

# SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

BILL: SB 574  
 SPONSOR: Senator Geller  
 SUBJECT: Trust Funds  
 DATE: December 19, 2003      REVISED: 1/20/04 \_\_\_\_\_

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Krasovsky</u>	<u>Krasovsky</u>	<u>MS</u>	<u>Fav/ 1 amendment</u>
2.	_____	_____	<u>CM</u>	_____
3.	_____	_____	<u>ATD</u>	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

**I. Summary:**

This bill creates the Citizen Soldier Matching Grant Trust Fund within the Agency for Workforce Innovation. The trust fund will consist of monies to be appropriated by the Legislature for the purpose of providing grants pursuant to the grant program created in SB 572. That bill provides for grants to employers who continue to pay employees serving in the United States Armed Forces Reserves or the Florida National Guard while such employees are on federal active duty.

This bill creates new unnumbered sections of the Florida Statutes.

**II. Present Situation:**

Currently there is no statutorily created mechanism that provides grants to employers as proposed in SB 572.

**III. Effect of Proposed Changes:**

This bill creates the Citizen Soldier Matching Grant Trust Fund within the Agency for Workforce Innovation. The trust fund will consist of monies appropriated by the legislature for the purpose of providing grants pursuant to the grant program created in SB 572. The provisions of SB 572 are explained below.

SB 572 creates the Citizen Soldier Matching Grants Program which directs the Agency for Workforce Innovation to award matching grants to private sector employers who continue to provide wages to employees who are serving in the United States Armed Forces Reserves or the Florida National Guard while such employees are on federal active duty, provided that the employees are Florida residents for the actual period of federal active duty.

Grants provided under this program are for federal active duty starting January 1, 2004 and thereafter. The monthly grant may not exceed one-half of the monthly waged paid by the employer at the level paid prior to the date the employee was called up to federal active duty minus the amount of the employee's active duty base pay and benefit package. The grant program is to be funded by legislative appropriations. There are no specific appropriations made in SB 572.

The Agency for Workforce Innovation is directed under SB 572 to develop a plan to administer the application and payment procedures of the grant program. Such plan is subject to the notice, review, and objections procedures of the Legislative Budget Commission.

The trust created by this act (SB 574) terminates on July 1, 2008 and is to be reviewed prior to that date to determine whether it should be re-created.

The effective date of this legislation, July 1 2004, and is conditioned upon the passage of legislation creation the Citizen Solder Matching Grant Program.

#### **IV. Constitutional Issues:**

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. Other Constitutional Issues:

#### **V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:**

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

The private sector will benefit from the grant program created pursuant to this bill and SB 572 only to the extent that private sector employees continue to pay employees called up for federal duty and funding for the program is appropriated.

**C. Government Sector Impact:**

No appropriations to the trust fund in support of the grant program created in SB 572 is made in this bill or in SB 572. Appropriations would have to be made, therefore, in the General Appropriations Act or by some other mechanism.

**VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

At the time of drafting and filing this measure, the bill number of the companion bill creating the grant program was not known. That number is now known (SB 572) and should be inserted in the effective date section of this bill.

**VII. Related Issues:**

None.

**VIII. Amendments:**

#1 by Committee on Military and Veterans' Affairs, Base Protection, and Spaceports:  
Technical amendment that adds the number of the substantive bill (SB 572) to which the trust fund created by this bill relates.