

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to transportation; amending s.
3 334.065, F.S.; revising membership of the Center for
4 Urban Transportation Research advisory board; amending
5 s. 334.066, F.S.; revising membership of the I-STREET
6 advisory board; amending s. 339.175, F.S.; revising
7 legislative intent; revising requirements for the
8 designation of additional M.P.O.'s; revising projects
9 and strategies to be considered in developing an
10 M.P.O.'s long-range transportation plan and
11 transportation improvement program; requiring the
12 Department of Transportation to convene M.P.O.'s of
13 similar size to exchange best practices; authorizing
14 such M.P.O.'s to develop committees or working groups;
15 requiring training for new M.P.O. governing board
16 members to be provided by the department or another
17 specified entity; removing provisions relating to
18 M.P.O. coordination mechanisms; requiring certain
19 M.P.O.'s to submit a feasibility report to the
20 Governor and Legislature regarding consolidation;
21 specifying goals thereof; deleting obsolete
22 provisions; conforming provisions to changes made by
23 the act; including public-private partnerships in
24 authorized financing techniques; revising proposed
25 transportation enhancement activities that must be

26 indicated by the long-range transportation plan;
27 requiring the department to review certain aspects of
28 each M.P.O.'s long-range transportation plan and to
29 return such plan to the M.P.O. for revision if deemed
30 unsatisfactory; requiring the department to create a
31 quality performance scoring mechanism to evaluate each
32 M.P.O.'s service to its communities and to establish a
33 minimum acceptable quality performance score;
34 requiring each M.P.O. to report its quality
35 performance score annually to the district secretary
36 and to publish the score on its website; requiring the
37 department to validate each M.P.O.'s score
38 calculation; requiring an M.P.O. that does not achieve
39 the minimum acceptable quality performance score
40 within a certain timeframe to be placed under the
41 control of the Secretary of Transportation; requiring
42 the secretary to appoint the district secretary or
43 another person to assume the role of executive
44 director of such M.P.O.; providing responsibilities;
45 providing an appropriation from the State
46 Transportation Trust Fund for the M.P.O. with the
47 highest quality performance score; providing
48 requirements for the expenditure of such funds;
49 requiring such M.P.O. to represent the state in any
50 federal conference or membership organization;

51 removing provisions relating to the Metropolitan
52 Planning Organization Advisory Council; amending s.
53 331.3051, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made
54 by the act; amending s. 331.310, F.S.; conforming a
55 cross-reference; requiring a report to the Governor
56 and Legislature; requiring the Department of Highway
57 Safety and Motor Vehicles to begin implementation of a
58 redesigned registration license plate by a specified
59 date; providing redesign requirements; providing an
60 effective date.

61
62 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

63
64 Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 334.065, Florida
65 Statutes, is amended to read:

66 334.065 Center for Urban Transportation Research.—

67 (3) An advisory board shall be created to periodically and
68 objectively review and advise the center concerning its research
69 program. Except for projects mandated by law, state-funded base
70 projects shall not be undertaken without approval of the
71 advisory board. The membership of the board shall consist of
72 nine experts in transportation-related areas, as follows:

73 (a) A member appointed by the President of the Senate.

74 (b) A member appointed by the Speaker of the House of
75 Representatives.

76 (c) The Secretary of Transportation or his or her
 77 designee.

78 (d) The Secretary of Commerce or his or her designee.
 79 ~~including the secretaries of the Department of Transportation,~~
 80 ~~the Department of Environmental Protection, and the Department~~
 81 ~~of Economic Opportunity, or their designees, and~~

82 (e) A member of the Florida Transportation Commission.

83 (f) The nomination of the remaining four members of the
 84 board shall be made to the President of the University of South
 85 Florida by the College of Engineering at the University of South
 86 Florida, ~~and~~ The appointment of these members must be reviewed
 87 and approved by the Florida Transportation Commission and
 88 confirmed by the Board of Governors.

89 Section 2. Paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of section
 90 334.066, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

91 334.066 Implementing Solutions from Transportation
 92 Research and Evaluating Emerging Technologies Living Lab.—

93 (3) An advisory board shall be created to periodically
 94 review and advise I-STREET concerning its research program. The
 95 board shall consist of nine members with expertise in
 96 transportation-related areas, as follows:

97 (d) The Secretary of Commerce ~~Economic Opportunity~~ or his
 98 or her designee.

