

HB 5503

2026

A bill to be entitled
An act relating to trust funds; re-creating the
Emergency Preparedness and Response Fund within the
Executive Office of the Governor; amending s.
252.3711, F.S.; revising and providing uses of moneys
deposited in the fund; providing requirements for the
deposit of federal reimbursements of state emergency
expenditures; providing reporting requirements;
revising provisions relating to the termination of the
fund; providing for retroactive application; providing
an effective date.

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

Section 1. The Emergency Preparedness and Response Fund
within the Executive Office of the Governor, which is to be
terminated pursuant to Section 19(f), Article III of the State
Constitution on February 17, 2026, is re-created.

Section 2. Section 252.3711, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

252.3711 Emergency Preparedness and Response Fund.—

(1) The Emergency Preparedness and Response Fund is created within the Executive Office of the Governor.

(2) The fund is established for use as a depository for state moneys specifically transferred or appropriated to the

26 fund by the Legislature. The moneys deposited in the fund are
27 available as a primary funding source for the Governor for
28 purposes of preparing or responding to a natural emergency as
29 defined in s. 252.34(8) ~~disaster~~ declared by the Governor as a
30 state of emergency that exceeds regularly appropriated funding
31 sources.

32 (a) Moneys in the fund that are appropriated for a state
33 of emergency that is a natural emergency and that has been
34 renewed pursuant to s. 252.36 are subject to the notice, review,
35 and objection procedures set forth in s. 216.177.

36 (b) Moneys in the fund may not be used to purchase
37 aircraft, boats, or motor vehicles.

38 (c) Moneys in the fund may not be invested as provided in
39 s. 17.61 but shall be retained in the fund for investment with
40 interest appropriated to the General Revenue Fund as provided in
41 s. 17.57.

42 (3) Federal reimbursements of state emergency expenditures
43 shall not be deposited in the fund. Federal reimbursements of
44 state emergency expenditures shall be deposited in the General
45 Revenue Fund pursuant to s. 215.32(2)(a).

46 (4) On or before the 15th day of the month following each
47 quarter, the Executive Office of the Governor shall submit a
48 report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the
49 House of Representatives that includes the following:

50 (a) The projected year-end cash balance of the fund;

51 (b) An updated cash flow statement for that fiscal year;
52 (c) An accounting of all inventory and assets purchased,
53 separated by emergency event and agency, for preparing for,
54 responding to, or recovering from a state of emergency that is a
55 natural emergency and the current status of such assets; and
56 (d) A written attestation, under penalty of perjury, from
57 the director of the Division of Emergency Management that the
58 information in the report is true, accurate, and complete.

59 (5)(3) ~~In accordance with s. 19(f)(2), Art. III of the~~
60 ~~State Constitution, The Emergency Preparedness and Response Fund~~
61 ~~shall, unless terminated sooner, be terminated on July 1, 2030 4~~
62 ~~years after the effective date of this act. Before its scheduled~~
63 ~~termination, the fund shall be reviewed as provided in s.~~
64 ~~215.3208 s. 215.3206(1) and (2).~~

65 **Section 3.** This act shall operate retroactively to
66 February 17, 2026.

67 **Section 4.** This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.