

By the Committee on Environmental Protection and
 Representative Dockery

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to environmental protection;
 3 amending s. 201.15, F.S.; revising distribution
 4 of certain documentary stamp tax revenues;
 5 amending s. 369.22, F.S.; revising provisions
 6 relating to control of nonindigenous aquatic
 7 plants; providing conditions for expenditure of
 8 funds; requiring a report; amending s. 369.252,
 9 F.S.; providing for the use of certain funds
 10 from the Aquatic Plant Control Trust Fund;
 11 amending ss. 161.05301, 161.091, 420.5092, and
 12 420.9073, F.S.; correcting cross references;
 13 providing effective dates.

14
 15 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

16
 17 Section 1. Present subsections (4), (5), and (9) of
 18 section 201.15, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, are
 19 amended, subsections (6), (7), (8), and (9) are renumbered as
 20 subsections (9), (10), (11), and (12), respectively, and new
 21 subsections (6), (7), (8), and (13) are added to said section,
 22 to read:

23 201.15 Distribution of taxes collected.--All taxes
 24 collected under this chapter shall be subject to the service
 25 charge imposed in s. 215.20(1) and shall be distributed as
 26 follows:

27 (4) Four and two-tenths ~~Five and eighty-four~~
 28 ~~hundredths~~ percent of the remaining taxes collected under this
 29 chapter shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of
 30 the Water Management Lands Trust Fund. Sums deposited in that
 31 fund may be used for any purpose authorized in s. 373.59.

1 (5) Four and two-tenths ~~Five and eighty-four~~
2 ~~hundredths~~ percent of the remaining taxes collected under this
3 chapter shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of
4 the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund to carry out
5 the purposes set forth in s. 259.032.

6 (6) Two and twenty-eight hundredths percent of the
7 remaining taxes collected under this chapter shall be paid
8 into the State Treasury to the credit of the Aquatic Plant
9 Control Trust Fund to carry out the purposes set forth in ss.
10 369.22 and 369.252.

11 (7) One-half of one percent of the remaining taxes
12 collected under this chapter shall be paid into the State
13 Treasury to the credit of the State Game Trust Fund to be used
14 exclusively for the purpose of implementing the Lake
15 Restoration 2020 Program.

16 (8) One-half of one percent of the remaining taxes
17 collected under this chapter shall be paid into the State
18 Treasury and divided equally to the credit of the Department
19 of Environmental Protection Grants and Donations Trust Fund to
20 address water quality impacts associated with nonagricultural
21 nonpoint sources and to the credit of the Department of
22 Agriculture and Consumer Services General Inspection Trust
23 Fund to address water quality impacts associated with
24 agricultural nonpoint sources, respectively. These funds shall
25 be used for research, development, demonstration, and
26 implementation of suitable best management practices or other
27 measures used to achieve water quality standards in surface
28 waters and water segments identified pursuant to ss. 303(d) of
29 the Clean Water Act, Pub. L. No. 92-500, 33 U.S.C. ss. 1251 et
30 seq. Implementation of best management practices and other
31 measures may include cost-share grants, technical assistance,

1 implementation tracking, and conservation leases or other
2 agreements for water quality improvement.

3 (12)~~(9)~~ The Department of Revenue may use the payments
4 credited to trust funds pursuant to paragraphs (1)(b) and
5 (2)(b) and subsections (3), (4), (5), (6), ~~and (7)~~, (8), (9),
6 and (10) to pay the costs of the collection and enforcement of
7 the tax levied by this chapter. The percentage of such costs
8 which may be assessed against a trust fund is a ratio, the
9 numerator of which is payments credited to that trust fund
10 under this section and the denominator of which is the sum of
11 payments made under paragraphs (1)(b) and (2)(b) and
12 subsections (3), (4), (5), (6), ~~and (7)~~, (8), (9), and (10).

13 (13) The distribution of proceeds deposited into the
14 Water Management Lands Trust Fund and the Conservation and
15 Recreation Lands Trust Fund, pursuant to subsections (4) and
16 (5), shall not be used for land acquisition, but may be used
17 for preacquisition costs associated with land purchases. Prior
18 to the 2005 Regular Session of the Legislature, the Department
19 of Environmental Protection shall review and make
20 recommendations to the Legislature concerning the need to
21 repeal this provision. Based on these recommendations, the
22 Legislature shall review the need to repeal this provision
23 during the 2005 Regular Session.

