

**STORAGE NAME:** h0115Ba.sec.doc  
**DATE:** October 29, 2001

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
SELECT COMMITTEE ON SECURITY  
ANALYSIS**

**BILL #:** HB 115-B  
**RELATING TO:** The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services  
**SPONSOR(S):** Representative Goodlette and others  
**TIED BILL(S):** None

**ORIGINATING COMMITTEE(S)/COUNCIL(S)/COMMITTEE(S) OF REFERENCE:**

- (1) SELECT COMMITTEE ON SECURITY YEAS 12 NAYS 0
  - (2)
  - (3)
  - (4)
  - (5)
- 

I. SUMMARY:

This legislation authorizes the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (department) to establish, by rule, requirements for aircraft used in the aerial application of pesticides, fertilizers and/or seed. Such requirements may include record keeping, annual aircraft registration, secure storage when not in use, area-of-application information, and reporting of any sale, lease, purchase, rental, or transfer of such aircraft to another person.

The bill also provides for the department to establish, by rule, requirements for the secure storage and distribution of pesticides and fertilizers.

In addition, the bill requires the department to report to the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives on the implementation of rules authorized by this act. The bill also requires a person requesting information about fertilizer, pesticide, or seed aerial applicators to make the request in writing and to submit at least two forms of personal identification.

This legislation has no fiscal impact and will take effect upon becoming law.

II. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS:

A. DOES THE BILL SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES:

- |                                   |   |  |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|---|
| 1. <u>Less Government</u>         | Yes <input type="checkbox"/>            | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 2. <u>Lower Taxes</u>             | Yes <input type="checkbox"/>            | No <input type="checkbox"/>            | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. <u>Individual Freedom</u>      | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/>            | N/A <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 4. <u>Personal Responsibility</u> | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/>            | N/A <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 5. <u>Family Empowerment</u>      | Yes <input type="checkbox"/>            | No <input type="checkbox"/>            | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

For any principle that received a "no" above, please explain: The bill requires that more detailed information be supplied by persons requesting certain information regarding aerial applicators.

B. PRESENT SITUATION:

Chapter 388 authorizes the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (department) to control arthropods, such as mosquitoes, to protect human health, promote the economic development to the state, and facilitate the enjoyment of its natural attractions by reducing the number of pestiferous and disease-carrying arthropods. Chapter 487 authorizes the department to regulate the distribution, sale, and use of pesticides and to protect people and the environment from the adverse effects of pesticides. Chapter 576 authorizes the department to regulate the sale and use of agricultural fertilizers.

Currently, the department does not have the authority to require the secure storage of agricultural and mosquito control aircraft and chemicals (fertilizers and pesticides) or to require the submission of aircraft and flight plan information to reduce the likelihood of theft or unauthorized access. Under current Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Part 137 regulations, agricultural and mosquito control flight plan information is generally not required unless operations occur within controlled air space or within the vicinity of a control tower.

The department adopted an emergency rule on September 27, 2001, requiring agricultural and mosquito control aircraft operators to provide information demonstrating proper pesticide registration, FAA licensure and aircraft registration. The emergency rule also requires the submission of daily flight plan information to authenticate operations if needed by law enforcement. The emergency rule expires at the end of the 90 days. The emergency rule was prepared under authority of the Executive Order issued by the Governor's Office on September 11 in response to the terrorist attacks on New York City and the Pentagon. The department will not have the authority to adopt additional rules dealing with aircraft and chemical security issues after the 90 day period without further legislative action.

Currently, public records for information under chapters 487, 570, 576, or 578 may be obtained without the requestor providing any form of identification. As a result, no record is maintained of the person or persons requesting information regarding aerial applicators.

C. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

See D. Section-by-section analysis.

D. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS:

**Section 1:** Amends s. 487.051, F.S., authorizing the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (department) to establish rules governing aircraft used in the aerial application of pesticides. Such rules must include requirements for record keeping, annual aircraft registration, secure storage, area-of application information, report of any sale, purchase, or transfer of the aircraft to another person and the secure storage and distribution of pesticides used by aerial pesticide applicators.

