

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to government accountability and  
3           efficiency; amending s. 112.061, F.S.; revising certain  
4           per diem and travel requirements and limitations;  
5           providing for application to certain water management  
6           districts, authorities, and other entities; amending s.  
7           129.01, F.S.; providing limitations on unreserved  
8           undesignated fund balances; amending s. 129.02, F.S.;  
9           providing definitions; providing additional requirements  
10          for budgets; requiring a proposed budget summary;  
11          providing summary requirements; deleting requirements for  
12          county fine and forfeiture fund budgets; amending s.  
13          129.021, F.S.; expanding application of certain  
14          requirements for county officer budgets; amending s.  
15          129.03, F.S.; extending a time period for county budget  
16          officers to prepare and present a tentative budget;  
17          providing additional requirements for filing comprehensive  
18          annual financial reports with clerks of circuit court and  
19          county residents; providing requirements for posting  
20          reports on websites; amending s. 166.241, F.S.; providing  
21          definitions; providing additional requirements for filing  
22          budgets by municipalities; providing budget disclosure  
23          requirements; requiring a proposed budget summary;  
24          providing summary requirements; providing additional  
25          requirements for posting comprehensive annual financial  
26          reports at certain public offices, online, and with  
27          municipal residents; providing limitations on unreserved  
28          undesignated fund balances; amending s. 189.418, F.S.;

29 providing definitions; providing additional requirements  
 30 for filing budgets by special districts; providing budget  
 31 disclosure requirements; requiring a proposed budget  
 32 summary; providing summary requirements; providing  
 33 additional requirements for posting comprehensive annual  
 34 financial reports at certain public offices, online, and  
 35 with special district residents; providing limitations on  
 36 unreserved undesignated fund balances; amending s.  
 37 373.536, F.S.; providing additional requirements for  
 38 filing comprehensive annual financial reports of water  
 39 management districts with clerks of circuit court, water  
 40 management residents, and online; providing limitations on  
 41 unreserved undesignated fund balances; amending ss.  
 42 189.429 and 191.015, F.S.; correcting cross-references;  
 43 providing applicability; providing an effective date.

44  
 45 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

46  
 47 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (6), paragraph (e)  
 48 of subsection (7), and paragraph (c) of subsection (14) of  
 49 section 112.061, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

50 112.061 Per diem and travel expenses of public officers,  
 51 employees, and authorized persons.--

52 (6) RATES OF PER DIEM AND SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE.--For  
 53 purposes of reimbursement rates and methods of calculation, per  
 54 diem and subsistence allowances are provided as follows:

55 (a) All travelers shall be allowed for subsistence when  
 56 traveling to a convention or conference or when traveling within

57 or outside the state in order to conduct bona fide state  
 58 business, which convention, conference, or business serves a  
 59 direct and lawful public purpose with relation to the public  
 60 agency served by the person attending such meeting or conducting  
 61 such business, either of the following for each day of such  
 62 travel at the option of the traveler:

- 63 1. Eighty dollars per diem; or
- 64 2. If actual expenses exceed \$80, the amounts permitted in  
 65 paragraph (b) for subsistence, plus actual expenses for lodging  
 66 at a single-occupancy rate to be substantiated by paid bills  
 67 therefor. Actual expenses for lodging shall not exceed \$200 per  
 68 night excluding taxes unless approved in writing by the agency  
 69 head when lodging is not reasonably available for less than the  
 70 maximum rate.

71  
 72 When lodging or meals are provided at a state institution, the  
 73 traveler shall be reimbursed only for the actual expenses of  
 74 such lodging or meals, not to exceed the maximum provided for in  
 75 this subsection.

76 (7) TRANSPORTATION.--

77 (e) Transportation by charter or rental vehicle ~~chartered~~  
 78 ~~vehicles~~ when traveling on official business may be authorized  
 79 by the agency head when necessary or where it is to the  
 80 advantage of the agency, provided the cost of such  
 81 transportation does not exceed the cost of transportation by  
 82 privately owned vehicle pursuant to paragraph (d).

83 Transportation by charter or rental vehicle is preferred in lieu  
 84 of a privately owned vehicle when the use of a rental vehicle is

85 calculated to cost less than the estimated amount required to  
 86 reimburse the traveler for transportation by his or her  
 87 privately owned vehicle. At the option of the traveler, the use  
 88 of his or her private vehicle may be authorized, but  
 89 reimbursement shall be limited to the amount of whichever means  
 90 of vehicle transportation is less.

91 (14) APPLICABILITY TO COUNTIES, COUNTY OFFICERS, DISTRICT  
 92 SCHOOL BOARDS, SPECIAL DISTRICTS, AND METROPOLITAN PLANNING  
 93 ORGANIZATIONS.--

94 (c) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection,  
 95 counties, county constitutional officers and entities governed  
 96 by those officers, district school boards, special districts,  
 97 and metropolitan planning organizations, other than those  
 98 subject to s. 166.021(10), remain subject to the requirements of  
 99 this section. Notwithstanding subparagraph (a)4., water  
 100 management districts created under s. 373.069, the Florida  
 101 Inland Navigation District, the Northwest Florida Regional  
 102 Housing Authority, the Northwest Florida Transportation Corridor  
 103 Authority, the Sarasota-Manatee Airport Authority, Space  
 104 Florida, and the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation  
 105 Authority are subject to the requirements of this section.

