

Tab 1	SB 64 by Bean; (Identical to H 00185) State Park Fees					
723142	D	S	RCS	EP, Bean	Delete everything after	02/22 09:01 AM
Tab 2	SB 230 by Artiles; (Similar to H 00587) Nonnative Animals					
283932	D	S	RCS	EP, Artiles	Delete everything after	02/22 09:01 AM
Tab 3	SB 234 by Bradley (CO-INTRODUCERS) Bean, Gibson, Hutson, Stewart; (Identical to H 00847) Land Acquisition Trust Fund					
951142	T	S	RCS	EP, Bradley	In title, delete L.2 -	02/22 09:01 AM

The Florida Senate
COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA
ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION
Senator Book, Chair
Senator Bradley, Vice Chair

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, February 21, 2017

TIME: 3:30—6:00 p.m.

PLACE: Mallory Horne Committee Room, 37 Senate Office Building

MEMBERS: Senator Book, Chair; Senator Bradley, Vice Chair; Senators Farmer, Hutson, Latvala, Simmons, and Stewart

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
1	SB 64 Bean (Identical H 185)	State Park Fees; Providing certain discounts on state park fees to specified foster and adoptive families; requiring the Division of Recreation and Parks within the Department of Environmental Protection to establish certain documentation standards and create a procedure for obtaining the discounts, etc. EP 02/21/2017 Fav/CS AEN AP	Fav/CS Yeas 5 Nays 0
2	SB 230 Artiles (Similar H 587)	Nonnative Animals; Directing the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, in consultation with the Department of Environmental Protection, to establish a pilot program for the eradication of specific species; requiring the commission to enter into specified contracts, etc. EP 02/21/2017 Fav/CS AEN AP	Fav/CS Yeas 5 Nays 0
3	SB 234 Bradley (Identical H 847, Compare S 982)	Land Acquisition Trust Fund ; Requiring a specified appropriation for certain projects related to the St. Johns River and its tributaries or the Keystone Lake Region, etc. EP 02/21/2017 Fav/CS AEN AP	Fav/CS Yeas 5 Nays 0

TAB	OFFICE and APPOINTMENT (HOME CITY)	FOR TERM ENDING	COMMITTEE ACTION
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Senate Confirmation Hearing: A public hearing will be held for consideration of the below-named executive appointment to the office indicated.

Governing Board of the Suwannee River Water Management District

4	Jones, Gary F. (Old Town)	03/01/2020	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0
	Quincey, Donald "Don" (Chiefland)	03/01/2020	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0

COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA

Environmental Preservation and Conservation
Tuesday, February 21, 2017, 3:30—6:00 p.m.

TAB	OFFICE and APPOINTMENT (HOME CITY)	FOR TERM ENDING	COMMITTEE ACTION
	Keith, Charles G. ()	03/01/2018	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
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5 Other Related Meeting Documents

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 Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation

BILL: CS/SB 64

INTRODUCER: Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee and Senator Bean

SUBJECT: State Park Fees

DATE: February 22, 2017

REVISED: _____

ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1. Mitchell	Rogers	EP	Fav/CS
2. _____	_____	AEN	_____
3. _____	_____	AP	_____

Please see Section IX. for Additional Information:

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE - Substantial Changes

I. Summary:

CS/SB 64 requires the Division of Recreation and Parks (Division) of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to provide free annual state park entrance passes and a 50 percent discount on current state park base campsite fees to foster families. In addition, the bill requires the Division to provide a one-time free annual state park entrance pass at the time of adoption to families who adopt certain special needs children from the Department of Children and Families (DCF). The bill requires the Division, in consultation with DCF, to identify the types of written documentation sufficient to establish eligibility for the free state park passes and discounted campsite fees and to establish a procedure for obtaining the discounts. Finally, the bill requires the Division to continue its partnership with DCF to promote fostering and adoption of special needs children with events held each year.

II. Present Situation:

State Parks

Florida's state park system was created in 1935 when the Legislature enacted a series of laws authorizing the Florida Board of Forestry to establish a Florida Park Service and to develop and maintain a system of state parks.¹ Today, the Division of Recreation and Parks (Division) within the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has the duty to supervise, administer,

¹ Florida Park Service Alumni Association, *Florida State Park History*, <http://fpsaa.org/traditions/fps-history> (last visited Jan. 30, 2017).

regulate, and control the operation of all public parks owned by the state,² which includes 163 state parks, 11 state trails, nearly 800,000 acres, 100 miles of beaches, and more than 1,500 miles of multi-use trails.³

The National Recreation and Park Association annually honors state park systems that demonstrate excellence in long-range planning and resource management, and, in 2013, Florida became the first three-time National Recreation and Park Association Gold Medal award winner.⁴ It is the policy of the Division to promote the state park system for the use, enjoyment, and benefit of the people and visitors of Florida.⁵ The total attendance for the 2015-2016 fiscal year was 31,840,658 visitors, an increase of over 730,000 visitors from the previous fiscal year.⁶

Section 258.014, F.S., authorizes the Division to charge reasonable fees, rentals, or charges for the use or operation of facilities and concessions in state parks. All such fees, rentals, and charges collected must be credited to the State Park Trust Fund. The continuing balance of the trust fund is to be used for the administration, improvement, and maintenance of state parks and for the acquisition and development of lands acquired for state park purposes.⁷

The director of the Division is authorized to recommend standard admission and other park fees. Daily admission fees can range from \$1-\$13 based upon factors such as user demand, the location of the park, the cost of managing and operating the park, the type of facilities available, the season, and the natural and historic resource values of the park.⁸ Currently, the family annual state park entrance pass costs \$120.⁹ Family campsite fees range from \$10-\$60.¹⁰ State park fees generated approximately \$68.5 million in revenue in Fiscal Year 2015-2016, with annual entrance pass sales totaling \$3.8 million and campsite fees totaling \$19.3 million of that revenue amount.¹¹

Section 258.016, F.S., provides a 50 percent discount on base camping fees at state parks to Florida citizens 65 years of age and older and to Florida citizens possessing a current social security disability award certificate or a 100 percent disability award certificate from the Federal Government.¹² Section 258.0145, F.S., provides the following state park fee discounts:

- A discount of 25 percent on annual entrance passes to active duty members and honorably discharged veterans of the United States Armed Forces, National Guard, and Reserves; and

² Section 258.004, F.S.

³ DEP, Division of Recreation and Parks, *Program at a Glance*, <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/mainpage/programs/parks.htm> (last visited Jan. 30, 2017).

⁴ DEP, *About Florida State Parks*, <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/parks/> (last visited Jan. 30, 2017).

⁵ Section 258.037, F.S.

⁶ DEP, *Long Range Program Plan* (Fiscal Years: 2017-2018 through 2021-2022), 51, available at <http://floridafiscalportal.state.fl.us/Document.aspx?ID=14589&DocType=PDF>.

⁷ Section 258.014(1), F.S.

⁸ Fla. Admin. Code R. 62D-2.014(2)(c). See DEP, *Florida State Parks Fee Schedule*, available at <https://www.floridastateparks.org/sites/default/files/Division%20of%20Recreation%20and%20Parks/documents/FPSFeeSchedule.pdf>.

⁹ DEP, *Senate Bill 64 Agency Legislative Bill Analysis* (Dec. 9, 2016) (on file with the Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation).

¹⁰ *Id.*

¹¹ DEP, *Senate Bill 64 Agency Legislative Bill Analysis* (Dec. 9, 2016) (on file with the Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation).

¹² Section 258.016, F.S.

- Free lifetime family annual entrance passes to:
 - Honorably discharged veterans who have service-connected disabilities;
 - Surviving spouses and parents of deceased members of the United States Armed Forces, National Guard, or Reserves who have fallen in combat; and
 - Surviving spouses and parents of certain law enforcement officers and certain firefighters who have died in the line of duty.¹³

Foster and Adoptive Families

Section 409.175, F.S., provides for the licensure of family foster homes and includes requirements foster homes must meet in order to operate as a residence for a child.¹⁴ The number of foster families fluctuate, but as of December 2016 there were 5,064 foster homes licensed with the Department of Children and Families (DCF) under s. 409.175, F.S.¹⁵

Subparagraph 409.166(2)(a)2., F.S., defines a “special needs child” in part as a child who has established significant emotional ties with his or her foster parents or is not likely to be adopted because he or she is:

- 8 years of age or older;
- Developmentally disabled;
- Physically or emotionally handicapped;
- Of black or racially mixed parentage; or
- A member of a sibling group of any age, provided 2 or more members of the sibling group remain together for purposes of adoption.¹⁶

As of November 2016, approximately 40,000 persons in Fiscal Year 2016-2017 qualify for an adoption subsidy payment.¹⁷ Adoption subsidy payments to help offset ongoing costs are paid to many families that adopt one of Florida’s children in care with special needs. The amount of the payment is negotiated on a child-by-child basis through Florida’s Adoption Assistance Program and is available until the child turns 18 years of age.¹⁸

Currently, there are no provisions in Florida Statutes related to state park fee discounts for foster or adoptive families, but the Division is authorized by rule to waive admission fees for certain groups, including clients of DCF when such clients are part of an organized group or program under the sponsorship and supervision of DCF.¹⁹ The Division has been using this rule to partner with DCF since May of 2013 to provide free entry day passes to foster families.²⁰ Such passes are distributed through DCF district representatives.

