

STORAGE NAME: h0363.sa.doc
DATE: March 23, 2001

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
AS REVISED BY THE COMMITTEE ON
STATE ADMINISTRATION
ANALYSIS**

BILL #: HB 363
RELATING TO: Tampa-Hillsborough County Expressway Authority
SPONSOR(S): Representative(s) Henriquez and others
TIED BILL(S):

ORIGINATING COMMITTEE(S)/COUNCIL(S)/COMMITTEE(S) OF REFERENCE:

- (1) FISCAL POLICY & RESOURCES YEAS 12 NAYS 0
 - (2) STATE ADMINISTRATION
 - (3) LOCAL GOVERNMENT & VETERANS AFFAIRS
 - (4) TRANSPORTATION
 - (5) COUNCIL FOR COMPETITIVE COMMERCE
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I. SUMMARY:

This bill expands the bonding authority of the Tampa-Hillsborough County Expressway Authority to allow the issuance of bonds to finance the connector highway linking the Lee Roy Selmon Crosstown Expressway to Interstate 4.

This bill has no fiscal impact on state or local governments and would take effect upon becoming law

See "Other Comments" section for comments by the Committee on State Administration.

II. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS:

A. DOES THE BILL SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES:

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. <u>Less Government</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. <u>Lower Taxes</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. <u>Individual Freedom</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. <u>Personal Responsibility</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. <u>Family Empowerment</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

For any principle that received a "no" above, please explain:

B. PRESENT SITUATION:

In 1997 the Tampa-Hillsborough Expressway was authorized to issue revenue bonds to finance and refinance certain projects. These revenue bonds are not backed by the full faith and credit of the State of Florida. In addition to existing facilities, the authority was authorized to issue bonds to finance Brandon area feeder roads, capitol improvements to the expressway system including the toll collection equipment, and the widening of the Lee Roy Selmon Crosstown Expressway System.

C. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

This bill would add the connector highway linking Lee Roy Selmon Crosstown Expressway to Interstate 4 to the list of projects which could be financed through bonds.

D. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS:

N/A

III. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT:

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

N/A

2. Expenditures:

N/A

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

N/A

2. Expenditures:

N/A

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

N/A

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

This bill will have no impact on state or local revenues.

IV. CONSEQUENCES OF ARTICLE VII, SECTION 18 OF THE FLORIDA CONSTITUTION:

A. APPLICABILITY OF THE MANDATES PROVISION:

N/A

B. REDUCTION OF REVENUE RAISING AUTHORITY:

N/A

C. REDUCTION OF STATE TAX SHARED WITH COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES:

N/A

V. COMMENTS:

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

N/A

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

N/A

C. OTHER COMMENTS:

Comments by Committee on State Administration

Article VII, Section 11, Florida Constitution, outlines the requirements for the issuance of state bonds and revenue bonds. State bonds pledging the full faith and credit of the state may be issued only to finance or refinance the cost of state fixed capital outlay projects authorized by law. Each project, building, or facility to be financed or refinanced with revenue bonds issued under this section must first be approved by the Legislature by an act relating to appropriations or by general law.

Chapter 97-280, L.O.F., provided for revenue bonds to be used on specified projects. Section 348.565, F.S., permits the Division of Bond Finance of the State Board of Administration to refinance any facilities that constitute the Tampa-Hillsborough County Expressway System through the issuance of revenue bonds. In addition, the following projects of the Tampa-Hillsborough County Expressway Authority can be financed or refinanced by the issuance of revenue bonds: Brandon area feeder roads; capital improvements to the expressway system, including safety and

operational improvements and toll collection equipment; and Lee Roy Selmon Crosstown Expressway System widening.¹

The Tampa-Hillsborough County Expressway Authority is responsible for construction and maintenance of toll-financed roads in the County.² The authority is comprised of four Governor appointees, a County Commissioner, the Mayor of Tampa, and the Florida Department of Transportation District 7 Secretary. It coordinates road planning and construction through public and private partnerships to improve traffic flow on the Lee Roy Selmon Expressway and parallel roads. The Lee Roy Selmon Expressway is a 14-mile toll road that extends from Gandy Boulevard in Southwest Tampa, north and east through downtown Tampa to an interchange with Interstate 75 just west of the Brandon area.³

HB 363 allows an additional project of the Tampa-Hillsborough County Expressway Authority, a connector highway linking Lee Roy Selmon Crosstown Expressway to Interstate 4, to be financed or refinanced by the issuance of revenue bonds. According to an article published in The Tampa Tribune on Tuesday, February 22, 2000, Governor Jeb Bush recommended at that time to give the Tampa-Hillsborough County Expressway Authority a \$25 million loan to hasten the project between Brandon and downtown Tampa. The loan would allow the authority to combine construction of the elevated toll road with a series of new expressway feeder roads to be built the following year, 2001, in Brandon. At the time of the article, the connector roads were expected to cost \$50 million, and the total cost of the elevated roadway was expected to be between \$215 million and \$250 million, depending on design features.⁴

VI. AMENDMENTS OR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES:

The Committee on Fiscal Policy & Resources adopted one technical amendment correcting the spelling of Lee Roy.

VII. SIGNATURES:

COMMITTEE ON FISCAL POLICY & RESOURCES:

Prepared by:

Kama Monroe

Staff Director:

Greg Turbeville

AS REVISED BY THE COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION:

Prepared by:

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Staff Director:

J. Marleen Ahearn, Ph.D., J.D.

¹ Section 348.565, F.S.

² <http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/services/transportation.html>

³ <http://www11.myflorida.com/myflorida/transportation/learn/finances/financialplanning/pdf/bndfinupd5-2000.pdf>

⁴ "Loan would accelerate expressway," by Tom Brennan, The Tampa Tribune, February 22, 2000, found at <http://www.dot.state.fl.us/goodnews/loan.htm>