

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.)

Prepared By: Government Efficiency Appropriations Committee

BILL: SB 1614

INTRODUCER: Senator Baker

SUBJECT: Free License Plates Expiration Provision

DATE: March 13, 2006

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Woods</u>	<u>Meyer</u>	<u>TR</u>	Favorable
2.	<u>Keating</u>	<u>Johansen</u>	<u>GE</u>	Favorable
3.	_____	_____	<u>TA</u>	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

I. Summary:

This bill amends s. 320.0846, F.S., by removing the expiration provision in subsection (3). This will allow active members of the Florida National Guard who own or lease motor vehicles to continue to obtain standard Florida license plates free of charge. The bill also provides the provisions will take effect upon the bill becoming law.

II. Present Situation:

The 2005 Legislature created s. 320.0846, F.S., to provide for the issuance of one standard Florida license plate, free of charge, to any active duty member of the Florida National Guard who owned or leased a vehicle and who resides in the State of Florida. The statute was put into effect as of July 1, 2005 and set to expire on July 1, 2006.

Currently there are approximately 12,500 active members of the Florida National Guard eligible for the free plates. The average base motor vehicle license registration fee imposed pursuant to s. 320.08, F.S., is \$36.97 and the local tax collectors' service fee is \$3.00 per registration. In addition, the following annual fees totaling \$10.60 are imposed on motor vehicle license registrations:

- \$.50 to repay costs of the retro-reflective tag feature for deposit into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund;
- \$.50 to cover the costs of the Florida Real Time Vehicle Information System for deposit into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund;
- \$2.00 motor vehicle license replacement fee for deposit into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund;

- \$1.00 service fee for deposit into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund;
- \$1.00 for the Air Pollution Control Trust Fund;
- \$1.50 for the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund;
- \$.10 per motor vehicle and moped registration for deposit into the Emergency Medical Service Trust Fund;
- \$1.00 surcharge for deposit into the State Agency Law Enforcement Radio System Trust Fund;
- \$2.00 surcharge for deposit into the State Transportation Trust Fund; and
- \$1.00 surcharge to be deposited as follows: 58 percent into the General Revenue Fund and 42 percent into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund in the Department of Juvenile Justice to fund the community juvenile justice partnership grants program.

In addition, there is imposed on all motorcycle registrations, a \$2.50 motorcycle safety education fee for deposit into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund.

Motor vehicle license registration fees imposed pursuant to s. 320.08, F.S., are deposited into the State Transportation Trust Fund of the Department of Transportation.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1. This bill amends s. 320.0846, F.S., to eliminate the expiration provision that would end the issuance of free standard Florida license plates to active members of the Florida National Guard (one per member) who meet the requirements specified by this statute. By eliminating the expiration date this bill would provide for these individuals to be issued their annual motor vehicle license registration at no cost.

Section 2. The bill shall take effect upon becoming a law.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

The bill continues the authorization for active members of the Florida National Guard to receive one standard Florida license plate annually free of charge. The Revenue

Estimating Conference has not reviewed this bill. The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles estimates, based on 12,500 active members of the Florida National Guard and an average base motor vehicle license registration fee of \$36.97, that this provision will result in a recurring loss of total state revenue of \$0.6 million and a recurring loss to local tax collectors of \$37,500 from the loss of \$3.00 in service fees. In addition, there will be an insignificant loss to the General Revenue Fund from the General Revenue Service Charge.

Revenues	1st Year & Recurring Loss
State Transportation TF	\$487,125
Highway Safety Operating TF	50,000
Transportation Disadvantaged TF	18,750
Air Pollution Control TF	12,500
Law Enforcement Radio System TF	12,500
Juvenile Justice Grants & Donations TF	5,250
Emergency Medical Services TF	1,250
General Revenue Fund	7,250
Total	\$594,625

B. Private Sector Impact:

Active members of the Florida National Guard would be eligible to receive one free standard Florida license plate.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The bill will require contracted programming modifications to the Florida Real Time Vehicle Information System which will be absorbed within existing resources.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Summary of Amendments:

None.

This Senate staff analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.
