

HB 7231

2011

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to a uniform home grading scale; repealing
3 s. 215.55865, F.S., relating to the required adoption by
4 the Financial Services Commission of a uniform home
5 grading scale to grade the ability of a home to withstand
6 the wind load from certain tropical storms or hurricanes;
7 amending s. 215.5586, F.S., to conform; providing an
8 effective date.

9
10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

11
12 Section 1. Section 215.55865, Florida Statutes, is
13 repealed.

14 Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section
15 215.5586, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

16 215.5586 My Safe Florida Home Program.—There is
17 established within the Department of Financial Services the My
18 Safe Florida Home Program. The department shall provide fiscal
19 accountability, contract management, and strategic leadership
20 for the program, consistent with this section. This section does
21 not create an entitlement for property owners or obligate the
22 state in any way to fund the inspection or retrofitting of
23 residential property in this state. Implementation of this
24 program is subject to annual legislative appropriations. It is
25 the intent of the Legislature that the My Safe Florida Home
26 Program provide trained and certified inspectors to perform
27 inspections for owners of site-built, single-family, residential
28 properties and grants to eligible applicants as funding allows.

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29 The program shall develop and implement a comprehensive and
 30 coordinated approach for hurricane damage mitigation that may
 31 include the following:

32 (1) HURRICANE MITIGATION INSPECTIONS.—

33 (a) Certified inspectors to provide home-retrofit
 34 inspections of site-built, single-family, residential property
 35 may be offered to determine what mitigation measures are needed,
 36 what insurance premium discounts may be available, and what
 37 improvements to existing residential properties are needed to
 38 reduce the property's vulnerability to hurricane damage. The
 39 Department of Financial Services shall contract with wind
 40 certification entities to provide hurricane mitigation
 41 inspections. The inspections provided to homeowners, at a
 42 minimum, must include:

43 1. A home inspection and report that summarizes the
 44 results and identifies recommended improvements a homeowner may
 45 take to mitigate hurricane damage.

46 2. A range of cost estimates regarding the recommended
 47 mitigation improvements.

48 3. Insurer-specific information regarding premium
 49 discounts correlated to the current mitigation features and the
 50 recommended mitigation improvements identified by the
 51 inspection.

52 ~~4. A hurricane resistance rating scale specifying the~~
 53 ~~home's current as well as projected wind resistance~~
 54 ~~capabilities. As soon as practical, the rating scale must be the~~
 55 ~~uniform home grading scale adopted by the Financial Services~~
 56 ~~Commission pursuant to s. 215.55865.~~

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Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.