

By the Committee on Infrastructure and Security; and Senators Bean, Book, and Cruz

596-02648-20

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1 A bill to be entitled  
2 An act relating to emergency sheltering of persons  
3 with pets; amending s. 252.3568, F.S.; requiring the  
4 Department of Education to assist the Division of  
5 Emergency Management in determining strategies  
6 regarding the evacuation of persons with pets;  
7 requiring counties that meet specified criteria to  
8 designate and operate at least one shelter that can  
9 accommodate persons with pets; specifying requirements  
10 for such shelters; providing an effective date.

11  
12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

13  
14 Section 1. Section 252.3568, Florida Statutes, is amended  
15 to read:

16 252.3568 Emergency sheltering of persons with pets.—

17 (1) In accordance with s. 252.35, the division shall  
18 address strategies for the evacuation of persons with pets in  
19 the shelter component of the state comprehensive emergency  
20 management plan and shall include the requirement for similar  
21 strategies in its standards and requirements for local  
22 comprehensive emergency management plans. The Department of  
23 Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Department of  
24 Education shall assist the division in determining strategies  
25 regarding this activity.

26 (2) If a county maintains any designated shelters, it must  
27 also designate and operate at least one shelter that can  
28 accommodate persons with pets. The shelter must be in compliance  
29 with any applicable disaster assistance policies and procedures

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30 of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and with safety  
31 procedures regarding the sheltering of pets established in the  
32 shelter component of the local and state comprehensive emergency  
33 management plans.

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