

CHAPTER 99-250

Senate Bill No. 1446

An act relating to transportation; amending s. 334.044, F.S.; providing for the allocation of a certain percentage of each project for roadside beautification by the Department of Transportation; amending s. 335.0415, F.S.; modifying the date on which jurisdiction and responsibility for public roads is determined; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (26) of section 334.044, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, is amended to read:

334.044 Department; powers and duties.—The department shall have the following general powers and duties:

(26) To provide for the conservation of natural roadside growth and scenery and for the implementation and maintenance of roadside beautification programs. To accomplish this, for fiscal years 1999-2000, 2000-2001, and 2001-2002 no less than one percent, and for subsequent fiscal years no less than one and one-half percent of the amount contracted for construction projects shall be allocated by the department to beautification programs. Except where prohibited by federal law or federal regulation and to the extent practical, a minimum of 50 percent of these funds shall be used to purchase large plant materials with the remaining funds for other plant materials and these materials shall be purchased from Florida-based nurseryman stock on a uniform competitive bid basis. The department will develop grades and standards for landscaping materials purchased through this process. To accomplish these activities, the department may contract with nonprofit organizations having the primary purpose of developing youth employment opportunities.

Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 335.0415, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

335.0415 Public road jurisdiction and transfer process.—

(1) The jurisdiction of public roads and the responsibility for operation and maintenance within the right-of-way of any road within the state, county, and municipal road system shall be that which existed ~~exists~~ on June 10 ~~July 1~~, 1995.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 1999.

Approved by the Governor June 8, 1999.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 8, 1999.