

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. HOUSE PRINCIPLES ANALYSIS:

Limited Government: The Department of Environmental Protection will not longer be required to submit separate reports regarding hazardous waste management and used oil. This information will be consolidated in the department's Solid Waste Management in Florida report, thereby potentially saving personnel time and publication costs.

In order to be eligible to receive a hazardous waste collection grant, local governments currently must match the entire grant amount. This bill reduces the match requirement to 25 percent of the grant amount, and allows the match to be waived under certain circumstances. This may permit more local governments to take advantage of this grant program.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Current Situation

The Solid Waste Management Act (SWMA) was enacted in 1988 to provide comprehensive programs to promote recycling and reduce the volume of materials going to landfills. The SWMA mandated waste minimization, conservation of landfill space, litter control, and recycling and required the involvement and cooperation of Florida's residents, businesses, and visitors. Several state agencies were given responsibilities under SWMA with the Department of Environmental Regulation having the lead responsibility for developing the state program, adopting all regulations and standards, permitting facilities, and managing biohazardous waste.

A major provision of the SWMA required all counties to initiate recycling programs to separate and offer for recycling a majority of aluminum cans, glass, newspaper, and plastic bottles.

As part of their recycling programs, local governments were encouraged to separate all plastics, metals, and all grades of paper for recycling prior to final disposal and were also encouraged to recycle yard trash and other mechanically treated solid waste into compost available for agricultural and other acceptable uses.

Counties were required to achieve a waste reduction goal of 30 percent by 1994. No more than one-half of the goal could be met with yard trash, white goods (primarily discarded appliances), construction and demolition (C&D) debris, and tires. The goal could be modified or reduced for any county that demonstrated it would have an adverse impact on the financial obligations of the county regarding waste to energy facilities (WTE).

To assist the counties in their recycling efforts, the SWMA established certain grant programs. The types of grants available included small county grants, recycling and education grants, waste tire grants, and litter and marine debris prevention grants.

The SWMA also provided for a waste newsprint fee, a waste tire fee, and the implementation of an advance disposal fee if certain recycling conditions were not met.

The Solid Waste Management Trust Fund (SWMTF) was created to fund solid waste management activities

In 1993, the SWMA was significantly rewritten to update and refine the act. Major features of this rewrite included:

- Creating the Recycling Markets Advisory Committee in the Department of Commerce.¹
- Providing significant new provisions relating to the advance disposal fee and statewide litter program. Initially, the advanced disposal fee was 1 cent per container with an increase to 2 cents on January 1, 1995. The estimated proceeds of the fee (\$22 million) were deposited into the SWMTF to be used to supplement recycling grants, Surface Water Improvement and Management or SWIM program, Sewage Treatment Revolving Loan, and Small Community Sewer Construction Assistance. The advance disposal fee and the waste newsprint fee provisions expired on October 1, 1995, as provided in ch. 88-130, Laws of Florida.
- Providing new requirements for permitting WTE facilities and commercial hazardous waste incinerators in the state. No commercial hazardous waste incinerator may be permitted or certified in the state without a certificate of need, issued by the Governor and Cabinet, sitting as the Statewide Multipurpose Hazardous Waste Facility Siting Board.
- Establishing the Florida Packaging Council and creating a comprehensive litter and marine debris control and prevention program.
- Providing assistance to smaller counties to aid in meeting their waste reduction and recycling responsibilities.
- Providing for the ownership of solid waste and flow control.
- Providing for the disposal of certain batteries.
- Allowing the SWMTF to be used to fund projects relating to market development for recycled materials.
- Allowing counties of less than 50,000 to be eligible for annual solid waste grants of \$50,000.

Another significant revision to the SWMA occurred in 1996 when the provisions relating to construction and demolition (C&D) debris were substantially revised. These provisions included requiring the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to establish a separate category for solid waste management facilities which accept only C&D debris for disposal or recycling; and providing that the DEP may not require liners and leachate collection systems at individual facilities unless it demonstrates that the facility is reasonably expected to result in violations of ground water standards. A permit is not required for disposal of C&D debris on the property where it is generated, but such property must be covered, graded, and vegetated as necessary when disposal is complete.

