

Meeting Minutes
Governmental Services Committee
Taxation and Budget Reform Commission
301 Senate Office Building
Tallahassee, Florida
Friday, January 25, 2008
8:30 a.m. – Noon

Committee Members: *Roberto “Bobby” Martinez, Chair, Barney Barnett, Martha Barnett, Mark Bostick, Talbot “Sandy” D’Alemberte, Bruce Kyle, Robert “Bob” McKee, Les Miller, Jr., Randy Miller, Jade Moore, James Scott*

Members Present:

Roberto “Bobby” Martinez, Chair
Martha Barnett
Mark Bostic (by phone)
Talbot “Sandy” D’Alemberte
Bob McKee
Randy Miller

Other Members Present:

Allan Bense, TBRC Chair

Members Absent:

Barney Barnett
Bruce Kyle
Les Miller
Jade Moore
Jim Scott

Chairman Martinez called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m. Staff called the roll and announced there was not the presence of a quorum. Chair Martinez stated though there was no quorum, the committee would move forward and hear presentations.

Chair Martinez suggested that the committee take up the proposal on a Local Tax Option to Fund Community Colleges (GS-I). Staff worked with a member of the committee to prepare language on the issue of allowing local counties the opportunity to put on the ballot the option of whether they wanted to have a source of revenue, either sales tax or ad valorem, for the purpose of funding community college operations. The following speakers appeared before the committee on this proposal: Veronica Hernandez and Dr. Will Holcombe. Without the presence of a quorum, no vote was taken on this proposal.

Chair Martinez then called on staff to give an overview of the proposals on Corrections Re-entry to Society. Staff presented the following information:

- GS-E – A formal Statutory Recommendation relating to supervised reentry programs; this would permit the Department of Corrections to create a supervised reentry program.
- GS-F – An act relating to alternatives to incarceration.
- GS-H – An act relating to inmate gain-time.

Following the staff summary, the committee took public testimony. The following speakers appeared before the committee: Judge Steven Leifman, Judge Charles Francis, and Brian Pitts.

Chair Martinez asked that, with the arrival of additional committee members, staff call roll again and then announced the presence of a quorum.

On a motion by Commissioner Sandy D'Alemberte, seconded by Martha Barnett, Committee Proposal GS-E was reported favorably by a unanimous vote (6-0).

On a motion by Commissioner Sandy D'Alemberte, seconded by Martha Barnett, Committee Proposal GS-F was reported favorably by a unanimous vote (6-0).

On a motion by Commissioner Sandy D'Alemberte, seconded by Randy Miller, Committee Proposal GS-H was reported favorably by a unanimous vote (6-0).

On a motion by Commissioner Martha Barnett, seconded by Randy Miller, meeting minutes from November 29 and November 30 were both passed by a unanimous vote (6-0).

The committee then took up GS-G, presented by Commissioner Randy Miller. Commissioner Miller gave a brief summary and asked Bob Burleson, President of the Florida Transportation Builders Association, to give a brief summary of this proposal. Chair Martinez then asked for public testimony. The following speaker appeared before the committee: Doug Callaway.

The committee took a roll call vote on GS-G. The proposal was reported favorably by a unanimous vote (6-0).

On a motion by Commissioner Sandy D'Alemberte, seconded by Randy Miller, Committee Proposal GS-I was reported favorably by a unanimous vote (6-0).

The Committee agreed to temporarily postpone discussion on the recommendations from the Ad Hoc committee on Bright Futures, Florida Prepaid Programs, and Gambling Revenues, and also the vote on approving Committee Reports on the State Courts System and Water Policy.

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m.