

# CHAPTER

97-339

HB 917, First Engrossed/ntc

House Bill No. 917

A bill to be entitled

1 An act relating to the City of Jacksonville,  
2 Duval County; providing for the abolition or  
3 restructuring of certain community  
4 redevelopment agencies currently existing  
5 within the city and providing for the  
6 redistribution of their powers, functions,  
7 duties, liabilities, property and personnel;  
8 amending chapter 92-341, Laws of Florida, as  
9 amended; creating the Jacksonville Economic  
10 Development Commission to exist as an  
11 autonomous body within the executive branch of  
12 the consolidated government; providing for  
13 designation as an industrial development  
14 authority and as a community redevelopment  
15 agency; providing for powers, duties,  
16 functions, personnel and obligations of the  
17 Jacksonville Sports Development Authority, the  
18 Jacksonville Downtown Development Authority,  
19 the Jacksonville International Airport  
20 Community Redevelopment Authority, the Cecil  
21 Field Development Commission and the Economic  
22 Development Division of the Planning and  
23 Development Department of the city; excluding  
24 officials and employees of the commission from  
25 civil service; transferring all existing  
26 powers, duties, responsibilities and  
27 authorities of the Jacksonville Downtown  
28 Development Authority to the commission and  
29 restructuring the authority as an advisory body  
30 to the commission; amending chapter 89-509,  
31

1           Laws of Florida, as amended; transferring to  
2           the commission all powers, duties, functions,  
3           personnel and obligations of the Jacksonville  
4           Sports Development Authority; restructuring the  
5           authority as an advisory body to the  
6           commission; providing an effective date.  
7

8           WHEREAS, currently there exists within the City of  
9           Jacksonville a multitude of agencies, authorities, departments  
10          and other entities that consider and deal with economic  
11          development in the city, and

12          WHEREAS, it is of the utmost importance to this  
13          community to provide a structure and a plan for these entities  
14          to utilize as they deal with economic development issues so as  
15          to ensure coordination and nonconflicting direction, with this  
16          effort being consolidated under an "umbrella entity" so as to  
17          establish better coordination of the city's efforts in that  
18          regard as well as to better utilize the authorities of  
19          existing entities, organizations and boards, and

20          WHEREAS, economic development relates to an area of  
21          vital concern to the public health, safety and welfare, and

22          WHEREAS, the city functions under a consolidated  
23          government, being a municipal corporation which has  
24          jurisdiction both as a municipality and a county, which  
25          government extends territorially throughout Duval County, and

26          WHEREAS, the city has realized many benefits from the  
27          centralized aspects of consolidation and desires to undertake  
28          similar centralization of economic development programs so as  
29          to ensure more efficient and practical means of addressing the  
30          goals and strategies for economic development and to expand  
31

1 the city's utilization of economic development "tools"  
2 authorized by state law, and

3 WHEREAS, the proposed Jacksonville Economic Development  
4 Commission will provide a focal point for economic development  
5 in the city that, pursuant to this legislation, will result in  
6 a centralization of economic development programs under the  
7 auspices of one agency, with this centralization ensuring a  
8 more efficient and practical means of addressing the goals,  
9 objectives and strategies for future economic development in  
10 the city, and

11 WHEREAS, the goals, objectives and authorities of Part  
12 III of Chapter 159 and Part III of Chapter 163, Florida  
13 Statutes, must be implemented to address the city's concerns  
14 and objectives as permitted in this state law and as evidenced  
15 herein and in the Jacksonville City Council resolution passed  
16 in support of this legislation, and

17 WHEREAS, in the consolidation and expansion concerning  
18 economic development, the city desires to establish procedures  
19 of appointment, terms of office, and other procedures which  
20 differ from the procedures established in portions of Chapters  
21 159 and 163 of the Florida Statutes and which concern changes  
22 in the charter of the Downtown Development Authority which may  
23 be accomplished only by the Florida legislature, necessitating  
24 the need for this special act, and

25 WHEREAS, the procedures established herein have been  
26 approved by resolution of the Jacksonville City Council and do  
27 not unreasonably detract from the reasonable and necessary  
28 legislative authority of the council, NOW, THEREFORE,

29  
30 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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1           Section 1. The facts stated in the preamble to this  
2 act are found and declared to be true.