24 Section 2. Effective July 1, 1999, section 369.22,
25 Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, is amended to read:

26 369.22 Nonindigenous aquatic plant control.--

27 (1) This section shall be known as the "Florida
28 Nonindigenous Aquatic Plant Control Act."

29 (2) For the purpose of this section, the following
30 words and phrases shall have the following meanings:

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- 1 (a) "Department" means the Department of Environmental
2 Protection.
- 3 (b) "Aquatic plant" is any plant growing in, or
4 closely associated with, the aquatic environment and includes
5 "floating," "emersed," "submersed," and "ditch bank" species.
- 6 (c) "Nonindigenous aquatic plant" is any aquatic plant
7 that is nonnative to the State of Florida and has certain
8 characteristics, such as massive productivity, choking
9 density, or an obstructive nature, which render it
10 detrimental, obnoxious, or unwanted in a particular location.
- 11 (d) A "maintenance program" is a method for the
12 control of nonindigenous aquatic plants in which control
13 techniques are utilized in a coordinated manner on a
14 continuous basis in order to maintain the plant population at
15 the lowest feasible level as determined by the department.
- 16 (e) An "eradication program" is a method for the
17 control of nonindigenous aquatic plants in which control
18 techniques are utilized in a coordinated manner in an attempt
19 to kill all the aquatic plants on a permanent basis in a given
20 geographical area.
- 21 (f) A "complaint spray program" is a method for the
22 control of nonindigenous aquatic plants in which weeds are
23 allowed to grow unhindered to a given level of undesirability,
24 at which point eradication techniques are applied in an effort
25 to restore the area in question to a relatively low level of
26 infestation.
- 27 (g) "Waters" means rivers, streams, lakes, navigable
28 waters and associated tributaries, canals, meandered lakes,
29 enclosed water systems, and any other bodies of water.
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1 (h) "Intercounty waters" means any waters which lie in
2 more than one county or form any part of the boundary between
3 two or more counties, as determined by the department.

4 (i) "Intracounty waters" means any waters which lie
5 wholly within the boundaries of one county as determined by
6 the department.

7 (j) "Districts" means the five ~~six~~ water management
8 districts created by law and named, respectively, ~~the~~
9 ~~Northwest Florida Water Management District, the Suwannee~~
10 ~~River Water Management District, the St. Johns River Water~~
11 ~~Management District, the Southwest Florida Water Management~~
12 ~~District, the Central and Southern Florida Flood Control~~
13 ~~District, and the Ridge and Lower Gulf Coast Water Management~~
14 ~~District; and on July 1, 1975, shall mean the five water~~
15 ~~management districts created by chapter 73-190, Laws of~~
16 ~~Florida, and named, respectively, the Northwest Florida Water~~
17 ~~Management District, the Suwannee River Water Management~~
18 ~~District, the St. Johns River Water Management District, the~~
19 ~~Southwest Florida Water Management District, and the South~~
20 ~~Florida Water Management District.~~

21 (3) The Legislature recognizes that the uncontrolled
22 growth of nonindigenous aquatic plants in the waters of
23 Florida poses a variety of environmental, health, safety, and
24 economic problems. The Legislature acknowledges the
25 responsibility of the state to cope with the uncontrolled and
26 seemingly never-ending growth of nonindigenous aquatic plants
27 in the waters throughout Florida. It is, therefore, the intent
28 of the Legislature that the state policy for the control of
29 nonindigenous aquatic plants in both intercounty and
30 intracounty waters ~~of state responsibility~~ be carried out
31 under the general supervision and control of the department,

1 and that the state along with the water management districts
2 ~~itself~~ be responsible for the control of such plants in all
3 intercounty waters; but that control of such plants in
4 intracounty waters be the designated responsibility of the
5 appropriate unit of local or county government, special
6 district, authority, or other public body. It is the intent of
7 the Legislature that the control of nonindigenous aquatic
8 plants be carried out primarily by means of maintenance
9 programs, rather than eradication or complaint spray programs,
10 for the purpose of achieving more effective control at a lower
11 long-range cost. It is also the intent of the Legislature that
12 the department guide, review, approve, and coordinate all
13 nonindigenous aquatic plant control programs within each of
14 the water management districts as defined in paragraph (2)(j).
15 It is the intent of the Legislature to account for the costs
16 of nonindigenous aquatic plant maintenance programs by
17 watershed for comparison management purposes.

