

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 Appropriations Committee

BILL: SPB 2530

INTRODUCER: For consideration by the Appropriations Committee

SUBJECT: Motor Vehicle Title Fees

DATE: February 8, 2022

REVISED: _____

ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1. <u>Hrdlicka</u>	<u>Sadberry</u>	_____	Pre-meeting

I. Summary:

SPB 2530 changes the distribution of fees collected for titling motor vehicles to deposit \$30 million into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund, reducing the amount deposited into the General Revenue Fund by that amount. The bill does not affect the distribution to the State Transportation Trust Fund.

The bill is effective July 1, 2022.

II. Present Situation:

A “certificate of title” is a record that is evidence of ownership of a vehicle.¹ A person must apply for a certificate of title whenever the person purchases a vehicle, mobile home, or vessel; moves to Florida with a vehicle, mobile home, or vessel; or sells, transfers, or otherwise changes the ownership of a vehicle, mobile home, or vessel.² A motor vehicle cannot be registered in Florida without the certificate of title.³

A person applies to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to obtain a certificate of title, providing the department with the application form, any other necessary documentation such as a certificate of title duly assigned or bill of sale, and the required fee.⁴

The fee for each original certificate of title or duplicate certificate of title for a motor vehicle is \$70, except for certificates for for-hire vehicles which are \$49.⁵ Of the \$70 fee collected, \$47 is deposited into the State Transportation Trust Fund, to be used for certain purposes.⁶ However,

¹ Section 319.001(1), F.S.

² Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, *Motor Vehicles, Tags & Titles: General Information*, <https://www.flhsmv.gov/motor-vehicles-tags-titles/liens-and-titles/> (last visited February 6, 2022). *See also* s. 319.21, F.S.

³ Section 319.21(4), F.S.

⁴ Section 319.23, F.S.

⁵ Section 319.32(1), F.S.

⁶ *See* s. 339.0801, F.S., for use of certain revenues derived from these title fees from changes made in 2012.

deposits to the State Transportation Trust Fund may not exceed \$200 million in any fiscal year. Any collections in excess of that amount are deposited into the General Revenue Fund.

The Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund was created in 1993 to fund the general operations of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.⁷

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The bill amends s. 319.32, F.S., to change the distribution of fees collected from certificates of title for most motor vehicles. Like current law, the first \$200 million of revenues collected in a fiscal year are deposited into the State Transportation Trust Fund. The bill then requires, from the amounts remaining, \$30 million to be deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund. The remainder of collections is still deposited into the General Revenue Fund.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2022.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None identified.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

⁷ Section 58, ch. 1993-101, Laws of Fla.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The bill will reduce revenues to the General Revenue Fund by \$30 million and increase revenues to the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund by the same amount. This bill does not affect the distribution to the State Transportation Trust Fund.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends section 319.23 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.