

By Representative Pruitt

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to the Lake Okeechobee  
3           Protection Trust Fund; creating s. 373.45952,  
4           F.S.; creating the Lake Okeechobee Protection  
5           Trust Fund within the Department of  
6           Environmental Protection; providing sources of  
7           funds and purposes; providing for annual  
8           carryforward of funds; providing for future  
9           review and termination or re-creation of the  
10          trust fund; providing a contingent effective  
11          date.

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

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15           Section 1. Section 373.45952, Florida Statutes, is  
16 created to read:

17           373.45952 Lake Okeechobee Protection Trust Fund.--

18           (1) The Lake Okeechobee Protection Trust Fund is  
19 hereby created within the Department of Environmental  
20 Protection.

21           (2) Funds to be credited to the trust fund shall  
22 consist of funds appropriated annually by the Legislature and  
23 as provided for by general law. Funds shall be used solely for  
24 the purposes set forth in s. 373.4595 and for related purposes  
25 undertaken pursuant to ss. 373.451-373.459.

26           (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 216.301 and  
27 pursuant to s. 216.351, any balance in the trust fund at the  
28 end of any fiscal year shall remain in the trust fund at the  
29 end of the year and shall be available for carrying out the  
30 purposes of the trust fund.

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1           (4) In accordance with s. 19(f)(2), Art. III of the  
2 State Constitution, the Lake Okeechobee Protection Trust Fund  
3 shall, unless terminated sooner, be terminated on July 1,  
4 2004. Before its scheduled termination, the trust fund shall  
5 be reviewed as provided in s. 215.3206(1) and (2).

6           Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000, if  
7 HB 991 or similar legislation is adopted in the same  
8 legislative session or an extension thereof and becomes law.

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11                               HOUSE SUMMARY

12           Creates the Lake Okeechobee Protection Trust Fund within  
13 the Department of Environmental Protection, and provides  
14 for its sources and purposes. Provides for annual  
15 carryforward of balances remaining at the end of any  
16 fiscal year. Provides for future review and termination  
17 or re-creation of the trust fund.  
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