

# 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: Committee of Transportation

---

BILL: SB 1614

INTRODUCER: Senator Baker

SUBJECT: Free License Plates Expiration Provision

DATE: March 1, 2006

REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Woods	Meyer	TR	<b>Favorable</b>
2.	_____	_____	GE	_____
3.	_____	_____	TA	_____
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 registration fee is \$36.97 and the service fee for registration is three (3) dollars per registration.

## III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

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 receive free license plates for an undetermined length of time.

**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:**

Assuming the 12,500 active members of the Florida National Guard receive a permanent registration and not being subject to payment of the three (3) dollar service fee, local governments will not receive an estimated \$37, 500.

**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:**

Assuming the 12,500 active members of the Florida National Guard receive a permanent registration and not being subject to payment of the three (3) dollar service fee, local governments will not receive an estimated \$37, 500.

The current revenue implication is an approximate \$600,000 loss to the state trust funds per year. Due to the unspecified length of the proposed changes, it is difficult to estimate the total loss in revenues over time. The bill will also 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:**

All estimations of the economic and financial impacts function under the following assumptions: taxes will remain the same, the number of active members that become eligible will remain the same, and all fees and revenues from fees remain the same. If any of these conditions change, the financial and economic impacts would relatively change.

---

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

---



## **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.

---