1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to campaign financing; 3 repealing ss. 106.30-106.36, F.S., the "Florida Election Campaign Financing Act"; amending ss. 4 99.092, 99.103, and 105.031, F.S.; eliminating 5 6 the transfer of a portion of filing fees to the 7 trust fund and reducing filing fees 8 accordingly, to conform; amending s. 99.093, 9 F.S.; eliminating the transfer of a portion of municipal election assessments to the trust 10 fund and reducing the municipal election 11 12 assessment accordingly, to conform; amending s. 13 102.112, F.S.; providing for deposit of fines assessed for late county election returns into 14 15 general revenue rather than the trust fund, to conform; amending ss. 106.04 and 106.07, F.S.; 16 providing for deposit of fines assessed for 17 18 late campaign financing reports into general revenue rather than the trust fund, to conform; 19 20 eliminating the separate reporting dates for candidates receiving contributions from the 21 trust fund, to conform; amending s. 106.141, 22 23 F.S.; eliminating deposit of surplus campaign funds into the trust fund, to conform; amending 24 25 s. 106.22, F.S.; eliminating the required 26 audits of campaign accounts of candidates 27 receiving contributions from the trust fund, to 28 conform; amending s. 106.265, F.S.; providing 29 for deposit of civil penalties into general 30 revenue instead of the trust fund, to conform; repealing ss. 199.052(14) and 320.02(13), F.S.,

and amending ss. 322.08, 327.25, and 607.1622, F.S., to eliminate provisions that authorize voluntary contributions to the trust fund, to conform; amending ss. 370.12, 732.9215, and 732.9216, F.S.; correcting cross references, to conform; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. <u>Sections 106.30, 106.31, 106.32, 106.33, 106.35, 106.353, and 106.355, Florida Statutes, and sections 106.34 and 106.36, Florida Statutes, as amended by chapter 95-147, Laws of Florida, are hereby repealed.</u>

Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 99.092, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

99.092 Qualifying fee of candidate; notification of Department of State.--

(1) Each person seeking to qualify for nomination or election to any office, except a person seeking to qualify pursuant to s. 99.095 and except a person seeking to qualify as a write-in candidate, shall pay a qualifying fee, which shall consist of a filing fee and election assessment, to the officer with whom the person qualifies, and any party assessment levied, and shall attach the original or signed duplicate of the receipt for his or her party assessment or pay the same, in accordance with the provisions of s. 103.121, at the time of filing his or her other qualifying papers. The amount of the filing fee is 3 4.5 percent of the annual salary of the office. The amount of the filing fee equal to 1.5 percent of the annual salary of the office shall be transferred to the Election Campaign Financing Trust Fund.

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The remainder shall be distributed pursuant to s. 99.103. The amount of the election assessment is 1 percent of the annual salary of the office sought. The election assessment shall be deposited into the Elections Commission Trust Fund. The amount of the party assessment is 2 percent of the annual salary. The annual salary of the office for purposes of computing the filing fee, election assessment, and party assessment shall be computed by multiplying 12 times the monthly salary, excluding any special qualification pay, authorized for such office as of July 1 immediately preceding the first day of qualifying. No qualifying fee shall be returned to the candidate unless the candidate withdraws his or her candidacy before the last date to qualify. If a candidate dies prior to an election and has not withdrawn his or her candidacy before the last date to qualify, the candidate's qualifying fee shall be returned to his or her designated beneficiary, and, if the filing fee or any portion thereof has been transferred to the political party of the candidate, the Secretary of State shall direct the party to return that portion to the designated beneficiary of the candidate.

Section 3. Subsection (1) of section 99.093, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

99.093 Municipal candidates; election assessment.--

(1) Each person seeking to qualify for nomination or election to a municipal office shall pay, at the time of qualifying for office, an election assessment. The election assessment shall be an amount equal to $\underline{1}$ $\underline{1.5}$ percent of the annual salary of the office sought. Within 30 days after the close of qualifying, the qualifying officer shall forward \underline{all} $\underline{amounts}$ $\underline{two-thirds}$ of the amount collected pursuant to this

section to the Department of State for deposit in the Elections Commission Trust Fund and one-third of the amount collected pursuant to this section shall be transferred to the Election Campaign Financing Trust Fund.

