**By** the Committees on Rules; Governmental Oversight and Accountability; and Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities; and Senators Hutson, Young, and Broxson

595-04137-17 2017596c3 1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to utilities; amending s. 337.401, 3 F.S.; authorizing the Department of Transportation and 4 certain local governmental entities to prescribe and 5 enforce reasonable rules or regulations with reference 6 to the placing and maintaining across, on, or within 7 the right-of-way limits of any road or publicly owned 8 rail corridors under their respective jurisdictions 9 any voice or data communications services lines or wireless facilities; providing a short title; defining 10 11 terms; prohibiting a county or municipality having jurisdiction and control of the rights-of-way of any 12 13 public road, referred to as the "authority," from prohibiting, regulating, or charging for the 14 15 collocation of small wireless facilities in public rights-of-way under certain circumstances; authorizing 16 17 an authority to require a registration process and 18 permit fees only under certain circumstances; 19 requiring an authority to receive and process 20 applications for permits and to issue such permits, 21 subject to specified requirements; prohibiting an 22 authority from requiring approval of or imposing fees 23 or other charges for routine maintenance, the 24 replacement of certain wireless facilities, or the 25 installation, placement, maintenance, or replacement of certain micro wireless facilities; providing an 2.6 27 exception; providing requirements for the collocation 28 of small wireless facilities on authority utility 29 poles; providing requirements for rates, fees, and

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30	other terms related to authority utility poles;
31	authorizing an authority to apply current ordinances
32	regulating placement of communications facilities in
33	the right-of-way, including registration, permitting,
34	insurance coverage, indemnification, performance
35	bonds, security funds, force majeure, abandonment,
36	authority liability, or authority warranties for
37	certain applications; providing that certain permit
38	application requirements and small wireless facility
39	placement requirements shall be waived by the
40	authority; prohibiting an authority from adopting or
41	enforcing any regulation on the placement or operation
42	of certain communications facilities, from regulating
43	any communications services, or from imposing or
44	collecting any tax, fee, or charge not specifically
45	authorized under state law; providing construction;
46	requiring a wireless provider to comply with certain
47	nondiscriminatory undergrounding requirements of the
48	authority; authorizing the authority to waive any such
49	requirements; authorizing a wireless infrastructure
50	provider to apply to an authority to place utility
51	poles in the public rights-of-way to support the
52	collocation of small wireless facilities; providing
53	requirements for such application; requiring the
54	authority to accept and process the application,
55	subject to certain requirements; providing
56	construction; authorizing an authority to enforce
57	local pending ordinances or administrative rules or
58	regulations that are applicable to a historic area

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59	designated by the state or authority and subject to
60	waiver by the authority if the intent to adopt
61	regulation or zoning changes has been publicly
62	declared on or before a specified date; providing
63	retroactive applicability; providing an effective
64	date.
65	
66	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
67	
68	Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section
69	337.401, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (7) is
70	added to that section, to read:
71	337.401 Use of right-of-way for utilities subject to
72	regulation; permit; fees
73	(1)(a) The department and local governmental entities,
74	referred to in this section and in ss. 337.402, 337.403, and
75	337.404 as the "authority," that have jurisdiction and control
76	of public roads or publicly owned rail corridors are authorized
77	to prescribe and enforce reasonable rules or regulations with
78	reference to the placing and maintaining across, on, or within
79	the right-of-way limits of any road or publicly owned rail
80	corridors under their respective jurisdictions any electric
81	transmission, <u>voice</u> <del>telephone</del> , telegraph, <u>data,</u> or other
82	communications services lines <u>or wireless facilities</u> ; pole
83	lines; poles; railways; ditches; sewers; water, heat, or gas
84	mains; pipelines; fences; gasoline tanks and pumps; or other
85	structures referred to in this section and in ss. 337.402,
86	337.403, and 337.404 as the "utility." The department may enter
87	into a permit-delegation agreement with a governmental entity if

