

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.)

BILL: CS/SB 1250

SPONSOR: Governmental Oversight and Productivity Committee, Senator Jones and others

SUBJECT: Designation of State Sailing Vessels by the Secretary of State

DATE: March 21, 2000 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Rhea	Wilson	GO	Favorable/CS
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____

I. Summary:

This committee substitute authorizes the Secretary of State to designate by proclamation certain sailing vessels as a “vessel with historic significance.”

This committee substitute creates section 15.0465, Florida Statutes.

II. Present Situation:

The Department of State (DOS), which is created in s. 20.10, F.S., is headed by the Secretary of State. There are seven divisions in the DOS, including the Division of Historical Resources.¹ The Division of Historical Resources is responsible for the development, implementation, and coordination of programs relating to the identification, protection, preservation, interpretation of Florida history, folk heritage, and historical and archaeological sites throughout the state. The division includes: The Bureau of Archeological Research; Bureau of Historic Preservation; Museum of Florida History; and the Historic Pensacola Preservation Board of Trustees. There are 99 FTEs in the division.

The only permitting authority of the division relates to objects of historical or archaeological value which have been abandoned on state-owned lands or state-owned sovereignty submerged lands. Title to such objects is vested in the division. Chapter 267, F.S., the Florida Historical Resources Act, is the principal authority for the division. Chapter 266, F.S., authorizes the Historic Pensacola Preservation Board of Trustees. A number of specific duties are authorized in other sections of statute. For example, the division director is a member of the Land Acquisition and Management Advisory Council pursuant to s. 259.035, F.S., and a member of the Florida

¹The seven divisions in the DOS are the: (1) Office of the Secretary/Division of Administration; (2) Division of Elections; (3) Division of Historical Resources; (4) Division of Corporations; (5) Division of Library and Information Services; (6) Division of Licensing; and the (7) Division of Cultural Affairs.

Greenways and Trails Council pursuant to s. 260.0142, F.S. Funding for FY 1999-2000 included General Revenue of \$21,036,688 and \$9,210,777 in Trust Funds for a total of \$30,247,465.

Chapter 15, F.S., contains numerous legislative designations of state natural resources and events. For example, s. 15.031, F.S., designates the sabal palmetto palm to be the state tree; s. 15.032, F.S., designates the juice of mature oranges of the species *Citrus sinensis* and hybrids thereof as the official beverage; s. 15.0345, F.S., designates the *Coreopsis* as the official state wildflower; and the official state renaissance festival is the Italian Renaissance Festival presented at Vizcaya.

The Western Union is an historic sailing vessel built in Key West, Florida, and launched on April 7, 1939. The Western Union is a traditional American coasting schooner which was employed to maintain and repair undersea telegraph cables in the Gulf of Mexico, the Caribbean and adjacent waters from 1939 until 1973. The Western Union is listed on the National Register. Properties that are listed in the Nation Register have local, state or national significance.

The National Landmark Registry is another designation for important properties of national interest. Properties on the National Landmark Registry are considered to have greater national significance than properties that are on the National Register, according to the Department of State. A property that is designated as a National Landmark is automatically listed in the National Register. A property that is listed on the National Register, however, is not automatically listed as a National Landmark. There are 33 properties in Florida that are listed as National Landmarks. Included among these is The Governor Stone, a two-masted schooner that was built in 1877. The home port for The Governor Stone is Appalachicola, Florida.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The committee substitute creates s. 15.0465, F.S., to authorize the Secretary of State to designate, via proclamation, a sailing vessel as a vessel of historic significance.

The committee substitute establishes specific requirements that a sailing vessel must meet in order to be proclaimed a vessel with historic significance:

- ▶ The vessel must have been substantially constructed, restored, or maintained in Florida.
- ▶ The hailing port for the vessel must be a political subdivision of the state.
- ▶ The vessel must be seaworthy at the time of the designation.
- ▶ The vessel must have significantly contributed to the commercial, trade, political, or societal heritage of the state.
- ▶ The vessel must be on the National Register of Historic Places.

The act takes effect upon becoming law.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

Indeterminable.

C. Government Sector Impact:

Indeterminable.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

The Secretary of State does not typically have authority to make proclamations. Section 165.052, F.S, however, provides that the Secretary of State may by proclamation declare inactive any state municipality conducted an election within a specified time.

VIII. Amendments:

None.