

By the Committee on Transportation

306-718-00

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to economic development  
 3           transportation programs; amending ss. 212.0606,  
 4           320.072, F.S.; redistributing specified  
 5           proceeds into the State Transportation Trust  
 6           Fund; amending s. 338.251, F.S.; increasing the  
 7           amount of funds which may be advanced to  
 8           expressway authorities; amending s. 339.175,  
 9           F.S.; establishing freight mobility committees  
 10          within certain metropolitan planning  
 11          organizations; creating s. 339.2817, F.S.;  
 12          providing for the County Incentive Grant  
 13          Program; creating s. 341.054, F.S.; providing  
 14          for the Economic Growth Transportation Program  
 15          within the Department of Transportation;  
 16          providing for a transfer of general revenue  
 17          funds to the State Transportation Trust Fund;  
 18          providing an effective date.

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

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 22           Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 212.0606, Florida  
 23 Statutes, is amended to read:

24           212.0606 Rental car surcharge.--

25           (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 212.20, and  
 26 less costs of administration, 80 ~~75~~ percent of the proceeds of  
 27 this surcharge shall be deposited in the State Transportation  
 28 Trust Fund, ~~5 percent of the proceeds of this surcharge shall~~  
 29 ~~be deposited in the General Revenue Fund,~~15.75 percent of the  
 30 proceeds of this surcharge shall be deposited in the Tourism  
 31 Promotional Trust Fund created in s. 288.122, and 4.25 percent

1 of the proceeds of this surcharge shall be deposited in the  
2 Florida International Trade and Promotion Trust Fund. For the  
3 purposes of this subsection, "proceeds" of the surcharge means  
4 all funds collected and received by the department under this  
5 section, including interest and penalties on delinquent  
6 surcharges.

7 Section 2. Subsection (4) of section 320.072, Florida  
8 Statutes, is amended to read:

9 320.072 Additional fee imposed on certain motor  
10 vehicle registration transactions.--

11 (4) A tax collector or other duly authorized agent of  
12 the department shall promptly remit all moneys collected  
13 pursuant to this section to, ~~less any refunds granted pursuant~~  
14 ~~to subsection (3), to the department. The department shall~~  
15 ~~deposit 30 percent of such moneys as they are received into~~  
16 ~~the General Revenue Fund. The remainder of the proceeds, after~~  
17 ~~deducting the service charge imposed by s. 215.20, shall be~~  
18 deposited into the State Transportation Trust Fund.

19 Section 3. Subsection (5) of section 338.251, Florida  
20 Statutes, is amended to read:

21 338.251 Toll Facilities Revolving Trust Fund.--The  
22 Toll Facilities Revolving Trust Fund is hereby created for the  
23 purpose of encouraging the development and enhancing the  
24 financial feasibility of revenue-producing road projects  
25 undertaken by local governmental entities in a county or  
26 combination of contiguous counties.

27 (5) No amount in excess of \$1.5 million ~~\$500,000~~  
28 annually shall be advanced to any one governmental entity  
29 pursuant to this section without specific appropriation by the  
30 Legislature.

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1           Section 4. Paragraph (i) is added to subsection (5) of  
2 section 339.175, Florida Statutes, to read:

3           339.175 Metropolitan planning organization.--It is the  
4 intent of the Legislature to encourage and promote the safe  
5 and efficient management, operation, and development of  
6 surface transportation systems that will serve the mobility  
7 needs of people and freight within and through urbanized areas  
8 of this state while minimizing transportation-related fuel  
9 consumption and air pollution. To accomplish these objectives,  
10 metropolitan planning organizations, referred to in this  
11 section as M.P.O.'s, shall develop, in cooperation with the  
12 state and public transit operators, transportation plans and  
13 programs for metropolitan areas. The plans and programs for  
14 each metropolitan area must provide for the development and  
15 integrated management and operation of transportation systems  
16 and facilities, including pedestrian walkways and bicycle  
17 transportation facilities that will function as an intermodal  
18 transportation system for the metropolitan area. The process  
19 for developing such plans and programs shall provide for  
20 consideration of all modes of transportation and shall be  
21 continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive, to the degree  
22 appropriate, based on the complexity of the transportation  
23 problems to be addressed.

