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A bill to be entitled
 An act relating to ethics requirements for officers
 and employees of special tax districts; amending s.
 112.313, F.S.; specifying that certain conduct by
 certain public officers and employees is deemed a
 conflict of interest; making technical changes;
 amending s. 112.3142, F.S.; requiring certain ethics
 training for elected local officers of independent
 special districts beginning on a specified date;
 specifying requirements for such training; providing
 an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (7) of section 112.313, Florida
 Statutes, is amended to read:

112.313 Standards of conduct for public officers,
 employees of agencies, and local government attorneys.—

(7) CONFLICTING EMPLOYMENT OR CONTRACTUAL RELATIONSHIP.—

(a) No public officer or employee of an agency shall have
 or hold any employment or contractual relationship with any
 business entity or any agency which is subject to the regulation
 of, or is doing business with, an agency of which he or she is
 an officer or employee, excluding those organizations and their
 officers who, when acting in their official capacity, enter into

26 | or negotiate a collective bargaining contract with the state or
 27 | any municipality, county, or other political subdivision of the
 28 | state; nor shall an officer or employee of an agency have or
 29 | hold any employment or contractual relationship that will create
 30 | a continuing or frequently recurring conflict between his or her
 31 | private interests and the performance of his or her public
 32 | duties or that would impede the full and faithful discharge of
 33 | his or her public duties.

34 | 1. When the agency referred to is that certain kind of
 35 | special tax district created by general or special law and is
 36 | limited specifically to constructing, maintaining, managing, and
 37 | financing improvements in the land area over which the agency
 38 | has jurisdiction, or when the agency has been organized pursuant
 39 | to chapter 298, then employment with, or entering into a
 40 | contractual relationship with, such business entity by a public
 41 | officer or employee of such agency is ~~shall~~ not ~~be~~ prohibited by
 42 | this subsection or be deemed a conflict per se. However, conduct
 43 | by such officer or employee that is prohibited by, or otherwise
 44 | frustrates the intent of, this section, including conduct that
 45 | violates subsections (6) and (8), is ~~shall be~~ deemed a conflict
 46 | of interest in violation of the standards of conduct set forth
 47 | by this section.

48 | 2. When the agency referred to is a legislative body and
 49 | the regulatory power over the business entity resides in another
 50 | agency, or when the regulatory power which the legislative body

51 | exercises over the business entity or agency is strictly through
52 | the enactment of laws or ordinances, then employment or a
53 | contractual relationship with such business entity by a public
54 | officer or employee of a legislative body shall not be
55 | prohibited by this subsection or be deemed a conflict.

56 | (b) This subsection shall not prohibit a public officer or
57 | employee from practicing in a particular profession or
58 | occupation when such practice by persons holding such public
59 | office or employment is required or permitted by law or
60 | ordinance.

61 | Section 2. Paragraphs (d) and (e) of subsection (2) of
62 | section 112.3142, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as
63 | paragraphs (e) and (f), respectively, present paragraph (e) of
64 | that subsection is amended, and a new paragraph (d) is added to
65 | that subsection, to read:

66 | 112.3142 Ethics training for specified constitutional
67 | officers, elected municipal officers, ~~and~~ commissioners of
68 | community redevelopment agencies, and elected local officers of
69 | independent special districts.-

70 | (2)

71 | (d) Beginning January 1, 2024, each elected local officer
72 | of an independent special district, as defined in s. 189.012,
73 | and each person who is appointed to fill a vacancy for an
74 | unexpired term of such elective office must complete 4 hours of
75 | ethics training each calendar year which addresses, at a

76 | minimum, s. 8, Art. II of the State Constitution, the Code of
 77 | Ethics for Public Officers and Employees, and the public records
 78 | and public meetings laws of this state. This requirement may be
 79 | satisfied by completion of a continuing legal education class or
 80 | other continuing professional education class, seminar, or
 81 | presentation, if the required subject matter is covered by such
 82 | class, seminar, or presentation.

83 | ~~(f)~~~~(e)~~ The Legislature intends that a constitutional
 84 | officer, ~~or~~ elected municipal officer, or elected local officer
 85 | of an independent special district who is required to complete
 86 | ethics training pursuant to this section receive the required
 87 | training as close as possible to the date that he or she assumes
 88 | office. A constitutional officer, ~~or~~ elected municipal officer,
 89 | or elected local officer of an independent special district
 90 | assuming a new office or new term of office on or before March
 91 | 31 must complete the annual training on or before December 31 of
 92 | the year in which the term of office began. A constitutional
 93 | officer, ~~or~~ elected municipal officer, or elected local officer
 94 | of an independent special district assuming a new office or new
 95 | term of office after March 31 is not required to complete ethics
 96 | training for the calendar year in which the term of office
 97 | began.

98 | Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.