

Senate Bill No. 146

An act relating to trust funds; creating the Rape Crisis Program Trust Fund within the Department of Health; providing for the use of funds and the source of funds; requiring the Department of Health to adopt rules for distributing moneys in the trust fund; providing for review and termination or re-creation of the trust fund; providing a contingent effective date.

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

Section 1. Rape Crisis Program Trust Fund.—

(1) The Rape Crisis Program Trust Fund is created within the Department of Health for the purpose of providing funds for rape crisis centers in this state. Trust fund moneys shall be used exclusively for the purpose of providing services for victims of sexual assault. Funds credited to the trust fund consist of those funds collected as an additional court assessment in each case in which a defendant pleads guilty or nolo contendere to, or is found guilty of, regardless of adjudication, an offense defined in section 784.011, section 784.021, section 784.03, section 784.041, section 784.045, section 784.048, section 784.07, section 784.08, section 784.081, section 784.082, section 784.083, section 785.085, or section 794.011, Florida Statutes.

(2) The Department of Health shall establish by rule criteria for distributing moneys from the trust fund to rape crisis centers.

(3) In accordance with Section 19(f)(2) of Article III of the State Constitution, the Rape Crisis Program Trust Fund shall be terminated on July 1, 2007, unless terminated sooner. Before its scheduled termination, the trust fund shall be reviewed as provided in section 215.3206(1) and (2), Florida Statutes.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003, if SB 144 or similar legislation creating the Sexual Assault Victims' Access to Services Act is adopted in the same legislative session, or an extension thereof, and becomes law.

Approved by the Governor June 12, 2003.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 12, 2003.