

Reference:

Article VII, Section 9

Ballot Title:

Fee on Everglades Sugar Production

Ballot Summary:

Provides that the South Florida Water Management District shall levy an Everglades Sugar Fee of 1 per pound on raw sugar grown in the Everglades Agricultural Area to raise funds to be used, consistent with statutory law, for purposes of conservation and protection of natural resources and abatement of water pollution in the Everglades. The fee is imposed for twenty-five years.

Full Text:

(a) Article VII, Section 9 is amended by a new subsection (c) at the end thereof, to read:

(c) The South Florida Water Management District, or its successor agency, shall levy a fee, to be called the Everglades Sugar Fee, of one cent per pound of raw sugar, assessed against each first processor, from sugarcane grown in the Everglades Agricultural Area. The Everglades Sugar Fee is imposed to raise funds to be used, consistent with statutory law, for purposes of conservation and protection of natural resources and abatement of water pollution in the Everglades Protection Area and the Everglades Agricultural Area, pursuant to the policy of the state in Article II, Section 7.

(2) The Everglades Sugar Fee shall expire twenty-five years from the effective date of this subsection.

(3) For purposes of this subsection, the terms "South Florida Water Management District," "Everglades Agricultural Area," and "Everglades Protection Area" shall have the meanings as defined in statutes in effect on January 1, 1996.

(b) This subsection shall take effect on the day after approval by the electors. If any portion or application of this measure is held invalid for any reason, the remaining portion or application, to the fullest extent possible, shall be severed from the void portion and given the fullest possible force and application.