¹³ Section 258.0145, F.S.

¹⁴ Section 409.175, F.S.

¹⁵ Revenue Estimating Conference, Impact Analysis of SB 64, dated January 24, 2017, *available at* http://edr.state.fl.us/Content/conferences/revenueimpact/archives/2017/_pdf/page57-59.pdf.

¹⁶ Section 409.166(2)(a)2., F.S.

¹⁷ Revenue Estimating Conference, Impact Analysis of SB 64, dated January 24, 2017, *available at* http://edr.state.fl.us/Content/conferences/revenueimpact/archives/2017/_pdf/page57-59.pdf.

¹⁸ DCF, Adopt Florida, *Florida’s Adoption Assistance Program*, <http://www.adoptflorida.com/assistance-program.htm> (last visited Feb. 16, 2017).

¹⁹ Fla. Admin. Code R. 62D-2.014(2)(b).

²⁰ Department of Children and Families press release, dated January 18, 2013 (on file with the Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation).

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

CS/SB 64 requires the Division to provide free annual state park entrance passes and a 50 percent discount on current state park base campsite fees to families operating a licensed family foster home. In addition, the bill requires the Division to provide a one-time free annual state park entrance pass at the time of adoption to families who adopt from DCF a special needs child as specifically described in s. 409.166(2)(a)2., F.S.

The Division, in consultation with DCF, must identify the types of written documentation sufficient to establish a person's eligibility for a free entrance pass or a discount on campsite fees and must establish a procedure for obtaining the discounts. DEP indicates that a notification letter may be mailed to eligible families and that a return of the notice or the production of documentation of foster or adoptive family status that a family already possesses will be sufficient to establish eligibility. DEP will be able to process free entrance passes in person at state parks or through the mail and may be able to develop an online capability for obtaining them. Camping fee discounts may be obtained in person at state parks, through online registration, or through a DEP call center.²¹

Finally, the bill mandates that the Division continue its partnership with DCF to promote fostering and adoption of special needs children with events held each year during National Foster Care Month and National Adoption Month.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2017.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

²¹ Email message dated February 14, 2017, from Kevin Cleary, Director, Office of Legislative Affairs, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (on file with the Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation).

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

The bill eliminates annual state park entrance pass fees and provides a 50 percent discount on current base campsite fees for families operating a licensed family foster home. The bill provides a one-time free annual state park entrance pass for families who adopt from DCF a special needs child meeting certain statutory definitions.

B. Private Sector Impact:

If the free annual entrance passes and discount on campsite fees result in increased visitation at state parks, privately owned concession and rental operations would potentially see an increase in business which would have a positive fiscal impact on the private sector.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The Revenue Estimating Conference has not analyzed the impact of CS/SB 64, but it is likely that impacts to the State Park Trust Fund, the General Revenue Fund, and local governments will be insignificant.

The Division, in consultation with DCF, must identify the types of written documentation sufficient to establish a person's eligibility for a discount on state park fees and must establish a procedure for obtaining the discounts. DEP has stated that the annual cost to establish and administer the procedure for obtaining discounts would be nominal.²²

The free annual entrance passes and discount on campsite fees may increase state park visitation which potentially will increase other types of park revenue such as entertainment, guided tours, and equipment rentals.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

DEP does not anticipate a need for rulemaking as a result of this bill.²³

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill creates s. 258.0142 of the Florida Statutes.

²² Email message dated February 14, 2017, from Kevin Cleary, Director, Office of Legislative Affairs, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (on file with the Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation).

²³ DEP, *Senate Bill 64 Agency Legislative Bill Analysis* (Dec. 9, 2016) (on file with the Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation).

IX. Additional Information:

- A. **Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:**
(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

CS by Environmental Preservation and Conservation on February 21, 2017:

- Adds legislative intent language.
- Limits the discount families that adopt special needs children from DCF receive to a one-time family annual state park entrance pass received at the time of adoption at no charge.
- Removes the requirement that a special needs child meet the definition of a child in s. 39.01, F.S., for an adoptive family to be eligible for the free annual entrance pass.
- Requires the Division, in identifying the types of documentation sufficient to establish eligibility and in establishing a procedure for obtaining the discounts, to consult with DCF.
- Specifies that the Division must continue its partnership with DCF to promote fostering and adoption of special needs children with events held each year during National Foster Care Month and National Adoption Month.

- B. **Amendments:**

None.



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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
02/22/2017	.	
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	.	

The Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation
(Bean) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause
and insert:

Section 1. Section 258.0142, Florida Statutes, is created
to read:

258.0142 Foster and adoptive family state park fee
discounts.-

(1) To promote awareness of the contributions made by
foster families and adoptive families to the vitality of the



723142

state, the Division of Recreation and Parks shall provide the following discounts on state park fees to persons who present written documentation satisfactory to the division which evidences their eligibility for the discounts:

(a) Families operating a licensed family foster home under s. 409.175 shall receive family annual entrance passes at no charge and a 50 percent discount on current base campsite fees at state parks.

(b) Families who adopt a special needs child as described in s. 409.166(2)(a)2. from the Department of Children and Families shall receive a one-time family annual entrance pass at no charge at the time of the adoption.

(2) The division, in consultation with the Department of Children and Families, shall identify the types of documentation sufficient to establish eligibility for the discounts under this section and establish a procedure for obtaining these discounts.

(3) The division shall continue its partnership with the Department of Children and Families to promote fostering and adoption of special needs children with events held each year during National Foster Care Month and National Adoption Month.

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

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause
and insert:

A bill to be entitled
An act relating to state park fees; creating s.
258.0142, F.S.; providing certain discounts on state
park fees to specified foster and adoptive families;



723142

40 requiring the Division of Recreation and Parks within
41 the Department of Environmental Protection to
42 establish certain documentation standards and create a
43 procedure for obtaining the discounts; requiring the
44 division to continue a partnership with the Department
45 of Children and Families to promote fostering and
46 adoption of special needs children with certain
47 events; providing an effective date.

By Senator Bean

4-00012A-17

201764__

A bill to be entitled
An act relating to state park fees; creating s.
258.0142, F.S.; providing certain discounts on state
park fees to specified foster and adoptive families;
requiring the Division of Recreation and Parks within
the Department of Environmental Protection to
establish certain documentation standards and create a
procedure for obtaining the discounts; providing an
effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 258.0142, Florida Statutes, is created
to read:

258.0142 Foster and adoptive family state park fee
discounts.—

(1) The Division of Recreation and Parks shall provide the
following discounts on state park fees to persons who present
written documentation satisfactory to the division which
evidences their eligibility for the discounts:

(a) Families operating a licensed family foster home under
s. 409.175 shall receive family annual entrance passes at no
charge and a 50 percent discount on current base campsite fees
at state parks.

(b) Families who adopt a special needs child within the
Florida child welfare system as specifically described in s.
409.166(2)(a)2. shall receive family annual entrance passes at
no charge and a 50 percent discount on current base campsite
fees at state parks. The special needs child must also currently
meet the definition of a child in s. 39.01 in order for the
adoptive family to receive the specified discounts under this
subsection.

4-00012A-17

201764__

33 (2) The division shall identify the types of written
34 documentation sufficient to establish eligibility for the
35 discounts under this section and establish a procedure for
36 obtaining these discounts.

37 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.

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 Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation

BILL: CS/SB 230

INTRODUCER: Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee and Senator Artiles

SUBJECT: Nonnative Animals

DATE: February 21, 2017

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Istler	Rogers	EP	Fav/CS
2.			AEN	
3.			AP	

Please see Section IX. for Additional Information:

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE - Substantial Changes

I. Summary:

CS/SB 230 requires the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (commission) to establish a pilot program to mitigate the impact of priority invasive species on public lands or waters of the state. The commission is required to submit a report of its recommendations and findings regarding the pilot program by January 1, 2020.

Additionally, the commission is required to identify nonnative animals that threaten the state's wildlife habitats. A pet dealer before any animal identified by the commission is sold, resold, or offered for sale must implant such animal with a passive integrated transponder tag.

The bill provides for an appropriation from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund of \$300,000 annually during both the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year and the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year, for a total appropriation of \$600,000.

II. Present Situation:

Nonnative Species

Pursuant to s. 9, Art. IV of the State Constitution, the commission exercises the regulatory and executive powers of the state with respect to wild animal life, fresh water aquatic life, and marine life.¹ These powers include authority with respect to the control and management of nonnative

¹ Fla. Const. Art. IV, s. 9.

species.² Nonnative species are animals living outside captivity and which are not historically present in the state.³ More than 500 fish and wildlife nonnative species have been observed in Florida.⁴ Some nonnative species cause harm to native species, pose a threat to human health and safety, and cause economic damage.⁵

It is unlawful to import for sale or use, or to release within the state, any species not native to Florida unless authorized by the commission.⁶ Section 379.372, F.S., prohibits the following species from being kept, possessed, imported into the state, sold, bartered, traded, or bred for personal use or for sale for personal use:

- Burmese or Indian python;
- Reticulated python;
- Northern African python;
- Southern African python;
- Amethystine or scrub python;
- Green Anaconda;
- Nile Monitor; and
- Any other reptile designated as a conditional or prohibited species by the commission.⁷

The commission has designated by rule the red-eared turtle as a conditional species and the sea snake as a prohibited species.⁸ Conditional nonnative snakes and lizards are not authorized to be acquired for personal possession.⁹ A reptile dealer, public exhibitor, researcher, or nuisance trapper may apply for a permit to import or possess conditional nonnative snakes and lizards.¹⁰ Conditional nonnative snakes and lizards must be kept indoors or in outdoor enclosures with a fixed roof and must be permanently identified with a passive integrated transponder (PIT) tag, also known as a microchip.¹¹ Owners of such species must submit a Captive Wildlife Disaster and Critical Incident Plan to the commission and must maintain records of their inventory.¹²

The Argentine Black and White Tegu (*Tupinambis merianae*), commonly referred to as a tegu, is a large species of lizard that can grow up to four feet in length and is native to South America.¹³ Tegus are not innately aggressive but have sharp teeth, strong jaws, and sharp claws which they will use to defend themselves if threatened.¹⁴ Tegus are an invasive species and have known

² Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), *Senate Bill 230 Agency Bill Analysis*, 2 (Feb. 17, 2017) (on file with the Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation).

