

By Representatives Henriquez, Hart, Bradley, L. Miller and Bilirakis

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to specialty license plates;
3 amending ss. 320.08056 and 320.08058, F.S.;
4 creating a Tampa Bay Estuary license plate;
5 providing a fee; providing for the distribution
6 of annual use fees; providing an effective
7 date.

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

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11 Section 1. Paragraph (z) is added to subsection (4) of
12 section 320.08056, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, to read:

13 320.08056 Specialty license plates.--

14 (4) The following license plate annual use fees shall
15 be collected for the appropriate specialty license plates:

16 (z) Tampa Bay Estuary license plate, \$15.

17 Section 2. Subsection (26) is added to section
18 320.08058, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, to read:

19 320.08058 Specialty license plates.--

20 (26) TAMPA BAY ESTUARY LICENSE PLATES.--

21 (a) Because Tampa Bay has been targeted by the state
22 as a priority water body for restoration and preservation
23 since the 1987 Surface Water Improvement and Management Act,
24 because the Tampa Bay Estuary Program has developed a
25 comprehensive estuarine management plan as a result of the
26 United States Environmental Protection Agency designating
27 Tampa Bay as an estuary of national significance, because the
28 Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council Agency on Bay Management
29 is an integral part of community involvement in estuarine
30 issues, because the estuarine ecosystem supports a
31 multibillion-dollar ecotourism and commercial fishing

1 industry, and because the Legislature encourages restoration
2 efforts for the Tampa Bay estuary, the Legislature hereby
3 authorizes a Tampa Bay Estuary license plate to provide a
4 continuous funding source for implementation of the management
5 plan for this ecologically and economically significant
6 resource.

7 (b) The department shall develop a Tampa Bay Estuary
8 license plate as provided in this section. Tampa Bay Estuary
9 license plates shall bear the colors and design approved by
10 the department. The word "Florida" must appear at the top of
11 the plate, and the words "Tampa Bay Estuary" must appear at
12 the bottom of the plate. The image of a tarpon must appear on
13 the plate.

14 (c) The proceeds of the Tampa Bay Estuary license
15 plate annual use fee shall be distributed to the Tampa Bay
16 Estuary Program.

17 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 320.08062, 20
18 percent of the proceeds from the annual use fee, not to exceed
19 \$50,000, shall be provided to the Tampa Bay Regional Planning
20 Council for the support of activities of the Agency on Bay
21 Management. Up to 5 percent of the proceeds from the annual
22 use fee may be used for marketing the Tampa Bay Estuary
23 license plate.

24 2. The remaining proceeds from the annual use fee
25 shall be used for implementation of the Comprehensive
26 Conservation and Management Plan for Tampa Bay in accordance
27 with priorities approved by the Tampa Bay Estuary Program
28 Policy Board.

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

Directs the Department of Highway Safety and Motor
Vehicles to develop a Tampa Bay Estuary specialty license
plate. Provides an annual use fee of \$15. See bill for
details.