

NORTH COLLIER FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT

- The proposed local bill addresses the authority of the District to provide medical countermeasures, immunizations, and non-emergent services, such as wellness checks.
 - Independent special fire control and rescue districts are authorized to provide emergency medical and rescue services under Chapter 191, Florida Statutes. It is unclear whether the District has the authority to perform testing and immunizations. Even with this uncertainty, the District was instrumental in providing Covid-19 vaccinations in Collier County during the pandemic. This provision clarifies that the District may allow its paramedics and EMTs to perform blood pressure screenings and administer immunizations. County and municipality paramedics already have this authority.
 - Currently, paramedics are limited to administering immunizations under the direction of their medical director and are not authorized to administer medical countermeasures (i.e., monoclonal antibody therapy; treatment for an anthrax attack). This bill expands the authority for paramedics to administer medical countermeasures. The reason for this change in terminology from just immunizations to the more currently used term of medical countermeasures is to allow paramedics the ability to respond to public health needs in the event of a public health emergency that could stem from a wide range of possibilities including a terrorist attack with a biological, chemical, or radiological/nuclear material, as well as naturally occurring emerging disease. The paramedics would still be required to perform these services under the direction of the District's medical director.
 - There are instances where the District has repeat 911 callers. These reoccurring calls for help could be mitigated by clarifying the District's authority to have follow-up interactions with the patients, which may reduce not only the frequency of repetitive 911 calls but may also save lives.
- The proposed bill deletes obsolete language related to the Board of Fire Commissioners associated with the merger of the North Naples Fire Control and Rescue District and the Big Corkscrew Island Fire Control and Rescue District.
- The proposed bill authorizes the District to write off bad debt after 12 months associated with uncollectable fees arising from false fire alarms and other fees. The District has a very high collection rate but wants to ensure that it has the authority to write off debt that it deems uncollectable.
- The proposed bill deletes obsolete language related to the merger's impact on employees working for the District at the time of the merger. The 5 year merger plan was not meant to be a static document that controlled the operations of the District beyond the time contemplated within it.

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to the North Collier Fire
 3 Control and Rescue District, Collier County;
 4 amending Chapter 2015-191, Laws of Florida;
 5 authorizing community paramedicine, the
 6 administration of immunizations and medical
 7 countermeasures, and wellness activities;
 8 deleting obsolete language; authorizing debt
 9 to be written off; deleting obsolete language;
 10 providing an effective date.
 11

12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
 13

14 Section 1. Section 4 of Section 3 of Chapter 2015-191, Laws
 15 of Florida, is amended to read:

16 Section 4. Powers of the district.—

17 (1) The district is authorized to establish, equip, operate,
 18 and maintain a fire department and rescue squad within the district
 19 and may buy, lease, sell, exchange, or otherwise acquire and
 20 dispose of firefighting and rescue equipment and other property,
 21 real, personal, or mixed, that it may from time to time deem
 22 necessary to prevent and extinguish fires or provide rescue
 23 services. This shall include, but is not limited to, the authority
 24 to hire and fire necessary firefighters and other personnel; to
 25 provide water, water supply, water stations, and other necessary
 26 buildings; to accept gifts or donations of equipment or money for
 27 the use of the district; to provide fire hydrants or other types

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28 | of water supply, buildings for housing fire equipment and
 29 | personnel, training facilities for fire and rescue, and other
 30 | buildings deemed necessary by the district board to provide
 31 | adequate protection from unwanted fire and to carry out rescue
 32 | operations; and to do all things necessary to provide adequate
 33 | water supply, fire prevention, and proper fire protection for the
 34 | district.

35 | (2) Recognizing that the dramatically increasing housing
 36 | costs in Collier County may have a detrimental impact on the
 37 | ability to hire and retain personnel needed for the provision of
 38 | fire protection services to district residents, the district is
 39 | authorized also to provide housing or housing assistance for its
 40 | employed personnel, with use of such funds being deemed to be in
 41 | the public interest. In addition, the district is authorized to
 42 | extend its services beyond the district boundaries, provided it
 43 | is in cooperation with another governmental entity, whether
 44 | federal, state, county, municipal, or special district.