³ FWC, *What is a nonnative species?*, <http://myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/nonnatives/what-are-nonnatives/> (last visited Feb. 13, 2017).

⁴ FWC, *Florida's Exotic Fish and Wildlife*, <http://myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/nonnatives/> (last visited on Feb. 13, 2017).

⁵ *Id.*

⁶ Section 379.231, F.S.

⁷ Section 379.372(2)(a), F.S.

⁸ Fla. Admin. Code R. 68-5.002; Fla. Admin. Code R. 68-5.003.

⁹ FWC, *Conditional Snakes and Lizards*, <http://myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/nonnatives/regulations/snakes-and-lizards/> (last visited Feb. 13, 2017).

¹⁰ Fla. Admin. Code R. 68-5.001(3)(e); see FWC, *Conditional Snakes and Lizards*, <http://myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/nonnatives/regulations/snakes-and-lizards/> (last visited Feb. 13, 2017).

¹¹ *Id.*

¹² *Id.*

¹³ FWC, *Tegus in Florida*, <http://myfwc.com/media/2380549/Tegu-brochure.pdf> (Aug. 2015) (last visited Feb. 13, 2017).

¹⁴ *Id.*

breeding populations in Miami-Dade and Hillsborough counties.¹⁵ The tegu causes harm to native species by disturbing alligator and crocodile nests and consuming their eggs, and utilizing gopher tortoise burrows and consuming juvenile gopher tortoises.¹⁶ The tegu is not designated as a conditional or prohibited species.¹⁷ However, a person must possess a license from the commission to sell a tegu.¹⁸ In south Florida tegus are mainly found on private lands and lands managed by other agencies; tegus are not commonly found on lands managed by the commission.¹⁹ In Hillsborough County tegus are found mostly on public conservation land that is managed by the county or in state parks.²⁰

The commission is currently working with other agencies and organizations to assess the threat of the tegu and develop management strategies.²¹ The commission has found that the best method for removing tegus is by trapping.²² One strategy being used by the commission, in coordination with the University of Florida, Miami-Dade County, and the United States Geological Survey, is targeted trapping and removal. The goal of these partnerships is to minimize the impact of tegus on native wildlife and natural areas.²³ Over 4,000 tegus have been removed from the wild in the last five years, primarily in Miami-Dade County.²⁴ A limited number of commercial wildlife operators are available to trap and remove tegus for homeowners or on other private lands.²⁵

The lionfish (*Pterois volitans* and *Pterois miles*) is the only marine nonnative species with an established population in Florida.²⁶ The lionfish population has rapidly grown since their introduction into the coastal waters of southern Florida around 30 years ago.²⁷ Lionfish do not have any significant predators off Florida's coasts and can tolerate a wide range of temperatures, salinities, and depths.²⁸ They are able to consume prey that is more than half of their own length and have venomous spines they use for defense.²⁹ Lionfish consume a wide variety of fish and invertebrates, which greatly alters the populations of native marine species and impacts recreational and commercial fishing in Florida.³⁰

¹⁵ *Id.*

¹⁶ FWC, *Senate Bill 230 Agency Bill Analysis*, 2 (Feb. 17, 2017) (on file with the Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation).

¹⁷ *Id.*

¹⁸ *Id.*; see s. 379.3761, F.S.

¹⁹ FWC, *Senate Bill 230 Agency Bill Analysis*, 2 (Feb. 17, 2017) (on file with the Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation).

²⁰ *Id.*

²¹ FWC, *Tegus in Florida*, <http://myfwc.com/media/2380549/Tegu-brochure.pdf> (Aug. 2015) (last visited Feb. 13, 2017).

²² *Id.*

²³ *Id.*

²⁴ FWC, *Senate Bill 230 Agency Bill Analysis*, 2 (Feb. 17, 2017) (on file with the Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation).

²⁵ *Id.*

²⁶ FWC, *Nonnative Marine Species*, <http://myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/nonnatives/marine-species/> (last visited Feb. 21, 2017).

²⁷ FWC, *Lionfish: Be the Predator!*, available at <http://myfwc.com/media/4039504/LionfishBrochure.pdf> (last visited Feb. 21, 2017).

²⁸ *Id.*

²⁹ *Id.*

³⁰ *Id.*

The importation of live lionfish or hybrids or eggs thereof is prohibited.³¹ Live lionfish imported from outside the state after August 1, 2014, may not be sold, offered, for sale, bartered, or otherwise exchanged.³² A recreational fishing license is not required for harvesting lionfish by divers if the following gear is used:

- Hand-held net;
- Pole spear;
- Hawaiian sling; or
- Any other spearing device specifically designed and exclusively marketed for lionfish.³³

Additionally, there is no minimum size limits, closed seasons, or bag limits for harvesting lionfish.³⁴

Nonnative Species Management

Removal Permit Program

Pursuant to Rule 68A-9.002, F.A.C., the commission authorizes individuals to remove Burmese pythons and other conditional reptiles on the Holey Land, Rotenberger, and Everglades and Francis S. Taylor wildlife management areas.³⁵ Under the year-round program, qualified applicants may obtain a removal permit at no cost to eradicate nonnative reptiles from these wildlife management areas.³⁶ To qualify an applicant must successfully complete an online training course.³⁷ One hundred and twenty-nine individuals have obtained this permit.³⁸ The program is not considered a hunting program, rather it is a management tool that aims to collect data on the locations of such reptiles.³⁹

All conditional reptiles and tegus are authorized to be collected under the permit.⁴⁰ Snakes may be captured by hand or with hand-held equipment, such as tongs or snake hooks. When a permit holder captures a reptile under the program he or she must report the location and take a digital picture of the animal. Captured reptiles may be euthanized onsite by legal and humane means or deposited alive at a drop off site designated by the commission. Any captured reptile is taken to the University of Florida Research and Education Center, where the stomach contents are

³¹ Fla. Admin. Code R. 68-5.005.

³² *Id.*

³³ Fla. Admin. Code R. 68B-5.006.

³⁴ *Id.*; FWC, *Lionfish: Be the Predator!*, available at <http://myfwc.com/media/4039504/LionfishBrochure.pdf> (last visited Feb. 21, 2017).

³⁵ Fla. Admin. Code R. 68A-15.064; FWC, *Burmese Python Removal Program*, <http://myfwc.com/license/wildlife/nonnative-species/python-permit-program/> (last visited Feb. 13, 2017); and FWC, *Python Permit Program, Frequently Asked Questions*, <http://myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/nonnatives/python/faqs/permit-faqs/> (last visited Feb. 13, 2017).

³⁶ FWC, *Senate Bill 230 Agency Bill Analysis*, 3 (Feb. 17, 2017) (on file with the Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation).

³⁷ FWC, *Burmese Python Removal Program*, <http://myfwc.com/license/wildlife/nonnative-species/python-permit-program/> (last visited Feb. 13, 2017).

³⁸ FWC, *Senate Bill 230 Agency Bill Analysis*, 3 (Feb. 17, 2017) (on file with the Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation).

³⁹ FWC, *Burmese Python Removal Program*, <http://myfwc.com/license/wildlife/nonnative-species/python-permit-program/> (last visited Feb. 13, 2017).

⁴⁰ FWC, *Python Permit Program, Frequently Asked Questions*, <http://myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/nonnatives/python/faqs/permit-faqs/> (last visited Feb. 13, 2017).

analyzed. All data collected is used by the commission to help control and stop the spread of these invasive species.

Hunting in Wildlife Management Areas

The commission authorizes licensed hunters to harvest conditional nonnative snakes and lizards in the Holey Land, Rotenberger, Everglades and Francis S. Taylor, and the Big Cypress wildlife management areas during hunting seasons established for the taking of game animals or alligators on those areas or during seasons specific for conditional reptiles.⁴¹ The hunters must have a valid hunting license and a wildlife management area permit, and adhere to the regulations specific to each wildlife management area.⁴² To be considered a resident of the state for purposes of hunting a conditional reptile, a person must be a United States citizen who has continuously resided in the state for six months prior to applying for a hunting license.⁴³ Live pythons are not authorized to be removed from the wildlife management areas, but hunters are authorized to keep or sell the skins and meat of the reptiles. The Big Cypress Wildlife Management Area is the only federally owned land where hunting for conditional reptiles is authorized.⁴⁴ Hunting within the Everglades National Park is prohibited by federal law.⁴⁵

The Python Challenge and Python Removal Training

The commission, in coordination with the Fish and Wildlife Foundation of Florida, conducted a Python Challenge in 2013 and 2016. The challenge is designed to raise awareness concerning the potential impacts of nonnative animals, while engaging the public in conservation through invasive species removal. Each participant is required to complete an online training module designed to teach him or her how to identify, locate, and safely and humanely capture Burmese pythons. In the 2016 Python Challenge more than 1,000 people from 29 states registered to take part in the month-long challenge.⁴⁶ One hundred and six snakes were turned in as a result of the 2016 challenge.⁴⁷

Additionally, the commission provides a training program to teach individuals about the control and management of Burmese pythons in the state.⁴⁸ The program provides information related to rules and regulations, permits, python detection, species identification, data reporting, and safe capture techniques. The participants receive a hands-on experience catching wild Burmese pythons. These training programs are held in south and southwest Florida and are free of charge.

