

STATE BUDGET ACT

To provide for the necessary revenues and expenditures of Dixie for this fiscal year.
Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Dixie,

TITLE ONE: Summary of Revenues and Expenditures

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the State Budget Act of 2017.

SECTION 2. ACT DECLARED AS BUDGET.

This act shall be the budget for fiscal year 2017, and this act contains all relevant expenditures and revenues. Should the legislature fail to pass a budget for fiscal year 2018, this budget shall be used, indexed to inflation according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Consumer Price Index.

SECTION 3. GENERAL ACCOUNTING.

1. This budget shall raise \$187,060,745,000.00 in revenue.
2. This budget represents \$182,369,560,017.31 of expenditure.
3. The budget surplus shall be \$3,691,184,982.69. Fifty percent of all surplus funds shall be used for the servicing of state debt. The remaining portion of the surplus funds shall be transferred to the Dixie State Deficit Stabilization Fund as established under Title Five of this Act.

SECTION 4. REVENUES.

1. The revenue from selective sales taxes shall be \$31,088,745,000.00.
2. The revenue from federal aid shall be \$109,193,000,000.00.
3. The revenue from other sources shall be \$46,779,000,000.00.

SECTION 5. EXPENDITURE.

1. The appropriation for Administered Funds shall be \$298,817,424.63.
2. The appropriation for the Agency for Healthcare Administration shall be \$61,112,453,418.25.
3. The appropriation for the Agency for Persons with Disabilities shall be \$3,562,500,000.00.
4. The appropriation for the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall be \$3,732,771,611.25.
5. The appropriation for the Department of Business and Professional Regulation shall be \$361,525,164.75.
6. The appropriation for the Department of Children and Families shall be \$7,228,994,659.38.
7. The appropriation for the Department of Corrections shall be \$5,768,250,522.25.
8. The appropriation for the Department of Economic Opportunity shall be \$2,987,671,392.25.
9. The appropriation for the Department of Education shall be \$52,956,570,557.85.

10. The appropriation for the Department of Elder Affairs shall be \$704,215,605.75.
11. The appropriation for the Department of Environmental Protection shall be \$3,615,076,593.38.
12. The appropriation for the Executive Officer of the Governor shall be \$775,306,708.75.
13. The appropriation for the Department of Financial Services shall be \$770,890,814.25.
14. The appropriation for the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission shall be \$880,170,375.88.
15. The appropriation for the Southern State Commission on Offender Review shall be \$23,487,987.63.
16. The appropriation for the Department of Health shall be \$6,887,500,000.00.
17. The appropriation for the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles shall be \$1,102,734,549.50.
18. The appropriation for the Department of Justice Administration shall be \$2,042,440,216.50.
19. The appropriation for the Department of Juvenile Justice shall be \$1,297,102,723.13.
20. The appropriation for the Department of Law Enforcement shall be \$679,890,121.88.
21. The appropriation for the Department of Legal Affairs shall be \$718,610,742.00.
22. The appropriation for the Legislative Branch shall be \$483,636,853.75.

23. The appropriation for the Lottery shall be \$400,978,641.00.
24. The appropriation for the Department of Management Services shall be \$1,605,326,154.75.
25. The appropriation for the Department of Military Affairs shall be \$181,365,328.88.
26. The appropriation for the Public Service Commission shall be \$58,280,923.00.
27. The appropriation for the Department of Revenue shall be \$1,362,996,399.88.
28. The appropriation for the Department of State shall be \$211,998,411.38.
29. The appropriation for the State Courts System shall be \$1,232,880,516.75.
30. The appropriation for the Department of Transportation shall be \$20,064,953,975.70
31. The appropriation for the Department of Veterans Affairs shall be \$260,161,623.00.
32. The appropriation for the Bank of Dixie shall be \$50,000,000.00.

TITLE TWO: Infrastructure Modernization

SECTION I: Findings

It is found that our State's infrastructure is crumbling, that the dilapidated nature of our infrastructure system costs nearly a percentage point of GDP growth per year, and that the government does not have the capital to truly modernize and improve the state's infrastructure. The progress of the National Infrastructure Bank is noted, and it is further noted that the creation of a profit-incentive can unleash a new industry of private infrastructure investment

SECTION II: Definitions:

- a. Infrastructure Project shall be defined as a single interstate highway, rail line, or airport to be administered under public, private, or public and private authority under the provisions of this Act.
- b. Public-Private Partnership shall be defined as any state or federal policy designed to attract private investment in infrastructure.