106 Section 2. Paragraph (f) is added to subsection (2) of  
 107 section 129.01, Florida Statutes, to read:

108 129.01 Budget system established.--There is hereby  
 109 established a budget system for the control of the finances of  
 110 the boards of county commissioners of the several counties of  
 111 the state, as follows:

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112 (2) Each budget shall conform to the following general  
113 directions and requirements:

114 (f) The unreserved undesignated fund balance, as defined  
115 in s. 129.02(1), shall not exceed 20 percent of operating  
116 revenues or 90 days of regular general fund operating  
117 expenditures, whichever is greater, necessary to secure and  
118 maintain credit ratings, meet seasonal shortfalls in cash flow,  
119 and reduce susceptibility to emergency or unanticipated  
120 expenditures or to address revenue shortfalls. Any remaining  
121 unreserved undesignated fund balance shall not be used to  
122 increase recurring expenditures within the budget, but shall be  
123 carried forward to the next fiscal year in furtherance of the  
124 fund.

125 Section 3. Section 129.02, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
126 read:

127 129.02 Requisites of budgets.--

128 (1) As used in this section, the term:

129 (a) "Fund" means a fiscal and accounting entity with a  
130 self-balancing set of accounts that are recorded and segregated  
131 to account for specific activities or to attain certain  
132 objectives in accordance with applicable laws, special  
133 regulations, restrictions, or limitations, in accordance with  
134 generally accepted accounting principles.

135 (b) "Object of expenditure" means the classification of  
136 fund data by character of expenditure. The term "object of  
137 expenditure" includes, but is not limited to, operating  
138 expenditures or expenses, personal services, debt service,

139 capital outlay, grants, and transfers, in accordance with  
 140 generally accepted accounting principles.

141 (c) "Spending entity," as designated by the county  
 142 commission, means any office, unit, department, board,  
 143 commission, county officer, or dependent special district which  
 144 is responsible for any particular expenditures.

145 (d) "Unreserved undesignated fund balance" means any fund  
 146 balance remaining after accounting for all reserved and  
 147 designated general fund balances.

148 (2) Each budget shall conform to the following specific  
 149 directions and requirements:

150 (a) Budgets that do not meet the Distinguished Budget  
 151 Presentation Award criteria established by the Government  
 152 Finance Officers Association shall, by fund and by spending  
 153 entity within each fund for the fiscal year, set forth the  
 154 following:

155 1. All proposed budget expenditures summarized by the  
 156 object of expenditure to be undertaken or executed by any  
 157 spending entity during the fiscal year.

158 2. Anticipated revenues for the fiscal year.

159 3. Estimated beginning and ending fund balances.

160 4. The corresponding actual figures for the prior year,  
 161 current year budget or estimated current year actual, and  
 162 proposed budget for the next fiscal year consistent with the  
 163 basis of accounting used to prepare the budget.

164 5. Explanatory schedules or statements noting material  
 165 changes in proposed expenditures by spending entity.

166        (b) 1. ~~(1)~~ General fund budget shall contain an estimate of  
 167 receipts by source, including any taxes now or hereafter  
 168 authorized by law to be levied for any countywide purpose,  
 169 except those countywide purposes provided for in the budgets  
 170 enumerated below, any tax millage limitation to the contrary  
 171 notwithstanding, and including any balance brought forward as  
 172 provided herein; and an itemized estimate of expenditures that  
 173 will need to be incurred to carry on all functions and  
 174 activities of the county government now or hereafter authorized  
 175 by law, except those functions and activities provided for in  
 176 the budgets enumerated below, and of unpaid vouchers of the  
 177 general fund; also of the reserve for contingencies and of the  
 178 balances, as hereinbefore provided, which should be carried  
 179 forward at the end of the year.

180        2. A county shall prepare a written summary, not to exceed  
 181 4 pages, describing the important features of the proposed  
 182 budget. The summary shall include an overview of the county, a  
 183 description of the previous fiscal year's performance, a review  
 184 of the current fiscal year's revenues and expenditures, and an  
 185 economic outlook and future challenges or objectives  
 186 description. The summary must include a statement of the  
 187 budgetary basis of accounting used and a description of the  
 188 services to be delivered during the fiscal year. The county  
 189 shall make the summary available to county residents by filing  
 190 the summary with the clerk of the circuit court and posting the  
 191 summary prominently online if the county has a website.

192        (c) (2) The County Transportation Trust Fund budget shall  
 193 contain an estimate of receipts by source and balances as

194 provided herein, and an itemized estimate of expenditures that  
 195 need to be incurred to carry on all work on roads and bridges in  
 196 the county except that provided for in the capital outlay  
 197 reserve fund budget and in district budgets pursuant to this  
 198 chapter, and of unpaid vouchers of the County Transportation  
 199 Trust Fund; also of the reserve for contingencies and the  
 200 balance, as hereinbefore provided, which should be carried  
 201 forward at the end of the year.

