

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: PCB ANR 17-02 Environmental Lab Trust Fund
SPONSOR(S): Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee
TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:**

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR or BUDGET/POLICY CHIEF
Orig. Comm.: Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee		White	Pigott

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

The Environmental Laboratory Trust Fund, FLAIR number 20-2-050001, was created as a depository for funds to be used for the operation of the department's environmental laboratory program. Currently, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) administers the trust fund.

The bill terminates the Environmental Laboratory Trust Fund within the Department of Environmental Protection. The bill transfers any balances and revenues to the Grants and Donations Trust Fund and directs DEP on the procedure for paying any outstanding debts or obligations of the trust fund and the trust funds removal from the State's accounting systems.

The bill has an effective date of July 1, 2017.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Present Situation

The Environmental Laboratory Trust Fund, FLAIR number 20-2-050001, was created as a depository for funds to be used for the operation of the department's environmental laboratory program.¹ Currently, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) administers the trust fund.²

In the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 General Appropriations Act, \$5.2 million in budget authority was transferred from the Environmental Laboratory Trust Fund to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund. The Fiscal Year 2016-2017 General Appropriations Act transferred the remaining \$2.7 million in budget authority from the Environmental Laboratory Trust Fund to various other DEP trust funds. No operating budget authority remains in the Environmental Laboratory Trust Fund, so there is no longer a need for DEP to keep the fund active.

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill terminates the Environmental Laboratory Trust Fund within the Department of Environmental Protection. The bill also transfers any balances in and revenues of the Environmental Laboratory Trust Fund to the Grants and Donations Trust Fund. The bill directs DEP on the procedure for paying any outstanding debts or obligations of the trust fund and the procedure for the trust fund's removal from the State's accounting systems.

B. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1. Terminates the Environmental Laboratory Trust Fund; provides for the disposition of balances in, revenues of, and all outstanding appropriations of the trust fund; prescribes procedures for the termination of the trust fund.

Section 2. Repeals 20.25501(3).

Section 3. Provides an effective date for the bill.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

This bill requires all remaining balances in, and all revenues of the Environmental Laboratory Trust Fund to be transferred to the Grants and Donations Trust Fund within the Department of Environmental Protection.

2. Expenditures:

None

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

None

¹ FLA. STAT. § 20.25501(3)(a) (2016).

² FLA. STAT. § 20.25501 (2016).

2. Expenditures:

None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

None.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

This bill simply eliminates an existing trust fund.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

Not Applicable. This bill does not appear to affect county or municipal governments.

2. Other:

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

IV. AMENDMENTS/ COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES