

Amendment No.

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION

ADOPTED	_____	(Y/N)
ADOPTED AS AMENDED	_____	(Y/N)
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION	_____	(Y/N)
FAILED TO ADOPT	_____	(Y/N)
WITHDRAWN	_____	(Y/N)
OTHER		

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1 Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Local Administration,  
 2 Federal Affairs & Special Districts Subcommittee  
 3 Representative Chaney offered the following:

**Amendment (with title amendment)**

Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:

7 Section 1. Subsection (6) of section 2, paragraph (a) of  
 8 subsection (2) of section 3, and section 4 of section 2 of  
 9 chapter 2000-424, Laws of Florida, as amended by chapters 2002-  
 10 341 and 2006-327, Laws of Florida, are amended, and sections 14  
 11 through 18 are added to section 2 of that chapter, to read:

12 Section 2. Definitions.—As used in this act, unless the  
 13 content clearly indicates otherwise, the following terms shall  
 14 have the meanings set forth below:

15 (6) "Public transit" means transportation of passengers  
 16 for hire by means, without limitation, of a ~~street railway,~~

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17 ~~elevated railway, subway, motor vehicle, bus, or other means of~~  
18 ~~conveyance operating as a common carrier within the public~~  
19 ~~transit area as provided, and charter service originating~~  
20 ~~therein.~~

21 Section 3. Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority; status and  
22 governing body.—

23 (2) (a) The governing body of the authority shall consist  
24 of 11 ~~15~~ members, serving and selected as provided in this  
25 paragraph.

26 1. Four members shall be appointed by the Pinellas County  
27 Board of County Commissioners from their membership.

28 2. One member shall be appointed by the City Council of  
29 the City of St. Petersburg from their membership.

30 3. One member shall be appointed by the City Council of  
31 the City of Clearwater from their membership.

32 4. Two members shall be appointed by the municipal  
33 governing bodies of Tarpon Springs, Safety Harbor, Oldsmar,  
34 Dunedin, Belleair, Belleair Beach, and Belleair Bluffs on a  
35 rotating basis. The order of rotation shall be determined by  
36 population size in descending order.

37 5. Two members shall be appointed by the municipal  
38 governing bodies of Largo, Seminole, South Pasadena, Gulfport,  
39 Kenneth City, and Pinellas Park on a rotating basis. The order  
40 of rotation shall be determined by population size in descending  
41 order.

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42           6. One member shall be appointed by the municipal  
43 governing bodies of Belleair Shore, Indian Rocks Beach, Indian  
44 Shores, North Redington Beach, Redington Beach, Redington  
45 Shores, Madeira Beach, Treasure Island, and St. Pete Beach on a  
46 rotating basis. The order of rotation shall be determined by  
47 population size in descending order.

48           ~~1. One member shall be appointed by the City Council of~~  
49 ~~the City of Clearwater from its membership.~~

50           ~~2. One member shall be appointed by the City Commission of~~  
51 ~~the City of Dunedin from its membership.~~

52           ~~3. One member shall be appointed by the City Commission of~~  
53 ~~the City of Largo from its membership.~~

54           ~~4. One member shall be appointed by the City Council of~~  
55 ~~the City of Pinellas Park from its membership.~~

56           ~~5. Two members shall be appointed by the City Council of~~  
57 ~~the City of St. Petersburg from its membership.~~

58           ~~6. One member shall be appointed by the combined municipal~~  
59 ~~governing bodies of the Cities of Oldsmar, Safety Harbor, and~~  
60 ~~Tarpon Springs from their membership.~~

61           ~~7. One member shall be appointed by the combined municipal~~  
62 ~~governing bodies of the Cities of Belleair, Belleair Bluffs,~~  
63 ~~Gulfport, Kenneth City, Seminole, and South Pasadena from their~~  
64 ~~membership.~~

65           ~~8. One member shall be appointed by the combined municipal~~  
66 ~~governing bodies of the Cities of Belleair Beach, Belleair~~

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67 ~~Shores, Indian Rocks Beach, Indian Shores, Madeira Beach, North~~  
68 ~~Redington Beach, Redington Beach, Redington Shores, St. Pete~~  
69 ~~Beach, and Treasure Island from their membership.~~

70 ~~9. Four members shall be appointed by the Pinellas County~~  
71 ~~Commission from its membership.~~

72 ~~10. One member shall be appointed by the Pinellas County~~  
73 ~~Commission, and this member may not be an elected official.~~

74 ~~11. One member shall be appointed by the City Council of~~  
75 ~~the City of St. Petersburg, and this member may not be an~~  
76 ~~elected official.~~

77 Section 4. Purposes and powers.-

78 (1) The authority created and established by the  
79 provisions of this act is hereby granted and shall have the  
80 right and power to purchase, own, and/or operate transit  
81 facilities;~~;~~ to contract for transit services;~~;~~ to exercise  
82 power of eminent domain if approved by a two-thirds vote of the  
83 Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority Board in a public meeting  
84 with a 30-day public notice and shall be reported to the  
85 Pinellas Board of County Commissioners semiannually in public  
86 meetings with a 30-day public notice; to conduct studies;~~;~~ and  
87 to contract with other governmental agencies, private companies,  
88 and individuals.

89 (2) The authority is hereby granted, and shall have and  
90 may exercise all powers necessary, appurtenant, convenient, or

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91 incidental to the carrying out of the aforesaid purposes,  
92 including, but not limited to, the following rights and powers:

93 (a) To sue and be sued, implead and be impleaded, and  
94 complain and defend in all courts.

95 (b) To adopt, use, and alter at will a corporate seal.

