

Commissioners, upon collection of the assessment roll so pledged, to apply the first proceeds thereof to the payment of said loan for which such tax was pledged until full payment of said loan.

Section 10. All funds derived from the tax described herein shall be used, except as provided for in Section 8, solely for the purchase of that parcel of real estate described in Section 7, including any legal or other expenses incident thereto. In the event that there should be a surplus of funds after the purchase of said parcel of land, no funds of said district shall be used for any purposes other than the administration of the affairs and business of said district, including the construction, care, maintenance, upkeep and operation of any recreational land and facilities as the Board may determine to be in the best interest of the district. The Board of Commissioners shall not influence the finances of any existing recreational organization or association.

Section 11. The Board shall handle duties usually pertaining to, vested in and encumbered upon like officers. A record shall be kept of all meetings of said Board, and in such meetings the concurrence of a majority of said Board members shall be necessary to any affirmative action by said Board. The Board may adopt such rules and regulations as it may deem necessary in and about the transaction of its business and in carrying out the provisions of this act.

Section 12. Said special recreational district shall exist until dissolved by law.

Section 13. The word "district" shall mean the special recreational district hereby organized, and the words "Board" and "Board of Commissioners" shall mean the Board of Commissioners of and for the special recreational district hereby created when used in this section, unless otherwise specified.

Section 14. The provisions of this Act shall be liberally construed to effect the business of this Act.

Section 15. This act shall take effect only upon its approval by a majority vote of those qualified electors of the Seminole Special Recreation District voting in a referendum election to be held on October 7, 1980, in accordance with the provisions of law relating to elections currently in force in Pinellas County, except that this section shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Became a law without the Governor's approval.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 4, 1980.

## CHAPTER 80-585

## House Bill No. 995

An act relating to Pinellas County; creating a countywide Emergency Medical Services Authority; providing powers and duties; establishing service areas; providing emergency medical services on a contract management basis with private companies and governmental agencies currently providing services; requiring consent of existing emergency medical services departments before

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their abolishment; providing for an advisory council; providing for a special election to create the emergency medical services special taxing district by countywide referendum; providing for the levy of ad valorem tax; providing for the use of sales tax revenues under certain circumstances; providing for severability; repealing chapters 74-585 and 75-492, Laws of Florida, relating to the establishment of a task force for and the creation of an emergency medical services authority; providing a referendum; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. There is hereby created a countywide Emergency Medical Services Authority hereinafter called the "authority." The governing body of the authority and its membership shall be the Board of County Commissioners of Pinellas County. Three members of the authority shall constitute a quorum. The Chairperson of the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council shall be an ex-officio member of the authority without voting privileges. The authority shall keep a record of its transactions, resolutions, findings, determinations, recommendations and orders, which record shall be a public record.

Section 2. The authority shall have the following powers and duties:

(1) To employ and compensate such personnel, consultants and technical and professional assistants as it may deem necessary and which shall include an Emergency Medical Services Medical Director;

(2) To make and enter into contracts and agreements;

(3) To hold public hearings and sponsor public forums;

(4) To sue and be sued in its own name;

(5) To accept and use funds, grants and services from the federal, state, county, or municipal governments, or any agency thereof;

(6) To receive and disburse all funds collected through ad valorem taxation as authorized in Section 7;

(7) To receive and disburse all additional funds which from time to time may be appropriated from the general funds of Pinellas County;

(8) To prepare an annual budget to be approved or disapproved and to be certified by the Board of County Commissioners using the same fiscal year as that of the county and to cause an annual audit of the authority to be made to determine how funds provided to the various emergency medical services have been expended;

(9) To establish uniform standards which shall be equal to or stricter than those provided in Chapter 401, Florida Statutes, insofar as it relates to Emergency Medical Services and the Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services EMS Rules, Chapter 10D-66, as they exist and may hereafter be amended and to provide for the enforcement of same.

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(10) The authority shall, by resolution, provide for designation of districts in the special taxing district within the territorial boundaries of Pinellas County. The authority may thereupon provide for an ad valorem assessment within the designated districts based upon the needs of such designated districts but not to exceed a maximum of 1.5 mills.

Section 3. The authority shall make provision for EMS in any designated districts. This may be done on a contract management basis where new services are to be provided. However, where EMS are already being provided, full reimbursement shall be made by the authority to the EMS provider for the reasonable and customary cost of said services, such cost to be defined by the authority. The firm receiving said management contract will operate under the direction of the EMS medical director, carrying out such policies and programs as may deemed necessary by the authority.

Section 4. No existing municipal emergency medical services department within Pinellas County may be abolished without the express consent of the governing body of that department.