18 (4) The department shall supervise and direct all
19 maintenance programs for control of nonindigenous aquatic
20 plants, as provided in this section, excluding the authority
21 to use fish as a biological control agent, so as to protect
22 human health, safety, and recreation and, to the greatest
23 degree practicable, prevent injury to plant, fish, and animal
24 life and to property.

25 (5) Except when only local funds and intracounty
26 ~~waters state funds are involved, or when waters of state~~
27 ~~responsibility~~ are involved, it is the duty of the department
28 to guide, review, approve, and coordinate the activities of
29 all public bodies, authorities, state agencies, units of local
30 or county government, commissions, districts, and special
31 districts engaged in operations to maintain, control, or

1 eradicate nonindigenous aquatic plants, except for activities
2 involving biological control programs using fish as the
3 control agent. The department may delegate all or part of
4 such functions to any appropriate state agency, special
5 district, unit of local or county government, commission,
6 authority, or other public body. However, special attention
7 shall be given to the keeping of accounting and cost data in
8 order to prepare the annual fiscal report required in
9 subsection (7).

10 (6) The department may disburse funds to any district,
11 special district, or other local authority for the purpose of
12 operating a maintenance program for controlling nonindigenous
13 aquatic plants and other noxious aquatic plants in the waters
14 of the state ~~responsibility~~ upon the following conditions:

15 (a) For intracounty waters:

16 1. Receipt of satisfactory proof that such district or
17 authority has sufficient funds on hand to match the state
18 funds herein referred to on an equal basis;

19 2. ~~(b)~~ Approval by the department of the maintenance
20 control techniques to be used by the district or authority;
21 and

22 3. ~~(c)~~ Review and approval of the program of the
23 district or authority by the department to be in conformance
24 with the state maintenance control plan.

25 (b) For intercounty waters:

26 1. Execution of a written agreement between the
27 department and the district or authority specifying the
28 responsibilities of each;

29 2. Approval by the department of the maintenance
30 control techniques to be used by the district or authority;
31 and

1 3. Review and approval of the program of the district
2 or authority by the department to be in conformance with the
3 state maintenance control plan.

4 (7) The department shall submit an annual report on
5 the status of the nonindigenous aquatic plant maintenance
6 program to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the
7 House of Representatives, and the Governor and Cabinet by
8 January 1 of each ~~the following~~ year. This report shall
9 include a statement of the degree of maintenance control
10 achieved by individual nonindigenous aquatic plant species in
11 the intercounty waters of each of the water management
12 districts for the preceding county fiscal year, together with
13 an analysis of the costs of achieving this degree of control.
14 This cost accounting shall include the expenditures by all
15 governmental agencies in the intercounty waters ~~of state~~
16 ~~responsibility~~. If the level of maintenance control achieved
17 falls short of that which is deemed adequate by the
18 department, then the report shall include an estimate of the
19 additional funding that would have been required to achieve
20 this level of maintenance control. All measures of
21 maintenance program achievement and the related cost shall be
22 presented by water management districts so that comparisons
23 may be made among the water management districts, as well as
24 with the state as a whole.

25 (8) The department shall have the authority to
26 cooperate with the United States and to enter into such
27 cooperative agreements or commitments as the department may
28 determine necessary to carry out the maintenance, control, or
29 eradication of water hyacinths, alligator weed, and other
30 noxious aquatic plant growths from the waters of the state and
31 to enter into contracts with the United States obligating the

1 state to indemnify and save harmless the United States from
2 any and all claims and liability arising out of the initiation
3 and prosecution of any project undertaken under this section.
4 However, any claim or claims required to be paid under this
5 section shall be paid from money appropriated to the
6 nonindigenous aquatic plant control program.

7 (9) The department may delegate various nonindigenous
8 aquatic plant control and maintenance functions to the Fish
9 and Wildlife Conservation ~~Game and Fresh Water Fish~~
10 Commission. The commission shall, in accepting commitments to
11 engage in nonindigenous aquatic plant control and maintenance
12 activities, be subject to the rules of the department, except
13 that the commission shall regulate, control, and coordinate
14 the use of any fish for aquatic weed control in fresh waters
15 of the state. In addition, the commission shall render
16 technical and other assistance to the department in order to
17 carry out most effectively the purposes of s. 369.20.
18 However, nothing herein shall diminish or impair the
19 regulatory authority of the commission with respect to the
20 powers granted to it by s. 9, Art. IV of the State
21 Constitution.

