

By Senator Mitchell

4-1254A-99

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to Crime Stoppers trust funds;
3 creating s. 932.80, F.S.; requiring each board
4 of county commissioners to create a Crime
5 Stoppers trust fund; specifying the purposes
6 for which moneys in the trust funds may be
7 expended; providing for distributing moneys in
8 a trust fund to the sheriff or other entity
9 that operates a Crime Stoppers program within
10 the county; providing for the board of county
11 commissioners to expend funds in the trust fund
12 if such program is not operated within the
13 county; requiring that a Crime Stoppers program
14 provide certain services; amending s. 938.06,
15 F.S.; providing for the surcharge assessed as
16 an additional court cost in criminal cases to
17 be deposited into the Crime Stoppers trust fund
18 within the county; repealing s. 16.555, F.S.,
19 relating to the Crime Stoppers Trust Fund
20 within the Department of Legal Affairs;
21 providing a contingent effective date.

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

25 Section 1. Section 932.80, Florida Statutes, is
26 created to read:

27 932.80 Crime Stoppers trust funds.--

28 (1) Each board of county commissioners shall create a
29 Crime Stoppers trust fund to receive funds collected and
30 remitted to the clerk of the court under s. 938.06. Moneys

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1 deposited into the Crime Stoppers trust funds, and interest
2 accruing to the trust funds, may only be expended for:

3 (a) Rewards for information leading to the arrest and
4 prosecution of persons who have committed, or who are
5 committing, crimes;

6 (b) Community notification of the presence of sexual
7 predators, sexual offenders, or violent offenders;

8 (c) Crime prevention;

9 (d) Safe Neighborhood programs;

10 (e) Administrative costs of Crime Stoppers programs
11 that receive funds under subsection (2) or subsection (3); and

12 (f) Training the public in methods of crime prevention
13 and the principles of personal safety, especially for persons
14 who live in, work at, or frequent locations that have high
15 rates of crime.

16 (2) In any county in which a Crime Stoppers program is
17 operated by the sheriff or person in charge of the county law
18 enforcement agency, all funds in the Crime Stoppers trust fund
19 shall be distributed to the sheriff or person in charge of the
20 county law enforcement agency for the purpose of funding the
21 Crime Stoppers program in conformance with subsection (1).

22 (3) In any county in which a Crime Stoppers program is
23 operated pursuant to the approval of the sheriff or person in
24 charge of the county law enforcement agency and in
25 consultation with the chief of police of municipalities within
26 the county, all funds in the Crime Stoppers trust fund shall
27 be distributed to the Crime Stoppers program in conformance
28 with subsection (1).

29 (4) If a Crime Stoppers program is not operated within
30 a county, the board of county commissioners may expend funds
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1 in the Crime Stoppers trust fund in conformance with
2 subsection (1).

3 (5) A Crime Stoppers program described under
4 subsection (2) or subsection (3) may not receive funds under
5 this section unless the program provides Crime Stoppers
6 services, including, but not limited to, receiving information
7 regarding crimes and providing rewards for such information on
8 behalf of the sheriff's office and all municipal police
9 agencies in the county.

10 Section 2. Section 938.06, Florida Statutes, 1998
11 Supplement, is amended to read:

12 938.06 Additional cost for crime stoppers programs.--

13 (1) In addition to any fine prescribed by law for any
14 criminal offense, there is ~~hereby~~ assessed as a court cost an
15 additional surcharge of \$20 on such fine, which shall be
16 imposed by all county and circuit courts and collected by the
17 clerks of the courts together with such fine. No political
18 subdivision shall be held liable for payment of costs under
19 this section.

20 (2) The clerk of the court shall collect and forward,
21 on a monthly basis, all costs assessed under this section,
22 less \$3 per assessment as a service charge to be retained by
23 the clerk, to ~~the Department of Legal Affairs for deposit in~~
24 the Crime Stoppers trust fund established by the board of
25 county commissioners, to be used as provided in s. 932.80 ~~s.~~
26 ~~16.555.~~

27 Section 3. Section 16.555, Florida Statutes, as
28 amended by section 2 of chapter 98-319, Laws of Florida, is
29 repealed.

30 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 1999,
31 but it shall take effect only if it is enacted by a

1 three-fifths vote of the membership of each house of the
2 Legislature.

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5 SENATE SUMMARY

6 Abolishes the Crime Stoppers Trust Fund within the
7 Department of Legal Affairs and requires each board of
8 county commissioners to create a Crime Stoppers trust
9 fund within the county. Provides moneys in a trust fund
10 to be distributed to the sheriff or other entity that
operates a Crime Stoppers program within the county.
11 Authorizes the board of county commissioners to expend
12 moneys in the trust fund if a Crime Stoppers program is
13 not operated within the county.
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