

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to expressway authorities; amending s.  
3 348.0003, F.S.; revising provisions for membership of  
4 an expressway authority in specified counties;  
5 prohibiting certain activities by authority board  
6 members and executive directors during and after  
7 membership or employment; providing for an ethics  
8 officer; requiring disclosure of certain relationships  
9 and interest; prohibiting employees and consultants  
10 from membership on a board; providing for a code of  
11 ethics policy; providing for violations; amending s.  
12 348.0004, F.S.; requiring approval by the governing  
13 board of the county for a toll increase by an  
14 expressway authority in specified counties; amending  
15 ss. 348.52, 348.753, and 348.9952, F.S., relating to  
16 the Tampa-Hillsborough County Expressway Authority,  
17 the Orlando-Orange County Expressway Authority and the  
18 Osceola County Expressway Authority, respectively;  
19 prohibiting certain activities by authority board  
20 members and executive directors during and after  
21 membership or employment; providing for an ethics  
22 officer; requiring disclosure of certain relationships  
23 and interest; prohibiting employees and consultants  
24 from membership on a board; providing for a code of  
25 ethics policy; providing for violations; providing an  
26 effective date.

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CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

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

Section 1. Section 348.0003, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

348.0003 Expressway authority; formation; membership.—

(1) Any county, or two or more contiguous counties located within a single district of the department, may, by resolution adopted by the board of county commissioners, form an expressway authority, which shall be an agency of the state, pursuant to the Florida Expressway Authority Act.

(2) The governing body of an authority shall consist of not fewer than five nor more than nine voting members. The district secretary of the affected department district shall serve as a nonvoting member of the governing body of each authority located within the district. Each member of the governing body must at all times during his or her term of office be a permanent resident of the county which he or she is appointed to represent.

(a) Two members of the authority shall be appointed for terms of 4 years by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate. Such persons may not hold elective office during their terms of office.

(b) For a single-county authority, the remaining members shall be appointed by the board of county commissioners for terms of 3 years.

53 (c) For a multicounty authority, the remaining members  
54 shall be apportioned, based on the population of such counties,  
55 among the counties within the authority. Each such member shall  
56 be appointed by the applicable board of county commissioners for  
57 a term of 3 years.

58 (d) Notwithstanding any provision of ~~to the contrary in~~  
59 this subsection, in any county as defined in s. 125.011(1), the  
60 governing body of an authority shall consist of nine ~~up to 13~~  
61 members, and the following provisions of this paragraph shall  
62 apply specifically to such authority. Except for the district  
63 secretary of the department, the members must be residents of  
64 the county. Four ~~Seven~~ voting members shall be appointed by the  
65 governing body of the county. At the discretion of the governing  
66 body of the county, up to two of the members appointed by the  
67 governing body of the county may be elected officials residing  
68 in the county. Four ~~Five~~ voting members of the authority shall  
69 be appointed by the Governor. One member shall be the district  
70 secretary of the department serving in the district that  
71 contains such county. This member shall be an ex officio voting  
72 member of the authority. If the governing board of an authority  
73 includes any member originally appointed by the governing body  
74 of the county as a nonvoting member, when the term of such  
75 member expires, that member shall be replaced by a member  
76 appointed by the Governor until the governing body of the  
77 authority is composed of four ~~seven~~ members appointed by the  
78 governing body of the county and four ~~five~~ members appointed by

79 the Governor. The qualifications, terms of office, and  
 80 obligations and rights of members of the authority shall be  
 81 determined by resolution or ordinance of the governing body of  
 82 the county in a manner that is consistent with this paragraph,  
 83 paragraphs (e)-(i), and subsections (3)-(12) ~~(3) and (4)~~.

84 (e) A member of the authority appointed by the governing  
 85 board of the county or appointed by the Governor may not serve  
 86 as a member of any other transportation-related board,  
 87 commission, or organization while serving as a member of the  
 88 authority.

89 (f) A lobbyist, as defined in s. 112.3215, may not be  
 90 appointed or serve as a member of an authority.

91 (g) A member of an authority may be removed from office by  
 92 the Governor for misconduct, malfeasance, misfeasance, or  
 93 nonfeasance in office.

