HB 1547 2005

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the Comprehensive Everglades
Restoration Plan; requiring the Department of
Environmental Protection to expend appropriated funds for
certain acquisitions relating to restoration of the
Everglades in accordance with the comprehensive plan;
prohibiting reversion of appropriated funds to the General
Revenue Fund; providing for the sale of lands acquired
using appropriated funds after a finding by the department
and the South Florida Water Management District that the
land is no longer needed for the comprehensive plan;
providing for deposit of the proceeds of the sale, or an
equivalent amount, into the Save Our Everglades Trust
Fund; providing for use of such deposited moneys to
implement the comprehensive plan; providing an
appropriation; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. (1) The Department of Environmental Protection shall, within the 2005-2006 fiscal year, expend or contract to expend the sum appropriated by this act in a manner that expends \$100 million in the 2005-2006 fiscal year and expends \$100 million in each of the following 4 fiscal years for the purpose of implementing the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan. The funds shall be used to acquire and improve land, water areas, and related property interests and resources for the purpose of implementing the comprehensive plan.

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(2) Notwithstanding any provision in section 216.301,

Florida Statutes, the funds appropriated by this act and

expended or committed for expenditure as directed by subsection

(1) shall not revert to the General Revenue Fund.

- (3) Lands purchased pursuant to this section which are later determined by the South Florida Water Management District and the Department of Environmental Protection not to be needed to implement the comprehensive plan shall be sold as surplus at no less than appraised value, and the proceeds from the sale of such lands deposited into the Save Our Everglades Trust Fund to be used to implement the comprehensive plan, or the South Florida Water Management District shall use a different source of funds to pay for or reimburse the Save Our Everglades Trust Fund for that portion of land not needed to implement the comprehensive plan.
- Section 2. The sum of \$500 million is appropriated from the General Revenue Fund to the Department of Environmental Protection for the acquisition and improvement of land, water areas, and related property interests and resources for the purpose of implementing the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan under section 373.470, Florida Statutes.
  - Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.