HB 285 2016

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to a natural gas rebate program; amending s. 377.810, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to receive additional applications from certain applicants; authorizing any remaining unencumbered funds to be used by the department to award additional rebates; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 377.810, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

377.810 Natural gas fuel fleet vehicle rebate program.-

shall award rebates for eligible costs as defined in this section. Forty percent of the annual allocation shall be reserved for governmental applicants, with the remaining funds allocated for commercial applicants. A rebate may not exceed 50 percent of the eligible costs of a natural gas fuel fleet vehicle with a dedicated or bi-fuel natural gas fuel operating system placed into service on or after July 1, 2013. An applicant is eligible to receive a maximum rebate of \$25,000 per vehicle up to a total of \$250,000 per fiscal year. Between June 1 and June 30 of each fiscal year, the department may receive additional applications from applicants that have met the

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program maximum of \$250,000 per fiscal year. Those applicants may apply for additional funds for vehicles that have not received a rebate, for a maximum rebate of \$25,000 per vehicle up to a total of \$250,000. Any unencumbered funds remaining after June 30 of each fiscal year may be used by the department to award the additional rebates. Governmental applicants shall have preference, and all remaining unencumbered funds may be used by commercial applicants. Rebates shall be allocated to eligible applicants on a first-come, first-served basis, determined by the date the application is received, until all appropriated funds for the fiscal year are expended or the program ends, whichever comes first. All natural gas fuel fleet vehicles eligible for the rebate must comply with applicable United States Environmental Protection Agency emission standards.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.