

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

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

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

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

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

23 (c) "Public funds" means any moneys held by a governmental
 24 entity.

25 (2) Notwithstanding any other law and except as provided
 26 in subsection (3), a governmental entity may not expend public
 27 funds in aid of a professional sports team, to pay for a
 28 facility used or intended to be used for a professional sports

29 team, or for a sporting event of a professional sports team,
 30 unless the expenditure is approved by a majority vote of the
 31 registered electors residing within the jurisdictional
 32 boundaries of the governmental entity.

33 (3) This section does not prohibit the expenditure of
 34 funds to meet a legally binding obligation of a governmental
 35 entity which was created before July 1, 2011, or to compensate
 36 an employee of a governmental entity for an activity that is
 37 within the scope of his or her employment and that assists a
 38 professional sports team in an incidental manner, such as
 39 advising a professional sports team of applicable regulatory
 40 requirements.

41 Section 2. Effective January 1, 2012, subsection (11) is
 42 added to section 196.199, Florida Statutes, to read:

43 196.199 Government property exemption.—

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

49 Section 3. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this
 50 act, this act shall take effect July 1, 2011.