202 ~~(3) The budget for the county fine and forfeiture fund~~  
 203 ~~shall contain an estimate of receipts by source and balances as~~  
 204 ~~provided herein, and an itemized estimate of expenditures that~~  
 205 ~~need to be incurred to carry on all criminal prosecution, and~~  
 206 ~~all other law enforcement functions and activities of the county~~  
 207 ~~now or hereafter authorized by law, and of indebtedness of the~~  
 208 ~~county fine and forfeiture fund; also of the reserve for~~  
 209 ~~contingencies and the balance, as hereinbefore provided, which~~  
 210 ~~should be carried forward at the end of the year.~~

211 (d)1.~~(4)~~~~(a)~~ Capital outlay reserve fund budget shall  
 212 contain an estimate of receipts by source, including any taxes  
 213 authorized by law to be levied for that purpose, and including  
 214 any balance brought forward as provided for herein; and an  
 215 itemized estimate of expenditures for capital purposes to give  
 216 effect to general improvement programs. It shall be a plan for  
 217 the expenditure of funds for capital purposes, showing as income  
 218 the revenues, special assessments, borrowings, receipts from  
 219 sale of capital assets, free surpluses, and down payment  
 220 appropriation to be applied to the cost of a capital project or  
 221 projects, expenses of issuance of obligations, engineering,



222 supervision, contracts, and any other related expenditures. It  
 223 may contain also an estimate for the reserves as hereinbefore  
 224 provided and for a reserve for future construction and  
 225 improvements. No expenditures or obligations shall be incurred  
 226 for capital purposes except as appropriated in this budget,  
 227 except for the preliminary expense of plans, specifications and  
 228 estimates.

229 2.~~(b)~~ Under the provision herein set forth, a separate  
 230 capital budget may be adopted for each special district included  
 231 within the county budget, or a consolidated capital budget may  
 232 be adopted providing for the consolidation of capital projects  
 233 of the county and of the special districts included within the  
 234 county budget into one budget, treating borrowed funds and other  
 235 receipts as special revenue earmarked for capital projects as  
 236 separately itemized appropriation for each district special  
 237 project or county project, as the case may be.

238 3.~~(e)~~ Any funds in the capital budget not required to meet  
 239 the current construction cost of any project may be invested in  
 240 any securities of the Federal Government or in securities of any  
 241 county of the state pledging the full faith and credit of such  
 242 county or pledging such county's share of the gas tax provided  
 243 for in s. 16 of Art. IX of the Constitution of 1885 as adopted  
 244 by the 1968 revised constitution or in s. 9, Art. XII of said  
 245 revision.

246 (e)~~(5)~~ A bond interest and sinking fund budget shall be  
 247 made for each county and for each special district included  
 248 within the county budget having bonds outstanding. The budget  
 249 shall contain an estimate of receipts by source, including any

250 taxes authorized by law to be levied for that purpose, and  
 251 including any balances brought forward as provided herein; and  
 252 an itemized estimate of expenditures and reserves as follows:  
 253 The bond interest and principal maturities in the year for which  
 254 the budget is made shall be determined and estimates for  
 255 expenses connected with the payments of such bonds and coupons,  
 256 commissions of the tax collector, and of the property appraiser,  
 257 and expenses of refunding operations, if any are contemplated,  
 258 shall be appropriated. A sufficient "cash balance to be carried  
 259 over" may be reserved as set forth hereinbefore. The sinking  
 260 fund requirements provided for in the said reserve may be  
 261 carried over either in cash or in securities of the Federal  
 262 Government and of the local governments in Florida, or both.

263 (f) ~~(6)~~ For each special district included within the  
 264 county budget, the operating fund budget shall contain an  
 265 estimate of receipts by source and balances as provided herein,  
 266 and an itemized estimate of expenditures that will need to be  
 267 incurred to carry on all functions and activities of the special  
 268 district as now or hereafter provided by law and of the  
 269 indebtedness of the special district; also of the reserves for  
 270 contingencies and the balances, as hereinbefore provided, which  
 271 should be carried forward at the end of the year.

272 Section 4. Section 129.021, Florida Statutes, is amended  
 273 to read:

274 129.021 County officer budget  
 275 information.--Notwithstanding other provisions of law, the  
 276 budgets of all county officers, as submitted to the board of  
 277 county commissioners, shall be in sufficient detail and contain

278 such information as the board of county commissioners may  
 279 require in furtherance of their powers and responsibilities  
 280 provided in ss. 125.01(1)(q) and (r) and (6), ~~and~~ 129.01(2)(b),  
 281 and 129.02(1) and (2).

282 Section 5. Subsection (3) of section 129.03, Florida  
 283 Statutes, is amended to read:

284 129.03 Preparation and adoption of budget.--

285 (3) No later than 21 ~~15~~ days after certification of value  
 286 by the property appraiser pursuant to s. 200.065(1), the county  
 287 budget officer, after tentatively ascertaining the proposed  
 288 fiscal policies of the board for the ensuing fiscal year, shall  
 289 prepare and present to the board a tentative budget for the  
 290 ensuing fiscal year for each of the funds provided in this  
 291 chapter, including all estimated receipts, taxes to be levied,  
 292 and balances expected to be brought forward and all estimated  
 293 expenditures, reserves, and balances to be carried over at the  
 294 end of the year.