3           Section 2. Article 24 is added to chapter 92-341, Laws  
4 of Florida, as amended, to read:

5                           ARTICLE 24.

6           THE JACKSONVILLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

7           Section 24.01. Commission Created.--There is created  
8 and established an autonomous body within the Office of the  
9 Mayor which shall be known as the Jacksonville Economic  
10 Development Commission. The commission is designated as the  
11 sole community redevelopment agency for the city according to  
12 part III, chapter 163, Florida Statutes, and as the sole  
13 industrial development authority for the city according to  
14 part III, chapter 159, Florida Statutes. The commission shall  
15 serve as the city's only countywide community redevelopment  
16 agency and its only countywide industrial development  
17 authority with authority over all economic development  
18 functions within the City of Jacksonville.

19           Section 24.02. Definitions.--As used in this article:

20           (1) "Commission" means the Jacksonville Economic  
21 Development Commission.

22           (2) "City" and "City of Jacksonville" mean the City of  
23 Jacksonville created pursuant to s. 9 of Art. VIII of the 1885  
24 Constitution of the State of Florida.

25           (3) "Council" means the council of the City of  
26 Jacksonville.

27           (4) "Mayor" means the mayor of the City of  
28 Jacksonville.

29           (5) "Executive Director" means the executive director  
30 of the commission.

31

1           (6) "Code" means the Ordinance Code of the City of  
 2 Jacksonville.

3           Section 24.03. Commission membership.--The membership  
 4 of the commission is established at seven members, consisting  
 5 of the chairman of the Downtown Development Authority and six  
 6 members, who shall be residents of the City of Jacksonville  
 7 and who shall be appointed by the mayor and confirmed by the  
 8 Council. The mayor shall appoint a chairman who shall serve  
 9 until such time as another chairman may be appointed by the  
 10 mayor. Each member of the commission shall serve a term of 2  
 11 years or until a successor is appointed. Apart from the  
 12 chairman of the Downtown Development Authority, of the members  
 13 first appointed, three members shall serve terms of 1 year  
 14 each, and the remaining three members shall serve terms of 2  
 15 years each. Thereafter all members appointed to the commission  
 16 shall serve terms of 2 years. No member appointed to the  
 17 commission for three consecutive full terms shall be eligible  
 18 for appointment to a next succeeding term. The members shall  
 19 serve as commissioners of the community redevelopment agency  
 20 under part III, chapter 163, Florida Statutes, and they shall  
 21 also serve as members of the industrial development authority  
 22 under part III, chapter 159, Florida Statutes. All business of  
 23 the commission shall be conducted at meetings wherein at least  
 24 four members of the commission are present and voting.

25           Section 24.04. Individual Ex Officio Advisors to the  
 26 commission.--The following individual ex officio advisors are  
 27 named to assist the commission in an advisory or fact-finding  
 28 role as may be requested individually or collectively of them  
 29 by the commission so as to effectuate the centralized economic  
 30 development goals of the commission. No ex officio advisor  
 31 shall serve simultaneously as both an ex officio advisor and

1 as an appointed member of the commission. These individual ex  
2 officio advisors shall be:

3 (1) The President of the Council of the City of  
4 Jacksonville.

5 (2) The Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer of  
6 the Jacksonville Electric Authority.

7 (3) The Managing Director of the Jacksonville  
8 Transportation Authority.

9 (4) The President/Chief Executive Officer of the  
10 Jacksonville Port Authority.

11 (5) The Chairman of the Sports Development Authority.

12 (6) The Chairman of the Cecil Field Development  
13 Commission.

