

SENATE BILL SUMMARY

Prepared by the Division of Legislative Information for the Senate Bill **AS ORIGINALLY FILED**. For more detail, see Senate Bill Analyses, if available, prepared by the Senate's professional committee staff.

SB 660 Seagrass Beds/Protection and Restoration by Senator Bennett

Creates a pilot program for the restoration of seagrass beds within Brevard, Lee, Manatee, Monroe, or Pinellas counties or the natural resources that depend on the health and productivity of the seagrass beds. Requires that damages recovered for injury to, and the destruction of, seagrass beds in specified counties and the related natural resources be deposited into the Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund. Provides that careless operation of a vessel outside a marked channel which causes propeller scarring in an aquatic preserve is a civil infraction. Requires that civil penalties collected for the careless operation of a vessel be deposited into the Internal Improvement Trust Fund. (See bill for details)