

By the Committees on Finance and Taxation; Governmental Oversight and Productivity; Natural Resources; and Senators Sullivan, Smith, Jones and Latvala

314-2175-02

1 A bill to be entitled  
 2 An act relating to specialty license plates;  
 3 amending s. 320.08058, F.S.; revising the date  
 4 after which a newly created collegiate license  
 5 plate is subject to the requirements of s.  
 6 320.08053, F.S.; providing for a portion of the  
 7 annual use fees to be distributed to the  
 8 Caribbean Conservation Corporation; providing  
 9 guidelines for the distribution of such funds  
 10 by the corporation; prohibiting funds from  
 11 being used for litigation; repealing s.  
 12 370.12(1)(h), F.S., which provides for the Fish  
 13 and Wildlife Conservation Commission to provide  
 14 grants relating to marine turtles; providing an  
 15 effective date.  
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 17 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
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 19 Section 1. Subsection (3) and paragraph (b) of  
 20 subsection (19) of section 320.08058, Florida Statutes, as  
 21 amended by chapter 2001-355, Laws of Florida, are amended to  
 22 read:  
 23 320.08058 Specialty license plates.--  
 24 (3) COLLEGIATE LICENSE PLATES.--  
 25 (a) The department shall develop a collegiate license  
 26 plate as provided in this section for state and independent  
 27 universities domiciled in this state. However, any collegiate  
 28 license plate created or established after October 1, 2002  
 29 ~~January 1, 1997~~, must comply with the requirements of s.  
 30 320.08053 and be specifically authorized by an act of the  
 31 Legislature. Collegiate license plates must bear the colors

1 and design approved by the department as appropriate for each  
2 state and independent university. The word "Florida" must be  
3 stamped across the bottom of the plate in small letters.

4 (b) A collegiate plate annual use fee is to be  
5 distributed to the state or independent university foundation  
6 designated by the purchaser for deposit in an unrestricted  
7 account. The Board of Regents shall require each state  
8 university to submit a plan for approval of the expenditure of  
9 all funds so designated. These funds may be used only for  
10 academic enhancement, including scholarships and private  
11 fundraising activities.

12 (19) SEA TURTLE LICENSE PLATES.--

13 (b) The first \$500,000 in annual use fees shall be  
14 deposited in the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund in  
15 the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission ~~and. The first~~  
16 ~~\$500,000 in annual revenue~~ shall be used by the Florida Marine  
17 Turtle Protection Program to conduct sea turtle protection,  
18 research, and recovery programs. The next \$215,000 in annual  
19 use fees shall be distributed to the Caribbean Conservation  
20 Corporation, located in Gainesville, to fund sea turtle  
21 research and education programs that benefit Florida sea  
22 turtles. The Caribbean Conservation Corporation shall annually  
23 distribute assigned funds through a Sea Turtle Grants Program  
24 that supports sea turtle research and education activities of  
25 Florida-based nonprofit groups, educational institutions, and  
26 Florida coastal counties. The Caribbean Conservation  
27 Corporation shall write and publish procedures for submitting  
28 grant applications and criteria for allocating available  
29 funds, and shall appoint a technical advisory committee,  
30 composed of at least five members, including two  
31 representatives from the Fish and Wildlife Conservation

1 Commission, to select grant recipients from proposals  
2 submitted by eligible entities. Any additional annual revenue  
3 shall be distributed as follows: 70 percent shall be deposited  
4 in the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund and used by  
5 the Florida Marine Turtle Protection Program for sea turtle  
6 conservation activities; and 30 percent shall be assigned to  
7 the Caribbean Conservation Corporation for distribution  
8 through the Sea Turtle Grants Program. Up to 15 percent of the  
9 funds distributed to the Caribbean Conservation Corporation  
10 may be expended for administrative costs directly associated  
11 with the grants program. Up to 10 percent of the funds  
12 distributed to the Caribbean Conservation Corporation may be  
13 used to promote and market the Sea Turtle license plate. None  
14 of the funds received by the Caribbean Conservation  
15 Corporation from the Sea Turtle license plate or the Sea  
16 Turtle Grants Program, nor funds received by any grant  
17 recipients of the Sea Turtle Grants Program, may be used for  
18 purposes of litigation.~~Additional license plate revenue, up~~  
19 ~~to an amount not exceeding 30 percent of the total annual~~  
20 ~~revenue, shall be dispersed annually through the marine turtle~~  
21 ~~grants program as provided in s. 370.12(1)(h). The remaining~~  
22 ~~annual use proceeds shall be used by the Florida Marine Turtle~~  
23 ~~Protection Program for sea turtle conservation activities.~~

24 Section 2. Paragraph (h) of subsection (1) of section  
25 370.12, Florida Statutes, is repealed effective June 30, 2003.

26 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002.  
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STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN  
COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
CS/CS/SB 2120

Changes from January 1, 1997 to October 1, 2002, the date by  
which any collegiate license plate created or established  
after, must comply with the requirements of s. 320.08053.