

**STORAGE NAME:** h0671.ag  
**DATE:** February 18, 1999

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
COMMITTEE ON  
AGRICULTURE  
ANALYSIS**

**BILL #:** HB 671

**RELATING TO:** Florida Commission on Federal and State Agricultural Relations

**SPONSOR(S):** Representative Stansel

**COMPANION BILL(S):** CS/SB 706 (I) by the Committee on Agriculture and Consumer Services,  
Senator Mitchell & others

**ORIGINATING COMMITTEE(S)/COMMITTEE(S) OF REFERENCE:**

- (1) AGRICULTURE
  - (2) GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS
  - (3)
  - (4)
  - (5)
- 

**I. SUMMARY:**

HB 671 creates the Florida Commission on Federal and State Agricultural Relations within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The purpose of the 16-member commission is to coordinate the efforts of federal and state agencies to identify, seek out, and assist local agencies in maximizing the amount of federal funds obtained for agricultural purposes in Florida.

In FY 1997-1998, the department received \$11,397,650.36 in federal funding for various programs, studies, and disaster relief.

The bill provides for the composition and duties of the council, an annual report, and reimbursement for travel and per diem for council members.

There will be expenses associated with reimbursement of travel and per diem, up to a maximum of \$10,000 for the commission, per year.

II. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS:

## A. PRESENT SITUATION:

The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (department) currently employs a Federal/State Relations Director who monitors opportunities for federal grant support for agriculture and economic development in the state and prepares grant requests, as directed, to gain access to federal funding. In FY 1997-1998, the department received \$11,397,650.36 in federal funding for various programs, studies, and disaster relief. The following chart indicates the uses for these monies.

DACS Division	Federal Agency	Summary of Agreement	Federal Assistance Dollars
Administration	USDA	Assist with damages from El Nino weather event.	11,906.00

**Division Total                    \$11,906.00**

Marketing	USDA	Assist with admin. expenses for the National School Lunch, Milk, Breakfast, Child & Adult Food Programs	256,052.97 82,618.05
Marketing	USDA	Emergency Food Assistance Program	2,276,866.26
Marketing	USDA	Women, Infant & Children Program	37,023.33
Marketing	USDA	Economic Research Service - Study	14,648.59
Marketing	USDA	Provide food, water, & ice to those in need from damages incurred from the El Nino weather event	16,118.00
Marketing	USDA	Economic Development Administration	4,709.50
Marketing	USDA	Model Oyster Education & Promotion Campaign	8,281.16
Marketing	USDA	AmeriCorps Farm Share	108,553.23

**Division Total                    \$2,804,871.09**

Animal Industry	USDA/APHIS/ VS	To conduct cooperative brucellosis program testing and related support services of the detection and eradication of the disease	1,198,881.76
Animal Industry	USDA/APHIS/ VS	Subgrant from FEMA for damages as a result of the El Nino weather event	3,784.00

**Division Total                    \$1,202,665.76**

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<b>DACS Division</b>	<b>Federal Agency</b>	<b>Summary of Agreement</b>	<b>Federal Assistance Dollars</b>
Forestry	US Dept. of Interior	Florida Statewide Endangered & Threatened Plant Conservation Program	130,473.04
Forestry	US Forest Service	Cooperative Forestry Assistance	1,609,247.04
Forestry	US Forest Service	Forest Stewardship Program	490,954.62
Forestry	US Forest Service	Forestry Incentive Program	86,771.94
Forestry	US Small Business Admin.	Tree Planting Program	68,012.43
Forestry	US Dept. of Commerce	Public Safety: wild land fire behavior & computer-assisted dispatching	80,929.09
Forestry	USDA	To assist with damages as a result of the El Nino weather event	97,545.00
Forestry	US Forest Service	Assistance with Hurricane Andrew disaster	658,730.85

**Division Total \$3,222,664.01**

Food Safety	USDA	Pesticide Data Program	929,079.39
Food Safety	US/PHS/FDA	Food Sanitation Inspections	38,641.77
Food Safety	USDA	Agriculture Market Services - Poultry Division	1,193,756.87
Food Safety	USDA	Meat and Poultry Inspection	1,065,643.16

**Division Total \$3,227,121.19**

Plant Industry	USDA/ APHIS/PPQ	Imported fire ant	93,509.07
Plant Industry	USDA/ APHIS/PPQ	Brown Citrus Aphid survey	30,535.84
Plant Industry	USDA/ APHIS/PPQ	Caribbean Fruit Fly control	11,876.65

**Division Total \$135,921.56**

<b>DACS Division</b>	<b>Federal Agency</b>	<b>Summary of Agreement</b>	<b>Federal Assistance Dollars</b>
Ag. Env. Serv.	EPA	Performance Partnership Agreement Grant for Pesticide Program	754,279.27
Ag. Env. Serv.	EPA	Study of the effects of pesticide on surface waters	18,448.24
Ag. Env. Serv.	EPA	Establish a federal data regulatory program for pesticide record keeping	19,773.24
<b>Division Total</b>			<b>\$792,500.75</b>
<b>TOTAL FEDERAL FUNDS</b>			<b>\$11,397,650.36</b>

