

Amendment No.

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE 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WITHDRAWN _____ (Y/N)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: Government Accountability
2 Committee

3 Representative La Rosa offered the following:

4

5 **Amendment (with title amendment)**

6 Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:

7 Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 11.40, Florida

8 Statutes, is amended to read:

9 11.40 Legislative Auditing Committee.—

10 (2) Following notification by the Auditor General, the
11 Department of Financial Services, ~~or~~ the Division of Bond
12 Finance of the State Board of Administration, the Governor or
13 his or her designee, or the Commissioner of Education or his or
14 her designee of the failure of a local governmental entity,
15 district school board, charter school, or charter technical
16 career center to comply with the applicable provisions within s.

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17 11.45(5)-(7), s. 218.32(1), s. 218.38, or s. 218.503(3), the
18 Legislative Auditing Committee shall ~~may~~ schedule a hearing to
19 determine if the entity should be subject to further state
20 action. If the committee determines that the entity should be
21 subject to further state action, the committee shall:

22 (a) In the case of a local governmental entity or district
23 school board, direct the Department of Revenue and the
24 Department of Financial Services to withhold any funds not
25 pledged for bond debt service satisfaction which are payable to
26 such entity until the entity complies with the law. The
27 committee shall specify the date that such action must ~~shall~~
28 begin, and the directive must be received by the Department of
29 Revenue and the Department of Financial Services 30 days before
30 the date of the distribution mandated by law. The Department of
31 Revenue and the Department of Financial Services may implement
32 ~~the provisions of~~ this paragraph.

33 (b) In the case of a special district created by:

34 1. A special act, notify the President of the Senate, the
35 Speaker of the House of Representatives, the standing committees
36 of the Senate and the House of Representatives charged with
37 special district oversight as determined by the presiding
38 officers of each respective chamber, the legislators who
39 represent a portion of the geographical jurisdiction of the
40 special district, and the Department of Economic Opportunity
41 that the special district has failed to comply with the law.

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42 Upon receipt of notification, the Department of Economic
43 Opportunity shall proceed pursuant to s. 189.062 or s. 189.067.
44 If the special district remains in noncompliance after the
45 process set forth in s. 189.0651, or if a public hearing is not
46 held, the Legislative Auditing Committee may request the
47 department to proceed pursuant to s. 189.067(3).

48 2. A local ordinance, notify the chair or equivalent of
49 the local general-purpose government pursuant to s. 189.0652 and
50 the Department of Economic Opportunity that the special district
51 has failed to comply with the law. Upon receipt of notification,
52 the department shall proceed pursuant to s. 189.062 or s.
53 189.067. If the special district remains in noncompliance after
54 the process set forth in s. 189.0652, or if a public hearing is
55 not held, the Legislative Auditing Committee may request the
56 department to proceed pursuant to s. 189.067(3).

57 3. Any manner other than a special act or local ordinance,
58 notify the Department of Economic Opportunity that the special
59 district has failed to comply with the law. Upon receipt of
60 notification, the department shall proceed pursuant to s.
61 189.062 or s. 189.067(3).

62 (c) In the case of a charter school or charter technical
63 career center, notify the appropriate sponsoring entity, which
64 may terminate the charter pursuant to ss. 1002.33 and 1002.34.
65

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66 Section 2. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section
67 129.03, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (d) is added
68 to that subsection, to read:

69 129.03 Preparation and adoption of budget.—

70 (3) The county budget officer, after tentatively
71 ascertaining the proposed fiscal policies of the board for the
72 next fiscal year, shall prepare and present to the board a
73 tentative budget for the next fiscal year for each of the funds
74 provided in this chapter, including all estimated receipts,
75 taxes to be levied, and balances expected to be brought forward
76 and all estimated expenditures, reserves, and balances to be
77 carried over at the end of the year.