45 | ~~(32)~~ The district is authorized to provide a paid staff to
 46 | carry out its responsibilities. Such staff shall serve at the
 47 | pleasure of the district board.

48 | ~~(43)~~ The district may establish and maintain emergency
 49 | medical and
 50 | rescue response services consistent with s. 191.008(1), Florida
 51 | Statutes, and chapter 401, Florida Statutes, ~~and any certificate~~

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52 ~~of public convenience and necessity or its equivalent issued~~
53 ~~thereunder.~~

54 (5) The district may provide community paramedicine in a
55 nonemergency environment, and allow its paramedics and emergency
56 medical technicians to perform blood pressure screenings, health
57 promotion and wellness activities, and administer immunizations or
58 medical countermeasures.

59 (64) In addition to any other power to borrow money as may be
60 provided by this charter or by general law, the district may borrow
61 sufficient funds to provide for 3 months' operating expenses, with
62 such loan to be repaid from anticipated revenues.

63 (75) The district is authorized to inspect and investigate
64 all property for fire hazards. The district board, by resolution
65 duly adopted, may assess fees for fire inspection and maintenance
66 and replacement of hydrants in an amount reasonably related to the
67 cost thereof and may adopt provisions creating a lien or providing
68 for civil enforcement of such assessments.

69 (86) The district is authorized to adopt rules and regulations
70 for the prevention of fire and for fire control in the district,
71 which shall have the same force and effect as law 10 days after
72 copies thereof executed by the chair and secretary of the board
73 have been posted in at least three places.

74 (97) The district shall have all powers and duties granted by
75 this charter and chapters 189 and 191, Florida Statutes.

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76

77 Section 2. Subsection (2) of Section 5 of Section 3 of
78 Chapter 2015-191, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

79 Section 5. Governing board.—

80 (2)(a) The office of each board member is designated as a
81 seat on the board, distinguished from each of the other seats by
82 a numeral. Each candidate must designate, at the time he or she
83 qualifies, the seat on the board for which he or she is qualifying.
84 The name of each candidate who qualifies shall be included on the
85 ballot in a way that clearly indicates the seat for which he or
86 she is a candidate. The candidate for each seat who receives the
87 most votes shall be elected to the board. The cost of such
88 elections shall be paid from funds of the district.

89 ~~(b) As of January 1, 2015, the effective date of the merger,~~
90 ~~the district is governed by an eight-member board of fire~~
91 ~~commissioners, which consists of the boards of fire commissioners~~
92 ~~of the Big Corkscrew Island Fire Control and Rescue District and~~
93 ~~the North Naples Fire Control and Rescue District. The eight~~
94 ~~commissioners shall serve until the governing body members elected~~
95 ~~at the next general election take office.~~

96 ~~(c) In the 2016 general election, the board of fire~~
97 ~~commissioners shall be reduced to five members. Seat 1 shall be~~
98 ~~elected from the Big Corkscrew Island Service Delivery Area, with~~
99 ~~each candidate for such seat being required to be a qualified~~

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100 ~~elector residing in the Big Corkscrew Island Service Delivery Area~~
 101 ~~and being elected from only those electors of that service delivery~~
 102 ~~area. Seat 3 shall be elected from the North Naples Service~~
 103 ~~Delivery Area, with each candidate for such seat being required to~~
 104 ~~be a qualified elector residing in the North Naples Service~~
 105 ~~Delivery Area and being elected from only those electors of that~~
 106 ~~service delivery area. Seats 2, 4, and 5 shall be elected as at-~~
 107 ~~large seats for the merged district as a whole. The commissioners~~
 108 ~~holding seats 1, 3, and 5 shall have initial terms that expire in~~
 109 ~~November 2020. Commissioners holding seats 2 and 4 shall have~~
 110 ~~initial terms that expire in November 2018.~~

111 ~~(d) In the 2020 general election, seats 1 and 3 shall be~~
 112 ~~elected as at-large seats for the district as a whole, and the~~
 113 ~~requirements to reside within and be elected from the specified~~
 114 ~~service delivery area as provided for in paragraph (c) are~~
 115 ~~eliminated.~~

116
 117 Section 3. Subsection (1) of Section 6 of Section 3 of
 118 Chapter 2015-191, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