295 (a) The board of county commissioners shall receive and  
 296 examine the tentative budget for each fund and, subject to the  
 297 notice and hearing requirements of s. 200.065, shall require  
 298 such changes to be made as it shall deem necessary; provided the  
 299 budget shall remain in balance. The county budget officer's  
 300 estimates of receipts other than taxes, and of balances to be  
 301 brought forward, shall not be revised except by a resolution of  
 302 the board, duly passed and spread on the minutes of the board.  
 303 However, the board may allocate to any of the funds of the  
 304 county any anticipated receipts, other than taxes levied for a

305 particular fund, except receipts designated or received to be  
 306 expended for a particular purpose.

307 (b)1. Until the effective date of subparagraph 2., upon  
 308 receipt of the tentative budgets and completion of any revisions  
 309 made by the board, the board shall prepare a statement  
 310 summarizing all of the adopted tentative budgets. This summary  
 311 statement shall show, for each budget and the total of all  
 312 budgets, the proposed tax millages, the balances, the reserves,  
 313 and the total of each major classification of receipts and  
 314 expenditures, classified according to the classification of  
 315 accounts prescribed by the appropriate state agency. The county  
 316 shall make the summary statement available to county residents  
 317 by filing the statement with the clerk of the circuit court and  
 318 posting the statement prominently online if the county has a  
 319 website. The board shall cause this summary statement to be  
 320 advertised one time in a newspaper of general circulation  
 321 published in the county, or by posting with the clerk of the  
 322 circuit court ~~at the courthouse door~~ if there is no such  
 323 newspaper, and the advertisement shall appear adjacent to the  
 324 advertisement required pursuant to s. 200.065.

325 2. Beginning with fiscal year 2018-2019, counties that  
 326 have received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in  
 327 Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers  
 328 Association shall make the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report  
 329 available to county residents by filing the report with the  
 330 clerk of the circuit court and posting the report prominently  
 331 online if the county has a website. Counties that have not  
 332 received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in

333 Financial Reporting shall continue to comply with the  
 334 requirements of subparagraph 1.

335 (c) The board shall hold public hearings to adopt  
 336 tentative and final budgets pursuant to s. 200.065. The hearings  
 337 shall be primarily for the purpose of hearing requests and  
 338 complaints from the public regarding the budgets and the  
 339 proposed tax levies and for explaining the budget and proposed  
 340 or adopted amendments thereto, if any. The tentative budgets,  
 341 adopted tentative budgets, and final budgets shall be filed in  
 342 the office of the clerk of the circuit court ~~county auditor~~ as a  
 343 public record. For counties that have websites, the tentative  
 344 budgets and final budgets, as approved by the county commission,  
 345 shall be made available online when filed with the clerk of the  
 346 circuit court and shall remain online until the final budget is  
 347 adopted for the next fiscal year. Sufficient reference in words  
 348 and figures to identify the particular transactions shall be  
 349 made in the minutes of the board to record its actions with  
 350 reference to the budgets.

351 Section 6. Section 166.241, Florida Statutes, is amended  
 352 to read:

353 166.241 Fiscal years, appropriations, budgets, and budget  
 354 amendments.--

355 (1) As used in this section, the term:

356 (a) "Fund" means a fiscal and accounting entity with a  
 357 self-balancing set of accounts that are recorded and segregated  
 358 to account for specific activities or to attain certain  
 359 objectives in accordance with applicable laws, special

360 regulations, restrictions, or limitations, in accordance with  
 361 generally accepted accounting principles.

362 (b) "Object of expenditure" means the classification of  
 363 fund data by character of expenditure. The term "object of  
 364 expenditure" includes, but is not limited to, operating  
 365 expenditures or expenses, personal services, debt service,  
 366 capital outlay, grants, and transfers, in accordance with  
 367 generally accepted accounting principles.

368 (c) "Spending entity," as designated by the municipality,  
 369 means any office, unit, department, board, commission, or  
 370 dependent special district which is responsible for any  
 371 particular expenditures.

372 (d) "Unreserved undesignated fund balance" means any fund  
 373 balance remaining after accounting for all reserved and  
 374 designated general fund balances.

375 (2)-(1) Each municipality shall make provision for  
 376 establishing a fiscal year beginning October 1 of each year and  
 377 ending September 30 of the following year.

378 (3)-(2) The governing body of each municipality shall adopt  
 379 a budget each fiscal year. The budget shall ~~must~~ be adopted by  
 380 ordinance or resolution unless otherwise specified in the  
 381 respective municipality's charter. The amount available from  
 382 taxation and other sources, including amounts carried over from  
 383 prior fiscal years, must equal the total appropriations for  
 384 expenditures and reserves. The budget shall ~~must~~ regulate  
 385 expenditures of the municipality, and it is unlawful for any  
 386 officer of a municipal government to expend or contract for  
 387 expenditures in any fiscal year except in pursuance of budgeted

388 appropriations. The tentative budgets and final budgets,  
389 approved by the governing body, shall be filed at a designated  
390 public office within the boundaries of the municipality as a  
391 public record. For municipalities that have websites, the  
392 tentative budgets and final budgets, approved by the governing  
393 body, shall be made available online when filed with the  
394 designated public office and remain online until the final  
395 budget is adopted for the next fiscal year.

