

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: PCB HUSA 09-01 Department of Health
SPONSOR(S): Human Services Appropriations Committee, Zapata
TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:** SB 1662

	REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR
Orig. Comm.:	Human Services Appropriations Committee	5 Y, 0 N	Bradford	Massengale
1)	_____	_____	_____	_____
2)	_____	_____	_____	_____
3)	_____	_____	_____	_____
4)	_____	_____	_____	_____
5)	_____	_____	_____	_____

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

The bill makes statutory changes to conform to the funding decisions included in the House proposed General Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2009-2010.

The bill removes the requirement in section 154.02, Florida Statutes, to increase the emergency reserve of the County Health Department Trust Fund by the increase in the Consumer Price Index.

Funding for positions in county health departments and in the Office of Disability Determination is included in the base funding for Fiscal Year 2009-2010. Section 216.2625, Florida Statutes, however, exempts the positions from being appropriated.

The bill repeals section 216.2625, Florida Statutes, moving the requirements relating to expenditure of funds from the County Health Department Trust Fund to section 154.02, Florida Statutes, and eliminates the exemption for authorized positions funded by Department of Health trust funds to be appropriated in the General Appropriations Act.

The House proposed General Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2009-2010 appropriates 12,073 positions, which is a reduction of 400 vacant positions, in the County Health Department program and reduces General Revenue contributions to the County Health Department Trust Fund by \$8 million. In addition, the House proposed General Appropriations Act appropriates 1,013 positions in the Office of Disability Determination program supported by the federal funds from the Social Security Administration.

The bill provides an effective date of July 1, 2009.

HOUSE PRINCIPLES

Members are encouraged to evaluate proposed legislation in light of the following guiding principles of the House of Representatives

- Balance the state budget.
- Create a legal and regulatory environment that fosters economic growth and job creation.
- Lower the tax burden on families and businesses.
- Reverse or restrain the growth of government.
- Promote public safety.
- Promote educational accountability, excellence, and choice.
- Foster respect for the family and for innocent human life.
- Protect Florida's natural beauty.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Section 216.2625, Florida Statutes, addresses how funds from the County Health Department Trust Fund may be expended by the Department of Health for the respective county health departments in accordance with the budgets and plans agreed upon by the county authorities of each county and the Department of Health. It also specifies that the total number of authorized positions funded by the County Health Department Trust Fund or the United States Trust Fund are exempt from appropriation in the General Appropriations Act.

Even though positions are not appropriated in the General Appropriations Act, they are required to be established in the state's personnel system People First for payroll purposes. The county health departments had 12,473 positions established in People First as of March 2009. The number of established positions changes without notice as the county health departments may establish positions as needed. The number of vacant positions totaled 808.

The Office of Disability Determination had 1,013 positions established in People First as of March 2009. The Social Security Administration has increased the grant funding to eliminate the backlog of pending cases and the Office has requested 70 additional positions for Fiscal Year 2009-2010. All positions are federally funded by the Social Security Administration in the United States Trust Fund.

The House proposed General Appropriations Act for 2009-2010 appropriates 12,073 positions, eliminates 400 of these vacant positions and reduces in General Revenue funding supporting them by \$8 million. In addition, the House proposed General Appropriations Act appropriates the 1,013 positions for the Office of Disability Determination.

The bill repeals section 216.2625, Florida Statutes, and moves the provision relating to how funds from the County Health Department Trust Fund may be expended by the Department of Health to section 154.02, Florida Statutes.

Section 154.02 (5)(b), Florida Statutes, requires the emergency reserve of the County Health Department Trust Fund to be increased by the increase of the Consumer Price Index that occurred during the previous 12 months. The bill eliminates that requirement leaving the emergency reserve at \$500,000.

B. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1. Amends s. 154.02, Florida Statutes, relating to the County Health Department Trust Fund.

Section 2. Repeals s. 216.2625, Florida Statutes, relating to the disbursement of Department of Health trust funds and the appropriation of authorized positions.

Section 3. Provides an effective date.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

The House proposed General Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2009-10 reduces \$8 million in General Revenue contributions to the County Health Departments and deletes 400 vacant FTE. The savings in out years is indeterminate, but potentially significant based on cost avoidance for statewide distributions of administered funds for budgets that are distributed based on position data.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

None.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

None.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

None.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

Rule-making authority is not required to implement the provisions of the bill.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

IV. AMENDMENTS/COUNCIL OR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES