

1 A bill to be entitled  
2 An act relating to homelessness; amending ss. 320.02,  
3 322.08, and 322.18, F.S.; requiring the motor vehicle  
4 registration form and registration renewal form, the  
5 driver license application form, and the driver license  
6 application form for renewal issuance or renewal extension  
7 to include an option to make a voluntary contribution to  
8 aid the homeless; providing for such contributions to be  
9 deposited into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund of the  
10 Department of Children and Family Services and used by the  
11 State Office on Homelessness for certain purposes;  
12 providing that voluntary contributions for the homeless  
13 are not income of a revenue nature for the purpose of  
14 applying certain service charges; creating s. 414.161,  
15 F.S.; establishing a homelessness prevention grant  
16 program; requiring grant applicants to be ranked  
17 competitively; providing preference for certain grant  
18 applicants; providing eligibility requirements; providing  
19 grant limitations and restrictions; requiring lead  
20 agencies for local homeless assistance continuums of care  
21 to track, monitor, and report on assisted families for a  
22 specified period of time; amending s. 420.622, F.S.;  
23 limiting the percentage of funding that lead agencies may  
24 spend on administrative costs; amending s. 420.625, F.S.;  
25 deleting a cross-reference to conform; amending s.  
26 420.6275, F.S.; revising legislative findings relating to  
27 the Housing First approach to homelessness; repealing s.  
28 414.16, F.S., relating to the emergency assistance program

29 | for families with children that have lost shelter or face  
 30 | loss of shelter due to an emergency; providing an  
 31 | effective date.

32 |

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

34 |

35 | Section 1. Paragraph (i) is added to subsection (15) of  
 36 | section 320.02, Florida Statutes, to read:

37 | 320.02 Registration required; application for  
 38 | registration; forms.—

39 | (15)

40 | (i) Notwithstanding s. 320.023, the application form for  
 41 | motor vehicle registration and renewal of registration must  
 42 | include language permitting a voluntary contribution of \$1 per  
 43 | applicant to aid the homeless. Contributions made pursuant to  
 44 | this paragraph shall be deposited into the Grants and Donations  
 45 | Trust Fund of the Department of Children and Family Services and  
 46 | used by the State Office on Homelessness to supplement grants  
 47 | made under s. 420.622(4) and (5), provide information to the  
 48 | public about homelessness in the state, and provide literature  
 49 | for homeless persons seeking assistance.

50 |

51 | For the purpose of applying the service charge provided in s.  
 52 | 215.20, contributions received under this subsection are not  
 53 | income of a revenue nature.

54 | Section 2. Subsection (7) of section 322.08, Florida  
 55 | Statutes, is amended to read:

56 | 322.08 Application for license.—

57 (7) The application form for a driver's license or  
58 duplicate thereof shall include language permitting the  
59 following:

60 (a) A voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant, which  
61 contribution shall be deposited into the Health Care Trust Fund  
62 for organ and tissue donor education and for maintaining the  
63 organ and tissue donor registry.

64 (b) A voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant, which  
65 contribution shall be distributed to the Florida Council of the  
66 Blind.

67 (c) A voluntary contribution of \$2 per applicant, which  
68 shall be distributed to the Hearing Research Institute,  
69 Incorporated.

70 (d) A voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant, which  
71 shall be distributed to the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation  
72 International.

73 (e) A voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant, which  
74 shall be distributed to the Children's Hearing Help Fund.

75 (f) A voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant, which  
76 shall be distributed to Family First, a nonprofit organization.

77 (g) A voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant, to Stop  
78 Heart Disease, which shall be distributed to the Florida Heart  
79 Research Institute, a nonprofit organization.

80 (h) Notwithstanding s. 322.081, a voluntary contribution  
81 of \$1 per applicant to aid the homeless. Contributions made  
82 pursuant to this paragraph shall be deposited into the Grants  
83 and Donations Trust Fund of the Department of Children and  
84 Family Services and used by the State Office on Homelessness to

85 supplement grants made under s. 420.622(4) and (5), provide  
 86 information to the public about homelessness in the state, and  
 87 provide literature for homeless persons seeking assistance.

88  
 89 A statement providing an explanation of the purpose of the trust  
 90 funds shall also be included. For the purpose of applying the  
 91 service charge provided in s. 215.20, contributions received  
 92 under paragraphs (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), ~~and~~ (g), and (h) and  
 93 under s. 322.18(9) are not income of a revenue nature.

94 Section 3. Paragraph (c) is added to subsection (9) of  
 95 section 322.18, Florida Statutes, to read:

96 322.18 Original applications, licenses, and renewals;  
 97 expiration of licenses; delinquent licenses.—

98 (9)

99 (c) The application form for a renewal issuance or renewal  
 100 extension shall include language permitting a voluntary  
 101 contribution of \$1 per applicant to aid the homeless.

