

STORAGE NAME: h4403.ft

DATE: April 19, 1998

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON
FINANCE AND TAXATION
BILL RESEARCH & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT**

BILL #: HB 4403

RELATING TO: Manatee License Plates

SPONSOR(S): Representative Brown and others

COMPANION BILL(S): CS/SB 2488 (Similar)

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

- (1) TRANSPORTATION (W/D)
 - (2) FINANCE AND TAXATION
 - (3)
 - (4)
 - (5)
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I. SUMMARY:

This bill increases the annual use fee for the manatee specialty license plate and provides that funds deposited in the Save the Manatee Trust Fund may be used only for manatee-related environmental education as well as other described purposes. This bill amends section 320.0858, F.S., to delete obsolete language with respect to the manatee license plate annual use fee.

This bill also amends s. 215.22, F.S., to exempt the Save the Manatee Trust Fund from the payment of the seven percent service charge to the General Revenue Fund.

The bill is expected to have a decrease to the General Revenue Fund of (\$164,887) in FY 1998-99 and FY 1999-2000, is expected to raise revenues to the Save the Manatee Trust Fund by \$950,062 for FY 1998-99 and FY 1999-2000, and is expected to decrease the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund by (\$2,000) for programming costs in FY 1998-99.

II. SUBSTANTIVE RESEARCH:

A. 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 are 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 that a General Revenue service charge of seven 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.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

This bill amends section 320.08056(4)(a), F.S. (**Section 1** of the bill), to increase the license plate annual use fee for the manatee specialty license plate from \$15 to \$20.

It also amends section 320.08058(1), F.S. (**Section 2** of the bill), to clarify that the use fees be expended for manatee related education programs. This bill also deletes obsolete language in section 320.0858(2), F.S., which requires that for FY 1996-1997, 25 percent of the manatee license plate annual use fees be used for manatee facilities as provided in section 37.12(5)(b), F.S.

Last, it amends section 215.22(1)(t), F.S. (**Section 3** of the bill), to exempt the Save the Manatee Trust Fund from the seven percent service charge to the General Revenue Fund and shall take effect upon becoming a law (**Section 4** of the bill).

C. APPLICATION OF PRINCIPLES:

1. Less Government:

a. Does the bill create, increase or reduce, either directly or indirectly:

(1) any authority to make rules or adjudicate disputes?

N/A

(2) any new responsibilities, obligations or work for other governmental or private organizations or individuals?

N/A

(3) any entitlement to a government service or benefit?

N/A

b. If an agency or program is eliminated or reduced:

(1) what responsibilities, costs and powers are passed on to another program, agency, level of government, or private entity?

N/A

(2) what is the cost of such responsibility at the new level/agency?

N/A

(3) how is the new agency accountable to the people governed?

N/A

2. Lower Taxes:

a. Does the bill increase anyone's taxes?

No.

b. Does the bill require or authorize an increase in any fees?

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

c. Does the bill reduce total taxes, both rates and revenues?

No.

d. Does the bill reduce total fees, both rates and revenues?

No.

e. Does the bill authorize any fee or tax increase by any local government?

No.

3. Personal Responsibility:

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- a. Does the bill reduce or eliminate an entitlement to government services or subsidy?

N/A

- b. Do the beneficiaries of the legislation directly pay any portion of the cost of implementation and operation?

N/A

4. Individual Freedom:

- a. Does the bill increase the allowable options of individuals or private organizations/associations to conduct their own affairs?

N/A

- b. Does the bill prohibit, or create new government interference with, any presently lawful activity?

N/A

5. Family Empowerment:

- a. If the bill purports to provide services to families or children:

- (1) Who evaluates the family's needs?

N/A

- (2) Who makes the decisions?

N/A

- (3) Are private alternatives permitted?

N/A

- (4) Are families required to participate in a program?

N/A

(5) Are families penalized for not participating in a program?

N/A

b. Does the bill directly affect the legal rights and obligations between family members?

N/A

c. If the bill creates or changes a program providing services to families or children, in which of the following does the bill vest control of the program, either through direct participation or appointment authority:

(1) parents and guardians?

N/A

(2) service providers?

N/A

(3) government employees/agencies?

N/A

D. STATUTE(S) AFFECTED:

Sections 320.08056,.08058, 215.22.

E. SECTION-BY-SECTION RESEARCH:

See II. B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES for details.

III. FISCAL RESEARCH & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT:

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE AGENCIES/STATE FUNDS:

1. Non-recurring Effects:

	<u>FY 1998-99</u>
Expenditures (Start-up effects)	
Highway Safety Operating TF	(\$2,000)

According to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, passage of this bill would require 16 hours of contracted programming modifications to the Motor Vehicle Software system.

2. Recurring Effects:

	<u>FY 1998-99</u>	<u>FY 1999-2000</u>
General Revenue Fund		
Seven percent service charge:	(\$164,887)	(\$164,887)
Save the Manatee TF:		
Use Fees	\$950,062	\$950,062

3. Long Run Effects Other Than Normal Growth:

None.

4. Total Revenues and Expenditures:

	<u>FY 1998-99</u>	<u>FY 1999-2000</u>
Total (Revenue):	\$785,175	\$785,175
Total (Expenditures):	\$2,000	

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:

Persons wishing to purchase a manatee license plate will pay a \$20 annual use fee instead of the current \$15 annual use fee.

2. Direct Private Sector Benefits:

Indeterminate.

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

None.

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D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

None.

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

A. APPLICABILITY OF THE MANDATES PROVISION:

This bill does not require counties or municipalities to spend funds or to take action requiring the expenditure of funds.

B. REDUCTION OF REVENUE RAISING AUTHORITY:

The bill does not reduce the authority that municipalities or counties have to raise revenues in the aggregate.

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

This bill does not reduce the percentage of a state tax shared with counties or municipalities.

V. COMMENTS:

None.

VI. AMENDMENTS OR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES:

None.

VII. SIGNATURES:

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND TAXATION:

Prepared by:

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