates, 309 310 fees, rentals, and other charges for the services and facilities 311 of the Jacksonville Expressway System and any other transportation facilities of the authority, which rates, fees, 312 313 rentals, and other charges shall always be sufficient to comply with any covenants made with the holders of any bonds issued 314 315 pursuant to this chapter; this right and power may be assigned 316 or delegated by the authority to the department.

317 To borrow money and make and issue negotiable notes, (g)1. bonds, refunding bonds, and other evidences of indebtedness or 318 obligations, either in temporary or definitive form, 319 320 (hereinafter in this chapter sometimes called "bonds"), of the authority, for the purpose of funding or refunding, at or prior 321 322 to maturity, any bonds theretofore issued by the authority, or by the Florida State Improvement Commission to finance part of 323 324 the cost of the Jacksonville Expressway System, and purposes 325 related thereto, and for the purpose of financing or refinancing all or part of the costs of completion, or improvement, or 326 327 extension of the Jacksonville Expressway System, and appurtenant facilities, including all approaches, streets, roads, bridges, 328 and avenues of access for the Jacksonville Expressway System and 329 for any other purpose authorized by this chapter, such bonds to 330 mature in not exceeding 40 years from the date of the issuance 331 thereof; and to secure the payment of such bonds or any part 332 thereof by a pledge of any or all of its revenues, rates, fees, 333 rentals, or other charges, including all or any portion of the 334 Page 12 of 35

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Duval County gasoline tax funds received by the authority pursuant to the terms of any lease-purchase agreement between the authority and the department; and in general to provide for the security of such bonds and the rights and remedies of the holders thereof.

340 In the event that the authority determines to fund or 2. 341 refund any bonds theretofore issued by the authority, or by the commission as aforesaid, prior to the maturity thereof, the 342 343 proceeds of such funding or refunding bonds shall, pending the prior redemption of the bonds to be funded or refunded, be 344 invested in direct obligations of the United States; and it is 345 the express intention of this chapter that such outstanding 346 bonds may be funded or refunded by the issuance of bonds 347 348 pursuant to this chapter notwithstanding that part of such outstanding bonds will not mature or become redeemable until 6 349 350 years after the date of issuance of bonds pursuant to this 351 chapter to fund or refund such outstanding bonds.

(h) To make contracts of every name and nature and to
execute all instruments necessary or convenient for the carrying
on of its business.

(i) Without limitation of the foregoing, to borrow money
and accept grants from, and to enter into contracts, leases, or
other transactions with, any federal agency, the state, any
agency of the state, the County of Duval, the City of
Jacksonville, or any other public body of the state <u>and to make</u>
<u>purchases under government contracts</u>, whether with a federal,
state, or local governmental entity.

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(j) To have the power of eminent domain, including the
 procedural powers granted under chapters 73 and 74.

(k) To pledge, hypothecate, or otherwise encumber all or
any part of the revenues, rates, fees, rentals, or other charges
or receipts of the authority, including all or any portion of
the Duval County gasoline tax funds received by the authority
pursuant to the terms of any lease-purchase agreement between
the authority and the department, as security for all or any of
the obligations of the authority.

371 (1) To do all acts and things necessary or convenient for
372 the conduct of its business and the general welfare of the
373 authority, in order to carry out the powers granted to it by
374 this chapter or any other law.

To invest and to borrow money and make and issue 375 (m) negotiable notes, bonds, refunding bonds, and other evidences of 376 377 indebtedness or obligations, either in temporary or definitive 378 form, of the authority for the purpose of financing or 379 refinancing all or a part of funding or refunding the cost of 380 the acquisition or improvement of transportation facilities 381 motor or street railway vehicles, passenger terminals, 382 automobile parking facilities, or administrative offices and for 383 any other purposes authorized by this chapter, such bonds to 384 mature in not exceeding 40 years from the date of the issuance thereof; to secure the payment of such bonds or any part thereof 385 by a pledge of any or all of its revenues, rates, fees, rentals, 386 or other charges, including, without limitation, all or any 387 portion of local option taxes or county gasoline tax funds 388 received by the authority; and in general to provide for the 389 Page 14 of 35

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390 security of such bonds and the rights and remedies of the 391 holders thereof.

