A bill to be entitled

An act relating to proceeds from the tobacco settlement; amending s. 569.21, F.S.; requiring that the Comptroller receive representations from the tobacco industry which are used to calculate the annual payments; requiring the Comptroller to verify such representations; requiring that the Auditor General review the verification of representations from the tobacco industry; redesignating the Comptroller as the Chief Financial Officer to conform to a revision of the State Constitution; providing effective dates.

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

 Section 1. Present subsections (2) through (12) of section 569.21, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (3) through (13), respectively, and a new subsection (2) is added to that section, to read:

569.21 Expenditure of tobacco settlement proceeds.—The following guidelines shall be applied to the expenditure of all funds paid to the State of Florida as a result of litigation entitled The State of Florida et al. v. American Tobacco Company et al., Case #95-1466AH, in the Circuit Court of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, in and for Palm Beach County:

(2) The Comptroller shall receive representations from the tobacco industry with respect to calculating the annual tobacco-settlement payments. The Comptroller, in consultation with the Attorney General and the Governor's Office of

 Planning and Budgeting, shall verify the representations from the tobacco industry and appropriately resolve inconsistencies. The Comptroller, with the advice of the Attorney General, may obtain contractual services necessary to verify the representations from the tobacco industry. The Auditor General shall annually review the Comptroller's verification of the representations from the tobacco industry.

Section 2. Effective January 7, 2003, subsection (2) of section 569.21, Florida Statutes, as amended by this act, is amended to read:

569.21 Expenditure of tobacco settlement proceeds.—The following guidelines shall be applied to the expenditure of all funds paid to the State of Florida as a result of litigation entitled The State of Florida et al. v. American Tobacco Company et al., Case #95-1466AH, in the Circuit Court of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, in and for Palm Beach County:

receive representations from the tobacco industry with respect to calculating the annual tobacco-settlement payments. The Chief Financial Officer Comptroller, in consultation with the Attorney General and the Governor's Office of Planning and Budgeting, shall verify the representations from the tobacco industry and appropriately resolve inconsistencies. The Chief Financial Officer Comptroller, with the advice of the Attorney General, may obtain contractual services necessary to verify the representations from the tobacco industry. The Auditor General shall annually review the Chief Financial Officer's Comptroller's verification of the representations from the tobacco industry.

Section 3. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law. SENATE SUMMARY Requires that the Comptroller verify representations from the tobacco industry which are used to calculate the annual payments made to the state by the tobacco industry. Requires that the verification be annually reviewed by the Auditor General. Redesignates the Comptroller as the Chief Financial Officer to conform to a revision of the State Constitution.