14 (7) The Chairman of the Jacksonville International  
15 Airport Community Redevelopment Authority.

16 (8) The Executive Director of the Duval County Housing  
17 Finance Authority.

18 (9) The Chairman of the Duval County State Legislative  
19 Delegation or his or her designee, who shall be a member of  
20 the delegation.

21 (10) The Chairman of the NAACP or his or her designee.

22 (11) The Chairman of the Urban League or his or her  
23 designee.

24 Section 24.05. Technical Support Advisors to the  
25 commission.--The following individual technical support  
26 advisors are named to assist the commission in such technical  
27 support roles as may be requested individually or collectively  
28 of them by the commission so as to effectuate the centralized  
29 economic development goals of the commission. These individual  
30 technical support advisors shall be the directors or the board  
31 members, as appropriate, of the following entities:

1           (1) The Planning and Development Department of the  
2 city.

3           (2) The Jacksonville Film Commission.

4           (3) Sister cities.

5           (4) International Relations and Marketing Development  
6 Commission.

7           (5) Research and Development Authority.

8           (6) Jacksonville Enterprise Zone Development Agency.

9           (7) Northwest Jacksonville Economic Development Fund  
10 Advisory Committee.

11           (8) Overall Economic Development Plan Committee.

12           (9) Jacksonville Economic Development Company.

13           (10) Enterprise North Florida Corporation.

14           (11) City departments as appropriate.

15           (12) Small Business Advisory Committee.

16           (13) Tourist Development Council.

17           (14) Convention and Visitors Bureau.

18           (15) The Superintendent of Duval County Public  
19 Schools.

20           (16) The President of the University of North Florida.

21           (17) The President of Florida Community College,  
22 Jacksonville.

23           Section 24.06. Executive Director.--The chief  
24 operating officer of the commission shall be its executive  
25 director, who shall be appointed by the mayor after  
26 consultation with the commission. The executive director shall  
27 be responsible for managing the affairs of the commission  
28 subject to its supervision and shall serve at the pleasure of  
29 the mayor. The executive director shall also serve as an  
30 administrative aide to the mayor and in that capacity shall  
31 serve as the mayor's liaison to the Downtown Development

1 Authority and shall attend all meetings of that authority. The  
 2 executive director will employ the personnel to administer and  
 3 operate the commission in accordance with applicable law,  
 4 available appropriations and employee authorizations. The  
 5 executive director shall have such other duties and  
 6 responsibilities as required by the commission. The executive  
 7 director's salary shall be set by the mayor after consultation  
 8 with the commission.

9 Section 24.07. Scope of Authority.--The commission  
 10 shall operate with all the powers and authority of a community  
 11 redevelopment agency under part III, chapter 163, Florida  
 12 Statutes, and as an industrial development authority under  
 13 part III, chapter 159, Florida Statutes, and is authorized to  
 14 function throughout all of the territorial limits of the City  
 15 of Jacksonville, Florida, as its only community redevelopment  
 16 agency and only industrial development authority. As the  
 17 city's sole community redevelopment agency, the commission  
 18 shall be successor to and hereafter exercise all authority,  
 19 power and responsibility which has heretofore been vested by  
 20 resolution or ordinance of the council in either the  
 21 Jacksonville Downtown Development Authority or the  
 22 Jacksonville International Airport Community Redevelopment  
 23 Authority. While it is intended that the commission shall have  
 24 city-wide authority as both the city's industrial development  
 25 authority and community redevelopment agency, the commission  
 26 must secure council approval consistent with those powers and  
 27 duties specifically retained by the council in Section 30.705  
 28 of the code and as required by part III of chapter 159 and  
 29 part III of chapter 163, Florida Statutes.