24           (5) POWERS, DUTIES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES.--The powers,  
25 privileges, and authority of an M.P.O. are those specified in  
26 this section or incorporated in an interlocal agreement  
27 authorized under s. 163.01. Each M.P.O. shall perform all  
28 acts required by federal or state laws or rules, now and  
29 subsequently applicable, which are necessary to qualify for  
30 federal aid. It is the intent of this section that each M.P.O.  
31 shall be involved in the planning and programming of

1 transportation facilities, including, but not limited to,  
2 airports, intercity and high-speed rail lines, seaports, and  
3 intermodal facilities, to the extent permitted by state or  
4 federal law.

5 (i) Each M.P.O. located within a transportation  
6 management area which is designated pursuant to Title 23  
7 U.S.C. s. 134 must establish a freight mobility committee. The  
8 committee must, at a minimum, advise the M.P.O. concerning the  
9 movement of freight and tourism within the M.P.O. and the  
10 relationship of freight traffic with adjoining M.P.O.'s. The  
11 M.P.O. shall appoint the chairperson or the chairperson's  
12 designee from the freight mobility committee to the M.P.O.'s  
13 technical advisory committee. Members of the freight mobility  
14 committee will serve at the pleasure of the M.P.O.

15 Section 5. Section 339.2817, Florida Statutes, is  
16 created to read:

17 339.2817 County Incentive Grant Program.--

18 (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 215.20(1),  
19 the service charge provided in s. 215.20(1) which is deducted  
20 from the proceeds of the taxes distributed under ss. 206.606,  
21 206.608, 206.9845, 207.026, 212.0501, 212.0606, 319.32(5), and  
22 320.072(4) shall be reduced to 4 percent beginning July 1,  
23 2001.

24 (2) There is created within the department a County  
25 Incentive Grant Program for the purpose of providing grants to  
26 counties for use in any project or project phase of  
27 transportation facilities located on the State Highway System  
28 or demonstrated to relieve traffic congestion on the State  
29 Highway System.

1           (3) Up to \$100 million annually from the State  
2 Transportation Trust Fund may be used for the purposes of  
3 funding the County Incentive Grant Program.

4           (4) To be eligible for consideration, projects must be  
5 consistent, to the maximum extent feasible, with local  
6 Metropolitan Planning Organization plans and local government  
7 comprehensive plans.

8           (5) The department must consider, but is not limited  
9 to, the following criteria for evaluation of projects for  
10 County Incentive Grant Program assistance:

11           (a) The extent to which the project will encourage,  
12 enhance, or create economic benefits;

13           (b) The likelihood that assistance would enable the  
14 project to proceed at an earlier date than the project would  
15 otherwise be able to proceed;

16           (c) The extent to which assistance would foster  
17 innovative public-private partnerships and attract private  
18 debt or equity investment;

19           (d) The extent to which the project uses new  
20 technologies, including intelligent transportation systems  
21 which enhance the efficiency of the project;

22           (e) The extent to which the project helps to maintain  
23 or protect the environment;

24           (f) The extent to which the project includes  
25 transportation benefits for improving intermodalism and  
26 safety; and

27           (g) The size of the proposed County Incentive Grant  
28 Program assistance as a percent of the overall project costs  
29 with encouragement for local and private participation.  
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1           (6) The percentage of matching funds provided from the  
2 County Incentive Grant Program to the eligible county will be  
3 determined on the following scoring system:

4           (a) Counties that have adopted both the 5-cent and the  
5 1-cent local option gas taxes shall receive one point.

6           (b) Counties that have spent, during the 2 years  
7 preceding the application, an average of 0.5 mills of ad  
8 valorem tax or other general revenue fund revenues on  
9 transportation shall receive one point, plus one-quarter point  
10 for each mill over 0.5 mills.

11           (c) Counties that have dedicated 0.25 percent of their  
12 local sales tax revenue to transportation shall receive one  
13 point, plus one-half point for each 0.25 percent in additional  
14 transportation sales tax revenue.

15           (d) Counties that contribute 10 percent or more of the  
16 total amount of funds distributed to the State Transportation  
17 Trust Fund from the rental car surcharge as determined by the  
18 Department of Revenue and verified by the State Revenue  
19 Estimating Conference shall receive one-half point.

20           (e) Counties that enforce a transportation impact fee  
21 shall receive one-half point.

