

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to public libraries; amending s. 257.191,
 3 F.S.; revising provisions relating to public library
 4 construction grants; authorizing the Division of Library
 5 and Information Services to accept and administer
 6 appropriated funds for purposes of small county public
 7 library construction grants; providing for eligibility for
 8 grant funding; providing for effect contingent upon
 9 specific appropriations; limiting grants in the same
 10 fiscal year; providing for the adoption of rules;
 11 providing an effective date.

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

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 15 Section 1. Section 257.191, Florida Statutes, is amended
 16 to read:

17 257.191 Public library construction grants.--

18 (1) The Division of Library and Information Services may
 19 accept and administer library construction moneys appropriated
 20 to it and shall allocate such appropriation to municipal,
 21 county, and regional libraries in the form of public library
 22 construction grants on a matching basis. The local matching
 23 portion shall be no less than the grant amount, on a dollar-for-
 24 dollar basis, up to the maximum grant amount, unless the
 25 matching requirement is waived by s. 288.06561. Initiation of a
 26 library construction project 12 months or less prior to the
 27 grant award under this section shall not affect the eligibility
 28 of an applicant to receive a public library construction grant.

29 (2)(a) The Division of Library and Information Services
 30 may accept and administer moneys appropriated to it for small
 31 county public library construction grants. The purpose of the
 32 grants is to assist counties and municipalities that have been
 33 designated rural communities in accordance with ss.
 34 288.0656(2)(b) and 288.06561 to construct, expand, or renovate
 35 public library facilities to meet the requirement of 0.6 square
 36 feet per capita of total library floor space.

37 (b) To be eligible to compete for funds under this
 38 subsection, a county or municipality shall:

39 1. Comply with the definition of rural community as
 40 provided in s. 288.0656(2)(b).

41 2. Have less than 0.6 square feet per capita of total
 42 library floor space.

43 3. Certify that the county or municipality will
 44 appropriate and expend sufficient funds to operate the completed
 45 library facility.

46 4. Not apply if a grant has been awarded under the public
 47 library construction grant program provided in subsection (1)
 48 for the same fiscal year.

49 (c) The implementation of the provisions of the small
 50 county public library construction grants under this subsection
 51 shall be contingent upon specific appropriations provided to the
 52 Department of State for funding of these grants.

53 (3) A public library shall not receive grant funding from
 54 the public library construction grant program provided in
 55 subsection (1) and the small county public library construction
 56 grant program provided in subsection (2) during the same fiscal

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57 | year.

58 | (4) The division shall adopt rules for the administration
59 | of public library construction grants. For the purposes of this
60 | section, s. 257.21 does not apply.

61 | Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.