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A bill to be entitled
 An act relating to Wakulla County; creating the
 Wakulla County Airport Authority; providing
 legislative findings; providing for purpose of the
 authority and its classification as a dependent
 special district; providing for membership of the
 governing board; providing powers of the authority;
 prohibiting the Authority from expanding beyond
 certain licensing requirements; providing for the
 annual adoption of a budget and reporting and audit
 requirements; prohibiting the authority's levy of ad
 valorem taxes; providing boundaries; providing an
 effective date.

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

Section 1. Short title.—This act may be cited as the
 "Wakulla County Airport Authority Act."

Section 2. Legislative findings.—The Legislature finds and
 declares that:

(1) The purpose of this act is to provide for the creation
 of a special district to be known as the "Wakulla County Airport
 Authority" (Authority) for the purpose of owning, operating,
 maintaining, and improving certain real property and associated
 improvements and facilities collectively comprising the Wakulla

26 | County Airport contingent upon the transfer of the same to the
27 | Authority. The Authority is created as a dependent special
28 | district under the special district classification system
29 | established in chapter 189, Florida Statutes.

30 | (2) There is a particular need to implement a specialized
31 | and limited purpose dependent special district unit of local
32 | government to provide for the ownership, operation, financing,
33 | maintenance, and improvement of the airport and appurtenant
34 | airport facilities, as defined in this act.

35 | (3) The best alternative for creating the Authority is by
36 | special act of the Legislature creating a single dependent
37 | special district meeting the requirements of chapter 189,
38 | Florida Statutes. The airport currently consists of a small,
39 | unmanned landing strip that is primarily utilized by residents
40 | of surrounding residential communities and nearby businesses or
41 | for military use, but is also utilized during storms,
42 | catastrophic events, and other emergencies and is appropriate
43 | for future growth and expansion. The airport is currently owned
44 | and operated by the county as a public-use airport. The
45 | establishment of the Authority as a dependent special district
46 | will allow for the airport to be owned, operated, financed,
47 | maintained, and improved by an entity appointed directly by the
48 | Wakulla County Commission. The airport shall continue to be
49 | operated as a public-use airport and shall continue to benefit
50 | and promote the public health, safety, and welfare of the

51 citizens of Wakulla County and the State of Florida, which is a
52 public and county purpose, and this act shall be liberally
53 construed to effect such purpose. The exercise of the powers
54 granted by this act are for the benefit of the citizens of
55 Wakulla County and the State of Florida in order to improve
56 public health and safety and enhance industry, employment,
57 economic development, military activity, and tourism, all of
58 which constitute essential public functions.

59 (4) A statement and resolution has been submitted to the
60 Legislature by the Board of County Commissioners of Wakulla
61 County in accordance with s. 189.031(2)(e), Florida Statutes,
62 which resolution states the purpose and authority of the
63 proposed Authority, an explanation of why the Authority is the
64 best alternative, and that creation of the Authority is
65 consistent with the approved local government plans of the
66 county and the board of county commissioners supports the
67 creation and continued existence and funding of the Authority.

68 (5) It is the intent and purpose of the Legislature that
69 no debt or obligation of the Authority shall constitute a debt
70 or obligation of Wakulla County or any local, state, federal, or
71 general purpose government without its consent.

72 (6) The Authority, which is a government of special
73 purpose, shall have the authority to exercise all of the powers
74 described in this act and otherwise provided by general law for
75 the express purpose of owning, operating, maintaining, and

76 improving the airport facilities, as defined in this act.
 77 However, the Authority does not have the authority to expand the
 78 airport beyond the minimum licensing requirements of the Federal
 79 Aviation Administration.

80 (7) This act, which shall also constitute the Authority's
 81 charter, may be amended, in whole or in part, only by a
 82 subsequent special act of the Legislature. However, the members
 83 of the governing board of the Authority shall have the authority
 84 to expand or contract the airport through the acquisition or
 85 disposal of real or personal property, which shall not require a
 86 charter amendment or special act of the Legislature. However,
 87 the governing board of the Authority does not have the authority
 88 to expand the airport beyond the minimum licensing requirements
 89 of the Federal Aviation Administration.