99 Section 3. Subsection (10) of section 339.175, Florida
 100 Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (11), subsection (1),

101 paragraph (a) of subsection (2), paragraphs (b), (j), and (i) of
 102 subsection (6), subsection (7), and present subsection (11) are
 103 amended, and a new subsection (10) is added to that section, to
 104 read:

105 339.175 Metropolitan planning organization.—

106 (1) PURPOSE.—It is the intent of the Legislature to
 107 encourage and promote the safe and efficient management,
 108 operation, and development of multimodal ~~surface~~ transportation
 109 systems that will serve the mobility needs of people and freight
 110 and foster economic growth and development within and through
 111 urbanized areas of this state while balancing conservation of
 112 natural resources ~~minimizing transportation-related fuel~~
 113 ~~consumption, air pollution, and greenhouse gas emissions through~~
 114 ~~metropolitan transportation planning processes identified in~~
 115 ~~this section~~. To accomplish these objectives, metropolitan
 116 planning organizations, referred to in this section as M.P.O.'s,
 117 shall develop, in cooperation with the state and public transit
 118 operators, transportation plans and programs for metropolitan
 119 areas. The plans and programs for each metropolitan area must
 120 provide for the development and integrated management and
 121 operation of transportation systems and facilities, including
 122 pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities that
 123 will function as an intermodal transportation system for the
 124 metropolitan area, based upon the prevailing principles provided
 125 in s. 334.046(1). The process for developing such plans and

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126 | programs shall provide for consideration of all modes of
127 | transportation and shall be continuing, cooperative, and
128 | comprehensive, to the degree appropriate, based on the
129 | complexity of the transportation problems to be addressed. To
130 | ensure that the process is integrated with the statewide
131 | planning process, M.P.O.'s shall develop plans and programs that
132 | identify transportation facilities that should function as an
133 | integrated metropolitan transportation system, giving emphasis
134 | to facilities that serve important national, state, and regional
135 | transportation functions. For the purposes of this section,
136 | those facilities include the facilities on the Strategic
137 | Intermodal System designated under s. 339.63 and facilities for
138 | which projects have been identified pursuant to s. 339.2819(4).

139 | (2) DESIGNATION.—

140 | (a)1. An M.P.O. shall be designated for each urbanized
141 | area of the state; however, this does not require that an
142 | individual M.P.O. be designated for each such area. Such
143 | designation shall be accomplished by agreement between the
144 | Governor and units of general-purpose local government
145 | representing at least 75 percent of the population of the
146 | urbanized area; however, the unit of general-purpose local
147 | government that represents the central city or cities within the
148 | M.P.O. jurisdiction, as defined by the United States Bureau of
149 | the Census, must be a party to such agreement.

150 | 2. To the extent possible, only one M.P.O. shall be

151 designated for each urbanized area or group of contiguous
 152 urbanized areas. More than one M.P.O. may be designated within
 153 an existing urbanized area only if the Governor and the existing
 154 M.P.O. determine that the size and complexity of the existing
 155 urbanized area makes the designation of more than one M.P.O. for
 156 the area appropriate. After July 1, 2024, no additional M.P.O.'s
 157 shall be designated in the state except in urbanized areas, as
 158 defined by the United States Bureau of the Census, where the
 159 urbanized area boundary is not contiguous to an urbanized area
 160 designated before the 2020 census, ~~in which case each M.P.O.~~
 161 ~~designated for the area must:~~

162 ~~a. Consult with every other M.P.O. designated for the~~
 163 ~~urbanized area and the state to coordinate plans and~~
 164 ~~transportation improvement programs.~~

165 ~~b. Ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, the~~
 166 ~~consistency of data used in the planning process, including data~~
 167 ~~used in forecasting travel demand within the urbanized area.~~

168
 169 Each M.P.O. required under this section must be fully operative
 170 no later than 6 months following its designation.

