

By Senator Bennett

21-00411A-12

2012816__

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to professional sports facilities;
3 amending s. 288.1166, F.S.; requiring the county
4 commission in a county in which a professional sports
5 facility is located to establish a local homeless
6 coalition if a local homeless program does not exist
7 in that county; requiring that, by a specified date,
8 the professional sports franchise that plays in a
9 facility that benefited from financial assistance from
10 the state, and the county in which the facility is
11 located, provide the Auditor General with
12 documentation that a homeless shelter has been
13 operating at the facility from the effective date of
14 the contract between the county and the professional
15 sports franchise; requiring the professional sports
16 franchise and the county to refund any financial
17 assistance received from the state which benefited the
18 facility during the period that the facility failed to
19 operate a homeless shelter; requiring the Auditor
20 General to levy a specified fine against the
21 professional sports franchise and the county if, after
22 a specified date, the Auditor General determines that
23 a homeless shelter is not operating at the facility
24 until such time that the professional sports franchise
25 and county are operating a homeless shelter; providing
26 an effective date.

27
28 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
29

21-00411A-12

2012816

30 Section 1. Section 288.1166, Florida Statutes, is amended
31 to read:

32 288.1166 Professional sports facility; designation as
33 shelter site for the homeless; establishment of local programs.—

34 (1) Any professional sports facility constructed with
35 financial assistance from the state of Florida shall be
36 designated as a shelter site for the homeless in accordance with
37 the criteria of locally existing homeless shelter programs.

38 (2) Subsection (1) does not apply except when the facility
39 is otherwise contractually obligated for a specific event or
40 activity.

41 (3) If ~~Should~~ a local homeless program does not exist ~~be~~ in
42 existence in the county where the facility is located ~~facility's~~
43 area, the county commission shall establish a local homeless
44 coalition under s. 420.623 to oversee the operation of the
45 shelter site ~~such program shall be established in accordance~~
46 ~~with normally accepted criteria as defined by the county or its~~
47 ~~designee.~~

48 (4) The professional sports franchise that plays in a
49 facility that benefited from financial assistance from the state
50 and the county in which the facility is located shall, by
51 January 1, 2013, document with the Auditor General that a
52 homeless shelter has been operating at the sports facility from
53 the effective date of the contract between the county and the
54 professional sports franchise.

55 (5) (a) If the professional sports franchise that plays in a
56 facility that benefited from financial assistance from the state
57 and the county in which the facility is located cannot
58 demonstrate to the Auditor General that a homeless shelter has

21-00411A-12

2012816__

59 been operating at the sports facility from the effective date of
60 the contract between the county and the professional sports
61 franchise until July 1, 2012, or has only been operating for a
62 portion of that time, the county and the professional sports
63 franchise shall refund to the state all funds advanced to the
64 county and the professional sports franchise by the state, less
65 the sum representing any month in which the facility has
66 operated as a homeless shelter.

67 (b) The professional sports franchise that plays in the
68 facility and the county in which the facility is located shall
69 refund all assistance received from the state no later than
70 December 31, 2012.

71 (6) If, after January 1, 2013, the Auditor General
72 determines that a homeless shelter is still not operating at a
73 facility that benefited from financial assistance from the
74 state, the Auditor General shall fine the professional sports
75 franchise that plays in the facility and the county in which the
76 facility is located an amount going forward equal to 150 percent
77 of any financial assistance received each month from the state
78 until the professional sports franchise and the county are
79 operating a homeless shelter at the sports facility.

80 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.