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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
04/18/2017	.	
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The Committee on Community Affairs (Brandes and Lee) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Paragraph (i) of subsection (6) of section 339.175, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

339.175 Metropolitan planning organization.—

(6) POWERS, DUTIES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES.—The powers, privileges, and authority of an M.P.O. are those specified in this section or incorporated in an interlocal agreement



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11 authorized under s. 163.01. Each M.P.O. shall perform all acts  
12 required by federal or state laws or rules, now and subsequently  
13 applicable, which are necessary to qualify for federal aid. It  
14 is the intent of this section that each M.P.O. shall be involved  
15 in the planning and programming of transportation facilities,  
16 including, but not limited to, airports, intercity and high-  
17 speed rail lines, seaports, and intermodal facilities, to the  
18 extent permitted by state or federal law.

19 (i) The Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit ~~Transportation~~  
20 Authority Metropolitan Planning Organization Chairs Coordinating  
21 Committee is created within the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit  
22 ~~Transportation~~ Authority, composed of the M.P.O.'s serving  
23 Citrus, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk,  
24 and Sarasota Counties. The authority shall provide  
25 administrative support and direction to the committee. The  
26 committee must, at a minimum:

27 1. Coordinate transportation projects deemed to be  
28 regionally significant by the committee.

29 2. Review the impact of regionally significant land use  
30 decisions on the region.

31 3. Review all proposed regionally significant  
32 transportation projects in the respective transportation  
33 improvement programs which affect more than one of the M.P.O.'s  
34 represented on the committee.

35 4. Institute a conflict resolution process to address any  
36 conflict that may arise in the planning and programming of such  
37 regionally significant projects.

38 Section 2. Section 343.90, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
39 read:



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40           343.90 Short title.—This part may be cited as the “Tampa  
41 Bay Area Regional Transit ~~Transportation~~ Authority Act.”

42           Section 3. Paragraphs (a) and (e) of subsection (1) of  
43 section 343.91, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

44           343.91 Definitions.—

45           (1) As used in this part, the term:

46           (a) “Authority” means the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit  
47 ~~Transportation~~ Authority, the body politic and corporate and  
48 agency of the state created by this part, covering ~~the seven-~~  
49 ~~county area comprised of Citrus, Hernando, Hillsborough,~~  
50 Manatee, Pasco, and Pinellas, Manatee, and Sarasota Counties and  
51 any other contiguous county that is party to an agreement of  
52 participation.

53           (e)1. “Commuter rail” means a complete system of tracks,  
54 guideways, stations, and rolling stock necessary to effectuate  
55 medium-distance to long-distance passenger rail service to,  
56 from, or within the municipalities within the authority’s  
57 designated ~~seven-county~~ region.

58           2. “Heavy rail transit” means a complete rail system  
59 operating on an electric railway with the capacity for a heavy  
60 volume of traffic, characterized by high-speed and rapid-  
61 acceleration passenger rail cars operating singly or in multicar  
62 trains on fixed rails in separate rights-of-way from which all  
63 other vehicular and pedestrian traffic are excluded. “Heavy rail  
64 transit” includes metro, subway, elevated, rapid transit, and  
65 rapid rail systems.

66           3. “Light rail transit” means a complete system of tracks,  
67 overhead catenaries, stations, and platforms with lightweight  
68 passenger rail cars operating singly or in short, multicar



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69 trains on fixed rails in rights-of-way that are not separated  
70 from other traffic for much of the way.

71 Section 4. Section 343.92, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
72 read:

73 343.92 Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit ~~Transportation~~  
74 Authority.—

75 (1) There is created and established a body politic and  
76 corporate, an agency of the state, to be known as the Tampa Bay  
77 Area Regional Transit ~~Transportation~~ Authority.

78 (2) The governing board of the authority shall consist of  
79 13 ~~15~~ voting members appointed no later than 45 days after the  
80 creation of the authority.

81 (a) The secretary of the department shall appoint two  
82 advisors to the board who must be the district secretary for  
83 each of the department districts within the designated ~~seven-~~  
84 ~~county~~ area of the authority.

