

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

**BILL #:** HB 403 w/CS Libraries/Grants/Rural Communities  
**SPONSOR(S):** Anderson  
**TIED BILLS:** None **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:** SB 726

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REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR
1) <u>Local Affairs (Sub)</u>	<u>9 Y, 0 N</u>	<u>Smith-Boggis</u>	<u>Highsmith-Smith</u>
2) <u>Local Government &amp; Veterans' Affairs</u>	<u>14 Y, 0 N w/CS</u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
3) <u>Transportation &amp; Econ. Dev. Apps. (Sub)</u>	<u></u>	<u>Birnholz</u>	<u>Hawkins</u>
4) <u>Appropriations</u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
5) <u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>

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### SUMMARY ANALYSIS

This bill establishes the Community Libraries In Caring grants to assist libraries in certain rural communities, to strengthen their collections and services, improve literacy in their communities, and improve the economic viability of their communities. A library may apply for a grant of up to \$10,000. In order to be eligible for a grant, a library must show an unspecified level of local or other support. The bill provides that the Division of Library and Information Services of the Department of State must administer the grants; develop rules that establish the application procedures and review criteria; and facilitate the exchange of ideas and services to foster the purposes of the grant.

The bill appropriates \$100,000 from the General Revenue Fund to the Department of State for the purpose of funding rural communities for the cost of implementing the grants.

For comments regarding certain language within the bill, please see the "DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS" section of this analysis.

This document does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill sponsor or House of Representatives.

**STORAGE NAME:** h0403c.ap.doc  
**DATE:** April 11, 2003

## FULL ANALYSIS

### I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

#### A. DOES THE BILL:

- |                                      |                              |                             |   |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. Reduce government?                | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Lower taxes?                      | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Expand individual freedom?        | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Increase personal responsibility? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Empower families?                 | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

For any principle that received a “no” above, please explain:

#### B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Community Libraries In Caring (CLIC) is a Dunedin Friends of the Library project initiative designed to help rural libraries by helping them partner with other libraries and organizations around the state. According to its newsletter, one of the Board members, commented “two years on the Florida Library Association Legislative Board and Library Cooperative has opened my eyes to the broader Florida picture. CLIC was formed and we’re off and running.”<sup>1</sup>

This bill establishes the Community Libraries In Caring grants to assist libraries in certain rural communities, to strengthen their collections and services, improve literacy in their communities, and improve the economic viability of their communities. A library may apply for a grant of up to \$10,000. In order to be eligible for a grant, a library must show an unspecified level of local or other support. The bill provides that the Division of Library and Information Services of the Department of State must administer the grants; develop rules that establish the application procedures and review criteria; and facilitate the exchange of ideas and services to foster the purposes of the grant.

The bill appropriates \$100,000 from the General Revenue Fund to the Department of State for the purpose of funding rural communities for the cost of implementing the grants.

#### C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

- Section 1. Section 257.193, F.S., is created, to establish the Community Libraries In Caring grants to assist libraries in certain rural communities. This section also provides grant eligibility criteria and provides for grant administration by the Division of Library and Information Services of the Department of State.
- Section 2. Provides for an appropriation of \$100,000 from the General Revenue Fund to the Department of State for the purpose of funding rural communities, as defined in current law, for the cost of implementing the grants.
- Section 3. Provides that the bill will take upon October 1, 2003.

### II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

#### A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues: None.

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<sup>1</sup> Gemmy Brown, The CLIC Project – Dunedin Friends of the Library.

2. Expenditures: This bill provides for a General Revenue appropriation of \$100,000 to the Department of State for the purpose of funding rural communities, as defined in current law, for the cost of implementing the grants. Additionally, the Department of State's fiscal analysis of a similar Senate bill indicates that the department would have to expend an undetermined amount of staff time to administer the new grant program; the amount of staff time required would depend on the number and nature of the grant applications.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues: None.
2. Expenditures: None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR: None.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS: None.

### III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

The bill does not require a city or county to expend funds or to take any action requiring the expenditure of funds, does not reduce the authority that municipalities or counties have to raise revenues in the aggregate, and does not reduce the percentage of state tax shared with counties or municipalities.

2. Other: None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

This bill requires the Division of Library and Information Services of the Department of State to develop rules that establish the application procedures and criteria for the review of grant applications and grant awards.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

- This bill refers to the definition of the term "rural communities" under s. 288.06561, F.S., although the term is not defined under this section.
- The intent for a grant match requirement is unclear because the bill both broadly refers to the waiving of grant match requirements under . 288.06561, F.S., and appears to refer to the requirement of a grant match including "cash, in-kind, or other forms of assistance," although the amount of such support is unspecified.
- It is unclear whether the \$100,000 appropriation is intended to be for FY 2003-04 only. Moreover, the bill indicates that this appropriation is for funding rural communities rather than the grants, themselves, and the Department of State's administration of the grants.

#### **IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES**

The Committee on Local Government & Veterans' Affairs adopted one amendment on April 1, 2003. The amendment changed the effective date of the act to October 1, 2003, this will allow the Division of Library and Information Services time to reorganize before implementing this grant program.