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Subject: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Bipartisan Specialty and Special License Plate Package Passes the House and Senate

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## Bipartisan Specialty and Special License Plate Package Passes the House and Senate

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla.** – <u>Senate Bill 676</u> filed by **State Senator Dennis Baxley** has passed the House and Senate Floors. Its house companion, <u>CS/HB 249</u> was carried by **State Representative Allison Tant**.

The package creates six new specialty license plates: Florida State Parks; Biscayne Bay; Disease Prevention & Early Detection; Honor Flight; Protect Marine Wildlife; 30A.com/Scenic Walton; and Healthcare Heroes. It modifies the distribution of annual use fees for the existing Indian River Lagoon, Wildlife Foundation of Florida, and the Divine Nine specialty license plates.

**State Representative Allison Tant** on the passing of the "Florida State Parks" plate:

"The "Florida State Parks" specialty license plate will provide funding to address crumbling infrastructure, improve structures, preserve animal and plant habitats, and provide more ADA certified improvements to increase access to the great outdoors".

**State Senator Gayle Harrell** on the passing of the "Healthcare Heroes" plate: "Our Healthcare workers have been true heroes during the global pandemic," says Senator Gayle Harrell. "Honoring them with a specialty license plate is a small way we can show our appreciation for their sacrifice and dedication. It was a pleasure working with the Florida College of Emergency Physicians (FCEP) to accomplish this goal."

**State Representative Brett Hage** on the passing of the "Honor Flight" plate: "I am grateful the "Honor Flight" license plate will soon be a reality! So many Veterans will benefit from this excellent program. A small way to say thank you for the price they paid in serving this great country".

**State Representative Nick Duran** on the passing of the "Protect Biscayne Bay" plate: "Biscayne Bay has reached a tipping point in the health of this treasured

waterway. It's headed toward irreversible ecological collapse due to pollution, storm water runoff, and a lack of fresh water. The "Protect Biscayne Bay" specialty license plate which will raise money for the Miami Foundation to administer funds to initiatives supporting habitat restoration, pollution prevention, and environmental education and awareness for the Bay."

**State Representative Felicia Robinson** on the passing of the "Disease Prevention & Early Detection" plate: "Throughout this past Legislative Session, advocating for more preventative healthcare measures has remained one of my top priorities. With the passage of Senate Bill 676, I am proud to say that we have secured additional funding for increased education and awareness relating to early detection, prevention, and screening of breast and heart issues. I would like to thank my colleagues for the tremendous work that they have put forth on this bill and the Women's Breast & Heart Initiative for their continued dedication to the woman of Florida."