

SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based only on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

BILL: CS/SB 714

SPONSOR: Committee on Comprehensive Planning, Local and Military Affairs and Senators Mitchell and Forman

SUBJECT: The Florida World War II Veterans Memorial

DATE: March 4, 1999 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Cooper</u>	<u>Yeatman</u>	<u>CA</u>	<u>Favorable/CS</u>
2.	<u>Hayes/Peters</u>	<u>Hadi</u>	<u>FP</u>	<u>Favorable</u>
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____

I. Summary:

This bill creates the Florida World War II Veterans Memorial Act for the purpose of providing for the construction of a memorial to those Florida residents who served on active duty in the Armed Services of the United States during World War II.

II. Present Situation:

While Congress enacted legislation to authorize a national memorial honoring World War II veterans in 1987, no national or state memorial has yet been constructed.

The Florida Commission on Veterans' Affairs is assigned to the Department of Veterans' Affairs and serves as an advisory body to the department. The commission is required to conduct a biennial survey of possible contributions that veterans or state organizations of veterans and their auxiliaries could make to the state and to report the results of the survey to the department together with recommendations for encouraging such contributions.

The Capitol Center Planning Commission is created within the Department of Management Services. Pursuant to s. 272.12, F.S., 1998 Supplement, the planning commission is the sole planning and zoning authority within the Capitol Center Planning District (Capitol Center). The commission approves and coordinates additions to existing buildings as well as the location and construction of new buildings within the Capitol Center. In addition, the commission develops appropriate landscaping and architectural style, as well as a long-range plan for traffic flow and control in and through the Capitol Center. Subsection (1) of s. 272.12, F.S., 1998 Supplement, describes the area which comprises the Capitol Center.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The bill establishes the "Florida World War II Veterans Memorial Act" which provides for the construction of an appropriate memorial to the residents of the state of Florida who served on active duty in the United States Armed Services during World War II. The memorial must be located within the Florida Capitol Center Planning District and must contain the opening and closing date of World War II, and other inscriptions and features as recommended by the Commission on Veterans' Affairs. If sufficient funds are available, construction of the memorial must begin by June 30, 2005.

The Commission on Veterans' Affairs is required to consider an appropriate design for the memorial and is authorized to solicit design proposals from the public. In cooperation with the Capitol Center Planning Commission, the Commission on Veterans' Affairs must consider the location of the memorial within the Capitol Center. The Commission on Veterans' Affairs is directed to submit its recommendations for design and location to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and to the Speaker of the House of Representatives on or before January 31, 2002. Acquisition and construction costs must be included in the recommendations as well as the life-cycle cost estimate required by s. 255.255, F.S., 1998 Supplement. The bill directs the Department of Management Services to assist the Commission on Veterans' Affairs in preparing the estimates.

The Governor is directed to arrange a dedication and unveiling ceremony upon completion of the memorial. The Governor may choose the date of the ceremony. However, the date must correspond to the anniversary of a significant and meaningful event in the history of World War II.

If created by law, the Florida World War II Veterans Memorial Matching Trust Fund within the Department of Veterans' Affairs is required to receive private contributions and matching state funds to build the memorial. The department may use trust fund moneys to generate additional funds for the memorial. If the memorial is not constructed by January 1, 2005, all contributions must be returned.

This act shall take effect July 1, 1999, if the companion trust fund bill is adopted.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:**A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The fiscal impact is indeterminate because the cost will depend upon the location, size, and design of the memorial, as well as the amount of private dollars contributed for the memorial. The bill requires that on or before January 31, 2002, the Commission on Veteran's Affairs submit its recommendations for the location and design of the memorial as well as a cost estimate for site acquisition, construction, and life cycle.

For comparison as a cost estimate, the Department of Management Services was appropriated \$400,000 General Revenue in FY 1998-99 for the Korean War Memorial. The original request was \$800,000.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

Senate Bill 716 by Senators Mitchell and Forman has been filed for consideration during the 1999 legislative session. The bill creates the Florida World War II Veterans Memorial Trust Fund in the Department of Veterans' Affairs for the purpose of receiving private contributions and matching state funds to build a Florida World War II Veterans Memorial.

VIII. Amendments:

None.