396 (4) Budgets that do not meet the Distinguished Budget  
397 Presentation Award criteria established by the Government  
398 Finance Officers Association and that exceed \$1 million shall,  
399 by fund and by spending entity within each fund for the fiscal  
400 year, set forth the following:

401 (a) All proposed budget expenditures summarized by the  
402 object of expenditure to be undertaken or executed by any  
403 spending entity during the fiscal year.

404 (b) Anticipated revenues for the fiscal year.

405 (c) Estimated beginning and ending fund balances.

406 (d) The corresponding actual figures for the prior year,  
407 current year budget or estimated current year actual, and  
408 proposed budget for the next fiscal year consistent with the  
409 basis of accounting used to prepare the budget.

410 (e) Explanatory schedules or statements noting material  
411 changes in proposed expenditures by spending entity.

412 (5) A municipality shall prepare a written summary, not to  
413 exceed 4 pages, describing the important features of the  
414 proposed budget. The summary shall include an overview of the  
415 municipality, a description of the previous fiscal year's

416 performance, a review of the current fiscal year's revenues and  
417 expenditures, and an economic outlook and future challenges or  
418 objectives description. The summary must include a statement of  
419 the budgetary basis of accounting used and a description of the  
420 services to be delivered during the fiscal year. The  
421 municipality shall make the summary available to municipal  
422 residents by posting the summary at a designated public office  
423 within the boundaries of the municipality and posting the  
424 summary prominently online if the municipality has a website.

425 (6) (a) Municipalities that have received a Certificate of  
426 Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the  
427 Government Finance Officers Association shall make the  
428 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report available to municipal  
429 residents by posting the report at a designated public office  
430 within the boundaries of the municipality and posting the report  
431 prominently online if the municipality has a website.

432 (b) Municipalities the budgets of which exceed \$1 million  
433 and that have not received a Certificate of Achievement for  
434 Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance  
435 Officers Association shall, upon receipt of the tentative  
436 budgets of each spending entity and completion of any revisions  
437 made by the municipality, prepare a statement summarizing all of  
438 the adopted tentative budgets. This summary statement shall show  
439 for each budget the total of all budgets, the proposed tax  
440 millages, the balances, the reserves, and the total of each  
441 major classification of receipts and expenditures, classified  
442 according to the classification of accounts prescribed by the  
443 appropriate state agency, and a brief explanation of any



444 material increase or decrease by spending entity. The  
445 municipality shall make the summary statement available to  
446 municipal residents by posting the statement at a designated  
447 public office within the boundaries of the municipality and  
448 posting the statement prominently online if the municipality has  
449 a website.

450 (7) The unreserved undesignated fund balance shall not  
451 exceed 20 percent of operating revenues or 90 days of regular  
452 general fund operating expenditures, whichever is greater,  
453 necessary to secure and maintain credit ratings, meet seasonal  
454 shortfalls in cash flow, and reduce susceptibility to emergency  
455 or unanticipated expenditures or to address revenue shortfalls.  
456 Any remaining unreserved undesignated fund balance shall not be  
457 used to increase recurring expenditures within the budget, but  
458 shall be carried forward to the next fiscal year in furtherance  
459 of the fund.

460 (8)~~(3)~~ The governing body of each municipality at any time  
461 within a fiscal year or within up to 60 days following the end  
462 of the fiscal year may amend a budget for that year as follows:

463 (a) Appropriations for expenditures within a fund may be  
464 decreased or increased by motion recorded in the minutes,  
465 provided that the total of the appropriations of the fund is not  
466 changed.

467 (b) The governing body may establish procedures by which  
468 the designated budget officer may authorize certain budget  
469 amendments within a department, provided that the total of the  
470 appropriations of the department is not changed.

471 (c) If a budget amendment is required for a purpose not  
472 specifically authorized in paragraph (a) or paragraph (b), the  
473 budget amendment must be adopted in the same manner as the  
474 original budget unless otherwise specified in the charter of the  
475 respective municipality.

476 Section 7. Section 189.418, Florida Statutes, is amended  
477 to read:

478 189.418 Reports; budgets; audits.--

479 (1) As used in this section, the term:

480 (a) "Fund" means a fiscal and accounting entity with a  
481 self-balancing set of accounts that are recorded and segregated  
482 to account for specific activities or to attain certain  
483 objectives in accordance with applicable laws, special  
484 regulations, restrictions, or limitations, in accordance with  
485 generally accepted accounting principles.

486 (b) "Object of expenditure" means the classification of  
487 fund data by character of expenditure. The term "object of  
488 expenditure" includes, but is not limited to, operating  
489 expenditures or expenses, personal services, debt service,  
490 capital outlay, grants, and transfers, in accordance with  
491 generally accepted accounting principles.

492 (c) "Spending entity," as designated by the special  
493 district, means any office, unit, department, board, commission,  
494 or institution which is responsible for any particular  
495 expenditures.

