CHAPTER 2023-338
House Bill No. 1225

An act relating to the Sanford Airport Authority, Seminole County; amending chapter 71-924, Laws of Florida, as amended by chapter 2005-306, Laws of Florida; revising the authorized term for which the authority may enter into exclusive or nonexclusive contracts, leases, franchises, or other arrangements with any person; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (4) of section 11 of chapter 71-924, Laws of Florida, as amended by chapter 2005-306, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

Section 11. Powers.—The Sanford Airport Authority shall have the following powers:

(4) To acquire property, real and personal, for the purpose of establishing, constructing, enlarging, managing, and operating airports, runways, navigational facilities, buildings, structures, industrial parks, passenger terminals, fuel storage facilities, roadways, taxiways, utility systems, and all other facilities and improvements necessary or desirable for the servicing of aircraft, the comfort and accommodation of air travelers, and the operation of said airport facilities for both foreign and domestic air transportation.

(a) The authority may acquire by the power of eminent domain land and the improvements thereon only for public airport purposes in the manner provided by chapters 73 and 74, Florida Statutes, and other applicable laws. In addition to acquiring land for airport purposes by eminent domain, the authority may also acquire land and other property for airport purposes by grant, donation, purchase, or lease in the manner otherwise provided in this act for other projects.

(b) The authority may establish such rates, charges, and user fees for use of airports and airport facilities as the authority deems necessary.

(c) The authority may also construct or provide for the construction of such special purpose facilities as are usually provided for the repair and servicing of aircraft and for the comfort and convenience of the public, including but not limited to fueling equipment and storage, concessions, restaurants, food and beverage facilities, hotels and other lodging facilities, parking lots, and similar facilities. The authority may lease or sell such special purpose facilities to provide operators or concessionaires or such facilities may be operated by the authority in its discretion.

(d) In the operation and management of the airports, the authority may employ such managers, supervisors, technicians, and other personnel as
may be necessary for the economical and efficient management thereof, and shall have the power to adopt rules and regulations with reference to all projects and matters under its control. All rules and regulations of the authority shall be a matter of public record, and copies thereof shall be dispensed by the authority at cost to all applicants therefor.

(e) In acquiring property from the City of Sanford or from any public agency for airport purposes or in the operation of any airport, the authority shall have full power to contract with the Federal Aviation Authority or any federal agency exercising any function with respect to aviation, air navigation, or air transportation, and the authority shall have full power to abide by all rules and regulations of such federal agencies including the uses to which land may be put and the operation of airports, air navigation facilities, and aircraft. The authority shall further have power to assume any obligations, covenants, or agreements heretofore imposed by any governmental agency by deed, deed restriction or contract on the City of Sanford, or any other governmental agency therein with respect to airports or aviation.

(f) The authority in the acquisition, financing and operation of airports and air navigation facilities may exercise the authority and powers provided for cities, counties, villages, or towns of Florida by chapter 332, Florida Statutes, known as the Airport Law of 1945.

(g) The authority may advertise and publicize the use of any airport operated by it and may expend its funds for such purposes.

(h) The authority shall have full power to finance or refinance the acquisition or construction of airport projects by issuing its revenue bonds or other debt obligations in the manner provided by chapter 332, Florida Statutes, known as the Airport Law of 1945, or as provided by any other applicable general law.

(i) The authority may enter into exclusive or nonexclusive contracts, leases, franchises, or other arrangements with any person or persons for terms not exceeding 99 years, granting the privilege of using or improving any project of the authority, or any portion thereof of space therein, for commercial purposes; conferring the privilege of supplying goods, commodities, things, and services or facilities at such project or projects; making available services to be furnished by the authority or its agents at such project; and establishing the terms and conditions and fixing the charges, rentals, or fees for such privileges or services so long as such fees or charges shall not conflict with any applicable rules and regulations of the Public Service Commission.

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

Approved by the Governor June 21, 2023.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 21, 2023.