30 Section 24.08. Transfer of functions and  
 31 personnel.--On July 1, 1997, the powers, duties, functions,



1 liabilities, property and personnel of certain entities shall  
 2 be transferred to and become the responsibility of the  
 3 Jacksonville Economic Development Commission, as it is  
 4 intended that these entities become advisory bodies to the  
 5 commission which shall succeed to their former duties,  
 6 responsibilities and functions. Any ordinance or law, the  
 7 provisions of which conflict with the transfer authorized and  
 8 mandated in this act are repealed to the extent of such  
 9 conflict. Those entities whose powers, duties, functions,  
 10 liabilities, property and personnel shall be transferred to  
 11 the commission are:

12 (1) The Jacksonville Downtown Development Authority,  
 13 except for its advisory and fact-finding responsibilities.

14 (2) The Jacksonville Sports Development Authority  
 15 created under chapter 89-509, Laws of Florida, except for its  
 16 advisory and fact-finding responsibilities.

17 (3) The Economic Development Division of the Planning  
 18 and Development Department as set forth in the Jacksonville  
 19 City Code, including, but not limited to, chapter 30, part 7,  
 20 including all boards and commissions concerned with economic  
 21 development which are staffed by the division.

22 (4) Any existing authority, functions or personnel  
 23 held by the Jacksonville International Airport Community  
 24 Redevelopment Authority. Upon completion of this transition,  
 25 the Jacksonville International Airport Community Redevelopment  
 26 Authority shall continue to function in the nature of an  
 27 advisory and fact-finding body to the commission concerning  
 28 the area formerly under its jurisdiction.

29 (5) Any existing authority, functions or personnel  
 30 held by the Cecil Field Development Commission, including any  
 31 personnel under the authority of the mayor who are similarly

1 assigned. Upon completion of this transition, the Cecil Field  
2 Development Commission shall continue to function in the  
3 nature of an advisory and fact-finding body to the commission  
4 concerning the area formerly under its jurisdiction.

5 (6) On July 1, 1997, all of the employees of the  
6 organizations listed above, both appointed and within the  
7 classified civil service of the city, shall be transferred to  
8 the commission and shall become appointed employees of the  
9 commission. These employees shall not retain any civil service  
10 status that they may have had prior to becoming an employee of  
11 the commission unless any civil service employee who is to be  
12 transferred elects to retain his or her civil service status  
13 and in such case he or she shall serve as an employee of the  
14 commission with no loss in civil service status or benefits  
15 that he or she may have accrued prior to transfer.

16 Section 24.09. Transition period.--The 90 calendar  
17 days immediately following the effective date of this act or  
18 as soon thereafter as is practicable, shall be a period of  
19 transition during which the operations and function of all of  
20 the city's economic development efforts shall be transitioned  
21 to the commission. During this period the city shall exercise  
22 all due diligence to effectuate this process of transition and  
23 shall assign the manpower and provide the resources necessary  
24 to accomplish this objective.

25 Section 24.10. Fiscal and budgetary functions.--The  
26 commission shall have fiscal and budgetary functions subject  
27 to the following limitations:

28 (1) The fiscal year of the commission shall commence  
29 on October 1 of each year and end on the following September  
30 30.

1           (2) The commission shall prepare and submit its  
 2 proposed budget for the ensuing year to the mayor setting  
 3 forth its estimated gross revenues and estimated requirements  
 4 for operations and maintenance expenses, debt service and  
 5 depreciation. The commission's budget shall be included within  
 6 the annual budget of the general government and shall be  
 7 submitted in accordance with Section 106.204 of the Ordinance  
 8 Code as it exists or may be from time to time amended.

9           (3) All revenues generated from Tax Increment Funds  
 10 shall be used only for the purposes for which such funds are  
 11 raised. There shall be a full and separate annual accounting  
 12 for each such Tax Increment Fund which shall be reserved for  
 13 economic initiatives with no charges for the City's Full Cost  
 14 Allocation Plan (Indirect Costs).

