

# SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

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Prepared By: Health and Human Services Appropriations Committee

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BILL: SB 18-A

SPONSOR: Senator Saunders

SUBJECT: Hurricane Relief/Health/Human Services

DATE: December 13, 2004 REVISED: 12/15/04

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	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Peters	Peters	HA	<b>Favorable</b>
2.				
3.				
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6.				

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## I. Summary:

The bill appropriates in lump sum a total of \$22.5 million in federal hurricane relief funds (non-FEMA) to provide critically needed services to the elderly, children, families, individuals with disabilities, and low-income individuals in order to address the impact of Hurricanes Charley, Frances, Jeanne, and Ivan and Tropical Storm Bonnie, which struck the state during 2004. Following are the amounts appropriated:

- \$12 million to the Department of Elderly Affairs for support services to the elderly.
- \$4.7 million to the Department of Children and Family Services for support services to children and families (i.e., domestic violence needs, adult services, and child welfare services).
- \$4.5 million to the Department of Children and Family Services for support services to children and families (i.e., substance abuse and mental health services).
- \$1.3 million to the Agency for Persons with Disabilities for support services to the developmentally disabled.

The bill provides for a three-day notification period rather than the currently required 14-day notice for interim budget actions for allocation of lump-sums.

This bill creates five undesignated sections of law.

## II. Present Situation:

During the 2004 hurricane season one tropical storm and four major hurricanes made landfall in Florida. The different sections of the state, including the central, eastern, northeastern, northwestern, and southwestern portions of the state, are now trying to recover from the cumulative impacts of the five storms. Accordingly, the Governor issued four separate Executive orders declaring a state of emergency due to hurricanes threatening or impacting the state of Florida during the 2004 hurricane season.

On August 10, 2004, the Governor issued Executive Order 04-182 to declare a state of emergency for Tropical Storm Bonnie and Hurricane Charley which devastated communities in the southwestern and central portions of the state. On September 1, 2004, the Governor issued Executive Order 04-192 to declare a state of emergency for Hurricane Frances which devastated communities in the central, eastern, and northeastern portions of the state. On September 10, 2004, the Governor issued Executive Order 04-206 to declare a state of emergency for Hurricane Ivan which devastated communities in the northwestern portion of the state. On September 24, 2004, the Governor issued Executive Order 04-217 declaring a state of emergency for Hurricane Jeanne which devastated communities in the central, eastern, and northeastern portions of the state. The Governor has subsequently issued numerous Executive Orders pertaining to the disaster relief and aid efforts necessary to assist the communities affected by the hurricanes during the 2004 hurricane season.

On October 7, 2004, the President of the United States authorized federal funds for public assistance due to the severity and magnitude of damage and economic impacts to the affected communities. There is currently a great demand for an infusion of state, local, and federal resources to aid the communities stricken by these disasters.

On November 12, 2004, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced that it was making an additional \$42.6 million in supplemental hurricane relief funds available to Florida to provide mental health, substance abuse, medical, and social services to people affected by hurricanes during 2004. This money is in addition to more than \$12 million HHS previously made available to hurricane recovery efforts, and is not FEMA funding.

Four HHS agencies will administer the funding to Florida:

- \$17.2 million will come from the Administration on Aging (AoA) to provide support services for the elderly. The money will be used to pay for minor home repairs and chore services, meals, case management, individual and group counseling and temporary housing.
- \$11 million will be awarded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to assist those in need of substance abuse and mental health clinic services, interventions and treatment.
- \$12.9 million will be awarded from the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) to support domestic violence needs, adult services, assistance for the developmentally disabled and for child welfare services.
- \$1.5 million from Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) will provide assistance to Florida community health centers that were impacted by the hurricanes.

This \$42.6 million is in addition to funding HHS made available to Florida immediately after the storms, which included \$10 million in emergency one-time grants to Head Start and Early Head Start centers in Florida; \$1 million to assist DeSoto County Hospital and Osceola Regional Hospital; \$600,000 in emergency grants from AoA to help Florida officials provide meals, shelter and services to elderly residents; and a \$600,000 emergency grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for technical health support, public health prevention, and surveillance activities.