171 (6) POWERS, DUTIES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES.—The powers,
 172 privileges, and authority of an M.P.O. are those specified in
 173 this section or incorporated in an interlocal agreement
 174 authorized under s. 163.01. Each M.P.O. shall perform all acts
 175 required by federal or state laws or rules, now and subsequently

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176 applicable, which are necessary to qualify for federal aid. It
177 is the intent of this section that each M.P.O. be involved in
178 the planning and programming of transportation facilities,
179 including, but not limited to, airports, intercity and high-
180 speed rail lines, seaports, and intermodal facilities, to the
181 extent permitted by state or federal law. An M.P.O. may not
182 perform project production or delivery for capital improvement
183 projects on the State Highway System.

184 (b) In developing the long-range transportation plan and
185 the transportation improvement program required under paragraph
186 (a), each M.P.O. shall provide for consideration of projects and
187 strategies that will:

188 1. Support the economic vitality of the contiguous
189 urbanized metropolitan area, especially by enabling global
190 competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.

191 2. Increase the safety and security of the transportation
192 system for motorized and nonmotorized users.

193 3. Increase the accessibility and mobility options
194 available to people and for freight.

195 4. Protect and enhance the environment, conserve natural
196 resources ~~promote energy conservation~~, and improve quality of
197 life.

198 5. Enhance the integration and connectivity of the
199 transportation system, across and between modes and contiguous
200 urbanized metropolitan areas, for people and freight.

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201 6. Promote efficient system management and operation.

202 7. Emphasize the preservation of the existing
203 transportation system.

204 8. Improve the resilience of transportation
205 infrastructure.

206 9. Reduce traffic and congestion.

207 (j)1. To more fully accomplish the purposes for which
208 M.P.O.'s have been mandated, the department shall, at least
209 annually, convene M.P.O.'s of similar size, based on the size of
210 population served, for the purpose of exchanging best practices.
211 M.P.O.'s may ~~shall~~ develop committees or working groups as
212 needed to accomplish such purpose. At the discretion of the
213 department, training for new M.P.O. governing board members
214 shall be provided by the department, by an entity pursuant to a
215 contract with the department, by the Florida Center for Urban
216 Transportation Research, or by the Implementing Solutions from
217 Transportation Research and Evaluating Emerging Technologies (I-
218 STREET) Living Lab coordination mechanisms with one another to
219 ~~expand and improve transportation within the state. The~~
220 ~~appropriate method of coordination between M.P.O.'s shall vary~~
221 ~~depending upon the project involved and given local and regional~~
222 ~~needs. Consequently, it is appropriate to set forth a flexible~~
223 ~~methodology that can be used by M.P.O.'s to coordinate with~~
224 ~~other M.P.O.'s and appropriate political subdivisions as~~
225 ~~circumstances demand.~~

226 2. Any M.P.O. may join with any other M.P.O. or any
227 individual political subdivision to coordinate activities or to
228 achieve any federal or state transportation planning or
229 development goals or purposes consistent with federal or state
230 law. When an M.P.O. determines that it is appropriate to join
231 with another M.P.O. or any political subdivision to coordinate
232 activities, the M.P.O. or political subdivision shall enter into
233 an interlocal agreement pursuant to s. 163.01, which, at a
234 minimum, creates a separate legal or administrative entity to
235 coordinate the transportation planning or development activities
236 required to achieve the goal or purpose; provides the purpose
237 for which the entity is created; provides the duration of the
238 agreement and the entity and specifies how the agreement may be
239 terminated, modified, or rescinded; describes the precise
240 organization of the entity, including who has voting rights on
241 the governing board, whether alternative voting members are
242 provided for, how voting members are appointed, and what the
243 relative voting strength is for each constituent M.P.O. or
244 political subdivision; provides the manner in which the parties
245 to the agreement will provide for the financial support of the
246 entity and payment of costs and expenses of the entity; provides
247 the manner in which funds may be paid to and disbursed from the
248 entity; and provides how members of the entity will resolve
249 disagreements regarding interpretation of the interlocal
250 agreement or disputes relating to the operation of the entity.

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251 Such interlocal agreement shall become effective upon its
252 recordation in the official public records of each county in
253 which a member of the entity created by the interlocal agreement
254 has a voting member. Multiple M.P.O.'s may merge, combine, or
255 otherwise join together as a single M.P.O.