90 Section 3. Definitions.—As used in this act, the term:

91 (1) "Airport" means the real property comprising the
 92 Wakulla County Airport, as described by the legal description in
 93 this subsection, and as expanded or contracted from time to time
 94 through the acquisition or disposal of property by the members
 95 of the governing board of the Authority, which property is
 96 designed, used, or suitable for the public use of landing and
 97 takeoff of aircraft, along with any areas designed, used, or
 98 suitable for the shelter, servicing, or repair of aircraft and
 99 the receiving and discharging of passenger and cargo, and all
 100 appurtenant areas designed, used, or suitable for access to

101 airport facilities, buildings, and all rights-of-way. The
102 boundaries of the airport shall be as follows:

103
104 From the Government Meander Corner #261, set at mean
105 High Tide on the North Shore of the Ochlocknee Bay at
106 the West boundary of Section 1, Township 6 South,
107 Range 2 West, run thence N 00° 23' 39" W along the
108 West boundary of said Section 1 the distance of 781
109 feet to the Point of Beginning. From the Point of
110 Beginning thence run W 89° 36' 21" E, the distance of
111 200 feet; thence run Northerly and parallel to the
112 West boundary of said Section 1, to the West R/W line
113 of U.S. Highway No. 98; thence Northerly along the
114 West R/W line of said highway, to the West boundary
115 line of said Section 1; thence Southerly along the
116 West boundary of said Section 1 to the Point of
117 Beginning; and being situated in said Section 1,
118 Township 6 South, Range 2 West, and containing 15
119 acres, more or less.

120
121 (2) "Airport facilities" means airport facilities of all
122 kinds including, but not limited to, runways, taxiways, landing
123 fields, hangars, warehouses, shops, terminals, buildings,
124 lighting, and all other facilities and equipment necessary for
125 the landing, taking off, operating, servicing, repairing, and

126 parking of aircraft, and the unloading and handling of
 127 passengers, cargo, mail, express, and freight, together with all
 128 necessary appurtenances and equipment and all properties,
 129 rights, easements, and franchises relating thereto and deemed
 130 necessary or convenient by the Authority in connection
 131 therewith.

132 (3) "Authority" means the Wakulla County Airport
 133 Authority, the unit of special purpose local government created
 134 by this act.

135 (4) "Authority area" means the geographic area comprising
 136 the Authority, as provided in section 4.

137 (5) "County" means Wakulla County.

138 (6) "Fiscal year" means the period of October 1 to
 139 September 30 each year.

140 (7) "Governing board" means the governing body of the
 141 Authority whose members are appointed as provided in section 6.

142 (8) "Initial member" means a member appointed to the
 143 governing board in accordance with section 6, which member shall
 144 serve on the governing board until such time as the inaugural
 145 appointment of members to the governing board has been made.

146 (9) "Member" means a member of the governing board.
 147 Section 4. Creation; establishment; boundaries of the
 148 authority area.—

149 (1) The Authority is created as a dependent special
 150 district under part II of chapter 189, Florida Statutes. All

151 notices for the enactment by the Legislature of this special act
152 have been provided pursuant to the State Constitution, laws of
153 the state, and the Rules of the Florida House of Representatives
154 and of the Florida Senate.