15           Section 24.11. Execution of instruments; examination  
 16 of claims.--All instruments in writing necessary to be signed  
 17 by the commission shall be executed by the chairman and  
 18 secretary or by such officer, agent, or employee of the  
 19 commission as it may by resolution designate. The commission  
 20 shall provide for the examination of all payrolls, bills, and  
 21 other claims and demands against the commission to determine  
 22 before the same are paid that they are duly authorized, in  
 23 proper form, correctly computed, legally due and payable and  
 24 that the commission has funds on hand to make payment.

25           Section 24.12. Utilization of central  
 26 services.--Except as the council may provide, the commission  
 27 shall utilize the central services of the city and shall pay  
 28 for them on a cost-accounted basis. The commission may utilize  
 29 such other services of the city as may be mutually agreed upon  
 30 from time to time and may pay for them on a fair and  
 31 reasonable basis. The commission shall purchase all supplies,

1 contractual services, capital improvements and professional  
2 services in compliance with the same ordinances and  
3 regulations which apply to the city when making such  
4 purchases. The commission shall be required to use the legal  
5 services of the city, except in those cases when the chief  
6 legal officer of the city determines that the legal staff  
7 cannot provide legal services in the required legal area.

8 Section 3. Subsection (c) of section 17.06 of chapter  
9 92-341, Laws of Florida, as amended, is amended to read:

10 Section 17.06. Applicability of civil service system  
11 to employees of consolidated government.--The civil service  
12 provisions of this charter shall be applicable to all  
13 employees of the consolidated government except:

14 (c) Members of boards and commissions, including all  
15 persons employed by the Jacksonville Economic Development  
16 Commission.

17 Section 4. Section 20.01 of Article 20 of chapter  
18 92-341, Laws of Florida, as amended, is amended to read:

19 ARTICLE 20.

20 JACKSONVILLE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

21 Section 20.01 Authority created.--There is hereby  
22 created and established an advisory board to the Jacksonville  
23 Economic Development Commission ~~a body politic and corporate~~  
24 to be known as the Jacksonville Downtown Development  
25 Authority, ~~an independent agency of the City of Jacksonville~~  
26 for the general purpose of making recommendations to the  
27 commission concerning the planning, coordinating  
28 revitalization and redevelopment of the Jacksonville downtown  
29 area.

30 Section 5. Section 20.02 of Article 20 of chapter  
31 92-341, Laws of Florida, as amended, is amended to read:

1 Section 20.02. Definitions.--As used in this article:

2 (a) "Authority" means the Jacksonville Downtown  
3 Development Authority.

4 (b) "Charter" means the charter of the City of  
5 Jacksonville.

6 (c) "City" and "City of Jacksonville" means the City  
7 of Jacksonville created pursuant to s. 9 of Art. VIII of the  
8 1885 Constitution of the State.

9 ~~(d)--"Executive-director"--means-the-chief-executive  
10 officer-of-the-authority-~~

11 (d)(e) "Council" means the council of the City of  
12 Jacksonville.

13 (e)(f) "Mayor" means the mayor of the City of  
14 Jacksonville.

15 (f)(g) "Member" means a member of the authority.

16 (g)(h) "Jacksonville Downtown Area" means the core  
17 area in the City of Jacksonville ~~as so~~ designated ~~hereinbelow~~  
18 as lying within the territorial limits of the authority on  
19 June 30, 1997 and as may be amended by the council from time  
20 to time for purposes of this article.

21 (h) "Commission" means the Jacksonville Economic  
22 Development Commission.

23 ~~(i)--"Planning-department"--means-the-planning  
24 department-of-the-city-of-jacksonville-~~

25 ~~(j)--"Former-authority"--means-the-jacksonville-downtown  
26 Development-Authority-as-created-by-chapter-74-6937--Laws-of  
27 Florida-~~

28 Section 6. Section 20.03 of Article 20 of chapter  
29 92-341, Laws of Florida, as amended, is repealed, and a new  
30 section 20.03 is created, to read:

31 Section 20.03. Transfer of authority.--

1           (1) On July 1, 1997, the commission shall assume all  
 2 powers, duties and functions formerly held by the authority,  
 3 and the commission is hereby declared to be the legal  
 4 successor to all such powers, duties and functions and shall  
 5 be entitled to exercise the same as well as any others  
 6 heretofore delegated to or exercised by the authority.