For several years, approximately \$30 million was appropriated annually from the SWMTF and used for water quality and restoration projects. As a result, the Legislature in 2002 provided for the permanent reallocation of the sales tax proceeds that were being deposited into the SWMTF. These funds (approximately \$30 M annually) are now deposited into the Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund to be used for water quality improvement and water restoration projects. The SWMTF is now funded almost exclusively from the waste disposal fees imposed on tires purchased at retail. This fee generates approximately \$19 million annually and supports not only the grants program, but also the general solid waste activities of the Division of Waste Management.

Also, the counties are no longer required to annually submit to the DEP certain solid waste and recycling information. Instead, the DEP may periodically seek the information from the counties to evaluate and report on the success of meeting the solid waste reduction goal.

Counties must still implement a recyclable materials recycling program; however, the counties are no longer required to recover a majority of the minimum five. Instead, they are encouraged to recover a significant portion of at least four of the following materials: newspaper, aluminum cans, steel cans, glass, plastic bottles, cardboard, office paper, and yard trash.

¹ The Department of Commerce was abolished in 1996 pursuant to ch. 96-320, L.O.F.

The 2002 revisions to the SWMA also:

- Deleted specific language regarding the amount of C&D debris, yard trash, white goods, and tires that may be considered when determining the 30 percent waste reduction goal.
- Redefined “small county” from 75,000 to 100,000 for purposes of providing an opportunity to recycle in lieu of achieving the 30-percent goal.
- Required C&D debris to be separated from the solid waste stream in separate locations at a solid waste disposal facility or other permitted site.
- Refocused the purposes of the SWMTF toward the core solid waste management responsibilities of the DEP and created a new competitive and innovative solid waste management grant program. It also maintained funding for the mosquito control activities in Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS).
- Redistributed the funds in the SWMTF
 - Up to 40 percent for funding solid waste activities of the DEP and other state agencies.
 - Up to 4.5 percent for funding research and training programs relating to solid waste management through the Center for Solid and Hazardous Waste Management.
 - Up to 11 percent to DACS for mosquito control.
 - A minimum of 40 percent for funding a competitive and innovative grant program relating to recycling and reducing the volume of municipal solid waste, including waste tires requiring final disposal.
- Provided for the distribution of the available solid waste management grants funds:
 - Up to 15 percent for the competitive and innovative grant program.
 - Up to 35 percent for the consolidated grant program for small counties.
 - Up to 50 percent for the waste tire program.
- Directed DEP to use the \$30 million annually transferred from the sales tax proceeds to the Ecosystem Management and Restoration TF for projects to improve water quality and restore lakes and rivers impacted by pollution. At least 20 percent of the funds available are to be used for projects that assist financially disadvantaged small local governments.

The most recent revisions to the SWMA were made in 2005 and included the following:

- Prior to the construction of a new WTE facility or the expansion of an existing WTE, the county must implement and maintain a solid waste management and recycling program designed to meet the 30 percent waste reduction goal. If a WTE is built in a county with a population of less than 100,000 that county would have to have a program designed to achieve the 30 percent waste reduction goal, and not just provide the opportunity to recycle.
- Local government applicants for a permit to construct or expand a Class I landfill are encouraged to consider the construction of a WTE facility as an alternative to additional landfill space.
- Clarified that local governmental entities are required to pay the waste tire fee and the lead-acid battery fee.
- Increased the penalty for a litter violation from \$50 to \$100. The \$50 increase is to be deposited into the SWMTF to be used for the solid waste management grant program.
- Provided for a pilot project to encourage the reuse or recycling of campaign signs. The recovered campaign signs are to be made available to schools and other entities that may have a use for them, at no cost.

The last time the Solid Waste Management Act was substantially rewritten was in 1993. Although there have been several amendments to the statutory provisions since that time, these amendments have

been piecemeal and the issues have not been addressed in a comprehensive manner. In the past few years, issues have arisen regarding recycling and disposal of vegetative and construction and demolition debris. This problem has been exacerbated by the fact that Florida was hit with four major hurricanes in 2004 and by Hurricanes Dennis, Katrina, and Wilma in 2005.

The solid waste provisions in the statutes contain several provisions that need to be updated to delete obsolete provisions and dates that have expired. Some provisions have never been used and certain provisions are no longer needed.