155 (2) The boundaries of the authority area shall be as
156 follows:

157
158 Commence at the Northwest corner of Section 1,
159 Township 6 South, Range 2 West, Wakulla County,
160 Florida; thence run along the Westerly boundary line
161 of said Section 1, also being the Easterly boundary
162 line of Section 2, Township 6 South, Range 2 West,
163 Wakulla County, Florida, South 00 degrees 28 minutes
164 10 seconds East 856.44 feet to an iron pipe lying on
165 the Southerly right of way line of a 200.00 feet wide
166 right of way known as Coastal Highway, also being
167 known as U.S. Highway 98 and State Road 30, said point
168 lying on a curve to the left having a radius of
169 2964.79 feet said point being the POINT OF BEGINNING;
170 thence leaving said POINT OF BEGINNING and said
171 Westerly and Easterly boundary line run along said
172 Southerly right of way line and said curve as follows:
173 Southeasterly along the arc thru a central angle of 01
174 degrees 24 minutes 08 seconds for a distance of 72.56
175 feet, chord of said arc being South 44 degrees 22

176 minutes 03 seconds East 72.56 feet to a re-bar; thence
177 run South 45 degrees 30 minutes 19 seconds East 210.34
178 feet to a concrete monument; thence run South 45
179 degrees 57 minutes 45 seconds East 242.56 feet to a
180 concrete monument marking the Northwest corner of
181 Tarpine Subdivision, a subdivision as per map or plat
182 thereof recorded in Plat Book 2, Page 36, in the
183 public Records of Wakulla County, Florida; thence run
184 along the Northerly boundary line of said Tarpine
185 Subdivision as follows: South 45 degrees 44 minutes 54
186 seconds East 1231.15 feet to a concrete monument;
187 thence leaving said Southerly right of way line run
188 South 44 degrees 11 minutes 08 seconds West 199.72
189 feet to a concrete monument; thence run South 45
190 degrees 43 minutes 36 seconds East 249.77 feet; thence
191 run North 44 degrees 17 minutes 51 seconds East 199.96
192 feet to an iron pipe lying on the Southerly right of
193 way line of said Coastal Highway; thence run along
194 said Southerly right of way line as follows: South 45
195 degrees 44 minutes 50 seconds East 2122.00 feet to a
196 concrete monument, marking a point of curve to the
197 right having a radius of 3337.06 feet; thence run
198 Southeasterly along the arc thru a central angle of 21
199 degrees 51 minutes 12 seconds for a distance of
200 1272.80 feet, chord of said arc being South 34 degrees

201 47 minutes 20 seconds East 1265.10 feet; thence
202 leaving said Southerly right of way line run South 73
203 degrees 35 minutes 04 Seconds West 196.73 feet to an
204 iron pipe; thence run South 23 degrees 52 minutes 33
205 seconds East 92.57 feet to an iron pipe; thence run
206 South 22 degrees 20 minutes 08 seconds East 106.84
207 feet to concrete monument marking the intersection of
208 the Southerly boundary line of said Tarpine
209 Subdivision with the Northerly boundary line of Bay
210 Park Subdivision, a subdivision as per map or plat
211 thereof described in Plat Book 1, Page 71, in the
212 Public Records of Wakulla County, Florida; thence run
213 along said Southerly boundary line of Tarpine
214 Subdivision and the Northerly and Westerly boundary
215 line of said Bay Park Subdivision as follows: thence
216 run South 86 degrees 06 minutes 20 seconds West 145.99
217 feet to an iron pipe; thence run South 86 degrees 00
218 minutes 07 seconds West 224.86 feet to an iron pipe;
219 thence run South 85 degrees 43 minutes 47 seconds West
220 74.94 feet to an iron pipe; thence run South 86
221 degrees 20 minutes 18 seconds West 114.98 feet to an
222 iron pipe; thence run South 85 degrees 57 minutes 24
223 seconds West 99.91 feet to a concrete monument; thence
224 run South 03 degrees 53 minutes 20 seconds East 139.72
225 feet to an iron pipe; thence run South 03 degrees 57

