

CS/CS/CS/HB 1271 — Transportation

by Economic Development & Community Affairs Policy Council; Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations; Roads, Bridges, & Ports Policy Committee; and Rep. Horner (CS/CS/CS/SB 2362 by Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations Committee; Community Affairs Committee; Transportation Committee; and Senator Gardiner)

This bill makes a number of statutory changes related to transportation. The bill:

- Allows counties served by a regional transportation or transit authority to levy up to a 1% discretionary sales surtax for transportation systems by referendum;
- Reorganizes the membership of the Board of Pilot Commissioners and creates the Pilotage Rate Review Committee as part of the board;
- Removes obsolete language related to legislative review of the Seaport Loan Program;
- Clarifies the notification requirements to be used when a citation is issued for toll violations;
- Updates a reference to ensure the most recent federal motor carrier safety regulations are implemented;
- Allows points to only be imposed against a toll violators driver's license if ordered by a judge;
- Declares provisions in motor carrier transport contracts indemnifying a shipper or trucking terminal for its own negligent acts, to be contrary to public policy, void, and unenforceable;
- Grants a weight allowance to compensate for anti-idling devices on commercial motor vehicles and allows FDOT and local authorities to issue permits authorizing a vehicle weighing 10% above the maximum allowable gross weight to use routes off the Interstate Highway System;
- Revises vehicle registration requirements for wreckers;
- Repeals the non-functioning SAFE Council and transfers existing and future revenues from its funding source, the United We Stand specialty license plate, to FDOT to be used in airport safety training and security projects;
- Clarifies the application process used by contractors seeking qualification to bid on transportation construction jobs;
- Clarifies authorization to allow placement of certain electric transmission lines applies only to limited access highways;
- Requires new rail transit systems to implement fare collection systems that are interoperable with multiple public transportation systems throughout the state;
- Authorizes LYNX to borrow up to \$10 million annually for refinancing purposes;
- Revises bonding provisions available to the Tampa Hillsborough County Expressway Authority to allow the authority to issue bonds without going through the State Board of Administration's Division of Bond Finance;
- Authorizes the creation of the Osceola County Expressway Authority;
- Allows the use of certain mitigation credits from other projects within the Wekiva Parkway study area;
- Increases the Lake Belt Area Wetland Mitigation fee from 24 cents per ton to 45 cents per ton of limerock or sand mined in the area;

- Deletes reporting provisions related to the progress and cost-savings of the “adopt-a-highway” program;
- Clarifies land uses in relation to outdoor advertising and provides for sign owners, advertisers, or property owners to be held liable for the removal of improperly permitted signs;
- Reduces the maximum fee FDOT may charge for logo signs on Interstates and removes authorization to implement a 3-year rotation for signs in areas where demand exceeds availability; and
- Provides explicit authority for public-use airports to dispose of or remove personal property, derelict or abandoned aircraft and derelict or abandoned motor vehicles from the airport’s premises.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July1, 2010.

Vote: Senate 36-0; House 114-1