78 (c) The board shall hold public hearings to adopt
79 tentative and final budgets pursuant to s. 200.065. The hearings
80 shall be primarily for the purpose of hearing requests and
81 complaints from the public regarding the budgets and the
82 proposed tax levies and for explaining the budget and any
83 proposed or adopted amendments. The tentative budget must be
84 posted on the county's official website at least 2 days before
85 the public hearing to consider such budget and must remain on
86 the website for at least 45 days. The final budget must be
87 posted on the website within 30 days after adoption and must
88 remain on the website for at least 2 years. The tentative
89 budgets, adopted tentative budgets, and final budgets shall be
90 filed in the office of the county auditor as a public record.

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Published On: 2/21/2018 5:02:01 PM

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91 Sufficient reference in words and figures to identify the
92 particular transactions must ~~shall~~ be made in the minutes of the
93 board to record its actions with reference to the budgets.

94 (d) Beginning in the 2018-2019 fiscal year, the county
95 budget officer shall electronically submit information regarding
96 the final budget to the Office of Economic and Demographic
97 Research within 30 days after adoption of the final budget in
98 the format specified by the office. If the Governor declares a
99 state of emergency pursuant to s. 252.36(2) within 30 days after
100 the submission deadline, the office may extend the deadline up
101 to an additional 90 days. The county budget officer shall also
102 electronically submit to the clerk of the court:

103 1. A copy of the information that was submitted to the
104 office.

105 2. A copy of the final budget that was posted on the
106 county's website.

107 3. A statement certifying that the items in subparagraphs
108 1. and 2. were timely submitted and posted.

109 Section 3. Subsection (16) of section 165.0615, Florida
110 Statutes, is amended to read:

111 165.0615 Municipal conversion of independent special
112 districts upon elector-initiated and approved referendum.—

113 (16) If the incorporation plan is approved by a majority
114 of the votes cast in the independent special district, the
115 district shall notify the Special District Accountability

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116 Program pursuant to s. 189.016(2) and the local general-purpose
117 governments in which any part of the independent special
118 district is situated pursuant to s. 189.016(8) ~~s. 189.016(7)~~.

119 Section 4. Subsections (4) and (5) of section 166.241,
120 Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (5) and (6),
121 respectively, subsection (3) and present subsection (5) are
122 amended, and a new subsection (4) is added to that section, to
123 read:

124 166.241 Fiscal years, budgets, and budget amendments.—

125 (3) The tentative budget must be posted on the
126 municipality's official website at least 2 days before the
127 budget hearing, held pursuant to s. 200.065 or other law, to
128 consider such budget and must remain on the website for at least
129 45 days. The final adopted budget must be posted on the
130 municipality's official website within 30 days after adoption
131 and must remain on the website for at least 2 years. If the
132 municipality does not operate an official website, the
133 municipality must, within a reasonable period of time as
134 established by the county or counties in which the municipality
135 is located, transmit the tentative budget and final budget to
136 the manager or administrator of such county or counties who
137 shall post the budgets on the county's website.

138 (4) Beginning in the 2018-2019 fiscal year, the
139 municipality budget officer shall electronically submit
140 information regarding the final budget to the Office of Economic

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141 and Demographic Research within 30 days after adoption of the
142 final budget in the format specified by the office. If the
143 Governor declares a state of emergency pursuant to s. 252.36(2)
144 within 30 days after the submission deadline, the office may
145 extend the deadline up to an additional 90 days. The
146 municipality budget officer shall also electronically submit to
147 the clerk of the court:

148 (a) A copy of the information that was submitted to the
149 office.

150 (b) A copy of the final budget that was posted on the
151 municipality's website.

152 (c) A statement certifying that the items in paragraphs
153 (a) and (b) were timely submitted and posted.

154 (6)-(5) If the governing body of a municipality amends the
155 budget pursuant to paragraph (5)(c) ~~paragraph (4)(c)~~, the
156 adopted amendment must be posted on the official website of the
157 municipality within 5 days after adoption and must remain on the
158 website for at least 2 years. If the municipality does not
159 operate an official website, the municipality must, within a
160 reasonable period of time as established by the county or
161 counties in which the municipality is located, transmit the
162 adopted amendment to the manager or administrator of such county
163 or counties who shall post the adopted amendment on the county's
164 website.

