By Senator Dockery

20092230 15-01690-09 A bill to be entitled

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An act relating to relocation grants; amending s. 420.9072, F.S.; authorizing counties and eligible municipalities to use funds from the State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program to provide relocation grants for persons who are evicted from rental properties that are in foreclosure; providing eligibility requirements for receiving a grant;

providing that authorization for the relocation grants

expires July 1, 2010; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (7) of section 420.9072, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

420.9072 State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program.-The State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program is created for the purpose of providing funds to counties and eligible municipalities as an incentive for the creation of local housing partnerships, to expand production of and preserve affordable housing, to further the housing element of the local government comprehensive plan specific to affordable housing, and to increase housing-related employment.

- (7) A county or an eligible municipality must expend its portion of the local housing distribution only to implement a local housing assistance plan or as provided in this subsection.
- (a) A county or an eligible municipality may not expend its portion of the local housing distribution to provide rent subsidies; however, this does not prohibit the use of funds for

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security and utility deposit assistance.

(b) A county or an eligible municipality may expend a portion of the local housing distribution to provide a one-time relocation grant to persons who meet the income requirements of the State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program and who are subject to eviction from rental property located in the county or eligible municipality due to the foreclosure of the rental property. In order to receive a grant under this paragraph, a person must provide the county or eligible municipality with proof of meeting the income requirements of a very-low-income household, a low-income household, or a moderate-income household; a notice of eviction; and proof that the rent has been paid for at least 3 months before the date of eviction, including the month that the notice of eviction was served. Relocation assistance under this paragraph is limited to a onetime grant of not more than \$5,000 and is not limited to persons who are subject to eviction from projects funded under the State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program. This paragraph expires July 1, 2010.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.