

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to the Expedited DNA Testing Grant
 3 Program; creating s. 943.328, F.S.; defining the term
 4 "private laboratory"; creating the Expedited DNA
 5 Testing Grant Program within the Department of Law
 6 Enforcement; providing for the annual award of grants;
 7 specifying uses of grants; requiring an annual report
 8 by each grant recipient; providing an effective date.

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

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 12 **Section 1. Section 943.328, Florida Statutes, is created**
 13 **to read:**

14 943.328 Expedited DNA Testing Grant Program.—

15 (1) As used in this section, the term "private laboratory"
 16 means any DNA laboratory accredited for a minimum of 5 years in
 17 accordance with ISO/IEC 17025:2017 and the applicable Federal
 18 Bureau of Investigation Quality Assurance Standards.

19 (2) There is created within the department the Expedited
 20 DNA Testing Grant Program to award grants to law enforcement
 21 agencies for the processing of evidentiary items for DNA testing
 22 as provided in subsection (4).

23 (3) The department shall annually award to law enforcement
 24 agencies any funds specifically appropriated for the grant
 25 program to cover testing of DNA samples by private laboratories

26 as provided in subsection (4).

27 (4) Grants may be used by a law enforcement agency for any
28 of the following:

29 (a) When the technology or technique needed to properly
30 test the DNA sample is not readily available at a local or state
31 laboratory.

32 (b) When, in the agency's judgement, expedited testing of
33 the DNA sample is in the best interest of advancing the
34 investigation.

35 (5) Each grant recipient shall provide a report no later
36 than 1 year after receipt of funding. The report shall include:

37 (a) The amount of annual funding received from this grant.

38 (b) The number of cases tested by the private laboratory.

39 (c) The type of DNA testing used, including the name of
40 the private laboratory to which such testing was outsourced and
41 the type of primary equipment used by the private laboratory for
42 such testing.

43 (d) The lab report with the results of the DNA testing.

44 (e) The average amount of time it took to complete
45 testing.

46 **Section 2.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.