To adopt rules to carry out the powers and obligations 392 (n) 393 herein granted, which set forth a purpose, necessary 394 definitions, forms, general conditions and procedures, and fines 395 and penalties, including, without limitation, suspension or 396 debarment, and charges for nonperformance, with respect to any 397 aspect of the work or function of the authority for the permitting, planning, funding, design, acquisition, 398 construction, equipping, operation, and maintenance of 399 transportation facilities, transit and highway, within the 400 state, provided or operated by the authority or others in 401 cooperation with or at the direction of the authority, and for 402 carrying out all other purposes of the authority set forth or 403 authorized in this chapter. 404

405 (o) To establish and fund reserve accounts with respect to
 406 its operations and functions, make withdrawals therefrom, and
 407 replenish such accounts, as the governing body may reasonably
 408 determine.

To adopt and approve an annual budget, and to utilize 409 (p) 410 purchasing schedules and master purchasing contracts of the 411 state or any federal agency, to the extent permitted by law. 412 To retain legal counsel and financial, engineering, (q) real estate, accounting, design, planning, and other consultants 413 from time to time as the authority may determine to assist in 414 the carrying out of the powers and obligations granted in this 415 416 chapter.

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417 (r) With the consent of the county within whose 418 jurisdiction the following activities occur, to construct, own, 419 operate, and maintain transportation facilities outside the jurisdictional boundaries of Duval County, with all necessary 420 421 and incidental powers to accomplish the foregoing. 422 (s) To form, alone or with one or more other agencies of the state or local governments, public benefit corporations to 423 carry out the powers and obligations granted in this chapter or 424 the powers and obligations of such other agencies or local 425 426 governments. 427 To require or elect not to require bid bonds and (t) protest bonds, to prequalify bidders or proposers in various 428 categories of work or services, and to suspend or debar 429 430 consultants and contractors in accordance with the rules of the 431 authority. 432 (u) To create and operate an employees' benefit fund for 433 employees of the authority or public benefit corporations 434 controlled by it. The proceeds of vending machines located on 435 the premises of the authority or such corporations shall be paid into the fund and used for such benefits and purposes as the 436 437 authority may determine. 438 (3) The authority shall have no power at any time or in 439 any manner to pledge the credit or taxing power of the state or 440 any political subdivision or agency thereof; nor shall any of the obligations of the authority be deemed to be obligations of 441 the state or of any political subdivision or agency thereof; nor 442 shall the state or any political subdivision or agency thereof, 443 444

except the authority, be liable for the payment of the principal Page 16 of 35

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of, or interest on, such obligations. However, this provision is not applicable to the type or manner of financing authorized by s. 9(c)(5), Art. XII of the State Constitution, as amended, and laws enacted pursuant thereto.

449 By a resolution of its governing body, the authority (4) 450 may expand its service area and enter into a partnership with 451 any county that is contiquous to the then-current service area of the authority. The governing body shall determine the 452 453 conditions and terms of the partnership, except as provided in 454 this section. However, the authority may not expand its service 455 area without the consent of the governing body representing the 456 proposed expansion area.

457 (5) Except as otherwise expressly provided in this
458 chapter, none of the powers and obligations herein granted to
459 the authority shall be subject to the supervision or require the
460 approval or consent of any municipality or county, except as may
461 be agreed upon by the authority in an interlocal agreement with
462 a municipality or county.