**B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:**

This bill creates the Florida Commission on Federal and State Agricultural Relations within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The commission shall be composed of 16 members, as follows:

- 2 members of the Florida Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate,
- 3 members of the Florida House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives,
- 2 residents of the state who are engaged in the agricultural business, appointed by the President of the Senate,
- 2 residents of the state who are engaged in the agricultural business, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives,
- 2 residents of the state who are engaged in the agricultural business, appointed by the Governor,
- 2 residents of the state who are engaged in the agricultural business, appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture,
- and the Commissioner of Agriculture shall request 2 members of the United States Congress and the state executive director of the Farm Services Agency of the United States Department of Agriculture.

Those authorities making appointments shall consult with one another to ensure a diversity of agricultural business interests are represented on the commission.

The members representing agricultural business interests shall be appointed to 4-year terms and the Commissioner of Agriculture shall serve as chair of the commission. All members shall serve without compensation, but may be reimbursed for travel and per diem up to \$10,000 per year total for the commission.

The bill provides that the Commissioner of Agriculture shall annually report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on the actions of the commission.

C. APPLICATION OF PRINCIPLES:

1. Less Government:

a. Does the bill create, increase or reduce, either directly or indirectly:

(1) any authority to make rules or adjudicate disputes?

No.

(2) any new responsibilities, obligations or work for other governmental or private organizations or individuals?

No.

(3) any entitlement to a government service or benefit?

No.

b. If an agency or program is eliminated or reduced: **Not applicable.**

(1) what responsibilities, costs and powers are passed on to another program, agency, level of government, or private entity?

(2) what is the cost of such responsibility at the new level/agency?

(3) how is the new agency accountable to the people governed?

2. Lower Taxes: **Not applicable.**

a. Does the bill increase anyone's taxes?

b. Does the bill require or authorize an increase in any fees?

c. Does the bill reduce total taxes, both rates and revenues?

d. Does the bill reduce total fees, both rates and revenues?

e. Does the bill authorize any fee or tax increase by any local government?

3. Personal Responsibility:

a. Does the bill reduce or eliminate an entitlement to government services or subsidy?

No.

b. Do the beneficiaries of the legislation directly pay any portion of the cost of implementation and operation?

No.

4. Individual Freedom:

a. Does the bill increase the allowable options of individuals or private organizations/associations to conduct their own affairs?

No.

b. Does the bill prohibit, or create new government interference with, any presently lawful activity?

No.

5. Family Empowerment: **Not applicable.**

a. If the bill purports to provide services to families or children:

(1) Who evaluates the family's needs?

(2) Who makes the decisions?

(3) Are private alternatives permitted?

(4) Are families required to participate in a program?

(5) Are families penalized for not participating in a program?

- b. Does the bill directly affect the legal rights and obligations between family members?
- c. If the bill creates or changes a program providing services to families or children, in which of the following does the bill vest control of the program, either through direct participation or appointment authority:

(1) parents and guardians?

(2) service providers?

(3) government employees/agencies?

**D. STATUTE(S) AFFECTED:**

Location in statutes is not yet determined.

**E. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS:**

Section 1. Creates Florida Commission on Federal and State Agricultural Relations; provides for membership, terms, travel, per diem, and duties; provides for an annual report.

Section 2. Provides that the act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

**III. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT:**

**A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE AGENCIES/STATE FUNDS:**

1. Non-recurring Effects:

None.

2. Recurring Effects:

There will be a small, undetermined amount of expense associated with reimbursement of travel and per diem, up to a maximum of \$10,000 for the commission, per year.

3. Long Run Effects Other Than Normal Growth:

Undetermined at this time.

4. Total Revenues and Expenditures:

None.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AS A WHOLE:

1. Non-recurring Effects:

Unknown at this time.

2. Recurring Effects:

Unknown at this time.

3. Long Run Effects Other Than Normal Growth:

Unknown at this time.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

1. Direct Private Sector Costs:

None.

2. Direct Private Sector Benefits:

Unknown at this time.

3. Effects on Competition, Private Enterprise and Employment Markets:

None.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

N/A

IV. CONSEQUENCES OF ARTICLE VII, SECTION 18 OF THE FLORIDA CONSTITUTION:

A. APPLICABILITY OF THE MANDATES PROVISION:

The bill does not require counties or municipalities to spend funds or to take action requiring the expenditure of funds.



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**B. REDUCTION OF REVENUE RAISING AUTHORITY:**

This bill does not reduce the authority that municipalities or counties have to raise revenue in the aggregate.

**C. REDUCTION OF STATE TAX SHARED WITH COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES:**

This bill does not reduce any state tax shared with counties or municipalities.

**V. COMMENTS:**

N/A

**VI. AMENDMENTS OR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES:**

N/A

**VII. SIGNATURES:**

**COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE:**

Prepared by:

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