

STORAGE NAME: h1997.gg
DATE: March 15, 2000

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON
GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS
ANALYSIS**

BILL #: HB 1997 (PCB GG 00-15)

RELATING TO: Creating the Florida Forever Program Trust Fund in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

SPONSOR(S): General Government Appropriations

TIED BILL(S):

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

- (1) GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS YEAS 9 NAYS 0
 - (2)
 - (3)
 - (4)
 - (5)
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I. SUMMARY:

Creates the Florida Forever Program Trust Fund within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to receive and disburse funds related to the Florida Forever Program. Annual bond proceeds are distributed by the Department of Environmental Protection to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Receipts and disbursements will total approximately \$4.5 million annually.

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:

During the 1999 Legislative Session, the Florida Forever Program was established to continue the goals of the Preservation 2000 Program. According to section 259.105(3) and paragraph (e) of section 259.105(3), Florida Statutes, one and five-tenths percent of the bond proceeds shall be distributed by the Department of Environmental Protection to the Division of Forestry of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to fund the acquisition of the state forest inholdings and additions pursuant to s. 589.07, F.S., and the implementation of reforestation plans and sustainable forestry management practices.

It is anticipated the annual bond issue will total \$300 million; therefore, \$4.5 million will be distributed to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

C. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

This bill creates the Florida Forever Program Trust Fund within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for receipt and disbursement of funds related to the Florida Forever Program.

D. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS:

Section 1. Creates the Florida Forever Program Trust Fund in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, which shall receive funds pursuant to section 259.105(3)(e), Florida Statutes. Provides that any balance remaining at the end of the fiscal year shall remain in the trust fund in order to carry out the purposes of the fund. States that the fund shall be terminated on July 1, 2004, unless terminated sooner, and prior to termination, shall be subject to the trust fund review process.

Section 2. Provides an effective date of July 1, 2000.

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III. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT:

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

N/A

2. Expenditures:

N/A

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

N/A

2. Expenditures:

N/A

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

N/A

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

It is anticipated that the 2000-2001 General Appropriations Act will provide an appropriation of \$4.5 million from the Florida Forever Program Trust Fund to allow for the disbursement of bond proceeds pursuant to law.

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

A. APPLICABILITY OF THE MANDATES PROVISION:

This bill does not require municipalities or counties to spend money.

B. REDUCTION OF REVENUE RAISING AUTHORITY:

This bill does not reduce the authority of municipalities or counties to raise revenue.

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

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

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V. COMMENTS:

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None.

C. OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

VI. AMENDMENTS OR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES:

None.

VII. SIGNATURES:

COMMITTEE ON GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS:

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