22 (10) The department is directed to use biological
23 agents, excluding fish, for the control of nonindigenous
24 aquatic plants.

25 (11) The department shall adopt rules pursuant to ss.
26 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement the provisions of this
27 section conferring powers or duties upon it and perform any
28 other acts necessary for the proper administration,
29 enforcement, or interpretation of this section, including
30 adopting rules and forms governing reports.

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1 (12) No person or public agency shall control,
2 eradicate, remove, or otherwise alter any nonindigenous
3 aquatic plants in waters of the state unless a permit for such
4 activity has been issued by the department, or unless the
5 activity is in waters expressly exempted by department rule.
6 The department shall develop standards by rule which shall
7 address, at a minimum, chemical, biological, and mechanical
8 control activities; an evaluation of the benefits of such
9 activities to the public; specific criteria recognizing the
10 differences between natural and artificially created waters;
11 and the different amount and quality of littoral vegetation on
12 various waters. Applications for a permit to engage in aquatic
13 plant control activities shall be made to the department. In
14 reviewing such applications, the department shall consider the
15 criteria set forth in subsection (4).

16 (13) For fiscal year 1999-2000, the sum of the
17 expenditures of water management districts, local governments,
18 and other entities implementing aquatic plant control efforts
19 shall equal an amount no less than 50 percent of the total
20 funds expended by the department for programs to control
21 nonindigenous aquatic plants. However, the department may
22 balance the environmental need for control programs with the
23 level of expenditures. The department shall include within its
24 annual report a provision detailing the level of expenditures
25 of each water management district, local governments, and
26 other entities related to aquatic plant control efforts.

27 (14) Beginning in fiscal year 2000-2001, the
28 department shall give priority to those projects which have
29 financial participation by any district, special district, or
30 other local authority. However, the department may balance the
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1 environmental need for the project with the level of financial
2 participation.

3 Section 3. Subsection (4) of section 369.252, Florida
4 Statutes, is amended to read:

5 369.252 Invasive exotic plant control on public
6 lands.--The department shall establish a program to:

7 (4) Use funds in the Aquatic Plant Control Trust Fund
8 as authorized by the Legislature for carrying out activities
9 under this section on public lands. Twenty percent of the
10 amount credited to the Aquatic Plant Control Trust Fund
11 pursuant to s. 201.15(6) shall be used for the purpose of
12 controlling nonnative, upland, invasive plant species on
13 public lands.

14 Section 4. Subsection (1) of section 161.05301,
15 Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, is amended to read:

16 161.05301 Beach erosion control project staffing;
17 coastal construction building codes review.--

18 (1) There are hereby appropriated to the Department of
19 Environmental Protection six positions and \$449,918 for fiscal
20 year 1998-1999 from the Ecosystem Management and Restoration
21 Trust Fund from revenues provided by this act pursuant to s.
22 201.15(11)(8). These positions and funding are provided to
23 assist local project sponsors, and shall be used to facilitate
24 and promote enhanced beach erosion control project
25 administration. Such staffing resources shall be directed
26 toward more efficient contract development and oversight,
27 promoting cost-sharing strategies and regional coordination or
28 projects among local governments, providing assistance to
29 local governments to ensure timely permit review, and
30 improving billing review and disbursement processes.

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1 Section 5. Subsection (3) of section 161.091, Florida
2 Statutes, 1998 Supplement, is amended to read:

3 161.091 Beach management; funding; repair and
4 maintenance strategy.--

5 (3) In accordance with the intent expressed in s.
6 161.088 and the legislative finding that erosion of the
7 beaches of this state is detrimental to tourism, the state's
8 major industry, further exposes the state's highly developed
9 coastline to severe storm damage, and threatens beach-related
10 jobs, which, if not stopped, could significantly reduce state
11 sales tax revenues, funds deposited into the State Treasury to
12 the credit of the Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust
13 Fund, in the annual amounts provided in s. 201.15(11)+~~8~~,
14 shall be used, for a period of not less than 15 years, to fund
15 the development, implementation, and administration of the
16 state's beach management plan, as provided in ss.
17 161.091-161.212, prior to the use of such funds deposited
18 pursuant to s. 201.15(11)+~~8~~in that trust fund for any other
19 purpose.

