CS/HB 1397 2023

1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to regional transportation planning; 3 providing legislative findings and intent; requiring 4 the Department of Transportation to conduct a study of 5 the potential dissolution or transfer of the 6 governance, staff, operations, funding, and facilities 7 of the Hillsborough Area Regional Transit Authority; 8 specifying requirements of the study; requiring the 9 department to submit a specified report to the Governor and Legislature; providing an effective date. 10 11 12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 13 (1) The Legislature finds that, given this 14 Section 1. 15 16

Section 1. (1) The Legislature finds that, given this state's rapid population growth, coordination of transportation planning, particularly regional transportation planning, is critical to the safe and efficient management, operation, and development of public transit systems. The Legislature questions whether the dissolution of the Hillsborough Area Regional Transit Authority (HART) would result in operational efficiencies and reduced administrative costs and further a regional approach to transit. It is the intent of the Legislature to explore the dissolution or transfer of the governance, staff, operations, funding, and facilities of the HART with the goal of enhancing regional transit service and

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20	connectivity in the rampa Bay Area.
27	(2) The Department of Transportation, or its consultant,
28	shall conduct a study of the potential dissolution of the HART.
29	The study must address all aspects of the winding down of the
30	affairs of the HART, including the following:
31	(a) The dissolution of the governance structure, including
32	governing board membership, powers, and responsibilities.
33	(b) The drawdown or transfer of staff.
3 4	(c) The transfer of financial assets and obligations.
35	(d) The transfer of responsibilities and administered
36	programs.
37	(e) The transfer of facilities and operations.
38	(f) Impacts to federal or state grants or funds.
39	(g) Any legal or financial impediments to or limitations
10	on such dissolution.
1	(h) The advantages and disadvantages of dissolution or
12	transfer.
13	(i) Any other matters deemed necessary or appropriate by
4	the department.
15	(3) By January 1, 2024, the department shall submit a
16	report detailing the results of the study to the Governor, the
17	President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
18	Representatives.
19	Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.

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