463 (6) No oral modification of a contract, whether for 464 construction of highway facilities or other transportation 465 facilities, shall be binding upon the authority or form the 466 basis for a claim against the authority. Only the chair of the 467 governing body or executive director of the authority, or the designee of either, may bind the authority. In addition to any 468 469 provisions for liquidated damages for delay by contractors in 470 construction of transportation facilities for the authority, the 471 authority may also recover from the contractor amounts owing or paid by the authority for damages suffered by third parties as a 472

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473	result of the contractor's failure to complete the project
474	within the time stipulated in the contract, as amended by the
475	authority. In all cases in which damages to the authority for
476	delay are not specified by contract as a liquidated amount, the
477	measure of such damages shall be based upon an analysis of the
478	cost savings, in travel time and travel costs, to the traveling
479	public for transportation facilities that are not revenue-
480	producing.
481	(7) The authority shall be deemed to be an "authority" for
482	purposes of s. 337.403, shall have all of the powers granted to
483	authorities under s. 337.403, and shall have the powers granted
484	to the Department of Transportation under s. 337.274 with
485	respect to its powers and obligations granted in this chapter.
486	(8) The authority shall be deemed to be an "authority" for
487	purposes of s. 20.23(2)(b)8., relating to monitoring and review
488	by the Florida Transportation Commission, and for purposes of s.
489	348.0003(4)(c), relating to financial disclosure requirements
490	for authority members.
491	Section 4. Section 349.041, Florida Statutes, is amended
492	to read:
493	349.041 Provision of funds and services by city to
494	authority; employment of legal counsel
495	(1) The authority shall prepare and submit annually its
496	requests for such funds as it may require from the city for the
497	ensuing year to the council of the city on or before June 1,
498	setting forth its estimated gross revenues and estimated
499	requirements for operations, maintenance expenses, and debt
500	service. A copy of such requests shall be furnished to the
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501 Department of Transportation. The council and the mayor of the 502 City of Jacksonville may appropriate such funds as they deem appropriate for the use of the authority and records related 503 504 thereto may be audited by the Council Auditor of the City of 505 Jacksonville at anytime.

506 Except as the council may provide, and except as (2) 507 otherwise required by any trust indenture outstanding on 508 September 1, 1971, the authority may use shall utilize, on a 509 cost-accounted basis, the central services of the city, and 510 shall pay therefor. The authority may, however, employ legal 511 counsel it deems necessary, upon resolution of the authority.

512

Section 5. Section 349.042, Florida Statutes, is repealed. Section 6. Section 349.043, Florida Statutes, is created 513 514 to read:

515 349.043 Public hearings for transportation 516 facilities.--Transportation facilities may not be designated or 517 relocated by the authority, nor may substantive changes be made 518 thereto, until after a public hearing is conducted by the 519 authority. Any interested party shall have the opportunity to be heard either in person or by counsel and to introduce testimony 520 521 in such person's behalf at the hearing. Reasonable notice of 522 each such public hearing shall be published in a newspaper of 523 general circulation in each county directly affected by the proposed transportation facility not less than 14 days prior to 524 the hearing. In addition, the authority shall comply with all 525 526 applicable federal requirements related to new or altered 527 transportation facilities or services. Section 7. Section 349.05, Florida Statutes, is amended to 528

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529 read: 530 349.05 Bonds of the authority; bonds not debt or pledges 531 of credit of state .--532 (1)(a) Bonds may be issued on behalf of the authority 533 pursuant to the State Bond Act or, alternatively, the authority 534 may issue bonds pursuant to paragraph (b). 535 (b)1. The bonds of the authority issued pursuant to the 536 provisions of this chapter, whether an original issuance or on 537 refunding, shall be authorized by resolution of the members thereof and may be issued in one or more series, may be either 538 539 term or serial bonds, and shall bear such date or dates, be 540 payable on demand or mature at such time or times, not exceeding 541 40 years from their respective dates, bear interest, fixed or 542 variable, at such rate or rates, not exceeding the maximum 543 lawful interest rate payable semiannually, be in such 544 denominations, be in such form, either coupon or fully 545 registered, carry such registration, exchangeability, and 546 interchangeability privileges, be payable in such medium of 547 payment and at such place or places, be subject to such terms of redemption, with or without premium, and other terms, have such 548 549 rank, and be entitled to such remedies and priorities on the 550 revenues, rates, fees, rentals, or other charges or receipts of 551 the authority including all or any portion of local option sales 552 tax or the Duval county gasoline tax funds received by the 553 authority pursuant to the terms of any lease purchase agreement 554 between the authority and the department, as the authority may determine such resolution or any resolution subsequent thereto 555 556 may provide. The bonds shall be executed either by manual or Page 20 of 35

