

By Representative Ball

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to Challenger license plates;
3 amending s. 320.08085, F.S.; providing for the
4 distribution of funds to the Astronauts
5 Memorial Foundation, Inc., and the
6 Technological Research and Development
7 Authority; providing for the use of funds;
8 imposing additional fees on certain purchases
9 of license plates; providing an effective date.
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11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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13 Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 320.08058,
14 Florida Statutes, 1996 Supplement, is amended to read:
15 320.08058 Specialty license plates.--
16 (2) CHALLENGER LICENSE PLATES.--
17 (a) The department shall develop a Challenger license
18 plate to commemorate the seven astronauts who died when the
19 space shuttle Challenger exploded on liftoff in 1986. The word
20 "Florida" shall appear at the top of the plate, and the word
21 "Challenger" must appear at the bottom of the plate, both
22 words in small letters.
23 (b) ~~1.~~
24 ~~a.~~ Fifty percent of the Challenger license plate
25 annual use fee must be distributed to the Astronauts Memorial
26 Foundation, Inc., to support the operations of ~~deposited into~~
27 the Center for Space Education and the Education Technology
28 Institute. Funds received by the Astronauts Memorial
29 Foundation, Inc., may be used for administrative costs
30 directly associated with the operation of the center and the
31 institute. ~~Trust Fund within the Department of Education.~~

1 These funds must be used ~~solely~~ for the ~~design, construction,~~
2 ~~maintenance,~~ and support of the operations of the Center for
3 Space Education and the Education Technology Institute
4 operated by the Astronauts Memorial Foundation, Inc. These
5 operations must include preservice and inservice training in
6 the use of technology for the state's instructional personnel
7 in a manner consistent with state training programs and
8 approved by the Department of Education. Up to 20 percent of
9 funds received by the Center for Space Education ~~from the~~
10 ~~Center for Space Education Trust Fund~~ may be expended for
11 administrative costs directly associated with the operation of
12 the center.

13 ~~b. Upon approval of the Department of Education, funds~~
14 ~~must be transferred from the Center for Space Education Trust~~
15 ~~Fund to the Astronauts Memorial Foundation, Inc., solely to~~
16 ~~design, construct, maintain, and support the operations of the~~
17 ~~Center for Space Education and the Education Technology~~
18 ~~Institute. A request for the transfer of funds must include~~
19 ~~information relating to specific plans for disbursing the~~
20 ~~funds. Before expending funds from their account, the~~
21 ~~Astronauts Memorial Foundation, Inc., must request approval~~
22 ~~from the Department of Education, as if the funds were in the~~
23 ~~Department of Education's trust fund.~~

24 ~~2. Subparagraph 1. is repealed July 1, 1997. After~~
25 ~~the date of repeal, the funds distributed pursuant to~~
26 ~~subparagraph 1. shall be distributed to the Challenger~~
27 ~~Astronauts Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship Trust Fund~~
28 ~~created in s. 240.408.~~

29 ~~3. Twenty-five percent of the Challenger license plate~~
30 ~~annual use fee must be distributed to the Challenger~~

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1 ~~Astronauts Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship Trust Fund, for~~
2 ~~use as provided by s. 240.408.~~
3 (c) Fifty ~~4. The remaining 25~~ percent must be
4 distributed to the Technological Research and Development
5 Authority created by s. 2, chapter 87-455, Laws of Florida,
6 for the purpose of funding space-related ~~space~~ research
7 grants, the Teacher/Quest Scholarship Program under s.
8 240.4082 as approved by the Florida Department of Education,
9 and space-related economic development programs. The
10 Technological Research and Development Authority shall
11 coordinate and distribute available resources among state
12 universities and independent colleges and universities,
13 community colleges, public school districts, and
14 not-for-profit educational organizations based on the research
15 strengths of such institutions in space science technology.
16 (d) Up to 10 percent of the funds distributed under
17 paragraphs (b) and (c) may be used for continuing promotion
18 and marketing of the license plate.
19 (e) A person that purchases 1,000 or more Challenger
20 license plates shall pay an annual use fee of \$10 per plate
21 and an annual processing fee of \$2 per plate, in addition to
22 the applicable license tax required under s. 320.08.
23 ~~(f)5.~~ The Auditor General has the authority to examine
24 any and all records pertaining to the Astronauts Memorial
25 Foundation, Inc., and the Technological Research and
26 Development Authority to determine compliance with the law.
27 (g) This subsection expires July 1, 2001.
28 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 1997.
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SENATE SUMMARY

Redistributes the funds derived from the Challenger license plates to the Astronauts Memorial Foundation, Inc., and the Technological Research and Development Authority and provides for the use of the funds. Imposes additional fees on the purchase of large amounts of license plates.