226 minutes 12 seconds East 99.95 feet to an iron pipe;
 227 thence run South 04 degrees 01 minutes 33 seconds East
 228 75.19 feet to an iron pipe; thence run South 03
 229 degrees 55 minutes 32 seconds East 284.56 feet to a
 230 concrete monument lying on the Northerly Boundary line
 231 of Panacea Coastal Estates Unit #1, a Subdivision as
 232 per map or plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 2, Page
 233 29, in the Public Records of Wakulla County, Florida;
 234 thence leaving said Westerly boundary line of Bay Park
 235 Subdivision continue along the Southerly boundary line
 236 of said Tarpine Subdivision and the Northerly boundary
 237 line of Panacea Coastal Estates Subdivision Unit #1 as
 238 follows: South 66 degrees 06 minutes 25 seconds West
 239 61.06 feet; thence run North 64 degrees 27 minutes 48
 240 seconds West 103.53 feet; thence run North 64 degrees
 241 30 minutes 42 seconds West 111.17 feet; thence run
 242 North 63 degrees 49 minutes 22 seconds West 22.51
 243 feet; thence run North 64 degrees 36 minutes 23
 244 seconds West 73.70 feet; thence run North 64 degrees
 245 13 minutes 41 seconds West 25.18 feet; thence run
 246 North 64 degrees 26 minutes 45 seconds West 78.48
 247 feet; thence run North 64 degrees 26 minutes 10
 248 seconds West 181.61 feet; thence run North 64 degrees
 249 26 minutes 27 seconds West 25.92 feet; thence run
 250 North 64 degrees 24 minutes 07 seconds West 103.64

251 feet; thence run North 59 degrees 54 minutes 20
252 seconds West 278.92 feet; thence run South 40 degrees
253 25 minutes 05 seconds West 10.04 feet; thence run
254 North 50 degrees 03 minutes 26 seconds West 59.96
255 feet; thence run North 49 degrees 48 minutes 08
256 seconds West 217.73 feet to a re-bar; thence run North
257 49 degrees 53 minutes 37 seconds West 238.69 feet to a
258 concrete monument; thence run North 49 degrees 54
259 minutes 00 seconds West 103.77 feet; thence run North
260 49 degrees 35 minutes 31 seconds West 137.68 feet to a
261 concrete monument; thence run North 18 degrees 43
262 minutes 14 seconds East 50.48 feet; thence run North
263 71 degrees 13 minutes 17 seconds West 217.50 feet;
264 thence run North 71 degrees 22 minutes 28 seconds West
265 60.00 feet to a re-bar; thence run North 18 degrees 23
266 minutes 31 seconds East 38.48 feet to a concrete
267 monument; thence run North 53 degrees 08 minutes 39
268 seconds West 113.52 feet to a rod and cap; thence run
269 North 53 degrees 15 minutes 01 seconds West 113.50
270 feet to a point lying on the Easterly boundary line of
271 River Shore Heights, a subdivision as per map or plat
272 thereof recorded in Plat Book 1, Page 28, in the
273 Public Records of Wakulla County, Florida; thence
274 leaving said Northerly boundary of Panacea Coastal
275 Estates Unit #1, continue along said Southerly

276 boundary line of Tarpine Subdivision and the Easterly
277 and the Northerly boundary line of said River Shore
278 Heights Subdivision as follows: North 18 degrees 46
279 minutes 42 seconds East 81.91 feet to a concrete
280 monument; thence run North 18 degrees 45 minutes 10
281 seconds East 81.87 feet; thence run North 18 degrees
282 46 minutes 01 seconds East 151.10 feet to a concrete
283 monument; thence run North 71 degrees 20 minutes 47
284 seconds West 157.35 feet to a concrete monument;
285 thence run South 18 degrees 34 minutes 36 seconds West
286 43.07 feet to a concrete monument marking a point of
287 curve to the left having a radius of 2276.02 feet;
288 thence run Northwesterly along the arc thru a central
289 angle of 09 degrees 16 minutes 18 seconds for a
290 distance of 368.31 feet, chord of said arc being North
291 67 degrees 24 minutes 16 seconds West 367.90 feet to a
292 concrete monument; thence run North 72 degrees 11
293 minutes 45 seconds West 79.71 feet; thence run North
294 71 degrees 17 minutes 57 seconds West 79.88 feet to a
295 concrete monument; thence run North 71 degrees 49
296 minutes 57 seconds West 75.13 feet to an iron pipe;
297 thence run North 71 degrees 47 minutes 09 seconds West
298 83.90 feet; thence run North 71 degrees 49 minutes 14
299 seconds West 109.91 feet to a concrete monument lying
300 on the Easterly right of way line of a 60.00 foot wide