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557 facsimile signature by such officers as the authority shall 558 determine, provided that such bonds shall bear at least one 559 signature that which is manually executed thereon, and the 560 coupons attached to such bonds shall bear the facsimile 561 signature or signatures of such officer or officers as shall be 562 designated by the authority and shall have the seal of the 563 authority affixed, imprinted, reproduced, or lithographed 564 thereon, all as may be prescribed in such resolution or resolutions. 565

2.(b) Such bonds shall be sold at public or private sale 566 567 at such price or prices as the authority determines to be in its 568 best interest, except that the interest costs to the authority 569 on such bonds may not exceed the maximum lawful interest rate. 570 The authority shall provide a specific finding by resolution as 571 to the reason requiring any negotiated sale must be sold at 572 public sale in the manner provided by the State Bond Act. 573 However, if the authority, by official action at a public 574 meeting, determines that a negotiated sale of the bonds is in 575 the best interest of the authority, the authority may negotiate for sale of the bonds with the underwriter or underwriters 576 577 designated by the authority and the Division of Bond Finance of 578 the State Board of Administration. Pending the preparation of 579 definitive bonds, interim certificates may be issued to the purchaser or purchasers of such bonds and may contain such terms 580 and conditions as the authority may determine. 581

582 <u>3. The authority may issue bonds pursuant to this</u>
583 paragraph to refund any bonds previously issued regardless of
584 whether the bonds being refunded were issued by the authority

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585 pursuant to this chapter or on behalf of the authority pursuant 586 to the State Bond Act.

587 (2) Any such resolution or resolutions authorizing any
588 bonds hereunder may contain provisions, and valid and legally
589 binding covenants of the authority, which shall be part of the
590 contract with the holders of such bonds, as to:

591 (a) The pledging of all or any part of the revenues, rates, fees, rentals, including the sales surtax adopted 592 593 pursuant to s. 212.055(1) (including all or any portion of the Duval county gasoline tax funds received by the authority 594 595 pursuant to the terms of any lease-purchase agreement between 596 the authority and the department, or any part thereof), or other 597 charges or receipts of any nature of the authority, whether or 598 not derived by the authority from the Jacksonville Expressway System or its other transportation facilities; 599

(b) The completion, improvement, operation, extension, maintenance, repair, lease, or lease-purchase agreement of said system <u>or transportation facilities</u>, and the duties of the authority and others, including the department, with reference thereto;

(c) Limitations on the purposes to which the proceeds of
the bonds, then or thereafter to be issued, or of any loan or
grant, by the United States or the state may be applied;

(d) The fixing, charging, establishing, and collecting of
rates, fees, rentals, or other charges for use of the services
and facilities of the Jacksonville Expressway System or any part
thereof <u>or its other transportation facilities</u>;

612 (e) The setting aside of reserves or sinking funds or Page 22 of 35

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613 repair and replacement funds and the regulation and disposition 614 thereof;

615

(f) Limitations on the issuance of additional bonds;

(g) The terms and provisions of any lease-purchase
agreement, deed of trust, or indenture securing the bonds, or
under which the same may be issued; and

(h) Any other or additional <u>provisions</u>, <u>covenants</u>, <u>and</u>
agreements with the holders of the bonds which the authority may
deem desirable and proper.

The authority may employ fiscal agents as provided by 622 (3) 623 this chapter or the State Board of Administration may, upon request by the authority, act as fiscal agent for the authority 624 in the issuance of any bonds that may be issued pursuant to this 625 626 chapter, and the State Board of Administration may, upon request 627 by the authority, take over the management, control, 628 administration, custody, and payment of any or all debt services 629 or funds or assets now or hereafter available for any bonds 630 issued pursuant to this chapter. The authority may enter into 631 deeds of trust, indentures, or other agreements with a corporate trustee or trustees, which shall act as its fiscal agent for the 632 633 authority and may be, or with any bank or trust company within 634 or without the state, as security for such bonds, and may, under 635 such agreements, assign and pledge all or any of the revenues, rates, fees, rentals, or other charges or receipts of the 636 authority, including all or any portion of local option taxes or 637 the Duval county gasoline tax funds received by the authority 638 pursuant to the terms of any lease-purchase agreement between 639 the authority and the department, thereunder. Such deed of 640 Page 23 of 35

