

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: CS/HB 969 Space & Aerospace Infrastructure
SPONSOR(S): Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations; Crisafulli
TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:** SB 1776

	REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR
1)	Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations Committee	13 Y, 0 N, As CS	Fennell	Creamer
2)	Full Appropriations Council on Education & Economic Development			
3)				
4)				
5)				

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

House Bill 969 provides that funds appropriated in Specific Appropriation 2649 of Chapter 2008-152, Laws of Florida, for Space and Aerospace Infrastructure to make improvements to Launch Complex 36 may also be used by Space Florida for improvements to other launch complexes and space transportation facilities in order to attract new space vehicle testing and launch business to the state; to address intermodal requirements and impacts of the launch ranges, spaceports and other space transportation facilities; to advance aerospace technology to meet the current and future needs of the United States commercial space transportation industry; and to assist in the development of joint-use facilities and technology that support aviation and aerospace operations.

House Bill 969 has no fiscal impact on State funds.

This legislation takes effect upon becoming law.

HOUSE PRINCIPLES

Members are encouraged to evaluate proposed legislation in light of the following guiding principles of the House of Representatives

- Balance the state budget.
- Create a legal and regulatory environment that fosters economic growth and job creation.
- Lower the tax burden on families and businesses.
- Reverse or restrain the growth of government.
- Promote public safety.
- Promote educational accountability, excellence, and choice.
- Foster respect for the family and for innocent human life.
- Protect Florida's natural beauty.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Current Situation

In 2006, the legislature created Space Florida within Chapter 331, Florida Statutes, as the successor organization to the Florida Space Authority, the Florida Space Research Institute and the Florida Aerospace Finance Corporation. Space Florida is responsible for promoting the development of a sustainable aerospace industry, space infrastructure, and educational opportunities for people interested in working in the space and aerospace industry.¹ Per Florida Statute 331.360, it is the duty of Space Florida to, "...develop a spaceport master plan for expansion and modernization of space transportation facilities." The resulting Spaceport Master Plan found that "to remain competitive in the commercial space industry, flexible options and incentives must be made available for potential customers. Investing in launch and facility infrastructure will be one significant strategy to encourage commercial space business development and secure a solid foundation for future Space Florida Spaceport customers. For example, there are several vehicles that are not currently being launched in Florida, due to lack of active infrastructure at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. These light-to-medium-lift vehicles could be served by SLC-36 and SLC-46 once those pads are refurbished and activated."²

Specific Appropriation 2649 in Chapter 2008-152, Laws of Florida, provided Space Florida with \$14.5 million out of the Economic Development Transportation Trust Fund for improvements to Launch Complex 36 on the 45th Space Wing property in order to attract new space vehicle testing and launch business to the state. The proviso language for Specific Appropriation 2649 limited these funds for only Launch Complex 36.

Proposed Changes

This legislation would not withstand the proviso attached to Specific Appropriation 2649, in Chapter 2008-152, Laws of Florida, and allow for the use of the funds to include improvements to Launch Complex 36 and other launch complexes and space transportation facilities; to address intermodal requirements and impacts of the launch ranges, spaceports, and other space transportation facilities; to advance aerospace technology to meet the current and future needs of the United States commercial

¹ Chapter 2006-60, Laws of Florida

² Space Florida, "Spaceport Master Plan," 2010, available at < <http://www.spaceflorida.gov/docs/Space%20Florida%20-%20Spaceport%20Master%20Plan%202010.pdf> >

space transportation industry; and to assist in the development of joint-use facilities and technology that support aviation and aerospace operations, including high-altitude and suborbital flights and range technology developments.

B. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1 Not withstands any other provision of law and provides allowable uses of prior year specific appropriations.

Section 2 Provides the legislation will take effect upon becoming law.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

None

2. Expenditures:

None

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

None

2. Expenditures:

None

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

None

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

The legislation only amends the allowable use of previously appropriated State dollars, but does not change the amount of the appropriation. There is no fiscal impact on State funds.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

Not applicable because the bill does not appear to require the counties or cities to spend funds or take an action requiring the expenditure of funds; reduce the authority that cities or counties have to raise revenues in the aggregate; or reduce the percentage of a state tax shared with cities or counties.

2. Other:

None

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None

IV. AMENDMENTS/COUNCIL OR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

Amendment 1 includes “to advance aerospace technology to meet the current and future needs of the United States commercial space transportation industry” as an allowable use of the funds.

Amendment 2 changes the effective date from July 1, 2010 to “upon becoming law.”