94 (h) Members of an authority are entitled to reimbursement  
 95 from the authority for travel and other necessary expenses  
 96 incurred in connection with the business of the authority as  
 97 provided in s. 112.061. Members may not draw salaries or other  
 98 compensation.

99 (i) Members of each expressway authority, transportation  
 100 authority, bridge authority, or toll authority, created pursuant  
 101 to this chapter, chapter 343, or any other general law, shall  
 102 comply with the applicable financial disclosure requirements of  
 103 s. 8, Art. II of the State Constitution. This paragraph does not  
 104 subject any statutorily created authority, other than an

105 expressway authority created under this part, to any other  
106 requirement of this part except the requirement of this  
107 paragraph.

108 (3) (a) The governing body of each authority shall elect  
109 one of its members as its chair and shall elect a secretary and  
110 a treasurer who need not be members of the authority. The chair,  
111 secretary, and treasurer shall hold their offices at the will of  
112 the authority. A simple majority of the governing body of the  
113 authority constitutes a quorum, and the vote of a majority of  
114 those members present is necessary for the governing body to  
115 take any action. A vacancy on an authority shall not impair the  
116 right of a quorum of the authority to exercise all of the rights  
117 and perform all of the duties of the authority.

118 (b) Upon the effective date of his or her appointment, or  
119 as soon thereafter as practicable, each appointed member of an  
120 authority shall enter upon his or her duties.

121 (4) ~~(a)~~ An authority may employ an executive secretary, an  
122 executive director, its own counsel and legal staff, technical  
123 experts, and such engineers and employees, permanent or  
124 temporary, as it may require and shall determine the  
125 qualifications and fix the compensation of such persons, firms,  
126 or corporations. An authority may employ a fiscal agent or  
127 agents; however, the authority must solicit sealed proposals  
128 from at least three persons, firms, or corporations for the  
129 performance of any services as fiscal agents. An authority may  
130 delegate to one or more of its agents or employees such of its

131 power as it deems necessary to carry out the purposes of the  
132 Florida Expressway Authority Act, subject always to the  
133 supervision and control of the authority. ~~Members of an~~  
134 ~~authority may be removed from office by the Governor for~~  
135 ~~misconduct, malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance in office.~~

136 ~~(b) Members of an authority are entitled to receive from~~  
137 ~~the authority their travel and other necessary expenses incurred~~  
138 ~~in connection with the business of the authority as provided in~~  
139 ~~s. 112.061, but they may not draw salaries or other~~  
140 ~~compensation.~~

141 ~~(c) Members of each expressway authority, transportation~~  
142 ~~authority, bridge authority, or toll authority, created pursuant~~  
143 ~~to this chapter, chapter 343, or any other general law, shall~~  
144 ~~comply with the applicable financial disclosure requirements of~~  
145 ~~s. 8, Art. II of the State Constitution. This paragraph does not~~  
146 ~~subject any statutorily created authority, other than an~~  
147 ~~expressway authority created under this part, to any other~~  
148 ~~requirement of this part except the requirement of this~~  
149 ~~paragraph.~~

150 (5) A member or the executive director of an authority may  
151 not:

152 (a) Personally represent another person or entity for  
153 compensation before the authority for a period of 2 years  
154 following vacation of his or her position; or

155 (b) After retirement or termination, have an employment or  
156 contractual relationship with a business entity other than an

157 agency, as defined in s. 112.312, in connection with a contract  
158 in which the member or executive director personally and  
159 substantially participated through decision, approval,  
160 disapproval, recommendation, rendering of advice, or  
161 investigation while he or she was a member or employee of the  
162 authority.

163 (6) The authority's general counsel shall serve as the  
164 authority's ethics officer.

165 (7) Authority board members, employees, and consultants  
166 who hold positions that may influence authority decisions shall  
167 refrain from engaging in any relationship that may adversely  
168 affect their judgment in carrying out authority business. To  
169 prevent such conflicts of interest and preserve the integrity  
170 and transparency of the authority to the public, the following  
171 disclosures must be made annually on a disclosure form:

172 (a) Any relationship that a board member, employee, or  
173 consultant has which affords a current or future financial  
174 benefit to such board member, employee, or consultant, or to a  
175 relative or business associate of such board member, employee,  
176 or consultant, and which a reasonable person would conclude has  
177 the potential to create a prohibited conflict of interest. As  
178 used in this subsection, the term "relative" has the same  
179 meaning as provided in s. 112.312.