⁴¹ Fla. Admin. Code R. 68A-15.064.

⁴² *Id.*

⁴³ Section 379.101(30)(a), F.S.

⁴⁴ FWC, *Senate Bill 230 Agency Bill Analysis*, 3 (Feb. 17, 2017) (on file with the Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation).

⁴⁵ *Id.* at 2.

⁴⁶ Press release, FWC, *With 106 snakes removed, 2016 Python Challenge a success*, Feb. 27, 2016, available at <http://myfwc.com/news/news-releases/2016/february/27/python-awards/> (last visited Feb. 12, 2017).

⁴⁷ *Id.*

⁴⁸ FWC, *Python Patrol*, <http://myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/nonnatives/python/patrol/> (last visited Feb. 13, 2017).

Lionfish Derby Days and Tournaments

The commission, in coordination with the Fish and Wildlife Foundation of Florida, annually celebrates a weekend of Lionfish Removal and Awareness.⁴⁹ Several festivals and events are held around the state.⁵⁰ In 2016, more than 111,000 lionfish were removed.⁵¹ The FWC is coordinating a Lionfish Challenge and Panhandle Pilot program from May 14, 2016, through May 20, 2017, in Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton, Bay, Gulf, and Franklin counties.⁵² For each 100 lionfish harvested, an individual receives a tag to take either a legal-sized red grouper or a legal-sized cobia over the bag limit from state waters.⁵³ As of December 6, 2016, 39 divers have removed 8,975 lionfish under the pilot program.⁵⁴

Public Reporting and Exotic Pet Amnesty

To raise awareness of invasive species the commission provides the public with a reporting hotline, website, and smartphone application. To report nonnative fish or wildlife to the commission, call the invasive species hotline at 888-IVE-GOT1, go to IVEGOT1.org, or download the IVEGOT1 smartphone application.

Additionally, the commission sponsors the Exotic Pet Amnesty Program which is an effort to reduce the number of nonnative species being released into the wild by pet owners who can no longer care for their pets or no longer wish to keep them.⁵⁵ Exotic Pet Amnesty Days are held periodically around the state to provide the opportunity for individuals to surrender their exotic pets free of charge and with no penalty.⁵⁶

Year	Number of Events	Number of Animals surrendered			Running totals
		Events	Hotline	Total	
2006	1	6		6	6
2007	1	50		50	56
2008	2	203		203	259
2009	3	252		252	511
2010	3	132		132	643
2011	2	126	90	216	859
2012	6	279	227	506	1365
2013	7	188	152	340	1705
2014	5	234	235	469	2174
2015	3	223	133	356	2530

⁴⁹ See Reef Rangers, *Lionfish Removal and Awareness Day*, <http://reefrangers.com/event-info/> (last visited Feb. 21, 2017).

⁵⁰ *Id.*; For a list of 2017 Derby Events, see FWC, *Lionfish Derby and Event Calendar*, <http://myfwc.com/fishing/saltwater/recreational/lionfish/events/> (last visited Feb. 21, 2017).

⁵¹ *Id.*

⁵² FWC, *2016 Lionfish Challenge and Panhandle Pilot Program*, <http://myfwc.com/fishing/saltwater/recreational/lionfish/challenge/> (last visited Feb. 21, 2017).

⁵³ *Id.*

⁵⁴ FWC, *Lionfish Challenge Hall of Fame*, <http://myfwc.com/fishing/saltwater/recreational/lionfish/challenge/fame/> (last visited Feb. 21, 2017).

⁵⁵ Fla. Admin. Code R. 68-5.004; see FWC, *Exotic Amnesty Program*, <http://myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/nonnatives/amnesty-program/> (last visited Feb. 13, 2017).

⁵⁶ *Id.*

Since its creation in 2006, the Exotic Pet Amnesty Program has successfully found adoptive homes for hundreds of surrendered exotic pets.⁵⁷ Finding homes for these animals with pre-approved adopters helps to ensure that they are not released into Florida's natural areas.⁵⁸

Public Procurement Process

Chapter 287, F.S., governs the public procurement of personal property and services. The Florida Department of Management Services is responsible for overseeing state purchasing activity, including professional and commodity and contractual services needed to support agency activities.⁵⁹ The Division of State Purchasing within the Department of Management Services establishes statewide purchasing rules and negotiates contracts and purchasing agreements that are intended to leverage the state's buying power.⁶⁰

Contracts for commodities or contractual services in excess of \$35,000 must be procured through a competitive solicitation process.⁶¹ Section 287.058, F.S., outlines the provisions and conditions that must be present in contractual agreements for competitively procured services. The section also provides that a contract may be renewed for a period of time upon satisfactory performance evaluations by the agency and subject to the availability of funds.⁶²

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

CS/SB 230 requires the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (commission) to establish a pilot program to mitigate the impacts of priority invasive species on the public lands or waters of the state. The bill defines the term "priority invasive species" to include:

- Lizards of the genus *Tupinambis*, also known as Tegu lizards;
- Species listed in s. 379.372(2), F.S., which includes the:
 - Burmese or Indian python;
 - Reticulated python;
 - Northern African python;
 - Southern African python;
 - Amethystine or scrub python;
 - Green Anaconda;
 - Nile Monitor; and
 - Any other reptile designated as a conditional or prohibited species by the commission;⁶³
- *Pterois volitans*, also known as red lionfish; and
- *Pterois miles*, also known as the common lionfish or devil firefish.

⁵⁷ FWC, *Exotic Amnesty Program*, <http://myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/nonnatives/amnesty-program/> (last visited Feb. 13, 2017).

⁵⁸ *Id.*

⁵⁹ See ss. 287.032 and 287.042, F.S.

⁶⁰ Division of Purchasing rules are published under Chapter 60A of the Florida Administrative Code.

⁶¹ Section 287.057(1), F.S., requires a competitive solicitation process for contracts that exceed the Category Two threshold. Category thresholds are listed in s. 287.017, F.S., which identifies contracts exceeding \$35,000 as Category Two.

⁶² Section 287.058(1)(g), F.S.

⁶³ Section 379.372(2)(a), F.S.

The bill requires the commission to establish a pilot program to mitigate the impact of priority invasive species on the public lands or waters of the state. The goal of the pilot program is to examine the benefits of using strategically deployed, trained private contractors to slow the advance of these nonnative animals, contain their populations, and eradicate them from the state.

The bill authorizes the commission to enter into contracts, in accordance with the public procurement requirements of the state, with entities or individuals to capture or destroy certain nonnative species found on the public lands or in waters of the state. Any private contracted work performed on public land or in the waters of the state that is not owned or managed by the commission must be performed with the consent of the owner.

Each capture and disposal of a nonnative animal is required to be documented and photographed and the geographic location of the take must be recorded for research purposes. All animals captured but not destroyed in the removal efforts are required to be disposed of at the direction of the commission. The commission is required to submit a report of findings and recommendations regarding the implementation of the pilot program to the Governor and the Legislature by January 1, 2020.

The bill requires the commission to identify by rule nonnative animals that threaten the state's wildlife habitats. Any nonnative animal identified by the commission must be implanted with a passive integrated transponder (PIT) tag before such animal is sold, resold, or offered for sale by a pet dealer. The bill defines the term "pet dealer" to include any person who, in the ordinary course of business, engages in the sale of more than twenty animals per year to the public, including breeders who sell animals directly to the public. The commission is required to establish by rule standards for the types of PIT tags that must be used by pet dealers and the manner in which the tags must be implanted.

The bill provides an appropriation of \$300,000 annually for the next two fiscal years from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund for a total appropriation of \$600,000.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2017.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. Constitutional Issues:

Section 28, Art. X of the State Constitution requires that 33 percent of net revenues derived from documentary stamp taxes be deposited into the LATF to be used for the acquisition and improvement of land, water areas, and related property interests, together with the management, restoration of natural systems, and enhancement of public access or recreational enjoyment of conservation lands. The bill requires that \$600,000 of the money deposited into the LATF be used to mitigate the impacts of priority invasive species on the public lands or waters of the state. The maintenance and control of exotic and invasive species is a management goal for state-owned lands.⁶⁴

The commission has regulatory and executive powers of the state with respect to wild animal life and fresh water aquatic life, and also regulatory and executive powers of the state with respect to marine life pursuant to s. 9, Art. IV of the State Constitution.⁶⁵ Statutes requiring the commission to regulate nonnative species using certain methods may unconstitutionally usurp the constitutional authority of the commission.

