

SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based only on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Date: January 8, 1998 Revised: _____

Subject: License Plates-Conserve Wildlife

	<u>Analyst</u>	<u>Staff Director</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Action</u>
1.	<u>Caridi</u>	<u>Johnson</u>	<u>TR</u>	<u>Favorable</u>
2.	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>NR</u>	<u>_____</u>
3.	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>WM</u>	<u>_____</u>
4.	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>
5.	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>

I. Summary:

This bill directs the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to develop a Conserve Wildlife specialty license plate for the support of programs to promote the health of the Florida black bear and wildlife diversity. Such plates would be available upon payment of appropriate license taxes, a \$2 processing fee, and an annual use fee of \$15. The \$15 annual use fee shall be forwarded to the Wildlife Foundation of Florida, Inc., a citizen support group organized under s. 372.021, F.S. Up to 10% of the proceeds from the annual use fee may be used for marketing and administrative costs. The remaining proceeds shall be used for programs and activities run by the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission which contribute to the health of Florida black bears and other wildlife diversity.

This bill substantially amends the following sections of the Florida Statutes: 320.08056 and 320.08058.

II. Present Situation:

Conserve Wildlife specialty license plates are not authorized by current law.

The organization proposing this bill, the Wildlife Foundation of Florida, has met all requirements established by the 1995 Florida Legislature under s.320.08056, F.S.:

- ▶ Submitted request for a particular plate and a proposed general description.
- ▶ Submitted petition with 10,000 signatures of Florida residents intending to purchase the plate.
- ▶ Paid \$30,000 as an application fee for administrative costs of application review and plate development.

- ▶ Submitted a short and long term marketing strategy and a fiscal analysis of anticipated revenue and planned expenditures.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Specialty license plates commemorating wildlife conservation would be made available upon payment of appropriate license taxes, a \$2 processing fee, and an annual use fee of \$15. The proceeds from the \$15 annual use fee would be distributed to the Wildlife Foundation of Florida, Inc. Ten percent of the proceeds may be used for marketing the specialty plate and for administrative costs directly related to the management and distribution of the proceeds. The remaining proceeds from the annual use fee shall be used for the programs of the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission to support the well-being of the Florida black bears and other wildlife diversity.

Section 320.08053, F.S., requires the requesting organization to submit a proposed art design up to 60 days after the bill becomes a law. This bill provides the plate design shall include the likeness of a Florida black bear. The department will be responsible for development, production and distribution of the plate. Along with the proposed art design, the plate will bear colors and designs required by law and approved by the department.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

Article III, s. 19(f)(1), State Constitution, provides that no trust fund of the state or other public body may be created by law without three-fifths vote of the membership of each house of the legislature in a separate bill for that purpose only.

V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

The department would receive the proceeds of the annual \$2 processing fee imposed on the issuance of the Conserve Wildlife specialty plate under section 320.08056, F.S. The amount of such proceeds cannot be determined because the number of specialty license plates that will be sold is unknown.

B. Private Sector Impact:

Persons who apply for the Conserve Wildlife specialty plate would have to pay \$15 dollars for the annual use fee.

Minus up to 10 percent used for the department's administrative costs, the annual use fee shall be distributed to the Wildlife Foundation of Florida, Inc. to be used to fund activities and programs of the Florida Game and Freshwater Fish Commission which contribute to the health and well being of the Florida black bear and other wildlife diversity.

C. Government Sector Impact:**Year One**

The Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund would receive the \$30,000 application fee. The department would incur total costs of \$42,780 due to the following expenditures:

- ▶ Initial programming costs of \$20,280.
- ▶ Purchasing costs of \$22,500 for the required initial 10,000 plates at \$2.25 each.

Years Two and beyond

The department would incur total costs of \$22,500 for the minimum 10,000 plate order. The department would receive the \$2 dollar processing fee per plate sold.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Amendments:

None.