180 (b) Whether a relative of such board member, employee, or  
181 consultant is a registered lobbyist and, if so, the names of  
182 such lobbyist's clients. Such names shall be provided in writing

183 to the ethics officer.

184 (c) Any and all interests in real property that such board  
185 member, employee, or consultant has, or that a relative,  
186 principal, client, or business associate of such board member,  
187 employee, or consultant has, if such real property is located  
188 within, or within a 1/2-mile radius of, any actual or  
189 prospective authority roadway project. The executive director  
190 shall provide a corridor map and a property ownership list  
191 reflecting the ownership of all real property within the  
192 disclosure area, or an alignment map with a list of associated  
193 owners, to all board members, employees, and consultants.

194 (8) The disclosure forms filed as required under  
195 subsection (7) must be reviewed by the ethics officer or, if a  
196 form is filed by the general counsel, by the executive director.

197 (9) The conflict of interest process shall be outlined in  
198 the authority's code of ethics.

199 (10) Authority employees and consultants are prohibited  
200 from serving on the governing body of the authority while  
201 employed by or under contract with the authority.

202 (11) The code of ethics policy shall be reviewed and  
203 updated by the ethics officer and presented for board approval  
204 at least once every 2 years.

205 (12) Employees shall be adequately informed and trained on  
206 the code of ethics and shall continually participate in ongoing  
207 ethics education.

208 (13) The requirements of subsections (5)-(12) are in

209 addition to the requirements that the members and the executive  
210 director of the authority are required to follow under chapter  
211 112.

212 (14) Violations of subsections (5), (7), and (10) are  
213 punishable in accordance with s. 112.317.

214 Section 2. Paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section  
215 348.0004, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

216 348.0004 Purposes and powers.—

217 (2) Each authority may exercise all powers necessary,  
218 appurtenant, convenient, or incidental to the carrying out of  
219 its purposes, including, but not limited to, the following  
220 rights and powers:

221 (e) To fix, alter, charge, establish, and collect tolls,  
222 rates, fees, rentals, and other charges for the services and  
223 facilities system, which tolls, rates, fees, rentals, and other  
224 charges must always be sufficient to comply with any covenants  
225 made with the holders of any bonds issued pursuant to the  
226 Florida Expressway Authority Act. However, such right and power  
227 may be assigned or delegated by the authority to the department.  
228 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, but subject to any  
229 contractual requirements contained in documents securing any  
230 indebtedness outstanding on July 1, 2014, that is payable from  
231 tolls, in any county as defined in s. 125.011(1), any authority  
232 toll increase must first be approved by resolution adopted by a  
233 supermajority vote, consisting of one vote greater than a  
234 majority, of the governing board of the county. Notwithstanding

235 s. 338.165 or any other provision of law to the contrary, in any  
236 county as defined in s. 125.011(1), to the extent surplus  
237 revenues exist, they may be used for purposes enumerated in  
238 subsection (7), provided the expenditures are consistent with  
239 the metropolitan planning organization's adopted long-range  
240 plan. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the  
241 contrary, but subject to any contractual requirements contained  
242 in documents securing any outstanding indebtedness payable from  
243 tolls, in any county as defined in s. 125.011(1), the board of  
244 county commissioners may, by ordinance adopted on or before  
245 September 30, 1999, alter or abolish existing tolls and  
246 currently approved increases thereto if the board provides a  
247 local source of funding to the county expressway system for  
248 transportation in an amount sufficient to replace revenues  
249 necessary to meet bond obligations secured by such tolls and  
250 increases.

251 Section 3. Section 348.52, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
252 read:

253 348.52 Tampa-Hillsborough County Expressway Authority.—

254 (1) There is hereby created and established a body politic  
255 and corporate, an agency of the state, to be known as the  
256 "Tampa-Hillsborough County Expressway Authority."