Section 4. Section 99.103, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 99.103 Department of State to remit part of filing fees and party assessments of candidates to state executive committee.--
- membership of the state executive committee of any party was elected at the last previous election for such members and if such party is declared by the Department of State to have recorded on the registration books of the counties, as of the first Tuesday after the first Monday in January prior to the first primary in general election years, 5 percent of the total registration of such counties when added together, such committee shall receive, for the purpose of meeting its expenses, all filing fees collected by the Department of State from its candidates less the amount transferred to the Election Campaign Financing Trust Fund pursuant to s. 99.092 and an amount equal to 15 percent of the filing fees after such transfer, which amount the Department of State shall deposit in the General Revenue Fund of the state.
- (2) Not later than 20 days after the close of qualifying in even-numbered years, the Department of State shall remit 95 percent of all filing fees, less the amount transferred to the Election Campaign Financing Trust Fund pursuant to s. 99.092 and the amount deposited in the General Revenue Fund pursuant to subsection (1), or party assessments that may have been collected by the department to the

respective state executive committees of the parties complying with subsection (1). Party assessments collected by the Department of State shall be remitted to the appropriate state executive committee, irrespective of other requirements of this section, provided such committee is duly organized under the provisions of chapter 103. The remainder of filing fees or party assessments collected by the Department of State shall be remitted to the appropriate state executive committees not later than the date of the first primary.

Section 5. Subsection (2) of section 102.112, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 102.112 Deadline for submission of county returns to the Department of State; penalties.--
- (2) The department shall fine each board member \$200 for each day such returns are late, the fine to be paid only from the board member's personal funds. Such fines shall be deposited into the <u>General Revenue Fund</u> <u>Election Campaign</u> Financing Trust Fund, created by s. 106.32.

Section 6. Subsection (3) of section 105.031, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

105.031 Qualification; filing fee; candidate's oath; items required to be filed.--

(3) QUALIFYING FEE.--Each candidate qualifying for election to judicial office, except write-in judicial candidates, shall, during the time for qualifying, pay to the officer with whom he or she qualifies a qualifying fee, which shall consist of a filing fee and an election assessment, or qualify by the alternative method. The amount of the filing fee is $\frac{3}{4.5}$ percent of the annual salary of the office sought. The amount of the election assessment is 1 percent of the annual salary of the office sought.

officer shall forward all filing fees to the Department of Revenue for deposit in the General Revenue Fund. One-third of all filing fees deposited into the General Revenue Fund shall be subsequently transferred to the Election Campaign Financing Trust Fund. The election assessment shall be deposited into the Elections Commission Trust Fund. The annual salary of the office for purposes of computing the qualifying fee shall be computed by multiplying 12 times the monthly salary authorized for such office as of July 1 immediately preceding the first day of qualifying. This subsection shall not apply to candidates qualifying for retention to judicial office.

Section 7. Paragraph (a) of subsection (8) of section 106.04, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

106.04 Committees of continuous existence.--

(8)(a) Any committee of continuous existence failing to file a report on the designated due date shall be subject to a fine. The fine shall be \$50 per day for each late day, not to exceed 25 percent of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the period covered by the late report. The fine shall be assessed by the filing officer, and the moneys collected shall be deposited in the General Revenue Election Campaign Financing Trust Fund. No separate fine shall be assessed for failure to file a copy of any report required by this section.

Section 8. Subsection (1) and paragraph (a) of subsection (8) of section 106.07, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

106.07 Reports; certification and filing.--

(1) Each campaign treasurer designated by a candidate or political committee pursuant to s. 106.021 shall file regular reports of all contributions received, and all

expenditures made, by or on behalf of such candidate or political committee. Reports shall be filed on the 10th day following the end of each calendar quarter from the time the campaign treasurer is appointed, except that, if the 10th day following the end of a calendar quarter occurs on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the report shall be filed on the next following day which is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday. Quarterly reports shall include all contributions received and expenditures made during the calendar quarter which have not otherwise been reported pursuant to this section.

