

THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE



May 5, 2011

The Honorable Mike Haridopolos
President of the Senate

The Honorable Dean Cannon
Speaker, House of Representatives

Dear Mr. President and Mr. Speaker:

Your Conference Committee on the disagreeing votes of the two houses on SB 2162, same being:

An act relating to trust funds.

having met, and after full and free conference, do recommend to their respective houses as follows:

1. That the House of Representatives recede from its Amendment 1.
2. That the Senate and House of Representatives adopt the Conference Committee Amendment attached hereto, and by reference made a part of this report.

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The Conference Committee Amendment for SB 2162, relating to trust funds, provides for the following:

This bill creates the Welfare Transition Trust Fund within the Department of Education. This trust fund is needed in order to implement the transfer of programs to the Department of Education as proposed in legislation before the 2011 Legislature. Specifically, the School Readiness Program, proposed for transfer from the Agency for Workforce Innovation to the Department of Education as part of the creation of the Department of Economic Opportunity, is currently partially funded with federal funds derived from the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Block Grant.

The trust fund is established for use as a depository for receiving federal funds under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program. Trust fund moneys shall be used exclusively for the purpose of providing services to individuals eligible for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families pursuant to the requirements and limitations of part A of Title IV of the Social Security Act, as amended, or any other applicable federal requirement or limitation. Funds credited to the trust fund consist of those funds collected from the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Block Grant.

All funds transferred to and retained in the trust fund shall be invested pursuant to s. 17.61, Florida Statutes. Notwithstanding s. 216.301, Florida Statutes, and pursuant to s. 216.351, Florida Statutes, any undisbursed balance remaining in the trust fund and interest accruing to the trust fund not distributed at the end of the fiscal year shall remain in the trust fund and shall increase the total funds available for appropriation from the trust fund.

In accordance with s. 19(f)(2), Article III of the State Constitution, the Welfare Transition Trust Fund shall, unless terminated sooner, be terminated on July 1, 2015. Before its scheduled termination, the trust fund shall be reviewed as provided in s. 215.3206(1) and (2), Florida Statutes.

The effective date of the bill is July 1, 2011.