257 (2) The governing body of the authority shall consist of a  
258 board of seven members.

259 (a) Four of the members shall be appointed by the Governor  
260 subject to confirmation by the Senate at the next regular

261 session of the Legislature. Refusal or failure of the Senate to  
 262 confirm an appointment shall create a vacancy.

263 1. Each such member's term of office shall be for 4 years  
 264 or until his or her successor shall have been appointed and  
 265 qualified.

266 2. Vacancies occurring in the governing body for any such  
 267 members prior to the expiration of the affected term shall be  
 268 filled for the unexpired term.

269 ~~3. The Governor shall have the authority to remove from~~  
 270 ~~office any such member of the governing body in the manner and~~  
 271 ~~for cause defined by the laws of this state.~~

272 3.4. Each such member, before entering upon his or her  
 273 official duties, shall take and subscribe to an oath before some  
 274 official authorized by law to administer oaths that he or she  
 275 will honestly, faithfully, and impartially perform the duties  
 276 devolving upon him or her in office as a member of the governing  
 277 body of the authority and that he or she will not neglect any  
 278 duties imposed upon him or her by this part.

279 (b) One member shall be the mayor, or the mayor's  
 280 designate, who shall be the chair of the city council of the  
 281 city in Hillsborough County having the largest population,  
 282 according to the latest decennial census, who shall serve as a  
 283 member ex officio.

284 (c) One member shall be a member of the Board of County  
 285 Commissioners of Hillsborough County, selected by such board,  
 286 who shall serve as a member ex officio.

287 (d) One member shall be the district secretary of the  
288 Department of Transportation serving in the district that  
289 contains Hillsborough County, who shall serve ex officio.

290 (e) A member of the authority appointed by the governing  
291 board of the county or appointed by the Governor may not serve  
292 as a member of any other transportation-related board,  
293 commission, or organization while serving as a member of the  
294 authority.

295 (f) A lobbyist, as defined in s. 112.3215, may not be  
296 appointed or serve as a member of the authority.

297 (g) A member of the authority may be removed from office  
298 by the Governor for misconduct, malfeasance, misfeasance, or  
299 nonfeasance in office.

300 (h) Members of the authority are entitled to reimbursement  
301 from the authority for travel and other necessary expenses  
302 incurred in connection with the business of the authority as  
303 provided in s. 112.061. Members may not draw salaries or other  
304 compensation.

305 (3) The authority shall designate one of its members as  
306 chair. ~~The members of the authority shall not be entitled to~~  
307 ~~compensation but shall be entitled to receive their travel and~~  
308 ~~other necessary expenses as provided in s. 112.061.~~ A majority  
309 of the members of the authority shall constitute a quorum, and  
310 resolutions enacted or adopted by a vote of a majority of the  
311 members present and voting at any meeting shall become effective  
312 without publication or posting or any further action of the

313 authority.

314 (4) The authority may employ a secretary and executive  
 315 director, its own counsel and legal staff, and such legal,  
 316 financial, and other professional consultants, technical  
 317 experts, engineers, and employees, permanent or temporary, as it  
 318 may require and may determine the qualifications and fix the  
 319 compensation of such persons, firms, or corporations. The  
 320 authority may contract with the Division of Bond Finance of the  
 321 State Board of Administration for any financial services  
 322 authorized herein.

323 (5) The authority may delegate to one or more of its  
 324 officers or employees such of its powers as it shall deem  
 325 necessary to carry out the purposes of this part, subject always  
 326 to the supervision and control of the authority. ~~Members of the~~  
 327 ~~authority may be removed from their office by the Governor for~~  
 328 ~~misconduct, malfeasance, misfeasance, and nonfeasance in office.~~

329 (6) A member or the executive director of the authority  
 330 may not:

331 (a) Personally represent another person or entity for  
 332 compensation before the authority for a period of 2 years  
 333 following vacation of his or her position; or

334 (b) After retirement or termination, have an employment or  
 335 contractual relationship with a business entity other than an  
 336 agency, as defined in s. 112.312, in connection with a contract  
 337 in which the member or executive director personally and  
 338 substantially participated through decision, approval,

339 disapproval, recommendation, rendering of advice, or  
340 investigation while he or she was a member or employee of the  
341 authority.

