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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

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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 (o) 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 | (o) 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; requirements for license

57 and identification card forms.—

58 (7) The application form for an original, renewal, or  
59 replacement driver's license or identification card shall  
60 include language permitting the following:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

81 (h) A voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant to Senior  
82 Vision Services, which shall be distributed to the Florida  
83 Association of Agencies Serving the Blind, Inc., a not-for-  
84 profit organization.

85 (i) A voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant for  
86 services for persons with developmental disabilities, which  
87 shall be distributed to The Arc of Florida.

88 (j) A voluntary contribution of \$1 to the Ronald McDonald  
89 House, which shall be distributed each month to Ronald McDonald  
90 House Charities of Tampa Bay, Inc.

91 (k) Notwithstanding s. 322.081, a voluntary contribution  
92 of \$1 per applicant, which shall be distributed to the League  
93 Against Cancer/La Liga Contra el Cancer, a not-for-profit  
94 organization.

95 (l) A voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant to  
96 Prevent Child Sexual Abuse, which shall be distributed to  
97 Lauren's Kids, Inc., a nonprofit organization.

98 (m) A voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant, which  
99 shall be distributed to Prevent Blindness Florida, a not-for-  
100 profit organization, to prevent blindness and preserve the sight  
101 of the residents of this state.

102 (n) Notwithstanding s. 322.081, a voluntary contribution  
103 of \$1 per applicant to the state homes for veterans, to be  
104 distributed on a quarterly basis by the department to the State  
105 Homes for Veterans Trust Fund, which is administered by the  
106 Department of Veterans' Affairs.

107 (o) Notwithstanding s. 322.081, a voluntary contribution  
108 of \$1 per applicant to aid the homeless. Contributions made  
109 pursuant to this paragraph shall be deposited into the Grants  
110 and Donations Trust Fund of the Department of Children and  
111 Family Services and used by the State Office on Homelessness to  
112 supplement grants made under s. 420.622(4) and (5), provide

113 information to the public about homelessness in the state, and  
 114 provide literature for homeless persons seeking assistance.  
 115

116 A statement providing an explanation of the purpose of the trust  
 117 funds shall also be included. For the purpose of applying the  
 118 service charge provided in s. 215.20, contributions received  
 119 under paragraphs (b)-(o) ~~(b)-(n)~~ are not income of a revenue  
 120 nature.

121 Section 3. Subsection (9) is added to section 322.18,  
 122 Florida Statutes, to read:

123 322.18 Original applications, licenses, and renewals;  
 124 expiration of licenses; delinquent licenses.—

125 (9) The application form for a renewal issuance or renewal  
 126 extension shall include language permitting a voluntary  
 127 contribution of \$1 per applicant to aid the homeless.

128 Contributions made pursuant to this paragraph shall be deposited  
 129 into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund of the Department of  
 130 Children and Family Services and used by the State Office on  
 131 Homelessness to supplement grants made under s. 420.622(4) and  
 132 (5), provide information to the public about homelessness in the  
 133 state, and provide literature for homeless persons seeking  
 134 assistance. For the purpose of applying the service charge  
 135 provided in s. 215.20, contributions received under this  
 136 paragraph are not income of a revenue nature.

137 Section 4. Section 414.161, Florida Statutes, is created  
 138 to read:

139 414.161 Homelessness prevention grants.—

140 (1) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—There is created a grant

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141 program to provide emergency financial assistance to families  
142 facing the loss of their current home due to a financial or  
143 other crisis. The State Office on Homelessness, with the  
144 concurrence of the Council on Homelessness, may accept and  
145 administer moneys appropriated to it to provide homelessness  
146 prevention grants annually to lead agencies for local homeless  
147 assistance continuums of care, as recognized by the State Office  
148 on Homelessness. These moneys shall consist of any sums that the  
149 state may appropriate, as well as money received from donations,  
150 gifts, bequests, or otherwise from any public or private source  
151 that is intended to assist families to prevent them from  
152 becoming homeless.

153 (2) GRANT APPLICATIONS.—Grant applicants shall be ranked  
154 competitively. Preference shall be given to applicants who  
155 leverage additional private funds and public funds, who  
156 demonstrate the effectiveness of their homelessness prevention  
157 programs in keeping families housed, and who demonstrate the  
158 commitment of other assistance and services to address family  
159 health, employment, and education needs.

160 (3) ELIGIBILITY.—In order to qualify for a grant, a lead  
161 agency must develop and implement a local homeless assistance  
162 continuum of care plan for its designated catchment area. The  
163 homelessness prevention program must be included in the  
164 continuum of care plan.

165 (4) GRANT LIMITS.—The maximum grant amount per lead agency  
166 may not exceed \$300,000. The grant assistance may be used to pay  
167 past due rent or mortgage payments, past due utility costs,  
168 other past due bills creating a family's financial crisis,

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169 provision of case management services, and program  
170 administration costs not to exceed 3 percent of the grant award.  
171 The homelessness prevention program must develop a case plan for  
172 each family to be assisted setting forth what costs will be  
173 covered and the maximum level of assistance to be offered.

174 (5) PERFORMANCE.—The lead agency shall be required to  
175 track, monitor, and report on each family assisted for at least  
176 12 months after the last assistance provided to the family. The  
177 goal for the homelessness prevention program shall be to enable  
178 at least 85 percent of the families assisted to remain in their  
179 homes and avoid becoming homeless during the ensuing year.

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

182 420.622 State Office on Homelessness; Council on  
183 Homelessness.—

184 (4) Not less than 120 days after the effective date of  
185 this act, the State Office on Homelessness, with the concurrence  
186 of the Council on Homelessness, may accept and administer moneys  
187 appropriated to it to provide "Challenge Grants" annually to  
188 lead agencies for homeless assistance continuums of care  
189 designated by the State Office on Homelessness. A lead agency  
190 may be a local homeless coalition, municipal or county  
191 government, or other public agency or private, not-for-profit  
192 corporation. Such grants may be up to \$500,000 per lead agency.

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

195 Section 6. Paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of section  
196 420.625, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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197 420.625 Grant-in-aid program.—

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

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

205 Section 7. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section  
 206 420.6275, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

207 420.6275 Housing First.—

208 (2) HOUSING FIRST METHODOLOGY.—

209 (a) The Housing First approach to homelessness differs  
 210 from traditional approaches by providing housing assistance,  
 211 case management, and support services responsive to individual  
 212 or family needs after housing is obtained. By using this  
 213 approach when appropriate, communities can significantly reduce  
 214 the amount of time that individuals and families are homeless  
 215 and prevent further episodes of homelessness. Housing First  
 216 emphasizes that social services provided to enhance individual  
 217 and family well-being can be more effective when people are in  
 218 their own home, and:

219 1. The housing is not time-limited.

220 2. The housing is not contingent on compliance with  
 221 services. Instead, participants must comply with a standard  
 222 lease agreement and are provided with the services and support  
 223 that are necessary to help them do so successfully.



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224           ~~3. A background check and any rehabilitation necessary to~~  
225 ~~combat an addiction related to alcoholism or substance abuse has~~  
226 ~~been completed by the individual for whom assistance or support~~  
227 ~~services are provided.~~

228           Section 8. Section 414.16, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

229           Section 9. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.