- (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), Following the last day of qualifying for office, the reports shall be filed on the 32nd, 18th, and 4th days immediately preceding the first primary and on the 18th and 4th days immediately preceding the second primary and general election, for a candidate who is opposed in seeking nomination or election to any office, for a political committee, or for a committee of continuous existence.
- (b) Following the last day of qualifying for office, any statewide candidate who has requested to receive contributions from the Election Campaign Financing Trust Fund or any statewide candidate in a race with a candidate who has requested to receive contributions from the trust fund shall file reports on the 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th, and 32nd days prior to the first primary and general elections, and on the 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th days prior to the second primary.
- (b)(c) Following the last day of qualifying for office, any unopposed candidate need only file a report within 90 days after the date such candidate became unopposed. Such report shall contain all previously unreported contributions

and expenditures as required by this section and shall reflect disposition of funds as required by s. 106.141.

- (c)(d)1. When a special election is called to fill a vacancy in office, all political committees and committees of continuous existence making contributions or expenditures to influence the results of such special election shall file campaign treasurers' reports with the filing officer on the dates set by the Department of State pursuant to s. 100.111.
- 2. When an election is called for an issue to appear on the ballot at a time when no candidates are scheduled to appear on the ballot, all political committees making contributions or expenditures in support of or in opposition to such issue shall file reports on the 18th and 4th days prior to such election.
- $\underline{(d)}$ (e) The filing officer shall provide each candidate with a schedule designating the beginning and end of reporting periods as well as the corresponding designated due dates.
- (8)(a) Any candidate or political committee failing to file a report on the designated due date shall be subject to a fine as provided in paragraph (b) for each late day, and, in the case of a candidate, such fine shall be paid only from personal funds of the candidate. The fine shall be assessed by the filing officer and the moneys collected shall be deposited:
- 1. In the <u>General Revenue</u> <u>Election Campaign Financing</u>

 Trust Fund, in the case of a candidate for state office or a political committee that registers with the Division of Elections; or
- 2. In the general revenue fund of the political subdivision, in the case of a candidate for an office of a

political subdivision or a political committee that registers with an officer of a political subdivision.

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No separate fine shall be assessed for failure to file a copy of any report required by this section.

Section 9. Subsection (4) of section 106.141, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

106.141 Disposition of surplus funds by candidates.--

(4)(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), Any candidate required to dispose of funds pursuant to this section shall, at the option of the candidate, dispose of such funds by any of the following means, or any combination thereof:

 $\underline{(a)1}$. Return pro rata to each contributor the funds which have not been spent, or have not been obligated to be spent, with respect to a campaign which has been conducted.

(b)2. Donate the funds which have not been spent or have not been obligated to be spent to a charity organization or organizations which meet the qualifications of s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, with respect to a campaign which has been conducted.

 $\underline{(c)_3}$. Give the funds which have not been spent or have not been obligated to be spent to the political party of which such candidate is a registered member.

 $\underline{(d)}4$. Give the funds which have not been spent, or have not been obligated to be spent, with respect to a campaign which has been conducted:

1.a. In the case of a candidate for state office, to the state, to be deposited in either the Election Campaign Financing Trust Fund or the General Revenue Fund, as designated by the candidate; or

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(b) Any candidate required to dispose of funds pursuant to this section who has received contributions from the Election Campaign Financing Trust Fund shall return all surplus campaign funds to the Election Campaign Financing Trust Fund.

Section 10. Subsection (6) of section 106.22, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

106.22 Duties of the Division of Elections.--It is the duty of the Division of Elections to:

(6) Make, from time to time, audits and field investigations with respect to reports and statements filed under the provisions of this chapter and with respect to alleged failures to file any report or statement required under the provisions of this chapter. The division shall conduct a postelection audit of the campaign accounts of all candidates receiving contributions from the Election Campaign Financing Trust Fund.

