

SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: Community Affairs Committee

BILL: CS/SB 318

INTRODUCER: Community Affairs Committee and Senator Bennett

SUBJECT: Century Commission for a Sustainable Florida

DATE: February 21, 2007

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Herrin	Yeatman	CA	Fav/CS
2.	_____	_____	GO	_____
3.	_____	_____	TA	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

I. Summary:

The committee substitute (CS) expands the membership of the Century Commission for a Sustainable Florida (commission), requires the new appointments to be made by October 1, 2007, and revises the appointment criteria for commission members. It also restricts commission members from having a direct or indirect interest in any contract or benefit awarded by the commission during the member's term and for 2 years after the end of that member's term. This CS expands the responsibilities of the commission to include the creation and dissolution of advisory committees as necessary, the receipt of contributions from any source to further the mission of the commission, and the preparation and submission of a budget.

Under this CS, the commission is assigned to the Office of Legislative Services, but will function independently. The commission will appoint an executive director and is authorized to fix the salary for the position. The CS authorizes the executive director to hire staff as necessary with the consent of the commission. In addition, it appropriates \$300,000 in recurring funds to the commission for salaries and other administrative expenses during the 2007-2008 fiscal year and makes conforming changes to distribute those funds.

This CS substantially amends section 163.3247 of the Florida Statutes.

II. Present Situation:

In 2005, the Legislature created the 15-member Century Commission for a Sustainable Florida (commission) as a standing body to assist citizens with envisioning and planning the state's future using a 25-year and 50-year horizon.¹ The commission has an executive director who is

¹ Section 163.3247, F.S.

appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Secretary of the Department of Community Affairs. The Department of Community Affairs provides staff and resources as necessary to the commission.

As part of its responsibilities, each year the Century Commission shall:

- Develop and recommend policies or strategies to achieve the citizens' vision of the state's future;
- Inquire how the state and local governments can best accommodate the projected population increase while maintaining those qualities that are the basis for our quality of life;
- Bring various interests together to develop a shared image of the state's developed and natural areas;
- Focus on essential state interests that are most appropriately conserved, protected, and promoted at the state level; and
- Serve as a repository of community-building ideas and a source of strategies and practices that encourage collaborative approaches to growth management issues.

In addition, the commission must submit an annual report to the Legislature and the Governor which contains specific recommendations for addressing growth management in the state. Those recommendations are to be reviewed by a joint select committee of the Legislature.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

This CS expands the membership of the Century Commission for a Sustainable Florida (commission) from 15 to 18 members. These three additional appointments shall be made by October 1, 2007. It revises the criteria for appointments to the commission, requiring that the membership reflect the racial, ethnic, and gender diversity, as well as the geographic distribution, of the state's population. It also deletes obsolete language.

The CS restricts a member of the commission from having an interest, either direct or indirect, in any contract or benefit awarded by the commission while the member serves on the commission and for 2 years after termination of the member's appointment.

In addition, the CS expands the powers and duties of the commission to:

- Create and dissolve advisory committees or similar committees as necessary;
- Receive and accept contributions from any source to use in furtherance of the mission of the commission; and
- Prepare and submit a budget under ch. 216, F.S.

The CS moves the appointment of the executive director of the commission from the Secretary of the Department of Community Affairs to the commission. It authorizes the commission to fix the salary of the executive director. The executive director may employ staff as necessary within budgetary limitations and with the consent of the commission. The commission is assigned to the Office of Legislative Services for the purposes of administration and fiscal responsibility, but the

commission will function independently. The Office of Legislative Services will provide staff and other resources to the commission based on the recommendations of the Legislature.

This CS appropriates \$300,000 in recurring funds to the commission for salaries and other administrative expenses during the 2007-2008 fiscal year. It also revises s. 201.15(1)(d), F.S., to distribute the \$300,000 (in addition to the existing \$250,000 in recurring funding for a total of \$550,000) to the Grants and Donations Trust Fund in the Department of Community Affairs for the support of the commission.

The CS takes effect July 1, 2007.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The commission received \$250,000 in nonrecurring funding in the 2005-2006 fiscal year from the Grants and Donations Trust Fund in the Department of Community Affairs.² For the 2006-2007 fiscal year, the commission received \$250,000 recurring and \$300,000 nonrecurring funds from the same trust fund.³ This CS appropriates \$300,000 in recurring funds to the commission for the purpose of paying salaries and other administrative expenses of the commission during the 2007-2008 fiscal year. Those funds will also be distributed through the Grants and Donations Trust Fund in the department.

² Ch. 2005-290, § 27 at 69, Laws of Fla.

³ Ch. 2006-69, § 35 at 37, Laws of Fla.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

This Senate staff analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.

VIII. Summary of Amendments:

None.

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