85 (b) The 13 ~~15~~ voting members of the board shall be as  
86 follows:

87 1. The county commissions of ~~Citrus~~, Hernando,  
88 Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, and Pinellas, ~~Manatee~~, and  
89 ~~Sarasota~~ Counties shall each appoint one county commissioner  
90 ~~elected official~~ to the board. Members appointed under this  
91 subparagraph shall serve 2-year terms with not more than three  
92 consecutive terms being served by any person. If a member under  
93 this subparagraph leaves elected office, a vacancy exists on the  
94 board to be filled as provided in this subparagraph within 90  
95 days ~~subparagraph.~~

96 ~~2. The Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority~~  
97 ~~(TBARTA) Metropolitan Planning Organization Chairs Coordinating~~



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98 ~~Committee shall appoint one member to the board who must be a~~  
99 ~~chair of one of the six metropolitan planning organizations in~~  
100 ~~the region. The member appointed under this subparagraph shall~~  
101 ~~serve a 2-year term with not more than three consecutive terms~~  
102 ~~being served by any person.~~

103 2.3.a. Two members of the board shall be the mayor, ~~or the~~  
104 ~~mayor's designee,~~ of the largest municipality within the service  
105 area of each of the following independent transit agencies or  
106 their legislatively created successor agencies: Pinellas  
107 Suncoast Transit Authority and Hillsborough Area Regional  
108 Transit Authority. The largest municipality is that municipality  
109 with the largest population as determined by the most recent  
110 United States Decennial Census.

111 ~~b. Should a mayor choose not to serve, his or her designee~~  
112 ~~must be an elected official selected by the mayor from that~~  
113 ~~largest municipality's city council or city commission. A mayor~~  
114 ~~or his or her designee shall serve a 2-year term with not more~~  
115 ~~than three consecutive terms being served by any person.~~

116 ~~e. A designee's term ends if the mayor leaves office for~~  
117 ~~any reason. If a designee leaves elected office on the city~~  
118 ~~council or commission, a vacancy exists on the board to be~~  
119 ~~filled by the mayor of that municipality as provided in sub-~~  
120 ~~subparagraph a.~~

121 3. The following independent transit agencies or their  
122 legislatively created successor agencies shall each appoint from  
123 the membership of their governing bodies one member to the  
124 board: Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority and Hillsborough Area  
125 Regional Transit Authority. Each member appointed under this  
126 subparagraph shall serve a 2-year term with not more than three



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127 consecutive terms being served by any person. If a member no  
128 longer meets the transit authority's criteria for appointment, a  
129 vacancy exists on the board, which must be filled as provided in  
130 this subparagraph within 90 days.

131 ~~d. A mayor who has served three consecutive terms on the~~  
132 ~~board must designate an elected official from that largest~~  
133 ~~municipality's city council or city commission to serve on the~~  
134 ~~board for at least one term.~~

135 ~~4.a. One membership on the board shall rotate every 2 years~~  
136 ~~between the mayor, or his or her designee, of the largest~~  
137 ~~municipality within Manatee County and the mayor, or his or her~~  
138 ~~designee, of the largest municipality within Sarasota County.~~  
139 ~~The mayor, or his or her designee, from the largest municipality~~  
140 ~~within Manatee County shall serve the first 2-year term. The~~  
141 ~~largest municipality is that municipality with the largest~~  
142 ~~population as determined by the most recent United States~~  
143 ~~Decennial Census.~~

144 ~~b. Should a mayor choose not to serve, his or her designee~~  
145 ~~must be an elected official selected by the mayor from that~~  
146 ~~municipality's city council or city commission.~~

147 ~~4.5.~~ The Governor shall appoint to the board four members  
148 from the regional four business community representatives, each  
149 of whom must reside in one of the ~~seven~~ counties governed by the  
150 authority and, none of whom may not be an elected official  
151 officials, and at least one but not more than two of whom shall  
152 ~~represent counties within the federally designated Tampa Bay~~  
153 ~~Transportation Management Area.~~ Of the members initially  
154 appointed under this subparagraph, one shall serve a 1-year  
155 term, two shall serve 2-year terms, and one shall serve a term



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156 as the initial chair as provided in subsection (5). Thereafter,  
157 a member ~~Members~~ appointed under this subparagraph ~~by the~~  
158 ~~Governor~~ shall serve a 2-year term ~~3-year terms~~ with not more  
159 than three ~~two~~ consecutive terms being served by any person.

160 ~~(e)~~ Appointments may be staggered to avoid mass turnover at  
161 the end of any 2-year or 4-year period. A vacancy during a term  
162 shall be filled ~~by the respective appointing authority~~ within 90  
163 days in the same manner as the original appointment ~~and only~~ for  
164 the remainder of the unexpired term.