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88	issuance of a permit is based on requirements that the
89	department finds will ensure the safety and integrity of
90	facilities of the Department of Transportation; however, the
91	permit-delegation agreement does not apply to facilities of
92	electric utilities as defined in s. 366.02(2).
93	(7) (a) This subsection may be cited as the "Advanced
94	Wireless Infrastructure Deployment Act."
95	(b) As used in this subsection, the term:
96	1. "Antenna" means communications equipment that transmits
97	or receives electromagnetic radio frequency signals used in
98	providing wireless services.
99	2. "Applicable codes" means uniform building, fire,
100	electrical, plumbing, or mechanical codes adopted by a
101	recognized national code organization or local amendments to
102	those codes enacted solely to address threats of destruction of
103	property or injury to persons, or local codes or ordinances
104	adopted to implement this subsection. The term includes
105	objective design standards adopted by ordinance which may
106	require that a new utility pole replacing an existing utility
107	pole be of substantially similar design, material, and color, or
108	that ground-mounted equipment meet reasonable spacing
109	requirements. The term includes objective design standards
110	adopted by ordinance which may require a small wireless facility
111	to meet reasonable location context, color, stealth, and
112	concealment requirements; however, the authority may waive the
113	design standards upon a showing that the design standards are
114	not reasonably compatible for the particular location of a small
115	wireless facility or that the design standards impose an
116	excessive expense. The waiver must be granted or denied within

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117	45 days after the date of the waiver request.
118	3. "Applicant" means a person who submits an application
119	and is a wireless provider.
120	4. "Application" means a request submitted by an applicant
121	to an authority for a permit to collocate small wireless
122	facilities.
123	5. "Authority" means a county or municipality having
124	jurisdiction and control of the rights-of-way of any public
125	roads. The term does not include the Florida Department of
126	Transportation. The Florida Department of Transportation rights-
127	of-way are excluded from this subsection.
128	6. "Authority utility pole" means a utility pole owned by
129	an authority in the right-of-way. The term does not include a
130	utility pole owned by a municipal electric utility or any
131	utility pole used to support municipally owned or operated
132	electric distribution facilities, or a utility pole located in
133	the right-of-way within:
134	a. A retirement community that:
135	(I) Is deed-restricted as housing for older persons as
136	defined in s. 760.29(4)(b);
137	(II) Has more than 5,000 residents; and
138	(III) Has underground utilities for electric transmission
139	or distribution; or
140	b. A municipality that:
141	(I) Is located on a coastal barrier island as defined in s.
142	<u>161.053(1)(b)3.;</u>
143	(II) Has a land area of less than 5 square miles;
144	(III) Has fewer than 10,000 residents; and
145	(IV) Has, before the adoption of this act, received

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146	referendum approval to issue debt to finance municipality-wide
147	underground utilities for electric transmission or distribution.
148	7. "Collocate" or "collocation" means to install, mount,
149	maintain, modify, operate, or replace one or more wireless
150	facilities on, under, within, or adjacent to a wireless support
151	structure or utility pole. The term does not include the
152	installation of a utility pole or wireless support structure in
153	the public rights-of-way.
154	8. "FCC" means the Federal Communications Commission.
155	9. "Micro wireless facility" means a small wireless
156	facility having dimensions no larger than 24 inches in length,
157	15 inches in width, and 12 inches in height and an exterior
158	antenna, if any, no longer than 11 inches.
159	10. "Small wireless facility" means a wireless facility
160	that meets the following qualifications:
161	a. Each antenna associated with the facility is located
162	inside an enclosure of no more than 6 cubic feet in volume or,
163	in the case of antennas that have exposed elements, each antenna
164	and all of its exposed elements could fit within an enclosure of
165	no more than 6 cubic feet in volume; and
166	b. All other wireless equipment associated with the
167	facility is cumulatively no more than 28 cubic feet in volume.
168	The following types of associated ancillary equipment are not
169	included in the calculation of equipment volume: electric
170	meters, concealment elements, telecommunications demarcation
171	boxes, ground-based enclosures, grounding equipment, power
172	transfer switches, cutoff switches, vertical cable runs for the
173	connection of power and other services, and utility poles or
174	other support structures.

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175	11. "Utility pole" means a pole or similar structure used
176	in whole or in part to provide communications services or for
177	electric distribution, lighting, traffic control, signage, or a
178	similar function. The term includes the vertical support
179	structure for traffic lights, but does not include any
180	horizontal structures upon which are attached signal lights or
181	other traffic control devices and does not include any pole or
182	similar structure 15 feet in height or less unless an authority
183	grants a waiver for the pole.
184	12. "Wireless facility" means equipment at a fixed location
185	which enables wireless communications between user equipment and
186	a communications network, including radio transceivers,
187	antennas, wires, coaxial or fiber-optic cable or other cables,
188	regular and backup power supplies, and comparable equipment,
189	regardless of technological configuration, and equipment
190	associated with wireless communications. The term includes small
191	wireless facilities. The term does not include:
192	a. The structure or improvements on, under, within, or
193	adjacent to the structure on which the equipment is collocated;
194	b. Wireline backhaul facilities; or
195	c. Coaxial or fiber-optic cable that is between wireless
196	structures or utility poles or that is otherwise not immediately
197	adjacent to or directly associated with a particular antenna.
198	13. "Wireless infrastructure provider" means a person who
199	is certificated to provide telecommunications service in the
200	state and who builds or installs wireless communication
201	transmission equipment, wireless facilities, or wireless support
202	structures, but is not a wireless services provider.
203	14. "Wireless provider" means a wireless infrastructure

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204	provider or a wireless services provider.
205	15. "Wireless services" means any services provided using
206	licensed or unlicensed spectrum, whether at a fixed location or
207	mobile, using wireless facilities.
208	16. "Wireless services provider" means a person who
209	provides wireless services.
210	17. "Wireless support structure" means a freestanding
211	structure, such as a monopole, a guyed or self-supporting tower,
212	or another existing or proposed structure designed to support or
213	capable of supporting wireless facilities. The term does not
214	include a utility pole.
215	(c) Except as provided in this subsection, an authority may
216	not prohibit, regulate, or charge for the collocation of small
217	wireless facilities in the public rights-of-way.
218	(d) An authority may require a registration process and
219	permit fees in accordance with subsection (3). An authority
220	shall accept applications for permits and shall process and
221	issue permits subject to the following requirements:
222	1. An authority may not directly or indirectly require an
223	applicant to perform services unrelated to the collocation for
224	which approval is sought, such as in-kind contributions to the
225	authority, including reserving fiber, conduit, or pole space for
226	the authority.
227	2. An applicant may not be required to provide more
228	information to obtain a permit than is necessary to demonstrate
229	the applicant's compliance with applicable codes for the
230	placement of small wireless facilities in the locations
231	identified in the application.
232	3. An authority may not require the placement of small

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233	wireless facilities on any specific utility pole or category of
234	poles or require multiple antenna systems on a single utility
235	pole.
236	4. An authority may not limit the placement of small
237	wireless facilities by minimum separation distances; however,
238	within 14 days after the date of filing the application, an
239	authority may request that the proposed location of a small
240	wireless facility be moved to another location in the right-of-
241	way and placed upon an alternative authority utility pole or
242	support structure or placed upon a new utility pole. The
243	authority and applicant may negotiate the alternative location,
244	including any objective design standards, for 30 days after the
245	date of the request. At the conclusion of the negotiation
246	period, if the applicant accepts the alternative location, the
247	applicant must notify the authority, and the application shall
248	be deemed granted for any new location for which there is
249	agreement and all other locations in the application. If no
250	agreement is reached, the applicant must notify the authority,
251	and the authority must grant or deny the original application
252	within 90 days after the date the application is filed. A
253	request for an alternative location, an acceptance of an
254	alternative location, or any rejection of an alternative
255	location must be in writing and provided by electronic mail.
256	5. An authority shall limit the height of a small wireless
257	facility to no more than 10 feet above the utility pole or
258	structure upon which the small wireless facility is to be
259	collocated. Unless waived by an authority, the height for a new
260	utility pole is limited to the tallest existing utility pole
261	located in the right-of-way, other than a utility pole for which

