

ENROLLED

CS/HB 847

2025 Legislature

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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 rulemaking
9 authority; providing an effective date.

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

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

15 943.328 Expedited DNA Testing Grant Program.—

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

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

24 (3) The department shall annually award to law enforcement
25 agencies any funds specifically appropriated for the grant

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26 program to cover testing of DNA samples by private laboratories
27 as provided in subsection (4).

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

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

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

36 (5) Each grant recipient shall provide a report to the
37 executive director no later than 1 year after receipt of
38 funding. The report shall include:

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

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

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

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

46 (e) The average amount of time it took to complete the DNA
47 testing.

48 (6) The department may adopt rules pursuant to ss.
49 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement and administer this section
50 and to establish the process for the allocation of grant funds.

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