

Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 726

An act relating to libraries; creating s. 257.193, F.S.; establishing the Community Libraries in Caring Program to assist libraries in certain rural communities; providing for administration by the Division of Library and Information Services within the Department of State; providing for rulemaking; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 257.193, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

257.193 Community Libraries in Caring Program.—

(1) There is created within the Department of State a Community Libraries in Caring Program.

(2) The purpose of the Community Libraries in Caring Program is to assist libraries in rural communities, as defined in s. 288.0656(2)(b) and subject to the provisions of s. 288.06561, to strengthen their collections and services, improve literacy in their communities, and improve the economic viability of their communities.

(3) A library under this program is encouraged to demonstrate local or other support for its services, including monetary contributions, in-kind contributions, or other forms of assistance.

(4) Subject to legislative appropriation, the Division of Library and Information Services within the Department of State shall administer the program, which shall facilitate the exchange of ideas and services between libraries in rural communities and communities in other parts of the state.

(5) The Department of State may adopt rules to administer this section.

Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2003.

Approved by the Governor July 11, 2003.

Filed in Office Secretary of State July 11, 2003.