342 (7) The authority's general counsel shall serve as the  
343 authority's ethics officer.

344 (8) Authority board members, employees, and consultants  
345 who hold positions that may influence authority decisions shall  
346 refrain from engaging in any relationship that may adversely  
347 affect their judgment in carrying out authority business. To  
348 prevent such conflicts of interest and preserve the integrity  
349 and transparency of the authority to the public, the following  
350 disclosures must be made annually on a disclosure form:

351 (a) Any relationship a board member, employee, or  
352 consultant has which affords a current or future financial  
353 benefit to such board member, employee, or consultant, or to a  
354 relative or business associate of such board member, employee,  
355 or consultant, and which a reasonable person would conclude has  
356 the potential to create a prohibited conflict of interest. As  
357 used in this subsection, the term "relative" has the same  
358 meaning as provided in s. 112.312.

359 (b) Whether a relative of such board member, employee, or  
360 consultant is a registered lobbyist and, if so, the names of  
361 such lobbyist's clients. Such names shall be provided in writing  
362 to the ethics officer.

363 (c) Any and all interests in real property that such board  
364 member, employee, or consultant has, or that a relative,

365 principal, client, or business associate of such board member,  
366 employee, or consultant has, if such real property is located  
367 within, or within a 1/2-mile radius of, any actual or  
368 prospective authority roadway project. The executive director  
369 shall provide a corridor map and a property ownership list  
370 reflecting the ownership of all real property within the  
371 disclosure area, or an alignment map with a list of associated  
372 owners, to all board members, employees, and consultants.

373 (9) The disclosure forms filed as required under  
374 subsection (8) must be reviewed by the ethics officer or, if a  
375 form is filed by the general counsel, by the executive director.

376 (10) The conflict of interest process shall be outlined in  
377 the authority's code of ethics.

378 (11) Authority employees and consultants are prohibited  
379 from serving on the governing body of the authority while  
380 employed by or under contract with the authority.

381 (12) The code of ethics policy shall be reviewed and  
382 updated by the ethics officer and presented for board approval  
383 at least once every 2 years.

384 (13) Employees shall be adequately informed and trained on  
385 the code of ethics and shall continually participate in ongoing  
386 ethics education.

387 (14) The requirements of subsections (6)-(13) are in  
388 addition to the requirements that the members and the executive  
389 director of the authority are required to follow under chapter  
390 112.

391 (15) Violations of subsections (6), (8), and (11) are  
392 punishable in accordance with s. 112.317.

393 Section 4. Section 348.753, Florida Statutes, is amended  
394 to read:

395 348.753 Orlando-Orange County Expressway Authority.—

396 (1) There is hereby created and established a body politic  
397 and corporate, an agency of the state, to be known as the  
398 Orlando-Orange County Expressway Authority, hereinafter referred  
399 to as "authority."

400 (2) (a) The governing body of the authority shall consist  
401 of five members. Three members shall be citizens of Orange  
402 County, who shall be appointed by the Governor. The fourth  
403 member shall be, ex officio, the chair of the County  
404 Commissioners of Orange County, and the fifth member shall be,  
405 ex officio, the district secretary of the Department of  
406 Transportation serving in the district that contains Orange  
407 County. The term of each appointed member shall be for 4 years.  
408 Each appointed member shall hold office until his or her  
409 successor has been appointed and has qualified. A vacancy  
410 occurring during a term shall be filled only for the balance of  
411 the unexpired term. Each appointed member of the authority shall  
412 be a person of outstanding reputation for integrity,  
413 responsibility, and business ability, but no person who is an  
414 officer or employee of any city or of Orange County in any other  
415 capacity shall be an appointed member of the authority. Any  
416 member of the authority shall be eligible for reappointment.

417        (b) A member of the authority appointed by the Governor  
418 may not serve as a member of any other transportation-related  
419 board, commission, or organization while serving as a member of  
420 the authority.

421        (c) A lobbyist, as defined in s. 112.3215, may not be  
422 appointed or serve as a member of the authority.

