CHAPTER 2020-132

Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 705

An act relating to emergency sheltering of persons with pets; amending s. 252.3568, F.S.; requiring the Department of Education to assist the Division of Emergency Management in determining strategies regarding the evacuation of persons with pets; requiring counties that maintain designated shelters to designate a shelter that can accommodate persons with pets; specifying requirements for such shelters; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 252.3568, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

252.3568 Emergency sheltering of persons with pets.—

- (1) In accordance with s. 252.35, the division shall address strategies for the evacuation of persons with pets in the shelter component of the state comprehensive emergency management plan and shall include the requirement for similar strategies in its standards and requirements for local comprehensive emergency management plans. The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Department of Education shall assist the division in determining strategies regarding this activity.
- (2) If a county maintains designated shelters it must also designate a shelter that can accommodate persons with pets. The shelter must be in compliance with applicable FEMA Disaster Assistance Policies and Procedures and with safety procedures regarding the sheltering of pets established in the shelter component of both local and state comprehensive emergency management plans.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.

Approved by the Governor June 29, 2020.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 29, 2020.