### **III. Effect of Proposed Changes:**

**Section 1.** Provides legislative findings to address the need for social and medical services to the elderly, children, families, individuals with disabilities, low-income individuals, and to provide services within the communities in which they live in order to address the impact of Hurricanes Charley, Frances, Jeanne, and Ivan and Tropical Storm Bonnie which struck the state during 2004.

**Section 2.** Appropriates \$12,000,000 from the Federal Grants Trust Fund in a lump sum to the Department of Elderly Affairs for the purpose of providing support services relating to the 2004 hurricanes and tropical storm to the elderly during FY 2004-05. Examples of services could include minor home repairs and chore services, meals, case management, individual and group counseling, and temporary housing.

**Section 3.** Appropriates \$4,704,736 from the Social Services Block Grant Trust Fund and \$4,500,000 from the Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Trust Fund in a lump sum to the Department of Children and Family Services for the purpose of providing support services relating to the 2004 hurricanes and tropical storm to children and families during FY 2004-05. Examples of services could include: services for domestic violence needs; adult services; child welfare services; and substance abuse and mental health clinic services, interventions, and treatment.

**Section 4.** Appropriates \$1,313,429 from the Social Services Block Grant Trust Fund in a lump sum to the Agency for Persons with Disabilities for the purpose of providing support services relating to the 2004 hurricanes and tropical storm to the developmentally disabled during FY 2004-05. Examples of services could include supported-living, general home repair, and respite care.

**Section 5.** Notwithstanding s. 216.177, F.S., requiring a 14-day notice for interim budget actions, and pursuant to s. 216.351, F.S., the Executive Office of the Governor shall provide notice of the allocation of the lump-sum appropriations into traditional categories to the chair and vice chair of the Legislative Budget Commission at least 3 working days prior to the effective date of the allocation.

**Section 6.** Provides that this act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

**IV. Constitutional Issues:****A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:**

None.

**B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:**

None.

**C. Trust Funds Restrictions:**

None.

**V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:****A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

**B. Private Sector Impact:**

Additional funding will be available to provide social and medical services to individuals directly impacted by the 2004 hurricanes and tropical storm.

**C. Government Sector Impact:**

Although the Department of Health and Human Services made available \$42.6 million in supplemental hurricane relief funds to the state of Florida, \$1.5 million will go directly to the community health centers and does not impact the state budget. This leaves a balance of \$41.1 million to be appropriated through the state budget. There is no time frame by which these funds must be spent; however, it is anticipated that these funds will be spent over this and the next fiscal years. The Governor's Office of Policy and Budget estimates that \$22.5 million will be spent in FY 2004-05 and the balance of these funds will be included in the FY 2005-06 budget.

### Summary of Fiscal Impact

Department	FY 2004-05
<b>Department of Elderly Affairs</b>	
<i>Federal Grants Trust Fund</i>	
Salaries and Benefits	\$300,000
Other Personal Services	\$100,000
Expenses	\$200,000
G/A Older Americans Act Program	\$11,400,000
<b>Total Department of Elderly Affairs</b>	<b>\$12,000,000</b>
<b>Department of Children and Family Services</b>	
<i>Social Services Block Grant Trust Fund</i>	
G/A Domestic Violence Program	\$1,000,000
Temporary Emergency Shelter	\$788,550
G/A Child Protection	\$2,916,186
Sub-Total SSBG	\$4,704,736
<i>Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Trust Fund</i>	
G/A Contracted Services	\$4,500,000
<b>Total Department of Children and Family Services</b>	<b>\$9,204,736</b>
<b>Agency for Persons with Disabilities</b>	
<i>Social Services Block Grant Trust Fund</i>	
Expenses (repairs)	\$394,336
Operating Capital Outlay	\$20,913
Food Products	\$104,000
Home and Community Based Services Waiver	\$794,180
<b>Total Agency for Persons With Disabilities</b>	<b>\$1,313,429</b>
<b>TOAL ALL</b>	<b>\$22,518,165</b>

#### VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

**VII. Related Issues:**

None.

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This Senate staff analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's sponsor or the Florida Senate.

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## **VIII. Summary of Amendments:**

None.

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