



1 the roof of the truck into the northbound traffic following  
2 the department's truck, and

3 WHEREAS, the driver to the rear of the department's  
4 truck swerved to avoid hitting the extension ladder which came  
5 directly at the driver in her lane of Interstate 75, and

6 WHEREAS, as a result of the swerving movements, the  
7 driver of the car behind the department's truck lost control  
8 of her vehicle, veered to the left, crossed the Interstate 75  
9 median, and struck Dr. Aversa's vehicle, killing Dr. Aversa  
10 instantly, and

11 WHEREAS, as a result of these events, the estate of Dr.  
12 Aversa brought suit against the Department of Transportation  
13 for the negligence causing the death of Dr. Aversa, and

14 WHEREAS, after 3 years of litigation, the department  
15 admitted liability for the accident and agreed to settle the  
16 case, and

17 WHEREAS, the parties agreed to a consent judgment  
18 solely against the department, with no comparative negligence  
19 finding against any other party, in the amount of \$797,500,  
20 and

21 WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation has paid  
22 \$100,000 to the estate of Dr. Sherrill Lynn Aversa under the  
23 statutory limits of liability set forth in section 768.28,  
24 Florida Statutes, NOW, THEREFORE,

25  
26 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

27  
28 Section 1. The facts stated in the preamble to this  
29 act are found and declared to be true.

30 Section 2. The sum of \$697,500 is appropriated from  
31 the General Revenue Fund to the Department of Transportation,

