

CHAPTER 2019-172

Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 523

An act relating to Halifax Hospital Medical Center, Volusia County; amending chapter 2003-374, Laws of Florida; providing an exception to general law; authorizing the district to establish, own, construct, operate, manage, and maintain hospitals, facilities, and services within and beyond the boundaries of the district under certain conditions; providing legislative intent; providing that ad valorem taxes and non-ad valorem special assessments be expended only within the boundaries of the district; prohibiting the district from expending such funds outside the boundaries of the district; authorizing the district to contract with certain persons or entities to carry out the provisions of this act; authorizing the district to own and operate certain facilities and provide certain services throughout the state; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 5 of section 3 of chapter 2003-374, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

Section 5. District authority.—

(1) The district may establish, ~~own~~, construct, ~~equip~~, operate, ~~manage~~, and maintain such hospitals, medical facilities, and other health care facilities and services as are necessary ~~for the residents of the district~~. The hospitals, medical facilities, and other health care facilities and services shall be established, ~~owned~~, constructed, ~~equipped~~, operated, ~~managed~~ and maintained by the district for the preservation of the public health, for the public good, and for the use of the public of the district. Maintenance of such hospitals, medical facilities, and other health care facilities and services in the district is hereby found and declared to be a public purpose and necessary for the general welfare of the residents of the district.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this act to the contrary, the district is authorized and empowered to establish, own, construct, equip, operate, manage, and maintain hospitals, all other types of health care facilities, and all other types of health care services that promote the public health within Brevard, Flagler, Lake, and Volusia Counties, subject to the provisions of sections 408.031-408.0455, Florida Statutes. The district is further expressly authorized to continue to construct, own, equip, operate, manage, and maintain all facilities and services in which the district was engaged as of January 1, 2019.

(3) It is the express intent of the Legislature that any ad valorem tax or non-ad valorem special assessment revenues levied by the district be used solely toward health care facilities or health care services within the district.

Accordingly, the district is expressly prohibited from using any ad valorem tax or non-ad valorem special assessment revenues levied by the district on property located within the district for any purpose outside the boundaries of the district.

(4) The district is authorized and empowered to contract with individuals, partnerships, corporations, municipalities, Brevard, Flagler, Lake, and Volusia Counties, the state, and any subdivision or agency thereof in the United States, to carry out the purposes and provisions of this act, including participation in the joint provision with other hospitals and health care providers of all manner of inpatient and outpatient facilities and health care services that provide benefits to those members of the public served by the district both within and beyond the boundaries of the district, but within Brevard, Flagler, Lake, or Volusia Counties, as limited in this act, and to the extent such participation is consistent with all restrictions contained in the Florida Constitution, the general laws of the state, or this act. The district is authorized to own and operate facilities and provide services authorized in part IV of chapter 400, Florida Statutes, both within and beyond the district boundaries throughout the State of Florida.

(5) The district shall have and exercise all of the powers necessary, incidental, or convenient to carry out and effectuate the purposes for which the district is organized under the provisions of this act.

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor May 10, 2019.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 10, 2019.