

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES LOCAL BILL STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: HB 1483 Alachua County
SPONSOR(S): Chestnut IV
TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:**

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR or BUDGET/POLICY CHIEF
1) Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee	14 Y, 0 N	Duncan	Hoagland
2) Economic Affairs Committee	15 Y, 0 N	Duncan	Tinker

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

In 1957, the Legislature authorized the establishment and maintenance of a law library located in the Alachua County Courthouse and stated that a law library would benefit the public in general and aid in expediting matters before the court in Alachua County.

The bill moves the location of the John A.H. Murphree Law Library from the Alachua County Courthouse to the Alachua County Library District Headquarters to provide greater access to the public and local attorneys. The bill also deletes the provisions authorizing assessments and fees and removes obsolete language and outdated terms.

The bill provides an effective of upon becoming a law.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Present Situation

In 1957,¹ the Legislature authorized the establishment and maintenance of a law library located in the Alachua County Courthouse and stated that a law library would benefit the public in general and aid in expediting matters before the court in Alachua County.

A board of trustees (Board) consisting of five members for the John A.H. Murphree Law Library has the power and authority to establish, operate, and maintain a law library in the county courthouse; and to prescribe rules and regulations as to the Board's functions and organization and the use, maintenance, and operation of the library.

Each member of the bar who is practicing law in Alachua County and is not exempt from paying an occupational license tax is required to pay \$5.00 in addition to the annual county occupational license tax. The proceeds of the additional county occupational tax assessed and collected by the Alachua County tax collector must be transmitted to the Board annually.

Additionally, the clerk of the circuit court is directed to collect no more than \$5.00 for each civil case in addition to other legal fees and forward the funds collected to the Board on a monthly basis. The Board is granted the authority to, by resolution, reduce the amount to be collected.

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill moves the location of the John A.H. Murphree Law Library from the Alachua County Courthouse to the Alachua County Library District Headquarters² to provide greater access to the public and local attorneys. The bill also deletes the provisions relating to the assessment and fees and replaces obsolete language and outdated terms.

B. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1: Amends ch. 57-1118, L.O.F., as amended by ch. 79-426, L.O.F., relating to the location of the John A.H. Murphree Law Library.

Section 2: Provides an effective date of upon becoming law.

II. NOTICE/REFERENDUM AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

A. NOTICE PUBLISHED? Yes No

IF YES, WHEN? December 11, 2011

WHERE? *The Gainesville Sun*, a daily newspaper published in Alachua County, Florida.

B. REFERENDUM(S) REQUIRED? Yes No

¹ Chapter 57-1118, L.O.F.

² The Alachua County Library District is an independent special district created to provide a library system services and facilities for the citizens of Alachua County. The library district does not have authority over the school library system in Alachua County. Chapter 2003-375, L.O.F.

IF YES, WHEN?

C. LOCAL BILL CERTIFICATION FILED? Yes, attached No

D. ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FILED? Yes, attached No

According to the Economic Impact Statement, no fiscal impacts are anticipated for either fiscal year 2012-2013 or 2013-2014.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

IV. AMENDMENTS/ COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

N/A.