256 (i) By February 28, 2025 ~~December 31, 2023~~, the M.P.O.'s
257 serving Lee and Collier ~~Hillsborough, Pasco, and Pinellas~~
258 Counties must submit a feasibility report to the Governor, the
259 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
260 Representatives exploring the benefits, costs, and process of
261 consolidation into a single M.P.O. serving the contiguous
262 urbanized area, the goal of which would be to:

263 1. Coordinate transportation projects deemed to be
264 regionally significant.

265 2. Review the impact of regionally significant land use
266 decisions on the region.

267 3. Review all proposed regionally significant
268 transportation projects in the respective transportation
269 improvement programs.

270 (7) LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN.—Each M.P.O. must
271 develop a long-range transportation plan that addresses at least
272 a 20-year planning horizon. The plan must include both long-
273 range and short-range strategies and must comply with all other
274 state and federal requirements. The prevailing principles to be
275 considered in the long-range transportation plan are: preserving

276 the existing transportation infrastructure; enhancing Florida's
277 economic competitiveness; and improving travel choices to ensure
278 mobility. The long-range transportation plan must be consistent,
279 to the maximum extent feasible, with future land use elements
280 and the goals, objectives, and policies of the approved local
281 government comprehensive plans of the units of local government
282 located within the jurisdiction of the M.P.O. Each M.P.O. is
283 encouraged to consider strategies that integrate transportation
284 and land use planning to provide for sustainable development and
285 reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The approved long-range
286 transportation plan must be considered by local governments in
287 the development of the transportation elements in local
288 government comprehensive plans and any amendments thereto. The
289 long-range transportation plan must, at a minimum:

290 (a) Identify transportation facilities, including, but not
291 limited to, major roadways, airports, seaports, spaceports,
292 commuter rail systems, transit systems, and intermodal or
293 multimodal terminals that will function as an integrated
294 metropolitan transportation system. The long-range
295 transportation plan must give emphasis to those transportation
296 facilities that serve national, statewide, or regional
297 functions, and must consider the goals and objectives identified
298 in the Florida Transportation Plan as provided in s. 339.155. If
299 a project is located within the boundaries of more than one
300 M.P.O., the M.P.O.'s must coordinate plans regarding the project

301 in the long-range transportation plan. ~~Multiple M.P.O.'s within~~
 302 ~~a contiguous urbanized area must coordinate the development of~~
 303 ~~long-range transportation plans to be reviewed by the~~
 304 ~~Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council.~~

305 (b) Include a financial plan that demonstrates how the
 306 plan can be implemented, indicating resources from public and
 307 private sources which are reasonably expected to be available to
 308 carry out the plan, and recommends any additional financing
 309 strategies for needed projects and programs. The financial plan
 310 may include, for illustrative purposes, additional projects that
 311 would be included in the adopted long-range transportation plan
 312 if reasonable additional resources beyond those identified in
 313 the financial plan were available. For the purpose of developing
 314 the long-range transportation plan, the M.P.O. and the
 315 department shall cooperatively develop estimates of funds that
 316 will be available to support the plan implementation. Innovative
 317 financing techniques may be used to fund needed projects and
 318 programs. Such techniques may include the assessment of tolls,
 319 public-private partnerships, the use of value capture financing,
 320 or the use of value pricing. Multiple M.P.O.'s within a
 321 contiguous urbanized area must ensure, to the maximum extent
 322 possible, the consistency of data used in the planning process.

323 (c) Assess capital investment and other measures necessary
 324 to:

- 325 1. Ensure the preservation of the existing metropolitan

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326 transportation system including requirements for the operation,
327 resurfacing, restoration, and rehabilitation of major roadways
328 and requirements for the operation, maintenance, modernization,
329 and rehabilitation of public transportation facilities; and

330 2. Make the most efficient use of existing transportation
331 facilities to relieve vehicular congestion, improve safety, and
332 maximize the mobility of people and goods. Such efforts must
333 include, but are not limited to, consideration of infrastructure
334 and technological improvements necessary to accommodate advances
335 in vehicle technology, such as automated driving systems and
336 other developments.

