

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to emergency power systems matching  
3           grant program; providing a short title; providing  
4           definitions; providing legislative intent; creating  
5           the Emergency Power Systems Matching Grant Program to  
6           provide state matching funds to certain public and  
7           private health care facilities for specified years;  
8           requiring the Department of Health to administer the  
9           grant program; providing parameters for implementation  
10          of the grant program; requiring the department to  
11          adopt rules; providing an appropriation; providing an  
12          effective date.

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14   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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16           Section 1.   (1) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as  
17           the "Emergency Power Systems Matching Grant Program."

18           (2) LEGISLATIVE INTENT.—The Legislature recognizes the  
19           importance of public and private health care facilities in  
20           providing emergency health services and understands that by  
21           having power readily available, the professionals, staff, and  
22           patients will experience less stress during power outages and  
23           electric service interruptions that occur during major natural  
24           disasters. The Legislature understands the fiscal constraints  
25           under which many public and private health care facilities

26 operate to provide a safe and comfortable atmosphere while  
27 providing essential medical services. The Legislature intends to  
28 offset some of the fiscal difficulties by creating a 5 year  
29 matching grant program to assist public and private health care  
30 facilities that were constructed and operational before July  
31 2018 in acquiring emergency power systems.

32 (3) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term  
33 "emergency power system" means a system that provides an  
34 independent source of electric power during the loss of power  
35 supply and includes a supply of fuel sufficient to sustain the  
36 emergency power source for at least 7 days during a power  
37 outage. An emergency power system may include a generator,  
38 batteries, and other essential accessories needed to power such  
39 emergency power system.

40 (4) ADMINISTRATION.—The Department of Health shall  
41 establish and administer the Emergency Power Systems Matching  
42 Grant Program. The program shall:

43 (a) Provide state matching funds on a first-come, first-  
44 served basis to public or private health care facilities that  
45 apply for funds with the department.

46 (b) Prohibit a public or private health care facility from  
47 receiving more than one grant per county per year under this  
48 program.

49 (5) RULEMAKING AUTHORITY.—The department shall adopt rules  
50 to implement this section.

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51           Section 2. For the 2018-2019 fiscal year, and each fiscal  
52 year through the 2022-2023 fiscal year, the sum of \$5 million in  
53 nonrecurring funds is appropriated to the Department of Health  
54 to implement the Emergency Power Systems Matching Grant Program.

55           Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.