165 (3) The members of the board shall serve without  
166 compensation but shall be entitled to receive from the authority  
167 reimbursement for travel expenses and per diem actually incurred  
168 in connection with the business of the authority as provided in  
169 s. 112.061.

170 (4) Members of the board shall comply with the applicable  
171 financial disclosure requirements of ss. 112.3145, 112.3148, and  
172 112.3149.

173 (5) The Governor shall appoint one of the four members  
174 appointed under subparagraph (2)(b)4. ~~as the initial chair from~~  
175 ~~among the full membership~~ of the board immediately upon their  
176 appointment. ~~In no case may these appointments be made any later~~  
177 ~~than 45 days following the creation of the authority.~~ The  
178 initial chair shall serve ~~will hold this position for~~ a minimum  
179 term of 2 years. The board shall elect a vice chair and  
180 secretary-treasurer from among its members who shall serve a  
181 minimum term of 1 year and shall establish the duties and powers  
182 of those positions during its inaugural meeting. During its  
183 inaugural meeting, the board shall ~~will~~ also establish its rules  
184 of conduct and meeting procedures.



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185 (6) At the end of the initial chair's term, the board shall  
186 elect a chair from among the ~~its~~ members. The chair shall hold  
187 office at the will of the board. In that election, the board  
188 shall also elect a vice chair and secretary-treasurer.

189 (7) The first meeting of the authority shall be held no  
190 later than 60 days after the creation of the authority.

191 (8) Seven ~~Eight~~ members of the board shall constitute a  
192 quorum, and the vote of seven ~~eight~~ members is necessary for any  
193 action to be taken by the authority. The authority may meet upon  
194 the constitution of a quorum. A vacancy does not impair the  
195 right of a quorum of the board to exercise all rights and the  
196 ability to perform all duties of the authority.

197 (9) Beginning July 1, 2017, the board must evaluate the  
198 abolishment, continuance, modification, or establishment of ~~may~~  
199 establish committees for the following committees areas:

200 (a) Planning committee.

201 (b) Policy committee.

202 (c) Finance committee.

203 (d) Citizens advisory committee.

204 (e) Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority Metropolitan  
205 Planning Organization Chairs Coordinating Committee.

206 (f) Transit management committee.

207 (g) Technical advisory committee.

208

209 The board must submit its recommendations for abolishment,  
210 continuance, modification, or establishment of the committees to  
211 the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of  
212 Representatives before the beginning of the 2018 Regular  
213 Session.





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214           (10) The authority may employ an executive director, an  
215 executive secretary, its own legal counsel and legal staff,  
216 technical experts, engineers, and such employees, permanent or  
217 temporary, as it may require. The authority shall determine the  
218 qualifications and fix the compensation of such persons, firms,  
219 or corporations and may employ a fiscal agent or agents;  
220 however, the authority shall solicit sealed proposals from at  
221 least three persons, firms, or corporations for the performance  
222 of any services as fiscal agents. The authority may, except for  
223 duties specified in chapter 120, delegate its power to one or  
224 more of its agents or employees to carry out the purposes of  
225 this part, subject always to the supervision and control of the  
226 authority.

227           ~~(11) (a) The authority shall establish a Transit Management~~  
228 ~~Committee comprised of the executive directors or general~~  
229 ~~managers, or their designees, of each of the existing transit~~  
230 ~~providers and bay area commuter services.~~

231           ~~(b) The authority shall establish a Citizens Advisory~~  
232 ~~Committee comprised of appointed citizen committee members from~~  
233 ~~each county and transit provider in the region, not to exceed 16~~  
234 ~~members.~~

235           ~~(c) The authority may establish technical advisory~~  
236 ~~committees to provide guidance and advice on regional~~  
237 ~~transportation issues. The authority shall establish the size,~~  
238 ~~composition, and focus of any technical advisory committee~~  
239 ~~created.~~

240           (11) ~~(d)~~ Persons appointed to a committee shall serve  
241 without compensation but may be entitled to per diem or travel  
242 expenses as provided in s. 112.061.



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243 Section 5. Subsection (1), paragraph (a) of subsection (2),  
244 subsection (3), subsection (4), and paragraph (g) of subsection  
245 (5) of section 343.922, Florida Statutes, are amended, and  
246 subsections (9) and (10) are added to that section, to read:

247 343.922 Powers and duties.—

248 (1) The express purposes of the authority are to:

249 (a) Plan, implement, and operate ~~improve~~ mobility  
250 improvements and expansions of ~~expand~~ multimodal transportation  
251 options for passengers and freight throughout the designated  
252 ~~seven-county Tampa Bay~~ region.