496 (d) "Unreserved undesignated fund balance" means any fund  
497 balance remaining after accounting for all reserved and  
498 designated general fund balances.

499        (2)~~(1)~~ When a new special district is created, the  
500 district must forward to the department, within 30 days after  
501 the adoption of the special act, rule, ordinance, resolution, or  
502 other document that provides for the creation of the district, a  
503 copy of the document and a written statement that includes a  
504 reference to the status of the special district as dependent or  
505 independent and the basis for such classification. In addition  
506 to the document or documents that create the district, the  
507 district must also submit a map of the district, showing any  
508 municipal boundaries that cross the district's boundaries, and  
509 any county lines if the district is located in more than one  
510 county. The department must notify the local government or other  
511 entity and the district within 30 days after receipt of the  
512 document or documents that create the district as to whether the  
513 district has been determined to be dependent or independent.

514        (3)~~(2)~~ Any amendment, modification, or update of the  
515 document by which the district was created, including changes in  
516 boundaries, must be filed with the department within 30 days  
517 after adoption. The department may initiate proceedings against  
518 special districts as provided in s. 189.421 for failure to file  
519 the information required by this subsection.

520        (4)~~(3)~~ The governing body of each special district shall  
521 adopt a budget by resolution each fiscal year. The total amount  
522 available from taxation and other sources, including amounts  
523 carried over from prior fiscal years, must equal the total of  
524 appropriations for expenditures and reserves. The adopted budget  
525 must regulate expenditures of the special district, and it is  
526 unlawful for any officer of a special district to expend or

527 contract for expenditures in any fiscal year except in pursuance  
528 of budgeted appropriations. Budgets that exceed \$250,000 in  
529 revenues and that do not meet the Distinguished Budget  
530 Presentation Award criteria established by the Government  
531 Finance Officers Association shall, by fund and by spending  
532 entity within each fund for the fiscal year, set forth the  
533 following:

534 (a) All proposed budget expenditures summarized by the  
535 object of expenditure to be undertaken or executed by any  
536 spending entity during the fiscal year.

537 (b) Anticipated revenues for the fiscal year.

538 (c) Estimated beginning and ending fund balances.

539 (d) The corresponding actual figures for the prior year,  
540 current year budget or estimated current year actual, and  
541 proposed budget for the next fiscal year consistent with the  
542 basis of accounting used to prepare the budget.

543 (e) Explanatory schedules or statements noting material  
544 changes in proposed expenditures by spending entity.

545 (5) Special districts the budgets of which exceed  
546 \$250,000 in revenues shall prepare a written summary, not  
547 to exceed 4 pages, describing the important features of the  
548 proposed budget. The summary shall include an overview of  
549 the special district, a description of the previous fiscal  
550 year's performance, a review of the current fiscal year's  
551 revenues and expenditures, and an economic outlook and  
552 future challenges or objectives description. The summary  
553 must include a statement of the budgetary basis of  
554 accounting used and a description of the services to be

555 delivered during the fiscal year. The special district  
556 shall make the summary available to district residents by  
557 posting the summary at a designated public office within  
558 the boundaries of the district, or, if a public office is  
559 not available within the boundaries, by posting with a  
560 public office close to the boundaries of the special  
561 district. For special districts websites, the district  
562 shall post the summary prominently online.

563 (6) For budgets that exceed \$250,000 in revenues,  
564 tentative budgets and final budgets, approved by the governing  
565 body, shall be filed as a public record at a designated public  
566 office within the boundaries of the special district, or, if a  
567 public office is not available within the boundaries, shall be  
568 filed with a public office close to the boundaries of the  
569 special district. For special districts that have websites,  
570 tentative budgets and final budgets, approved by the governing  
571 body, shall be made available online when filed with the  
572 designated public office and remain online until the final  
573 budget is adopted for the next fiscal year.

574 (7) (a) Special districts that have received a Certificate  
575 of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the  
576 Government Finance Officers Association shall make the  
577 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report available to district  
578 residents by posting the report at a designated public office  
579 within the boundaries of the special district, or, if a public  
580 office is not available within the boundaries, shall file the  
581 report with a public office close to the boundaries of the

582 special district and post the report prominently online if the  
583 district has a website.

584 (b) Special districts the budgets of which exceed \$250,000  
585 in revenues and that have not received a Certificate of  
586 Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the  
587 Government Finance Officers Association shall, upon receipt of  
588 the tentative budgets of each spending entity and completion of  
589 any revisions made by the special district, prepare a statement  
590 summarizing all of the adopted tentative budgets. This summary  
591 statement shall show for each budget the total of all budgets,  
592 the proposed tax millages, the balances, the reserves, and the  
593 total of each major classification of receipts and expenditures,  
594 classified according to the classification of accounts  
595 prescribed by the appropriate state agency, and a brief  
596 explanation of any material increase or decrease by spending  
597 entity. The special district shall make the summary statement  
598 available to district residents by posting at a designated  
599 public office within the boundaries of the special district, or,  
600 if a public office is not available within the boundaries, the  
601 statement shall be filed with a public office close to the  
602 boundaries of the special district and post the statement  
603 prominently online if the district has a website.

