By Senator Diaz de la Portilla

36-735-06

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to coordinated 311 nonemergency
3	and other governmental services telephone
4	systems; creating s. 365.180, F.S.; defining
5	the term "coordinated 311 nonemergency and
6	other governmental services telephone system";
7	authorizing the Department of Community Affairs
8	to accept and administer funds to provide
9	grants for coordinated 311 nonemergency and
10	other governmental services systems;
11	authorizing counties and municipalities to
12	apply for grants; requiring a county or
13	municipality to provide matching funds;
14	requiring the department to award grants in
15	order of priority; providing for certain
16	limitations on grant funds received;
17	authorizing the department to adopt rules;
18	providing an appropriation; providing an
19	effective date.
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21	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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23	Section 1. Section 365.180, Florida Statutes, is
24	created to read:
25	365.180 Grant program for a coordinated 311
26	nonemergency and other governmental services telephone system;
27	grants for operation; funding; approval; allocation
28	(1) The Legislature finds that a 311 telephone system
29	for nonemergency and other governmental services may reduce
30	the volume of nonemergency calls to 911 Public Safety
31	Answering Points particularly in times of a disaster. The

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Legislature further finds that 311 systems improve public access to government by providing seamless access to various governmental entities, enhancing coordination among state and various local jurisdictions, and improving service delivery.

- (2) As used in this section, the term "coordinated 311 nonemergency and other governmental services telephone system" means a 311 system that is multijurisdictional and designed to provide seamless access to nonemergency and other governmental services.
- (3) The Department of Community Affairs may accept and administer funds that are appropriated to it to award grants to counties and municipalities to operate a coordinated 311 nonemergency and other governmental services telephone system.
- (4) A county or municipality may apply to the department for a grant of state funds to implement and operate a coordinated 311 nonemergency and other governmental services telephone system.
- (5) A grant awarded under this section must be matched by a contribution from the county or municipality in an amount equal to \$1 for each \$1 awarded under this section.
- (6) The department shall review each grant application that is submitted under subsection (4) and shall annually submit to the secretary a list of all applications received.

  Included with the list of applicants shall be a list of the systems that staff of the department recommend for approval, arranged in order of priority. The department shall allocate grants only to applicants that are approved by the secretary and for which funds are appropriated by the Legislature.
- (7) The annual amount of any one grant made under this section may not exceed the lesser of \$2.5 million or 50 percent of the total annual cost of operating the coordinated

1	311 nonemergency and other governmental services telephone
2	system. The total amount of the grants awarded to a
3	coordinated 311 nonemergency and other governmental services
4	telephone system in a 5-year period may not exceed \$10
5	million.
6	(8) Each 311 system receiving funds under this section
7	shall submit a report to the Governor, the President of the
8	Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by
9	December 15, 2007, detailing how the 311 system spent the
10	funds appropriated to it under this section.
11	(9) The Department of Community Affairs may adopt
12	rules for administering this section, including rules for the
13	criteria to be applied in order to evaluate applications for
14	<u>grants.</u>
15	Section 2. The sum of \$10 million is appropriated from
16	the General Revenue Fund to the Department of Community
17	Affairs for the 2006-2007 fiscal year for the purpose of
18	funding grants for the coordinated 311 nonemergency and other
19	governmental services telephone system.
20	Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.
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23	SENATE SUMMARY
24	Authorizes the Department of Community Affairs to accept
25	and administer funds to provide grants for coordinated 311 nonemergency and other governmental services systems.
26	Provides that counties and municipalities may apply for implementation and operation grants. Requires a county or
27	municipality to provide matching funds. Requires the department to award grants in order of priority. Provides
28	for certain limitations on grant funds received. Authorizes the department to adopt rules. Provides an
29	appropriation.
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