423        (d) A member of the authority may be removed from office  
424 by the Governor for misconduct, malfeasance, misfeasance, or  
425 nonfeasance in office.

426        (e) Members of the authority are entitled to reimbursement  
427 from the authority for travel and other necessary expenses  
428 incurred in connection with the business of the authority as  
429 provided in s. 112.061. Members may not draw salaries or other  
430 compensation.

431        (3) (a) The authority shall elect one of its members as  
432 chair of the authority. The authority shall also elect a  
433 secretary and a treasurer who may or may not be members of the  
434 authority. The chair, secretary, and treasurer shall hold such  
435 offices at the will of the authority. Three members of the  
436 authority shall constitute a quorum, and the vote of three  
437 members shall be necessary for any action taken by the  
438 authority. No vacancy in the authority shall impair the right of  
439 a quorum of the authority to exercise all of the rights and  
440 perform all of the duties of the authority.

441        (b) Upon the effective date of his or her appointment, or  
442 as soon thereafter as practicable, each appointed member of the

443 authority shall enter upon his or her duties.

444 (4) ~~(a)~~ The authority may employ an executive secretary, an  
445 executive director, its own counsel and legal staff, technical  
446 experts, such engineers, and such employees, permanent or  
447 temporary, as it may require and may determine the  
448 qualifications and fix the compensation of such persons, firms,  
449 or corporations and may employ a fiscal agent or agents,  
450 provided, however, that the authority shall solicit sealed  
451 proposals from at least three persons, firms, or corporations  
452 for the performance of any services as fiscal agents. The  
453 authority may delegate to one or more of its agents or employees  
454 such of its power as it shall deem necessary to carry out the  
455 purposes of this part, subject always to the supervision and  
456 control of the authority. ~~Members of the authority may be  
457 removed from their office by the Governor for misconduct,  
458 malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance in office.~~

459 ~~(b) Members of the authority shall be entitled to receive  
460 from the authority their travel and other necessary expenses  
461 incurred in connection with the business of the authority as  
462 provided in s. 112.061, but they shall draw no salaries or other  
463 compensation.~~

464 (5) A member or the executive director of the authority  
465 may not:

466 (a) Personally represent another person or entity for  
467 compensation before the authority for a period of 2 years  
468 following vacation of his or her position; or

469 (b) After retirement or termination, have an employment or  
470 contractual relationship with a business entity other than an  
471 agency, as defined in s. 112.312, in connection with a contract  
472 in which the member or executive director personally and  
473 substantially participated through decision, approval,  
474 disapproval, recommendation, rendering of advice, or  
475 investigation while he or she was a member or employee of the  
476 authority.

477 (6) The authority's general counsel shall serve as the  
478 authority's ethics officer.

479 (7) Authority board members, employees, and consultants  
480 who hold positions that may influence authority decisions shall  
481 refrain from engaging in any relationship that may adversely  
482 affect their judgment in carrying out authority business. To  
483 prevent such conflicts of interest and preserve the integrity  
484 and transparency of the authority to the public, the following  
485 disclosures must be made annually on a disclosure form:

486 (a) Any relationship a board member, employee, or  
487 consultant has which affords a current or future financial  
488 benefit to such board member, employee, or consultant, or to a  
489 relative or business associate of such board member, employee,  
490 or consultant, and which a reasonable person would conclude has  
491 the potential to create a prohibited conflict of interest. As  
492 used in this subsection, the term "relative" has the same  
493 meaning as provided in s. 112.312.

494 (b) Whether a relative of such board member, employee, or

495 consultant is a registered lobbyist and, if so, the names of  
496 such lobbyist's clients. Such names shall be provided in writing  
497 to the ethics officer.

498 (c) Any and all interests in real property that such board  
499 member, employee, on consultant has, or that a relative,  
500 principal, client, or business associate of such board member,  
501 employee, or consultant has, if such real property is located  
502 within, or within a 1/2-mile radius of, any actual or  
503 prospective authority roadway project. The executive director  
504 shall provide a corridor map and a property ownership list  
505 reflecting the ownership of all real property within the  
506 disclosure area, or an alignment map with a list of associated  
507 owners, to all board members, employees, and consultants.

