

By Senator Hill

1-01005-11

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

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30 the emergency assistance program for families with  
31 children that have lost shelter or face loss of  
32 shelter due to an emergency; providing an effective  
33 date.

34  
35 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

36  
37 Section 1. Paragraph (o) is added to subsection (15) of  
38 section 320.02, Florida Statutes, to read:

39 320.02 Registration required; application for registration;  
40 forms.—

41 (15)

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

52  
53 For the purpose of applying the service charge provided in s.  
54 215.20, contributions received under this subsection are not  
55 income of a revenue nature.

56 Section 2. Subsection (7) of section 322.08, Florida  
57 Statutes, is amended to read:

58 322.08 Application for license; requirements for license

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59 and identification card forms.—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

87 (i) A voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant for

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88 services for persons with developmental disabilities, which  
89 shall be distributed to The Arc of Florida.

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

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

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

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

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

109 (o) Notwithstanding s. 322.081, a voluntary contribution of  
110 \$1 per applicant to aid the homeless. Contributions made  
111 pursuant to this paragraph shall be deposited into the Grants  
112 and Donations Trust Fund of the Department of Children and  
113 Family Services and used by the State Office on Homelessness to  
114 supplement grants made under s. 420.622(4) and (5), provide  
115 information to the public about homelessness in the state, and  
116 provide literature for homeless persons seeking assistance.

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

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

125 322.18 Original applications, licenses, and renewals;  
126 expiration of licenses; delinquent licenses.—

127 (9) The application form for a renewal issuance or renewal  
128 extension shall include language permitting a voluntary  
129 contribution of \$1 per applicant to aid the homeless.  
130 Contributions made pursuant to this paragraph shall be deposited  
131 into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund of the Department of  
132 Children and Family Services and used by the State Office on  
133 Homelessness to supplement grants made under s. 420.622(4) and  
134 (5), provide information to the public about homelessness in the  
135 state, and provide literature for homeless persons seeking  
136 assistance. For the purpose of applying the service charge  
137 provided in s. 215.20, contributions received under this  
138 paragraph are not income of a revenue nature.

139 Section 4. Section 414.161, Florida Statutes, is created to  
140 read:

141 414.161 Homelessness prevention grants.—

142 (1) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—There is created a grant  
143 program to provide emergency financial assistance to families  
144 facing the loss of their current home due to a financial or  
145 other crisis. The State Office on Homelessness, with the

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146 concurrence of the Council on Homelessness, may accept and  
147 administer moneys appropriated to it to provide homelessness  
148 prevention grants annually to lead agencies for local homeless  
149 assistance continuums of care, as recognized by the State Office  
150 on Homelessness. These moneys shall consist of any sums that the  
151 state may appropriate, as well as money received from donations,  
152 gifts, bequests, or otherwise from any public or private source  
153 that is intended to assist families to prevent them from  
154 becoming homeless.

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

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

167 (4) GRANT LIMITS.—The maximum grant amount per lead agency  
168 may not exceed \$300,000. The grant assistance may be used to pay  
169 past due rent or mortgage payments, past due utility costs,  
170 other past due bills creating a family's financial crisis,  
171 provision of case management services, and program  
172 administration costs not to exceed 3 percent of the grant award.  
173 The homelessness prevention program must develop a case plan for  
174 each family to be assisted setting forth what costs will be

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175 covered and the maximum level of assistance to be offered.

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

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

184 420.622 State Office on Homelessness; Council on  
185 Homelessness.—

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

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

197 Section 6. Paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of section  
198 420.625, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

199 420.625 Grant-in-aid program.—

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

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

207 Section 7. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section  
208 420.6275, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

209 420.6275 Housing First.—

210 (2) HOUSING FIRST METHODOLOGY.—

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

221 1. The housing is not time-limited.

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

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

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

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