By Representatives Spratt, K. Smith, Boyd, Patterson, Lawson, Bronson, Crady, Wiles, J. Miller, Peaden, Stansel and Melvin

A bill to be entitled 1 2 An act relating to small county road 3 assistance; creating s. 339.2816, F.S.; creating the Small County Road Assistance 4 5 Program within the Department of Transportation; providing legislative intent; 6 7 providing a definition; providing funding; 8 providing for eligibility; providing for the 9 application of bidding provisions; providing 10 for rules; providing an effective date. 11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 12 13 14 Section 1. Section 339.2816, Florida Statutes, is created to read: 15 16 339.2816 Small County Road Assistance Program; 17 legislative intent; definitions; funding eligibility. --(1) The Legislature acknowledges that the Department 18 of Transportation has reclassified many state roads as county 19 20 roads. This reclassification has caused a hardship on small counties who are ill equipped to pay for the upkeep of these 21 roads; therefore, it is the intent of the Legislature to 22 provide remedy for these rural counties for the resurfacing or 23 reconstruction of these roads. 24 There is hereby created within the Department of 25 26 Transportation the Small County Road Assistance Program. The purpose of this program is to assist small county governments 27 28 in resurfacing or reconstructing roads originally classified as state roads which have been reclassified as county roads. 29 30

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- (3) For the purposes of this section the term "small county" means any county which has a population of 75,000 or less according to 1990 federal census data.
- (4) Beginning with fiscal year 1999-2000 until fiscal year 2009-2010 \$25 million shall be annually deposited into the General Transportation Trust Fund for the purposes of funding the Small County Road Assistance Program as described in this section.
- (a) Ten million dollars shall be deposited from the General Revenue Fund into the General Transportation Trust

 Fund and \$15 million shall be used from existing Department of Transportation dollars within the General Transportation Trust Fund to implement this section.
- (b) Upon a county's selection to receive funding for a project under this section, the Department of Transportation shall deposit the funding amount into the county's established transportation trust fund as designated by s. 336.022.
- (5)(a) Small counties shall be eligible to compete for dollars which have been designated for the Small County Road Assistance Program in the General Transportation Trust Fund for projects which involve the resurfacing or reconstruction of state roads which have been reclassified as county roads. Such eligibility shall apply to roads reallocated prior to this legislation and any such road reclassified after the effective date of this legislation.
- (b) The following priority classification scale shall be used to rank roads for funding consideration:
 - 1. Roads used as evacuation routes.
- 29 <u>2. Roads that experience high levels of agricultural</u> 30 <u>travel.</u>
 - 3. Roads which are considered major arterial routes.

1	4. Roads that are considered feeder roads.
2	5. General roads.
3	(6) Other provisions of law which provide for the
4	bidding process in the Department of Transportation shall
5	apply to this section.
6	(7) The Department of Transportation shall adopt rules
7	to implement the funding procedures set forth by this section.
8	Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 1999.
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11	HOUSE SUMMARY
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13	Creates the Small County Road Assistance Program within the Department of Transportation to assist small counties in resurfacing or reconstructing roads originally classified as state roads which have been reclassified as
14	classified as state roads which have been reclassified as
15	county roads. Defines a "small county" as any county which has a population of 75,000 or less according to 1990 federal census data. See bill for details.
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