

CHAPTER 97-64

Senate Bill No. 902

An act relating to trust funds; creating the County Article V Trust Fund to be administered by the Supreme Court; providing for future review and termination or re-creation of the fund; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. The County Article V Trust Fund is hereby created, to be administered by the Supreme Court. Funds shall be credited to the trust fund as provided in SB 722 or similar legislation, for the purposes set forth therein.

Section 2. (1) Pursuant to the provisions of Section 19(f)(2), Article III of the State Constitution, the County Article V Trust Fund shall, unless terminated sooner, be terminated on June 30, 2002.

(2) Prior to the regular legislative session immediately preceding the date on which the trust fund is scheduled to be terminated, the Supreme Court shall recommend to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives whether the trust fund should be allowed to terminate or should be re-created. These recommendations shall be based on a review of the purpose and use of the trust fund and a determination of whether the trust fund will continue to be necessary. A recommendation to re-create the trust fund may include suggested modifications to the purposes, sources of receipts, and allowable expenditures for the trust fund. The Supreme Court's recommendation shall be made as a part of its legislative budget request to the Legislature under section 216.023, Florida Statutes.

(3) If the trust fund is terminated, the Supreme Court must pay any outstanding debts or obligations of the trust fund as soon as practicable and the Comptroller must close out and remove the trust fund from the various state accounting systems, using generally accepted accounting practices concerning warrants outstanding, assets, and liabilities.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 1998, but it shall not take effect unless it is enacted by a three-fifths vote of the membership of each house of the Legislature.

Became a law without the Governor's approval May 16, 1997.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 12, 1997.