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262	a waiver has previously been granted, measured from grade in
263	place within 500 feet of the proposed location of the small
264	wireless facility. If there is no utility pole within 500 feet,
265	the authority shall limit the height of the utility pole to 50
266	feet.
267	6. Except as provided in subparagraphs 4. and 5., the
268	installation of a utility pole in the public rights-of-way
269	designed to support a small wireless facility is subject to
270	authority rules or regulations governing the placement of
271	utility poles in the public rights-of-way and is subject to the
272	application review timeframes in this subsection.
273	7. Within 14 days after receiving an application, an
274	authority must determine and notify the applicant by electronic
275	mail as to whether the application is complete. If an
276	application is deemed incomplete, the authority must
277	specifically identify the missing information. An application is
278	deemed complete if the authority fails to provide notification
279	to the applicant within 14 days.
280	8. An application must be processed on a nondiscriminatory
281	basis. A complete application is deemed approved if an authority
282	fails to approve or deny the application within 60 days after
283	receipt of the application. If an authority does not use the 30-
284	day negotiation period provided in subparagraph 4., the parties
285	may mutually agree to extend the 60-day application review
286	period. The authority must grant or deny the application at the
287	end of the extended period. A permit issued pursuant to an
288	approved application remains effective for 1 year unless
289	extended by the authority.
290	9. An authority must notify the applicant of approval or

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291	denial by electronic mail. An authority must approve a complete
292	application unless it does not meet the authority's applicable
293	codes. If the application is denied, the authority must specify
294	in writing the basis for denial, including the specific code
295	provisions on which the denial was based, and send the
296	documentation to the applicant by electronic mail on the day the
297	authority denies the application. The applicant may cure the
298	deficiencies identified by the authority and resubmit the
299	application within 30 days after notice of the denial is sent to
300	the applicant. The authority must approve or deny the revised
301	application within 30 days after receipt or the application is
302	deemed approved. Any subsequent review shall be limited to the
303	deficiencies cited in the denial.
304	10. An applicant seeking to collocate small wireless
305	facilities within the jurisdiction of a single authority may, at
306	the applicant's discretion, file a consolidated application and
307	receive a single permit for the collocation of no more than 30
308	small wireless facilities. If the application includes multiple
309	small wireless facilities, an authority may remove small
310	wireless facility collocations from the application and treat
311	separately small wireless facility collocations for which
312	incomplete information has been received or which are denied.
313	11. An authority may deny a proposed collocation of a small
314	wireless facility in the public rights-of-way if the proposed
315	collocation:
316	a. Materially interferes with the safe operation of traffic
317	control equipment.
318	b. Materially interferes with sight lines or clear zones
319	for transportation, pedestrians, or public safety purposes.
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320	c. Materially interferes with compliance with the Americans
321	with Disabilities Act or similar federal or state standards
322	regarding pedestrian access or movement.
323	d. Materially fails to comply with the 2010 edition of the
324	Florida Department of Transportation Utility Accommodation
325	Manual.
326	e. Fails to comply with applicable codes.
327	12. An authority may adopt by ordinance provisions for
328	registration, permitting, insurance coverage, indemnification,
329	performance bonds, security funds, force majeure, abandonment,
330	authority liability, or authority warranties. Such provisions
331	must be reasonable and nondiscriminatory.
332	13. Collocation of a small wireless facility on an
333	authority utility pole may not provide the basis for the
334	imposition of an ad valorem tax on the authority utility pole.
335	14. An authority may reserve space on authority utility
336	poles for future public safety uses. However, a reservation of
337	space may not preclude collocation of a small wireless facility.
338	If replacement of the authority utility pole is necessary to
339	accommodate the collocation of the small wireless facility and
340	the future public safety use, the pole replacement is subject to
341	make-ready provisions, and the replaced pole shall accommodate
342	the future public safety use.
343	15. Any structure granted a permit and installed pursuant
344	to this subsection must comply with chapter 333 and federal
345	regulations pertaining to airport airspace protections.
346	(e) An authority may not require approval of or impose fees
347	or other charges for:
348	1. Routine maintenance;