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641 trust, indenture, or other agreement₇ may contain such 642 provisions as <u>are</u> is customary in such instruments or₇ as the 643 authority may authorize, including, but without limitation, 644 provisions as to:

(a) The completion, improvement, operation, extension,
maintenance, repair, and lease of, or lease-purchase agreement
relating to, <u>all or any part of transportation facilities</u>
<u>authorized in this chapter to be constructed, acquired,</u>
<u>developed, or operated by the authority the Jacksonville</u>
Expressway System, and the duties of the authority and others,
including the department, with reference thereto;

(b) The application of funds and the safeguarding of fundson hand or on deposit;

(c) The rights and remedies of the trustee and the holdersof the bonds; and

(d) The terms and provisions of the bonds or theresolutions authorizing the issuance of the same.

(4) Any of the bonds issued pursuant to this chapter are,
and are hereby declared to be, negotiable instruments, and shall
have all the qualities and incidents of negotiable instruments
under the law merchant and the negotiable instruments law of the
state.

(5) Notwithstanding any of the provisions of this chapter,
each project, building, or facility <u>that</u> which has been financed
by the issuance of bonds or other evidences of indebtedness
under this chapter and any refinancing thereof is hereby
approved as provided for in s. 11(f), Art. VII of the State
Constitution.

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669	(6) Revenue bonds issued under the provisions of this
670	chapter are not debts of the state or pledges of the faith and
671	credit of the state. Such bonds are payable exclusively from
672	revenues pledged for their payment. Each such bond shall contain
673	a statement on its face that the state is not obligated to pay
674	the same or the interest thereon, except from the revenues
675	pledged for their payment, and that the faith and credit of the
676	state is not pledged to the payment of the principle or interest
677	of such bond. The issuance of revenue bonds under the provisions
678	of this chapter does not directly, indirectly, or contingently
679	obligate the state to levy or to pledge any form of taxation
680	whatsoever or to make any appropriation for their payment.
681	Section 8. Section 349.06, Florida Statutes, is repealed.
682	Section 9. Section 349.061, Florida Statutes, is created
683	to read:
684	349.061 Bond financing authorityPursuant to s. 11(f),
685	Art. VII of the State Constitution, the Legislature hereby
686	approves for bond financing by the authority any extensions,
687	additions, and improvements to the Jacksonville Expressway
688	System and any other facilities appurtenant, necessary, or
689	incidental to the system or any transportation facilities herein
690	authorized to be constructed, acquired, or operated by the
691	authority. Subject to terms and conditions of applicable revenue
692	bond resolutions and covenants, such costs may be financed in
693	whole or in part by revenue bonds issued pursuant to s.
694	349.05(1)(a) or (b), whether currently issued or issued in the
695	future, or by a combination of such bonds.
696	Section 10. Subsection (7) of section 349.07, Florida
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697 Statutes, is amended to read:

698

349.07 Lease-purchase agreement.--

699 Regardless of whether the authority enters into a (7)700 lease-purchase agreement with the department relating to the 701 system or any part thereof, the Said system shall be a part of 702 the State Highway road System and the said department is hereby 703 authorized, upon the request of the authority, to expend out of 704 any funds available for the purpose such moneys, and to use such 705 of its engineering and other forces, as may be necessary and desirable in the judgment of the said department, for the 706 707 operation of the said authority and for traffic surveys, 708 borings, surveys, preparation of plans and specifications, estimates of cost, and other preliminary engineering and other 709 710 studies; provided, however, that the aggregate amount of moneys 711 expended for said purposes by said department shall not exceed 712 the sum of \$375,000.