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165 Section 5. Subsections (5) through (10) of section 189.016,
166 Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (6) through
167 (11), respectively, present subsections (7) and (10) are
168 amended, and a new subsection (5) is added to that section, to
169 read:

170 (5) Beginning in the 2018-2019 fiscal year, the special
171 district budget officer shall electronically submit information
172 regarding the final budget to the Office of Economic and
173 Demographic Research within 30 days after adoption of the final
174 budget in the reporting format specified by the office. If the
175 Governor declares a state of emergency under s. 252.36(2) within
176 30 days after the submission deadline for the final budget, the
177 office may extend the deadline up to an additional 90 days. The
178 special district budget officer shall also electronically submit
179 to the clerk of the court:

180 (a) A copy of the information that was submitted to the
181 office.

182 (b) A copy of the final budget that was posted on the
183 special district's website.

184 (c) A statement certifying that the items in paragraphs
185 (a) and (b) were timely submitted and posted.

186 (8)~~(7)~~ If the governing body of a special district amends
187 the budget pursuant to paragraph (7)(c) ~~paragraph (6)(e)~~, the
188 adopted amendment must be posted on the official website of the
189 special district within 5 days after adoption and must remain on

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190 the website for at least 2 years.

191 ~~(11)(10)~~ All reports or information required to be filed
192 with a local general-purpose government or governing authority
193 under ss. 189.014, 189.015, and 189.08 and subsection (9)
194 ~~subsection (8)~~ must:

195 (a) If the local general-purpose government or governing
196 authority is a county, be filed with the clerk of the board of
197 county commissioners.

198 (b) If the district is a multicounty district, be filed
199 with the clerk of the county commission in each county.

200 (c) If the local general-purpose government or governing
201 authority is a municipality, be filed at the place designated by
202 the municipal governing body.

203 Section 6. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 189.066,
204 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

205 189.066 Effect of failure to file certain reports or
206 information.—

207 (1) If an independent special district fails to file the
208 reports or information required under s. 189.014, s. 189.015, s.
209 189.016(10) ~~s. 189.016(9)~~, or s. 189.08 with the local general-
210 purpose government or governments in which it is located, the
211 person authorized to receive and read the reports or information
212 or the local general-purpose government shall notify the
213 district's registered agent. If requested by the district, the
214 local general-purpose government shall grant an extension of up

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215 to 30 days for filing the required reports or information. If
216 the governing body of the local general-purpose government or
217 governments determines that there has been an unjustified
218 failure to file these reports or information, it shall notify
219 the department, and the department may proceed pursuant to s.
220 189.067(1).

221 (2) If a dependent special district fails to file the
222 reports or information required under s. 189.014, s. 189.015, or
223 s. 189.016(10) ~~s. 189.016(9)~~ with the local governing authority
224 to which it is dependent, the local governing authority shall
225 take whatever steps it deems necessary to enforce the special
226 district's accountability. Such steps may include, as
227 authorized, withholding funds, removing governing body members
228 at will, vetoing the special district's budget, conducting the
229 oversight review process set forth in s. 189.068, or amending,
230 merging, or dissolving the special district in accordance with
231 the provisions contained in the ordinance that created the
232 dependent special district.

233 Section 7. Paragraph (e) of subsection (2) and paragraph
234 (g) of subsection (3) of section 189.074, Florida Statutes, are
235 amended to read:

236 189.074 Voluntary merger of independent special
237 districts.—Two or more contiguous independent special districts
238 created by special act which have similar functions and elected
239 governing bodies may elect to merge into a single independent

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240 district through the act of merging the component independent
241 special districts.

242 (2) JOINT MERGER PLAN BY RESOLUTION.—The governing bodies
243 of two or more contiguous independent special districts may, by
244 joint resolution, endorse a proposed joint merger plan to
245 commence proceedings to merge the districts pursuant to this
246 section.

247 (e) After the final public hearing, the governing bodies
248 shall notify the supervisors of elections of the applicable
249 counties in which district lands are located of the adoption of
250 the resolution by each governing body. The supervisors of
251 elections shall schedule a separate referendum for each
252 component independent special district. The referenda may be
253 held in each district on the same day, or on different days, but
254 no more than 20 days apart.

