By Senator Book

35-00464-24 2024348

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the Insurance Rebate Program for Low-Income Seniors; creating the program within the Department of Financial Services for a certain purpose; providing eligibility requirements to receive a rebate under the program; authorizing eligible persons to apply to the program if certain documentation and proof are provided; specifying the calculation of the rebate and procedures for disbursing funds; authorizing the department to adopt rules; providing an appropriation; providing an effective date.

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

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## Section 1. <u>Insurance Rebate Program for Low-Income</u> Seniors.—

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(1) The Insurance Rebate Program for Low-Income Seniors is created within the Department of Financial Services to provide low-income seniors relief on the rising costs of homeowners' insurance paid in this state.

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(2) To be eligible for a rebate, a person must meet all of the following requirements:

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(a) Be a Florida resident.

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(b) Be 65 years of age or older.

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(c) Have an income equal to or less than 200 percent of the federal poverty level.

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(3) An eligible person may apply to the program, on a form approved by the department, no later than June 30 of the year

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after the eligible person paid homeowners' insurance for his or her primary residence. The eligible person must provide documentation verifying the payment of homeowners' insurance and proof of his or her primary residence.

- (4) Within 30 days after receiving a completed application and verifying the information required under subsection (3), the department shall issue a check or remit funds using direct deposit to the eligible person or household in an amount equal to 10 percent of the amount the eligible person paid in homeowners' insurance.
- (5) The department may adopt rules necessary to administer the Insurance Rebate Program for Low-Income Seniors.
- (6) For the 2024-2025 fiscal year, the Insurance Rebate Program for Low-Income Seniors shall be funded, subject to appropriation, from unallocated general revenue.
  - Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.