

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: HB 5109A PCB GOA 09A-01 My Safe Florida Home Program

SPONSOR(S): Government Operations Appropriations Committee; Hays

TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:**

	REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR
Orig. Comm.:	Government Operations Appropriations Committee	6 Y, 0 N	Fox	Topp
1)	Full Appropriations Council on General Government & Health Care		Fox	Leznoff
2)				
3)				
4)				
5)				

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

In 2006, the Florida Legislature created the Florida Comprehensive Hurricane Damage Mitigation Program and appropriated \$250 million to provide financial incentives to encourage residential property owners in Florida to retrofit their properties, make them less vulnerable to hurricane damage and help decrease the cost of residential property and casualty insurance.

The Department of Financial Services (DFS) was directed to develop a program to provide no-interest loans to homeowners and manufactured homeowners for installation of mitigation measures. Ten million dollars of the \$250 million initially appropriated to the My Safe Florida Home (MSFH) program was internally allocated to the no-interest loan program.

Section 215.5586, F.S., was amended during the 2008 Session of the Legislature to require the department to set aside \$10 million of the original \$250 million appropriation to the MSFH program to implement a no-interest loan program by October 1, 2008. However, to date a qualified vendor has not been successfully secured to implement the program despite DFS's efforts.

The bill deletes the requirement that DFS set aside \$10 million of the original \$250 million appropriation to the MSFH program to implement a no-interest loan program.

The bill has an effective date upon becoming law.

HOUSE PRINCIPLES

Members are encouraged to evaluate proposed legislation in light of the following guiding principles of the House of Representatives:

- Balance the state budget.
- Create a legal and regulatory environment that fosters economic growth and job creation.
- Lower the tax burden on families and businesses.
- Reverse or restrain the growth of government.
- Promote public safety.
- Promote educational accountability, excellence, and choice.
- Foster respect for the family and for innocent human life.
- Protect Florida's natural beauty.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

The Florida My Safe Florida Home Program

In 2006, the Legislature created the Florida Comprehensive Hurricane Damage Mitigation Program and appropriated \$250 million to provide financial incentives to encourage residential property owners in Florida to retrofit their properties, making them less vulnerable to hurricane damage and help decrease the cost of residential property and casualty insurance.¹ The program is now called "My Safe Florida Home (MSFH program)"² and is administered by the DFS. The intent of the program is to:

- Provide free home inspections for at least 400,000 site-built, single-family, residential properties
- Provide grants to at least 35,000 applicants before June 30, 2009.³

To accomplish these goals, the MSFH program processes applications for free home inspections and awards grants to interested homeowners who have received an inspection. The program also helps train and develops a mitigation workforce (inspectors and contractors) and provides education and consumer awareness programs.

No-Interest Loans

DFS was directed to develop a program to provide no-interest loans to homeowners and manufactured homeowners for installation of mitigation measures by December 31, 2007. Ten million dollars of the \$250 million initially appropriated to the MSFH program was internally allocated to the no-interest loan program.

Section 215.5586(8), F.S., was amended during the 2008 Session of the Legislature to require DFS to set aside \$10 million of the original \$250 million appropriation to the MSFH program to implement a no-

¹ Chapter 2006-12, L.O.F. (CS/CS/SB 1980; s.215.5586, F.S.) The unused funds appropriated to the program revert back to the state on June 30, 2009.

² These programs began operation on August 15, 2006.

³ These goals were established in legislation enacted in 2007. (Chapter 2007-126, L.O.F.)

interest loan program by October 1, 2008. However, to date a qualified vendor has not been successfully secured to implement the program despite DFS's efforts.

The bill deletes the requirement that DFS set aside \$10 million of the original \$250 million appropriation to the MSFH program to implement a no-interest loan program.

B. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1 amends s. 215.5586(8), F.S., to delete the requirement that DFS set aside \$10 million to implement a no-interest loan program within the My Safe Florida Home Program.

Section 2 provides an effective date upon becoming law.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

None

2. Expenditures:

None

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

None

2. Expenditures:

None

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

None

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

None

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

The mandates provision does not apply because this bill does not: require counties or municipalities to spend funds or to take an action requiring the expenditure of funds; reduce the authority that municipalities or counties have to raise revenues in the aggregate; or reduce the percentage of a state tax shared with counties or municipalities.

2. Other:

None

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None

IV. AMENDMENTS/COUNCIL OR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

None required as the bill was a proposed committee bill.