

CHAPTER 2013-74

Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 93

An act relating to homelessness; amending ss. 320.02, 322.08, and 322.18, F.S.; requiring the motor vehicle registration form and registration renewal form, the driver license application form, and the driver license application form for renewal issuance or renewal extension to include an option to make a voluntary contribution to aid the homeless; providing for such contributions to be deposited into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund of the Department of Children and Families and used by the State Office on Homelessness for certain purposes; providing exemption from certain application fee requirements; providing that voluntary contributions for the homeless are not income of a revenue nature for the purpose of applying certain service charges; creating s. 414.161, F.S.; establishing a homelessness prevention grant program; requiring grant applicants to be ranked competitively; providing preference for certain grant applicants; providing eligibility requirements; providing grant limitations and restrictions; requiring lead agencies for local homeless assistance continuums of care to track, monitor, and report on assisted families for a specified period; amending s. 420.622, F.S.; limiting the percentage of funding that lead agencies may spend on administrative costs; amending s. 420.625, F.S.; deleting a cross-reference to conform; repealing s. 414.16, F.S., relating to the emergency assistance program for families with children that have lost shelter or face loss of shelter due to an emergency; transferring emergency assistance program funds to the homelessness prevention grant program; providing effective dates.

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

Section 1. Effective October 1, 2013, paragraph (s) is added to subsection (15) of section 320.02, Florida Statutes, to read:

320.02 Registration required; application for registration; forms.—

(15)

(s) Notwithstanding s. 320.023, the application form for motor vehicle registration and renewal of registration must include language permitting a voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant to aid the homeless. Contributions made pursuant to this paragraph shall be deposited into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund of the Department of Children and Families and used by the State Office on Homelessness to supplement grants made under s. 420.622(4) and (5), provide information to the public about homelessness in the state, and provide literature for homeless persons seeking assistance. The application fee required under s. 320.023 for an organization that seeks authorization to establish a voluntary contribution does not apply to this paragraph.

For the purpose of applying the service charge provided in s. 215.20, contributions received under this subsection are not income of a revenue nature.

Section 2. Effective October 1, 2013, subsection (7) of section 322.08, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

322.08 Application for license; requirements for license and identification card forms.—

(7) The application form for an original, renewal, or replacement driver license or identification card shall include language permitting the following:

(a) A voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant, which contribution shall be deposited into the Health Care Trust Fund for organ and tissue donor education and for maintaining the organ and tissue donor registry.

(b) A voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant, which contribution shall be distributed to the Florida Council of the Blind.

(c) A voluntary contribution of \$2 per applicant, which shall be distributed to the Hearing Research Institute, Incorporated.

(d) A voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant, which shall be distributed to the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation International.

(e) A voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant, which shall be distributed to the Children's Hearing Help Fund.

(f) A voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant, which shall be distributed to Family First, a nonprofit organization.

(g) A voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant to Stop Heart Disease, which shall be distributed to the Florida Heart Research Institute, a nonprofit organization.

(h) A voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant to Senior Vision Services, which shall be distributed to the Florida Association of Agencies Serving the Blind, Inc., a not-for-profit organization.

(i) A voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant for services for persons with developmental disabilities, which shall be distributed to The Arc of Florida.

(j) A voluntary contribution of \$1 to the Ronald McDonald House, which shall be distributed each month to Ronald McDonald House Charities of Tampa Bay, Inc.

(k) Notwithstanding s. 322.081, a voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant, which shall be distributed to the League Against Cancer/La Liga Contra el Cancer, a not-for-profit organization.

(l) A voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse, which shall be distributed to Lauren’s Kids, Inc., a nonprofit organization.

(m) A voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant, which shall be distributed to Prevent Blindness Florida, a not-for-profit organization, to prevent blindness and preserve the sight of the residents of this state.

(n) Notwithstanding s. 322.081, a voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant to the state homes for veterans, to be distributed on a quarterly basis by the department to the State Homes for Veterans Trust Fund, which is administered by the Department of Veterans’ Affairs.

(o) A voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant to the Disabled American Veterans, Department of Florida, which shall be distributed quarterly to Disabled American Veterans, Department of Florida, a nonprofit organization.

(p) A voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant for Autism Services and Supports, which shall be distributed to Achievement and Rehabilitation Centers, Inc., Autism Services Fund.

(q) A voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant to Support Our Troops, which shall be distributed to Support Our Troops, Inc., a Florida not-for-profit organization.

