

By Representatives Spratt and Alexander

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Hurricane Loss
3 Mitigation Program; amending s. 215.559, F.S.;
4 providing an annual appropriation from the
5 Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund to the
6 Department of Insurance for purposes of the
7 program; requiring the department to contract
8 with a state institution of higher learning to
9 administer the program; removing the limitation
10 on the amount of funds to be used for programs
11 to improve the wind resistance of specified
12 residences and structures; providing additional
13 programs; specifying the amount of the
14 appropriation to be used to inspect and improve
15 tie-downs for manufactured/mobile homes;
16 eliminating funding for retrofitting existing
17 facilities used as public hurricane shelters;
18 authorizing the administering entity to enter
19 into a multiyear agreement; requiring the
20 entity to monitor the performance criteria
21 under the agreement and issue a report;
22 providing an effective date.

23
24 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

25
26 Section 1. Section 215.559, Florida Statutes, is
27 amended to read:

28 215.559 Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program.--

29 (1) There is created a Hurricane Loss Mitigation
30 Program. The Legislature shall annually appropriate \$10
31 million of the moneys authorized for appropriation under s.

1 215.555(7)(c) from the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund to
2 the Department of Insurance ~~Community Affairs~~ for the purposes
3 set forth in this section. Within 30 days after the effective
4 date of that appropriation, the department shall contract with
5 a public higher educational institution in this state which
6 has previous experience administering the programs set forth
7 in subsection (2) to serve as administrative entity and fiscal
8 agent pursuant to s. 216.346 for the purpose of administering
9 the programs set forth in this section in accordance with
10 established policy and procedures.

11 (2)(a) ~~The Seven million dollars in funds provided in~~
12 ~~subsection (1) shall be used for programs to improve the wind~~
13 ~~resistance of conventionally built residences and~~
14 ~~manufactured/mobile ~~mobile~~ homes, including loans, subsidies,~~
15 ~~grants, demonstration projects, and direct assistance; for~~
16 ~~cooperative programs with local governments and the Federal~~
17 ~~Government; to work with local governments to eliminate the~~
18 ~~barriers to upgrading existing homes and communities, both~~
19 ~~conventional and manufactured/mobile; to research and develop~~
20 ~~a program for the recycling of existing, older homes; and to~~
21 ~~pay for the cost to administer the programs set forth in this~~
22 ~~section and other efforts to prevent or reduce losses or~~
23 ~~reduce the cost of rebuilding after a disaster.~~

24 (b) At least 40 percent of the total annual
25 appropriation must be used to inspect and improve tie-downs
26 for manufactured/mobile homes. ~~Three million dollars in funds~~
27 ~~provided in subsection (1) shall be used to retrofit existing~~
28 ~~facilities used as public hurricane shelters. The department~~
29 ~~must prioritize the use of these funds for projects included~~
30 ~~in the September 1, 2000, version of the Shelter Retrofit~~
31 ~~Report prepared in accordance with s. 252.385(3), and each~~

1 ~~annual report thereafter. The department must give funding~~
2 ~~priority to projects in regional planning council regions that~~
3 ~~have shelter deficits and to projects that maximize use of~~
4 ~~state funds.~~

5 (3) Subject to an annual appropriation by the
6 Legislature and consistent with any modifications in
7 accordance with chapter 216, the administering entity, after
8 an initial competitive bid process, may enter into a multiyear
9 agreement for a term not to exceed 5 years which is renewable
10 annually thereafter for a period not to exceed the original
11 contract length.~~At least 40 percent of the total~~
12 ~~appropriation for loans, subsidies, grants, demonstration~~
13 ~~projects, and direct assistance for the first year of the~~
14 ~~programs shall be used for mobile homes, including programs to~~
15 ~~inspect and improve tie-downs, construct and provide safety~~
16 ~~structures, and provide other means to reduce losses. In the~~
17 ~~second year of the programs, at least 30 percent of the total~~
18 ~~appropriation shall be used for mobile homes, and thereafter~~
19 ~~at least 20 percent shall be used for such purposes.~~

20 (4) The administrative entity shall monitor the
21 performance criteria under this agreement and submit an annual
22 report to the department for dissemination to the Legislature.
23 ~~Of moneys provided to the Department of Community Affairs, 10~~
24 ~~percent shall be allocated to the Operations and Maintenance~~
25 ~~Trust Fund in the general office of the Board of Regents, to~~
26 ~~be used by the Type I Center within the State University~~
27 ~~System dedicated to hurricane research, to support programs of~~
28 ~~research and development relating to hurricane loss reduction~~
29 ~~devices and techniques for residences and mobile homes and~~
30 ~~relating to the development of credible data on potential loss~~
31 ~~reductions. The State University System shall consult with the~~

1 ~~Department of Community Affairs and assist the department with~~
2 ~~the report required under subsection (7).~~

3 ~~(5) The Department of Community Affairs shall develop~~
4 ~~the programs in consultation with an advisory council~~
5 ~~appointed by the secretary consisting of a representative of~~
6 ~~the Department of Insurance, a representative of home~~
7 ~~builders, a representative of insurance companies, a~~
8 ~~representative of the Federation of Mobile Home Owners, a~~
9 ~~representative of the Florida Association of Counties, and a~~
10 ~~representative of the Florida Manufactured Housing Association~~
11 ~~who is a mobile home manufacturer or supplier.~~

12 ~~(6) Moneys provided to the Department of Community~~
13 ~~Affairs under this section are intended to supplement other~~
14 ~~funding sources of the Department of Community Affairs and may~~
15 ~~not supplant other funding sources of the Department of~~
16 ~~Community Affairs.~~

17 ~~(7) On January 1st of 2001 and 2002, the Department of~~
18 ~~Community Affairs shall provide a full report and accounting~~
19 ~~of activities under this section and an evaluation of such~~
20 ~~activities to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the~~
21 ~~President of the Senate, and the Majority and Minority Leaders~~
22 ~~of the House of Representatives and the Senate.~~

23 ~~(8) This section is repealed June 30, 2002.~~

24 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

25
26
27
28
29
30
31

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31

SENATE SUMMARY

Provides an annual appropriation from the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund to the Department of Insurance for purposes of the Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program. Requires the department to contract with a state institution of higher learning that has previous experience to administer the program. Removes the limitation on the amount of funds to be used for programs to improve the wind resistance of conventionally built residences and manufactured/mobile homes. Provides additional programs. Specifies the amount of the appropriation to be used to inspect and improve tie-downs for manufactured/mobile homes. Eliminates funding for retrofitting existing facilities used as public hurricane shelters. Authorizes the administering entity to enter into a multiyear agreement. Requires the entity to monitor the performance criteria under the agreement and issue a report.