508 (8) The disclosure forms filed as required under  
509 subsection (7) must be reviewed by the ethics officer or, if a  
510 form is filed by the general counsel, by the executive director.

511 (9) The conflict of interest process shall be outlined in  
512 the authority's code of ethics.

513 (10) Authority employees and consultants are prohibited  
514 from serving on the governing body of the authority while  
515 employed by or under contract with the authority.

516 (11) The code of ethics policy shall be reviewed and  
517 updated by the ethics officer and presented for board approval  
518 at least once every 2 years.

519 (12) Employees shall be adequately informed and trained on  
520 the code of ethics and shall continually participate in ongoing

521 ethics education.

522 (13) The requirements of subsections (5)-(12) are in  
523 addition to the requirements that the members and the executive  
524 director of the authority are required to follow under chapter  
525 112.

526 (14) Violations of subsections (5), (7), and (10) are  
527 punishable in accordance with s. 112.317.

528 Section 5. Section 348.9952, Florida Statutes, is amended  
529 to read:

530 348.9952 Osceola County Expressway Authority.—

531 (1) There is created a body politic and corporate, an  
532 agency of the state, to be known as the Osceola County  
533 Expressway Authority.

534 (2) (a) The governing body of the authority shall consist  
535 of six members. Five members, at least one of whom must be a  
536 member of a racial or ethnic minority group, must be residents  
537 of Osceola County, three of whom shall be appointed by the  
538 governing body of the county and two of whom shall be appointed  
539 by the Governor. The sixth member shall be the district  
540 secretary of the department serving in the district that  
541 includes Osceola County, who shall serve as an ex officio,  
542 nonvoting member. The term of each appointed member shall be for  
543 4 years, except that the first term of the initial members  
544 appointed by the Governor shall be 2 years each. Each appointed  
545 member shall hold office until his or her successor has been  
546 appointed and has qualified. A vacancy occurring during a term

547 shall be filled only for the balance of the unexpired term. Each  
 548 appointed member of the authority shall be a person of  
 549 outstanding reputation for integrity, responsibility, and  
 550 business ability, but a person who is an officer or employee of  
 551 any municipality or of Osceola County in any other capacity may  
 552 not be an appointed member of the authority. A member of the  
 553 authority is eligible for reappointment.

554 (b) A member of the authority appointed by the governing  
 555 board of the county or appointed by the Governor may not serve  
 556 as a member of any other transportation-related board,  
 557 commission, or organization while serving as a member of the  
 558 authority.

559 (c) A lobbyist, as defined in s. 112.3215, may not be  
 560 appointed or serve as a member of the authority.

561 (d) ~~(b)~~ A member ~~Members~~ of the authority may be removed  
 562 from office by the Governor for misconduct, malfeasance,  
 563 misfeasance, or nonfeasance in office.

564 (e) Members of the authority are entitled to reimbursement  
 565 from the authority for travel and other necessary expenses  
 566 incurred in connection with the business of the authority as  
 567 provided in s. 112.061. Members may not draw salaries or other  
 568 compensation.

569 (3) (a) The authority shall elect one of its members as  
 570 chair. The authority shall also elect a secretary and a  
 571 treasurer, who may be members of the authority. The chair,  
 572 secretary, and treasurer shall hold such offices at the will of

573 the authority.

574 (b) Three members of the authority constitute a quorum,  
 575 and the vote of three members is necessary for any action taken  
 576 by the authority. A vacancy in the authority does not impair the  
 577 right of a quorum of the authority to exercise all of the rights  
 578 and perform all of the duties of the authority.

579 (4) (a) The authority may employ an executive secretary, an  
 580 executive director, its own counsel and legal staff, technical  
 581 experts, engineers, and other employees, permanent or temporary,  
 582 as it may require, and may determine the qualifications and fix  
 583 the compensation of such persons, firms, or corporations.  
 584 Additionally, the authority may employ a fiscal agent or agents.  
 585 However, the authority shall solicit sealed proposals from at  
 586 least three persons, firms, or corporations for the performance  
 587 of any services as fiscal agents. The authority may delegate to  
 588 one or more of its agents or employees such of its power as it  
 589 deems necessary to carry out the purposes of this part, subject  
 590 always to the supervision and control of the authority.