(r) Notwithstanding s. 322.081, a voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant to aid the homeless. Contributions made pursuant to this paragraph shall be deposited into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund of the Department of Children and Families and used by the State Office on Homelessness to supplement grants made under s. 420.622(4) and (5), provide information to the public about homelessness in the state, and provide literature for homeless persons seeking assistance.

A statement providing an explanation of the purpose of the trust funds shall also be included. For the purpose of applying the service charge provided in s. 215.20, contributions received under paragraphs ~~(b)-(r)~~ ~~(b)-(q)~~ are not income of a revenue nature.

Section 3. Effective October 1, 2013, subsection (9) is added to section 322.18, Florida Statutes, to read:

322.18 Original applications, licenses, and renewals; expiration of licenses; delinquent licenses.—

(9) The application form for a renewal issuance or renewal extension shall include language permitting a voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant to aid the homeless. Contributions made pursuant to this subsection shall be deposited into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund of the Department of Children and Families and used by the State Office on Homelessness to supplement grants made under s. 420.622(4) and (5),

provide information to the public about homelessness in the state, and provide literature for homeless persons seeking assistance. For the purpose of applying the service charge provided in s. 215.20, contributions received under this subsection are not income of a revenue nature.

Section 4. Section 414.161, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

414.161 Homelessness prevention grants.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—There is created a grant program to provide emergency financial assistance to families facing the loss of their current home due to a financial or other crisis. The State Office on Homelessness, with the concurrence of the Council on Homelessness, may accept and administer moneys appropriated to the Department of Children and Families to provide homelessness prevention grants annually to lead agencies for local homeless assistance continuums of care, as recognized by the State Office on Homelessness. These moneys shall consist of any sums that the state may appropriate, as well as money received from donations, gifts, bequests, or otherwise from any public or private source that is intended to assist families to prevent them from becoming homeless.

(2) GRANT APPLICATIONS.—Grant applicants shall be ranked competitively. Preference shall be given to applicants who leverage additional private funds and public funds, who demonstrate the effectiveness of their homelessness prevention programs in keeping families housed, and who demonstrate the commitment of other assistance and services to address family health, employment, and education needs.

(3) ELIGIBILITY.—In order to qualify for a grant, a lead agency must develop and implement a local homeless assistance continuum of care plan for its designated catchment area. The homelessness prevention program must be included in the continuum of care plan.

(4) GRANT LIMITS.—The maximum grant amount per lead agency may not exceed \$300,000. The grant assistance may be used to pay past due rent or mortgage payments, past due utility costs, provision of case management services, and program administration costs not to exceed 3 percent of the grant award. The homelessness prevention program must develop a case plan for each family to be assisted, setting forth what costs will be covered and the maximum level of assistance to be offered.

(5) PERFORMANCE.—The lead agency must track, monitor, and report on each family assisted for at least 12 months after the last assistance provided to the family. The goal for the homelessness prevention program is to enable at least 85 percent of the families assisted to remain in their homes and avoid becoming homeless during the ensuing year.

Section 5. Paragraph (d) is added to subsection (4) of section 420.622, Florida Statutes, to read:

420.622 State Office on Homelessness; Council on Homelessness.—

(4) Not less than 120 days after the effective date of this act, the State Office on Homelessness, with the concurrence of the Council on Homelessness, may accept and administer moneys appropriated to it to provide “Challenge Grants” annually to lead agencies for homeless assistance continuums of care designated by the State Office on Homelessness. A lead agency may be a local homeless coalition, municipal or county government, or other public agency or private, not-for-profit corporation. Such grants may be up to \$500,000 per lead agency.

(d) A lead agency may spend a maximum of 8 percent of its funding on administrative costs.

Section 6. Paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of section 420.625, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

420.625 Grant-in-aid program.—

(3) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is hereby established a grant-in-aid program to help local communities in serving the needs of the homeless through a variety of supportive services, which may include, but are not limited to:

(d) Emergency financial assistance for persons who are totally without shelter or facing loss of shelter, ~~but who are not eligible for such assistance under s. 414.16.~~

Section 7. Section 414.16, Florida Statutes, is repealed, and any balances remaining in the emergency assistance program terminated by this act shall, on the date of termination, be transferred to the homelessness prevention grant program created under s. 414.161, Florida Statutes.

Section 8. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon this act becoming a law, this act shall take effect July 1, 2013.

Approved by the Governor May 30, 2013.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 30, 2013.