255 1. Notice of a referendum on the merger of independent
256 special districts must be provided pursuant to the notice
257 requirements in s. 100.342. At a minimum, the notice must
258 include:

259 a. A brief summary of the resolution and joint merger
260 plan;

261 b. A statement as to where a copy of the resolution and
262 joint merger plan may be examined;

263 c. The names of the component independent special
264 districts to be merged and a description of their territory;

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265 d. The times and places at which the referendum will be
266 held; and

267 e. Such other matters as may be necessary to call, provide
268 for, and give notice of the referendum and to provide for the
269 conduct thereof and the canvass of the returns.

270 2. The referenda must be held in accordance with the
271 Florida Election Code and may be held pursuant to ss. 101.6101-
272 101.6107. All costs associated with the referenda shall be borne
273 by the respective component independent special district.

274 3. The ballot question in such referendum placed before
275 the qualified electors of each component independent special
276 district to be merged must be in substantially the following
277 form:

278 "Shall ...(name of component independent special
279 district)... and ...(name of component independent special
280 district or districts)... be merged into ...(name of newly
281 merged independent district)...?"

282YES

283NO"

284 4. If the component independent special districts
285 proposing to merge have disparate millage rates, the ballot
286 question in the referendum placed before the qualified electors
287 of each component independent special district must be in
288 substantially the following form:

289 "Shall ...(name of component independent special

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290 district)... and ...(name of component independent special
291 district or districts)... be merged into ...(name of newly
292 merged independent district)... if the voter-approved maximum
293 millage rate within each independent special district will not
294 increase absent a subsequent referendum?

295YES

296NO"

297 5. In any referendum held pursuant to this section, the
298 ballots shall be counted, returns made and canvassed, and
299 results certified in the same manner as other elections or
300 referenda for the component independent special districts.

301 6. The merger may not take effect unless a majority of the
302 votes cast in each component independent special district are in
303 favor of the merger. If one of the component districts does not
304 obtain a majority vote, the referendum fails, and merger does
305 not take effect.

306 7. If the merger is approved by a majority of the votes
307 cast in each component independent special district, the merged
308 independent district is created. Upon approval, the merged
309 independent district shall notify the Special District
310 Accountability Program pursuant to s. 189.016(2) and the local
311 general-purpose governments in which any part of the component
312 independent special districts is situated pursuant to s.
313 189.016(8) ~~s. 189.016(7)~~.

314 8. If the referendum fails, the merger process under this

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315 subsection may not be initiated for the same purpose within 2
316 years after the date of the referendum.

317 (3) QUALIFIED ELECTOR-INITIATED MERGER PLAN.—The qualified
318 electors of two or more contiguous independent special districts
319 may commence a merger proceeding by each filing a petition with
320 the governing body of their respective independent special
321 district proposing to be merged. The petition must contain the
322 signatures of at least 40 percent of the qualified electors of
323 each component independent special district and must be
324 submitted to the appropriate component independent special
325 district governing body no later than 1 year after the start of
326 the qualified elector-initiated merger process.

327 (g) After the final public hearing, the governing bodies
328 shall notify the supervisors of elections of the applicable
329 counties in which district lands are located of the adoption of
330 the resolution by each governing body. The supervisors of
331 elections shall schedule a date for the separate referenda for
332 each district. The referenda may be held in each district on the
333 same day, or on different days, but no more than 20 days apart.

334 1. Notice of a referendum on the merger of the component
335 independent special districts must be provided pursuant to the
336 notice requirements in s. 100.342. At a minimum, the notice must
337 include:

338 a. A brief summary of the resolution and elector-initiated
339 merger plan;

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340 b. A statement as to where a copy of the resolution and
341 petition for merger may be examined;

342 c. The names of the component independent special
343 districts to be merged and a description of their territory;

344 d. The times and places at which the referendum will be
345 held; and

346 e. Such other matters as may be necessary to call, provide
347 for, and give notice of the referendum and to provide for the
348 conduct thereof and the canvass of the returns.

