

HB 5503, Engrossed 1

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 an emergency as defined  
29 in s. 252.34(4) disaster declared by the Governor as a state of  
30 emergency that exceeds regularly appropriated funding sources.

31 (a) Moneys in the fund may be used for a state of  
32 emergency that is a natural emergency as defined in s.  
33 252.34(8). If such state of emergency has been renewed pursuant  
34 to s. 252.36, the use of moneys in the fund is subject to the  
35 notice, review, and objection procedures set forth in s.  
36 216.177.

37 (b) Moneys in the fund may be used for a state of emergency  
38 that is a manmade emergency as defined in s. 252.34(7) or a  
39 technological emergency as defined in s. 252.34(12), subject to  
40 the notice, review, and objection procedures set forth in s.  
41 216.177. Notwithstanding s. 216.177(2) (b), either the chair or  
42 vice chair of the Legislative Budget Commission or the President  
43 of the Senate or the Speaker of the House of Representatives may  
44 timely advise, in writing, that an action or proposed action  
45 exceeds the delegated authority or is contrary to legislative  
46 policy and intent.

47 (c) Moneys in the fund may not be used to purchase  
48 aircraft, boats, or motor vehicles.

49 (d) Moneys in the fund may not be invested as provided in  
50 s. 17.61 but shall be retained in the fund for investment with

51 interest appropriated to the General Revenue Fund as provided in  
52 s. 17.57.

53 (3) Federal reimbursements of state emergency expenditures  
54 shall not be deposited in the fund. Federal reimbursements of  
55 state emergency expenditures shall be deposited in the General  
56 Revenue Fund pursuant to s. 215.32(2)(a).

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

61 (a) The projected year-end cash balance of the fund;  
62 (b) An updated cash flow statement for that fiscal year;  
63 (c) An accounting of all inventory and assets purchased,  
64 separated by emergency event and agency, for preparing for,  
65 responding to, or recovering from a state of emergency and the  
66 current status of such assets; and

67 (d) A written attestation, under penalty of perjury, from  
68 the director of the Division of Emergency Management that the  
69 information in the report is true, accurate, and complete.

70 (5) (3) In accordance with s. 19(f)(2), Art. III of the  
71 State Constitution, The Emergency Preparedness and Response Fund  
72 shall, unless terminated sooner, be terminated on July 1, 2030 4  
73 years after the effective date of this act. Before its scheduled  
74 termination, the fund shall be reviewed as provided in s.  
75 215.3208 s. 215.3206(1) and (2).

76       Section 3. This act shall operate retroactively to  
77 February 17, 2026.

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