591 ~~(b) Members of the authority are entitled to receive from~~  
 592 ~~the authority their travel and other necessary expenses incurred~~  
 593 ~~in connection with the business of the authority as provided in~~  
 594 ~~s. 112.061, but members shall not draw salaries or other~~  
 595 ~~compensation.~~

596 (b) (e) The department is not required to grant funds for  
 597 startup costs to the authority. However, the governing body of  
 598 the county may provide funds for such startup costs.

599 (c)~~(d)~~ The authority shall cooperate with and participate  
 600 in any efforts to establish a regional expressway authority.

601 (d)~~(e)~~ Notwithstanding any other provision of law,  
 602 including s. 339.175(3), the authority is not entitled to voting  
 603 membership in a metropolitan planning organization in which  
 604 Osceola County, or any of the municipalities therein, are also  
 605 voting members.

606 (5) A member or the executive director of the authority  
 607 may not:

608 (a) Personally represent another person or entity for  
 609 compensation before the authority for a period of 2 years  
 610 following vacation of his or her position; or

611 (b) After retirement or termination, have an employment or  
 612 contractual relationship with a business entity other than an  
 613 agency, as defined in s. 112.312, in connection with a contract  
 614 in which the member or executive director personally and  
 615 substantially participated through decision, approval,  
 616 disapproval, recommendation, rendering of advice, or  
 617 investigation while he or she was a member or employee of the  
 618 authority.

619 (6) The authority's general counsel shall serve as the  
 620 authority's ethics officer.

621 (7) Authority board members, employees, and consultants  
 622 who hold positions that may influence authority decisions shall  
 623 refrain from engaging in any relationship that may adversely  
 624 affect their judgment in carrying out authority business. To

625 prevent such conflicts of interest and preserve the integrity  
626 and transparency of the authority to the public, the following  
627 disclosures must be made annually on a disclosure form:

628 (a) Any relationship a board member, employee, or  
629 consultant has which affords a current or future financial  
630 benefit to such board member, employee, or consultant, or to a  
631 relative or business associate of such board member, employee,  
632 or consultant, and which a reasonable person would conclude has  
633 the potential to create a prohibited conflict of interest. As  
634 used in this subsection, the term "relative" has the same  
635 meaning as provided in s. 112.312.

636 (b) Whether a relative of such board member, employee, or  
637 consultant is a registered lobbyist and, if so, the names of  
638 such lobbyist's clients. Such names shall be provided in writing  
639 to the ethics officer.

640 (c) Any and all interests in real property that such board  
641 member, employee, or consultant has, or that a relative,  
642 principal, client, or business associate of such board member,  
643 employee, or consultant has, if such real property is located  
644 within, or within a 1/2-mile radius of, any actual or  
645 prospective authority roadway project. The executive director  
646 shall provide a corridor map and a property ownership list  
647 reflecting the ownership of all real property within the  
648 disclosure area, or an alignment map with a list of associated  
649 owners, to all board members, employees, and consultants.

650 (8) The disclosure forms filed as required under

651 subsection (7) must be reviewed by the ethics officer or, if a  
652 form is filed by the general counsel, by the executive director.

653 (9) The conflict of interest process shall be outlined in  
654 the authority's code of ethics.

655 (10) Authority employees and consultants are prohibited  
656 from serving on the governing body of the authority while  
657 employed by or under contract with the authority.

658 (11) The code of ethics policy shall be reviewed and  
659 updated by the ethics officer and presented for board approval  
660 at least once every 2 years.

661 (12) Employees shall be adequately informed and trained on  
662 the code of ethics and shall continually participate in ongoing  
663 ethics education.

664 (13) The requirements of subsections (5)-(12) are in  
665 addition to the requirements that the members and the executive  
666 director of the authority are required to follow under chapter  
667 112.

668 (14) Violations of subsections (5), (7), and (10) are  
669 punishable in accordance with s. 112.317

670 Section 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014.