

House Bill No. 1957

An act relating to trust funds; creating s. 373.472, F.S.; creating the Save Our Everglades Trust Fund within the Department of Environmental Protection; providing for sources of funds and purposes; providing an exemption from service charges; providing for retention of interest and other earnings; providing for annual carryforward of funds; providing for future review and termination or re-creation of the trust fund; providing a contingent effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 373.472, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

373.472 Save Our Everglades Trust Fund.—

(1) There is created within the Department of Environmental Protection the Save Our Everglades Trust Fund. Funds in the trust fund shall be expended to implement the comprehensive plan defined in s. 373.470(2)(a). The trust fund shall serve as the repository for state, local, and federal project contributions in accordance with s. 373.470(4).

(2) The trust fund is not subject to the service charge described in s. 215.20(1). All income of a revenue nature, including interest or other earnings received or credited by the trust fund, shall be credited to the fund.

(3) 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.

(4) Pursuant to the provisions of s. 19(f)(2), Art. III of the State Constitution, the Save Our Everglades Trust Fund shall, unless terminated sooner, terminate on July 1, 2004. 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, 2000, if HB 221 or similar legislation is adopted in the same legislative session or an extension thereof and becomes law.

Approved by the Governor May 16, 2000.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 16, 2000.