349 2. The referenda must be held in accordance with the
350 Florida Election Code and may be held pursuant to ss. 101.6101-
351 101.6107. All costs associated with the referenda shall be borne
352 by the respective component independent special district.

353 3. The ballot question in such referendum placed before
354 the qualified electors of each component independent special
355 district to be merged must be in substantially the following
356 form:

357 "Shall ...(name of component independent special
358 district)... and ...(name of component independent special
359 district or districts)... be merged into ...(name of newly
360 merged independent district)...?"

361 YES

362 NO"

363 4. If the component independent special districts
364 proposing to merge have disparate millage rates, the ballot

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365 question in the referendum placed before the qualified electors
366 of each component independent special district must be in
367 substantially the following form:

368 "Shall ...(name of component independent special
369 district)... and ...(name of component independent special
370 district or districts)... be merged into ...(name of newly
371 merged independent district)... if the voter-approved maximum
372 millage rate within each independent special district will not
373 increase absent a subsequent referendum?

374YES

375NO"

376 5. In any referendum held pursuant to this section, the
377 ballots shall be counted, returns made and canvassed, and
378 results certified in the same manner as other elections or
379 referenda for the component independent special districts.

380 6. The merger may not take effect unless a majority of the
381 votes cast in each component independent special district are in
382 favor of the merger. If one of the component independent special
383 districts does not obtain a majority vote, the referendum fails,
384 and merger does not take effect.

385 7. If the merger is approved by a majority of the votes
386 cast in each component independent special district, the merged
387 district shall notify the Special District Accountability
388 Program pursuant to s. 189.016(2) and the local general-purpose
389 governments in which any part of the component independent

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390 special districts is situated pursuant to s. 189.016(8) ~~s.~~
391 ~~189.016(7)~~.

392 8. If the referendum fails, the merger process under this
393 subsection may not be initiated for the same purpose within 2
394 years after the date of the referendum.

395 Section 8. Subsection (3) of section 218.32, Florida
396 Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (4), paragraph (f) of
397 subsection (1) is amended, paragraph (h) is added to that
398 subsection, and a new subsection (3) is added to that section,
399 to read:

400 218.32 Annual financial reports; local governmental
401 entities.—

402 (1)

403 (f) If the department does not receive a completed annual
404 financial report from a local governmental entity within the
405 required period, it shall notify the Legislative Auditing
406 Committee and the Special District Accountability Program of the
407 Department of Economic Opportunity by April 30 of the entity's
408 failure to comply with the reporting requirements.

409 (h) Beginning in the 2018-2019 fiscal year and
410 notwithstanding any other penalty or remedy provided by law, if
411 a local governmental entity fails to submit information to the
412 clerk of the court as required under s. 129.03(3)(d), s.
413 166.241(4), or s. 189.016(5), as applicable, the clerk of the
414 court shall notify the appropriate local fiscal officer to

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415 suspend future salary payments for the head of that local
416 governmental entity. The clerk shall notify the appropriate
417 local fiscal officer to resume payments when the clerk receives
418 the information.

419 (3) No later than 12 months after the end of the most
420 recently completed fiscal year, the department shall post on its
421 website the annual financial report for each local governmental
422 entity and independent special district that is required to
423 submit an annual financial report pursuant to subsection (1).

424 Section 9. Paragraphs (b), (c), (g), and (h) of subsection
425 (1) of section 218.39, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
426 218.39 Annual financial audit reports.—

427 (1) If, by the first day in any fiscal year, a local
428 governmental entity, district school board, charter school, or
429 charter technical career center has not been notified that a
430 financial audit for that fiscal year will be performed by the
431 Auditor General, each of the following entities shall have an
432 annual financial audit of its accounts and records completed
433 within 9 months after the end of its fiscal year by an
434 independent certified public accountant retained by it and paid
435 from its public funds:

436 (b) Any municipality with revenues or the total of
437 expenditures and expenses in excess of \$250,000, as reported on
438 the fund financial statements, and each municipality beginning
439 in the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

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440 (c) Any special district with revenues or the total of
441 expenditures and expenses in excess of \$100,000, as reported on
442 the fund financial statements, and each special district
443 beginning in the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