7           (2) Any functions of the authority which were  
 8 performed by it under any law, resolution, contract, rule or  
 9 regulation which remain unfulfilled as of July 1, 1997, shall  
 10 thereafter be performed by the commission and the authority's  
 11 assets, liabilities, contracts, property, records (as needed  
 12 by the commission) and unexpended balances of appropriations  
 13 are transferred to the commission as of that date. The mayor  
 14 is authorized to make such determinations as may be necessary  
 15 with regard to the transfers mandated by this section and to  
 16 make such additional incidental dispositions of personnel,  
 17 assets, liabilities, contracts, property, records and  
 18 unexpended balances of appropriations as he may deem necessary  
 19 to accomplish an orderly transfer from the authority to the  
 20 commission, subject to the council-approved budget and  
 21 accounting code of the city.

22           (3) All plans, programs, projects, recommendations,  
 23 contract agreements, rules and regulations which were made,  
 24 approved or undertaken by the authority prior to July 1, 1997,  
 25 are ratified and confirmed and shall continue in effect,  
 26 according to their terms until modified, terminated,  
 27 superseded or revoked either by their own terms, operation of  
 28 law, or by action of the commission in accordance with law.  
 29 The commission shall be substituted for the authority in all  
 30 such plans, programs, projects, recommendations, contracts,  
 31

1 agreements, rules and regulation and shall have full power in  
2 connection therewith as provided herein.

3 Section 7. Section 20.05 of Article 20 of chapter  
4 92-341, Laws of Florida, as amended, is repealed, and a new  
5 section 20.05 is created, to read:

6 Section 20.05. Functions and duties.--On July 1, 1997,  
7 all powers and duties formerly exercised by the authority  
8 pursuant to this section shall survive, be transferred to and  
9 become the powers and duties of the commission as provided in  
10 Sections 24.07 and 24.08 of this charter. Thereafter the  
11 authority shall function as an advisory body to the commission  
12 to undertake fact-finding on downtown issues and provide  
13 advice to the commission on issues of importance to the  
14 downtown area. The authority will also perform the initial  
15 review, analysis and negotiation of downtown development  
16 projects. The authority shall have and perform such other  
17 duties and responsibilities as may be assigned to it from time  
18 to time by the commission. The commission shall be responsible  
19 for and shall provide to the authority all resources necessary  
20 for the authority to effectively achieve its duties and  
21 responsibilities. Such resources shall include a dedicated  
22 staff assigned to the authority by the executive director of  
23 the commission to manage all matters before the authority.

24 Section 8. Sections 20.06, 20.07, 20.08, and 20.09 of  
25 Article 20 of chapter 92-341, Laws of Florida, as amended, are  
26 hereby repealed.

27 Section 9. Section 1 of chapter 89-509, Laws of  
28 Florida, is repealed, and a new Section 1 is created, to read:

29 JACKSONVILLE SPORTS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

30 Section 1. Authority created.--There is hereby created  
31 and established an advisory board to the Jacksonville Economic

1 Development Commission, hereinafter called "the commission,"  
2 to be known as the Jacksonville Sports Development Authority,  
3 hereinafter called "the authority," for the general purpose of  
4 making findings of facts related to sports issues and  
5 providing advice to the commission on issues of importance to  
6 sports-related functions.

7 Section 10. Section 3 of chapter 89-509, Laws of  
8 Florida, is repealed, and a new section 3 is created to read:

9 Section 3. Transition of authority.--

10 (1) On July 1, 1997, the commission shall assume all  
11 powers, duties and functions formerly held by the authority  
12 and the commission is hereby declared to be the legal  
13 successor to all such powers, duties and functions and shall  
14 be entitled to exercise the same as well as any others  
15 heretofore delegated to or exercised by the authority.