SECTION III: Public-Private Partnerships for New Infrastructure Projects:

- a. There shall henceforth be established the Dixie Infrastructure Investment Fund (henceforth referred to as the IIF), which shall be placed under the jurisdiction of the Department of Transportation.
- b. The IIF shall be tasked with assisting and promoting private investment in infrastructure projects.
 - i. Each "infrastructure project" shall be defined as a single interstate highway, railroad line (including railway stations), or airport.
- c. The IIF shall start corporations, the holdings of which shall be a single infrastructure project. The IIF shall be authorized to sell shares of new infrastructure projects in the following manner:
 - i. The IIF shall trade shares via a round system, by which investors with less than \$1,000,000 in capital, and/or businesses employing fewer than two hundred (200) employees for at least one year (1 year) prior to the passage of this bill and/or the first round of trading, shall be enabled to have exclusive purchase over the first 25% of shares sold. This round of trading shall last approximately two weeks following the formation of the infrastructure project.
 - ii. The IIF is then authorized to sell up to 49% of shares in interstate highway projects and up to 80% of shares in rail and airport projects. Following the first round of trading, the remaining shares shall be sold on the general market.
- d. The IIF shall assist in the construction of private infrastructure projects in the following manner:

- i. The IIF shall coordinate with state and local governments to obtain construction permits, buy land, and operate in accordance with local labor regulations. The IIF shall avoid the use of eminent domain wherever practicable.
 - ii. The IIF shall attract private investors in new infrastructure projects. Projects shall be authorized to make a profit via a fee-for-service system outlined below.
- e. IIF-funded projects are authorized to turn a profit by a fee-for-service method:
 - i. IIF-funded interstate highways may charge tolls and/or lease land along the sides of the highways for the development of roadside amenities.
 - ii. IIF-funded railways may charge fees for the use of the rail line by rail companies, as well as the inclusion of amenities within rail stations.
 - iii. IIF-funded airports may charge fees for the use of terminals, docking stations, and runways by airline companies, as well as for the lease of space to vendors and amenities within the airport.

SECTION IV: Partnerships for Existing Projects:

- a. The IIF is authorized to negotiate the sale of, attract private investment in, and complete the transition to Infrastructure Project Corporations of current interstate highways, airports, and rail lines.
- b. The Department of Transportation shall be tasked with the transition to Infrastructure Project Corporations of current federally-funded highways under the following schedule:
 - i. 10% of all infrastructure funded by the state Department of Transportation within one year following the passage of this act.
 - ii. 40% of all infrastructure funded by the state Department of Transportation within two years following the passage of this act.
 - iii. 80% of all infrastructure funded by the state Department of Transportation within three years following the passage of this act.

- iv. 100% of the infrastructure funded by the state Department of Transportation within four years following the passage of this act.
- c. The Department of Transportation shall be tasked with the transition to Infrastructure Project Corporations of current state-funded rail lines utilizing the same timetable outlined in Section IV Subsection b.
- d. The Department of Transportation shall pursue through the IIF the transition of state-funded airports through the same process outlined in Section IV Subsection b.
- e. Ten Percent (10%) of all funds saved or recaptured from state infrastructure expenditures under the provisions of this act, shall be returned to the IIF for further use in public-private partnerships over the next five years (5 years).

SECTION V: Consumer Protection and Other Provisions

- a. The IIF shall adhere to the following guidelines when initiating the sale and/or transition of an infrastructure project to an Infrastructure Project Corporation.
 - i. The Department of Transportation and/or the relevant departments of the states in which the project in question is located shall maintain a portion of the total shares of stock of the company exceeding fifty percent (50%) of any interstate highway project initiated by a state or federal government.
 - ii. All sales of, transitions to, or partnerships in new projects shall follow the investment guidelines outlined in Section III Subsection c.
 - iii. No one individual, grouping of individuals, corporation publically or privately held, or grouping determined to have sufficiently similar corporate interests to constitute a single entity shall hold more than fifteen percent (15%) of the market share of infrastructure projects of a particular type (roadways, rail lines, or airports).
 - iv. Any Infrastructure Project initiated with the aide of the IIF or held in any part by private investors, corporations, individuals, or groups of individuals, with the aide, assistance, or collaboration of the IIF or of any state or federal agency, shall dedicate no less than eighty-five percent (85%) of all revenue to maintenance of the infrastructure project in question.

