

By Senator Williams

4-1380-98

See HB 139

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to motor vehicles; directing  
3           the Department of Highway Safety and Motor  
4           Vehicles to establish two  
5           alternative-fuel-vehicle pilot projects;  
6           imposing a fee on the registration of motor  
7           vehicles; creating a trust fund; directing the  
8           legal entities for the Florida Gold Coast Clean  
9           Cities Coalition and the Florida Suncoast Clean  
10          Cities Coalition to perform certain duties  
11          relating to the pilot projects; providing for  
12          the use of trust fund moneys; authorizing a  
13          future fee increase; providing an effective  
14          date and termination date.

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16           WHEREAS, motor vehicles that are powered by alternative  
17          fuels promote economic development and energy security, and

18           WHEREAS, motor vehicles that are powered by alternative  
19          fuels have a substantial positive impact on the air quality  
20          and can aid in the maintenance of air-quality-attainment  
21          status, and

22           WHEREAS, developing a dedicated funding source is  
23          critical to the development of a sustainable market for  
24          alternative-fuel vehicles, NOW, THEREFORE,

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26          Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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28           Section 1. (1) The Department of Highway Safety and  
29          Motor Vehicles shall establish two alternative-fuel-vehicle  
30          pilot projects. The first pilot project is located in Dade,  
31          Broward, and Palm Beach Counties to carry out the goals of the

1 Florida Gold Coast Clean Cities Coalition, including the goal  
2 to make alternative-fuel vehicles operational. The second  
3 pilot project is located in Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco,  
4 Pinellas, Polk, and Sarasota Counties to carry out the goals  
5 of the Florida Suncoast Clean Cities Coalition.

6 (2) In order to fund the pilot projects, the  
7 department, upon approval by the appropriate board of county  
8 commissioners, shall impose a \$1 fee on the initial  
9 application for registration and renewal of registration for  
10 each motor vehicle, as defined in section 320.01(1), Florida  
11 Statutes, except alternative-fuel vehicles, trailers without  
12 motorized power, or other vehicles exempt under chapter 320,  
13 Florida Statutes, in Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, Hillsborough,  
14 Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, and Sarasota Counties. The  
15 proceeds from the fees are to be used to reduce air pollution,  
16 promote fuel diversity, and encourage economic development  
17 through the purchase of or conversion to alternative-fuel  
18 vehicles.

19 (3) As used in this act, the term "alternative fuel"  
20 means methanol, denatured ethanol, and other alcohols;  
21 mixtures of gasoline or other fuels which contain 85 percent  
22 or more by volume of methanol, denatured ethanol, and other  
23 alcohols; natural gas; liquefied petroleum gas; hydrogen;  
24 coal-derived liquid fuels; fuels, other than alcohol, derived  
25 from biological material; and electricity.

26 (4) A tax collector or other duly authorized agent of  
27 the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles shall  
28 promptly remit all moneys collected under this section to the  
29 department. Up to 10 percent of the moneys collected may be  
30 used for administrative costs by the department. The remainder  
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1 of the proceeds shall be deposited into the Air  
2 Quality/Alternative Fuel Trust Fund.

3 Section 2. (1) The Air Quality/Alternative Fuel Trust  
4 Fund is created. The primary purpose of the trust fund is to  
5 finance the incremental purchase price or total conversion  
6 cost of alternatively fueled vehicles. Funds may also be used  
7 in any other manner that assists in the reduction of  
8 mobile-source emissions and furthers the goals of the  
9 applicable clean cities coalition. The South Florida Regional  
10 Planning Council, acting as the legal entity of the Florida  
11 Gold Coast Clean Cities Coalition, shall administer the funds  
12 collected in Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach Counties. Funds may  
13 be used in a manner consistent with the council's existing  
14 Revolving Loan and Grant Program in which eligible  
15 participants are given loans and grants based on objective  
16 criteria. The legal entity for the Florida Suncoast Clean  
17 Cities Coalition shall administer the funds collected in  
18 Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, and Sarasota  
19 Counties.

20 (2) The legal entities for the Florida Gold Coast  
21 Clean Cities Coalition and the Florida Suncoast Clean Cities  
22 Coalition shall:

23 (a) Distribute funds based upon a formula that  
24 reflects the amount of fees collected from the owners of motor  
25 vehicles registered in each county;

26 (b) Review the progress of the pilot project annually  
27 and make recommendations to the department;

28 (c) Report on the number of vehicles purchased or  
29 converted as a result of the pilot project; and

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1           (d) Estimate air-quality benefits received as a result  
2 of the pilot project and received in relation to net  
3 expenditures.

4           Section 3. After October 1, 2000, the Department of  
5 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles may raise the fee to not  
6 more than \$4 per motor vehicle in any county in the two pilot  
7 projects at the request of the applicable legal entity for the  
8 Florida Gold Coast Clean Cities Coalition or the legal entity  
9 for the Florida Suncoast Clean Cities Coalition.

10           Section 4. This act shall take effect October 1, 1998,  
11 and shall terminate December 31, 2003, but it shall not take  
12 effect unless it is enacted by a three-fifths vote of the  
13 membership of each house of the Legislature.

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16                                 SENATE SUMMARY

17           Directs the Department of Highway Safety and Motor  
18 Vehicles to establish two alternative-fuel-vehicle pilot  
19 projects to promote economic development, energy  
20 security, and clean air. Imposes an additional fee on the  
21 registration of motor vehicles. Creates the Air  
22 Quality/Alternative Fuel Trust Fund. Directs the legal  
23 entities for the Florida Gold Coast Clean Cities  
24 Coalition and the Florida Suncoast Clean Cities Coalition  
25 to use the funds for certain purposes and to perform  
26 certain duties.  
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