

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to the Florida Small Cities Community  
 3           Development Block Grant Program; amending s. 290.0411,  
 4           F.S.; revising legislative intent; amending s. 290.044,  
 5           F.S.; revising grant program categories; eliminating the  
 6           requirement for distribution of certain categorical funds  
 7           to be established by the Legislature; authorizing the  
 8           Department of Community Affairs to allocate funds for  
 9           emergency and natural disaster related activities;  
 10          providing an effective date.

11  
 12   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 14           Section 1.   Section 290.0411, Florida Statutes, is amended  
 15   to read:

16           290.0411   Legislative intent and purpose of ss. 290.0401-  
 17   290.049.--It is the intent of the Legislature to provide the  
 18   necessary means to develop, preserve, redevelop, and revitalize  
 19   Florida communities exhibiting signs of decline or distress by  
 20   enabling local governments to undertake the necessary community  
 21   development programs. The overall objective is to create viable  
 22   communities by eliminating slum and blight, fortifying  
 23   communities in urgent need, providing decent housing and  
 24   suitable living environments and expanding economic  
 25   opportunities, principally for persons of low or moderate  
 26   income. The purpose of ss. 290.0401-290.049 is to assist local  
 27   governments in carrying out effective community development and  
 28   project planning activities to arrest and reverse community

29 decline and restore community vitality. Community development  
 30 and project planning activities to maintain viable communities,  
 31 revitalize existing communities, expand economic development and  
 32 employment opportunities, and improve housing conditions and  
 33 expand housing opportunities, providing direct benefit to  
 34 persons of low or moderate income, are the primary purposes of  
 35 ss. 290.0401-290.049. The Legislature, therefore, declares that  
 36 the development, redevelopment, preservation, and revitalization  
 37 of communities in this state and all the purposes of ss.  
 38 290.0401-290.049 are public purposes for which public money may  
 39 be borrowed, expended, loaned, pledged to guarantee loans, and  
 40 granted.

41 Section 2. Subsections (3) and (4) of section 290.044,  
 42 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

43 290.044 Florida Small Cities Community Development Block  
 44 Grant Program Fund; administration; distribution.--

45 (3) The department shall define the broad community  
 46 development objective to be achieved by the activities in each  
 47 of the following grant program categories, and require  
 48 applicants for grants to compete against each other in these  
 49 grant program categories:

- 50 (a) Housing.
- 51 (b) Economic development.
- 52 (c) Neighborhood revitalization.
- 53 (d) Commercial revitalization.
- 54 (e) Project planning.

55 (4) ~~The percentage of funds distributed in each of the~~  
 56 ~~grant program categories from federal funds for federal fiscal~~

57 ~~year 1985 shall be established by the Legislature in the~~  
58 ~~appropriation process for the 1984 regular session and shall be~~  
59 ~~established annually thereafter in the same manner. The~~  
60 ~~department shall submit its recommendation on the distribution~~  
61 ~~percentages to the Governor and Legislature as part of its~~  
62 ~~regular budget proposals. The department may shall provide for~~  
63 ~~the set-aside of an amount of up to 5 ~~10~~ percent of the funds~~  
64 ~~allocated to the neighborhood revitalization category in its~~  
65 ~~distribution percentages~~ for use in any eligible local  
66 government jurisdiction for which an emergency or natural  
67 disaster has been declared by executive order. Such funds may  
68 only be provided to a local government to fund eligible  
69 emergency-related activities for which no other source of  
70 federal, state, or local disaster funds is available. The  
71 department may ~~shall~~ provide for such set-aside by rule. In the  
72 last quarter of the state fiscal year, any funds not allocated  
73 under the emergency-related set-aside shall be used to fully  
74 fund any applications which were partially funded due to  
75 inadequate funds in the most recently completed neighborhood  
76 revitalization category funding cycle, and then any remaining  
77 funds shall be distributed to the next unfunded applications.

78 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.