337 (d) Indicate, as appropriate, proposed transportation
338 enhancement activities, including, but not limited to,
339 pedestrian and bicycle facilities, trails or facilities that are
340 regionally significant or critical linkages for the Florida
341 Shared-Use Nonmotorized Trail Network, scenic easements,
342 landscaping, integration of advanced air mobility, and
343 integration of autonomous and electric vehicles, electric
344 bicycles, and motorized scooters used for freight, commuter, or
345 micromobility purposes ~~historic preservation, mitigation of~~
346 ~~water pollution due to highway runoff, and control of outdoor~~
347 ~~advertising.~~

348 (e) In addition to the requirements of paragraphs (a)-(d),
349 in metropolitan areas that are classified as nonattainment areas
350 for ozone or carbon monoxide, the M.P.O. must coordinate the

351 development of the long-range transportation plan with the State
352 Implementation Plan developed pursuant to the requirements of
353 the federal Clean Air Act.

354
355 In the development of its long-range transportation plan, each
356 M.P.O. must provide the public, affected public agencies,
357 representatives of transportation agency employees, freight
358 shippers, providers of freight transportation services, private
359 providers of transportation, representatives of users of public
360 transit, and other interested parties with a reasonable
361 opportunity to comment on the long-range transportation plan.
362 The long-range transportation plan must be approved by the
363 M.P.O. and by the department as provided in subsection (10).

364 (10) ACCOUNTABILITY.—

365 (a) The department shall review each M.P.O.'s long-range
366 transportation plan for productive flow and connectivity for
367 people and freight within the M.P.O.'s metropolitan area. If the
368 department finds an M.P.O.'s long-range transportation plan to
369 be unsatisfactory or incongruent with the metropolitan area, the
370 department shall return the plan to the M.P.O. for revision.

371 (b) The department shall create quality performance
372 metrics and a scoring mechanism by which to evaluate each
373 M.P.O.'s service to its communities, taking into consideration
374 traffic congestion, the utilization rate of multimodal
375 transportation facilities, resident satisfaction, efficiency of

376 the transportation system for people and freight, and other
377 factors the department deems necessary. The department shall
378 establish a minimum acceptable quality performance score.

379 (c) Beginning in 2025 and each year thereafter, each
380 M.P.O. shall report its score for each quality performance
381 metric by December 1 to the district secretary and shall publish
382 the score and supporting data on its website. The department
383 must validate each M.P.O.'s score calculation and make
384 adjustments thereto if necessary.

385 (d) Beginning in December of 2026 and every 3 years
386 thereafter, an M.P.O. that does not achieve the minimum
387 acceptable quality performance score shall be placed under the
388 control of the Secretary of Transportation. The Secretary of
389 Transportation shall appoint the district secretary or another
390 person to assume the role of executive director of the M.P.O.
391 and chair of its governing board for a period not to exceed 1
392 year, during which time the district secretary or other person
393 shall make recommendations to the governing board regarding:

394 1. Any leadership, process, and management changes needed
395 to improve the M.P.O.'s quality performance score.

396 2. Whether the metropolitan area of the M.P.O. would be
397 better served by consolidation of the M.P.O. with an M.P.O. in a
398 contiguous urbanized metropolitan area.

399 (e) Subject to appropriation by the Legislature, beginning
400 in 2026 and every 3 years thereafter, the single M.P.O. with the

401 highest quality performance score will receive \$5 million from
402 the State Transportation Trust Fund. Such funds shall be
403 expended at the M.P.O.'s discretion for a project approved in
404 its work program list. Such M.P.O. shall also represent the
405 state in any federal M.P.O. conference or membership
406 organization.

407 ~~(11) METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION ADVISORY COUNCIL.—~~

408 ~~(a) A Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council~~
409 ~~is created to augment, and not supplant, the role of the~~
410 ~~individual M.P.O.'s in the cooperative transportation planning~~
411 ~~process described in this section.~~

412 ~~(b) The council shall consist of one representative from~~
413 ~~each M.P.O. and shall elect a chairperson annually from its~~
414 ~~number. Each M.P.O. shall also elect an alternate representative~~
415 ~~from each M.P.O. to vote in the absence of the representative.~~
416 ~~Members of the council do not receive any compensation for their~~
417 ~~services, but may be reimbursed from funds made available to~~
418 ~~council members for travel and per diem expenses incurred in the~~
419 ~~performance of their council duties as provided in s. 112.061.~~

420 ~~(c) The powers and duties of the Metropolitan Planning~~
421 ~~Organization Advisory Council are to:~~

