

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: HB 1055

Specialty License Plates

SPONSOR(S): Gibson

TIED BILLS:

IDEN./SIM. BILLS: SB 1304

| REFERENCE | ACTION | ANALYST | STAFF DIRECTOR |
|--|--------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1) <u>Transportation Committee</u> | _____ | <u>Thompson</u> | <u>Miller</u> |
| 2) <u>Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations Committee</u> | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 3) <u>State Infrastructure Council</u> | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 4) _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 5) _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

Under current law, the annual use fees for the Live the Dream License Plate are distributed to The Dream Foundation, Inc., who retains a portion of the fees for administrative, startup and approval process costs. Thereafter 25 percent is to be used for continuing promotion and marketing of the license plate and concept. The remaining funds are distributed to the following organizations:

- Twenty-five percent to be used as grants for programs that provide research, care, and treatment for sickle cell disease,
- Twenty-five percent to the Florida chapter of the March of Dimes for programs and services that improve the health of babies through the prevention of birth defects and infant mortality,
- Ten percent to the Florida Association of Healthy Start Coalitions for help in decreasing racial disparity in infant mortality, to increase healthy birth outcomes, and for use by local Healthy Start Coalitions,
- Ten percent to the Community Partnership for Homeless, Inc., for programs that provide relief from poverty, hunger, and homelessness.
- Five percent to be used by the foundation for administrative costs directly associated with operations related to the management and distribution of proceeds.

This bill redirects the 25 percent of allocated funds for general grants for research, care, and treatment of sickle cell disease to the Sickle Cell Disease Association of Florida, Inc. The bill will not have a fiscal impact on the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. HB 1055 takes effect July 1, 2006.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. HOUSE PRINCIPLES ANALYSIS:

The bill does not appear to implicate any of the House Principles.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Specialty license plates are listed in s. 320.08058, F.S. Specialty license plates are available to any owner or lessee of a motor vehicle who is willing to pay an annual use fee for the privilege. The legislature has enacted 106 specialty license plates to date, though only 100 are currently available for purchase. Section 320.08056, F.S., specifies annual use fees ranging from \$15 to \$25 for the various specialty plates, which are paid in addition to required license taxes and service charges.

Funds derived from these annual use fees are distributed to an organization or organizations in support of a particular cause or charity signified on the plate's design and designated in s. 320.08058, F.S. This section also provides for the uses of funds derived for each plate from its annual use fee. There is wide variation on the uses of these fees regarding administrative costs and marketing or promotion expenses. For example, the "Support Soccer" license plate allows 25 percent of funds to be used for promotion and marketing and 5 percent to be used for administrative costs; while the "United We Stand" license plate requires that 100 percent of funds be used for airport security grants.

The Dream Foundation, Inc., is dedicated to assisting the indigent and less fortunate through direct and indirect programs and grants. The Foundation's principal mission is to address the increasing problem with respect to access to affordable medical and dental treatment for the underprivileged.

Section 320.008058, F.S., provides the first \$60,000 of revenues generated from the collection of annual fees for the "Live the Dream" specialty plate are to be distributed to The Dream Foundation, Inc., to cover start up and administration costs. All funds distributed thereafter are to be allocated as follows:

- 25 percent to the Live the Dream Foundation, Inc. for marketing and promotional costs associated with the plate;
- 25 percent distributed as grants for research, treatment, and care programs for sickle cell disease;
- 25 percent to the Florida chapter of the March of Dimes for child and infant health programs;
- 10 percent to the Florida Association of Healthy Start Coalition to decrease racial disparity, infant mortality rates, and increase healthy births;
- 10 percent to the Community Partnership for the Homeless to provide relief for poverty, homelessness, and hunger;
- 5 percent to the Live the Dream Foundation, Inc., for administrative costs associated with production, management, and distribution of the proceeds.

The Sickle Cell Disease Association of Florida, Inc. (SCDAF), is a not for profit 501(c) (3) charitable organization. SCDAF serves 16 community based chapters throughout the State of Florida and is one of 41 state based chapters serving the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America. Programs started and operated by SCDAF include:

- Sickle Cell Education and Counseling Program;
- Statewide Sickle Cell Education and Counseling Program;
- Resource Center;
- Educational Assistance Program
- Statewide Community Based Outreach Program,
- Screening and Testing Program, and

- Summer Recreation and Enhancement Camp

The Live the Dream license plate¹ was created by the legislature in 2004 by chapter 2004-337, Laws of Florida. This license plate ranks 65th in popularity for the number of license plates currently issued. The Live the Dream license plate has raised \$60,925.00 from July 1, 2004 to present.

HB 1055 redirects the 25 percent of allocated funds for general grants for research, care, and treatment of sickle cell disease to the Sickle Cell Disease Association of Florida, Inc. This bill also provides an effective date of July 1, 2006.

C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1. Amends s. 320.08058, F.S., providing for redirection of allocated funds from the sale of the Live the Dream license plate.

Section 2. Provides an effective date of July 1, 2006.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

This bill does not appear to have a significant direct economic impact on the private sector. However, other entities that could potentially receive grant funding from the 25 percent allocation would be affected negatively because they would no longer be able to apply for the grants awarded to programs that provide research, care, and treatment for sickle cell disease. HB 1055 redirects the 25 percent of allocated funds for general grants for research, care, and treatment of sickle cell disease to the Sickle Cell Disease Association of Florida, Inc

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

None.

¹ S. 320.08058 (49), F.S.,

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

Not applicable because the bill does not appear to: require counties or cities to spend funds or take action requiring the expenditure of funds; reduce the authority that cities or counties have to raise revenues in the aggregate; or reduce the percentage of a state tax shared with cities or counties.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE & COMBINED BILL CHANGES