

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 308

SPONSOR: Transportation Committee, Senator Clary and others

SUBJECT: License Plates

DATE: April 12, 2000 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Vickers</u>	<u>Meyer</u>	<u>TR</u>	<u>Favorable/CS</u>
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____

I. Summary:

This CS authorizes disabled veterans who qualify for a free disabled veterans' motor vehicle license plate to purchase additional "DV" plates for a fee not to exceed \$10 per plate. This CS also revises the distribution of revenue generated through sales of the Sea Turtle license plate and the Share the Road license plate.

This bill substantially amends the following sections of the Florida Statutes: 320.084 and 320.08058.

II. Present Situation:

Disabled Veteran Plate. Section 320.084, F.S., provides for the issuance of a free motor vehicle license plate displaying a "DV" to certain disabled veterans (100 percent service related disability rating). This license plate entitles the veteran to all privileges afforded by a permanent disabled parking permit. While the "DV" plate is issued free to eligible veterans, certain administrative fees do apply. A \$2.50 registration service fee is retained by the issuing county, and a \$.50 retroreflective fee is also applicable. Currently, there is no provision in law authorizing the purchase and issuance of additional disabled veteran plates.

Sea Turtle License Plate. Section 320.08058(19), F.S., provides that annual use fees generated through the Sea Turtle license plate are to be deposited in the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund. The first \$500,000 in annual revenue is to be used by the Florida Marine Turtle Protection Program to conduct sea turtle protection, research, and recovery programs. The remaining annual use proceeds shall be used by the commission for sea turtle conservation activities, except that up to 30 percent of the remaining annual use fee proceeds shall be annually disbursed through the marine turtle grants program as provided in s. 370.12(1)(h).

Share the Road License Plate. Section 320.08058 (31), F.S., provides that annual use fees generated through the Share the Road license plate are to be distributed to the Florida Governor's

Council on Physical Fitness and Amateur Sports, a portion of which must be used for marketing and promotion of the "Share the Road" concept and license plate. The remaining funds are to be divided equally between Bike Florida, Inc., and the Florida Bicycle Association, Inc., to be used for: (1) education and awareness programs, for bicycle safety and motorist safety, with emphasis on sharing the roadway by all users; (2) training, workshops, educational materials, and media events; and (3) the promotion of safe bicycling.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The CS amends s. 320.084, F.S., to provide a disabled veteran who has received a free license plate under this section may purchase additional disabled veterans' license plates for a fee not exceed \$10 per plate.

The CS amends s. 320.08058(19), F.S., to provide that annual Sea Turtle license plate revenue beyond the first \$500,000 (deposited into the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund) is to be dispersed through the marine turtle grants program authorized in s. 370.12(1)(h), F.S. Distribution of funds to the marine turtle grants program is capped at 30 percent of the total revenue generated through the Sea Turtle license plate. Remaining funds in excess of the 30 percent dispersed through the marine turtle grants program would be deposited into the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund.

The CS amends s. 320.08058(31), F.S., to delete a reference to Florida Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Amateur Sports (discontinued) and provide that up to 25 percent of the annual revenue generated through the sale of the Share the Road license plate must be used by Bike Florida, Inc., for the purposes of marketing and promoting the Share the Road concept and license plate. The remaining funds would continue to be divided equally between Florida Bike, Inc., and Florida Bicycle Association, Inc., for the purposes currently authorized in statute.

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:

Qualifying disabled veterans would be authorized to purchase additional "DV" license plates for a fee not to exceed \$10 per plate.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) reports the fiscal impact of the disabled veteran license plate provision is indeterminate. However, the fiscal impact should be minimal based upon the existing disabled veteran plate holder population of 11,594 as of June 30, 1998.

Changes enacted to the revenue distribution provisions of the Sea Turtle and Share the Road license plates should have minimal fiscal impact.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

According to DHSMV, a total of 29,546 Sea Turtle license plates (enacted July 1997) have been purchased as of December 1999. License plate supporters indicated that annual sales of the Sea Turtle license plate may exceed \$500,000 for first time in the year 2000. The number of Share the Road license plates (enacted July 1999) is unknown at this time.

VIII. Amendments:

None.