253 (b) Produce a regional transit development plan,  
254 integrating the transit development plans of participant  
255 counties, to include a prioritization of regionally significant  
256 transit projects and facilities.

257 1. The authority shall provide to the President of the  
258 Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, on or  
259 before the beginning of the 2018 Regular Session, a plan to  
260 produce the regional transit development plan.

261 2. The regional transit development plan prepared by the  
262 authority must adhere to guidance and regulations set forth by  
263 the department or any successor agency, including, but not  
264 limited to:

265 a. Public involvement;

266 b. Collection and analysis of socioeconomic data;

267 c. Performance evaluation of existing services;

268 d. Service design and ridership forecasting; and

269 e. Financial planning.

270 (c) Serve, with the consent of the Governor or his or her  
271 designee, as the recipient of federal funds supporting an



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272 intercounty project or a regionally significant transit project  
273 that exists in a single county within the designated region.

274 (2) (a) The authority has the right to plan, develop,  
275 finance, construct, own, purchase, operate, maintain, relocate,  
276 equip, repair, and manage those public transportation projects,  
277 such as express bus services; bus rapid transit services; light  
278 rail, commuter rail, heavy rail, or other transit services;  
279 ferry services; transit stations; park-and-ride lots; transit-  
280 oriented development nodes; or feeder roads, reliever roads,  
281 connector roads, bypasses, or appurtenant facilities, that are  
282 intended to address critical transportation needs or concerns in  
283 the ~~Tampa Bay~~ region as identified by the authority ~~by July 1,~~  
284 ~~2009~~. These projects may also include all necessary approaches,  
285 roads, bridges, and avenues of access that are desirable and  
286 proper with the concurrence of the department, as applicable, if  
287 the project is to be part of the State Highway System.

288 (3) (a) ~~No later than July 1, 2009,~~ The authority shall  
289 develop and adopt a regional transit development ~~transportation~~  
290 ~~master~~ plan that provides a vision for a regionally integrated  
291 ~~multimodal~~ transportation system. The goals and objectives of  
292 the ~~master~~ plan are to identify areas of the ~~Tampa Bay~~ region  
293 where ~~multimodal~~ mobility, traffic safety, freight mobility, and  
294 efficient emergency evacuation alternatives need to be improved;  
295 identify areas of the region where multimodal transportation  
296 systems would be most beneficial to enhance mobility and  
297 economic development; develop methods of building partnerships  
298 with local governments, existing transit providers, expressway  
299 authorities, seaports, airports, and other local, state, and  
300 federal entities; develop methods of building partnerships with



301 CSX Corporation and CSX Transportation, Inc., to craft mutually  
302 beneficial solutions to achieve the authority's objectives, and  
303 with other private sector business community entities that may  
304 further the authority's mission, and engage the public in  
305 support of regional multimodal transportation improvements. The  
306 ~~master~~ plan shall identify and may prioritize projects that will  
307 accomplish these goals and objectives, including, without  
308 limitation, the creation of express bus and bus rapid transit  
309 services, light rail, commuter rail, and heavy rail transit  
310 services, ferry services, freight services, and any other  
311 multimodal transportation system projects that address critical  
312 transportation needs or concerns, pursuant to subsection (2);  
313 and identify the costs of the proposed projects and revenue  
314 sources that could be used to pay those costs. In developing the  
315 ~~master~~ plan, the authority shall review and coordinate with the  
316 future land use, capital improvements, and traffic circulation  
317 elements of its member local governments' comprehensive plans  
318 and the plans, programs, and schedules of other units of  
319 government having transit or transportation authority within  
320 whose jurisdictions the projects or improvements will be located  
321 to define and resolve potential inconsistencies between such  
322 plans and the authority's developing ~~master~~ plan. ~~By July 1,~~  
323 ~~2008, the authority, working with its member local governments,~~  
324 ~~shall adopt a mandatory conflict resolution process that~~  
325 ~~addresses consistency conflicts between the authority's regional~~  
326 ~~transportation master plan and local government comprehensive~~  
327 ~~plans.~~

328 (b) The authority shall consult with the department to  
329 further the goals and objectives of the Strategic Regional



330 Transit Needs Assessment completed by the department.

331 (c) Before the adoption of the regional transit development  
332 ~~master~~ plan, the authority shall hold at least one public  
333 meeting in each of the ~~seven~~ counties within the designated  
334 region. At least one public hearing must be held before the  
335 authority's board.

