

By Senator Rouson

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit
3 Authority; amending s. 343.92, F.S.; authorizing
4 certain mayors who are members of the governing board
5 of the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority to
6 appoint a designee to attend a board meeting to act in
7 his or her place with full voting rights on all
8 issues; requiring the designee to be an elected
9 official of the governing body of the mayor's
10 municipality; providing that a certain number of board
11 members constitutes a quorum whether those members
12 attend physically, telephonically, or electronically;
13 providing an effective date.

14
15 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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17 Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) and subsection
18 (8) of section 343.92, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

19 343.92 Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority.—

20 (2) The governing board of the authority shall consist of
21 13 voting members appointed no later than 45 days after the
22 creation of the authority.

23 (b) The 13 voting members of the board shall be as follows:

24 1. The county commissions of Hernando, Hillsborough,
25 Manatee, Pasco, and Pinellas Counties shall each appoint one
26 county commissioner to the board. Members appointed under this
27 subparagraph shall serve 2-year terms with not more than three
28 consecutive terms being served by any person. If a member under
29 this subparagraph leaves elected office, a vacancy exists on the

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30 board to be filled as provided in this subparagraph within 90
31 days.

32 2. Two members of the board shall be the mayor of the
33 largest municipality within the service area of each of the
34 following independent transit agencies or their legislatively
35 created successor agencies: Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority
36 and Hillsborough Area Regional Transit Authority. The largest
37 municipality is that municipality with the largest population as
38 determined by the most recent United States Decennial Census. If
39 a mayor under this subparagraph is unable to attend a meeting,
40 the mayor may appoint a designee to attend the meeting to act in
41 his or her place with full voting rights on all issues. The
42 designee must be an elected official of the governing body of
43 the mayor's municipality.

44 3. The following independent transit agencies or their
45 legislatively created successor agencies shall each appoint from
46 the membership of their governing bodies one member to the
47 board: Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority and Hillsborough Area
48 Regional Transit Authority. Each member appointed under this
49 subparagraph shall serve a 2-year term with not more than three
50 consecutive terms being served by any person. If a member no
51 longer meets the transit authority's criteria for appointment, a
52 vacancy exists on the board, which must be filled as provided in
53 this subparagraph within 90 days.

54 4. The Governor shall appoint to the board four members
55 from the regional business community, each of whom must reside
56 in one of the counties governed by the authority and may not be
57 an elected official. Of the members initially appointed under
58 this subparagraph, one shall serve a 1-year term, two shall

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59 serve 2-year terms, and one shall serve a term as the initial
60 chair as provided in subsection (5). Thereafter, a member
61 appointed under this subparagraph shall serve a 2-year term with
62 not more than three consecutive terms being served by any
63 person.

64
65 Appointments may be staggered to avoid mass turnover at the end
66 of any 2-year or 4-year period. A vacancy during a term shall be
67 filled within 90 days in the same manner as the original
68 appointment for the remainder of the unexpired term.

69 (8) Seven members of the board, whether in attendance
70 physically, telephonically, or electronically, shall constitute
71 a quorum, and the vote of seven members is necessary for any
72 action to be taken by the authority. The authority may meet upon
73 the constitution of a quorum. A vacancy does not impair the
74 right of a quorum of the board to exercise all rights and the
75 ability to perform all duties of the authority.

76 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.