Section 11. Subsections (3) and (4) of section 106.265, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

106.265 Civil penalties.--

- (3) Any civil penalty collected pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be deposited into the <u>General</u> Revenue <u>Election Campaign Financing Trust</u> Fund.
- (4) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter, any fine assessed pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, which fine is designated to be deposited or which would otherwise be deposited into the General Revenue Fund of

the state, shall be deposited into the Election Campaign Financing Trust Fund. 2 3 Section 12. Subsection (14) of section 199.052, 4 Florida Statutes, is hereby repealed. 5 Section 13. Subsection (13) of section 320.02, Florida 6 Statutes, is hereby repealed. 7 Section 14. Subsection (7) of section 322.08, Florida 8 Statutes, 1996 Supplement, is amended to read: 9 322.08 Application for license.--10 (7) The application form for a driver's license or duplicate thereof shall include language permitting the 11 12 following: 13 (a) A voluntary contribution of \$5 per applicant, which contribution shall be transferred into the Election 14 15 Campaign Financing Trust Fund. (a) (b) A voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant, 16 which contribution shall be deposited into the Florida Organ 17 and Tissue Donor Education and Procurement Trust Fund for 18 19 organ and tissue donor education. 20 (b) (c) A voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant, 21 which contribution shall be distributed to the Florida Council 22 of the Blind. 23 A statement providing an explanation of the purpose of the 24 25 trust funds shall also be included. Section 15. Subsection (1) of section 732.9215, 26 Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 27 28 732.9215 Education program relating to anatomical 29 gifts.--The Agency for Health Care Administration, subject to 30 the concurrence of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor

Vehicles, shall develop a continuing program to educate and

inform medical professionals, law enforcement agencies and officers, high school children, state and local government employees, and the public regarding the laws of this state relating to anatomical gifts and the need for anatomical gifts.

(1) The program is to be implemented with the assistance of the organ and tissue donor education panel as provided in s. 732.9216 and with the funds collected under ss. 320.08047 and 322.08(7)(a)(b). Existing community resources, when available, must be used to support the program, and volunteers may assist the program to the maximum extent possible. The Agency for Health Care Administration may contract for the provision of all or any portion of the program. When awarding such contract, the agency shall give priority to existing nonprofit groups that are located within the community, including within the minority communities specified in subsection (2). The program aimed at educating medical professionals may be implemented by contract with one or more medical schools located in the state.

Section 16. Subsection (1) of section 732.9216, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

732.9216 Organ and tissue donor education panel.--

(1) The Legislature recognizes that there exists in the state a shortage of organ and tissue donors to provide the organs and tissue that could save lives or enhance the quality of life for many Floridians. The Legislature further recognizes the need to encourage the various minority populations of Florida to donate organs and tissue. It is the intent of the Legislature that the funds collected pursuant to s. 322.08(7)(a)(b) be used exclusively for educational purposes aimed at increasing the number of organ and tissue

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donors, thus affording more Floridians who are awaiting organ or tissue transplants the opportunity for a full and productive life.

Section 17. Subsection (11) of section 327.25, Florida Statutes, 1996 Supplement, is amended to read:

327.25 Classification; registration; fees and charges; surcharge; disposition of fees; fines; marine turtle stickers.--

(11) VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS. -- The application form for boat registration shall include a provision to allow each applicant to indicate a desire to pay an additional voluntary contribution to the Save the Manatee Trust Fund for manatee and marine mammal research, protection, recovery, rescue, rehabilitation, and release. This contribution shall be in addition to all other fees and charges. The amount of the request for a voluntary contribution solicited shall be \$1 per registrant. Beginning with boat registration in fiscal year 1992-1993, the request for a voluntary contribution solicited shall be \$2 or \$5 per registrant. A registrant who provides a voluntary contribution of \$5 or more shall be given a sticker or emblem by the tax collector to display, which signifies support for the Save the Manatee Trust Fund. All voluntary contributions shall be deposited in the Save the Manatee Trust Fund for use according to this subsection. The first \$2 of voluntary contribution by a vessel registrant shall be available for the manatee protection and recovery effort pursuant to s. 370.12(5)(a). Any additional amount of voluntary contribution by a vessel registrant shall also be for the purpose of the manatee protection and recovery effort, except that any voluntary contribution in excess of the first \$2 voluntary contribution by a vessel registrant but not

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exceeding \$2 shall be available for manatee rehabilitation by those facilities approved to rescue, rehabilitate, and release manatees pursuant to s. 370.12(5)(b). The form shall also include language permitting a voluntary contribution of \$5 per applicant, which contribution shall be transferred into the Election Campaign Financing Trust Fund. A statement providing an explanation of the purpose of the trust fund shall also be included.