The Senate Environmental Preservation Committee was assigned an interim project to review the Solid Waste Management Act and make recommendations to the Legislature to update the act and make recommendations to address issues that have recently arisen.

Effect of Proposed Changes

This bill would implement the recommendations of the Senate Environmental Preservation Committee's interim report no. 2006-121, Review of the Solid Waste Management Act. The bill makes a number of technical amendments to correct cross-references, delete certain obsolete provisions and dates from the solid waste management statutes, and address other issues which have arisen since the last major rewrite of the Solid Waste Management Act. Specifically, the bill:

- Deletes the provisions relating to Keep Florida Beautiful, Inc., and transfers the Wildflower Advisory Council that was created within Keep Florida Beautiful to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACCS). Provides that the use fees from the sale of the Wildflower license, and transfers the unexpended proceeds from the Wildflower license plates which are held by Keep Florida Beautiful to the DACCS.
- Places the Adopt-a-Shore Program that was created within Keep Florida Beautiful in the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).
- Alphabetizes the definitions used in the Solid Waste Management Act. Deletes obsolete definitions and consolidates definitions that are found elsewhere in the act.
- Deletes obsolete language relating to Class II landfills and compost standards.
- Clarifies the circumstances under which industrial byproducts are not regulated under the Solid Waste Management Act.
- Deletes provisions relating to biomedical incinerators.
- Provides for the management of storm-generated debris.
- Deletes the specific percentage allocations for the use of the funds in the Solid Waste Management Trust Fund.
- Places time restrictions on certain liens imposed by the DEP.
- Provides that escrow accounts may only be used by government-owned solid waste facilities to meet the financial requirements for closure. Provides for grandfathering of certain facilities.
- Deletes the provisions relating to the training of operators for waste-to-energy facilities, biomedical waste incinerators, and mobile soil thermal treatment units or facilities.
- Revises the definition of "waste tire" and "waste tire processing facility."
- Exempts certain tire businesses from having to obtain a tire storage permit.
- Extends the duration of certain solid and hazardous waste research, development, and demonstration permits.
- Deletes a requirement for a separate report on hazardous waste management.
- Authorizes the DEP to issue authorizations which include both permits and clean closure orders for hazardous waste facilities.
- Clarifies the provisions relating to the posting of signs on certain properties contaminated by hazardous wastes.
- Allows the DEP to issue orders requiring the prompt abatement of an imminent hazard caused by a hazardous substance.
- Reduces the local match requirement for local governments in order to receive certain hazardous waste collection grants, and provides exceptions from the match requirement.

- Repeals a provision relating to the submission of certain solid waste facility construction and operation plans.
- Repeals the requirement for a separate used oil report.
- Repeals the provisions relating to the Multipurpose Hazardous Waste Facility Siting Act

C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

This bill would implement the recommendations of the Senate Environmental Preservation Committee's interim report no. 2006-121, Review of the Solid Waste Management Act. The bill makes a number of technical amendments to correct cross-references, delete certain obsolete provisions and dates from the solid waste management statutes, and address other issues which have arisen since the last major rewrite of the Solid Waste Management Act.

Section 1. Section 403.413, F.S., is amended to clarify who is liable for dumping under the litter law.

Section 2. Section 403.4131, F.S., is amended to delete the statutory provisions relating to Keep Florida Beautiful, Inc. The Wildflower Advisory Council that was created within Keep Florida Beautiful, Inc. is recreated within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS). The Council membership is increased from nine members to ten members to include a representative of the DACS. The Council will be advisory to the DACS and shall develop procedures of operation, research contracts, educational and marketing programs, and wildflower planting grants for Florida native wildflowers, plants, and grasses. The Council shall also make recommendations to the DACS concerning what constitutes acceptable species of wildflowers and other plants supported by these programs.

Section 3. Section 403.41315, F.S., is amended to conform to the changes in s. 403.4135, F.S., relating to Keep Florida Beautiful, Inc.

Section 4. Section 403.4133, F.S., is amended to place the Adopt-a-Shore Program that was created within Keep Florida Beautiful, Inc. in the Department of Environmental Protection.