16 (2) Any functions of the authority which were  
17 performed by it under any law, resolution, contract, rule or  
18 regulation which remain unfulfilled as of July 1, 1997, shall  
19 thereafter be performed by the commission and the authority's  
20 assets, liabilities, contracts, property, records (as needed  
21 by the commission) and unexpended balances of appropriations  
22 are transferred to the commission as of that date. The mayor  
23 is authorized to make such determinations as may be necessary  
24 with regard to the transfers mandated by this section and to  
25 make such additional incidental dispositions of personnel,  
26 assets, liabilities, contracts, property, records and  
27 unexpended balances of appropriations as he may deem necessary  
28 to accomplish an orderly transfer from the authority to the  
29 commission, subject to the council-approved budget and  
30 accounting code of the city.



1       (3) All plans, programs, projects, recommendations,  
 2 contract agreements, rules and regulations which were made,  
 3 approved or undertaken by the authority prior to July 1, 1997,  
 4 are ratified and confirmed and shall continue in effect,  
 5 according to their terms, until modified, terminated,  
 6 superseded or revoked either by their own terms, operation of  
 7 law, or by action of the commission in accordance with law.  
 8 The commission shall be substituted for the authority in all  
 9 such plans, programs, projects, recommendations, contracts,  
 10 agreements, rules and regulation and shall have full power in  
 11 connection therewith as provided herein.

12       Section 11. Section 4 of chapter 89-509, Laws of  
 13 Florida, is repealed, and a new section 4 is created, to read:

14       Section 4. Functions and duties.--On July 1, 1997, all  
 15 powers and duties formerly exercised by the authority pursuant  
 16 to this act shall survive, be transferred to and become the  
 17 powers and duties of the commission as provided in Section  
 18 24.08 of this charter. Thereafter the authority shall function  
 19 as an advisory body to the commission to make findings of fact  
 20 and render advice and assistance concerning the developing,  
 21 planning, coordinating, stimulating, enhancing, promoting, or  
 22 procuring sports-related facilities, organizations, and events  
 23 for the citizens of the City of Jacksonville. This purpose is  
 24 hereby deemed to be a public purpose, including the  
 25 procurement of sports franchises. The authority shall provide  
 26 advice to the commission regarding activity designed to  
 27 stimulate and promote sports events and related activities to  
 28 be held and performed in whole or in part in the greater  
 29 Jacksonville economic area, and may recommend that the  
 30 commission sponsor or cosponsor such events with private  
 31 citizens or public or private organizations, or any

1 combination thereof. The authority shall also assist the  
2 commission in obtaining maximum utilization of the sports  
3 facilities owned and operated by the city. The authority shall  
4 have and perform such other duties and responsibilities as may  
5 be assigned to it from time to time by the commission. The  
6 Jacksonville Economic Development Commission shall be  
7 responsible for and shall provide the authority with all  
8 resources necessary for the authority to effectively achieve  
9 its duties and responsibilities.

10 Section 12. Sections 5, 6, and 7 of chapter 89-509,  
11 Laws of Florida, are hereby repealed.

12 Section 13. If any clause, section or provision of  
13 this act shall be declared to be unconstitutional or invalid  
14 for any cause or reason, the same shall be eliminated from  
15 this act, and the remaining portion of said act shall be in  
16 force and effect and be as valid as if such invalid portion  
17 thereof had not been incorporated therein.

18 Section 14. The provisions of this act shall be  
19 liberally construed in order to effectively carry out the  
20 purposes of this act.

21 Section 15. In any conflict with the provisions of  
22 general or special law, the provisions of this act shall  
23 control.

24 Section 16. This act shall take effect July 1, 1997.  
25

26 Approved by the Governor                     MAY 23 1997                      
27

28 Filed in Office Secretary of State                     MAY 23 1997                      
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