336 (d) After its adoption, the regional transit development  
337 ~~master~~ plan shall be updated every 5 years before July 1.

338 (e) The authority shall present the original regional  
339 transit development ~~master~~ plan and updates to the governing  
340 bodies of the counties within the designated ~~seven-county~~  
341 region, to the TBARTA Metropolitan Planning Organization Chairs  
342 Coordinating Committee, and to the legislative delegation  
343 members representing those counties within 90 days after  
344 adoption.

345 (f) The authority shall coordinate plans and projects with  
346 the TBARTA Metropolitan Planning Organization Chairs  
347 Coordinating Committee, to the extent practicable, and  
348 participate in the regional M.P.O. planning process to ensure  
349 regional comprehension of the authority's mission, goals, and  
350 objectives.

351 (g) The authority shall provide administrative support and  
352 direction to the TBARTA Metropolitan Planning Organization  
353 Chairs Coordinating Committee as provided in s. 339.175(6)(i).

354 (4) The authority may undertake projects or other  
355 improvements in the regional transit development ~~master~~ plan in  
356 phases as particular projects or segments become feasible, as  
357 determined by the authority. The authority shall coordinate  
358 project planning, development, and implementation with the



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359 applicable local governments. The authority's projects that are  
360 transportation oriented must be consistent to the maximum extent  
361 feasible with the adopted local government comprehensive plans  
362 at the time such projects are funded for construction. Authority  
363 projects that are not transportation oriented and meet the  
364 definition of development pursuant to s. 380.04 must be  
365 consistent with the local comprehensive plans. In carrying out  
366 its purposes and powers, the authority may request funding and  
367 technical assistance from the department and appropriate federal  
368 and local agencies, including, but not limited to, state  
369 infrastructure bank loans.

370 (5) The authority is granted and may exercise all powers  
371 necessary, appurtenant, convenient, or incidental to the  
372 carrying out of the aforesaid purposes, including, but not  
373 limited to, the following rights and powers:

374 (g) To borrow money and to make and issue negotiable notes,  
375 bonds, refunding bonds, and other evidences of indebtedness or  
376 obligations, either in temporary or definitive form, hereinafter  
377 in this chapter sometimes called "revenue bonds" of the  
378 authority, for the purpose of financing all or part of the  
379 mobility improvements within the ~~Tampa Bay~~ region, as well as  
380 the appurtenant facilities, including all approaches, streets,  
381 roads, bridges, and avenues of access authorized by this part,  
382 the bonds to mature not exceeding 40 years after the date of the  
383 issuance thereof, and to secure the payment of such bonds or any  
384 part thereof by a pledge of any or all of its revenues, rates,  
385 fees, rentals, or other charges.

386 (9) (a) An action by the authority regarding the funding of  
387 commuter rail, heavy rail transit, or light rail transit, as



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388 defined in s. 343.91, or any combination thereof, requires  
389 approval by a majority vote of each M.P.O. serving the county or  
390 counties where such rail transit investment will be made, and  
391 the approval of the Legislature by an act of general law.

392 (b) The authority may not engage in any advocacy regarding  
393 a referendum, ordinance, legislation, or proposal under  
394 consideration by any governmental entity or the Legislature  
395 which seeks to approve the funding of commuter rail, heavy rail  
396 transit, or light rail transit, as defined in s. 343.91, or any  
397 combination thereof.

398 (10) The authority must conduct a feasibility study,  
399 through an independent third party, for any project of commuter  
400 rail, heavy rail transit, or light rail transit, as defined in  
401 s. 343.91, or any combination thereof, before proceeding with  
402 the development of the project and before any related contract  
403 is issued. The feasibility study shall be submitted, upon  
404 completion, to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the  
405 Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the board of county  
406 commissioners of Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, and  
407 Pinellas Counties.

