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**Senate Committee:  
General Government Appropriations**

**CS/SB 1740 — Water Protection and Sustainability Program Trust Fund/DEP**

by General Government Appropriations Committee and Senator Baker

This bill (Chapter 2009-23, L.O.F.) re-creates the Water Protection and Sustainability Program Trust Fund within the Department of Environmental Protection without modification. Re-creation is effective July 1, 2009, which is the current termination date of the fund. The changes extend the life of the trust fund.

These provisions were approved by the Governor and take effect July 1, 2009.

*Vote: Senate 38-0; House 117-0*

**CS/SB 1742 — Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission**

by General Government Appropriations Committee and Senator Baker

This bill completes the transfer of the Invasive Plant Management Program from the Department of Environmental Protection to the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. This transfer was authorized by the 2008 Legislature (ch. 2008-150, L.O.F).

In addition, the bill allows Florida anglers who fish in federal waters or who fish for migratory species to be exempt from the federal saltwater fishing registration requirement by repealing the shoreline exemption for Florida residents. Those Florida residents eligible for the food stamp, temporary cash assistance, or Medicaid programs retain the exemption, as well as those individuals fishing with poles or lines not equipped with a fishing line retrieval mechanism. The license fee is \$7.50 for those Florida residents not exempt.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect upon becoming law, except as otherwise expressly provided in this act.

*Vote: Senate 35-2; House 117-1*

**CS/SB 1744 — Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services**

by General Government Appropriations Committee and Senator Baker

The bill transfers the licensure and regulation of professional surveyors and mappers from the Department of Business and Professional Regulation to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, effective October 1, 2009.

The bill provides fee adjustments to regulatory programs within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. These include:

- Weights and measures permit fee for commercially operated weights and measure instruments.
- Pesticide brand registration fee.
- Fertilizer brand registration fee.
- Seed dealer registration fee.

The bill expands the expenditure of revenues collected from administrative fines related to pest control violations to include program operational costs.

The bill amends the distribution of the gross receipts from transactions relating to state forests. Fifteen percent of the receipts will be distributed to fiscally constrained counties only, to be used for school purposes.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2009, except that sections 1 through 30 of this act shall take effect October 1, 2009.

*Vote: Senate 39-0; House 115-3*

### **CS/SB 1748 — Department of Revenue**

by General Government Appropriations Committee and Senator Baker

The bill authorizes an administrative collection processing fee of 10 percent of the amount of taxes due or \$10, whichever is greater, for each tax filing that remains unpaid after 90 days from initial notification.

The bill eliminates the requirement that the Department of Revenue furnish ad valorem tax forms to local entities.

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

*Vote: Senate 40-0; House 115-2*

### **CS/SB 1750 — Department of Environmental Protection**

by General Government Appropriations Committee and Senator Baker

The bill prioritizes the payment of debt service on the Preservation 2000, Florida Forever, and Everglades bonds by pledging all documentary stamp revenues be available to pay debt service in the event of a shortfall.

The bill redirects to the General Revenue Fund:

- The two-tenths of 1 percent of sales tax revenues currently distributed to the Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund within the Department of Environmental Protection (department).

- Revenues collected from the excise tax on documents that are currently distributed to the Water Protection and Sustainability Program Trust Fund within the department and the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund within the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

The bill terminates the Lake Okeechobee Preservation Trust Fund within the Department of Environmental Protection. The fund has no recurring revenue source and has not been used since FY 2004-2005.

The bill repeals s. 23 of ch. 2008-15, L.O.F., as it relates to a landfill permit.

The bill provides for the financing of the petroleum underground storage tanks cleanup program by authorizing up to \$104 million in bonds to provide \$90 million to continue the cleanup efforts.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2009.

*Vote: Senate 40-0; House 81-36*

### **CS/SB 1754 — Department of Business and Professional Regulation**

by General Government Appropriations Committee and Senator Baker

The bill eliminates the requirement that licensed certified public accountants pass a law and rules examination as a condition of licensure renewal. This examination is duplicative of other content examinations required by law. The bill repeals the requirement that racing animal drug penalty revenues be used specifically for animal research. The bill eliminates a specific pari-mutuel wagering agreement (Pharmacokinetic and Clearance Study Agreement) with the University of Florida's College of Veterinary Medicine. This provision can be implemented by rule.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2009.

*Vote: Senate 40-0; House 118-0*

### **CS/SB 1758 — Department of Financial Services**

by General Government Appropriations Committee and Senator Baker

The bill increases the maximum percentage of funds that can be invested in securities under the authority of the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) from 3 percent to 5 percent of the Treasury investment pool. The provision remains in effect for one year.

The bill creates a Treasury Investment Committee to administer the Treasury's Investment Program, and to make investment policy recommendations to the CFO.

The bill authorizes the Florida Commission on Hurricane Loss Projection Methodology to adopt revisions to the Florida Public Hurricane Loss Model every odd year rather than annually.

The bill reduces the cost of copies for documents on file with the Department of Financial Services and requires prior notification to the requester when additional charges are to be assessed for preparation of redacted records.

The bill redirects to the General Revenue Fund revenues from taxes collected on premiums for surplus lines insurance and insurance provided by risk retention groups. These revenues are currently distributed to the Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund within the Office of Insurance Regulation. This provision expires on July 1, 2014.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2009.

*Vote: Senate 40-0; House 118-0*

### **CS/SB 1804 — State-owned Real Property**

by Policy and Steering Committee on Ways and Means and Senator Alexander

The bill requires the state to offer to state agencies and universities the opportunity to lease state-owned buildings or parcels of land before it offers to sell or lease to others. The bill directs the Department of Management Services to create a database of all state-owned real property and to immediately begin the disposition of surplus buildings.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2009.

*Vote: Senate 40-0; House 118-0*

### **HB 5129 — Child Support**

by Government Operations Appropriations Committee and Rep. Hays

The bill updates Florida law to bring the Department of Revenue's Child Support Enforcement Program in compliance with new federal regulations for establishing, modifying, and enforcing health insurance obligations in Title IV-D child support enforcement cases.

Compliance with the new regulation is a condition of the state receiving federal funding. Noncompliance could result in disapproval of Florida's Title IV-D state plan and the loss of approximately \$248.1 million in federal funding which is appropriated in the budget.

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

*Vote: Senate 39-0; House 119-0*