CHAPTER 98-278

House Bill No. 4813

An act relating to trust funds; creating s. 17.43, F.S.; creating the Comptroller's Federal Equitable Sharing Trust Fund within the Department of Banking and Finance; providing for sources of funds; exempting the trust fund from various service charges; providing for annual carryforward of funds; providing for future review and termination or re-creation of the trust fund; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 17.43, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

17.43 Comptroller's Federal Equitable Sharing Trust Fund.—

(1) The Comptroller's Federal Equitable Sharing Trust Fund is created within the Department of Banking and Finance. The department may deposit into the trust fund receipts and revenues received as a result of federal criminal, administrative, or civil forfeiture proceedings and receipts and revenues received from federal asset-sharing programs. The trust fund is exempt from the service charges imposed by s. 215.20.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 216.301 and pursuant to s. 216.351, any balance in the trust fund at the end of any fiscal year shall remain in the trust fund at the end of the year and shall be available for carrying out the purposes of the trust fund.

(3) Pursuant to the provisions of s. 19(f)(2), Art. III of the State Constitution, the trust fund shall, unless terminated sooner, be terminated on July 1, 2002. Prior to its scheduled termination, the trust fund shall be reviewed as provided in s. 215.3206(1) and (2).

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1 of the year in which enacted.

Became a law without the Governor's approval May 28, 1998.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 27, 1998.