

By the Committee on Domestic Security; and Senator Bullard

583-1811-06

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A bill to be entitled  
An act relating to the use of state facilities  
as emergency shelters; amending s. 252.385,  
F.S.; providing for use of certain state  
facilities as emergency shelters; directing the  
Department of Management Services to list  
state-owned facilities that are suitable for  
use as emergency shelters; providing an  
effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section  
252.385, Florida Statutes is amended, and paragraph (d) is  
added to that subsection, to read:

252.385 Public shelter space.--

(4)(a) Public facilities, including schools,  
postsecondary education facilities, and other facilities owned  
or leased by the state or local governments, but excluding  
hospitals or nursing homes, which are suitable for use as  
public hurricane evacuation shelters shall be made available  
at the request of the local emergency management agencies.  
Such agencies shall coordinate with the appropriate school  
board, university, community college, state agency, or local  
governing board when requesting the use of such facilities as  
public hurricane evacuation shelters.

(d) The Department of Management Services shall  
include in the annual state facilities inventory report  
required under ss. 216.015-216.016 a separate list of  
state-owned facilities, including, but not limited to, meeting  
halls, auditoriums, conference centers, and training centers

1 that have unoccupied space suitable for use as an emergency  
2 shelter during a storm or other catastrophic event. Facilities  
3 must be listed by the county and municipality where the  
4 facility is located and must be made available in accordance  
5 with paragraph (a). As used in this paragraph, the term  
6 "suitable for use as an emergency shelter" means meeting the  
7 standards set by the American Red Cross for a hurricane  
8 evacuation shelter, and the term "unoccupied" means vacant due  
9 to suspended operation or nonuse. The list must be updated by  
10 May 31 of each year.

11 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.

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13 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN  
14 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
15 SB 678

16 This committee substitute requires the Department of  
17 Management Services to include a separate list of state-owned  
18 facilities having unoccupied space suitable for emergency  
19 shelter use in its annual facilities inventory report. The  
20 term "unoccupied" is defined as vacant due to suspended  
21 operations or nonuse.

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Section 252.385, F.S., is also amended to add the term "state  
agency" to the list of organizations coordinating with local  
emergency management agencies in making public building  
available as public shelters.