

By Senator Hooper

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to use of vessel registration fees;
3 amending s. 328.66, F.S.; authorizing a portion of
4 county or municipal vessel registration fees to be
5 used for specified additional purposes; providing an
6 effective date.

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

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10 Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 328.66, Florida
11 Statutes, is amended to read:

12 328.66 County and municipality optional registration fee.—
13 (1) A ~~Any~~ county may impose an annual registration fee on
14 vessels registered, operated, used, or stored on the waters of
15 this state within its jurisdiction. This fee shall be 50 percent
16 of the applicable state registration fee as provided in s.
17 328.72(1) and not the reduced vessel registration fee specified
18 in s. 328.72(18). However, the first \$1 of every registration
19 fee imposed under this subsection shall be remitted to the state
20 for deposit in the Save the Manatee Trust Fund created within
21 the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, ~~and~~ shall be used
22 only for the purposes specified in s. 379.2431(4). All other
23 moneys received from such fee shall be expended for the patrol,
24 regulation, and maintenance of the lakes, rivers, and waters and
25 for other boating-related activities of such municipality or
26 county, which may include channel and other navigational
27 dredging, the construction, expansion, or maintenance of public
28 boat ramps and other public water access facilities, and
29 associated engineering and permitting costs. A municipality that

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30 was imposing a registration fee before April 1, 1984, may
31 continue to levy such fee, notwithstanding the provisions of
32 this section.

33 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.