Section 5. Section 320.08058, F.S., is amended to provide that the annual use fees from the sale of the Wildflower license plates shall now be distributed to the DACS.

Section 6. All unexpended proceeds of the fees paid for the Wildflower license plates which are held by Keep Florida Beautiful, Inc. must be transferred to the DACS promptly after the effective date of this act.

Section 7. Section 403.703, F.S., is amended to place the definitions used in the Solid Waste Management Act in alphabetical order. In addition, the following definitions are also amended: "clean debris", "closure", and "yard trash." The following definitions are deleted: "biomedical waste generator" and "palletized paper waste"; and the definition of "landfill" is moved from s. 403.7125, F.S.

Section 8. Subsection (69) of section 316.003, F.S., is amended to correct a statutory cross reference.

Section 9. Paragraph (f) of subsection (2) of section 377.709, F.S., is amended to correct a statutory cross reference.

Section 10. Subsection (1) of section 487.048, F.S., is amended to correct a statutory cross reference.

Section 11. Section 403.704, F.S., is amended to delete certain obsolete language and dates relating to the Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) powers and duties. Such provisions include:

- Holding public hearings to develop rules to implement the state's solid waste management program. This is obsolete because rulemaking provisions of s. 120.54, F.S., include workshops and hearings.

- Charging certain fees for certain solid waste management services. The DEP does not provide solid waste management services.
- Acquiring personal or real property for the purpose of providing sites for solid waste management facilities. The DEP does not provide sites for solid waste management facilities.
- Receiving funds from the sale of certain products, materials, fuel, or energy from any state-owned or operated solid waste facility. The DEP does not operate solid waste management facilities.
- Deleting certain requirements for Class II landfills. There are no longer Class II landfills being permitted in Florida.
- Conducting solid waste research to be used in the implementation of certain landfill closure rules. Landfill closure methods have been developed and the rules have been in place for nearly 20 years.
- Authorizing variances from the solid waste closure rules. Variances are already allowed under s. 403.201, F.S., and s. 120.54, F.S., for any solid waste rule, not just closure rules.

Section 12. Section 403.7043, F.S., is amended to delete obsolete language relating to compost standards rulemaking.

Section 13. Section 403.7045, F.S., is amended to clarify that industrial byproducts are not regulated under the Solid Waste Management Act if those byproducts are not discharged, deposited, injected, dumped, spilled, leaked or placed upon any land or water so that they constitute a threat of environmental contamination or pose a significant threat to public health.

Also, certain dredged material that is generated as part of a project permitted under part IV of ch. 373, F.S., or ch. 161, F.S., or that is authorized to be removed from sovereign submerged lands under ch. 253, F.S., shall be managed in accordance with the conditions of that permit or authorization unless the dredged material is regulated as a hazardous waste.

Section 14. Section 403.707, F.S., is amended to allow the DEP to exempt, by rule, certain facilities from the requirement for a permit if the construction or operation of the facility is not expected to create any significant threat to the environment or public health. An example would include the registration of yard trash processing facilities. For purposes of Part IV of ch. 403, F.S., (Resource Recovery and Management), and only when specified by DEP rule, permits may include other forms of licenses as defined in s. 120.52, F.S. This is intended to address an issue the Joint Administrative Procedures Committee has raised regarding DEP's authority to provide such exemptions, even if they are technically justified.

Provisions relating to biomedical incinerators are deleted. Biomedical incinerators are currently regulated under DEP's air rules.

Counties may exempt certain wood material from the definition of "construction and demolition debris" under certain conditions to promote an integrated solid waste management program.

Section 15. Section 403.7071, F.S., is created to provide for the management of storm-generated debris resulting from a storm event that is the subject of an emergency order by the DEP.

The DEP may issue field authorizations for staging areas in those counties affected by a storm event. These staging areas may be used for the temporary storage and management of storm-generated debris, including the chipping, grinding, or burning of vegetative debris. A local government shall avoid locating a staging area in wetlands and other surface waters to the greatest extent possible, and the area that is used or affected by a staging area must be fully restored upon cessation of use of the area.

Storm-generated vegetative debris managed at a staging area may be disposed of in a permitted lined or unlined landfill, a permitted land clearing debris facility, or a permitted C&D debris disposal facility.

