

By Senator Bullard

39-00222-09

2009128\_\_

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to emergency management; amending s.  
3           414.095, F.S.; requiring the Department of Children  
4           and Family Services, to the extent permitted by  
5           federal law, to expedite application procedures for  
6           persons who reside in an area damaged by a major  
7           disaster and who apply for temporary cash assistance;  
8           requiring that the application process be completed  
9           within a specified time; requiring the department to  
10          train its employees who are responsible for  
11          determining eligibility for temporary cash assistance  
12          in order to expedite the application process for the  
13          victims of a major disaster and to assist the victims  
14          in contacting agencies that provide temporary shelter,  
15          food, food stamps, and other relief; amending s.  
16          252.36, F.S.; authorizing the Governor to employ such  
17          measures and give such directions to certain specified  
18          agencies as are necessary for the purpose of  
19          addressing the needs for immediate cash, shelter, or  
20          food assistance for children, families, and the  
21          elderly and disabled during an emergency; providing an  
22          effective date.

23  
24 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

25  
26           Section 1. Present subsection (18) of section 414.095,  
27           Florida Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (19), and a new  
28           subsection (18) is added to that section, to read:

29           414.095 Determining eligibility for temporary cash

39-00222-09

2009128\_\_

30 assistance.-

31 (18) EXPEDITED APPLICATION PROCESS.-

32 (a) To the extent permitted by federal law or regulation,  
33 the department shall expedite application procedures for  
34 applicants who reside in an area damaged by a major disaster, as  
35 defined in s. 252.34. The department must complete the  
36 application process within 10 calendar days after receiving a  
37 completed application.

38 (b) The department shall train its employees who are  
39 responsible for determining eligibility for temporary cash  
40 assistance in order to expedite the application process for the  
41 victims of major disasters and to assist the victims in  
42 contacting appropriate agencies that provide temporary shelter,  
43 food, food stamps, and other relief.

44 Section 2. Present subsections (8), (9), and (10) of  
45 section 252.36, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections  
46 (9), (10), and (11), respectively, and a new subsection (8) is  
47 added to that section, to read:

48 252.36 Emergency management powers of the Governor.-

49 (8) The Governor shall employ such measures and give such  
50 directions to the Department of Children and Family Services,  
51 the Agency for Workforce Development, the Department of Elderly  
52 Affairs, and the Agency for Persons with Disabilities as are  
53 reasonably necessary for the purpose of securing compliance with  
54 the provisions of ss. 252.31-252.60 or with the findings or  
55 recommendations of such agencies regarding the need for  
56 immediate cash, shelter, or food assistance for children,  
57 families, and the elderly and disabled during an emergency.

58 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.