

By Senator Garcia

36-00717A-17

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to express lanes; amending s. 338.166,  
3       F.S.; requiring the Department of Transportation to  
4       ensure reasonable and practicably feasible entry and  
5       exit points on its express lanes and to undertake  
6       efforts to expand reasonable and practicably feasible  
7       entry and exit points for certain purposes;  
8       prohibiting a toll from being charged on express lanes  
9       under certain circumstances; amending s. 338.2216,  
10       F.S.; requiring the Florida Turnpike Enterprise to  
11       ensure reasonable and practicably feasible entry and  
12       exit points on its express lanes and to undertake  
13       efforts to expand reasonable and practicably feasible  
14       entry and exit points for certain purposes; requiring  
15       a toll charged to be the same for the use of express  
16       and general toll lanes under certain circumstances;  
17       providing an effective date.

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

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21       Section 1. Present subsections (5) and (6) of section  
22       338.166, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (6) and  
23       (7), respectively, and a new subsection (5) is added to that  
24       section, to read:

25       338.166 High-occupancy toll lanes or express lanes.—

26       (5) The department shall ensure reasonable and practicably  
27       feasible entry and exit points on its express lanes and shall  
28       undertake efforts to expand reasonable and practicably feasible  
29       entry and exit points to increase accessibility and ease of

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30 entry and exit to and from its express lanes. If the maintained  
31 average speed of vehicles traveling in an express lane is  
32 equivalent to or less than that of vehicles traveling in  
33 adjacent general use lanes, no toll shall be charged.

34 Section 2. Paragraph (e) is added to subsection (1) of  
35 section 338.2216, Florida Statutes, to read:

36 338.2216 Florida Turnpike Enterprise; powers and  
37 authority.—

38 (1)

39 (e) The Florida Turnpike Enterprise shall ensure reasonable  
40 and practicably feasible entry and exit points on its express  
41 lanes and shall undertake efforts to expand reasonable and  
42 practicably feasible entry and exit points to increase  
43 accessibility and ease of entry and exit to and from its express  
44 lanes. If the maintained average speed of vehicles traveling in  
45 an express lane is equivalent to or less than that of vehicles  
46 traveling in adjacent general toll lanes, the toll charged must  
47 be the same for all such lanes.

48 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.