

By Senator Gardiner

9-00720A-10

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1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to cigarette surcharge revenue uses;
3 amending s. 210.011, F.S.; reducing the amount of
4 cigarette surcharge revenues deposited into the Health
5 Care Trust Fund; appropriating a portion of cigarette
6 surcharge revenues to the Department of Children and
7 Family Services for certain purposes; prohibiting the
8 use of such portion to supplant certain general
9 revenue funds allocated to the department; providing
10 an effective date.

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12 WHEREAS, compared to the general population, individuals
13 with mental illness have higher rates of chronic health problems
14 and premature death due to long-term tobacco use, and

15 WHEREAS, the life span of an individual with mental illness
16 is, on average, 20 to 25 years shorter than that of the average
17 American, and most of these individuals die from smoking-related
18 diseases, and

19 WHEREAS, it is estimated that 200,000 of the 435,000 annual
20 deaths from smoking in the United States occur among individuals
21 with chronic mental illness and substance use disorders, and

22 WHEREAS, compared to the general population, the rate of
23 cardiovascular disease is 2.3 times higher, the rate of
24 respiratory disease is 3.2 times higher, and the rate of lung
25 cancer is 3 times higher among individuals with mental illness,
26 and

27 WHEREAS, tobacco use by individuals with mental illness is
28 a major public health issue that needs immediate attention
29 through focused cessation programs, and

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30 WHEREAS, 75 percent of individuals with mental illness
31 smoke 3 to 4 times the rate of the general population, consuming
32 44 percent of all cigarettes consumed in the United States, and

33 WHEREAS, Florida's public mental health system is severely
34 underfunded and currently ranks 49th in per capita spending on
35 mental health care, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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39 Section 1. Subsection (9) of section 210.011, Florida
40 Statutes, is amended, and subsection (10) is added to that
41 section, to read:

42 210.011 Cigarette surcharge levied; collection.-

43 (9) Ninety-five percent of the revenue produced from the
44 surcharge levied under this section shall be deposited into the
45 Health Care Trust Fund within the Agency for Health Care
46 Administration.

47 (10) Five percent of the revenue produced from the
48 surcharge levied under this section shall be appropriated to the
49 Department of Children and Family Services for the purpose of
50 expanding community-based mental health services and providing
51 programs to reduce the rate of smoking among persons with mental
52 illness. These funds shall not be used to supplant general
53 revenue funds allocated to the Department of Children and Family
54 Services as of July 1, 2009.

55 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2010.