Vegetative debris may also be managed at a permitted waste processing facility or a registered yard trash processing facility.

C&D debris that is mixed with other storm-generated debris need not be segregated from other solid waste prior to disposal in a lined landfill. C&D debris that is source-separated or separated from other hurricane-generated debris at an authorized staging area, may be managed at a permitted C&D debris disposal or recycling facility upon approval by the DEP of the methods and operations practices used to inspect the waste during segregation.

Unsalvageable refrigerators and freezers containing solid waste, such as rotting food, which may create a sanitary nuisance may be disposed of in a permitted lined landfill; however, chlorofluorocarbons and capacitors must be removed and recycled to the greatest extent practicable.

Local governments may conduct the burning of storm-generated yard trash and other vegetative debris in air-curtain incinerators without prior notice to the DEP. Demolition debris may also be burned in air-curtain incinerators if the material is limited to untreated wood. Within 10 days after commencing such burning, the local government must provide certain information to the DEP. The operator of the air-curtain incinerator is subject to any requirement to obtain an open burning authorization from the Division of Forestry of the DACS or any other agency empowered to grant such authorization.

Section 16. Section 403.708, F.S., is amended to delete some obsolete dates and to delete the term “degradable” because the term is not used in this section.

Section 17. Section 403.709, F.S., is amended to delete the specific percentages for the use of the funds in the Solid Waste Management Trust Fund (SWMTF). The current percentages were adopted by the Legislature in 2002 when a significant source of funding for the SWMTF was statutorily transferred to fund various water projects. The SWMTF’S purposes were refocused toward the core solid waste management responsibilities of the DEP and the funding percentages were to apply to: funding the DEP’s solid waste activities; research and training programs relating to solid waste management through the Center for Solid and Hazardous Waste Management; mosquito control activities in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; litter prevention; and certain competitive and innovative grant programs. The percentages were to apply unless otherwise specified in the General Appropriations bill. These specific percentages have not been used in the General Appropriations bill.

This section is also amended to place time restrictions on certain liens imposed by the DEP.

Section 18. Section 403.7095, F.S., is amended to correct a cross-reference.

Section 19. Section 403.7125, F.S., is amended to delete the definitions of “landfill” and “closure” from this section. These definitions appear in s. 403.704, F.S.

The bill limits the use of an escrow account for the closure of a landfill to those landfills owned or operated by a local or state government or the Federal Government. Privately owned or operated landfills must provide other means of financial responsibility for the closure of landfills. However, any landfill owner or operator that had established an escrow account in accordance with the escrow provisions of this section and the conditions of its permit prior to January 1, 2006, may continue to use that escrow account to provide financial assurance for closure of that landfill, even if that landfill is not owned or operated by a local or state government or the Federal Government.

An owner or operator of a landfill owned or operated by a local or state government or by the Federal Government may provide other means of financial assurance to the DEP in lieu of the escrow account.

Section 20. Section 403.716, F.S., is amended to delete provisions relating to the training of operators for waste-to-energy facilities, biomedical waste incinerators, and mobile soil thermal treatment units or

facilities. The operators of these facilities are subject to the DEP's rules relating to training requirements under air permits. There has never been a separate solid waste training program for these operators.

Section 21. Section 403.717, F.S., is amended to revise the definitions of "waste tire" and "waste tire processing facility." The term "waste tire" will not include solid rubber tires and tires that are inseparable from the rim. These constitute a small percentage of the discarded tires and these tires are not amenable to recycling. Further, they pose little threat of fire, floating in standing water, or mosquito breeding.

The term "waste tire processing facility" is amended to provide consistency with the term "processed tire."

The provisions requiring a tire storage permit for a tire retreading business where fewer than 1,500 waste tires are kept on the premises is deleted. Currently, no permit is needed for storage of less than 1,500 tires anywhere.

Section 22. Section 403.7221, F.S., is amended, transferred, and renumbered as s. 403.70715, F.S. The DEP is allowed to issue a research, development, and demonstration permit to the owner or operator of any solid waste management facility, including any hazardous waste management facility who proposes to utilize an innovative and experimental solid waste treatment technology or process for which permit standards have not been adopted.