301 right of way known as Bay Drive (Cherry Street), said
302 point also marking the Southwest corner of said
303 Tarpine Subdivision; thence leaving said Southerly
304 boundary line of Tarpine Subdivision and the Northerly
305 boundary line of said River Shore Heights run along
306 said Easterly right of way line as follows: South 00
307 degrees 17 minutes 01 seconds East 195.54 feet to an
308 iron pipe; thence run South 00 degrees 28 minutes 49
309 seconds East 131.97 feet to an iron pipe; thence run
310 South 00 degrees 21 minutes 40 seconds East 131.41
311 feet to an iron pipe marking the intersection of said
312 Easterly right of way line with the Northerly right of
313 way line of an 80.00 foot wide right of way known as
314 Surf Road (County Road 372), said point lying a curve
315 to the left having a radius of 5769.65 feet; thence
316 leaving said Easterly right of way line run along said
317 Northerly right of way line and said curve as follows:
318 Northwesterly along the arc thru a central angle of 00
319 degrees 38 minutes 01 seconds for a distance of 63.79
320 feet, chord of said arc being North 72 degrees 37
321 minutes 56 seconds West 63.79 feet to a re-bar; thence
322 continue along said Northerly right of way line and
323 said curve having a radius of 5769.65 feet,
324 Northwesterly along the arc thru a central angle of 01
325 degrees 02 minutes 19 seconds for a distance of 104.59

326 feet, chord of said arc being North 72 degrees 33
327 minutes 02 seconds West 104.59 feet to a rod and cap;
328 thence continue along said curve having a radius of
329 5769.65 feet Northwesterly along the arc thru a
330 central angle of 02 degrees 29 minutes 08 seconds for
331 a distance of 250.30 feet, chord of said arc being
332 North 74 degrees 53 minutes 17 seconds West 250.28
333 feet to a re-bar marking the intersection of said
334 Northerly right of way line with the Easterly boundary
335 line of the Refuge at Panacea, a subdivision thereof
336 recorded in Plat Book 4, Page 18, in the Public
337 records of Wakulla County, Florida; thence leaving
338 said Northerly right of way line run along said
339 Easterly boundary line as follows: North 00 degrees 15
340 minutes 56 seconds West 797.70 feet to a rod and cap;
341 thence run North 00 degrees 16 minutes 27 seconds West
342 167.97 feet to a rod and cap; thence run North 00
343 degrees 12 minutes 47 seconds West 174.40 feet to a
344 rod and cap; thence run North 00 degrees 13 minutes 38
345 seconds West 527.44 feet to a rod and cap; thence run
346 North 00 degrees 15 minutes 28 seconds West 105.49
347 feet to a rod and cap; thence run North 00 degrees 12
348 minutes 19 seconds West 211.03 feet to rod and cap;
349 thence run North 00 degrees 13 minutes 09 seconds West
350 301.85 feet to a re-bar; thence run North 00 degrees

351 12 minutes 36 seconds West 100.00 feet to a re-bar;
352 thence run North 00 degrees 12 minutes 31 seconds West
353 99.98 feet to a re-bar; thence run North 00 degrees 14
354 minutes 50 seconds West 100.01 feet to a re-bar;
355 thence run North 00 degrees 18 minutes 36 seconds West
356 379.25 feet to rod and cap; thence leaving said
357 Easterly boundary line run North 00 degrees 13 minutes
358 06 seconds East 87.21 feet to a rod and cap marking
359 the Southeast corner of Lot 104 of said Refuge at
360 Panacea, said point lying on the Northerly right of
361 way line of Hidden Pond Lane, said point also marking
362 a curve to the left having a radius of 136.00 feet;
363 thence run along said curve and said Northerly right
364 of way line, also being the Southerly boundary line of
365 said Lot 104 as follows: Southwesterly along the arc
366 thru a central angle of 19 degrees 37 minutes 02
367 seconds for a distance of 46.56 feet, chord of said
368 arc being South 80 degrees 11 minutes 20 seconds West
369 46.34 feet to a re-bar; thence run South 89 degrees 55
370 minutes 59 seconds West 54.57 feet to a rod and cap
371 marking the Southwest corner of said Lot 104; thence
372 leaving said Southerly boundary line of said Lot 104,
373 run along the Southerly boundary line of Lot 103 of
374 said Refuge at Panacea and continue along said
375 Northerly right of way line South 89 degrees 55