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

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

The bill authorizes the commission to contract with private entities or individuals to capture or destroy nonnative animals found on public lands or in the waters of the state. This will have a positive indeterminate fiscal impact on the entities or individuals who are awarded such contract bids.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The commission will incur additional costs associated with the pilot program. The commission stated that one or two additional staff positions are necessary to cover the workload required to develop and oversee private contractors and to develop and oversee agreements with other public land managing agencies.⁶⁶ Also, additional staff may be needed for budgeting oversight.⁶⁷ The estimated total cost for the pilot program is indeterminate at this time, but the bill provides an appropriation of \$300,000 over two fiscal years, for a total of \$600,000.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

⁶⁴ Section 253.034(5), F.S.

⁶⁵ Fla. Const. Art. IV, s. 9; *see Whitehead v. Rogers*, 223 So.2d 330 (Fla. 1969).

⁶⁶ FWC, *Senate Bill 230 Agency Bill Analysis*, 3 (Feb. 17, 2017) (on file with the Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation).

⁶⁷ *Id.*

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill creates section 379.2311 of the Florida Statutes.

IX. Additional Information:**A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:**

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

CS by Environmental Preservation and Conservation on February 21, 2017:

The CS/SB 230 creates a new section of law and expands the pilot program to include lionfish. The CS authorizes rather than requires the commission to contract with entities or private individuals and revises the method of removal from hunting to capturing and destroying. Additionally, the CS/SB 230 requires the commission to adopt rules to identify nonnative species that must have a passive integrated transponder (PIT) tag implanted and establish standards relating to such tags. The CS/SB 230 requires pet dealers to implant any nonnative species identified by the commission with a PIT tag before such animal is sold, resole, or offered for sale.

B. Amendments:

None.



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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
02/22/2017	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

The Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation
(Articles) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause
and insert:

Section 1. Section 379.2311, Florida Statutes, is created
to read:

379.2311 Nonnative animal management.—

(1) As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Pet dealer" means any person who, in the ordinary
course of business, engages in the sale of more than 20 animals



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per year to the public. This term includes breeders who sell animals directly to consumers.

(b) "Priority invasive species" means the following species:

1. Lizards of the genus *Tupinambis*, also known as tegu lizards.

2. Species listed in s. 379.372(2)(a).

3. *Pterois volitans*, also known as red lionfish.

4. *Pterois miles*, also known as the common lionfish or devil firefish.

(2) The commission shall establish a pilot program to mitigate the impact of priority invasive species on the public lands or waters of this state.

(a) The Legislature finds that priority invasive species continue to expand their range and to decimate the fauna and flora of the Everglades and other natural areas and ecosystems in the southern and central parts of the state at an accelerating rate.

(b) The goal of the pilot program is to examine the benefits of using strategically deployed, trained private contractors to slow the advance of these nonnative animals, contain their populations, and eradicate them from this state.

(c) To implement the pilot program, the commission may enter into contracts in accordance with chapter 287 with entities or individuals to capture or destroy these nonnative animals found on public lands or in the waters of the state. Any private contracted work to be performed on public land or in the waters of the state not owned or managed by the commission must have the consent of the owner.



283932

(d) The commission shall ensure that all captures and disposals of these nonnative animals are documented and photographed and that the geographic location of the take is recorded for research purposes. The commission shall direct the disposal of all animals captured and not destroyed in removal efforts.

(e) The commission shall submit a report of findings and recommendations regarding its implementation of the pilot program to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by January 1, 2020.

(3) Before selling, reselling, or offering for sale any nonnative animal specified by the commission pursuant to paragraph (a), pet dealers must implant in the animal or have the animal implanted with a passive integrated transponder (PIT) tag as specified by the commission. The commission shall adopt rules implementing this subsection, including:

(a) Identifying nonnative animals that threaten the state's wildlife habitats and therefore must be implanted with a PIT tag; and

(b) Establishing a standard for the types of PIT tags which must be used by pet dealers and the manner in which they must be implanted.

Section 2. For the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 fiscal years, the sum of \$300,000 each year in nonrecurring funds is appropriated from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund to the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission for the purpose of implementing s. 379.2311.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.



283932

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

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause
and insert:

A bill to be entitled
An act relating to nonnative animals; creating s.
379.2311, F.S.; defining the terms "pet dealer" and
"priority invasive species"; requiring the Fish and
Wildlife Conservation Commission to establish a pilot
program for the eradication of priority invasive
species; providing legislative findings; providing
goals for the pilot program; authorizing the
commission to enter into specified contracts;
specifying parameters for the implementation of the
pilot program; specifying procedures for handling
captures and the disposal of the animals; requiring
the commission to submit a report to the Governor and
the Legislature by a specified date; requiring certain
nonnative species to be implanted with a passive
integrated transponder before sale, resale, or being
offered for sale by a pet dealer; requiring the
commission to adopt rules; providing appropriations;
providing an effective date.

By Senator Artiles

40-00395-17

2017230__

A bill to be entitled
An act relating to nonnative animals; amending s.
379.231, F.S.; directing the Fish and Wildlife
Conservation Commission, in consultation with the
Department of Environmental Protection, to establish a
pilot program for the eradication of specific species;
providing legislative findings; providing goals for
the pilot program; requiring the commission to enter
into specified contracts; specifying parameters for
the implementation of the pilot program; requiring the
commission to submit a report to the Governor and the
Legislature by a specified date; providing an
appropriation for the implementation of the pilot
program; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 379.231, Florida Statutes, is amended to
read:

379.231 Regulation of nonnative animals.—

(1) It is unlawful to import for sale or use, or to release
within this state, any species of the animal kingdom not native
to Florida unless authorized by the Fish and Wildlife
Conservation Commission.

(2) A person in violation of this section commits a Level
Three violation under s. 379.4015.

(3) The commission, in consultation with the Department of
Environmental Protection, is directed to establish a pilot
program to mitigate the impact of lizards of the genus
Tupinambis, also known as tegu lizards, and species listed in s.
379.372(2)(a) on public lands in this state.

(a) The Legislature finds that lizards of the genus

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Tupinambis, also known as tegu lizards, and species listed in s. 379.372(2) (a) continue to expand their range and to decimate the fauna and flora of the Everglades and other natural areas and ecosystems in the southern and central parts of this state at an accelerating rate.

(b) The goal of the pilot program is to examine the benefits of using strategically deployed hunting teams to slow the advance of these nonnative animals and begin to contain and eradicate such species from this state.

(c) The commission shall form hunting teams by entering into contracts with entities or individuals to capture or destroy lizards of the genus *Tupinambis*, also known as tegu lizards, and species listed in s. 379.372(2) (a) found on public lands. The commission shall award such contracts through a competitive bidding process. All parties awarded contracts by the commission shall ensure that each individual who participates in a hunt holds a valid hunting license of this state. The commission shall ensure that all captures and kills of lizards of the genus *Tupinambis*, also known as tegu lizards, and species listed in s. 379.372(2) (a) are documented and photographed and that the geographic location of the take is recorded for research purposes. The commission shall direct the disposal of all animals captured and not destroyed in a hunt.

(d) The commission shall compose teams of contracted entities and individuals and direct their operations in geographic areas in a manner designed to maximize the take of lizards of the genus *Tupinambis*, also known as tegu lizards, and species listed in s. 379.372(2) (a) or to achieve the greatest gain in territory from which such species have been eradicated.

40-00395-17

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62 (e) Teams are authorized to hunt at the direction of the
63 commission in the Everglades and Francis S. Taylor Wildlife
64 Management Areas and all other state lands managed by the
65 commission. The commission is authorized to enter into memoranda
66 of agreement with other state and local entities to be permitted
67 to deploy teams of hunters in other state and local natural
68 areas. The commission is directed to seek permission from the
69 National Park Service to deploy hunting teams in the Everglades
70 National Park.

71 (f) The commission shall submit a report of findings and
72 recommendations regarding its implementation of the pilot
73 program to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the
74 Speaker of the House of Representatives by January 1, 2020.

75 (g) The Legislature appropriates \$300,000 per year from the
76 Land Acquisition Trust Fund for the next 2 fiscal years for the
77 implementation of this subsection.

78 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.

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 Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation

BILL: CS/SB 234

INTRODUCER: Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee and Senator Bradley and others

SUBJECT: Land Acquisition Trust Fund

DATE: February 21, 2017

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Istler	Rogers	EP	Fav/CS
2.			AEN	
3.			AP	

Please see Section IX. for Additional Information:

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE - Technical Changes

I. Summary:

CS/SB 234 requires that the sum of \$35 million be distributed from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund annually to the St. Johns River Water Management District for projects dedicated to the restoration of the St. Johns River and its tributaries or the Keystone Heights Lake Region.

II. Present Situation:

Land Acquisition Trust Fund

Documentary stamp tax revenues are collected under ch. 201, F.S., which requires an excise tax to be levied on two classes of documents: deeds and other documents related to real property, which are taxed at the rate of 70 cents per \$100; and certificates of indebtedness, promissory notes, wage assignments, and retail charge account agreements, which are taxed at 35 cents per \$100.¹

In 2014, Florida voters approved Amendment One, a constitutional amendment to provide a dedicated funding source for water and land conservation and restoration. The amendment required that starting on July 1, 2015, and for 20 years thereafter, 33 percent of net revenues derived from the documentary stamp taxes be deposited into the Land Acquisition Trust

¹ See ss. 201.02 and 201.08, F.S.