20 Section 6. Subsections (5) and (6) of section
21 420.5092, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

22 420.5092 Florida Affordable Housing Guarantee
23 Program.--

24 (5) Pursuant to s. 16, Art. VII of the State
25 Constitution, the corporation may issue, in accordance with s.
26 420.509, revenue bonds of the corporation to establish the
27 guarantee fund. Such revenue bonds shall be primarily payable
28 from and secured by annual debt service reserves, from
29 interest earned on funds on deposit in the guarantee fund,
30 from fees, charges, and reimbursements established by the
31 corporation for the issuance of affordable housing guarantees,

1 and from any other revenue sources received by the corporation
2 and deposited by the corporation into the guarantee fund for
3 the issuance of affordable housing guarantees. To the extent
4 such primary revenue sources are considered insufficient by
5 the corporation, pursuant to the certification provided in
6 subsection (6), to fully fund the annual debt service reserve,
7 the certified deficiency in such reserve shall be additionally
8 payable from the first proceeds of the documentary stamp tax
9 moneys deposited into the State Housing Trust Fund pursuant to
10 s. 201.15(9)~~(6)~~(a) and(10)~~(7)~~(a) during the ensuing state
11 fiscal year.

12 (6)(a) If the primary revenue sources to be used for
13 repayment of revenue bonds used to establish the guarantee
14 fund are insufficient for such repayment, the annual principal
15 and interest due on each series of revenue bonds shall be
16 payable from funds in the annual debt service reserve. The
17 corporation shall, before June 1 of each year, perform a
18 financial audit to determine whether at the end of the state
19 fiscal year there will be on deposit in the guarantee fund an
20 annual debt service reserve from interest earned pursuant to
21 the investment of the guarantee fund, fees, charges, and
22 reimbursements received from issued affordable housing
23 guarantees and other revenue sources available to the
24 corporation. Based upon the findings in such guarantee fund
25 financial audit, the corporation shall certify to the
26 Comptroller the amount of any projected deficiency in the
27 annual debt service reserve for any series of outstanding
28 bonds as of the end of the state fiscal year and the amount
29 necessary to maintain such annual debt service reserve. Upon
30 receipt of such certification, the Comptroller shall transfer
31 to the annual debt service reserve, from the first available

1 taxes distributed to the State Housing Trust Fund pursuant to
2 s. 201.15~~(9)~~~~(6)~~(a) and~~(10)~~~~(7)~~(a) during the ensuing state
3 fiscal year, the amount certified as necessary to maintain the
4 annual debt service reserve.

5 (b) If the claims payment obligations under affordable
6 housing guarantees from amounts on deposit in the guarantee
7 fund would cause the claims paying rating assigned to the
8 guarantee fund to be less than the third-highest rating
9 classification of any nationally recognized rating service,
10 which classifications being consistent with s. 215.84(3) and
11 rules adopted thereto by the State Board of Administration,
12 the corporation shall certify to the Comptroller the amount of
13 such claims payment obligations. Upon receipt of such
14 certification, the Comptroller shall transfer to the guarantee
15 fund, from the first available taxes distributed to the State
16 Housing Trust Fund pursuant to s. 201.15~~(9)~~~~(6)~~(a) and
17 ~~(10)~~~~(7)~~(a) during the ensuing state fiscal year, the amount
18 certified as necessary to meet such obligations, such transfer
19 to be subordinate to any transfer referenced in paragraph (a)
20 and not to exceed 50 percent of the amounts distributed to the
21 State Housing Trust Fund pursuant to s. 201.15~~(9)~~~~(6)~~(a) and
22 ~~(10)~~~~(7)~~(a) during the preceding state fiscal year.

23 Section 7. Section 420.9073, Florida Statutes, 1998
24 Supplement, is amended to read:

25 420.9073 Local housing distributions.--

26 (1) Distributions calculated in this section shall be
27 disbursed on a monthly basis by the agency beginning the first
28 day of the month after program approval pursuant to s.
29 420.9072. Each county's share of the funds to be distributed
30 from the portion of the funds in the Local Government Housing
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1 Trust Fund received pursuant to s. 201.15(9)~~(6)~~ shall be
2 calculated by the agency for each fiscal year as follows:

3 (a) Each county other than a county that has
4 implemented the provisions of chapter 83-220, Laws of Florida,
5 as amended by chapters 84-270, 86-152, and 89-252, Laws of
6 Florida, shall receive the guaranteed amount for each fiscal
7 year.