408 Section 6. Subsection (1) of section 343.94, Florida  
409 Statutes, is amended to read:

410 343.94 Bond financing authority.—

411 (1) Pursuant to s. 11(f), Art. VII of the State  
412 Constitution, the Legislature approves bond financing by the  
413 Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit ~~Transportation~~ Authority for  
414 construction of or improvements to commuter rail systems,  
415 transit systems, ferry systems, highways, bridges, toll  
416 collection facilities, interchanges to the system, and any other



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417 transportation facility appurtenant, necessary, or incidental to  
418 the system. Subject to terms and conditions of applicable  
419 revenue bond resolutions and covenants, such costs may be  
420 financed in whole or in part by revenue bonds issued pursuant to  
421 paragraph (2) (a) or paragraph (2) (b), whether currently issued  
422 or issued in the future or by a combination of such bonds.

423 Section 7. Section 343.947, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
424 read:

425 343.947 Department may be appointed agent of authority for  
426 construction.—The department may be appointed by the authority  
427 as its agent for the purpose of constructing and completing  
428 transportation projects, and improvements and extensions  
429 thereto, in the authority's regional transit development ~~master~~  
430 plan. In such event, the authority shall provide the department  
431 with complete copies of all documents, agreements, resolutions,  
432 contracts, and instruments relating thereto; shall request the  
433 department to do such construction work, including the planning,  
434 surveying, and actual construction of the completion,  
435 extensions, and improvements to the system; and shall transfer  
436 to the credit of an account of the department in the treasury of  
437 the state the necessary funds therefor. The department shall  
438 proceed with such construction and use the funds for such  
439 purpose in the same manner that it is now authorized to use the  
440 funds otherwise provided by law for its use in construction of  
441 commuter rail systems, transit systems, ferry systems, roads,  
442 bridges, and related transportation facilities.

443 Section 8. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 343.95,  
444 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

445 343.95 Acquisition of lands and property.—





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446 (1) For the purposes of this part, the authority may  
447 acquire private or public property and property rights,  
448 including rights of access, air, view, and light, by gift,  
449 devise, purchase, or condemnation by eminent domain proceedings,  
450 as the authority may deem necessary for any purpose of this  
451 part, including, but not limited to, any lands reasonably  
452 necessary for securing applicable permits, areas necessary for  
453 management of access, borrow pits, drainage ditches, water  
454 retention areas, rest areas, replacement access for landowners  
455 whose access is impaired due to the construction of a facility,  
456 and replacement rights-of-way for relocated rail and utility  
457 facilities; for existing, proposed, or anticipated  
458 transportation facilities within the ~~seven-county Tampa Bay~~  
459 region designated ~~identified~~ by the authority; or for the  
460 purposes of screening, relocation, removal, or disposal of  
461 junkyards and scrap metal processing facilities. The authority  
462 may condemn any material and property necessary for such  
463 purposes.

464 (3) When the authority acquires property for a  
465 transportation facility within the designated ~~seven-county Tampa~~  
466 ~~Bay~~ region, the authority is not subject to any liability  
467 imposed by chapter 376 or chapter 403 for preexisting soil or  
468 groundwater contamination due solely to its ownership. This  
469 subsection does not affect the rights or liabilities of any past  
470 or future owners of the acquired property, nor does it affect  
471 the liability of any governmental entity for the results of its  
472 actions which create or exacerbate a pollution source. The  
473 authority and the Department of Environmental Protection may  
474 enter into interagency agreements for the performance, funding,



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475 and reimbursement of the investigative and remedial acts  
476 necessary for property acquired by the authority.

477 Section 9. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 343.975,  
478 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

479 343.975 Complete and additional statutory authority.—

480 (1) The powers conferred by this part are supplemental to  
481 the existing powers of the board and the department. This part  
482 does not repeal any of the provisions of any other law, general,  
483 special, or local, but supplements such other laws in the  
484 exercise of the powers provided in this part and provides a  
485 complete method for the exercise of the powers granted in this  
486 part. The projects planned and constructed by the Tampa Bay Area  
487 Regional Transit Transportation Authority shall comply with all  
488 applicable federal, state, and local laws. The extension and  
489 improvement of the system, and the issuance of bonds hereunder  
490 to finance all or part of the cost thereof, may be accomplished  
491 upon compliance with the provisions of this part without regard  
492 to or necessity for compliance with the provisions, limitations,  
493 or restrictions contained in any other general, special, or  
494 local law, including, but not limited to, s. 215.821. An  
495 approval of any bonds issued under this part by the qualified  
496 electors or qualified electors who are freeholders in the state  
497 or in any other political subdivision of the state is not  
498 required for the issuance of such bonds pursuant to this part.

