

HB 0605

2004

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to specialty license plates; amending ss.
 3 320.08056 and 320.08058, F.S.; creating the Discover
 4 Florida's Oceans license plate; providing for the
 5 distribution of annual use fees received from the sale of
 6 such plates; providing an effective date.

7
 8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

9
 10 Section 1. Paragraph (ss) is added to subsection (4) of
 11 section 320.08056, Florida Statutes, to read:

12 320.08056 Specialty license plates.--

13 (4) The following license plate annual use fees shall be
 14 collected for the appropriate specialty license plates:

15 (ss) Discover Florida's Oceans license plate, \$25.

16 Section 2. Subsection (45) is added to section 320.08058,
 17 Florida Statutes, to read:

18 320.08058 Specialty license plates.--

19 (45) DISCOVER FLORIDA'S OCEANS LICENSE PLATES.--

20 (a) The department shall develop a Discover Florida's
 21 Oceans license plate as provided in this section. Discover
 22 Florida's Oceans license plates must bear the colors and design
 23 approved by the department. The word "Florida" must appear at
 24 the top of the plate, and the words "Discover Florida's Oceans"
 25 must appear at the bottom of the plate.

26 (b) The department shall retain all revenues from the sale
 27 of such plates until all startup costs for developing and
 28 issuing the plates are recovered, not to exceed \$60,000.
 29 Thereafter, the proceeds of the annual use fee shall be

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30 distributed to the Hubbs Florida Ocean Fund, a 501(c)(3) public
 31 charity, for the specific purpose of administering the annual
 32 use fees received from the sale of the plates as follows:

33 1. Twenty percent of the funds received by the Hubbs
 34 Florida Ocean Fund shall be distributed to the Wildlife
 35 Foundation of Florida, Inc., to be used for ocean, estuarine, or
 36 coastal scientific research, conservation, and education
 37 projects.

38 2. Up to 10 percent of the funds received by the Hubbs
 39 Florida Ocean Fund may be used for administrative costs directly
 40 associated with Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute research,
 41 conservation, and education programs and the Discover Florida's
 42 Oceans license plate.

43 3. Up to 15 percent of the funds received by the Hubbs
 44 Florida Ocean Fund may be used for continuing promotion and
 45 marketing of the license plate.

46 4. The remainder of the funds received by the Hubbs
 47 Florida Ocean Fund shall be used to collect, analyze, archive,
 48 and publish scientific data regarding Florida's ocean, estuary,
 49 and coastal habitats and species that inhabit, utilize, or
 50 migrate in state waters or along the state's coastal areas; to
 51 provide response, care, assistance, and research as part of
 52 Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute's statewide role in responding
 53 to and archiving data on stranded marine species; to construct
 54 and maintain a marine and coastal research center in association
 55 with the Archie Carr National Wildlife Refuge on lands donated
 56 to Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute by the Richard King Mellon
 57 Foundation; to train teachers and students to enhance scientific
 58 literacy, scientific research competency, and technology

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59 development; to conduct ocean-space aquatic research and
60 scientific research focused on ocean observations from space; to
61 conduct research on economic benefits of the state's ocean,
62 estuary, and coastal resources and public use of those
63 resources; to create research and education programs that
64 contribute to the development of the state's knowledge
65 infrastructure and diversify the economy; and to implement
66 programs that seek objective, common-sense, scientific solutions
67 to the complex marine and coastal ecological problems facing the
68 state.

69 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004.