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1  
2 An act relating to disaster volunteer leave for state  
3 employees; amending s. 110.120, F.S.; reordering,  
4 revising, and providing definitions; revising  
5 conditions under which an employee may be granted  
6 leave under the Florida Disaster Volunteer Leave Act;  
7 specifying requirements and limitations; providing an  
8 effective date.

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

11  
12 Section 1. Section 110.120, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
13 read:

14 110.120 Administrative leave for disaster service  
15 volunteers.—

16 (1) SHORT TITLE.—This section ~~shall be known and~~ may be  
17 cited as the "Florida Disaster Volunteer Leave Act."

18 (2) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term  
19 ~~following terms shall apply:~~

20 (c) (a) "State agency" means any official, officer,  
21 commission, board, authority, council, committee, or department  
22 of the executive branch of state government.

23 (a) (b) "Disaster" means an event that results in a state of  
24 emergency, as declared by executive order or proclamation issued  
25 by the Governor of this state or any other state or territory of  
26 the United States includes disasters designated at level II and  
27 above in the American National Red Cross regulations and  
28 procedures.

29 (b) "Disaster area" means a location covered under a state

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30 of emergency, as declared by executive order or proclamation  
31 issued by the Governor of this state or any other state or  
32 territory of the United States.

33 (d) "Volunteer" means an individual who has entered into an  
34 agreement with a tax-exempt nonprofit organization under s.  
35 501(c) (3) or s. 501(c) (4) of the Internal Revenue Code to  
36 provide nonpaid services to a disaster area for disaster  
37 response or recovery.

38 (3) LEAVE OF ABSENCE.—An employee of a state agency ~~who is~~  
39 ~~a certified disaster service volunteer of the American Red Cross~~  
40 may be granted a leave of absence with pay for no not more than  
41 120 working hours ~~15 working days~~ in any 12-month period to  
42 serve as a volunteer ~~participate in specialized disaster relief~~  
43 ~~services for the American Red Cross.~~ Such leave of absence may  
44 be granted upon the request of the employee ~~American Red Cross~~  
45 and upon ~~the~~ approval of the employee's employing agency after  
46 verifying the employee's volunteer status. An employee granted  
47 leave under this section ~~is shall~~ not ~~be~~ deemed to be an  
48 employee of the state for purposes of workers' compensation.  
49 Leave under this section ~~act~~ may be granted only for providing  
50 volunteer ~~for~~ services related to a disaster occurring within  
51 the boundaries of this ~~the~~ state ~~of Florida,~~ except that, ~~with~~  
52 ~~the approval of the Governor and Cabinet,~~ leave may be granted  
53 to an employee to provide volunteer ~~for~~ services in response to  
54 a disaster occurring within the states or territories ~~boundaries~~  
55 of the United States upon approval of the head of the employee's  
56 employing agency. An employee who is granted leave under this  
57 section must attest to his or her employing agency that he or  
58 she has completed his or her volunteer service for a disaster,

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59 and must also specify the period of time for which he or she  
60 served as a volunteer for that event and a description of the  
61 disaster response or recovery services that the employee  
62 provided.

63 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.