102 Contributions made pursuant to this paragraph shall be deposited  
 103 into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund of the Department of  
 104 Children and Family Services and used by the State Office on  
 105 Homelessness to supplement grants made under s. 420.622(4) and  
 106 (5), provide information to the public about homelessness in the  
 107 state, and provide literature for homeless persons seeking  
 108 assistance. For the purpose of applying the service charge  
 109 provided in s. 215.20, contributions received under this  
 110 paragraph are not income of a revenue nature.

111 Section 4. Section 414.161, Florida Statutes, is created  
 112 to read:

113 414.161 Homelessness prevention grants.—

114 (1) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—There is created a grant  
115 program to provide emergency financial assistance to families  
116 facing the loss of their current home due to a financial or  
117 other crisis. The State Office on Homelessness, with the  
118 concurrence of the Council on Homelessness, may accept and  
119 administer moneys appropriated to it to provide homelessness  
120 prevention grants annually to lead agencies for local homeless  
121 assistance continuums of care, as recognized by the State Office  
122 on Homelessness. These moneys shall consist of any sums that the  
123 state may appropriate, as well as money received from donations,  
124 gifts, bequests, or otherwise from any public or private source  
125 that is intended to assist families to prevent them from  
126 becoming homeless.

127 (2) GRANT APPLICATIONS.—Grant applicants shall be ranked  
128 competitively. Preference shall be given to applicants who  
129 leverage additional private funds and public funds, who  
130 demonstrate the effectiveness of their homelessness prevention  
131 programs in keeping families housed, and who demonstrate the  
132 commitment of other assistance and services to address family  
133 health, employment, and education needs.

134 (3) ELIGIBILITY.—In order to qualify for a grant, a lead  
135 agency must develop and implement a local homeless assistance  
136 continuum of care plan for its designated catchment area. The  
137 homelessness prevention program must be included in the  
138 continuum of care plan.

139 (4) GRANT LIMITS.—The maximum grant amount per lead agency  
140 may not exceed \$300,000. The grant assistance may be used to pay

141 past due rent or mortgage payments, past due utility costs,  
 142 other past due bills creating a family's financial crisis,  
 143 provision of case management services, and program  
 144 administration costs not to exceed 3 percent of the grant award.  
 145 The homelessness prevention program must develop a case plan for  
 146 each family to be assisted setting forth what costs will be  
 147 covered and the maximum level of assistance to be offered.

148 (5) PERFORMANCE.—The lead agency shall be required to  
 149 track, monitor, and report on each family assisted for at least  
 150 12 months after the last assistance provided to the family. The  
 151 goal for the homelessness prevention program shall be to enable  
 152 at least 85 percent of the families assisted to remain in their  
 153 homes and avoid becoming homeless during the ensuing year.

154 Section 5. Paragraph (d) is added to subsection (4) of  
 155 section 420.622, Florida Statutes, to read:

156 420.622 State Office on Homelessness; Council on  
 157 Homelessness.—

158 (4) Not less than 120 days after the effective date of  
 159 this act, the State Office on Homelessness, with the concurrence  
 160 of the Council on Homelessness, may accept and administer moneys  
 161 appropriated to it to provide "Challenge Grants" annually to  
 162 lead agencies for homeless assistance continuums of care  
 163 designated by the State Office on Homelessness. A lead agency  
 164 may be a local homeless coalition, municipal or county  
 165 government, or other public agency or private, not-for-profit  
 166 corporation. Such grants may be up to \$500,000 per lead agency.

167 (d) A lead agency may spend a maximum of 8 percent of its  
 168 funding on administrative costs.

169 Section 6. Paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of section  
 170 420.625, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

171 420.625 Grant-in-aid program.—

172 (3) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is hereby established a grant-in-  
 173 aid program to help local communities in serving the needs of  
 174 the homeless through a variety of supportive services, which may  
 175 include, but are not limited to:

176 (d) Emergency financial assistance for persons who are  
 177 totally without shelter or facing loss of shelter, ~~but who are~~  
 178 ~~not eligible for such assistance under s. 414.16.~~

179 Section 7. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section  
 180 420.6275, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

181 420.6275 Housing First.—

182 (2) HOUSING FIRST METHODOLOGY.—

183 (a) The Housing First approach to homelessness differs  
 184 from traditional approaches by providing housing assistance,  
 185 case management, and support services responsive to individual  
 186 or family needs after housing is obtained. By using this  
 187 approach when appropriate, communities can significantly reduce  
 188 the amount of time that individuals and families are homeless  
 189 and prevent further episodes of homelessness. Housing First  
 190 emphasizes that social services provided to enhance individual  
 191 and family well-being can be more effective when people are in  
 192 their own home, and:

- 193 1. The housing is not time-limited.
- 194 2. The housing is not contingent on compliance with
- 195 services. Instead, participants must comply with a standard

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196 | lease agreement and are provided with the services and support  
197 | that are necessary to help them do so successfully.

198 | ~~3. A background check and any rehabilitation necessary to~~  
199 | ~~combat an addiction related to alcoholism or substance abuse has~~  
200 | ~~been completed by the individual for whom assistance or support~~  
201 | ~~services are provided.~~

202 | Section 8. Section 414.16, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

203 | Section 9. This act shall take effect July 1, 2010.