Fund (LATF). Section 28, Art. X of the State Constitution requires that funds in the LATF be expended only for the following purposes:

As provided by law, to finance or refinance: the acquisition and improvement of land, water areas, and related property interests, including conservation easements, and resources for conservation lands including wetlands, forests, and fish and wildlife habitat; wildlife management areas; lands that protect water resources and drinking water sources, including lands protecting the water quality and quantity of rivers, lakes, streams, springsheds, and lands providing recharge for groundwater and aquifer systems; lands in the Everglades Agricultural Area and the Everglades Protection Area, as defined in Article II, Section 7(b); beaches and shores; outdoor recreation lands, including recreational trails, parks, and urban open space; rural landscapes; working farms and ranches; historic or geologic sites; together with management, restoration of natural systems, and the enhancement of public access or recreational enjoyment of conservation lands.²

To implement s. 28, Art. X of the State Constitution, the Legislature in the 2015 Special Session A passed ch. 2015-229 Laws of Florida.³ This act, in part, amended the following sections of law:

- Section 201.15, F.S., to conform to the constitutional requirement that the LATF receive at least 33 percent of net revenues derived from documentary stamp taxes; and
- Section 375.041, F.S., to designate the LATF within the Department of Environmental Protection as the trust fund to serve as the constitutionally mandated depository for a percentage of the tax revenues.⁴

In 2016, the Legislature passed ch. 2016-201, Laws of Florida, referred to as “Legacy Florida.”⁵ Legacy Florida amended s. 375.041, F.S., to require specified minimum distributions from the LATF. Under s. 375.041, F.S., funds deposited into the LATF must be distributed in the following order and amounts:

- First, obligations relating to debt service, specifically:
 - First to payments relating to debt service on Florida Forever Bonds and Everglades restoration bonds; and
 - Then, to payments relating to debt service on bonds issued before February 1, 2009, by the South Florida Water Management District and the St. Johns River Water Management District;
- Then, before funds are authorized to be appropriated for other uses:
 - A minimum of the lesser of 25 percent of the funds remaining after the payment of debt service or \$200 million annually for Everglades projects that implement the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP), the Long-Term Plan,⁶ or the Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program (NEEPP), with priority given to Everglades projects that reduce harmful discharges of water from Lake Okeechobee to

² FLA. CONST. art. X, s. 28.

³ Ch. 2015-229, Laws of Fla.

⁴ Ch. 2015-229, s. 9, s. 50, Laws of Fla.

⁵ Ch. 2016-201, Laws of Fla.

⁶ Note that the “Long-Term Plan” includes the Restoration Strategies Regional Water Quality Plan.

the St. Lucie or Caloosahatchee estuaries in a timely manner. The following specified distributions are required from these funds:

- \$32 million through the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year for the Long-Term Plan;
- After deducting the \$32 million, the minimum of the lesser of 76.5 percent of the remainder or \$100 million through the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year for the CERP; and
- Any remaining funds for Everglades projects under the CERP, the Long-Term Plan, or the NEEPP.
- A minimum of the lesser of 7.6 percent of the funds remaining after the payment of debt service or \$50 million annually for springs restoration, protection, and management projects; and
- Five million annually to the St. Johns River Water Management District for projects dedicated to the restoration of Lake Apopka.⁷
- Then any remaining moneys are authorized to be appropriated for the purposes set forth in s. 28, Art. X, of the State Constitution.⁸

The General Revenue Estimating Conference in December of 2016 estimated that for the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year a total of \$2.48 billion would be collected in documentary stamp taxes. Thirty-three percent of the net revenues collected or approximately \$814.1 million must be deposited into the LATF in accordance with s. 28, Art. X of the State Constitution.⁹

St. Johns River Water Management District

The St. Johns River Water Management District (district) is one of five water management districts established in the state. The district covers all or part of 18 counties in northeast and east-central Florida and includes ten major watersheds.

St. Johns River

The St. Johns River is the longest river that is entirely within the state.¹⁰ The St. Johns River is divided into three watersheds: the Lower St. Johns River Basin, the Middle St. Johns River Basin, and the Upper St. Johns River Basin. Because the river flows north, the upper basin is the area that forms in Indian River and Brevard counties, south of the middle and lower basins.¹¹ Major tributaries that flow into the St. Johns River include the Wekiva River, the Econlockhatchee River, and the Ocklawaha River.¹²

Storm water runoff from urban areas, treated domestic and industrial wastewater, and agricultural runoff from farming areas affect the water quality of the St. Johns River.¹³ The largest contributor of pollution in the lower basin is treated wastewater with additional

⁷ Section 375.041, F.S.

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ Office of Economic and Demographic Research, Revenue Estimating Conference, *Documentary Stamp Tax, Executive Summary* (Dec. 12, 2016) available at <http://www.edr.state.fl.us/Content/conferences/docstamp/docstampexecsummary.pdf> (last visited Jan. 23, 2017).

¹⁰ SJRMD, *The St. Johns River*, <http://www.sjrwm.com/stjohnsriver/> (last visited Jan. 23, 2017).

¹¹ *Id.*

¹² *Id.*

¹³ *Id.*

significant sources of nutrient pollution coming from agricultural areas.¹⁴ The upper basin was drained and diked and now the floodwaters from the basin are drained to the Indian River Lagoon to the east, which diminishes the water quality in the lagoon and degrades the upper basin's remaining marshes.¹⁵

Keystone Heights Area Lakes

The Keystone Heights area lakes are located in southwestern Clay County.¹⁶ The lakes were created when a layer of limestone collapsed creating sinkholes that connect to the Upper Floridan Aquifer.¹⁷ The natural geologic features of this karst terrain result in lake level fluctuations that have occurred over many decades.¹⁸

The district has been working to protect and maintain the water levels in the lakes in the Keystone Heights region and has undertaken numerous projects and studies regarding the region to better understand the dramatic fluctuations in lake water levels and to help meet current and long-term water supply needs for the region.¹⁹ The district has focused on projects that will lead to improved water levels in the lakes and the underlying Floridan aquifer. The district is reevaluating the minimum flows and levels for certain lakes to include the implementation of updated methods, development of a hydrologic model, and an analysis of additional long-term hydrologic data to ensure that the minimum flows and levels are based on the most up-to-date methods and criteria.²⁰ The district has also focused on projects that benefit the Floridan aquifer by increasing recharge or by reducing water withdrawals in the region.²¹

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

CS/SB 234 amends s. 375.041, F.S., to require that \$35 million be appropriated to the St. Johns River Water Management District for projects dedicated to the restoration of the St. Johns River and its tributaries or the Keystone Heights Lake Region.

The bill authorizes such funds to be used for land management and land acquisition and for increasing recreational opportunities associated with, and improving public access to, the St. Johns River and its tributaries or the Keystone Heights Lake Region.

The bill requires the distribution to be reduced by an amount equal to the debt service paid on bonds issued for such restoration purposes after July 1, 2017.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2017.

¹⁴ SJRWMD, *Lower St. Johns River Basin*, <http://www.sjrwmd.com/lowerstjohnsriver/> (last visited Jan. 23, 2017).

¹⁵ SJRWMD, *Upper St. Johns River Basin*, <http://www.sjrwmd.com/upperstjohnsriver/> (last visited Jan. 23, 2017).

¹⁶ SJRWMD, *Keystone Heights area lakes*, <http://www.sjrwmd.com/keystoneheights/> (last visited Jan. 23, 2017).

¹⁷ *Id.*

¹⁸ *Id.*

¹⁹ SJRWMD, *Status of Keystone Heights lakes projects*, <http://www.sjrwmd.com/keystoneheights/projectsstatus.html> (last visited Jan. 23, 2017).

²⁰ SJRWMD, *Senate Bill 234: Land Acquisition Trust Fund Bill Analysis* (Feb. 3, 2017) (on file with the Senate Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee).

²¹ *Id.*

IV. Constitutional Issues:**A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:**

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. Constitutional Issues:

Section 28, Art. X of the State Constitution requires that 33 percent of net revenues derived from documentary stamp taxes be deposited into the LATF to be used for the acquisition and improvement of land, water areas, and related property interests, together with management, restoration of natural systems, and the enhancement of public access or recreational enjoyment of conservation lands. The bill requires that \$35 million of the money deposited into the LATF be used to fund projects for the restoration of the St. Johns River and the Keystone Heights Lakes region. The bill authorizes the funds to be used for land management and acquisition and for recreational opportunity and public access improvements to those areas.

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

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The bill requires specified distributions from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund which may affect other programs that are funded through the trust fund.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends section 375.041 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.)

CS by Environmental Preservation and Conservation on February 21, 2017:

The CS/SB 234 amended the relating to clause to the “Land Acquisition Trust Fund.”

B. Amendments:

None.

