

ENROLLED

CS/HB 967

2026 Legislature

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An act relating to electronic payments made to units of local governments; amending s. 215.322, F.S.; revising legislative intent; requiring units of local government to accept certain forms of payments; providing an exception; requiring such local governments to accept payments online; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsections (1) and (5) of section 215.322, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

215.322 Acceptance of credit cards, charge cards, debit cards, or electronic funds transfers by state agencies, units of local government, and the judicial branch; acceptance of online payments by units of local governments.—

(1) (a) It is the intent of the Legislature to encourage state agencies, and the judicial branch, and require units of local government to make their goods, services, and information more convenient to the public through the acceptance of payments by credit cards, charge cards, debit cards, or other means of electronic funds transfers ~~to the maximum extent practicable when the benefits to the participating agency and the public substantiate the cost of accepting these types of payments.~~

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CS/HB 967

2026 Legislature

26 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature to require units
 27 of local government to accept payments online.

28 (5) (a) Each A unit of local government, including a
 29 municipality, special district, or board of county commissioners
 30 or other governing body of a county, a consolidated or
 31 metropolitan government, and any clerk of the circuit court,
 32 sheriff, property appraiser, tax collector, or supervisor of
 33 elections, shall ~~is authorized to~~ accept payment by use of
 34 credit cards, charge cards, bank debit cards, and electronic
 35 funds transfers for financial obligations that are owing to such
 36 unit of local government, except when another form of payment is
 37 required by law, and is authorized to surcharge the person who
 38 uses a credit card, charge card, bank debit card, or electronic
 39 funds transfer in payment of taxes, license fees, tuition,
 40 fines, civil penalties, court-ordered payments, or court costs,
 41 or other statutorily prescribed revenues an amount sufficient to
 42 pay the service fee charges by the financial institution,
 43 vending service company, or credit card company for such
 44 services. Such A unit of local government shall verify both the
 45 validity of any credit card, charge card, bank debit card, or
 46 electronic funds transfer used pursuant to this subsection and
 47 the existence of appropriate credit with respect to the person
 48 using the card or transfer. The unit of local government does
 49 not incur any liability as a result of such verification or any
 50 subsequent action taken.

ENROLLED

CS/HB 967

2026 Legislature

51 (b) A unit of local government accepting payment under
52 paragraph (a) is required to have a method for accepting such
53 payment online.

54 Section 2. This act shall take effect January 1, 2027.