

By the Committee on Agriculture and Senator Bronson

303-1867-98

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A bill to be entitled  
An act relating to fairs, agricultural centers,  
pavilions, and multi-use facilities; creating a  
committee to review and make recommendations  
concerning funding requests for such projects;  
prescribing criteria for such reviews;  
providing that appropriations for unreviewed  
projects may be placed in reserve; providing an  
effective date.

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

Section 1. (1) A committee is created to review  
funding for fairs, agricultural centers, pavilions, and  
multi-use facilities. The committee shall consist of two  
members appointed by the Governor, two members appointed by  
the President of the Senate, and two members appointed by the  
Speaker of the House of Representatives and a seventh member  
appointed by the remaining members. All members shall be  
appointed to serve 2-year terms. The initial appointments by  
the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of  
the House of Representatives must be made by August 15, 1998;  
and the seventh member must be appointed by September 15,  
1998. The committee shall designate one of its members as  
chairperson.

(2)(a) The committee shall annually review all funding  
requests for fairs, agricultural centers, pavilions, and  
multi-use facilities which have been submitted for the ensuing  
fiscal year and shall recommend to the Governor and  
Legislature, by February 1 preceding the fiscal year for which

1 funding has been requested, the priority that should be given  
2 to each request.

3 (b) In making its recommendations, the committee shall  
4 consider the extent of local government sponsorship and  
5 support and the extent to which the project will provide  
6 direct public benefits, including, but not limited to  
7 educational and recreational benefits and the preservation of  
8 history, culture, or heritage.

9 (3) In addition to the review required by subsection  
10 (2), the committee shall annually review those fairs,  
11 agricultural centers, pavilions, and multi-use facilities for  
12 which the Legislature has appropriated funds but which were  
13 not previously reviewed by the committee. If the committee  
14 finds that the project substantially meets the criteria  
15 prescribed in paragraph (2)(b), it shall recommend to the  
16 appropriate agency head that a grant be awarded for the  
17 project up to the amount appropriated by the Legislature. If  
18 the committee finds that the project does not substantially  
19 meet the criteria prescribed in paragraph (2)(b), it shall  
20 recommend that the Executive Office of the Governor place the  
21 appropriation for the project in reserve. Funds for projects  
22 reviewed under this subsection must be awarded or placed in  
23 reserve by January 1 of the fiscal year for which the funds  
24 were appropriated.

25 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
26 law.

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1 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN  
2 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
3 Senate Bill 1922

4 The Committee Substitute:

- 5 1. Provides that the Governor, the President of the Senate,  
6 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives are to  
7 appoint two members each, and that the members so  
8 selected are to appoint the final member, rather than the  
9 Commissioner of Agriculture making all appointments.
- 10 2. Reduces the number of committee members from nine to  
11 seven, deletes the requirement that committee members  
12 have agricultural backgrounds, and specifies that members  
13 serve two-year terms.
- 14 3. Specifies February 1 preceding the fiscal year for which  
15 the funding is requested as the date upon which the  
16 committee's recommendations are to be made to the  
17 Governor and the Legislature.
- 18 4. Alters the committee's criteria for evaluating projects  
19 to include the consideration of public educational and  
20 recreational benefits and the preservation of history,  
21 culture or heritage, while excluding consideration of  
22 agricultural interests, future costs, and prioritization  
23 of associated costs.
- 24 5. Provides that the committee is to annually review  
25 projects that have previously been appropriated funds but  
26 were not previously reviewed by the committee and  
27 provides two options after the review:
- 28 -- If the committee finds that the project meets the  
29 criteria, it is to recommend to the appropriate  
30 agency that the funds be awarded for the project up  
31 to the amount appropriated by the legislature.
- If the committee finds that the project does not  
meet the criteria, it is to recommend to the  
Executive Office of the Governor that the  
appropriation for the project be placed in reserve.
- Funds for projects reviewed in this manner are to be  
awarded or placed in reserve by January 1 of the fiscal  
year for which the funds were appropriated.
6. Deletes the requirement that the Department of State  
evaluate festivals.