



Executive Summary

The collection of fees and taxes on the holders of Florida Submerged Land Leases has been unfairly implemented for some time. Owners of single family properties have seen little change, while owners in multi-family private properties have been shouldering an ever increasing expense burden. This issue came to a head in 2008 when the DEP attempted to raise land lease fees on multi-family docks as much as 350%. In the 2009 session, after failing to amend a bill containing a fee increase of 425%, the bill was firmly defeated. To prevent DEP from using these tactics in the future the following steps have occurred:

- Florida Homeowners for Fair Treatment established – Fall 2008
- FHFT lobbyist engaged - Spring 2009
- Rep Frishe & Sen Jones enlisted as legislative sponsors – Summer 2009
- Initial Senate Bill introduced during 2010 session
 - No companion House Bill
- Unanimous support from Pinellas Delegation for 2011 Bill – November 2010
- Companion Bills introduced by Frishe and Jones – January 2011
- Both Bills died in committee during 2011 session
- HB 13 Bill filed by Frishe – June 2011
 - SB 88 Bill filed by Latvala – June 2011
- Unanimous passage by all committees in 2012 session
- Passed 40-0 on 3/8/2012
- Approved by Governor Scott 5/4/2012
- Became Law 7/1/2012

A PARTIAL VICTORY AT BEST!