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



951142

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
02/22/2017	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

The Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation
(Bradley) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment

In title, delete lines 2 - 3
and insert:
An act relating to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund;
amending

By Senator Bradley

5-00418C-17

2017234__

A bill to be entitled
An act relating to the implementation of the water and
land conservation constitutional amendment; amending
s. 375.041, F.S.; requiring a specified appropriation
for certain projects related to the St. Johns River
and its tributaries or the Keystone Lake Region;
requiring the distribution to be reduced by an amount
equal to the debt service paid on certain bonds;
providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 375.041, Florida
Statutes, is amended to read:

375.041 Land Acquisition Trust Fund.—

(3) Funds distributed into the Land Acquisition Trust Fund
pursuant to s. 201.15 shall be applied:

(a) First, to pay debt service or to fund debt service
reserve funds, rebate obligations, or other amounts payable with
respect to Florida Forever bonds issued under s. 215.618; and
pay debt service, provide reserves, and pay rebate obligations
and other amounts due with respect to Everglades restoration
bonds issued under s. 215.619; and

(b) Of the funds remaining after the payments required
under paragraph (a), but before funds may be appropriated,
pledged, or dedicated for other uses:

1. A minimum of the lesser of 25 percent or \$200 million
shall be appropriated annually for Everglades projects that
implement the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan as set
forth in s. 373.470, including the Central Everglades Planning
Project subject to Congressional authorization; the Long-Term
Plan as defined in s. 373.4592(2); and the Northern Everglades

5-00418C-17

2017234__

and Estuaries Protection Program as set forth in s. 373.4595. From these funds, \$32 million shall be distributed each fiscal year through the 2023-2024 fiscal year to the South Florida Water Management District for the Long-Term Plan as defined in s. 373.4592(2). After deducting the \$32 million distributed under this subparagraph, from the funds remaining, a minimum of the lesser of 76.5 percent or \$100 million shall be appropriated each fiscal year through the 2025-2026 fiscal year for the planning, design, engineering, and construction of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan as set forth in s. 373.470, including the Central Everglades Planning Project subject to Congressional authorization. The Department of Environmental Protection and the South Florida Water Management District shall give preference to those Everglades restoration projects that reduce harmful discharges of water from Lake Okeechobee to the St. Lucie or Caloosahatchee estuaries in a timely manner. For the purpose of performing the calculation provided in this subparagraph, the amount of debt service paid pursuant to paragraph (a) for bonds issued after July 1, 2016, for the purposes set forth under paragraph (b) shall be added to the amount remaining after the payments required under paragraph (a). The amount of the distribution calculated shall then be reduced by an amount equal to the debt service paid pursuant to paragraph (a) on bonds issued after July 1, 2016, for the purposes set forth under this subparagraph.

2. A minimum of the lesser of 7.6 percent or \$50 million shall be appropriated annually for spring restoration, protection, and management projects. For the purpose of performing the calculation provided in this subparagraph, the

5-00418C-17

2017234__

amount of debt service paid pursuant to paragraph (a) for bonds issued after July 1, 2016, for the purposes set forth under paragraph (b) shall be added to the amount remaining after the payments required under paragraph (a). The amount of the distribution calculated shall then be reduced by an amount equal to the debt service paid pursuant to paragraph (a) on bonds issued after July 1, 2016, for the purposes set forth under this subparagraph.

3. The sum of \$5 million shall be appropriated annually each fiscal year through the 2025-2026 fiscal year to the St. Johns River Water Management District for projects dedicated to the restoration of Lake Apopka. This distribution shall be reduced by an amount equal to the debt service paid pursuant to paragraph (a) on bonds issued after July 1, 2016, for the purposes set forth in this subparagraph.

4. The sum of \$35 million shall be appropriated annually to the St. Johns River Water Management District for projects dedicated to the restoration of the St. Johns River and its tributaries or the Keystone Heights Lake Region. Such funds may be used for land management and acquisition and for recreational opportunity and public access improvements connected with these areas. This distribution shall be reduced by an amount equal to the debt service paid pursuant to paragraph (a) on bonds issued after July 1, 2017, for the purposes set forth in this subparagraph.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.

2555

STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Division of Elections

I, Ken Detzner, Secretary of State,
do hereby certify that

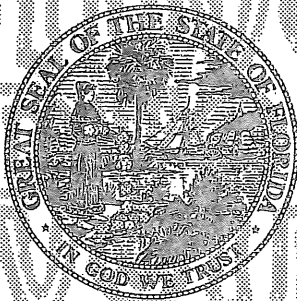
Gary F. Jones

is duly appointed a member of the

**Governing Board,
Suwannee River Water Management District**

for a term beginning on the Second day of August, A.D., 2016,
until the First day of March, A.D., 2020 and is subject to be
confirmed by the Senate during the next regular session of the
Legislature.

*Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the
State of Florida, at Tallahassee, the Capital, this
the Twenty-Ninth day of September, A.D., 2016.*



Ken Detzner

Secretary of State

DSDE 99 (3/03)

The original document has a reflective line mark in paper. Hold at an angle to view when checking.

If photocopied or chemically altered, the word "VOID" will appear.

"State of Florida" appears in small letters across the face of this 8 1/2 x 11" document



RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

RECEIVED
16 AUG -9 AM 9:22

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
SECRETARY OF STATE

August 3, 2016

Kenneth W. Detzner
Secretary of State
State of Florida
R. A. Gray Building, Room 316
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Dear Secretary Detzner:

Please be advised I have made the following reappointment under the provisions of Section 373.073, Florida Statutes:

Mr. Gary Franklin Jones
811 Northeast 353 Highway
Old Town, Florida 32680

as a member of the Governing Board, Suwannee River Water Management District, succeeding Gary Franklin Jones, subject to confirmation by the Senate. This appointment is effective August 2, 2016, for a term ending March 1, 2020.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Scott".

Rick Scott
Governor

RS/aa

OATH OF OFFICE

(Art. II, § 5(b), Fla. Const.)

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
2016 SEP 23 AM 10:29
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

STATE OF FLORIDA

County of Suwannee

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support, protect, and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States and of the State of Florida; that I am duly qualified to hold office under the Constitution of the State, and that I will well and faithfully perform the duties of

Suwannee River Water Management District Governing Board

(Title of Office)

on which I am now about to enter, so help me God.

[NOTE: If you affirm, you may omit the words "so help me God." See § 92.52, Fla. Stat.]

[Signature]
Signature

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 9 day of August, 2016.

[Signature]
Signature of Officer Administering Oath or of Notary Public

Robin Lamm

Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public

Personally Known ☒

OR

Produced Identification ☐

Type of Identification Produced _____



Robin Lamm
NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE OF FLORIDA
Comm# FF033862
Expires 8/28/2017

ACCEPTANCE

I accept the office listed in the above Oath of Office.

Mailing Address: ☒ Home ☐ Office

811 NE 353 HWY

Street or Post Office Box

Old Town, Fl. 32680

City, State, Zip Code

Gary F. Jones

Print name as you desire commission issued

[Signature]
Signature

2555

**STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Division of Elections**

I, Ken Detzner, Secretary of State,
do hereby certify that

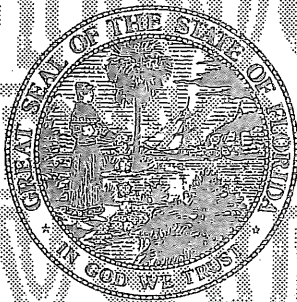
Donald Quincey

is duly appointed a member of the

**Governing Board,
Suwannee River Water Management District**

for a term beginning on the Second day of August, A.D., 2016,
until the First day of March, A.D., 2020 and is subject to be
confirmed by the Senate during the next regular session of the
Legislature.

*Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the
State of Florida, at Tallahassee, the Capital, this
the Twenty-Sixth day of September, A.D., 2016.*



Ken Detzner
Secretary of State

DSDE 99 (3/03)

The original document has a reflective line mark in paper. Hold at an angle to view when checking.

If photocopied or chemically altered, the word "VOID" will appear.

State of Florida appears in small letters across the face of this 8 1/2 x 11" document



RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

RECEIVED
16 AUG -9 AM 9:22

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
SECRETARY OF STATE

August 3, 2016

Kenneth W. Detzner
Secretary of State
State of Florida
R. A. Gray Building, Room 316
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Dear Secretary Detzner:

Please be advised I have made the following reappointment under the provisions of Section 373.073, Florida Statutes:

Mr. Donald J Quincey
2350 Northwest 120 Street
Chiefland, Florida 32626

as a member of the Governing Board, Suwannee River Water Management District, subject to confirmation by the Senate. This appointment is effective August 2, 2016, for a term ending March 1, 2020.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Scott".

Rick Scott
Governor

RS/aa

OATH OF OFFICE

(Art. II, § 5(b), Fla. Const.)

2016 SEP 23 AM 10:27

STATE OF FLORIDA

County of Levy

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support, protect, and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States and of the State of Florida; that I am duly qualified to hold office under the Constitution of the State, and that I will well and faithfully perform the duties of

Governing Board, Suwannee River Water Management D
(Title of Office)

on which I am now about to enter, so help me God.

[NOTE: If you affirm, you may omit the words "so help me God." See § 92.52, Fla. Stat.]

Signature

Swoon to and subscribed before me this 20 day of September 2016

Signature of Officer Administering Oath or of Notary Public

Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public

Personally Known ☒ OR

Produced Identification ☐

Type of Identification Produced _____



ACCEPTANCE

I accept the office listed in the above Oath of Office.

