Bill No. CS/HB 617 (2015)

Amendment No. 2

	COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMI	ITEE ACTION	
	ADOPTED	(Y/N)	
	ADOPTED AS AMENDED	(Y/N)	
	ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION	(Y/N)	
	FAILED TO ADOPT	(Y/N)	
	WITHDRAWN	(Y/N)	
	OTHER		
1	Committee/Subcommittee	hearing bill: Regulatory Affairs	
2	Committee		
3	Representative Wood off	ered the following:	
4			
5	Amendment		
6	Remove lines 71-20	6 and insert:	
7	(2) DEFINITIONS	As used in this section, the term:	
8	(a) "Authority" m	eans an entity created under s.	
9	163.01(7)(g), Florida S	tatutes, that provides public utility	
10	services and whose member	ership consists of at least three	
11	counties. The term incl	udes any successor to the powers and	
12	functions of such an en	tity. The term also includes any local	
13	agency as defined hereis	<u>n.</u>	
14	(b) "Cost," as ap	plied to a utility project or a portion	
15	of a utility project fi	nanced under this section, means:	
16	1. Any part of the	e expense of constructing, renovating, or	
17	acquiring lands, struct	ures, real or personal property, rights,	
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rights-of-way, franchises, easements, and interests acquired or
used for a utility project;
2. The expense of demolishing or removing any buildings or
structures on acquired land, including the expense of acquiring
any lands to which the buildings or structures may be moved, and
the cost of all machinery and equipment used for the demolition
or removal;
3. Finance charges;
4. Interest, as determined by the authority;
5. Provisions for working capital and debt service
reserves;
6. Expenses for extensions, enlargements, additions,
replacements, renovations, and improvements;
7. Expenses for architectural, engineering, financial,
accounting, and legal services, plans, specifications,
estimates, and administration; or
8. Any other expenses necessary or incidental to
determining the feasibility of constructing a utility project or
incidental to the construction, acquisition, or financing of a
utility project.
(c) "Customer" means a person receiving water or
wastewater service from a publicly owned utility.
(d) "Finance" or "financing" includes refinancing.
(e) "Financing cost" means:
1. Interest and redemption premiums that are payable on
utility cost containment bonds;
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44	2. The cost of retiring the principal of utility cost	
45	containment bonds, whether at maturity, including acceleration	
46	of maturity upon an event of default, or upon redemption,	
47	including sinking fund redemption;	
48	3. The cost related to issuing or servicing utility cost	
49	containment bonds, including any payment under an interest rate	
50	swap agreement and any type of fee;	
51	4. A payment or expense associated with a bond insurance	
52	policy; financial guaranty; contract, agreement, or other credit	
53	or liquidity enhancement for bonds; or contract, agreement, or	
54	other financial agreement entered into in connection with	
55	utility cost containment bonds;	
56	5. Any coverage charges; or	
57	6. The funding of one or more reserve accounts relating to	
58	utility cost containment bonds.	
59	(f) "Financing resolution" means a resolution adopted by	
60	the governing body of an authority that provides for the	
61	financing or refinancing of a utility project with utility cost	
62	containment bonds and that imposes a utility project charge in	
63	connection with the utility cost containment bonds in accordance	
64	with subsection (4). A financing resolution may be separate from	
65	a resolution authorizing the issuance of the bonds.	
66	(g) "Governing body" means the body that governs a local	
67	agency.	
68	(h) "Local agency" means a member of the authority, or an	
69	agency or subdivision of that member, that is sponsoring or	
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70	refinancing a utility project, or any municipality, county,		
71	authority, special district, public corporation, regional water		
72	authority, or other governmental entity of the state that is		
73	sponsoring or refinancing a utility project.		
74	(i) "Public utility services" means water or wastewater		
75	services provided by a publicly owned utility. The term does not		
76	include communications services, as defined in s. 202.11,		
77	Florida Statutes, Internet access services, or information		
78	services.		
79	(j) "Publicly owned utility" means a utility providing		
80	retail or wholesale water or wastewater services that is owned		
81	and operated by a local agency. The term includes any successor		
82	to the powers and functions of such a utility.		
83	(k) "Revenue" means income and receipts of the authority		
84	related to the financing of utility projects and issuance of		
85	utility cost containment bonds, including any of the following:		
86	1. Bond purchase agreements;		
87	2. Bonds acquired by the authority;		
88	3. Installment sales agreements and other revenue-		
89	producing agreements entered into by the authority;		
90	4. Utility projects financed or refinanced by the		
91	authority;		
92	5. Grants and other sources of income;		
93	6. Moneys paid by a local agency;		
94	7. Interlocal agreements with a local agency, including		
95	all service agreements; or		
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96	8. Interest or other income from any investment of money
97	in any fund or account established for the payment of principal,
98	interest, or premiums on utility cost containment bonds, or the
99	deposit of proceeds of utility cost containment bonds.
100	(1) "Utility cost containment bonds" means bonds, notes,
101	commercial paper, variable rate securities, and any other
102	evidence of indebtedness issued by an authority the proceeds of
103	which are used directly or indirectly to pay or reimburse a
104	local agency or its publicly owned utility for the costs of a
105	utility project and which are secured by a pledge of, and are
106	payable from, utility project property.
107	(m) "Utility project" means the acquisition, construction,
108	installation, retrofitting, rebuilding, or other addition to or
109	improvement of any equipment, device, structure, process,
110	facility, technology, rights, or property located within or
111	outside this state which is used in connection with the
112	operations of a publicly owned utility.
113	(n) "Utility project charge" means a charge levied on
114	customers of a publicly owned utility to pay the financing costs
115	of utility cost containment bonds issued under subsection (4).
116	The term includes any adjustments to the utility project charge
117	under subsection (5).
118	(o) "Utility project property" means the property right
119	created pursuant to subsection (6). The term does not include
120	any interest in a customer's real or personal property but

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121	includes the right, title, and interest of an authority in any
122	of the following:
123	1. The financing resolution, the utility project charge,
124	and any adjustment to the utility project charge established in
125	accordance with subsection (5);
126	2. The financing costs of the utility cost containment
127	bonds and all revenues, and all collections, claims, payments,
128	moneys, or proceeds for, or arising from, the utility project
129	charge; or
130	3. All rights to obtain adjustments to the utility project
131	charge pursuant to subsection (5).
132	(3) UTILITY PROJECTS
133	(a) A local agency that owns and operates a publicly owned
134	utility may, on its own initiative or by application to an
135	intergovernmental entity that qualifies as an authority under
136	this act, finance the costs of a utility project using the
137	proceeds of utility cost containment bonds. If the local agency
138	applies to a qualified intergovernmental authority, the local
139	agency's application shall specify the utility project to be
140	financed by the utility cost containment bonds and the maximum
141	principal amount, the maximum interest rate, and the maximum
142	stated terms of the utility cost containment bonds.
143	(b) A local agency may not finance a utility project under
144	this section, either on its own initiative or by application to
145	a qualified intergovernmental authority, unless the governing
146	body has determined, in a duly noticed public meeting,
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