

By Senator Saunders

37-65-06

1                                   A bill to be entitled

2           An act relating to the Save Our Everglades

3           Trust Fund; providing legislative intent with

4           respect to the need to expeditiously implement

5           the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan;

6           amending s. 373.470, F.S.; removing obsolete

7           provisions; directing the deposit of funds

8           into the Save Our Everglades Trust Fund within

9           the Department of Environmental Protection;

10          requiring that a portion of those funds be used

11          for land acquisition; providing an

12          appropriation; providing an effective date.

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

16           Section 1. The Legislature finds that increases in

17 land prices and market competition for lands that are

18 appropriate for acquisition under the Comprehensive Everglades

19 Restoration Plan may increase overall costs or limit

20 implementation of the restoration of the Everglades. The

21 Legislature intends that the restoration of the Everglades

22 under the comprehensive plan be implemented expeditiously to

23 avoid increasing land-acquisition costs and competition for

24 available lands. As used in this section, the term

25 "Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan" or "comprehensive

26 plan" has the same meaning as "comprehensive plan" in s.

27 373.470(2), Florida Statutes.

28           Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (5) of section

29 373.470, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

30           373.470 Everglades restoration.--

31           (5) SAVE OUR EVERGLADES TRUST FUND SUPPLEMENTED.--

1           (a)1. ~~For fiscal year 2000-2001, \$50 million of state~~  
2 ~~funds shall be deposited into the Save Our Everglades Trust~~  
3 ~~Fund created by s. 373.472.~~

4           ~~2.~~ For each year of the 5 ~~9~~ consecutive years  
5 beginning with the 2006-2007 fiscal year, ~~\$200~~ 2001-2002, ~~\$75~~  
6 million of state funds shall be deposited into the Save Our  
7 Everglades Trust Fund created by s. 373.472; however, \$100  
8 million of the deposit must be used solely to acquire lands  
9 for the comprehensive plan.

10           2. The sum of \$200 million is appropriated from the  
11 General Revenue Fund to the Save Our Everglades Trust Fund for  
12 the purpose of implementing this section.

13           3. As an alternative to subparagraph 1. ~~2.~~, proceeds  
14 of bonds issued under s. 215.619 may be deposited into the  
15 Save Our Everglades Trust Fund created under s. 373.472. To  
16 enhance flexibility, funds to be deposited into the Save Our  
17 Everglades Trust Fund may consist of any combination of state  
18 funds and Everglades restoration bonds.

19           Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.

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22           SENATE SUMMARY

23           Directs the deposit of funds into the Save Our Everglades  
24           Trust Fund within the Department of Environmental  
25           Protection. Provides an appropriation.