

By Senator Rossin

35-1240-00

See HB 719

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to trust funds; creating s.
3 259.2021, F.S.; creating the South Florida
4 Water Restoration Trust Fund; providing for
5 sources of funds and purposes; providing for
6 annual carryforward of funds; providing for
7 future review and termination or re-creation of
8 the trust fund; providing a contingent
9 effective date.

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

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13 Section 1. Section 259.2021, Florida Statutes, is
14 created to read:15 259.2021 South Florida Water Restoration Trust Fund.--

16 (1) There is created the South Florida Water
17 Restoration Trust Fund to be administered by the Department of
18 Environmental Protection. Funds provided pursuant to s.
19 259.202(4)(a)-(c) for the South Florida Water Restoration Act
20 shall be deposited into this trust fund. Other funds from
21 grants and donations, federal funds, or other funds from other
22 sources specified by law may be deposited into this trust fund
23 and used for purposes of the South Florida Water Restoration
24 Act.

25 (2) Moneys deposited into this trust fund shall be
26 spent only on the following types of activities:

27 (a) Projects that are joint federal-state partnerships
28 with project plans reflecting cost-share with federal or local
29 governments.

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1 (b) Projects to restore natural water flows, retain
2 seasonal flows, release impounded water, or improve a system's
3 ability to remove nutrients and sediments.

4 (c) Projects that restore freshwater flows to major
5 estuarine systems, including Florida Bay and Biscayne Bay.

6 (d) Projects that have a goal of restoring native
7 plant and animal communities.

8 (e) Projects that meet one or more of the provisions
9 of s. 11(e), Art. VII of the State Constitution.

10 (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 216.301 and
11 pursuant to s. 216.351, any balance in the trust fund at the
12 end of any fiscal year shall remain in the trust fund at the
13 end of the year and shall be available for carrying out the
14 purposes of the trust fund.

15 (4) In accordance with s. 19(f)(2), Art. III of the
16 State Constitution, the South Florida Water Restoration Trust
17 Fund shall, unless terminated sooner, be terminated on July 1,
18 2004. Before its scheduled termination, the trust fund shall
19 be reviewed as provided in s. 215.3206(1) and (2).

20 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000, if
21 SB _____ or similar legislation is adopted in the same
22 legislative session or an extension thereof.

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25 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

26 Creates the South Florida Water Restoration Trust Fund to
27 be administered by the Department of Environmental
28 Protection, and provides for its sources and purposes.
29 Provides for annual carryforward of balances remaining at
the end of any fiscal year. Provides for future review
and termination or re-creation of the trust fund.