96 (c) To acquire, purchase, hold, lease as a lessee, and use  
97 any franchise, property, real, personal, or mixed, tangible or  
98 intangible, or any interest therein, necessary or desirable for  
99 carrying out the purposes of the authority, and to sell, lease  
100 as lessor, transfer, and dispose of any property or interest  
101 therein at any time acquired by it. Any sale, lease, or transfer  
102 of any property or interest shall be upon competitive bid except  
103 that the authority may sell, lease, or transfer any real  
104 property or interest therein to another governmental entity  
105 without competitive bid and may sell, lease, or transfer surplus  
106 personal property, tangible or intangible, in accordance with  
107 chapter 274, Florida Statutes.

108 (d) To fix, alter, charge, and establish rates, fares, and  
109 other charges for the services and facilities of the Pinellas  
110 Suncoast Transit System, which rates, fees, and charges shall be  
111 equitable and just and sufficient to meet the operating  
112 requirements of the system along with other revenue that may be  
113 available.

114 ~~(e) To regulate other operators of public transit in the~~  
115 ~~Pinellas Suncoast Transit Area as to franchises, permits, fares,~~

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116 ~~and other charges to establish rules and regulations pertaining~~  
117 ~~to these matters for distribution to the operators and public~~  
118 ~~transit facilities in said area.~~

119 (e)~~(f)~~ To make contracts of every name and nature and to  
120 execute all instruments necessary or convenient for the carrying  
121 on of its business.

122 (f)~~(g)~~ To enter into management contracts with any person  
123 or persons for the management of a transit system owned or  
124 controlled by the authority for such period or periods of time,  
125 and under such compensation and other terms and conditions as  
126 shall be deemed advisable by the authority.

127 (g)~~(h)~~ Without limitation, to borrow money and accept  
128 gifts or grants or loans of money or other property and to enter  
129 into contracts, leases, or other transactions with any federal  
130 agency, the state, any agency of the state, the County of  
131 Pinellas, or with any other public body of the state.

132 (h)~~(i)~~ To do all acts and things necessary or convenient  
133 for the conduct of its business and the general welfare of the  
134 authority in order to carry out the powers granted to it by this  
135 part or any other law.

136 (i)~~(j)~~ To prescribe and promulgate rules and regulations  
137 as it deems necessary for the purposes of this act.

138 Section 14. Window coverings and advertisements.—

139 (1) Any new window covering or advertisement must adhere  
140 to requirements provided in section 316.2954, Florida Statutes.

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141 (2) The authority shall not engage in any non-paid  
142 advertising, promotion, or messaging on their assets; however,  
143 this subsection does not apply to any acknowledgement of  
144 veterans as defined in section 1.01, Florida Statutes, or any  
145 acknowledgement of a holiday listed in section 110.117, Florida  
146 Statutes.

147 Section 15. Best budget practices.—The authority must  
148 abide by the best budgetary guidelines as outlined by, but not  
149 limited to, the Florida Government Finance Officers Association  
150 and the Government Finance Officers Association.

151 Section 16. Lane elimination, lane repurposing, lane diet,  
152 or bus lane allocation requests, recommendations, or  
153 applications.—

154 (1) Any lane elimination, lane repurposing, lane diet, or  
155 bus lane allocation request, recommendation, or application  
156 relating to a public transit project or any change in the  
157 current use of functionality of a roadway must be approved by a  
158 two-thirds vote of the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority Board  
159 in a public meeting with a 30-day public notice and then  
160 presented to the Pinellas Board of County Commissioners prior to  
161 a final two-thirds vote of the Pinellas Suncoast Transit  
162 Authority.

163 (2) The authority shall not have a lane elimination, lane  
164 repurposing, lane diet, or bus lane allocation office, board,  
165 employee, or any other actor whose purpose is to eliminate,

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166 reallocate, or repurpose public lanes for the usage of the  
167 authority.

168 (3) This section does not apply to any local or  
169 municipally owned roadway.

170 (4) This section shall include any new service of any  
171 design or name that would include plans for lane elimination,  
172 lane repurposing, lane diet, or bus lane allocation calling for  
173 the loss of an existing lane of a vehicular roadway to bus only  
174 use or Business Access and Transit (BAT) lanes.

175 Section 17. Semiannual reporting.—

176 (1) The Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority shall  
177 semiannually report the following to the Pinellas Board of  
178 County Commissioners:

179 (a) Any gifts accepted in exchange for contracts.

180 (b) Any contract over \$500,000.

181 (c) Any sale, lease, or transfer of any property or  
182 interest over \$500,000.

183 (d) Ridership performance and metrics.

184 (2) The Pinellas Board of County Commissioners may call  
185 for in-person presentations of these reports at a minimum of  
186 once a year.

187 Section 18. Severability clause.—

188 (1) This act is not intended, nor may it be construed, to  
189 conflict with existing, relevant state or federal law.



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190       (2) If any provision of this act or its application to any  
191 person or circumstances is held invalid, the invalidity does not  
192 affect other provisions or applications of this act which can be  
193 given effect without the invalid provision or application, and  
194 to this end the provisions of this act are severable.

195       Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.

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**T I T L E   A M E N D M E N T**

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Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert:

200

An act relating to Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority, Pinellas

201

County; amending chapter 2000-424, Laws of Florida, as amended;

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revising the definition of the term "public transit"; revising

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membership of the governing body of the authority; revising

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powers of the authority; establishing requirements for

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advertising placed on authority property; providing for best

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budget practices; establishing procedures for lane elimination

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and changes in roadway use or functionality; prohibiting certain

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offices, boards, employees, or other actors whose purpose is to

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eliminate or reallocate public lanes; requiring semiannual

210

reporting of certain provisions to the Pinellas Board of County

211

Commissioners; specifying severability; providing an effective

212

date.