8 (b) Each county other than a county that has
9 implemented the provisions of chapter 83-220, Laws of Florida,
10 as amended by chapters 84-270, 86-152, and 89-252, Laws of
11 Florida, may receive an additional share calculated as
12 follows:

13 1. Multiply each county's percentage of the total
14 state population excluding the population of any county that
15 has implemented the provisions of chapter 83-220, Laws of
16 Florida, as amended by chapters 84-270, 86-152, and 89-252,
17 Laws of Florida, by the total funds to be distributed.

18 2. If the result in subparagraph 1. is less than the
19 guaranteed amount as determined in subsection (3), that
20 county's additional share shall be zero.

21 3. For each county in which the result in subparagraph
22 1. is greater than the guaranteed amount as determined in
23 subsection (3), the amount calculated in subparagraph 1. shall
24 be reduced by the guaranteed amount. The result for each such
25 county shall be expressed as a percentage of the amounts so
26 determined for all counties. Each such county shall receive
27 an additional share equal to such percentage multiplied by the
28 total funds received by the Local Government Housing Trust
29 Fund pursuant to s. 201.15(9)~~(6)~~ reduced by the guaranteed
30 amount paid to all counties.

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1 (2) Effective July 1, 1995, distributions calculated
2 in this section shall be disbursed on a monthly basis by the
3 agency beginning the first day of the month after program
4 approval pursuant to s. 420.9072. Each county's share of the
5 funds to be distributed from the portion of the funds in the
6 Local Government Housing Trust Fund received pursuant to s.
7 201.15(10)~~(7)~~ shall be calculated by the agency for each
8 fiscal year as follows:

9 (a) Each county shall receive the guaranteed amount
10 for each fiscal year.

11 (b) Each county may receive an additional share
12 calculated as follows:

13 1. Multiply each county's percentage of the total
14 state population, by the total funds to be distributed.

15 2. If the result in subparagraph 1. is less than the
16 guaranteed amount as determined in subsection (3), that
17 county's additional share shall be zero.

18 3. For each county in which the result in subparagraph
19 1. is greater than the guaranteed amount, the amount
20 calculated in subparagraph 1. shall be reduced by the
21 guaranteed amount. The result for each such county shall be
22 expressed as a percentage of the amounts so determined for all
23 counties. Each such county shall receive an additional share
24 equal to this percentage multiplied by the total funds
25 received by the Local Government Housing Trust Fund pursuant
26 to s. 201.15(10)~~(7)~~ as reduced by the guaranteed amount paid
27 to all counties.

28 (3) Calculation of guaranteed amounts:

29 (a) The guaranteed amount under subsection (1) shall
30 be calculated for each state fiscal year by multiplying
31 \$350,000 by a fraction, the numerator of which is the amount

1 of funds distributed to the Local Government Housing Trust
2 Fund pursuant to s. 201.15~~(9)~~~~(6)~~ and the denominator of which
3 is the total amount of funds distributed to the Local
4 Government Housing Trust Fund pursuant to s. 201.15.

5 (b) The guaranteed amount under subsection (2) shall
6 be calculated for each state fiscal year by multiplying
7 \$350,000 by a fraction, the numerator of which is the amount
8 of funds distributed to the Local Government Housing Trust
9 Fund pursuant to s. 201.15~~(10)~~~~(7)~~ and the denominator of which
10 is the total amount of funds distributed to the Local
11 Government Housing Trust Fund pursuant to s. 201.15.

12 (4) Funds distributed pursuant to this section may not
13 be pledged to pay debt service on any bonds.

14 Section 8. Except as otherwise provided herein, this
15 act shall take effect July 1, 2000.

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HOUSE SUMMARY

Revises provisions relating to control of nonindigenous aquatic plants. Specifies conditions for disbursement of state funds for controlling such plants in intracounty and intercounty waters. Provides for allocation of responsibilities between the Department of Environmental Protection and the water management districts or local authorities. Specifies minimum local financial participation for fiscal year 1999-2000, requires reporting thereof by the department, and provides for prioritization of future funding based on local financial participation, as well as environmental need.

Effective July 1, 2000, reduces distributions of documentary stamp tax proceeds to the Water Management Land Trust Fund and the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund, and specifies that the remaining distributions thereto shall not be used for land acquisition; and provides for distributions to the Aquatic Plant Control Trust Fund for described purposes, to the State Game Trust Fund for the Lake Restoration 2020 Program, and to specified trust funds of the Departments of Environmental Protection and Agriculture and Consumer Services to address water quality impacts and best management practices to achieve water quality standards.