713 Section 11. Section 349.10, Florida Statutes, is amended714 to read:

715

349.10 Acquisition of lands and property.--

For the purposes of this chapter, law the Jacksonville 716 (1)717 Transportation Authority may acquire private or public property 718 and property rights, including rights of access, air, view, and 719 light, by gift, devise, purchase, or condemnation by eminent domain proceedings, as the authority may deem necessary, 720 including, but not limited to, any lands reasonably necessary 721 for securing applicable permits, areas necessary for management 722 of access, borrow pits, drainage ditches, water retention areas, 723 rest areas, replacement access for landowners whose access is 724

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725 impaired due to the construction of transportation facilities, and replacement rights-of-way for relocated rail and utility 726 727 facilities, and areas necessary for existing, proposed, or 728 anticipated transportation facilities or in a transportation 729 corridor designated by the authority. The authority shall also 730 have the power to condemn any material and property necessary 731 for such for any of the purposes of this chapter. Property 732 already devoted to a public use may be acquired in like manner, 733 provided that no real property belonging to the city, the 734 county, the state, or any political subdivision thereof may be acquired without its consent. The right of eminent domain herein 735 736 conferred shall be exercised by the authority in the manner 737 provided by law.

(2) The authority may acquire such rights, title,
interest, or easements in such lands as it may deem necessary
for any of the purposes of this chapter.

(3) In connection with the acquisition of property or property rights as herein provided, the authority may in its discretion acquire an entire lot, block, or tract of land, if by so doing the interests of the public will be best served, even though said entire lot, block, or tract is not immediately needed for the right-of-way proper.

(4) When the authority acquires property for a
transportation facility or in a transportation corridor, it is
not subject to any liability imposed by chapter 376 or chapter
403 for preexisting soil or groundwater contamination due solely
to its ownership. This section does not affect the rights or
liabilities of any past or future owners of the acquired

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753 property nor does it affect the liability of any governmental 754 entity for the results of its actions that create or exacerbate 755 a pollution source. The authority and the Department of 756 Environmental Protection may enter into interagency agreements 757 for the performance, funding, and reimbursement for the costs of 758 the investigative and remedial acts necessary for property 759 acquired by the authority. 760 Section 12. Section 349.12, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 761 349.12 Covenant of the state.--The state does hereby 762 763 pledge to, and agree $\frac{1}{2}$ are $\frac{1}{2}$ with any person, firm or 764 corporation, or federal or state agency subscribing to, or acquiring the bonds to be issued by the authority for the 765 766 purposes of this chapter that the state will not limit or alter 767 the rights hereby vested in the authority and the department 768 until all bonds at any time issued, together with the interest 769 thereon, are fully paid and discharged insofar as the same 770 affects the rights of the holders of bonds issued hereunder. The 771 state does further pledge to_{τ} and agree_{τ} with the United States 772 and any federal agency that, in the event that any federal 773 agency shall construct or contribute any funds for the 774 completion, extension, or improvement of the Jacksonville 775 Expressway System or other transportation facilities of the 776 authority, or any part or portion thereof, the state will not alter or limit the rights and powers of the authority and the 777 department in any manner that which would be inconsistent with 778 779 the continued maintenance and operation of the Jacksonville 780 Expressway System or other transportation facilities of the Page 28 of 35

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781 authority or the completion, extension, or improvement thereof, 782 or that which would be inconsistent with the due performance of 783 any agreements between the authority and any such federal 784 agency, and the authority and the department shall continue to 785 have and may exercise all powers herein granted, so long as the 786 same shall be necessary or desirable for the carrying out of the 787 purposes of this chapter and the purposes of the United States 788 in the completion, extension, or improvement of the Jacksonville 789 Expressway System or other transportation facilities of the 790 authority, or any part or portion thereof.