22           (7) The percentage of matching funds provided from the  
23 County Incentive Grant to the appropriate county will be  
24 determined as follows:

25           (a) All counties that meet or exceed a cumulative  
26 score of 4.0 by using the identified local funding options are  
27 eligible for 40-percent matching funds. However, if the  
28 proposed project is directly on the State Highway System, the  
29 county is eligible for 50-percent matching funds.

30           (b) All counties that achieve a cumulative score of  
31 3.9 to 2.5 by using the identified local funding options are

1 eligible for 30-percent matching funds. However, if the  
2 proposed project is directly on the State Highway System, the  
3 county is eligible for 40-percent matching funds.

4 (c) Counties that achieve a cumulative score of 2.49  
5 to 1.5 by using the identified local funding options are  
6 eligible for 20-percent matching funds. However, if the  
7 proposed project is directly on the State Highway System, the  
8 county is eligible for 30-percent matching funds.

9 (8) When more than one county submits an application  
10 for a joint project, the combined points of the counties  
11 applying will determine the matching amount for the joint  
12 project.

13 Section 6. Section 341.054, Florida Statutes, is  
14 created to read:

15 341.054 Economic Growth Transportation Program;  
16 administration; eligible projects; limitations.--There is  
17 created within the Department of Transportation an Economic  
18 Growth Transportation Program dedicated to catalyzing or  
19 accelerating transportation projects that substantially  
20 improve the state's economic competitiveness. The department  
21 shall administer the Economic Growth Transportation Program.

22 (2) Eligible projects include those for planning,  
23 designing, acquiring rights-of-way for, or constructing  
24 freight rail, passenger rail, transit, aviation, seaport, and  
25 intermodal infrastructure that carries or would carry  
26 substantial flows of domestic or international trade and  
27 tourism.

28 (3) Economic Growth projects may be proposed by any  
29 local government, regional organization, economic development  
30 board, public or private partnership, metropolitan planning  
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1 organization, state agency, or other statewide group engaged  
2 in economic development activities.

3 (4) To be eligible for funding under this section, a  
4 proposed project must be:

5 (a) Consistent, to the maximum extent feasible, with  
6 approved local government comprehensive plans of the units of  
7 local government in which the project is located.

8 (b) Identified as part of the Florida Strategic  
9 Freight Network as defined by the department.

10 (c) Prioritized in accordance with the prioritization  
11 method adopted by the department.

12 (5) The Economic Growth Advisory Council is created to  
13 advise the department on project prioritization and selection  
14 of economic growth projects. The primary goal for the council  
15 is the annual identification and prioritization of freight  
16 related projects and the development of recommendations for  
17 improving the movement of freight and tourism traffic in this  
18 state. Terms for council members will be 2 years, and each  
19 member will be allowed one vote. The council will consist of:

20 (a) Two representatives of private interests who are  
21 directly involved or affected by freight operations and goods  
22 movement, chosen by the Speaker of the House of  
23 Representatives;

24 (b) Two representatives of private interests who are  
25 directly involved or affected by freight operations and goods  
26 movement, chosen by the President of the Senate;

27 (c) One representative of the Metropolitan Planning  
28 Organization Advisory Council chosen by the Metropolitan  
29 Planning Organization Advisory Council; and  
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1           (d) Two representatives of private interests who are  
2 directly involved or affected by freight operations and goods  
3 movement, chosen by the Governor.

4           (6) The prioritized projects shall be included in the  
5 department's tentative work program submitted to the Governor  
6 and the Legislature.

7           (7) Funding for Economic Growth projects will come  
8 from existing public transportation appropriations, and may  
9 not exceed \$70 million annually.

10           Section 7. In Fiscal Year 2000-2001 and in Fiscal Year  
11 2001-2002, \$300 million annually shall be transferred from the  
12 General Revenue Fund to the State Transportation Trust Fund.  
13 The funds must be used on the Florida Intrastate Highway  
14 System for projects that support economic development,  
15 emergency evacuation, or improved access to urban areas.

16           Section 8. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
17 law.

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20           SENATE SUMMARY

21           Redistributes specified surcharges and fees into the  
22           State Transportation Trust Fund. Increases the amount of  
23           funds which may be advanced to expressway authorities.  
24           Establishes freight mobility committees. Creates the  
25           County Incentive Grant Program and the Economic Growth  
26           Transportation Program within the Department of  
27           Transportation. Provides for the transfer of funds from  
28           the General Revenue Fund to the State Transportation  
29           Trust Fund for the next 2 fiscal years.  
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