Mailing Address: ☒ Home ☐ Office

2350 NW 120th St

Street or Post Office Box

Chiefland, FL 32626

City, State, Zip Code

Donald Quincey

Print name as you desire commission issued

Signature

2555

STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Division of Elections

I, Ken Detzner, Secretary of State,
do hereby certify that

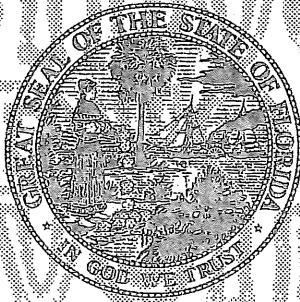
Charles G. Keith

is duly appointed a member of the

**Governing Board,
Suwannee River Water Management District**

for a term beginning on the Fourth day of November, A.D.,
2016, until the First day of March, A.D., 2018 and is subject to
be confirmed by the Senate during the next regular session of the
Legislature.

*Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the
State of Florida, at Tallahassee, the Capital, this
the Twenty-Eighth day of December, A.D., 2016.*



Ken Detzner

Secretary of State



RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

RECEIVED
16 NOV 14 AM 9:28
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
SECRETARY OF STATE

November 4, 2016

Secretary Kenneth W. Detzner
Secretary of State
State of Florida
R. A. Gray Building, Room 316
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Dear Secretary Detzner:

Please be advised I have made the following appointment under the provisions of
Section 373.073, Florida Statutes:

Mr. Charles G. Keith

as a member of the Governing Board, Suwannee River Water Management District, filling a
vacant seat, subject to confirmation by the Senate. This appointment is effective November
4, 2016, for a term ending March 1, 2018.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Scott".

Rick Scott
Governor

RS/sk

OATH OF OFFICE

(Art. II, § 5(b), Fla. Const.)

STATE OF FLORIDA

County of Suwannee

RECEIVED

16 DEC 19 AM 10:04

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
SECRETARY OF STATE

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support, protect, and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States and of the State of Florida; that I am duly qualified to hold office under the Constitution of the State, and that I will well and faithfully perform the duties of

Suwannee River Water Management District Governing Board Member

(Title of Office)

on which I am now about to enter, so help me God.

[NOTE: If you affirm, you may omit the words "so help me God." See § 92.52, Fla. Stat.]

[Signature]
Signature

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 15 day of November, 2016.

[Signature]
Signature of Officer Administering Oath or of Notary Public

Robin Lamm
Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public

Personally Known ☒ OR Produced Identification ☐

Type of Identification Produced _____



Robin Lamm
NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE OF FLORIDA
Comm# FF033862
Expires 8/28/2017

ACCEPTANCE

I accept the office listed in the above Oath of Office.

Mailing Address: ☒ Home ☐ Office

Street or Post Office Box

City, State, Zip Code

Charles G. Keith
Print name as you desire commission issued

[Signature]
Signature

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

2/21/17

Meeting Date

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

SB 64

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Walk in the Park Bill

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Florida State Foster Adoptive Parent Association

Job Title Regional VP, Thomas Croon, PhD

Address _____
Street

Phone _____

City

State

Zip

Email tmcroon@qofoster.org

Speaking: ☒ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

Waive Speaking: ☒ In Support ☐ Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing FSFAPA

Appearing at request of Chair: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: ☐ Yes ☒ No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/14/14)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/21/17

Meeting Date

SB 64

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Walk in the Park Bill

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Thomas Croon, PhD

Job Title President/CEO

Address 113 S. Monroe St.

Street

Phone _____

Tallahassee FL 32301

City

State

Zip

Email tmcroon@gofoster.org

Speaking: ☒ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

Waive Speaking: ☒ In Support ☐ Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Go Foster!

Appearing at request of Chair: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: ☐ Yes ☒ No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/14/14)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/21/2017
Meeting Date

64
Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic _____

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name BRIAN PITTS

Job Title Trustee

Address 1119 Newton Ave S
Street

Phone 727/897-9291

St Petersburg FL 33705
City State Zip

Email justice2jesus@yahoo.com

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☒ Information

Waive Speaking: ☐ In Support ☐ Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Justice-2-Jesus

Appearing at request of Chair: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: ☐ Yes ☒ No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/14/14)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)



Meeting Date _____

51364
Bill Number (if applicable) _____

Topic state Park Bill

Amendment Barcode (if applicable) _____

Name ALAN ABRAMOWITZ

Job Title Executive Director

Address 600 S. CALHOUN STREET

Phone 850-241-3232

Tallahassee FL
City State Zip

Email Alan.Abramowitz@get.fl.gov

Speaking: ☒ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

Waive Speaking: ☒ In Support ☐ Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing GUARDIAN AD LIT PM PROGRAM

Appearing at request of Chair: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: ☒ Yes ☐ No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/14/14)

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/21/2017

Meeting Date

230

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic _____

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Brian Pitts

Job Title Trustee

Address 1119 Newton Ave S
Street

Phone 727/897-9291

St Petersburg FL 33705
City State Zip

Email justice2jesus@yahoo.com

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☒ Information

Waive Speaking: ☐ In Support ☐ Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Justice-2-Jesus

Appearing at request of Chair: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: ☐ Yes ☒ No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/21/17
Meeting Date

230
Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic NONNATIVE ANIMALS

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name DAVID CULLEN

Job Title _____

Address 1674 UNIVERSITY PKWY #296
Street

Phone 941-323-2404

City

State

Zip

Email cullenasee@aol.com

Speaking: ☒ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

Waive Speaking: ☐ In Support ☐ Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing SIERRA CLUB FLORIDA

Appearing at request of Chair: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: ☒ Yes ☐ No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/14/14)



THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

COMMITTEES:

Appropriations Subcommittee on Pre-K - 12
Education, *Chair*
Appropriations Subcommittee on Higher
Education, *Vice Chair*
Appropriations
Community Affairs
Education
Environmental Preservation and Conservation

SENATOR DAVID SIMMONS

9th District

MEMORANDUM

To: Senator Rob Bradley
From: Senator David Simmons
Subject: Excused Absence
Date: February 21, 2017

I was unable to attend today's meeting of the Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation as I was presenting two of my bills in other committee meetings. I humbly request an excused absence from this meeting.

Thank you for considering my request.

Cc: Ellen Rogers,
Staff Director

REPLY TO:

- ☐ 220 Crown Oak Centre Drive, Longwood, FL 32750 (407) 262-7578
- ☐ 408 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5009

Senate's Website: www.flsenate.gov

JOE NEGRON
President of the Senate

ANITERE FLORES
President Pro Tempore

CourtSmart Tag Report

Room: LL 37

Case No.:

Caption: Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation

Type:

Judge:

Started: 2/21/2017 3:32:41 PM

Ends: 2/21/2017 4:01:06 PM

Length: 00:28:26

3:32:42 PM	Meeting Called to Order
3:32:49 PM	Chairman Book Excused
3:32:56 PM	Roll Call
3:33:04 PM	
3:33:08 PM	Tab 2
3:33:35 PM	Senator Artiles on SB 230
3:33:45 PM	Late Filed Amendment Barcode 283932
3:34:32 PM	Questions?
3:34:38 PM	Debate?
3:34:40 PM	Artiles Closes
3:34:52 PM	Back on bill as amended
3:35:26 PM	Questions?
3:35:37 PM	Senator Latvala
3:36:02 PM	Senator Artiles
3:36:17 PM	Senator Latvala
3:36:24 PM	Senator Artiles
3:36:51 PM	Senator Farmer
3:37:39 PM	Senator Artiles
3:38:34 PM	Debate?
3:38:42 PM	Appearance Cards
3:38:49 PM	David Cullen representing Sierra Club Florida waives in support
3:39:09 PM	Brian Pitts representing Justice-2-Jesus
3:41:28 PM	Senator Bradley
3:41:36 PM	Senator Artiles Closes on bill
3:41:47 PM	Roll Call on Bill SB 230
3:42:00 PM	Bill is reported favorably
3:42:27 PM	Tab 3
3:42:49 PM	Senator Farmer
3:43:01 PM	Senator Bradley on SB 234
3:46:49 PM	Technical Amendment barcode 951142
3:48:05 PM	Debate?
3:48:11 PM	Senator Bradley closes on amendment
3:48:25 PM	Amendment reported favorably
3:48:33 PM	Back on bill as amended
3:48:40 PM	Questions?
3:48:56 PM	Senator Stewart
3:49:21 PM	Senator Latvala
3:49:42 PM	Appearance Cards
3:50:04 PM	Senator Bradley closes on bill as amended
3:51:02 PM	Roll Call on SB 234
3:51:21 PM	SB 234 is reported favorably
3:51:38 PM	Senator Bradley resumes chair
3:52:06 PM	Senator Bean on SB 64
3:52:42 PM	Amendment on the bill barcode 723142
3:54:20 PM	Questions?
3:54:25 PM	Appearance Cards?
3:54:30 PM	Debate?
3:54:32 PM	Senator Bean closes on amendment
3:54:39 PM	Alan Abraham representing Guardian AD Litem Program
3:55:22 PM	Thomas Croon representing Florida State Foster Adoptive Parent Assoc.
3:55:49 PM	Brian Pitts representing Justice-2-Jesus
3:58:13 PM	Senator Bean to close on bill

3:58:48 PM	Roll call on SB 64
3:58:58 PM	SB 64 is reported favorably
3:59:30 PM	Tab 4
3:59:42 PM	Governing Board of the Suwannee River Water Management District
4:00:00 PM	Comment?
4:00:09 PM	Motion to approve by Senator Latvala
4:00:29 PM	Roll call on the appointees to the Governing Board of Suwannee River
4:00:52 PM	Reported Favorably
4:00:58 PM	Meeting Adjourned