**Section 2:** Amends s. 570.07, F.S., authorizing the department to adopt, by rule, requirements for aircraft used in the aerial application of pesticides, fertilizers, or seed and requirements governing record keeping, annual aircraft registration, area-of-application information, report of any sale, purchase or transfer of the aircraft to another person, and secure storage and distribution of pesticides and fertilizers. Regulation of the commercial storage and distribution of pesticides, fertilizers, and seed is expressly preempted to the department.

**Section 3:** Amends s. 576.181, F.S., authorizing the department to establish, by rule, requirements for aircraft used in the aerial application of fertilizers and the secure storage and distribution of said fertilizers. Also provided for are requirements for record keeping, annual aircraft registration, secure storage, area-of-application information, report of any sale, purchase or transfer of the aircraft to another person, and the secure storage and distribution of fertilizers used by aerial fertilizer applicators.

**Section 4:** Amends s. 578.11, F.S., authorizing the department to establish, by rule, requirements for aircraft used in the aerial application of seed. Also provided for are requirements for record keeping, annual aircraft registration, secure storage, area-of-application information, report of any sale, purchase or transfer of the aircraft to another person.

**Section 5.** Requires the department to report, by January 1, 2003, to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on the implementation of any rule adopted under authorization of this act.

**Section 6.** Creates s. 119.106, F.S., requiring requests for information under chapters 487, 570, 576, or 578 to be made in writing. Persons making such requests are required to submit at least two forms of personal identification to any law enforcement agency for identity verification.

**Section 7:** Provides an effective date of upon becoming law.

III. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT:

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

None

2. Expenditures:

None

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

None

2. Expenditures:

None

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

This legislation would minimize the likelihood that aircraft used in the aerial application of pesticide, fertilizer, or seed could be used in biological warfare assaults upon the public. Aircraft owners would be required to obtain locks or equivalent security measures for the aircraft and any stored chemicals. Aircraft registration information would be submitted annually, and the sale, purchase, or transfer of the aircraft to another person would have to be reported.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

This legislation would give the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services access to information regarding a pilot's flight plan and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) licensure, as well as the aircraft registration.

IV. CONSEQUENCES OF ARTICLE VII, SECTION 18 OF THE FLORIDA CONSTITUTION:

A. APPLICABILITY OF THE MANDATES PROVISION:

This bill does not require counties or municipalities to spend funds or to take action requiring the expenditure of funds.

B. REDUCTION OF REVENUE RAISING AUTHORITY:

This bill does not reduce the authority that municipalities or counties have to raise revenue in the aggregate.

C. REDUCTION OF STATE TAX SHARED WITH COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES:

This bill does not reduce any state tax shared with counties or municipalities.

V. COMMENTS:

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

N/A

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

This legislation gives the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (department) the authority to adopt rules to establish requirements governing aircraft used in the aerial application of

pesticides, fertilizers, and/or seed. The department is also given rule-making authority to establish requirements governing the secure storage and distribution of pesticides and fertilizers.

C. OTHER COMMENTS:

N/A

VI. AMENDMENTS OR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES:

On October 29, 2001, the Select Committee on Security adopted three amendments.

Amendment 1 removes provisions requiring that public record requests for information under chapters 487, 570, 576, or 578, F.S., be made in writing and that the person making the request submit two forms of personal identification.

Amendment 2 requires the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability to review the cost impact to the aerial application industry of rules adopted by the department pursuant to enactment of this legislation.

Amendment 3 clarifies the jurisdiction of the Department of Environmental Protection relating to storage and distribution of pesticides and fertilizers.

VII. SIGNATURES:

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SECURITY:

Prepared by:

Staff Director:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Debbi Kaiser

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tom Randle/Richard Hixson