

By Senator Bullard

39-00185-10

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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:

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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

39-00185-10

2010412

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 Innovation, 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, 2010.