

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit  
3           Authority; amending s. 339.175, F.S.; renaming the  
4           Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority Metropolitan  
5           Planning Organization Chairs Coordinating Committee as  
6           the Chairs Coordinating Committee; deleting a  
7           requirement that the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit  
8           Authority provide the committee with administrative  
9           support and direction; amending s. 343.92, F.S.;  
10          providing that a mayor's designated alternate may be a  
11          member of the governing board of the authority;  
12          requiring that the alternate be an elected member of  
13          the city council of the mayor's municipality and be  
14          approved by the municipality's city council; requiring  
15          a mayor's designated alternate to attend meetings  
16          under certain circumstances, in which case the  
17          alternate has full voting rights; providing that a  
18          simple majority of board members constitutes a quorum  
19          and that a simple majority of those members present is  
20          necessary for any action to be taken; deleting  
21          obsolete language; amending s. 343.922, F.S.; revising  
22          a provision requiring the authority to present the  
23          regional transit development plan and updates to  
24          specified entities; deleting a provision requiring  
25          that the authority coordinate plans and projects with

26 | the TBARTA Metropolitan Planning Organization Chairs  
27 | Coordinating Committee and participate in the regional  
28 | M.P.O. planning process to ensure regional  
29 | comprehension of the authority's mission, goals, and  
30 | objectives; deleting a provision requiring that the  
31 | authority provide administrative support and direction  
32 | to the TBARTA Metropolitan Planning Organization  
33 | Chairs Coordinating Committee; providing an effective  
34 | date.

35 |  
36 | Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

37 |  
38 | Section 1. Paragraph (i) of subsection (6) of section  
39 | 339.175, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

40 | 339.175 Metropolitan planning organization.—

41 | (6) POWERS, DUTIES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES.—The powers,  
42 | privileges, and authority of an M.P.O. are those specified in  
43 | this section or incorporated in an interlocal agreement  
44 | authorized under s. 163.01. Each M.P.O. shall perform all acts  
45 | required by federal or state laws or rules, now and subsequently  
46 | applicable, which are necessary to qualify for federal aid. It  
47 | is the intent of this section that each M.P.O. shall be involved  
48 | in the planning and programming of transportation facilities,  
49 | including, but not limited to, airports, intercity and high-  
50 | speed rail lines, seaports, and intermodal facilities, to the

51 extent permitted by state or federal law.

52 (i) There is created the ~~Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit~~  
 53 ~~Authority Metropolitan Planning Organization~~ Chairs Coordinating  
 54 ~~Committee is created within the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit~~  
 55 ~~Authority~~, composed of the M.P.O.'s serving Citrus, Hernando,  
 56 Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, and Sarasota  
 57 Counties. ~~The authority shall provide administrative support and~~  
 58 ~~direction to the committee.~~ The committee must, at a minimum:

59 1. Coordinate transportation projects deemed to be  
 60 regionally significant by the committee.

61 2. Review the impact of regionally significant land use  
 62 decisions on the region.

63 3. Review all proposed regionally significant  
 64 transportation projects in the respective transportation  
 65 improvement programs which affect more than one of the M.P.O.'s  
 66 represented on the committee.

67 4. Institute a conflict resolution process to address any  
 68 conflict that may arise in the planning and programming of such  
 69 regionally significant projects.

70 Section 2. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) and subsections  
 71 (8) and (9) of section 343.92, Florida Statutes, are amended to  
 72 read:

73 343.92 Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority.—

74 (2) The governing board of the authority shall consist of  
 75 13 voting members appointed no later than 45 days after the

76 creation of the authority.

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

79 1. The county commissions of Hernando, Hillsborough,  
80 Manatee, Pasco, and Pinellas Counties shall each appoint one  
81 county commissioner to the board. Members appointed under this  
82 subparagraph shall serve 2-year terms with not more than three  
83 consecutive terms being served by any person. If a member under  
84 this subparagraph leaves elected office, a vacancy exists on the  
85 board to be filled as provided in this subparagraph within 90  
86 days.