- v. Profits on highways established under this program shall not exceed five percent (5%) of funds needed for maintenance and worker compensation excluding salaries exceeding \$250,000.
- vi. The IIF shall give priority to worker cooperatives, non-profit organizations, and small businesses when considering infrastructure sales as outlined in section III.

SECTION VI: Funding

- a. The Legislature shall appropriate \$1 billion to act as start-up capital for the purposes of funding new infrastructure projects and repairing or attracting investment in existing infrastructure entities under the IIF for the next two fiscal years following the passage of this act.

SECTION VII: Enactment

- a. This Title shall take effect 180 days following its passage into law.
- b. Implementation-- The Secretary of the Transportation shall be responsible for the necessary regulations to make effective the provisions of this act.

TITLE THREE: School Stabilization Fund

SECTION I: The School Stabilization Fund

- a. There shall be henceforth established the School Stabilization Fund, which may be abbreviated as the "SSF", and shall be henceforth referred to as "the fund" within title 4 of this act.
- b. The fund shall be used to grant additional funding and assistance to schools that:
 - i. Have failed to meet federal or state standards due to a lack of funding,
 - ii. The number of students attending or enrolled within a school has dropped significantly if compared to the previous year's attendance or enrollment rates,

- c. The Dixie Department of education shall monitor schools within the State of Dixie to ensure that schools within the state meet federal or state standards and ensure that the attendance or enrollment rates do not drop significantly, if compared to the previous year's enrollment and attendance rates.
- d. The Dixie Department of Education shall establish a special school review commission (henceforth referred to as "the commission") to, in the event of a school not meeting federal or state guidelines and or suffering a significant drop in enrollment rates:
 - i. Review the causes of the circumstances outlined in Section I (d), assess whether those circumstances were caused by funding deficiencies, and identify which funding deficiencies may have caused those circumstances.
 - ii. Following the conclusion of the review process, the commission shall submit a report to the Dixie Department of Education, which shall contain a recommendation for remedies within the bounds of the law for the mitigation of the circumstances outlined in Section I (d), as well as a request for funding for the mitigation of those circumstances, should the need for funding apply.
 - iii. The Secretary of Education shall be responsible for the approval of any emergency grants requested by the commission, and shall be authorized to give grants up to the amount prescribed in Section II (a).
- e. The commission shall be composed of experienced members of all fields necessary for the review of school deficiencies. The size and composition of the commission shall be determined by the Secretary of Education.
- f. Grant funding established under this act shall be reviewed on a yearly basis; all schools that receive grants under this Title must be re-assessed the following year to continue to receive funding.

SECTION II: Funding

- a. The Assembly of Dixie shall appropriate \$2 billion to act as start-up capital for the purposes of funding the SSF, established in this title for the next two (2) years following the passage of this act.

SECTION III: Enactment

- a. This Title shall take effect 180 days following the passage of this act into law.
- b. Implementation-- The Secretary of Education shall be responsible for the necessary regulations to make effective the provisions of this act.

TITLE FOUR: Deficit Stabilization Fund

SECTION I: Establishment of Fund

- (a) There shall be established and set up on the books of the commonwealth a separate fund to be known as the Dixie Deficit Stabilization Fund, consisting of amounts transferred to the fund in accordance with Section III (a) and income derived from the investment of amounts so transferred. The purpose of the fund shall be to create and maintain a reserve to which any available portion of a consolidated net surplus in the operating funds shall be transferred and from which appropriations may be made for the following purposes:
 - (i) to make up any difference between actual state revenues and allowable state revenues in any fiscal year in which actual revenues fall below the allowable amount and;
 - (ii) to replace the state and local loss of federal funds or;
 - (iii) for any event which threatens the health, safety or welfare of the people or the fiscal stability of the state or any of its political subdivisions, where such event or events, as determined by the general court, shall include, but shall not be limited to, a substantial decline in economic indicators which result in severe reductions in state revenues or state financial assistance to local governmental units, or court ordered or otherwise mandated assumptions by the commonwealth of programs or costs of programs previously borne by local governmental units.
- (b) The determination by the general court to transfer and appropriate for any such purpose shall be made, after a hearing before the joint committee on ways and means and a comprehensive analysis of alternative legislative action and revenue sources, upon a finding that the transfer and appropriation will not adversely affect the overall fiscal health of the commonwealth, taking

into account indicators of future economic performance and conditions affecting state revenues.