The time periods for such permits is extended from 1 year to 3 years, renewable no more than 3 times. This would remove a conflict with a similar Environmental Protection Agency rule regarding their research, development, and demonstration permits.

Section 23. Subsection (2) of section 403.201, F.S., is amended to correct a statutory cross reference.

Section 24. Section 403.722, F.S., is amended to clarify who must obtain a permit to construct, modify, operate, or close a hazardous waste disposal, storage, or treatment facility. This section is also amended to provide for authorizations issued by the DEP to include both permits and clean closure orders.

The bill further clarifies that if an owner or operator of a hazardous waste facility intends to or is required to discontinue operation, the temporary operation permit must include final closure conditions.

Section 25. Section 403.7226, F.S., is amended to delete a separate report on hazardous waste management. This information is included in the DEP's Solid Waste Management in Florida report.

Section 26. Section 403.724, F.S., is amended to provide that authorizations for hazardous waste facilities include both permits and clean closure plan orders. Further, the amount of financial responsibility that is required for hazardous waste facilities includes the probable costs of properly closing the facility and performing corrective action.

Section 27. Section 403.7255, F.S., is amended to clarify that signs must be placed by the owner or operator at any site in the state which is listed or proposed for listing on the Superfund Site List or any site identified by the DEP as a site contaminated by hazardous waste where this is a risk of exposure to the public. The DEP shall establish requirements and procedures for the placement of signs, and may do so in rules, permits, orders, or other authorizations.

Section 28. Section 403.726, F.S., is amended to allow the DEP to issue an order requiring the prompt abatement of an imminent hazard caused by a hazardous substance. Currently, the DEP may only issue a permit to abate such hazards.

Section 29. Section 403.7265, F.S., is amended to require that local governments match 25 percent of the grant amount for certain hazardous waste collection grants. Currently, eligible local governments may receive up to \$50,000 in grant funds for unique and innovative projects that improve the collection of hazardous waste and lower the incidence of improper management of conditionally exempt or household waste, provided they match the grant amount. This bill would reduce the local match requirement to 25 percent of the grant amount; however, if the DEP finds that the project has statewide applicability and has immediate benefits to other local hazardous waste collection programs in the state, matching funds are not required.

Section 30. Sections 403.7075, 403.756, 403.78, 403.781, 403.782, 403.783, 403.784, 403.7841, 403.7842, 403.785, 403.786, 403.787, 403.7871, 403.7872, 403.7873, 403.788, 403.7881, 403.789, 403.7891, 403.7892, 403.7893, and 403.7895, F.S., relating to the Statewide Multipurpose Hazardous Waste Facility Siting Act, are repealed. This act has never been used and it is unlikely that a facility will ever be sited in Florida using these provisions. The repeal of s. 403.7075, F.S., relating to the submission of plans by certain persons to construct and operate a solid waste facility, is due to a conflict with the provisions in ch. 471, F.S., which regulates professional engineers. The repeal of s. 403.756, F.S., relating to a used oil report, is due to the fact that this information will be included in the DEP's Solid Waste Management in Florida report.

Section 31. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

There is not anticipated to be an economic impact on the general public. Many of the bill's provisions remove outdated or obsolete provisions and clarify several provisions as they relate to local governments and the Department of Environmental Protection.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

Not applicable because this bill does not appear to: require the counties or cities to spend funds or take an action requiring the expenditure of funds; reduce the authority that cities or counties have to raise revenues in the aggregate; or reduce the percentage of a state tax shared with cities or counties.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

The Wildflower Advisory Council will now become advisory to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS). On the effective date of this act, the unexpended balance of the Wildflower license plates use fees will be transferred to the DACS. As of December 31, 2005, the balance, as reported by the Wildflower Advisory Council, is \$690,095.62.

The Department of Environmental Protection will not longer be required to submit separate reports regarding hazardous waste management and used oil. This information will be consolidated in the department's Solid Waste Management in Florida report, thereby potentially saving personnel time and publication costs.

In order to be eligible to receive a hazardous waste collection grant, local governments currently must match the entire grant amount. This bill reduces the match requirement to 25 percent of the grant amount, and allows the match to be waived under certain circumstances. This may permit more local governments to take advantage of this grant program.

IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE & COMBINED BILL CHANGES

None