

**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.)

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Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Infrastructure and Security

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BILL: SB 484

INTRODUCER: Senator Rader

SUBJECT: Specialty License Plates/Florida State Beekeepers Association

DATE: April 1, 2019

REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Proctor	Miller	IS	<b>Pre-meeting</b>
2.			ATD	
3.			AP	

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**I. Summary:**

SB 484 creates the Florida State Beekeepers Association specialty license plate and provides for its design and the use of the annual use fees associated with this license plate.

Senate Bill 486 (2019), which this bill is linked to, provides an annual use fee of \$25 for the Florida State Beekeepers Association specialty license plate.

According to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV), the bill will have a negative, but insignificant fiscal impact associated with programming costs. These costs can be absorbed within existing resources.

The bill has an effective date of October 1, 2019, but only if SB 486 or similar legislation takes effect, if such legislation is adopted in the same legislative session or an extension thereof and becomes a law.

**II. Present Situation:**

**Specialty License Plates**

Presently, there are over 120 specialty license plates available for purchase in Florida.<sup>1</sup> Specialty license plates are available to an owner or lessee of a motor vehicle who is willing to pay an annual use fee, ranging from \$15 to \$25, paid in addition to required license taxes and service

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<sup>1</sup> A list of Florida's specialty license plates is available on the DHSMV website at <http://www.flhsmv.gov/dmv/specialtytags/> (last visited February 4, 2019).

fees.<sup>2</sup> The annual use fees are distributed to an organization or organizations in support of a particular cause or charity signified on the plate's design and designated in statute.<sup>3</sup>

In order to establish a specialty license plate and after the plate is approved by law, s. 320.08053, F.S., requires the following actions within certain timelines:

- Within 60 days, the organization must submit an art design for the plate, in a medium prescribed by the DHSMV;
- Within 120 days, the DHSMV must establish a method to issue pre-sale vouchers for the specialty license plate; and
- Within 24 months after the pre-sale vouchers are established, the organization must obtain a minimum of 1,000 voucher sales before manufacturing of the plate may begin.

If the minimum sales requirement has not been met by the end of the 24-month pre-sale period, then the DHSMV will discontinue the plate and issuance of pre-sale vouchers. Upon discontinuation, a purchaser of a presale voucher may use the annual use fee as a credit towards any other specialty license plate or apply for a refund with the DHSMV.<sup>4</sup>

The annual use fees collected by an organization and any interest earned from the fees may be expended only for use in this state unless the annual use fee is derived from the sale of specified United States Armed Forces and veterans-related specialty plates.<sup>5</sup> Additionally, organizations must adhere to certain accountability requirements, including an annual audit or attestation document affirming that funds received have been spent in accordance with applicable statutes.<sup>6</sup>

### ***DHSMV Costs Defrayed***

The DHSMV is authorized to retain a sufficient portion of annual use fees collected from the sale of specialty plates to defray its costs for inventory, distribution, and other direct costs associated with the specialty license plate program. The remainder of the proceeds collected are distributed as provided by law.<sup>7</sup>

### ***Discontinuance of Specialty Plates***

The DHSMV must discontinue the issuance of an approved specialty license plate if the number of valid registrations falls below 1,000 plates for at least 12 consecutive months. A warning letter is mailed to the sponsoring organization following the first month in which the total number of valid specialty license plate registrations is below 1,000 plates. Collegiate plates for Florida universities are exempt from the minimum specialty license plate requirement.<sup>8</sup> In addition, the DHSMV is authorized to discontinue any specialty license plate if the organization no longer exists, stops providing services that are authorized to be funded from the annual use fee proceeds, or pursuant to an organizational recipient's request.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Section 320.08056, F.S.

<sup>3</sup> Section 320.08058, F.S.

<sup>4</sup> Section 320.08053(2)(b), F.S.

<sup>5</sup> Section 320.08056(10)(a), F.S.

<sup>6</sup> Section 320.08062, F.S.

<sup>7</sup> Section 320.08056(7), F.S.

<sup>8</sup> Section 320.08056(8)(a), F.S.

<sup>9</sup> Section 320.08056(8)(b), F.S.

### ***Florida State Beekeepers Association***

The Florida State Beekeepers Association is dedicated to providing resources for the improvement of Beekeeping using proven techniques and procedures in the management of Honeybees and to share this knowledge with everyone interested in the Art of Beekeeping.<sup>10</sup> Its purpose and function is to:

- The development and promotion of practical beekeeping methods in the state of Florida.
- To act in the interest of the beekeepers of Florida in protecting and carrying on statewide beekeeping affairs.
- To act as a medium for, and an aid in cooperative and mutual beekeeping methods.
- To act as the representative of the Florida beekeepers in State and National beekeeping and legislative matters.<sup>11</sup>

### **III. Effect of Proposed Changes:**

The bill amends s. 320.08058, F.S., creating the Florida State Beekeepers Association specialty license plate. The plate must bear DHSMV approved colors and design with “Florida” at the top of the plate and “Save the Bees” at the bottom of the plate.

The annual use fees will be distributed to the Florida State Beekeepers Association, a Florida nonprofit corporation.<sup>12</sup>

The Florida State Beekeepers Association may use up to 18 percent of the annual use fees for:

- Direct reimbursement for administrative costs, startup costs, and costs incurred in the development and approval process of the license plate.
- Promotion and marketing costs of the license plate.

The bill requires that all vendors associated with the administrative costs be selected by competitive bid.

The remaining 82 percent of the annual use fee distributed to the Florida State Beekeepers Association will be used to raise awareness of the importance of beekeeping to Florida agriculture by funding honeybee research, education, outreach, and husbandry. The Florida State Beekeepers Association board of managers must approve and is accountable for all such expenditures.

### **IV. Constitutional Issues:**

#### **A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:**

None.

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<sup>10</sup> Florida State Beekeepers Association, Mission Statement, <http://apisenterprises.com/fsba/fsbamiission.htm> (last visited on March 29, 2019).

<sup>11</sup> Florida State Beekeepers Association, By-Laws/Constitution, <http://apisenterprises.com/fsba/fsbabylaws.htm> (last visited on March 29, 2019).

<sup>12</sup> Florida Department of State, Division of Corporations, Sunbiz, Florida State Beekeepers Association, Incorporated, <http://search.sunbiz.org/Inquiry/CorporationSearch/ByName> (last visited March 29, 2019).

**B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:**

None.

**C. Trust Funds Restrictions:**

None.

**D. State Tax or Fee Increases:**

None.

**E. Other Constitutional Issues:**

None.

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

None.

**B. Private Sector Impact:**

Revenue from the sale of the specialty license plate may increase revenues to the Florida State Beekeepers Association.

**C. Government Sector Impact:**

Depending on the number of distributions tied to the plate, the amount of programming may vary as will the resources needed to complete the changes. The average specialty/special license plate requires approximately 200-250 hours of programming, at a rate of \$35 to \$40 per hour. This results in programming costs of between \$7,000 and \$10,000.<sup>13</sup> The DHSMV is authorized to retain revenues from the first proceeds of specialty license plate sales to defray departmental expenditures related to the specialty license plate program.<sup>14</sup>

**VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

**VII. Related Issues:**

None.

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<sup>13</sup> Email from Kevin Jacobs, Deputy Legislative Affairs Director, Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, RE: SLP Price for Tim, (February 5, 2019).

<sup>14</sup> Section 320.08056(7), F.S.

**VIII. Statutes Affected:**

This bill substantially amends section 320.08058 of the Florida Statutes.

**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.

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

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