Section 5. There is hereby also created an Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council, hereinafter called "the Council," to consist of no fewer than fifteen (15) nor more than twenty-four (24) members. Members shall be proposed by the present EMS Advisory Council and ratified by the authority. Members shall constitute a broad spectrum of County representation and shall include members of the emergency medical services system and four (4) mayors to be appointed by the Pinellas County Council of Mayors. The term of appointment shall be for two years; however, there is no limit on the number of terms an individual may serve. The Director of Civil Emergency Services for Pinellas County shall be a non-voting member of the Council. It shall be the responsibility of this Council to evaluate the County's emergency medical services system from a qualitative point of view, to review the operation of EMS on a countywide basis, to recommend requirements and programs for the contract management firm and monitor performance of same, to review and evaluate studies commissioned by the authority upon the authority's request, and to make such recommendations as may be necessary to the authority on needs, problems and opportunities relating to emergency medical services, including the financing and establishment of a trauma center or centers, and to carry out such other duties as may be required to insure the delivery of good, countywide EMS at reasonable cost.

Section 6. The Emergency Medical Services Authority may call an election within all of Pinellas County for the approval of the establishment of a countywide special taxing district to provide emergency medical services. Such election is to be held in the manner prescribed by law for elections to issue bonds. The question on the ballot shall be worded in substantially the following form:

#### EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Shall there be created an emergency medical services district covering the entirety of Pinellas County to provide a comprehensive emergency medical services system: The services to be provided shall include but not be limited to the operation of emergency rescue vehicles, communications, and trained paramedics necessary for a complete emergency rescue capability

throughout the entire county. All real property within said special taxing district shall be subject to ad valorem real property tax sufficient to pay the cost of providing this service but not to exceed a maximum of 1.5 mills.

FOR A COUNTYWIDE EMERGENCY  
MEDICAL SERVICES DISTRICT

AGAINST A COUNTYWIDE EMERGENCY  
MEDICAL SERVICES DISTRICT

Section 7. Upon the approval of the emergency medical services special taxing district as provided in section 6, the Emergency Medical Services Authority shall cause to be levied an ad valorem tax not to exceed 1.5 mills on all real estate within Pinellas County sufficient to pay the costs of the emergency medical services as determined by the Emergency Medical Services Authority.

Section 8. If the Legislature of the State of Florida in this session, or in any subsequent session, amends the law to authorize an additional discretionary sales tax, then the county commission shall have the option, at its discretion, of directing that all or some portion of the revenues collected from said sales tax shall be used to fund the emergency medical services system in lieu of the ad valorem property tax. If the Legislature amends the law, and the county commission directs the use of the sales tax, the ballot in Section 6 shall be revised accordingly.

Section 9. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this act is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion thereof.

Section 10. Chapters 74-585 and 75-492, Laws of Florida, are hereby repealed.

Section 11. This act, except for this section which shall take effect upon becoming a law, shall take effect only upon approval by a majority vote of the electors of Pinellas County voting in a referendum election which shall be called and held by the Board of County Commissioners in Pinellas County. There shall be at least 30 days' notice of the election as provided by s. 100.342, Florida Statutes.

Became a law without the Governor's approval.

Filed in Office Secretary of State July 7, 1980.

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CHAPTER 80-586

House Bill No. 1008

An act relating to Pinellas County; amending section 1, subsection (1) of section 2, and section 6 of chapter 63-1790, Laws of Florida, and adding a new section, and amending section 5 of chapter 63-1790, Laws of Florida,



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Commissioners, upon collection of the assessment roll so pledged, to apply the first proceeds thereof to the payment of said loan for which such tax was pledged until full payment of said loan.

Section 10. All funds derived from the tax described herein shall be used, except as provided for in Section 8, solely for the purchase of that parcel of real estate described in Section 7, including any legal or other expenses incident thereto. In the event that there should be a surplus of funds after the purchase of said parcel of land, no funds of said district shall be used for any purposes other than the administration of the affairs and business of said district, including the construction, care, maintenance, upkeep and operation of any recreational land and facilities as the Board may determine to be in the best interest of the district. The Board of Commissioners shall not influence the finances of any existing recreational organization or association.

Section 11. The Board shall handle duties usually pertaining to, vested in and encumbered upon like officers. A record shall be kept of all meetings of said Board, and in such meetings the concurrence of a majority of said Board members shall be necessary to any affirmative action by said Board. The Board may adopt such rules and regulations as it may deem necessary in and about the transaction of its business and in carrying out the provisions of this act.

Section 12. Said special recreational district shall exist until dissolved by law.

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Section 14. The provisions of this Act shall be liberally construed to effect the business of this Act.

Section 15. This act shall take effect only upon its approval by a majority vote of those qualified electors of the Seminole Special Recreation District voting in a referendum election to be held on October 7, 1980, in accordance with the provisions of law relating to elections currently in force in Pinellas County, except that this section shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Became a law without the Governor's approval.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 4, 1980.

#### CHAPTER 80-585

#### House Bill No. 995

An act relating to Pinellas County; creating a countywide Emergency Medical Services Authority; providing powers and duties; establishing service areas; providing emergency medical services on a contract management basis with private companies and governmental agencies currently providing services; requiring consent of existing emergency medical services departments before