376 minutes 59 seconds West 92.25 feet to a rod and cap;
377 thence leaving said Northerly right of way line run
378 along the Westerly boundary line of said Lot 103,
379 North 00 degrees 32 minutes 56 seconds West 208.04
380 feet to a rod and cap marking the Northwest corner of
381 said Lot 103; thence run along the Northerly boundary
382 line of said Lot 103, and said Lot 104 as follows:
383 North 71 degrees 45 minutes 31 seconds East 99.53 feet
384 to a rod and cap; thence run North 69 degrees 29
385 minutes 22 seconds East 46.01 feet to a rod and cap;
386 thence run North 74 degrees 54 minutes 54 seconds East
387 58.17 feet to a rod and cap; thence leaving said
388 Northerly boundary line of said Lot 104, run North 00
389 degrees 24 minutes 24 seconds West 300.28 feet to a
390 re-bar lying on the Southerly right of way line of
391 said Coastal Highway (U.S. Highway 98) said point
392 lying on a curve to the left having a radius of
393 2964.79 feet; thence run along said Southerly right of
394 way line and said curve Southeasterly along the arc
395 thru a central angle of 06 degrees 50 minutes 00
396 seconds for a distance 353.59 feet, chord of said arc
397 being South 40 degrees 14 minutes 59 seconds East
398 353.38 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING. Containing
399 198.34 acres more or less.
400

401 (3) The charter of the Authority, as provided in this act,
402 may be amended, terminated, or repealed only by special act of
403 the Legislature. However, the members of the Authority shall
404 have the authority to expand or contract the airport to meet the
405 minimum licensing requirements of the Federal Aviation
406 Administration through the acquisition or disposal of real or
407 personal property, which shall not require a charter amendment
408 or special act of the Legislature.

409 Section 5. Governing board; meetings; organization;
410 duties; terms of office.—

411 (1) The governing board shall exercise the powers granted
412 to the Authority pursuant to this act.

413 (2) The governing board shall be composed of five voting
414 members.

415 (3) Not later than 30 days after the effective date of
416 this act, and annually thereafter during January of each year,
417 the governing board shall hold an organizational meeting at
418 which they shall appoint one member to serve as chair, one
419 member to serve as vice chair, and one member to serve as
420 secretary-treasurer.

421 (4) The Wakulla County Commission shall appoint a new
422 member for any vacancy on the governing board and may remove
423 members of the governing board.

424 (5) A member is not entitled to any compensation for his
425 or her services; however, each member shall be entitled to

426 receive travel and per diem expenses as set forth in s. 112.061,
 427 Florida Statutes.

428 (6) Unless specified otherwise in this act, notice for and
 429 the conduct of the governing board's meetings shall be pursuant
 430 to and in accordance with s. 189.015 and chapter 286, Florida
 431 Statutes.

432 (7) At any meeting of the governing board, a majority of
 433 the members constitutes a quorum for the purposes of conducting
 434 its business and exercising its powers and for all other
 435 purposes. Action taken by the governing board shall be upon a
 436 vote of a majority of the members present unless general law
 437 requires a greater number.

