
**Senate Committee on
Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations**

SB 1882 — Distribution of Excise Taxes

by Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations Committee and Senator Fasano

This bill revises the distribution of the documentary stamp tax collections to change the amounts distributed to trust funds from the share otherwise going to the General Revenue Fund from fixed to variable. The bill redirects documentary stamp proceeds from the Department of Transportation and from the Department of Community Affairs, \$300 million and \$1.8 million respectively, to the General Revenue Fund. This is accomplished by replacing the fixed amounts with a percentage calculation which is capped at the current statutory amount. In effect, the General Revenue Fund is guaranteed a minimum of 53.65 percent share once debt service needs have been met. The bill also assesses the cost of administering the documentary stamp tax laws to all the funds that receive distributions.

In addition, the bill revises the funding for the University Concurrency Trust Fund within the Department of Education to redirect revenues to the General Revenue Fund. The amount of revenue redirected to the General Revenue Fund is approximately \$13 million annually.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2008.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House 115-3

HB 5067— State Infrastructure

by Economic Expansion and Infrastructure Council and Rep. Cannon and others

This bill includes various statutory changes to conform to the General Appropriations Act (GAA) and to implement various program reductions and efficiencies within the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. The bill:

- Reenacts the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, consistent with ss. 11.901-11.920, F.S., the Government Accountability Act.
- Provides the department the authority for the implementation of the Federal REAL ID Act.
- Increases the civil penalty late fee required in s. 318.18, F.S., and directs those revenues to the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund.
- Directs the \$2.00 processing fee collected on the purchase of personalized prestige or specialty license plates to the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund.
- Directs the 50 cents reflectorization fee collected on each motor vehicle registration or renewal registration to the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund.

- Grants authority to the department to waive the hearing requirement for offenders whose license have been revoked, cancelled or suspended to allow a person to operate a motor vehicle on a restricted basis for business or employment use only.
- Grants authority to the department to issue electronic titles in lieu of printing a paper title and allows the department to collect and use e-mail addresses of motor vehicle and vessel owners and registrants as a notification method in lieu of the United States Postal Service.
- Reduces funding for Motorcycle Safety Education Campaigns and provides that the \$2.50 motorcycle safety fee education fee assessed when registering a motorcycle may be used for the Florida Motorcycle Safety Education Program established in s. 322.255, F.S., or the general operations of the department.
- Eliminates the Motorcycle Safety Education Course Reimbursements.
- Eliminates the Florida "At Risk" Driver program.
- Eliminates the DUI Programs Coordination Trust Fund.

The bill also:

- Revises Roadside Beautification provisions for DOT construction contracts.
- Provides for the use of Reserve Funds to minimize DOT project deferrals.
- Establishes requirements relating to Turnpike Toll Plaza Contracting.
- Authorizes the Florida Building Commission to conduct business by teleconferencing.
- Revises administrative procedures for the community development block grants in the Department of Community Affairs.
- Removes the supplanting provision for the Emergency Management Preparedness and Assistance Trust Fund.

If approved by the Governor, unless otherwise specified, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

Vote: Senate 38-1; House 118-0

HB 5071 — Economic Development

by Economic Expansion and Infrastructure Council and Rep. Cannon and others

This bill permits the Florida Sports Foundation to use funds generated by the Florida Professional Sports Team License Plate for operations of the foundation and for support of the Sunshine State Games. The bill also provides an application review process for the Black

Business Loan Program and clarifies the distribution of appropriated funds to eligible Black Business Investment Corporations.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2008.

Vote: Senate 40-0; House 119-0

HB 5073 — Department of State

by Economic Expansion and Infrastructure Council and Rep. Cannon and others

This bill includes various statutory changes relating to the Department of State to conform statutory duties to the spending decisions included in General Appropriations Act (GAA). Specifically, the bill:

- Deletes an obsolete fee that is no longer assessed by the department for searching corporate records. This function is handled by an outsourcing vendor.
- Eliminates the requirement that the department establish regional offices for the purpose of assisting in the delivery of historic preservation services. By closing the regional offices, the budget deletes 3 FTE positions and \$197,489 from recurring General Revenue.
- Repeals the Discovery of Florida Quincentennial Commemoration Commission which was enacted on July 1, 2004, but has never been funded by the Legislature.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2008.

Vote: Senate 40-0; House 119-0