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349	2. Replacement of existing wireless facilities with
350	wireless facilities that are substantially similar or of the
351	same or smaller size; or
352	3. Installation, placement, maintenance, or replacement of
353	micro wireless facilities suspended on cables strung between
354	existing utility poles in compliance with applicable codes by a
355	communications service provider authorized to occupy the rights-
356	of-way and who is remitting taxes under chapter 202.
357	
358	However, notwithstanding this paragraph, an authority may
359	require a right-of-way permit for work that involves excavation,
360	closing a sidewalk, or closing a vehicular lane.
361	(f) Collocation of small wireless facilities on authority
362	utility poles is subject to the following requirements:
363	1. An authority may not enter into an exclusive arrangement
364	with any person for the right to attach equipment to authority
365	utility poles.
366	2. The rates and fees for collocations on authority utility
367	poles must be nondiscriminatory, regardless of the services
368	provided by the collocating person.
369	3. The rate to collocate small wireless facilities on
370	authority utility poles may not exceed \$100 per year.
371	4. Agreements between authorities and wireless providers
372	which are in effect on July 1, 2017, and which relate to the
373	collocation of small wireless facilities in the right-of-way,
374	including the collocation of small wireless facilities on
375	authority utility poles, remain in effect, subject to applicable
376	termination provisions. The wireless provider may accept the
377	rates, fees, and terms established under this subsection for

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378	small wireless facilities and utility poles that are the subject
379	of an application submitted after the rates, fees, and terms
380	become effective.
381	5. A person owning or controlling an authority utility pole
382	shall offer rates, fees, and other terms that comply with this
383	subsection. By the later of January 1, 2018, or 3 months after
384	receiving a request to collocate its first small wireless
385	facility on a utility pole owned or controlled by an authority,
386	the person owning or controlling the authority utility pole
387	shall make available, through ordinance or otherwise, rates,
388	fees, and terms for the collocation of small wireless facilities
389	on the authority utility pole which comply with this subsection.
390	a. The rates, fees, and terms must be nondiscriminatory,
391	competitively neutral, and must comply with this subsection.
392	b. For an authority utility pole that supports an aerial
393	facility used to provide communications services or electric
394	service, the parties shall comply with the process for make-
395	ready work under 47 U.S.C. s. 224 and implementing regulations.
396	The good faith estimate of the person owning or controlling the
397	pole for any make-ready work necessary to enable the pole to
398	support the requested collocation must include pole replacement
399	if necessary.
400	c. For an authority utility pole that does not support an
401	aerial facility used to provide communications services or
402	electric service, the authority shall provide a good faith
403	estimate for any make-ready work necessary to enable the pole to
404	support the requested collocation, including necessary pole
405	replacement, within 60 days after receipt of a complete
406	application. Make-ready work, including any pole replacement,

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407	must be completed within 60 days after written acceptance of the
408	good faith estimate by the applicant. Alternatively, an
409	authority may require the applicant seeking to collocate a small
410	wireless facility to provide a make-ready estimate at the
411	applicant's expense for the work necessary to support the small
412	wireless facility, including pole replacement, and to perform
413	the make-ready work. If pole replacement is required, the scope
414	of the make-ready estimate is limited to the design,
415	fabrication, and installation of a utility pole that is
416	substantially similar in color and composition. The authority
417	may not impose conditions on or restrict the manner in which the
418	applicant obtains, develops, or provides the estimate or
419	conducts the make-ready work subject to usual construction
420	restoration standards for work in the right-of-way. The replaced
421	or altered utility pole shall remain the property of the
422	authority.
423	d. An authority may not require more make-ready work than
424	is required to meet applicable codes or industry standards. Fees
425	for make-ready work may not include costs related to preexisting
426	damage or prior noncompliance. Fees for make-ready work,
427	including any pole replacement, may not exceed actual costs or
428	the amount charged to communications service providers other
429	than wireless services providers for similar work and may not
430	include any consultant fee or expense.
431	(g) For any applications filed before the effective dates
432	of ordinances implementing this subsection, an authority may
433	apply current ordinances regulating the placement of
434	communications facilities in the right-of-way, including
435	registration, permitting, insurance coverage, indemnification,

