By the Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services; the Committee on Health Policy; and Senator Davis

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the sickle cell program; providing a short title; amending s. 381.815, F.S.; requiring the Department of Health to establish a grant program for the prevention, care, and treatment of sickle cell disease and sickle cell trait or sickle cell trait carriers and for certain educational programs; requiring the department to develop application criteria and standards of eligibility for grants under the program; requiring the department to ensure that grant funds are used for specified purposes; requiring the department to conduct a specified study; requiring the department to adopt rules; providing an effective date.

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

- Section 1. This act may be known as the "Sickle Cell Disease and Sickle Cell Trait Prevention, Care, and Treatment Act."
- Section 2. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 381.815, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
- 381.815 <u>Sickle cell</u> <u>Sickle-cell</u> program.—The Department of Health shall, to the extent that resources are available:
- (1) Provide education to the citizens of Florida about sickle cell sickle-cell disease.
- (3) (a) 1. Establish a grant program for the prevention, care, and treatment of sickle cell disease and sickle cell trait or sickle cell trait carriers and for community-based

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educational programs concerning the disease.

2. The community-based educational programs shall include an outreach program that provides for the dissemination of information relating to the prevention, care, and treatment of sickle cell disease and sickle cell trait or sickle cell trait carriers.

- (b) Develop application criteria and standards of eligibility for applicants for funds under the grant program.
- 1. Groups or organizations that meet the eligibility standards developed by the department may apply for funds under the program.
- 2.a. Priority for grants shall be given to established sickle cell disease and sickle cell trait or sickle cell trait carrier community-based applicants throughout this state.
- b. Further priority shall be given to ensuring the establishment of sickle cell disease and sickle cell trait or sickle cell trait carrier centers in underserved areas with a higher population of sickle cell disease and sickle cell trait or sickle cell trait carrier patients.
- (c) Require that all program grant funds be used for the purpose of prevention, care, and treatment of sickle cell disease or sickle cell trait or sickle cell trait carriers or for educational programs concerning the disease.
- (d) Conduct a study to determine the prevalence, impact, and needs of patients diagnosed with sickle cell disease or sickle cell trait or sickle cell trait carriers in this state.
- (e) Adopt rules necessary to implement this subsection Make grants or enter into contracts with not-for-profit centers.
 - Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.