## SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

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

BILL:		SB 14-B				
SPONSOR:		Senator Cowin				
SUBJECT:		Crime Stoppers Trust Fund				
DATE:		October 22, 200	)1 REVISED:			
1.	ANALYST Mannelli		STAFF DIRECTOR Revell	reference AP	ACTION Favorable	
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## I. Summary:

This bill authorizes the use of funds from the Crime Stoppers Trust Fund to replace General Revenue funding.

This bill substantially amends section 16.555, Florida Statutes.

#### II. Present Situation:

In 1998, an additional surcharge of \$20 was added to fines for criminal offenses. The funds from this surcharge (less \$3 for each assessment to be retained by the clerks of the courts) are used to provide grants to support the Florida Association of Crime Stoppers and their crime fighting programs.

In Fiscal Year 2000-2001, \$3.1 million was received from this surcharge and an additional \$3.3 million is anticipated for Fiscal Year 2001-2002.

# **III.** Effect of Proposed Changes:

This bill amends s. 16.555, F.S., to specify that for Fiscal Year 2001-2002 only, the funds allocated to the Crime Stoppers Trust Fund may be used in accordance with the provisions of Senate Bill 2-B, which replaces general revenue funding in the Department of Legal Affairs with available cash in the trust fund.

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## 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:

By using available cash balances to offset the decline in General Revenue, there will be less funds available for distribution to local Crime Stoppers organizations.

C. Government Sector Impact:

By using available cash balances to fund operating expenses in the Department of Legal Affairs, approximately \$2.1 million in General Revenue can be saved in Fiscal Year 2001-2002.

## VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

## VII. Related Issues:

None.

#### VIII. Amendments:

None.

This Senate staff analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's sponsor or the Florida Senate.