



1           1. In any fiscal year, the greater of \$500 million,  
2 minus an amount equal to 4.6 percent of the proceeds of the  
3 taxes collected pursuant to chapter 201, or 5 percent of all  
4 other taxes and fees imposed pursuant to this chapter shall be  
5 deposited in monthly installments into the General Revenue  
6 Fund.

7           2. Two-tenths of one percent shall be transferred to  
8 the Solid Waste Management Trust Fund.

9           3. After the distribution under subparagraphs 1. and  
10 2., 9.653 percent of the amount remitted by a sales tax dealer  
11 located within a participating county pursuant to s. 218.61  
12 shall be transferred into the Local Government Half-cent Sales  
13 Tax Clearing Trust Fund.

14           4. After the distribution under subparagraphs 1., 2.,  
15 and 3., 0.054 percent shall be transferred to the Local  
16 Government Half-cent Sales Tax Clearing Trust Fund and  
17 distributed pursuant to s. 218.65.

18           5. Of the remaining proceeds:

19           a. Beginning July 1, 1992, \$166,667 shall be  
20 distributed monthly by the department to each applicant that  
21 has been certified as a "facility for a new professional  
22 sports franchise" or a "facility for a retained professional  
23 sports franchise" pursuant to s. 288.1162 and \$41,667 shall be  
24 distributed monthly by the department to each applicant that  
25 has been certified as a "new spring training franchise  
26 facility" pursuant to s. 288.1162. Distributions shall begin  
27 60 days following such certification and shall continue for 30  
28 years. Nothing contained herein shall be construed to allow an  
29 applicant certified pursuant to s. 288.1162 to receive more in  
30 distributions than actually expended by the applicant for the  
31 public purposes provided for in s. 288.1162(7). However, a

1 certified applicant shall receive distributions up to the  
2 maximum amount allowable and undistributed under this section  
3 for additional renovations and improvements to the facility  
4 for the franchise without additional certification.

5 b. Beginning 30 days after notice by the Office of  
6 Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development to the Department of  
7 Revenue that an applicant has been certified as the  
8 professional golf hall of fame pursuant to s. 288.1168 and is  
9 open to the public, \$166,667 shall be distributed monthly, for  
10 up to 300 months, to the applicant.

11 c. Beginning 30 days after notice by the Department of  
12 Commerce to the Department of Revenue that the applicant has  
13 been certified as the International Game Fish Association  
14 World Center facility pursuant to s. 288.1169, and the  
15 facility is open to the public, \$83,333 shall be distributed  
16 monthly, for up to 180 months, to the applicant. This  
17 distribution is subject to reduction pursuant to s. 288.1169.

18 d. Beginning 30 days after notice by the Office of  
19 Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development to the Department of  
20 Revenue that the applicant has been certified as an Opryland  
21 facility pursuant to s. 288.1170, and the facility is open to  
22 the public, \$166,667 shall be distributed monthly, for up to  
23 300 months, to the applicant.

24 6. All other proceeds shall remain with the General  
25 Revenue Fund.

26 Section 2. Section 288.1170, Florida Statutes, is  
27 created to read:

28 288.1170 Opryland facility; duties.--

29 (1) The Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic  
30 Development shall serve as the state agency for screening  
31 applicants for state funding pursuant to s. 212.20 and for

1 certifying the applicant as the Opryland facility in the  
2 state.  
3 (2) Prior to certifying the Opryland facility, the  
4 Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development must  
5 determine that:  
6 (a) The Opryland facility is the only facility in  
7 Florida of its kind with 200,000 square feet of exhibition  
8 space; 150,000 square feet of ballroom and meeting space; a  
9 20,000 square foot, 1,000-seat entertainment venue surrounding  
10 a large indoor atrium; and with 36,000 square feet of food and  
11 beverage space.  
12 (b) The applicant is a unit of local government as  
13 defined in s. 218.369 and has certified by resolution after a  
14 public hearing that the application serves a public purpose.  
15 (c) There are existing projections that the Opryland  
16 facility will attract over 200,000 convention attendees and  
17 visitors annually.  
18 (d) There is an independent analysis or study, using  
19 methodology approved by the Office of Tourism, Trade, and  
20 Economic Development, which demonstrates that the amount of  
21 the revenues generated by the taxes imposed under chapter 212  
22 with respect to the use and operation of the Opryland facility  
23 will equal or exceed \$2 million annually.  
24 (e) Documentation exists that demonstrates that the  
25 applicant has a financial commitment to the project through a  
26 public improvement partnership agreement of up to \$35 million.  
27 (3) The applicant may use funds provided pursuant to  
28 s. 212.20 for the public purpose of paying for the  
29 construction, reconstruction, renovation, debt service and  
30 debt service reserve funds, operating and maintenance, or  
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1 repair and replacement costs associated with any toll road on  
2 which the facility relies for access.

3 (4) Upon determining that an applicant is or is not  
4 certifiable, the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic  
5 Development shall notify the applicant of his or her status by  
6 means of an official letter. If certifiable, the Office of  
7 Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development shall notify the  
8 executive director of the Department of Revenue and the  
9 applicant of such certification by means of an official letter  
10 granting certification. From the date of such certification,  
11 the applicant shall have 5 years to open the Opryland facility  
12 to the public and notify the Office of Tourism, Trade, and  
13 Economic Development of such opening. The Department of  
14 Revenue shall not begin distributing funds until 30 days  
15 following notice by the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic  
16 Development that the Opryland facility is open to the public.

17 (5) The Department of Revenue may audit as provided in  
18 s. 213.34 to verify that the distributions under this section  
19 have been expended as required by this section.

20 (6) The Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic  
21 Development must recertify every 10 years that the facility is  
22 open and is meeting the minimum projections for attendance or  
23 sales tax revenues as required at the time of original  
24 certification. If the facility is not certified as meeting  
25 the minimum projections, the distribution of revenues pursuant  
26 to s. 212.20(6)(f)5.d. shall be reduced by 50 percent. Such  
27 reduction shall remain in effect until revenues generated by  
28 the project in a 12-month period equal or exceed \$2 million.

29 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 1999.  
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HOUSE SUMMARY

Creates the Opryland facility, an entertainment facility with 200,000 square feet of exhibition space, 150,000 feet of ballroom and meeting space, an entertainment venue which seats 1,000, and 36,000 square feet of food and beverage space. Provides for distribution of a portion of revenues from the tax on sales, use, and other transactions to such facility. Provides for certification of the Opryland facility by the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development of the Executive Office of the Governor. Provides requirements for certification. Provides for the use of funds distributed to the facility and specifies when distribution of such funds begins. Requires specified notice. Provides a time limit for the opening of the facility. Provides for audits by the Department of Revenue. Provides for periodic recertification. Provides for a reduction of funding under certain circumstances.