

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Transportation

BILL: SB 632

INTRODUCER: Senator Soto

SUBJECT: Florida Wildflower License Plates

DATE: March 15, 2013 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Everette	Eichin	TR	Pre-meeting
2.	_____	_____	ATD	_____
3.	_____	_____	AP	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

I. Summary:

SB 632 revises the annual use fee for the Florida Wildflower license plate, increasing the fee from \$15 to \$25. The bill also increases from 15 to 20, the percentage of the annual use fee proceeds that may be used for administrative and marketing costs.

This bill substantially amends s. 320.08058 of the Florida Statutes.

II. Present Situation:

The Florida Wildflower specialty license plate was created by the 2000¹ Legislature. Persons wishing to register a vehicle with the plate must pay a \$15 annual use fee in addition to the normal fees required when registering a vehicle. Revenues from the use fee were deposited in the Florida Wildflower Foundation, Inc., to be used to establish native Florida Wildflower research programs to municipal, county, and community-based groups in the state.

The annual use fees shall be distributed to the Florida Wildflower Foundation, Inc., a nonprofit corporation under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The proceeds shall be used to establish native Florida wildflower research programs, wildflower educational programs, and wildflower grant programs to municipal, county, and community-based groups in this state.

- The Florida Wildflower Foundation, Inc., shall develop procedures of operation, research contracts, education and marketing programs, and wildflower planting grants for Florida native wildflowers, plants, and grasses.

¹ <http://www.wildflowertag.com/funds.htm> (last visited on 3/18/2000)

- A maximum of 15 percent of the proceeds from the sale of these plates may be used for administrative and marketing costs.
- If the Florida Wildflower Foundation, Inc., ceases to be an active nonprofit corporation under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, the proceeds from the annual use fee shall be deposited into the General Inspection Trust Fund created within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Any funds held by the Florida Wildflower Foundation, Inc., must be promptly transferred to the General Inspection Trust Fund.

In fiscal year 2011/2012, there were 20,950 vehicles registered using the Florida Wildflower specialty plate, with a total net revenue of \$421,420 accruing from use of the plate.²

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 320.08053, F.S., requires an increase in the annual use fee from \$15 to \$25 for the Florida Wildflower license plate.

Section 320.08058(27), F.S., authorizes an increase of 5 percent to the original 15 percent use of proceeds from the sale of the Florida Wildflower license plate. The Florida Wildflower Foundation, Inc., can use a maximum of 20 percent of the proceeds collected may be used for administrative and marketing costs.

The bill has an effective date of July 1, 2013.

Other Potential Implications:

The department recommends that the effective date be changed to October 1, 2013 to allow programming and administrative time to implement its provisions.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

² <http://www.flhsmv.gov/das/acct/SPAdFees.pdf>
(last visited 3/19/2013)

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

Persons who purchase the Florida Wildflower specialty license plate will pay an additional \$10 for a total of \$25 for the annual use fee.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Additional Information:**A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:**

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.