CHAPTER 2011-186

House Bill No. 501

An act relating to Choose Life license plates; amending s. 320.08058, F.S.; providing for the annual use fees to be distributed to Choose Life, Inc., rather than the counties; providing for Choose Life, Inc., to redistribute a portion of such funds to nongovernmental, not-for-profit agencies that assist certain pregnant women; authorizing Choose Life, Inc., to use a portion of the funds to administer and promote the Choose Life license plate program; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (29) of section 320.08058, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.08058 Specialty license plates.—

(29) CHOOSE LIFE LICENSE PLATES.—

- (a) The department shall develop a Choose Life license plate as provided in this section. The word "Florida" must appear at the bottom of the plate, and the words "Choose Life" must appear at the top of the plate.
- (b) The annual use fees shall be distributed annually to <u>Choose Life, Inc., along with a report that specifies</u> each county in the ratio that the annual use fees collected by each county <u>bear</u> bears to the total fees collected for the plates within the state. <u>Choose Life, Inc., Each county</u> shall distribute <u>each county</u>'s <u>share of</u> the funds to nongovernmental, not-for-profit agencies within each Florida county which assist within the county, which agencies' services are limited to counseling and meeting the physical needs of pregnant women who are <u>making an adoption plan for their children committed to placing their children for adoption</u>. Funds may not be distributed to any agency that is involved or associated with abortion activities, including counseling for or referrals to abortion clinics, providing medical abortion-related procedures, or proabortion advertising, and funds may not be distributed to any agency that charges women for services received.
- 1. Agencies that receive the funds must use at least 70 percent of the funds to provide for the material needs of pregnant women who are <u>making an adoption plan for their children committed to placing their children for adoption</u>, including, <u>but not limited to</u>, clothing, housing, medical care, food, utilities, and transportation. Such funds may also be expended on <u>birth mothers for 60 days after delivery and on</u> infants awaiting placement with adoptive parents.
- 2. The remaining Funds may also be used for adoption-related adoption, counseling, training, or advertising, but may not be used for administrative expenses, legal expenses, or capital expenditures. However, a maximum of

15 percent of the total funds received annually may be used by Choose Life, Inc., for the administration and promotion of the Choose Life license plate program.

- 3. If no qualified agency applies to receive funds in a county in any year, that county's Choose Life funds shall be distributed pro rata to any qualified agencies that apply and maintain a place of business within a 100-mile radius of the county seat of such county. If no qualified agencies apply, the funds shall be held by Choose Life, Inc., until a qualified agency under this section applies for the funds.
- 4.3. Each agency that receives such funds must submit an annual attestation to <u>Choose Life, Inc.</u> the county. Any unused funds that exceed 10 percent of the funds received by an agency <u>each</u> during its fiscal year must be returned to <u>Choose Life, Inc.</u> the county, which shall distribute the funds them to other qualified agencies within the State of Florida.
- (c) By October 1, 2011, the department and each county shall transfer all of its Choose Life license plate funds to Choose Life, Inc.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.

Approved by the Governor June 21, 2011.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 21, 2011.