791 Section 13. Section 349.13, Florida Statutes, is amended792 to read:

349.13 Exemption from taxation.--The effectuation of the 793 794 authorized purposes of the authority created under this chapter is, shall and will be, in all respects for the benefit of the 795 796 people of the state, for the increase of their commerce and 797 prosperity, and for the improvement of their health and living 798 conditions, and since such authority will be performing 799 essential governmental functions in effectuating such purposes, 800 such authority shall not be required to pay any taxes or 801 assessments of any kind or nature whatsoever upon any property 802 acquired or used by it for such purposes, or upon any rates, 803 fees, rentals, receipts, income, or charges at any time received by it, and the bonds and other obligations issued under this 804 chapter by the authority, their transfer and the income 805 806 therefrom, (including any profits made on the sale thereof), shall at all times be free from taxation of any kind by the 807 state, or by any political subdivision, or taxing agency or 808 Page 29 of 35

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809 instrumentality thereof. The exemption granted by this section 810 shall not be applicable to any tax imposed by chapter 220 on 811 interest, income, or profits on debt obligations owned by 812 corporations. When property of the authority is leased, it shall 813 be exempt from ad valorem taxes only if the use by the lessee qualifies the property for exemption under s. 196.199. 814 815 Section 14. Section 349.15, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 816 817 349.15 Remedies; pledges enforceable by bondholders.--Any holder of bonds issued under this chapter, except to the extent 818 819 such rights may be restricted by the resolution, deed of trust, indenture, or other proceeding relating to the issuance of such 820 bonds, may by civil action, mandamus, or other appropriate 821 822 action, suit, or proceeding in law or in equity, in any court of competent jurisdiction, protect and enforce any and all rights 823 824 of such bondholder granted under the proceedings authorizing the 825 issuance of such bonds and enforce any pledge made for payment of the principal and interest on bonds, or any covenant or 826 827 agreement relative thereto, against the authority or directly against the department, as may be appropriate. It is the express 828 829 intention of this chapter that any pledge by the department of 830 rates, fees, revenues, Duval county gasoline tax funds, or other funds, as rentals, to the authority or any covenants or 831 agreements relative thereto may be enforceable in any court of 832 competent jurisdiction against the authority or directly against 833 the department by any holder of bonds issued by the authority. 834 Section 15. Section 349.17, Florida Statutes, is amended 835 836 to read:

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837 349.17 Chapter complete and additional authority.--838 (1)The powers conferred by this chapter shall be in 839 addition and supplemental to the existing powers of said board 840 and the Department of Transportation, and this chapter shall not 841 be construed as repealing any of the provisions of any other 842 law, general, special, or local, but to supersede such other 843 laws in the exercise of the powers provided in this chapter, and to provide a complete method for the exercise of the powers 844 845 granted in this chapter. The refunding of any of the bonds of 846 Florida State Improvement Commission heretofore issued to 847 finance part of the cost of said Jacksonville Expressway System, and the completion, extension, and improvement of said system, 848 and the issuance of bonds hereunder to finance all or part of 849 850 the cost thereof, may be accomplished upon compliance with the 851 provisions of this chapter without regard to or necessity for 852 compliance with the provisions, limitations, or restrictions 853 contained in any other general, special, or local law, 854 including, without limitation, s. 215.821, and no approval of 855 any bonds issued under this chapter by the qualified electors or qualified electors who are freeholders in the state or in said 856 857 County of Duval, or in said City of Jacksonville, or in any 858 other political subdivision of the state, shall be required for 859 the issuance of such bonds pursuant to this chapter.

(2) This chapter shall not be deemed to repeal, rescind,
or modify any other law or laws relating to said State Board of
Administration, said Department of Transportation, or said
Florida State Improvement Commission, but shall be deemed to and
shall supersede such other law or laws in the exercise of the
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865 powers provided in this chapter insofar as such other law or 866 laws are inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter, 867 including, without limitation, s. 215.821.

868 Section 16. Section 349.21, Florida Statutes, is amended 869 to read:

349.21 Powers conferred by s. 212.055(1).--Notwithstanding 870 871 any other provision of law, any transportation authority created by this chapter shall have all the powers conferred by s. 872 873 212.055(1). The revenues provided by this section may shall be used or pledged as set forth in s. 212.055(1), including to pay 874 875 principal and interest on bonds issued to refinance existing 876 bonds or new bonds issued for the construction of rapid transit systems, bus systems, roads, or bridges, as provided in s. 877 878 212.055(1). In no event may local transportation surtax moneys collected in Duval County be expended on transportation 879 880 facilities outside the boundaries of such county for which tolls have been pledged. The powers provided by this section shall 881 882 expire when all such bonds in existence on the effective date of 883 this act have been retired.

