

STORAGE NAME: h1813a.ted

DATE: April 15, 1997

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
AS REVISED BY THE COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORTATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS
BILL RESEARCH & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT**

BILL #: HB 1813 (PCB TR 97-01)

RELATING TO: Everglades Parkway Construction Trust Fund

SPONSOR(S): Committee on Transportation

STATUTE(S) AFFECTED: None

COMPANION BILL(S): None

ORIGINATING COMMITTEE(S)/COMMITTEE(S) OF REFERENCE:

- (1) TRANSPORTATION YEAS 8 NAYS 0
- (2) TRANSPORTATION & ECON. DEV. APPROPRIATIONS YEAS 9 NAYS 0
- (3)
- (4)
- (5)

I. SUMMARY:

This proposal would create the Everglades Parkway Construction Trust Fund. The fund will be used by the Department of Transportation to account for Everglades Parkway bond proceeds. The bonds are backed by toll revenues collected on Alligator Alley, and will be used to fund transportation improvements as provided in 1994 legislation related to Everglades restoration.

The bill has no fiscal impact.

II. SUBSTANTIVE RESEARCH:

A. PRESENT SITUATION:

Sections 4 and 5 of chapter 94-115, Laws of Florida, authorizes the department to issue bonds secured by toll revenues collected on Alligator Alley to fund transportation projects contained in any work program adopted in fiscal year 1993-94 or later. These provisions were part of Everglades restoration legislation passed in 1994. The department plans to issue approximately \$60 million in bonds during the 1996-97 fiscal year for projects on Alligator Alley. However, the department does not have an established trust fund to contain and account for the bond proceeds.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

This proposal would create the Everglades Parkway Construction Trust Fund, to be used for revenue bonds backed by toll revenues on Alligator Alley. Failure to establish the trust fund would be contrary to the official bond statement and would cause administrative problems for the Department related to accounting for bond proceeds.

C. APPLICATION OF PRINCIPLES:

1. Less Government:

Not applicable.

2. Lower Taxes:

Not applicable.

3. Personal Responsibility:

Not applicable.

4. Individual Freedom:

Not applicable.

5. Family Empowerment:

Not applicable.

D. SECTION-BY-SECTION RESEARCH:

Not applicable.

III. FISCAL RESEARCH & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT:

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE AGENCIES/STATE FUNDS:

1. Non-recurring Effects:

None.

2. Recurring Effects:

None.

3. Long Run Effects Other Than Normal Growth:

None.

4. Total Revenues and Expenditures:

None.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AS A WHOLE:

1. Non-recurring Effects:

None.

2. Recurring Effects:

None.

3. Long Run Effects Other Than Normal Growth:

None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

1. Direct Private Sector Costs:

None.

2. Direct Private Sector Benefits:

None.

3. Effects on Competition, Private Enterprise and Employment Markets:

None.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

The Department of Insurance, Division of Treasury, has agreed to hold and invest any bond proceeds until the Department can establish a construction trust fund, provided this proposal is passed during the 1997 Legislative Session. Failure to establish the trust fund would be contrary to the official bond statement and would cause other administrative problems related to termination of the agreement with Treasury to hold funds in their account until June 30, 1997.

IV. CONSEQUENCES OF ARTICLE VII, SECTION 18 OF THE FLORIDA CONSTITUTION:

A. APPLICABILITY OF THE MANDATES PROVISION:

Not applicable. This bill does not require counties or municipalities to spend funds or to take action which requires the expenditure of funds.

B. REDUCTION OF REVENUE RAISING AUTHORITY:

Not applicable. This bill does not reduce the authority of counties or municipalities to raise revenues.

C. REDUCTION OF STATE TAX SHARED WITH COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES:

Not applicable. This bill does not reduce the percentage of state tax shared with counties and municipalities.

V. COMMENTS:

None.

VI. AMENDMENTS OR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES:

None.

VII. SIGNATURES:

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION:

Prepared by:

Legislative Research Director:

Phillip B. Miller

John R. Johnston

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