

SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based only on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Date: April 8, 1998 Revised: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject: Manatee License Plates

	<u>Analyst</u>	<u>Staff Director</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Action</u>
1.	<u>Caridi</u>	<u>Johnson</u>	<u>TR</u>	<u>Favorable/CS</u>
2.	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>WM</u>	<u>_____</u>
3.	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>
4.	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>
5.	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>

**I. Summary:**

This committee substitute increases the annual use fee for the manatee license plate from \$15 to \$20.

The annual use fees from the manatee license plate are deposited into the Save the Manatee Trust Fund within the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The funds are to be used for manatee research, protection and recovery, and manatee facilities as provided in s. 370.12(5), F.S.

The Save the Manatee Trust Fund is exempted from the general revenue service charge required by s. 215.20(1), F.S.

This bill substantially amends the following sections of the Florida Statutes: 320.08056, 320.08058, and 215.22.

**II. Present Situation:**

The annual use fee for the manatee license plate is currently \$15.

The fees are deposited into the Save the Manatee Trust Fund and used for manatee facilities as provided in s. 370.12(5)(b) and manatee related environmental education related directly to manatees.

Section 215.20(1), F.S., requires a general revenue service charge of 7 percent be taken from all income of a revenue nature deposited in trust funds unless exempted. The Save the Manatee Trust Fund is not exempt from this deduction. The Save the Manatee Trust Fund receives revenue from the manatee license plate annual use fee. The fund also has revenue from a one-time transfer of

the Save Our State Environmental Education Trust Fund, along with funds from vessel and boat registration donations and county option fees.

**III. Effect of Proposed Changes:**

The annual use fee would increase from \$15 to \$20.

The committee substitute would exempt the Save the Manatee Trust Fund from the 7 percent general revenue service charge on trust funds.

**IV. Constitutional Issues:**

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

**V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:**

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

Persons wishing to purchase a manatee license plate will pay a \$20 annual use fee.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The Save the Manatee Trust Fund will no longer be subject to a 7 percent general revenue deduction. DEP estimates this will increase available funds by an estimated \$150,000.

**VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

**VII. Related Issues:**

None.

**VIII. Amendments:**

None.

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This Senate staff analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's sponsor or the Florida Senate.

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