604 (8) The unreserved undesignated fund balance shall not  
605 exceed 20 percent of operating revenues or 90 days of regular  
606 general fund operating expenditures, whichever is greater,  
607 necessary to secure and maintain credit ratings, meet seasonal  
608 shortfalls in cash flow, and reduce susceptibility to emergency  
609 or unanticipated expenditures or to address revenue shortfalls.

610 Any remaining unreserved undesignated fund balance shall not be  
 611 used to increase recurring expenditures within the budget, but  
 612 shall be carried forward to the next fiscal year in furtherance  
 613 of the fund.

614 (9)~~(4)~~ The proposed budget of a dependent special district  
 615 shall be presented in accordance with generally accepted  
 616 accounting principles, contained within the general budget of  
 617 the local governing authority, and be clearly stated as the  
 618 budget of the dependent district. However, with the concurrence  
 619 of the local governing authority, a dependent district may be  
 620 budgeted separately.

621 (10)~~(5)~~ The governing body of each special district at any  
 622 time within a fiscal year or within up to 60 days following the  
 623 end of the fiscal year may amend a budget for that year. The  
 624 budget amendment must be adopted by resolution.

625 (11)~~(6)~~ A local governing authority may, in its  
 626 discretion, review the budget or tax levy of any special  
 627 district located solely within its boundaries.

628 (12)~~(7)~~ All reports or information required to be filed  
 629 with a local governing authority under ss. 189.415, 189.416, and  
 630 189.417 and this section shall:

631 (a) When the local governing authority is a county, be  
 632 filed with the clerk of the board of county commissioners.

633 (b) When the district is a multicounty district, be filed  
 634 with the clerk of the county commission in each county.

635 (c) When the local governing authority is a municipality,  
 636 be filed at the place designated by the municipal governing  
 637 body.

638 Section 8. Paragraphs (d) and (e) of subsection (3),  
 639 paragraph (c) of subsection (4), and paragraph (a) of subsection  
 640 (6) of section 373.536, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

641 373.536 District budget and hearing thereon.--

642 (3) BUDGET HEARINGS AND WORKSHOPS; NOTICE.--

643 (d) As provided in s. 200.065(2)(d), the board shall  
 644 publish one or more notices of its intention to adopt a final  
 645 budget for the district for the ensuing fiscal year. The notice  
 646 shall appear adjacent to an advertisement that sets forth the  
 647 tentative budget in a format meeting the budget summary  
 648 requirements of s. 129.03(3)(b). The district shall not include  
 649 expenditures of federal special revenues and state special  
 650 revenues when preparing the statement required by s.

651 200.065(3)(1). The notice and advertisement shall be published  
 652 in one or more newspapers having a combined general paid  
 653 circulation in each county in which the district lies and the  
 654 advertisement shall be posted online if the district has a  
 655 website. Districts may include explanatory phrases and examples  
 656 in budget advertisements published under s. 200.065 to clarify  
 657 or illustrate the effect that the district budget may have on ad  
 658 valorem taxes.

659 (e) In lieu of the advertisement setting forth the  
 660 tentative budget in a format meeting the budget summary  
 661 requirements of s. 129.03(3)(b), water management districts that  
 662 have received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in  
 663 Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers  
 664 Association shall cause the resulting Comprehensive Annual  
 665 Financial Report to be made available to district residents by



666 filing the report with the clerk of the circuit court of each  
 667 county within or partly within the district and by posting the  
 668 report prominently online if the district has a website. The  
 669 district shall also cause the website address of the report to  
 670 be advertised in one or more newspapers having a combined  
 671 general paid circulation in each county in which the district  
 672 lies, and the advertisement shall appear adjacent the  
 673 advertisement required pursuant to s. 200.065.

674 (f)~~(e)~~ The hearing for adoption of a final budget and  
 675 millage rate shall be by and before the governing board of the  
 676 district as provided in s. 200.065 and may be continued from day  
 677 to day until terminated by the board.

678 (4) BUDGET CONTROLS.--

679 (c) If ~~Should~~ the district receives ~~receive~~ unanticipated  
 680 funds after the adoption of the final budget, those funds shall  
 681 be treated as unreserved undesignated funds. Unanticipated  
 682 undesignated funds do not include federal revenues, state  
 683 special revenues, matching funds, or local government or utility  
 684 project funds. The unreserved undesignated fund balance, as  
 685 defined in s. 129.02(1), shall not exceed 20 percent of  
 686 operating revenues or 90 days of regular general fund operating  
 687 expenditures, whichever is greater, necessary to secure and  
 688 maintain credit ratings, meet seasonal shortfalls in cash flow,  
 689 and reduce susceptibility to emergency or unanticipated  
 690 expenditures or to address revenue shortfalls. Any remaining  
 691 unreserved undesignated fund balance shall not be used to  
 692 increase recurring expenditures within the budget, but shall be  
 693 carried forward to the next fiscal year in furtherance of the

694 fund. The final budget, except for unreserved undesignated  
 695 funds, may be amended by including unanticipated ~~such~~ funds, so  
 696 long as notice of intention to amend is published in the notice  
 697 of the governing board meeting at which the amendment will be  
 698 considered, pursuant to s. 120.525. The notice shall set forth a  
 699 summary of the proposed amendment. However, in the event of a  
 700 disaster or of an emergency arising to prevent or avert the  
 701 same, the governing board shall not be limited by the budget but  
 702 shall have authority to apply such funds as may be available  
 703 therefor or as may be procured for such purpose.