422 ~~1. Establish bylaws by action of its governing board~~
423 ~~providing procedural rules to guide its proceedings and~~
424 ~~consideration of matters before the council, or, alternatively,~~
425 ~~adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement~~

426 ~~provisions of law conferring powers or duties upon it.~~

427 ~~2. Assist M.P.O.'s in carrying out the urbanized area~~
428 ~~transportation planning process by serving as the principal~~
429 ~~forum for collective policy discussion pursuant to law.~~

430 ~~3. Serve as a clearinghouse for review and comment by~~
431 ~~M.P.O.'s on the Florida Transportation Plan and on other issues~~
432 ~~required to comply with federal or state law in carrying out the~~
433 ~~urbanized area transportation and systematic planning processes~~
434 ~~instituted pursuant to s. 339.155. The council must also report~~
435 ~~annually to the Florida Transportation Commission on the~~
436 ~~alignment of M.P.O. long-range transportation plans with the~~
437 ~~Florida Transportation Plan.~~

438 ~~4. Employ an executive director and such other staff as~~
439 ~~necessary to perform adequately the functions of the council,~~
440 ~~within budgetary limitations. The executive director and staff~~
441 ~~are exempt from part II of chapter 110 and serve at the~~
442 ~~direction and control of the council. The council is assigned to~~
443 ~~the Office of the Secretary of the Department of Transportation~~
444 ~~for fiscal and accountability purposes, but it shall otherwise~~
445 ~~function independently of the control and direction of the~~
446 ~~department.~~

447 ~~5. Deliver training on federal and state program~~
448 ~~requirements and procedures to M.P.O. board members and M.P.O.~~
449 ~~staff.~~

450 ~~6. Adopt an agency strategic plan that prioritizes steps~~

451 ~~the agency will take to carry out its mission within the context~~
 452 ~~of the state comprehensive plan and any other statutory mandates~~
 453 ~~and directives.~~

454 ~~(d) The Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory~~
 455 ~~Council may enter into contracts in accordance with chapter 287~~
 456 ~~to support the activities described in paragraph (c). Lobbying~~
 457 ~~and the acceptance of funds, grants, assistance, gifts, or~~
 458 ~~bequests from private, local, state, or federal sources are~~
 459 ~~prohibited.~~

460 Section 4. Subsection (14) of section 331.3051, Florida
 461 Statutes, is amended to read:

462 331.3051 Duties of Space Florida.—Space Florida shall:

463 ~~(14) Partner with the Metropolitan Planning Organization~~
 464 ~~Advisory Council to coordinate and specify how aerospace~~
 465 ~~planning and programming will be part of the state's cooperative~~
 466 ~~transportation planning process.~~

467 Section 5. Paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section
 468 331.310, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

469 331.310 Powers and duties of the board of directors.—

470 (2) The board of directors shall:

471 (e) Prepare an annual report of operations as a supplement
 472 to the annual report required under s. 331.3051(15) ~~s.~~

473 ~~331.3051(16)~~. The report must include, but not be limited to, a
 474 balance sheet, an income statement, a statement of changes in
 475 financial position, a reconciliation of changes in equity

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476 accounts, a summary of significant accounting principles, the
477 auditor's report, a summary of the status of existing and
478 proposed bonding projects, comments from management about the
479 year's business, and prospects for the next year.

480 Section 6. By October 31, 2024, the Department of
481 Transportation shall submit to the Governor, the President of
482 the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a
483 report that provides a comprehensive review of the boundaries of
484 each of the department's districts and whether any district's
485 boundaries should be redrawn as a result of population growth
486 and increased urban density.

487 Section 7. By October 1, 2024, the Department of Highway
488 Safety and Motor Vehicles must begin implementation of a
489 redesigned registration license plate required by s.
490 320.06(3) (a), Florida Statutes. The redesign does not apply to
491 specialty license plates. In redesigning the plate, the
492 department must replace the current graphic and remove the term
493 "MYFLORIDA.COM" and replace it solely with the word "FLORIDA."
494 The department must coordinate with the Department of
495 Transportation to ensure the legibility of the redesigned
496 registration license plate and must also consider adding an
497 additional character to the registration license plate due to
498 the state's continued economic growth.

499 Section 8. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.