119 Section 6. Finances.—

120 (1) The district shall hold all powers, functions, and
 121 duties set forth in chapters 189 and 191, Florida Statutes,
 122 regarding ad valorem taxation, bond issuance, other revenue
 123 raising capabilities, budget preparation and approval, liens and

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124 foreclosure of liens, use of tax deeds and tax certificates as
 125 appropriate for non-ad valorem assessments, and contractual
 126 agreements. The district may be financed by any method established
 127 in this charter, chapter 189 or chapter 191, Florida Statutes, or
 128 any other applicable general or special law. The district has the
 129 authority to write off any debt that is older than 12 months old
 130 and has been determined by the district to be uncollectable.
 131

132 Section 4. Subsection (2) of Section 9 of Section 3 of
 133 Chapter 2015-191, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

134 Section 9. Miscellaneous.—

135 (2) This act does not affect the terms of office of the
 136 present district board, ~~except as provided for in section 5,~~ nor
 137 does it affect the terms and conditions of employment of any
 138 employee of the district. ~~except for the elimination of chief~~
 139 ~~officer positions as identified in the endorsed merger plan that~~
 140 ~~was approved by the Boards of Fire Commissioners of the North~~
 141 ~~Naples Fire Control and Rescue District and the Big Corkscrew~~
 142 ~~Island Fire Control and Rescue District on August 14, 2014.~~
 143

144 Section 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
LOCAL BILL ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FORM

****Read all instructions carefully.****

The House local bill policy prohibits a local bill from being considered by a committee or a subcommittee without an Economic Impact Statement. This form must be prepared by an individual who is qualified to establish fiscal data and impacts and has personal knowledge of the information given (for example, a chief financial officer of a local government) and include information for the first two full fiscal years after the effective date of the local bill. Please file this completed form with the Clerk of the House as soon as possible after a local bill is filed. Additional pages may be attached as necessary.

BILL #: _____

SPONSOR(S): _____

RELATING TO: _____

[Indicate area affected (city, county, or special district) and subject]

Check if this is a revised Economic Impact Statement

I. REVENUES:

These figures are new revenues in the first two full fiscal years after the effective date of the bill that would not otherwise exist but for the passage of the bill. The term "revenue" contemplates, but is not limited to, taxes, fees, and special assessments. For example, license plate fees may be a revenue source. If the bill will add or remove property or individuals from the tax base, include this information as well.

	<u>First FY</u>	<u>Second FY</u>
Revenue decrease due to bill:	\$ _____	\$ _____
Revenue increase due to bill:	\$ _____	\$ _____

II. COST:

Include all costs, both direct and indirect, including start-up costs, in the first two full fiscal years after the effective date of the bill. If the bill repeals the existence of a certain entity, state the related costs, such as satisfying liabilities and distributing assets.

Expenditures for implementation, administration, and enforcement:

<u>First FY</u>	<u>Second FY</u>
\$ _____	\$ _____

Please include explanations and calculations regarding how each dollar figure was determined in reaching total cost.

III. FUNDING SOURCE(S):

State the specific sources from which funding will be received, for example, license plate fees, state funds, borrowed funds, or special assessments. If certain funding changes are anticipated to occur beyond the first two full fiscal years after the effective date of the bill, explain the change and at what rate taxes, fees, or assessments will be collected in those years.

	<u>First FY</u>	<u>Second FY</u>
Local:	\$ _____	\$ _____
<hr/>		
<hr/>		
State:	\$ _____	\$ _____
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<hr/>		
Federal:	\$ _____	\$ _____
<hr/>		
<hr/>		

IV. ECONOMIC IMPACT:

Potential advantages:

Include all possible outcomes linked to the bill, such as increased efficiencies, and positive or negative changes to tax revenue. If an act is being repealed or an entity dissolved, include the increased or decreased efficiencies caused thereby. Include specific figures for anticipated job growth.

- 1. Advantages to individuals: _____

- 2. Advantages to businesses: _____

- 3. Advantages to government: _____

Potential disadvantages:

Include all possible outcomes linked to the bill, such as inefficiencies, shortages, or market changes anticipated. Include reduced business opportunities, such as reduced access to capital or training, and state any decreases in tax revenue as a result of the bill.