444 ~~(g) Each municipality with revenues or the total of~~
445 ~~expenditures and expenses between \$100,000 and \$250,000, as~~
446 ~~reported on the fund financial statements, which has not been~~
447 ~~subject to a financial audit pursuant to this subsection for the~~
448 ~~2 preceding fiscal years.~~

449 ~~(h) Each special district with revenues or the total of~~
450 ~~expenditures and expenses between \$50,000 and \$100,000, as~~
451 ~~reported on the fund financial statement, which has not been~~
452 ~~subject to a financial audit pursuant to this subsection for the~~
453 ~~2 preceding fiscal years.~~

454 Section 10. Paragraph (d) of subsection (6) of section
455 373.536, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraphs (e) and
456 (f) are added to that subsection, to read:

457 373.536 District budget and hearing thereon.—

458 (6) FINAL BUDGET; ANNUAL AUDIT; CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN;
459 WATER RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT WORK PROGRAM.—

460 (d) The final adopted budget must be posted on the water
461 management district's official website within 30 days after
462 adoption and must remain on the website for at least 2 years.

463 (e) Beginning in the 2018-2019 fiscal year, the water
464 management district budget officer shall electronically submit

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465 information regarding the final budget to the Office of Economic
466 and Demographic Research within 30 days after adoption of the
467 final budget in the format specified by the office. If the
468 Governor declares a state of emergency under s. 252.36(2) within
469 30 days after the submission deadline, the office may extend the
470 deadline up to an additional 90 days. The water management
471 district budget officer shall also electronically submit to the
472 clerk of the court in each county in which the district
473 operates:

474 1. A copy of the information that was submitted to the
475 office.

476 2. A copy of the final budget that was posted on the water
477 management district's website.

478 3. A statement certifying that the items in subparagraphs
479 1. and 2. were timely submitted and posted.

480 (f) Beginning in the 2018-2019 fiscal year and
481 notwithstanding any other penalty or remedy that may be
482 authorized by law, if a water management district budget officer
483 fails to submit information to the clerk of the court as
484 required in paragraph (e), the clerk of the court shall notify
485 the appropriate fiscal officer to suspend future salary payments
486 for the executive director of that district. The clerk shall
487 notify the fiscal officer to resume payments when the clerk
488 receives the information.

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489 Section 11. Subsection (5) of section 1011.03, Florida
490 Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (6), subsection (4) is
491 amended, and a new subsection (5) is added to that section, to
492 read:

493 1011.03 Public hearings; budget submissions; penalties to
494 ~~be submitted to Department of Education.~~

495 (4) The board shall hold public hearings to adopt
496 tentative and final budgets pursuant to s. 200.065. The hearings
497 shall be primarily for the purpose of hearing requests and
498 complaints from the public regarding the budgets and the
499 proposed tax levies and for explaining the budget and proposed
500 or adopted amendments thereto, if any. The tentative budget must
501 be posted on the district's official website at least 2 days
502 before the budget hearing held pursuant to s. 200.065 or other
503 law. The final adopted budget must be posted on the district's
504 official website within 30 days after adoption and must remain
505 on the website for 2 years. The board shall require the
506 superintendent to transmit two copies of the adopted budget to
507 the Department of Education as prescribed by law and rules of
508 the State Board of Education.

509 (5) (a) Beginning in the 2018-2019 fiscal year, the
510 district school board budget officer shall electronically submit
511 information regarding the final budget to the Office of Economic
512 and Demographic Research within 30 days after adoption of the
513 final budget in the format specified by the office. If the

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514 Governor declares a state of emergency under s. 252.36(2) within
515 30 days after the submission deadline for the final budget, the
516 office may extend the deadline up to an additional 90 days. The
517 district school board budget officer shall also electronically
518 submit to the clerk of the court:

519 1. A copy of the information that was submitted to the
520 office.

521 2. A copy of the final budget that was posted on the
522 district school board's website.

523 3. A statement certifying that the items in subparagraphs
524 1. and 2. were timely submitted and posted.

