

By Senator Siplin

19-00014-12

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1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to unclaimed deposits held by  
3 utilities; amending s. 717.108, F.S.; requiring that  
4 any unclaimed deposits held by a utility be deposited  
5 annually into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund in  
6 the Department of Community Affairs, or its successor  
7 agency, to supplement the Low-Income Home Energy  
8 Assistance Program; providing an effective date.

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10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

11  
12 Section 1. Section 717.108, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
13 read:

14 717.108 Deposits held by utilities.—

15 (1) Any deposit, including any interest thereon, made by a  
16 subscriber with a utility to secure payment or any sum paid in  
17 advance for utility services to be furnished, less any lawful  
18 charges, which ~~that~~ remains unclaimed by the owner for more than  
19 1 year after termination of the services for which the deposit  
20 or advance payment was made is presumed unclaimed.

21 (2) The unclaimed deposits shall be deposited annually into  
22 the Grants and Donations Trust Fund within the Department of  
23 Community Affairs, or the Department of Community Affairs'  
24 successor agency, to supplement funds of the Low-Income Home  
25 Energy Assistance Program which are used to assist low-income  
26 households in meeting the costs of home heating and cooling  
27 bills. These funds shall be administered through the local  
28 provider agencies that administer the Low-Income Home Energy  
29 Assistance Program.

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Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.