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436	performance bonds, security funds, force majeure, abandonment,
437	authority liability, or authority warranties. Permit application
438	requirements and small wireless facility placement requirements,
439	including utility pole height limits, which conflict with this
440	subsection shall be waived by the authority.
441	(h) Except as provided in this section or specifically
442	required by state law, an authority may not adopt or enforce any
443	regulation on the placement or operation of communications
444	facilities in the rights-of-way by a provider authorized by
445	state law to operate in the rights-of-way and may not regulate
446	any communications services or impose or collect any tax, fee,
447	or charge not specifically authorized under state law. This
448	paragraph is not intended to change state law regarding an
449	authority's ability to regulate the relocation of facilities.
450	(i) A wireless provider shall, in relation to a small
451	wireless facility, utility pole, or wireless support structure
452	in the public rights-of-way, comply with nondiscriminatory
453	undergrounding requirements of the authority which prohibit
454	above-ground structures in public rights-of-way. Any such
455	requirements may be waived by the relevant authority.
456	(j) A wireless infrastructure provider may apply to an
457	authority to place utility poles in the public rights-of-way to
458	support the collocation of small wireless facilities. The
459	application must include an attestation that small wireless
460	facilities will be collocated on the utility pole or structure
461	and small wireless facilities will be used by a wireless
462	services provider to provide service within 9 months from the
463	date the application is granted. An authority shall accept and
464	process the application in accordance with subparagraph (d)6.

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465	and any applicable codes and other local codes governing the
466	placement of utility poles in the public rights-of-way.
467	(k) This subsection does not limit a local government's
468	authority to enforce historic preservation zoning regulations
469	consistent with the preservation of local zoning authority under
470	47 U.S.C s. 332(c)(7), the requirements for facility
471	modifications under 47 U.S.C. s. 1455(a), or the National
472	Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and the
473	regulations adopted to implement these laws. An authority may
474	enforce local pending ordinances or administrative rules or
475	regulations that are applicable to a historic area designated by
476	the state or authority and subject to waiver by the authority if
477	the intent to adopt regulation or zoning changes has been
478	publicly declared on or before April 1, 2017.
479	(1) This subsection does not authorize a person to
480	collocate or attach wireless facilities, including any antenna,
481	micro wireless facility, or small wireless facility, on a
482	privately owned utility pole, a utility pole owned by an
483	electric cooperative or a municipal electric utility, a
484	privately owned wireless support structure, or other private
485	property without the consent of the property owner.
486	(m) The approval of the installation, placement,
487	maintenance, or operation of a small wireless facility pursuant
488	to this subsection may not be construed to authorize the
489	provision of any voice, data, or video communications services
490	or the installation, placement, maintenance, or operation of any
491	communications facilities other than small wireless facilities
492	in the right-of-way.
493	(n) This subsection does not affect the provisions of

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494	subsection (6) relating to pass-through providers.
495	(o) This subsection does not authorize a person to
496	collocate or attach small wireless facilities or micro wireless
497	facilities on a utility pole unless otherwise permitted by
498	federal law, or to erect a wireless support structure in the
499	right-of-way located within a retirement community that:
500	1. Is deed-restricted as housing for older persons as
501	defined in s. 760.29(4)(b);
502	2. Has more than 5,000 residents; and
503	3. Has underground utilities for electric transmission or
504	distribution.
505	
506	Nothing in this paragraph applies to the installation of micro
507	wireless facilities on any existing and duly authorized aerial
508	communications facilities, provided that once aerial facilities
509	are converted to underground, any such collocation or
510	construction shall be only as provided by the municipality's
511	underground utilities ordinance.
512	(p) This subsection does not authorize a person to
513	collocate or attach small wireless facilities or micro wireless
514	facilities on a utility pole unless otherwise permitted by
515	federal law, or to erect a wireless support structure in the
516	right-of-way located within a municipality that:
517	1. Is located on a coastal barrier island as defined in s.
518	<u>161.053(1)(b)3.;</u>
519	2. Has a land area of less than 5 square miles;
520	3. Has fewer than 10,000 residents; and
521	4. Which has, before the adoption of this act, received
522	referendum approval to issue debt to finance municipality-wide
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523	undergrounding of its utilities for electric transmission or
524	distribution.
525	
526	Nothing in this paragraph applies to the installation of micro
527	wireless facilities on any existing and duly authorized aerial
528	communications facilities, provided that once aerial facilities
529	are converted to underground, any such collocation or
530	construction shall be only as provided by the municipality's
531	underground utilities ordinance.
532	(q) This subsection does not authorize a person to
533	collocate or attach small wireless facilities or micro wireless
534	facilities on a utility pole unless otherwise permitted by
535	federal law, or to erect a wireless support structure in the
536	right-of-way, which do not comply with the covenants,
537	conditions, and restrictions; articles of incorporation; and by
538	laws applicable to the proposed location.
539	Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.

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