525 (b) Beginning in the 2018-2019 fiscal year and
526 notwithstanding any other penalty or remedy that may be
527 authorized by law, if the district school board budget officer
528 fails to submit information to the clerk of the court as
529 required in paragraph (a) or s. 1011.60, the clerk of the court
530 shall notify the appropriate fiscal officer to suspend future
531 salary payments for the superintendent of that district school
532 board. The clerk shall notify the appropriate fiscal officer to
533 resume payments when the clerk receives the information.

534 Section 12. Subsection (1) of section 1011.60, Florida
535 Statutes, is amended to read:

536 1011.60 Minimum requirements of the Florida Education
537 Finance Program.—Each district which participates in the state
538 appropriations for the Florida Education Finance Program shall

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539 provide evidence of its effort to maintain an adequate school
540 program throughout the district and shall meet at least the
541 following requirements:

542 (1) ACCOUNTS AND REPORTS.—Maintain adequate and accurate
543 records, including a system of internal accounts for individual
544 schools, and file with the Department of Education, in correct
545 and proper form on or before the date due as fixed by law or
546 rule, each annual or periodic report that is required by rules
547 of the State Board of Education. A district school board that
548 submits an annual financial report to the department must also
549 electronically submit to the clerk of the court a copy of the
550 report with a statement certifying that the report was timely
551 filed with the department.

552 Section 13. (1) By July 15, 2018, the Office of Economic
553 and Demographic Research shall prepare forms for use by
554 counties, municipalities, special districts, water management
555 districts, and school districts when submitting information
556 regarding their final budgets to the office. The forms must
557 group existing fiscal information in broad, yet meaningful,
558 categories, but should not create new reporting requirements.

559 (2) By December 1, 2018, the office shall submit a report
560 to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
561 Representatives that:

562 (a) Identifies a structure to create unique area profiles
563 for the counties, municipalities, special districts, water

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564 management districts, and school districts which would assist
565 the public in making simple direct comparisons between the
566 distinct entities.

567 (b) Provides recommendations for metrics for ranking the
568 reporting entities based on the final budget information
569 submitted to the office. The metrics must allow the public to
570 make direct comparisons between the different local governments.

571 (c) Provides recommendations for mechanisms to submit the
572 information in this subsection to the public in a cost-effective
573 manner.

574 Section 14. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.

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577 **T I T L E A M E N D M E N T**

578 Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert:
579 An act relating to financial reporting; amending s. 11.40, F.S.;
580 requiring, rather than authorizing, the Legislative Auditing
581 Committee to schedule hearings concerning certain governmental
582 entities for failure to comply with certain financial audit
583 requirements; amending ss. 129.03, 166.241, and 189.016, F.S.;
584 requiring county, municipality, and special district budget
585 officers to submit certain budget information to specified
586 entities within a specified timeframe; providing an exception;
587 requiring adopted budget amendments and final budgets to remain
588 posted on each entity's official website for a specified period

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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589 of time; conforming cross-references; amending ss. 165.0615,
590 189.066, and 189.074, F.S.; conforming cross-references;
591 amending s. 218.32, F.S.; providing a notification deadline;
592 providing penalties for failure to submit certain financial
593 information; requiring the department to post annual financial
594 reports for certain governmental entities on its website within
595 a specified timeframe; amending s. 218.39, F.S.; requiring
596 municipalities and special districts to have a certain audit
597 performed beginning in a specified fiscal year; providing an
598 exception; amending ss. 373.536 and 1011.03, F.S.; requiring
599 adopted final budgets to remain posted on a water management
600 district's or district school board's official website for a
601 specified period of time; requiring water management district
602 and district school board budget officers to submit certain
603 budget information to the Office of Economic and Demographic
604 Research and specified entities within a specified timeframe;
605 requiring use of a specified form; providing an exception;
606 providing penalties for failure to submit certain budget
607 information; amending s. 1011.60, F.S.; requiring district
608 school boards to submit certain financial information to
609 specified entities within a specified timeframe; requiring the
610 office to develop specified forms for use by local governmental
611 entities in reporting certain budget information; requiring a
612 report to the Legislature by a specified date; providing an
613 effective date.

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Published On: 2/21/2018 5:02:01 PM