

By the Committee on Ethics and Elections; and Senators Steube and Brandes

582-03190-18

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1 A bill to be entitled  
2 An act relating to county and municipal public  
3 officers; amending s. 112.061, F.S.; requiring that  
4 requests for travel authorization by county or  
5 municipal public officers be approved by the governing  
6 body of the county or municipality at a regularly  
7 scheduled meeting; specifying requirements for such  
8 requests; requiring that approved travel be posted on  
9 the county's or municipality's website for a specified  
10 timeframe; providing an exception for county  
11 constitutional officers; providing an effective date.  
12

13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
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15 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section  
16 112.061, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

17 112.061 Per diem and travel expenses of public officers,  
18 employees, and authorized persons.—

19 (3) AUTHORITY TO INCUR TRAVEL EXPENSES.—

20 (a) All travel must be authorized and approved by the head  
21 of the agency, or his or her designated representative, from  
22 whose funds the traveler is paid. The head of the agency shall  
23 not authorize or approve such a request unless:

24 1. It is accompanied by a signed statement by the  
25 traveler's supervisor stating that such travel is on the  
26 official business of the state and also stating the purpose of  
27 such travel.

28 2. For county or municipal public officers requesting  
29 authorization to travel within the state, outside of the state,

582-03190-18

20181180c1

30 or internationally, such travel must be on the official business  
31 of the county or municipality and must be approved by the  
32 county's or municipality's governing body at a regularly  
33 scheduled meeting before the officer's travel, unless ratified  
34 for good cause at the next regularly scheduled meeting. Good  
35 cause requires a written explanation for why the travel request  
36 could not be approved in advance. A request for travel  
37 authorization must include an itemized list detailing all  
38 anticipated travel expenses, including, but not limited to, the  
39 anticipated costs of all means of travel, lodging, and  
40 subsistence. All travel approved in accordance with this  
41 subparagraph must be posted on the county's or municipality's  
42 website. If a municipality does not maintain a website, it must  
43 request that the applicable county post the approved travel on  
44 the county's website. The applicable county must comply with  
45 such request. All such approved travel must be posted on the  
46 applicable website as soon as practicable, but no later than 10  
47 days after approval, and must remain on the website until the  
48 end of the next calendar quarter. This subparagraph does not  
49 apply to a county constitutional officer, as defined in s. 1(d),  
50 Art. VIII of the State Constitution, who is elected by the  
51 electors of the county.

52 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.