884 Section 17. Section 349.22, Florida Statutes, is created 885 to read:

886 <u>349.22 Public-private transportation facilities.--</u> (1) The authority may receive or solicit proposals and enter into agreements with private entities or consortia thereof for the building, operation, ownership, or financing of highways, bridges, multimodal transportation systems, transitoriented development nodes, transit stations, or related

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892	transportation facilities. Before approval, the authority must
893	determine that a proposed project:
894	(a) Is in the public's best interest.
895	(b) Would not require state funds to be used unless the
896	project is on or provides increased mobility on the State
897	Highway System.
898	(c) Would have adequate safeguards to ensure that
899	additional costs or unreasonable service disruptions would not
900	be realized by the traveling public and citizens of the state in
901	the event of default or cancellation of the agreement by the
902	authority.
903	(2) The authority shall ensure that all reasonable costs
904	to the state related to transportation facilities that are not
905	part of the State Highway System are borne by the private entity
906	or any partnership created to develop the facilities. The
907	authority shall also ensure that all reasonable costs to the
908	state and substantially affected local governments and utilities
909	related to the private transportation facility are borne by the
910	private entity for transportation facilities that are owned by
911	private entities. For projects on the State Highway System or
912	that provide increased mobility on the State Highway System, the
913	department may use state resources to participate in funding and
914	financing the project as provided for under the department's
915	enabling legislation.
916	(3) The authority may request proposals and receive
917	unsolicited proposals for public-private transportation projects
918	and, upon receipt of any unsolicited proposal or determination
919	to issue a request for proposals, the authority must publish a
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920 notice in the Florida Administrative Weekly and a newspaper of 921 general circulation in the county in which the proposed project 922 is located at least once a week for 2 weeks requesting proposals 923 or, if an unsolicited proposal was received, stating that it has 924 received the proposal and will accept, for 60 days after the 925 initial date of publication, other proposals for the same 926 project purpose. A copy of the notice must be mailed to each 927 local government in the affected areas. After the public 928 notification period has expired, the authority shall rank the proposals in order of preference. In ranking the proposals, the 929 930 authority shall consider professional qualifications, general 931 business terms, innovative engineering or cost-reduction terms, 932 finance plans, and the need for state funds to deliver the 933 proposal. If the authority is not satisfied with the results of the negotiations, it may, at its sole discretion, terminate 934 935 negotiations with the proposer. If these negotiations are 936 unsuccessful, the authority may go to the second and lower-937 ranked firms, in order, using the same procedure. If only one 938 proposal is received, the authority may negotiate in good faith 939 and, if it is not satisfied with the results, it may, at its 940 sole discretion, terminate negotiations with the proposer. 941 Notwithstanding this subsection, the authority may, at its 942 discretion, reject all proposals at any point in the process up 943 to completion of a contract with the proposer. 944 (4) Agreements entered into pursuant to this section may 945 authorize the public-private entity to impose tolls or fares for 946 the use of the transportation facility. However, the amount and

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947	use of toll or fare revenues shall be regulated by the authority
948	to avoid unreasonable costs to users of the facility.
949	(5) Each public-private transportation facility
950	constructed pursuant to this section shall comply with all
951	requirements of federal, state, and local laws; state, regional,
952	and local comprehensive plans; the authority's rules, policies,
953	procedures, and standards for transportation facilities; and any
954	other conditions that the authority determines to be in the
955	public's best interest.
956	(6) The authority may exercise any of its powers,
957	including eminent domain, to facilitate the development and
958	construction of transportation projects pursuant to this
959	section. The authority may pay all or part of the cost of
960	operating and maintaining the facility or may provide services
961	to the private entity, for which services it shall receive full
962	or partial reimbursement.
963	(7) Except as provided in this section, this section is
964	not intended to amend existing law by granting additional powers
965	to or imposing further restrictions on the governmental entities
966	with regard to regulating and entering into cooperative
967	arrangements with the private sector for the planning,
968	construction, and operation of transportation facilities.
969	Section 18. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.

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