- 1. Disadvantages to Individuals: _____

- 2. Disadvantages to Businesses: _____

- 3. Disadvantages to Government: _____

V. DESCRIBE THE POTENTIAL IMPACT OF THE BILL ON PRESENT GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES:


VI. SPECIFIC DATA USED IN REACHING ESTIMATES:

Include the type(s) and source(s) of data used, percentages, dollar figures, all assumptions made, history of the industry/issue affected by the bill, and any audits.

VII. CERTIFICATION BY PREPARER

I hereby certify I am qualified to establish fiscal data and impacts and have personal knowledge of the information given. I have reviewed all available financial information applicable to the substance of the above-stated local bill and confirm the foregoing Economic Impact Statement is a true and accurate estimate of the economic impact of the bill.

PREPARED BY:



[Must be signed by preparer]

Print preparer's name:

Eloy Ricardo

11-28-22

Date

TITLE (such as Executive Director, Actuary, Chief Accountant, or Budget Director):

Fire Chief

REPRESENTING:

North Collier Fire Control & Rescue Dist

PHONE:

239-597-3222

E-MAIL ADDRESS:

ericardo@northcollierfire.com

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
2022 – 2023 LOCAL BILL CERTIFICATION FORM

BILL #: _____

SPONSOR(S): _____

RELATING TO: _____

[Indicate Area Affected (City, County, or Special District) and Subject]

NAME OF DELEGATION: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____

PHONE NO.: (____) _____ **E-Mail:** _____

I. House local bill policy requires the following steps to occur before a committee or subcommittee of the House considers a local bill:

- (1) The members of the local legislative delegation must certify that the purpose of the bill cannot be accomplished at the local level;*
- (2) The legislative delegation must hold a public hearing in the area affected for the purpose of considering the local bill issue(s);*
- (3) The bill must be approved by a majority of the legislative delegation, or a higher threshold if so required by the rules of the delegation, at the public hearing or at a subsequent delegation meeting; and*
- (4) An Economic Impact Statement for local bills must be prepared at the local level and filed with the Clerk of the House. Under House policy, a local bill will not be considered by a committee or subcommittee without an Economic Impact Statement.*

(1) Does the delegation certify the purpose of the bill cannot be accomplished by ordinance of a local governing body without the legal need for a referendum?

YES [] NO []

Brief explanation as to why the purpose of the bill cannot be accomplished at the local level: _____

(2) Did the delegation conduct a public hearing on the subject of the bill

YES [] NO []

Date hearing held: _____

Location: _____

(3) Was this bill formally approved by a majority of the delegation members?

YES [] NO [] UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED []

(4) Was an Economic Impact Statement prepared at the local level and filed with the Clerk of the House?

YES [] NO []

II. Article III, section 10 of the State Constitution prohibits passage of any special act unless notice of intention to seek enactment of the bill has been published as provided by general law (s. 11.02, F. S.) or the act is conditioned to take effect only upon approval by referendum vote of the electors in the area affected.

Has this constitutional notice requirement been met?

Notice published: YES [] NO [] DATE _____

Where? _____ County _____

Referendum in lieu of publication: YES [] NO []

Date of Referendum _____

III. Article VII, section 9(b) of the State Constitution prohibits passage of any bill creating a special taxing district, or changing the authorized millage rate for an existing special taxing district, unless the bill subjects the taxing provision to approval by referendum vote of the electors in the area affected.

(1) Does the bill create a special district and authorize the district to impose an ad valorem tax?

YES [] NO []

(2) Does this bill change the authorized ad valorem millage rate for an existing special district?

YES [] NO []

If the answer to question (1) or (2) is YES, does the bill require voter approval of the ad valorem tax provision(s)?

YES [] NO []

Please file this completed form with the Clerk of the House.

Delegation Chair (Original Signature)

Date

Printed Name of Delegation Chair

NOTICE OF INTENT TO SEEK LEGISLATION

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: Notice is hereby given of intent to apply to the 2023 Florida Legislature, in the 2023 regular or any special or extended legislative sessions, for passage of an act relating to the North Collier Fire Control and Rescue District, Collier County, Florida, that amends the District's charter by authorizing community paramedicine, the administration of immunizations, and medical countermeasures; deleting obsolete language; authorizing debt to be written off; and providing an effective date.