499 (3) This part does not preclude the department from  
500 acquiring, holding, constructing, improving, maintaining,  
501 operating, or owning tolled or nontolled facilities funded and  
502 constructed from nonauthority sources that are part of the State  
503 Highway System within the geographical boundaries of the Tampa



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504 Bay Area Regional Transit ~~Transportation~~ Authority.

505 Section 10. Section 343.976, Florida Statutes, is amended  
506 to read:

507 343.976 Effect on local government action.—This act does  
508 not prohibit any local government that is a member of the Tampa  
509 Bay Area Regional Transit ~~Transportation~~ Authority from  
510 participating in or creating any other transit authority,  
511 regional transportation authority, or expressway authority.

512 Section 11. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.  
513

514 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

515 And the title is amended as follows:

516 Delete everything before the enacting clause  
517 and insert:

518 A bill to be entitled  
519 An act relating to the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit  
520 Authority; amending s. 339.175, F.S.; creating the  
521 Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority Metropolitan  
522 Planning Organization Chairs Coordinating Committee to  
523 replace the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation  
524 Authority Metropolitan Planning Organization Chairs  
525 Coordinating Committee; providing that the Tampa Bay  
526 Area Regional Transit Authority Metropolitan Planning  
527 Organization Chairs Coordinating Committee is created  
528 within the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority;  
529 amending s. 343.90, F.S.; revising the short title to  
530 "Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority Act";  
531 amending s. 343.91, F.S.; revising the definition of  
532 the term "authority" to mean the Tampa Bay Area



533 Regional Transit Authority and to include only  
534 Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, and Pinellas  
535 Counties and any other contiguous county that is party  
536 to an agreement of participation; revising the  
537 definition of the term "commuter rail"; amending s.  
538 343.92, F.S.; creating the Tampa Bay Area Regional  
539 Transit Authority to replace the Tampa Bay Area  
540 Regional Transportation Authority; decreasing voting  
541 membership on the governing board of the authority;  
542 requiring the members to be appointed within a  
543 specified period; revising appointment and term  
544 requirements of such membership; revising requirements  
545 for filling vacancies on the board; requiring the  
546 Governor to appoint an initial chair of the board from  
547 one of the four members appointed by the Governor;  
548 providing that seven members of the board constitute a  
549 quorum; providing that the vote of seven members is  
550 necessary for any action to be taken by the authority;  
551 requiring the board to evaluate the abolishment,  
552 continuance, modification, or establishment of  
553 specified committees, beginning on a specified date;  
554 requiring the board to submit its recommendations for  
555 abolishment, continuance, modification, or  
556 establishment of the committees to the Legislature  
557 before a specified time; deleting requirements related  
558 to the establishment of a Transit Management  
559 Committee, a Citizens Advisory Committee, and  
560 technical advisory committees; conforming provisions  
561 to changes made by the act; amending s. 343.922, F.S.;



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562 revising the express purposes of the authority to  
563 include planning, implementing, and operating mobility  
564 improvements and expansions of certain multimodal  
565 transportation options, producing a certain regional  
566 transit development plan, and serving as the recipient  
567 of certain federal funds under certain circumstances;  
568 directing the authority to provide to the Legislature  
569 a plan to produce the regional transit development  
570 plan by a specified date; providing requirements for  
571 the regional transit development plan; requiring the  
572 authority to develop and adopt a regional transit  
573 development plan, rather than a transportation master  
574 plan; deleting obsolete provisions; conforming  
575 provisions to changes made by the act; providing that  
576 an action by the authority regarding the funding of  
577 commuter rail, heavy rail transit, or light rail  
578 transit, or any combination thereof, requires approval  
579 by a majority vote of each M.P.O. serving the county  
580 or counties where such rail transit investment will be  
581 made, and the approval of the Legislature by an act of  
582 general law; prohibiting the authority from engaging  
583 in certain advocacy that seeks to approve the funding  
584 of commuter rail, heavy rail transit, or light rail  
585 transit, or any combination thereof; requiring the  
586 authority to conduct a feasibility study, through an  
587 independent third party, for any project of commuter  
588 rail, heavy rail transit, or light rail transit, or  
589 any combination thereof, before proceeding with the  
590 development of the project and before any related



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591 contracts are issued; requiring the feasibility study  
592 to be submitted to the Governor, the Legislature, and  
593 the board of county commissioners of specified  
594 counties; amending ss. 343.94, 343.947, 343.95,  
595 343.975, and 343.976, F.S.; conforming provisions to  
596 changes made by the act; providing an effective date.