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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to affordable housing; amending s. 420.5087, F.S.; requiring the scoring system for applications submitted to the State Apartment Incentive Loan Program to include specified projects in its criteria; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (c) of subsection (6) of section 420.5087, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

420.5087 State Apartment Incentive Loan Program.--There is hereby created the State Apartment Incentive Loan Program for the purpose of providing first, second, or other subordinated mortgage loans or loan guarantees to sponsors, including forprofit, nonprofit, and public entities, to provide housing affordable to very-low-income persons.

- (6) On all state apartment incentive loans, except loans made to housing communities for the elderly to provide for lifesafety, building preservation, health, sanitation, or security-related repairs or improvements, the following provisions shall apply:
- (c) The corporation shall provide by rule for the establishment of a review committee composed of the department and corporation staff and shall establish by rule a scoring system for evaluation and competitive ranking of applications submitted in this program, including, but not limited to, the following criteria:

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1. Tenant income and demographic targeting objectives of the corporation.

- 2. Targeting objectives of the corporation which will ensure an equitable distribution of loans between rural and urban areas.
- 3. Sponsor's agreement to reserve the units for persons or families who have incomes below 50 percent of the state or local median income, whichever is higher, for a time period to exceed the minimum required by federal law or the provisions of this part.
 - 4. Sponsor's agreement to reserve more than:
- a. Twenty percent of the units in the project for persons or families who have incomes that do not exceed 50 percent of the state or local median income, whichever is higher; or
- b. Forty percent of the units in the project for persons or families who have incomes that do not exceed 60 percent of the state or local median income, whichever is higher, without requiring a greater amount of the loans as provided in this section.
 - 5. Provision for tenant counseling.
- 6. Sponsor's agreement to accept rental assistance certificates or vouchers as payment for rent.
- 7. Projects requiring the least amount of a state apartment incentive loan compared to overall project cost except that the share of the loan attributable to units serving extremely-low-income persons shall be excluded from this requirement.

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8. Local government contributions and local government comprehensive planning and activities that promote affordable housing.

9. Project feasibility.

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- 10. Economic viability of the project.
- 11. Commitment of first mortgage financing.
- 12. Sponsor's prior experience.
 - 13. Sponsor's ability to proceed with construction.
- 14. Projects that directly implement or assist welfare-towork transitioning.
 - 15. Projects that reserve units for extremely-low-income persons.
 - 16. Projects that include green-building principles, storm-resistant construction, or other elements that reduce long-term costs relating to maintenance, utilities, or insurance.
- 72 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.