- (c) If the amount remaining in the fund at the close of a fiscal year exceeds 15 per cent of the budgeted revenues and other financial resources pertaining to the budgeted funds, as confirmed by the comptroller in the audited statutory basis financial report for the immediately preceding fiscal year, the amounts so in excess shall be transferred to the Tax Reduction Fund established by Section II (a).
- (d) Upon receiving a written joint certification from the commissioner of revenue and the attorney general that a state agency is in receipt of a 1 time settlement or judgment for the commonwealth, of which the net value to the commonwealth of the proceeds of that settlement or judgment, after all restitution or other remedial payments are made pursuant to the settlement or judgment, exceeds \$10,000,000 in any 1 fiscal year, the comptroller shall transfer said proceeds from the General Fund to the Stabilization Fund established under this section, but only to the extent that the total of all such 1 time settlements and judgments exceeds the average of such total for the 5 fiscal years preceding the immediately preceding fiscal year, as determined by the secretary of administration and finance. A constitutional office in receipt of such a non-tax 1 time settlement or judgment shall notify the attorney general not later than 10 days after receipt of such settlement or judgment.
- (e) [Chapter 215.32 Section (1) Subsection (c)](http://www.leg.state.fl.us/Statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&Search_String=&URL=0200-0299/0215/Sections/0215.32.html) of the Florida Statutes shall hereby be repealed.

SECTION II: Tax Reduction Fund:

- (a) There shall be established and set up on the books of the commonwealth a separate fund to be known as the Tax Reduction Fund, consisting of amounts transferred to the fund under Section II (c) and income derived from the investment of amounts so transferred. The purpose of the fund shall be to maintain a reserve which shall be used only to reduce personal income taxes as provided in this section.
- (b) On or before October 31, the comptroller shall certify to the governor the total amount in the Tax Reduction Fund as shown in the financial report of the comptroller for the preceding fiscal year. A temporary increase in the amounts of the personal exemption allowable on the income tax shall be provided,

subject to appropriation, for the taxable year ending on the succeeding December 31 to the extent that the amount in the Tax Reduction Fund equals an integer multiple of 5 per cent of the amount of the personal income taxes which will not be collected for said taxable year on account of such personal exemptions. The commissioner of revenue shall calculate the amount of the temporary increase, if any, in such personal exemptions for said taxable year. The comptroller shall transfer the amount equal to such integer multiple of 5 per cent of the amounts not collected due to such personal exemptions from the Tax Reduction Fund to the General Fund.

- (i) Should there be no income tax enacted within the State of Dixie, the Comptroller shall apply the method outlined in Section II(b) as a dividend to be equally distributed to all citizens the state.

SECTION III: Provisions for Transfer of Funds:

- (a) The comptroller shall annually, on or before October 31, certify to the secretary of administration and finance the amount of the consolidated net surplus in the budgetary funds at the close of the preceding fiscal year. Except as otherwise provided by law, the amounts so certified shall be transferred to the Commonwealth Stabilization Fund. This transfer shall be made from the undesignated fund balances in the budgetary funds proportionally from those undesignated fund balances; provided, however, that no such transfer shall cause a deficit in any of those funds. Before certifying the consolidated net surplus under this section, the comptroller shall, to the extent possible, eliminate deficits in any fund contributing to the surplus by transferring positive fund balances from any other fund contributing to the surplus.

TITLE FIVE: ERRATA

SECTION I: Enactment

- (a) Except where otherwise stated, this act shall take effect immediately upon its passage into law.
- (b) Any provision of this Act held to be invalid, unenforceable, or unconstitutional by its terms, or as applied to any person or circumstance, shall not affect those parts which remain, and shall be construed so as to give it the maximum effect permitted by law, unless such holding shall be one of utter invalidity or unenforceability, in which event such provision shall be deemed severable from this Act and shall not affect the remainder thereof or the

application of such provision to other persons not similarly situated or to other, dissimilar circumstances.

- (c) Implementation-- Excepting where stated otherwise, The Secretary of the Treasury shall be responsible for the necessary regulations to make effective the provisions of this act.

This Act was written by /u/Autarch_Severian, /u/Leafy_Emerald, and /u/realnyebevan. It is sponsored by 1amF0x

