

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 16-B

SPONSOR: Senator Cowin

SUBJECT: Florida Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Trust Fund

DATE: October 22, 2001 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Mannelli</u>	<u>Revell</u>	<u>AP</u>	<u>Favorable</u>
2.	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
3.	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
4.	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
5.	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
6.	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

I. Summary:

This bill authorizes the use of funds from the Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Trust Fund to replace General Revenue funding.

This bill substantially amends S. 860.158, Florida Statutes.

II. Present Situation:

In 1992, the Florida Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Act was created to prevent, combat, and reduce motor vehicle theft in Florida. The Act also created the Florida Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Authority in the Department of Legal Affairs. The Authority is a nine-member board consisting of the Commissioner of the Department of Insurance, the Executive Directors of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles and the Department of Law Enforcement, and six appointees of the Attorney General.

Section 860.158, F.S., established the Florida Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Trust Fund with a dedicated funding source to carry out the purposes of the Act. It further stated that the trust fund could be used to provide financial support to federal, state, and local agencies or neighborhood, community or business organizations for programs designed to reduce motor vehicle theft.

The trust fund derives its revenues from a \$1 surcharge on motor vehicle licenses. Section 320.08046, F.S., specifies that 18 percent of the funds derived from the surcharge must be deposited in the Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Trust Fund to fund motor vehicle theft prevention programs (40 percent goes to General Revenue and 42 percent goes to the Department of Juvenile Justice to fund community partnership grants).

In Fiscal Year 2000-2001, \$3.0 million was received from the trust fund's portion of this surcharge and an additional \$2.8 million is anticipated for Fiscal Year 2001-2002.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

This bill amends s. 860.158, F.S., to specify that for Fiscal Year 2001-2002 only, the funds allocated to the Florida Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention 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.

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 grants to local organizations.

C. Government Sector Impact:

By using available cash balances to offset the decline in General Revenue, there will be less funds available for grants to other units of government. 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.
