

**The Florida Senate**  
**HOUSE MESSAGE SUMMARY**

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Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Banking and Insurance Committee

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BILL: CS/CS/CS/SB 2158

INTRODUCER: General Government Appropriations Committee and Banking and Insurance Committee

SUBJECT: Money Services Businesses

DATE: April 30, 2008

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**I. Amendments Contained in Message:**

**House Amendment 1 – 711755 (title)**

**II. Summary of Amendments Contained in Message:**

The House amendment caps license application fees associated with a change of control for entities subject to licensure under ch. 560, F.S. Specifically, the House amendment provides that license application fees for branch offices and authorized vendors are limited to \$20,000 when such fees are assessed as a result of a change in controlling interest of a money services business (MSB).

Prior to October 1, 2006, part II (money transmitters) and part III (check cashers) registrants were required to submit a new application for registration, along with a license fee, when a change in control occurred.<sup>1</sup> The change of control fee provisions were amended, effective October 1, 2006, to require a licensee to also pay a \$50 fee for each branch location and authorized vendor location, along with the licensee application fee, when a change of control occurred.

Twenty-nine companies (part II) have notified the office of a change of control since October 1, 2006. Only 10 of these companies, however, had location (branch or authorized vendor) fee filings, which totaled \$439,350 for the 18-month period. The fees incurred by these licensees for these filings ranged from \$50 to \$372,350. According to the office, since October 1, 2006, an additional 16 check cashers (part III) registrants with locations have filed change of control applications (involving 22 locations filings), which generated \$1,100 in fee revenues.

Based on revenue data provided by the office, if this provision had been implemented in October 1, 2006, this would have reduced total revenues for the office by \$373,450 for the prior 18-month period. On an imputed, annualized basis, this represents a loss of approximately \$248,967 per fiscal year for future fiscal years.

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<sup>1</sup> Money transmitters and check cashers are regulated under part II and part III of ch. 560, F.S., respectively.