87 2.a. Two members of the board shall be the mayor, or the  
88 mayor's designated alternate, of the largest municipality within  
89 the service area of each of the following independent transit  
90 agencies or their legislatively created successor agencies:  
91 Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority and Hillsborough Area  
92 Regional Transit Authority. The largest municipality is that  
93 municipality with the largest population as determined by the  
94 most recent United States Decennial Census.

95 b. The mayor's designated alternate must be an elected  
96 member of the municipality's city council and approved as the  
97 mayor's designated alternate by the municipality's city council.  
98 In the event the mayor is unable to attend a meeting, the  
99 mayor's designated alternate shall attend the meeting on the  
100 mayor's behalf and has the full right to vote.

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

111           4. The Governor shall appoint to the board four members  
112 from the regional business community, each of whom must reside  
113 in one of the counties governed by the authority and may not be  
114 an elected official. Of the members initially appointed under  
115 this subparagraph, one shall serve a 1-year term, two shall  
116 serve 2-year terms, and one shall serve a term as the initial  
117 chair as provided in subsection (5). Thereafter, a member  
118 appointed under this subparagraph shall serve a 2-year term with  
119 not more than three consecutive terms being served by any  
120 person.

121  
122 Appointments may be staggered to avoid mass turnover at the end  
123 of any 2-year or 4-year period. A vacancy during a term shall be  
124 filled within 90 days in the same manner as the original  
125 appointment for the remainder of the unexpired term.

126           (8) A simple majority ~~Seven members~~ of the board shall  
127 constitute a quorum, and a simple majority of the voting members  
128 present shall be necessary for any action to be taken by the  
129 board ~~the vote of seven members is necessary for any action to~~  
130 ~~be taken by the authority.~~ The authority may meet upon the  
131 constitution of a quorum. A vacancy does not impair the right of  
132 a quorum of the board to exercise all rights and the ability to  
133 perform all duties of the authority.

134           ~~(9) Beginning July 1, 2017, the board must evaluate the~~  
135 ~~abolishment, continuance, modification, or establishment of the~~  
136 ~~following committees:~~

137           ~~(a) Planning committee.~~

138           ~~(b) Policy committee.~~

139           ~~(c) Finance committee.~~

140           ~~(d) Citizens advisory committee.~~

141           ~~(e) Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority Metropolitan~~  
142 ~~Planning Organization Chairs Coordinating Committee.~~

143           ~~(f) Transit management committee.~~

144           ~~(g) Technical advisory committee.~~

145  
146           ~~The board must submit its recommendations for abolishment,~~  
147 ~~continuance, modification, or establishment of the committees to~~  
148 ~~the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of~~  
149 ~~Representatives before the beginning of the 2018 Regular~~  
150 ~~Session.~~

151 Section 3. Paragraphs (e), (f), and (g) of subsection (3)  
 152 of section 343.922, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

153 343.922 Powers and duties.—

154 (3)

155 (e) The authority shall present the ~~original~~ regional  
 156 transit development plan and updates to the governing bodies of  
 157 the counties within the designated region, ~~to the TBARTA~~  
 158 ~~Metropolitan Planning Organization Chairs Coordinating~~  
 159 ~~Committee,~~ and to the legislative delegation members  
 160 representing those counties within 90 days after adoption.

161 ~~(f) The authority shall coordinate plans and projects with~~  
 162 ~~the TBARTA Metropolitan Planning Organization Chairs~~  
 163 ~~Coordinating Committee, to the extent practicable, and~~  
 164 ~~participate in the regional M.P.O. planning process to ensure~~  
 165 ~~regional comprehension of the authority's mission, goals, and~~  
 166 ~~objectives.~~

167 ~~(g) The authority shall provide administrative support and~~  
 168 ~~direction to the TBARTA Metropolitan Planning Organization~~  
 169 ~~Chairs Coordinating Committee as provided in s. 339.175(6)(i).~~

170 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.