

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 Appropriations

BILL: SB 686

INTRODUCER: Senator Gardiner

SUBJECT: Termination of Trust Funds within the Department of Economic Opportunity

DATE: February 20, 2014 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Pingree	Kynoch	AP	Favorable
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____

I. Summary:

SB 686 terminates four trust funds within the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO): the Community Services Block Grant Trust Fund; the Energy Consumption Trust Fund; the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program Block Grant Trust Fund; and the Economic Development Transportation Trust Fund. The bill is effective July 1, 2014, and has no fiscal impact on state or local funds.

II. Present Situation:

Section 215.3208, Florida Statutes, requires legislative review of each trust fund at least once every four years. The review schedule is included in the legislative budget instructions developed in accordance with s. 216.023, F.S. The review indicated four trust funds within the DEO are inactive and obsolete.

The Community Services Block Grant Trust Fund, the Energy Consumption Trust Fund, and the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program Block Grant Trust Fund were originally created in the former Department of Community Affairs (DCA) to administer various federal programs. When these programs were transferred from the DCA to the DEO in October 2011, the revenues that were previously deposited in these funds were deposited in the Federal Grants Trust Fund. Section 215.32(2)(b)2.g., F.S., requires agencies to use the federal grants trust fund as the depository for restricted revenues from federal sources. The trust funds being terminated have no fund balances and no future receipts are anticipated.

The Economic Development Transportation Trust Fund within the DEO was originally created in the former Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development (OTTED) in the Executive Office of the Governor, to account for transfers from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to fund economic development transportation projects. This fund was transferred from

the OTTED to the DEO in October 2011. In Fiscal Year 2012-2013, the administration of “road fund” projects was transferred from the DEO to the FDOT. The trust fund has no fund balance and no future receipts are anticipated.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The Community Services Block Grant Trust Fund, the Energy Consumption Trust Fund, the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program Block Grant Trust Fund, and the Economic Development Transportation Trust Fund, within the DEO, are terminated. Sections 17.61(3)(c), and 420.36(4)(a) & (c), F.S., are amended to conform.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

This bill has no fiscal impact on state agencies or state funds, on local governments as a whole, or on the private sector. It simply terminates existing state trust funds that are currently inactive within the department.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends the following sections of the Florida Statutes: 17.61(3)(c) and 420.36(4)(a) and (c).

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

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

None.

B. Amendments:

None.

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