

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

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

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Governmental Operations Committee

BILL: SB 1558

INTRODUCER: Senator Hill

SUBJECT: Official State Song

DATE: March 10, 2008

REVISED: 3/13/08

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>McKay</u>	<u>Wilson</u>	<u>GO</u>	<u>Favorable</u>
2.	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>TA</u>	<u> </u>
3.	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>RC</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 designates “Where the Sawgrass Meets the Sky” as the official song of the state of Florida.

This bill creates section 15.0326, Florida Statutes.

II. Present Situation:

Chapter 15, F.S. statutorily designates official state emblems. To date, there are designations for a state tree, state fruit, state beverage, citrus archive, shell, stone, gem, wildflower, play, animal, freshwater fish, saltwater fish, marine mammal, saltwater mammal, butterfly, reptile, air fair, rodeo, festival, moving image center and archive, litter control symbol, pageant, opera, renaissance festival, railroad museums, transportation museum, soil, fiddle contest, band, sports hall of fame, state pie, and state maritime museum. It also designates the state flag, state seal, and state motto.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 24, adopted in 1913, designated “Florida, My Florida,” written in 1894, as the state song. It was repealed by House Concurrent Resolution No.22, adopted in 1935, which designated “The Swanee River (Old Folks at Home),” written by Stephen Foster in 1851, as the official song of the state of Florida.

In January 2008, the Florida Music Educators Association held an online vote in a contest to find a new state song. “Where the Sawgrass Meets the Sky” won, receiving more than half of the 8,020 votes cast for the three final songs.¹

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The bill creates s. 15.0326, F.S., to designate “Where the Sawgrass Meets the Sky,” music and lyrics by Jan Hinton, as the official song of the State of Florida. The act will take effect July 1, 2008.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

The bill does not repeal H.C.R. No. 22, L.O.F., 1935.

¹ <http://www.local6.com/print/15030835/detail.html>, last referenced on March 7, 2008.

VIII. Additional Information:

- A. **Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:**
(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

- B. **Amendments:**

None.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.