Section 18. Paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section 370.12, Florida Statutes, 1996 Supplement, is amended to read: 370.12 Marine animals; regulation.--

- (5) ANNUAL FUNDING OF PROGRAMS FOR MARINE ANIMALS.--
- (b) Each fiscal year moneys in the Save the Manatee Trust Fund shall also be used, pursuant to s. 327.28(1)(b), to reimburse the cost of activities related to manatee rehabilitation by facilities that rescue, rehabilitate, and release manatees as authorized pursuant to the Fish and Wildlife Service of the United States Department of the Interior. Such facilities must be involved in the actual rescue and full-time acute care veterinarian-based rehabilitation of manatees. The cost of activities includes, but is not limited to, costs associated with expansion, capital outlay, repair, maintenance, and operations related to the rescue, treatment, stabilization, maintenance, release, and monitoring of manatees. Moneys distributed through contractual agreement to each facility for manatee rehabilitation shall be proportionate to the number of manatees under acute care rehabilitation and those released during the previous fiscal year. However, the reimbursement may not exceed the total amount available pursuant to ss. $327.25(11)\frac{(7)}{(7)}$ and 327.28(1)(b) for the purposes provided in

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this paragraph. Prior to receiving reimbursement for the expenses of rescue, rehabilitation, and release, a facility that qualifies under state and federal regulations shall submit a plan to the Department of Environmental Protection for assisting the department and the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles in marketing the manatee specialty license plates. At a minimum, the plan shall include provisions for graphics, dissemination of brochures, recorded oral and visual presentation, and maintenance of a marketing exhibit. The plan shall be updated annually and the Department of Environmental Protection shall inspect each marketing exhibit at least once each year to ensure the quality of the exhibit and promotional material. facility that receives funds for manatee rehabilitation shall annually provide the department a written report, within 30 days after the close of the state fiscal year, documenting the efforts and effectiveness of the facility's promotional activities.

Section 19. Subsection (1) of section 607.1622, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

607.1622 Annual report for Department of State. --

- (1) Each domestic corporation and each foreign corporation authorized to transact business in this state shall deliver to the Department of State for filing a sworn annual report on such forms as the Department of State prescribes that sets forth:
- (a) The name of the corporation and the state or country under the law of which it is incorporated;
- 29 (b) The date of incorporation or, if a foreign 30 corporation, the date on which it was admitted to do business 31 in this state;

- (c) The address of its principal office and the mailing address of the corporation;
- (d) The corporation's federal employer identification number, if any, or, if none, whether one has been applied for;
- (e) The names and business street addresses of its directors and principal officers;
- (f) The street address of its registered office and the name of its registered agent at that office in this state;
- (g) Whether the corporation has liability for intangible taxes under s. 199.032. The Department of State shall annually prepare a list of those corporations that have indicated no intangible tax liability, and provide such list to the Department of Revenue; and
- (h) Language permitting a voluntary contribution of \$5 per taxpayer, which contribution shall be transferred into the Election Campaign Financing Trust Fund. A statement providing an explanation of the purpose of the trust fund shall also be included; and
- $\underline{\text{(h)}(i)}$ Such additional information as may be necessary or appropriate to enable the Department of State to carry out the provisions of this act.
- Section 20. This act shall take effect January 1, 1998.

HOUSE SUMMARY

Repeals the "Florida Election Campaign Financing Act." Eliminates the transfer of a portion of filing fees to the trust fund and reduces filing fees accordingly, to conform. Eliminates the transfer of a portion of municipal election assessments to the trust fund and reduces the municipal election assessment accordingly, to conform. Provides for deposit of fines assessed for late county election returns into general revenue rather than the trust fund, to conform. Provides for deposit of fines assessed for late campaign financing reports into general revenue rather than the trust fund, to conform. Eliminates the separate reporting dates for candidates receiving contributions from the trust fund, to conform. Eliminates deposit of surplus campaign funds into the trust fund, to conform. Eliminates deposit of candidates receiving contributions from the trust fund, to conform. Provides for deposit of civil penalties into general revenue instead of the trust fund, to conform. Eliminates provisions that authorize voluntary contributions to the trust fund, to conform.