

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

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

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 & Veterans' Affairs</u>	<u>14 Y, 0 N w/CS</u>	_____	_____
3) <u>Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations</u>	_____	_____	_____
4) <u>Appropriations</u>	_____	_____	_____
5) _____	_____	_____	_____

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

This bill establishes the Community Libraries In Caring grants to assist libraries in specified rural communities, to strengthen their collections and services, improve literacy in the community, and improve the economic viability of the community. The bill provides criteria for eligibility for the grants. The bill provides that the Division of Library and Information Services of the Department of State will administer the grants, develop rules that establish the application procedures, grant awards, 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 implementing the grants.

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

STORAGE NAME: h0403b.lgv.doc
DATE: April 1, 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:

This bill establishes the Community Libraries In Caring grants to assist libraries in specified rural communities, to strengthen their collections and services, improve literacy in the community, and improve the economic viability of the community. The bill provides criteria for eligibility for the grants. The bill provides that the Division of Library and Information Services of the Department of State will administer the grants, develop rules that establish the application procedures, grant awards, 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 implementing the grants.

According to FACT SHEET: Libraries & Literacy, Community-based public libraries are one of the strongest anchors for literacy education the state could possibly have. Overview 1) Public library literacy programs are a vital part of the national literacy system. Hundreds of thousands of adults with literacy needs participate in library literacy programs in over 7,000 public libraries in all 50 states. 2) Approximately 20,000 adult students, are tutored in Florida’s public libraries on an annual basis. 3) Over 400 or 88% of Florida’s 478 public libraries, representing 55 or 82% of the state’s 67 counties, actively participate in local literacy initiatives. 4) Over one-third of the literacy education programs available for adult students and their families who need literacy assistance in Florida are provided by public libraries. 5) Public libraries offer educational access to people who might not receive services at schools or traditional basic education programs.¹

Community Libraries In Caring (CLIC) is a Dunedin Friends of the Library project initiative. According to their newsletter, one of the Board members², 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.”

C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1. Section 257.193, F.S., is created, to establish the Community Libraries In Caring grants to assist libraries in specified rural communities, to strength collections and services, improve literacy, improve economic viability of the community. Provides the library may apply for a grant of up to \$10,000. Provides for certain criteria for the eligibility for a grant. Provides that the Division of Library and Information Services of the Department of State will administer the grants, develop rules that establish the application

¹ Betty A. Scott, Library Program Specialist, State Library of Florida and the National Institute For Literacy for providing the information on the fact sheet.

² Gemmy Brown, The CLIC Project – Dunedin Friends of the Library.

procedures and criteria for the review of the grant applications and grant awards, and facilitate the exchange of ideas and services to foster the purposes of the grant.

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, created by this bill.

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.

2. Expenditures: This bill has a general revenue appropriation of \$100,000.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues: None.

2. Expenditures: None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR: None.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

This bill has 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.

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.

The bill does not reduce the authority that municipalities or counties have to raise revenues in the aggregate.

This bill 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: None.

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.