



1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to county and municipal public officer  
3           transparency; amending s. 112.061, F.S.; requiring  
4           that 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          period; providing exceptions; requiring a county,  
11          county constitutional officer, or municipality to  
12          adopt a travel policy; requiring a county, county  
13          constitutional officer, or municipality to include  
14          travel expenses as a separate budget item; amending s.  
15          166.021, F.S.; providing that the governing body of a  
16          municipality or an agency thereof which provides a per  
17          diem and travel policy must comply with and is not  
18          exempt from specified provisions; providing an  
19          effective date.

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

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23           Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section  
24   112.061, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsections (16) and  
25   (17) are added to that section, to read:



26 | 112.061 Per diem and travel expenses of public officers,  
27 | employees, and authorized persons.—

28 | (3) AUTHORITY TO INCUR TRAVEL EXPENSES.—

29 | (a)1. All travel must be authorized and approved by the  
30 | head of the agency, or his or her designated representative,  
31 | from whose funds the traveler is paid. The head of the agency  
32 | shall not authorize or approve such a request unless it is  
33 | accompanied by a signed statement by the traveler's supervisor  
34 | stating that such travel is on the official business of the  
35 | state and also stating the purpose of such travel.

36 | 2. Notwithstanding subparagraph 1., for county or  
37 | municipal public officers requesting authorization to travel  
38 | outside of the state or for foreign travel, such travel must be  
39 | on the official business of the county or municipality and must  
40 | be approved by the county's or municipality's governing body at  
41 | a regularly scheduled meeting before the officer's travel,  
42 | unless ratified for good cause at the next regularly scheduled  
43 | meeting. Good cause requires a written explanation for why the  
44 | travel request could not be approved in advance. A request for  
45 | travel authorization must include an itemized list detailing all  
46 | anticipated travel expenses, including, but not limited to, the  
47 | anticipated costs of all means of travel, lodging, and  
48 | subsistence. All travel approved in accordance with this  
49 | subparagraph must be posted on the county's or municipality's  
50 | website. If a municipality does not maintain a website, it must



51 request that the applicable county post the approved travel on  
52 the county's website and the county must comply with such  
53 request. All such approved travel must be posted on the  
54 applicable website as soon as practicable, but no later than 10  
55 days after approval, and must remain on the website until the  
56 end of the next fiscal year. This subparagraph does not apply to  
57 a county constitutional officer, as defined in s. 1(d), Art.  
58 VIII of the State Constitution, who is elected by the electors  
59 of the county.

60 (16) UNIFORM TRAVEL POLICY.—

61 (a) Each county and county constitutional officer as  
62 defined in s. 1(d), Art. VIII of the State Constitution, shall  
63 adopt a uniform travel policy applicable to all public officers  
64 and employees consistent with the provisions of this section.

65 (b) Each municipality shall adopt a uniform travel policy  
66 applicable to all public officers and employees consistent with  
67 the provisions of this section or s. 166.021(9).

68 (17) BUDGET ITEM.—Each county, constitutional officer as  
69 defined in s. 1(d), Art. VIII of the State Constitution, and  
70 municipality shall include a separate line item in the budget  
71 for the county, county constitutional officer, or municipality  
72 for total expenses for travel.

73 Section 2. Paragraph (b) of subsection (9) of section  
74 166.021, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

75 166.021 Powers.—



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76 (9)

77 (b) Notwithstanding s. 112.061, the governing body of a  
78 municipality or an agency thereof may provide for a per diem and  
79 travel expense policy for its travelers which varies from the  
80 provisions of s. 112.061 except that such policy shall comply  
81 with the provisions of s. 112.061(3)(a)2 and (17). Any such  
82 policy provided by a municipality or an agency thereof on  
83 January 1, 2003, shall be valid and in effect for that  
84 municipality or agency thereof until otherwise amended. A  
85 municipality or agency thereof that provides any per diem and  
86 travel expense policy pursuant to this subsection shall be  
87 deemed to be exempt from all provisions of s. 112.061 except for  
88 s. 112.061(3)(a)2. and (17). A municipality or agency thereof  
89 that does not provide a per diem and travel expense policy  
90 pursuant to this subsection remains subject to all provisions of  
91 s. 112.061.

92 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.