438 (8) The governing board shall keep the permanent records
 439 of the Authority which shall include, but not be limited to, the
 440 recorded minutes of all meetings, resolutions, proceedings,
 441 certificates, and any and all written documentation of official
 442 actions of the Authority. The Authority records shall at
 443 reasonable times be opened to inspection in the same manner as
 444 municipal records pursuant to chapter 119, Florida Statutes. The
 445 Authority records shall be kept at the office or other regular
 446 place of business maintained by the governing board in a
 447 designated location in the county.

448 (9) Members shall annually file a statement of financial
 449 interest pursuant to chapter 112, Florida Statutes, and any
 450 other financial disclosures required by general law for elected

451 officers serving on the governing body of a dependent special
452 district.

453 (10) The Authority and its members, employees, and agents
454 shall be entitled to sovereign immunity as set forth in s.
455 768.28, Florida Statutes.

456 Section 6. Appointments; residents; qualifying; initial
457 membership of governing board.—

458 (1) All appointments of members to the governing board
459 shall be conducted on a nonpartisan basis without designation of
460 political party affiliation.

461 (2) Each candidate for member must be a resident of
462 Wakulla County.

463 (3) For the inaugural appointment of members, two members
464 shall be appointed to serve an initial term of 2 years each and
465 three members shall be appointed to serve an initial term of 4
466 years each. Thereafter, each member shall be appointed for a 4-
467 year term. There shall be no limitations on the ability of any
468 member to serve consecutive or multiple terms.

469 (4) The inaugural appointment of members shall be held
470 within 90 days after the effective date of this act. The term of
471 office for an appointed member shall begin immediately after
472 official appointment by the Wakulla County Commission and shall
473 expire upon the assumption of office by his or her successor.

474 (5) Beginning on the effective date of this act, the
475 Authority shall be governed by a governing board consisting of

476 five initial members appointed by the Board of County
477 Commissioners of Wakulla County. The Wakulla County Commission
478 shall decide which two members shall be appointed to 2-year
479 terms and which three members shall be appointed to 4-year
480 terms.

481 Section 7. Powers of the Authority.—The Authority, through
482 the governing board, is hereby authorized and empowered to:

483 (1) Adopt bylaws consistent with this act for the
484 regulation of its affairs and the conduct of its business.

485 (2) Adopt an official seal.

486 (3) Maintain an office at such place or places as it may
487 designate.

488 (4) Acquire by purchase, gift, devise, or otherwise; lease
489 as lessee or lessor; and dispose of real property or any estate
490 therein within the boundaries of the authority area in order to
491 expand or contract the airport or otherwise in furtherance of
492 the Authority's purpose set forth in this act.

493 (5) Acquire, own, lease as lessee or lessor, plan for,
494 construct, reconstruct, improve, equip, repair, maintain, and
495 operate such airport facilities within the boundaries of the
496 authority area as the Authority shall determine to be convenient
497 and proper in the performance of the duties and purposes of this
498 act while maintaining a 200-foot foliage buffer from Surf Road.

499 (6) Establish by resolution and collect rates, fees, and
 500 other charges for the use of any airport facilities, but airport
 501 facilities must remain for the public use.

502 (7) Make and enter into all contracts and agreements
 503 necessary or incidental to the performance of its duties and the
 504 execution of its powers under this act, and to employ such
 505 consulting and other engineers, superintendents, managers,
 506 construction and financial experts, accountants, and attorneys,
 507 and such other employees and agents as may, in the judgment of
 508 the Authority, be deemed necessary and to fix their
 509 compensation, provided, however, that all such expenses shall be
 510 payable solely from funds made available under this act.

511 (8) Apply for and accept grants of money, materials, or
 512 property of any kind for the airport and any airport facilities
 513 and any other development of land as the Authority shall
 514 determine to be convenient and proper in the performance of the
 515 duties and purposes of this act from any federal or state
 516 agency, political subdivision, municipality, or other public
 517 body, or from any other persons.

518 (9) Enter into interlocal agreements or join with any
 519 other general or special purpose local governments, public
 520 agencies, or authorities in the exercise of common powers.