704 (6) FINAL BUDGET; ANNUAL AUDIT; CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN;  
 705 WATER RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT WORK PROGRAM.--

706 (a) Each district must, by the date specified for each  
 707 item, furnish copies of the following documents to the Governor,  
 708 the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of  
 709 Representatives, the chairs of all legislative committees and  
 710 subcommittees having substantive or fiscal jurisdiction over the  
 711 districts, as determined by the President of the Senate or the  
 712 Speaker of the House of Representatives as applicable, the  
 713 secretary of the department, and the governing board of each  
 714 county in which the district has jurisdiction or derives any  
 715 funds for the operations of the district:

716 1. The adopted budget, to be furnished within 10 days  
 717 after its adoption.

718 2. A financial audit of its accounts and records, to be  
 719 furnished within 10 days after its acceptance by the governing  
 720 board. The audit must be conducted in accordance with the  
 721 provisions of s. 11.45 and the rules adopted thereunder. In

722 addition to the entities named above, the district must provide  
723 a copy of the audit to the Auditor General within 10 days after  
724 its acceptance by the governing board.

725 3. A 5-year capital improvements plan, to be included in  
726 the consolidated annual report required by s. 373.036(7). The  
727 plan must include expected sources of revenue for planned  
728 improvements and must be prepared in a manner comparable to the  
729 fixed capital outlay format set forth in s. 216.043.

730 4. A 5-year water resource development work program to be  
731 furnished within 30 days after the adoption of the final budget.  
732 The program must describe the district's implementation strategy  
733 for the water resource development component of each approved  
734 regional water supply plan developed or revised under s.  
735 373.0361. The work program must address all the elements of the  
736 water resource development component in the district's approved  
737 regional water supply plans and must identify which projects in  
738 the work program will provide water, explain how each water  
739 resource development project will produce additional water  
740 available for consumptive uses, estimate the quantity of water  
741 to be produced by each project, and provide an assessment of the  
742 contribution of the district's regional water supply plans in  
743 providing sufficient water to meet the water supply needs of  
744 existing and future reasonable-beneficial uses for a 1-in-10-  
745 year drought event. Within 30 days after its submittal, the  
746 department shall review the proposed work program and submit its  
747 findings, questions, and comments to the district. The review  
748 must include a written evaluation of the program's consistency  
749 with the furtherance of the district's approved regional water

750 supply plans, and the adequacy of proposed expenditures. As part  
 751 of the review, the department shall give interested parties the  
 752 opportunity to provide written comments on each district's  
 753 proposed work program. Within 45 days after receipt of the  
 754 department's evaluation, the governing board shall state in  
 755 writing to the department which changes recommended in the  
 756 evaluation it will incorporate into its work program submitted  
 757 as part of the March 1 consolidated annual report required by s.  
 758 373.036(7) or specify the reasons for not incorporating the  
 759 changes. The department shall include the district's responses  
 760 in a final evaluation report and shall submit a copy of the  
 761 report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the  
 762 Speaker of the House of Representatives.

763 5. The Comprehensive Annual Financial Report of water  
 764 management districts that have received a Certificate of  
 765 Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the  
 766 Government Finance Officers Association.

767 Section 9. Subsection (1) of section 189.429, Florida  
 768 Statutes, is amended to read:

769 189.429 Codification.--

770 (1) Each district, by December 1, 2004, shall submit to  
 771 the Legislature a draft codified charter, at its expense, so  
 772 that its special acts may be codified into a single act for  
 773 reenactment by the Legislature, if there is more than one  
 774 special act for the district. The Legislature may adopt a  
 775 schedule for individual district codification. Any codified act  
 776 relating to a district, which act is submitted to the  
 777 Legislature for reenactment, shall provide for the repeal of all

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778 prior special acts of the Legislature relating to the district.  
779 The codified act shall be filed with the department pursuant to  
780 s. 189.418(3) ~~189.418(2)~~.

781 Section 10. Section 191.015, Florida Statutes, is amended  
782 to read:

783 191.015 Codification.--Each fire control district existing  
784 on the effective date of this section, by December 1, 2004,  
785 shall submit to the Legislature a draft codified charter, at its  
786 expense, so that its special acts may be codified into a single  
787 act for reenactment by the Legislature, if there is more than  
788 one special act for the district. The Legislature may adopt a  
789 schedule for individual district codification. Any codified act  
790 relating to a district, which act is submitted to the  
791 Legislature for reenactment, shall provide for the repeal of all  
792 prior special acts of the Legislature relating to the district.  
793 The codified act shall be filed with the Department of Community  
794 Affairs pursuant to s. 189.418(3) ~~189.418(2)~~.

795 Section 11. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law  
796 and shall apply to the 2008-2009 fiscal year.