Senate Committee on General Government Appropriations

FISCAL YEAR 2007-2008 GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS CONFORMING LEGISLATION

CS/SB 1100 — Securities Transactions Regulation

by General Government Appropriations Committee and Senator Alexander

The bill increases the annual licensing fee for security agents from \$30 to \$50. The bill provides that this increased revenue will be distributed to the Regulatory Trust Fund within the Office of Financial Regulation to support program operations.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2007. *Vote: Senate 39-0; House 119-0*

CS/SB 1104 — Vessels/Registration Fee

by General Government Appropriations Committee and Senator Alexander

The bill requires a surcharge of \$2 for each annual vessel registration in Florida to provide a dedicated revenue source for the Derelict Vessel Removal Grant program, established in s. 376.15(2), F.S., in the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. Revenue from the surcharge is directed to the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund within the commission to support the grant program.

The commission is authorized to retain up to ten percent of the funds collected to cover the administrative costs of the grant program.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2007. *Vote: Senate 38-0; House 119-0*

HB 7069 — Pari-mutuel Wagering Trust Fund

by Jobs and Entrepreneurship Council and Rep. Reagan (CS/SB 1110 by General Government Appropriations Committee and Senator Alexander)

The bill allows revenues collected from slot machine license fees to remain in the Pari-mutuel Wagering Trust Fund to support slot machine regulation and enforcement activities conducted by the Department of Business and Professional Regulation and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. On June 30 of each year, any funds in excess of incurred obligations for the regulatory program or those necessary for cash flow purposes for the subsequent year will be transferred to the General Revenue Fund.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect upon becoming law. *Vote: Senate 39-0; House 118-0*

HB 7063 — Excise Taxes on Fuel and Other Pollutants

by Environment and Natural Resources Council; and Rep. Mayfield

The bill redistributes a portion of the pollutant tax distribution credited to the Inland Protection Trust Fund to the Florida Coastal Protection Trust Fund, for the continuation of law enforcement and pollutant discharge clean-up activities within the Department of Environmental Protection. The amount redistributed is equal to the greater of \$5 million or 2.5 percent of the Inland Protection Trust Fund's distribution of excise taxes on fuel and other pollutants.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2007. *Vote: Senate 39-0; House 119-0*

TRUST FUND BILLS

CS/SB 1320 — Trust Funds/Department of Revenue/Department of Financial Services

by General Government Appropriations Committee and Senator Alexander

This bill (Chapter 2007-14, L.O.F.) provides for termination or modification of specified trust funds within the Department of Revenue and the Department of Financial Services.

The bill terminates three trust funds within the Department of Revenue. The Apalachicola Bay Oyster Surcharge Clearing Trust Fund and the Fuel Tax Refund Payments Clearing Trust Fund are terminated effective July 1, 2007. The Secondhand Dealers and Secondary Metals Recycler Trust Fund is terminated effective July 1, 2008. Future deposits are redirected from the Secondhand Dealers and Metals Recycler Trust Fund to the Operations Trust Fund within the Department of Revenue effective July 1, 2008.

The bill renames the Federal Equitable Sharing Trust Fund within the Department of Financial Services to the Federal Law Enforcement Trust Fund, effective July 1, 2007. The bill amends statutory references to the Federal Equitable Sharing Trust Fund to reflect the new name.

These provisions were approved by the Governor and take effect July 1, 2007, and July 1, 2008. *Vote: Senate 38-0; House 114-0*

SB 1322 — Operations Trust Fund/Department of Revenue

by Senator Alexander

This bill (Chapter 2007-15, L.O.F.) creates the Operations Trust Fund within the Department of Revenue. The fund is established as a depository for funds, collected for the administration of certain taxes, to be used for the general operations of the department.

The creation of this trust fund will align agency accounts with the requirements of s. 215.32, F.S.

These provisions were approved by the Governor and take effect July 1, 2008. *Vote: Senate 40-0; House 114-0*

SB 1324 — Federal Grants Trust Fund/Department of Revenue

by Senator Alexander

This bill (Chapter 2007-16, L.O.F.) creates the Federal Grants Trust Fund within the Department of Revenue. The fund is established as a depository for funds to be used for allowable grant activities funded by restricted program revenues. Funds to be credited to the Federal Grants Trust Fund consist of grants and funding from the federal government, interest earnings, and cash advances from other trust funds.

The creation of this trust fund will align agency accounts with the requirements of s. 215.32, F.S.

These provisions were approved by the Governor and take effect July 1, 2008. *Vote: Senate 40-0; House 114-0*

SB 2394 — Audit and Warrant Clearing Trust Fund/Department of Revenue by Senator Alexander

This bill (Chapter 2007-24, L.O.F.) creates the Audit and Warrant Clearing Trust Fund within the Department of Revenue. The fund is established as a depository for audit receipts, warrant receipts, and governmental leaseholds receipts, and for subsequent distributions to appropriate entities and accounts.

The creation of this trust fund will align agency accounts with the requirements of s. 215.32, F.S.

These provisions were approved by the Governor and take effect July 1, 2008. *Vote: Senate 40-0; House 114-0*

SB 2388 — Federal Grants Trust Fund/Department of Environmental Protection

by Senator Alexander

This bill (Chapter 2007-23, L.O.F.) creates the Federal Grants Trust Fund within the Department of Environmental Protection. This trust fund is established to be used for allowable grant activities funded by restricted program revenues. Funds to be credited to the Federal Grants Trust Fund consist of grants and funding from the federal government, interest earnings, and cash advances from other trust funds.

The creation of this trust fund will align agency accounts with the requirements of s. 215.32, F.S.

These provisions were approved by the Governor and take effect July 1, 2008. *Vote: Senate 40-0; House 114-0*

GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

SB 1420 — State Employment/Collective Bargaining Issues

by Senator Carlton

The bill resolves the noneconomic collective bargaining issues at impasse between the State of Florida and the bargaining representatives for state employees for FY 2007-2008.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect upon becoming law. *Vote: Senate 39-0; House 119-0*

CS/SB 1424 — State Financial Matters

by General Government Appropriations Committee and Senator Carlton

This bill clarifies the State Board of Administration's authority to invest in alternative investments.

The bill limits the initiation of fixed capital outlay projects through the budget amendment process, clarifies that the Legislature may designate the timing and amount of an appropriation to be released in a bill other than the General Appropriations Act, and sets specific dates by which the Executive Office of the Governor and the Commissioner of Education must act regarding the transfer of funds to meet class size reduction requirements.

The bill assigns the Taxation and Budget Reform Commission to the Office of Legislative Services for administrative purposes.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2007. *Vote: Senate 39-0; House 117-1*

HB 7177 — Florida Government Accountability Act

by Policy and Budget Council and Rep. Sansom (CS/SB 1152 by General Government Appropriations Committee and Senator Carlton)

This bill modifies the Florida Governmental Accountability Act relating to the review of state agencies and advisory committees. This bill sets a new review schedule for the agencies, providing additional time for the Legislature to review each group of entities. The bill makes other modifications to clarify the roles and duties of the review committees, the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability, and the Auditor General.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2007. *Vote: Senate 39-0; House 105-12*