521 (10) Sue and be sued in the name of the Authority and to
 522 participate as a party in any civil, administrative, or other
 523 action.

524 (11) Issue bonds, revenue certificates, and other
525 certificates of indebtedness payable from revenues of the
526 Authority, which power shall be exercised in such manner and
527 subject to such limitations as are provided by law for the
528 authorization of debt by a municipality and s. 189.051, Florida
529 Statutes.

530 (12) Exercise all of the powers relating to aviation
531 conferred upon municipalities by general law, including chapter
532 332, Florida Statutes, except as otherwise provided in this act.

533 (13) Do all other acts and things necessary or convenient
534 to carry out the powers granted by this act.

535 Section 8. Adoption of budget; annual reporting; audits.-

536 (1) The Authority shall annually adopt a budget each
537 fiscal year in accordance with s. 189.016, Florida Statutes, and
538 other applicable general law and have the authority to
539 appropriate and expend revenue in accordance with that budget.
540 Any excess funds from any prior fiscal year shall be carried
541 over into the subsequent budget year as generally provided by
542 law.

543 (2) The Authority shall comply with all reporting,
544 financial reporting, and audit requirements for a dependent
545 special district provided in s. 189.016, Florida Statutes, and
546 other applicable general law.

547 Section 9. Prohibition on Authority's levy of taxes;
548 liens; exemption from taxation.-

549 (1) The Authority shall not have the power or authority to
550 levy or impose an ad valorem tax on real estate or tangible
551 personal property or any other form of taxation, fees, or
552 assessments except for the use of airport facilities as provided
553 in this act.

554 (2) The Authority shall not have the power or authority to
555 impose liens on real or personal property.

556 (3) The accomplishment of the authorized purposes of the
557 Authority is in all respects for the benefit of the people of
558 Wakulla County and the state, for the increase of their commerce
559 and prosperity, and for the improvement of the state's aviation
560 system. Since the Authority will perform essential governmental
561 functions for the public health, safety, and welfare in
562 accomplishing its purposes, the Authority is not required to pay
563 any taxes of any kind whatsoever on its property acquired for
564 such purposes or upon any revenues at any time received by it.
565 Further, the bonds, notes, and other obligations of the
566 Authority, their transfer, and the income therefrom, including
567 any profits made on the sale thereof, are at all times free from
568 taxation of any kind by the state or any political subdivision
569 or other agency or instrumentality thereof. The Authority is
570 entitled to the treatment of special districts provided in s.
571 189.055, Florida Statutes, for purposes of s. 196.199, Florida
572 Statutes.

573 Section 10. Wakulla County participation.-

574 (1) The Authority shall coordinate with the county to
575 ensure that the Authority's airport master plan and any other
576 land uses within the authority area contemplated or adopted by
577 the Authority are consistent with the county's comprehensive
578 plan and land development code.

579 (2) The county shall cooperate with the Authority in the
580 transition of the airport to Authority control and operation in
581 furtherance of the purposes of this act. In the county's sole
582 discretion, the county is authorized, but not required, to
583 expend county funds to pay the expenses of the Authority and
584 costs associated with the purposes of this act, and the
585 expenditure of county funds for such purposes constitutes a
586 proper county and public purpose. In the county's sole
587 discretion, the county is authorized, but not required, to use
588 county personnel and equipment to perform any acts necessary or
589 convenient to carry out the purposes of this act, and the use of
590 county personnel and equipment for such purposes constitutes a
591 proper county and public purpose.

592 Section 11. Authority acquisition of airport.—This act may
593 not be construed as transferring the airport or any airport
594 facilities to the Authority or requiring that the county or any
595 other entity transfer the airport or any airport facilities to
596 the Authority. The legislative intent of this act is to
597 establish a dependent special district that is authorized and
598 empowered to own, operate, finance, maintain, and improve the

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599 | airport and the airport facilities as set forth in this act,
600 | contingent upon the transfer of the same to the Authority.

601 | Section 12. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
602 | law.