



114694

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/05/2015	.	
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The Committee on Transportation (Brandes) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete lines 1293 - 1375  
and insert:

Section 30. (1) LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND INTENT.—The Legislature recognizes that the existing fuel tax structure used to derive revenues for the funding of transportation projects in this state will soon be inadequate to meet the state’s needs. To address this emerging need, the Legislature directs the Center for Urban Transportation Research to establish an extensive



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11 study on the impact of implementing a system that charges  
12 drivers based on the vehicle miles traveled as an alternative,  
13 sustainable source of transportation funding and to establish  
14 the framework for implementation of a pilot demonstration  
15 project. The Legislature recognizes that, over time, the current  
16 fuel tax structure has become less viable as the primary funding  
17 source for transportation projects. While the fuel tax has  
18 functioned as a true user fee for decades, significant increases  
19 in mandated vehicle fuel efficiency and the introduction of  
20 electric and hybrid vehicles have significantly eroded the  
21 revenues derived from this tax. The Legislature also recognizes  
22 that there are legitimate privacy concerns related to a tax  
23 mechanism that would charge users of the highway system on the  
24 basis of miles traveled. Other concerns include the cost of  
25 implementing such a system and institutional issues associated  
26 with revenue sharing. Therefore, it is the intent of the  
27 Legislature that this study and demonstration design will, at a  
28 minimum, address these issues. To accomplish this task, the  
29 Center for Urban Transportation Research in consultation with  
30 the Florida Transportation Commission shall establish a project  
31 advisory board to assist the center in analyzing this  
32 alternative funding concept and in developing specific elements  
33 of the pilot project that will demonstrate the feasibility of  
34 transitioning Florida to a transportation funding system based  
35 on vehicle miles traveled.

36 (2) VEHICLE-MILES-TRAVELED STUDY.—The Center for Urban  
37 Transportation Research shall conduct a study on the viability  
38 of implementing a system in this state which charges drivers  
39 based on their vehicle miles traveled as an alternative to the



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40 present fuel tax structure to fund transportation projects. The  
41 study will inventory previous research and findings from pilot  
42 projects being conducted in other states. The study will address  
43 at a minimum previous work conducted in these broad areas:  
44 assessment of technologies; behavioral and privacy concerns;  
45 equity impacts; and policy implications of a vehicle miles  
46 traveled road charging system. The effort will also quantify the  
47 current costs to collect traditional highway user fees. This  
48 study will synthesize findings of completed research and  
49 demonstrations in the area of vehicle-miles-traveled charges and  
50 analyze their applicability to Florida. The Center for Urban  
51 Transportation Research shall present the findings of this study  
52 phase to the Legislature no later than January 30, 2016.

53 (3) VEHICLE-MILES-TRAVELED PILOT PROJECT DESIGN.—

54 (a) In the course of the study, the Center for Urban  
55 Transportation Research in consultation with the Florida  
56 Transportation Commission shall establish the framework for a  
57 pilot project that will evaluate the feasibility of implementing  
58 a system that charges drivers based on their vehicle miles  
59 traveled.

60 (b) In the design of the pilot project framework, the  
61 Center for Urban Transportation Research shall address at a  
62 minimum these elements: the geographic location for the pilot;  
63 special fleets or classes of vehicles; evaluation criteria for  
64 the demonstration; consumer choice in the method of reporting  
65 miles traveled; privacy options for participants in the pilot  
66 project; the recording of miles traveled with and without  
67 locational information; records retention and destruction; and  
68 cyber security.



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69        (c) Contingent upon legislative appropriation, the Center  
70 for Urban Transportation Research may expend up to \$400,000 for  
71 the study and pilot project design.

72        (d) The pilot project design shall be completed no later  
73 than December 31, 2016, and submitted in a report to the  
74 Legislature so that implementation of a pilot project can occur  
75 in 2017.

76 ===== T I T L E   A M E N D M E N T =====

77 And the title is amended as follows:

78        Delete lines 121 - 139

79 and insert:

80        House committees by a certain date; providing  
81        legislative findings and intent relating to  
82        transportation funding; directing the Center for Urban  
83        Transportation Research to conduct a study on  
84        implementing a system in this state which charges  
85        drivers based on their vehicle miles traveled as an  
86        alternative to the present fuel tax structure to fund  
87        transportation projects; specifying requirements of  
88        the study; requiring that the findings of the study be  
89        presented to the Legislature by a certain date;  
90        directing the center in consultation with the Florida  
91        Transportation Commission to establish the framework  
92        for a pilot project that will evaluate the feasibility  
93        of implementing a system that charges drivers based on  
94        their vehicle miles traveled; specifying requirements  
95        for the design of the pilot project framework;  
96        authorizing the center to expend up to a certain  
97        amount for the study and pilot project design



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98           contingent upon legislative appropriation; requiring  
99           that the pilot project design be completed by a  
100          certain date and submitted in a report to the  
101          Legislature; providing an effective date.  
102