

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: HB 7059 PCB TEDAS 14-02 PCB TEDAS 14-02 Trust
Funds/Termination/Department of Economic Opportunity

SPONSOR(S): Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee, Hooper

TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:** SB 686

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR or BUDGET/POLICY CHIEF
Orig. Comm.: Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee	10 Y, 0 N	Proctor	Davis
1) Appropriations Committee	26 Y, 0 N	Proctor	Leznoff

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

This bill terminates the Community Services Block Grant Trust Fund, Energy Consumption Trust Fund, Economic Development Transportation Trust Fund, and the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program Block Grant Trust Fund within the Department of Economic Opportunity.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

PRESENT SITUATION

Legislative review of trust funds is required at least once every four years pursuant to section 215.3208, Florida Statutes. The schedule for review is included in the legislative budget instructions developed pursuant to the requirements of section 216.023, Florida Statutes. A trust fund analysis indicated four trust funds within the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) are no longer needed and could be terminated.

The Community Services Block Grant Trust Fund, FLAIR number 40-2-261, was originally created as a depository for receipts from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, interest earnings and cash advances from other trust funds. It was used to administer the Federal Community Service Block Grant Program, to provide immediate life necessities and motivation to achieve self-sufficiency. Services can include emergency health, food, housing, day care, transportation assistance, housing counseling, financial management assistance, nutrition programs including federal surplus food distribution, community gardening projects, food banks, job counseling, placement and training services, and homeless prevention programs. At the time of the creation of the DEO the balance of this fund was transferred into the Federal Grants Trust Fund where the activities are now funded.

The Energy Consumption Trust Fund, FLAIR number 40-2-174, was originally created as a depository for the United States Department of Energy's Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) and petroleum violation escrow settlements from the federal government. The WAP is designed to reduce the monthly energy burden on low-income households by improving the energy efficiency of the home. This trust fund was originally under the Department of Community Affairs. At the time of the creation of the DEO the balance of this fund was transferred into the Federal Grants Trust Fund.

The Economic Development Transportation Trust Fund, FLAIR number 40-2-175, was originally created as a depository of general revenue from appropriations and transfers from the State Transportation Trust Fund at the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to fund activities related to transportation projects as defined in section 334.03, F.S., that are necessary to facilitate economic development and growth. The program was transferred to FDOT under Ch. 2011-142, L.O.F. At the time of the program's transfer to FDOT the balance of this fund was also transferred.

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program Block Grant Trust Fund, FLAIR number 40-2-451, was originally created as a depository for receipts from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, interest earnings and cash advances from other trust funds. It was used to administer and fund the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, which provides home energy assistance benefits to eligible households, or direct payments to electric or natural gas utilities or other energy suppliers and operators of subsidized housing on behalf of eligible households. This trust fund was originally under the Department of Community Affairs. At the time of the creation of the DEO the balance of this fund was transferred into the Federal Grants Trust Fund where the activities are now funded.

EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

This bill terminates the Community Services Block Grant Trust Fund, the Energy Consumption Trust Fund, and Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program Block Grant Trust Fund within the Department of Economic Opportunity. The current remaining balance and any proceeds thereof will be transferred to the Federal Grants Trust Fund, FLAIR number 40-2-261, within DEO.

This bill also terminates the Economic Development Transportation Trust Fund within the Department of Economic Opportunity. The current remaining balance and any proceeds thereof will be transferred to the State Transportation Trust Fund within FDOT.

B. SECTION DIRECTORY:

- Section 1. Terminates the Community Services Block Grant Trust Fund, the Energy Consumption Trust Fund, and the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program Block Grant Trust Fund.
- Section 2. Terminates the Economic Development Transportation Trust Fund.
- Section 3. Amends s. 17.61, F.S. relating to Chief Financial Officer.
- Section 4. Amends s. 420.36, F.S. relating to the Low-Income Emergency Home Repair Program.
- Section 5. Provides effective date.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

- 1. Revenues:
None
- 2. Expenditures:
None

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

- 1. Revenues:
None
- 2. Expenditures:
None

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

None

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

The bill has no fiscal impact.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

None

2. Other:

None

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

IV. AMENDMENTS/ COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES