

**STORAGE NAME:** h0915.ep

**DATE:** February 9, 2000

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
COMMITTEE ON  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
ANALYSIS**

**BILL #:** HB 915

**RELATING TO:** Solid and hazardous waste management

**SPONSOR(S):** Representative Sembler

**TIED BILL(S):**

**ORIGINATING COMMITTEE(S)/COMMITTEE(S) OF REFERENCE:**

- (1) ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
  - (2) BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT & INTERNATIONAL TRADE
  - (3) GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS
  - (4)
  - (5)
- 

I. SUMMARY:

This bill directs the Department of Environmental Protection to make available an annual appropriation from the Solid Waste Management Trust fund to the Solid Waste Management Exchange, Inc., (SWIX). The funds are to be used to maintain and expand a waste exchange service and other solid and hazardous waste management assistance for private sector, including local government, in the state.

This bill provides an effective date of July 1, 2000.

II. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS:

A. DOES THE BILL SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES:

- |                                   |                              |                             |   |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. <u>Less Government</u>         | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. <u>Lower Taxes</u>             | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. <u>Individual Freedom</u>      | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. <u>Personal Responsibility</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. <u>Family Empowerment</u>      | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

For any principle that received a "no" above, please explain:

B. PRESENT SITUATION:

The Florida Legislature granted authority to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to develop and implement a state solid waste management program. Pursuant to s. 403.705(1), F.S., the state solid waste program shall:

- create guidelines for collection, transportation, storage, recovery, recycling, and disposal of solid waste;
- encourage coordinated local activity for solid waste management;
- investigate and provide proposals to correct deficiencies in solid waste management processes;
- provide assistance to local governments and state agencies for the reduction, recycling, reuse, and processing of solid waste;
- assist in developing solid waste reduction and recycling programs; and
- educate the general public and train waste management professionals to reduce the production of solid waste as well as encourage recycling.

The DEP is charged with promoting the recycling and reuse of solid and hazardous waste

in

the state. Specifically, the DEP is directed to provide assistance to the counties in the developing and implementing recycling programs. At a minimum, the recycling programs must be designed to recover a majority of the newspapers, aluminum cans, steel cans, glass and plastic bottles from the solid waste stream prior to final disposal at a solid waste disposal facility and to offer these materials for recycling. A county's recycling program must sufficiently reduce waste within its boundaries in order to meet the statutory reduction goal. According to section 403.706(4), F.S., solid waste was to be reduced by at least 30 percent by the end of 1994. The statutes provide certain criteria to determine whether the counties achieved this goal.

The Solid Waste Management Trust Fund was created under s. 403.709, F.S., to be administered by the Department of Environmental Protection for the purpose of:

- funding solid waste activities of the department;
- making grants and awards to local governments as provided in s. 403.7095, F.S.; and
- providing funding for research, demonstration, and training by state universities and other organizations that can reasonably demonstrate the capability to carry out such projects.

Southern Waste Information Exchange, Inc., (SWIX), is a separate, not-for-profit corporation and not a part of Florida's solid waste management program. According to SWIX, its objective is to provide information to the public and private sectors which facilitates the exchange of solid and hazardous waste material. SWIX also provides a list of waste management services (e.g., recycling collection, and transportation) which can be used by waste generators and managers.

SWIX contends that 93,104 tons of waste materials were recycled or reused in 1999 as a result of its program. SWIX further asserts that, during 1999, this program saved the public and private sector approximately \$7,407,041 in waste disposal costs. The cost-benefit ratio of this program is 1:40; for every dollar spent by the state on this program, \$40 were saved by reducing disposal costs. In 1999, SWIX was granted \$300,000 from the Solid Waste Management Trust Fund (Fund) to operate its program.

The statutes grant the DEP the power to contract with private industries or the State University System in order to implement a solid waste management program and other activities which may be necessary, desirable, or convenient. The department contends that SWIX meets one or more of the Fund's requirements and therefore qualifies for annual funding.

#### C. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

This bill provides that the DEP must make funding available annually from the Solid Waste Management Trust Fund to SWIX, to assist small businesses and industries in complying with solid and hazardous waste management requirements, to maintain and expand a waste exchange service, to provide technical assistance on waste reduction and minimization methods, and to help Florida businesses and industries in reducing their waste management costs.

The SWIX has been receiving funding from the DEP's Solid Waste Management Trust Fund (SWMTF). In fiscal year 1998 - 1999 SWIX received \$300,000 from the SWMTF and is currently funded from the SWMTF in the amount of \$300,000 for FY 1999 - 2000. The Governor's 2000 - 2001 Legislative Budget Recommendations propose to use \$300,000 from the Solid Waste Management Trust Fund to fund the SWIX.

This bill provides an effective date of July 1, 2000.

D. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS:

See "Effects of Proposed Changes" herein.

III. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT:

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

A long run effect will be that state agencies may incur a savings by participating in a waste exchange service instead of disposing of waste materials.

2. Expenditures:

The bill directs DEP to make funding available from the Solid Waste Management Trust Fund to Southern Waste Information Exchange, Inc., on an annual basis.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

Local governments may incur a savings by participating in the waste exchange service. By exchanging waste materials, the local governments would reduce their waste disposal costs incurred at landfills.

2. Expenditures:

See Fiscal Impact on State Agencies/State Funds herein. In addition, revenues of the landfills may decrease as the result of less waste being disposed and more waste being exchanged.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

SWIX contends that in 1999, private and public sectors combined saved as estimated \$7,407,041 in waste disposal costs.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

N/A

IV. CONSEQUENCES OF ARTICLE VII, SECTION 18 OF THE FLORIDA CONSTITUTION:

A. APPLICABILITY OF THE MANDATES PROVISION:

This bill does not require counties or municipalities to spend funds or take an action requiring the expenditure of funds.

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**B. REDUCTION OF REVENUE RAISING AUTHORITY:**

This bill does not reduce the authority that municipalities or counties have to raise revenues in the aggregate.

**C. REDUCTION OF STATE TAX SHARED WITH COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES:**

This bill does not reduce the percentage of a state tax shared with counties or municipalities.

**V. COMMENTS:**

**A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:**

None

**B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:**

N/A

**C. OTHER COMMENTS:**

This bill does not address the specific amount of funding to be appropriated annually.

**VI. AMENDMENTS OR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES:**

N/A

**VII. SIGNATURES:**

**COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION:**

Prepared by:

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