

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to Closing the Gap grant proposals;
 3 amending s. 381.7354, F.S.; removing provisions
 4 related to Front Porch Florida Communities; amending
 5 s. 381.7355, F.S.; adding a priority area that may be
 6 addressed in a Closing the Gap grant proposal;
 7 amending s. 381.7356, F.S.; removing provisions
 8 related to Front Porch Florida Communities;
 9 prohibiting the Department of Health from establishing
 10 a minimum amount or a maximum amount for Closing the
 11 Gap grants; requiring the department to base the
 12 amount of each award on the merits of each application
 13 and to award grants to applicants in various regions
 14 of the state; authorizing the Closing the Gap program
 15 and the HIV/AIDS program to promote synergistic
 16 initiatives that reduce HIV incidence in minority
 17 populations in certain metropolitan areas; providing
 18 an effective date.

19
 20 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 22 Section 1. Section 381.7354, Florida Statutes, is amended
 23 to read:

24 381.7354 Eligibility.—

25 (1) Any person, entity, or organization within a county

26 | may apply for a Closing the Gap grant and may serve as the lead
27 | agency to administer and coordinate project activities within
28 | the county and develop community partnerships necessary to
29 | implement the grant.

30 | (2) Persons, entities, or organizations within adjoining
31 | counties with populations of less than 100,000, based on the
32 | annual estimates produced by the Population Program of the
33 | University of Florida Bureau of Economic and Business Research,
34 | may jointly submit a multicounty Closing the Gap grant proposal.
35 | However, the proposal must clearly identify a single lead agency
36 | with respect to program accountability and administration.

37 | ~~(3) In addition to the grants awarded under subsections~~
38 | ~~(1) and (2), up to 20 percent of the funding for the Reducing~~
39 | ~~Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities: Closing the Gap grant~~
40 | ~~program shall be dedicated to projects that address improving~~
41 | ~~racial and ethnic health status within specific Front Porch~~
42 | ~~Florida Communities.~~

43 | (3)(4) Nothing in ss. 381.7351-381.7356 shall prevent a
44 | person, entity, or organization within a county or group of
45 | counties from separately contracting for the provision of racial
46 | and ethnic health promotion, health awareness, and disease
47 | prevention services.

48 | Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 381.7355, Florida
49 | Statutes, is amended to read:

50 | 381.7355 Project requirements; review criteria.-

51 (2) A proposal must include each of the following
52 elements:

53 (a) The purpose and objectives of the proposal, including
54 identification of the particular racial or ethnic disparity the
55 project will address. The proposal must address one or more of
56 the following priority areas:

57 1. Decreasing racial and ethnic disparities in maternal
58 and infant mortality rates.

59 2. Decreasing racial and ethnic disparities in morbidity
60 and mortality rates relating to cancer.

61 3. Decreasing racial and ethnic disparities in morbidity
62 and mortality rates relating to HIV/AIDS.

63 4. Decreasing racial and ethnic disparities in morbidity
64 and mortality rates relating to cardiovascular disease.

65 5. Decreasing racial and ethnic disparities in morbidity
66 and mortality rates relating to diabetes.

67 6. Increasing adult and child immunization rates in
68 certain racial and ethnic populations.

69 7. Decreasing racial and ethnic disparities in oral health
70 care.

71 8. Decreasing racial and ethnic disparities in morbidity
72 and mortality rates relating to sickle cell disease.

73 9. Decreasing racial and ethnic disparities in morbidity
74 and mortality rates relating to Lupus.

75 10. Decreasing racial and ethnic disparities in morbidity

76 and mortality rates relating to Alzheimer's disease and
 77 dementia.

78 11.10. Improving ~~Improve~~ neighborhood social determinants
 79 of health, such as transportation, safety, and food access, as
 80 outlined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's
 81 "Tools for Putting Social Determinants of Health into Action."

82 (b) Identification and relevance of the target population.

83 (c) Methods for obtaining baseline health status data and
 84 assessment of community health needs.

85 (d) Mechanisms for mobilizing community resources and
 86 gaining local commitment.

87 (e) Development and implementation of health promotion and
 88 disease prevention interventions.

89 (f) Mechanisms and strategies for evaluating the project's
 90 objectives, procedures, and outcomes.

91 (g) A proposed work plan, including a timeline for
 92 implementing the project.

93 (h) Likelihood that project activities will occur and
 94 continue in the absence of funding.

95 Section 3. Present subsections (4) and (5) of section
 96 381.7356, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (5)
 97 and (6), respectively, new subsections (4) and (5) are added to
 98 that section, and subsection (1) of that section is amended, to
 99 read:

100 381.7356 Local matching funds; grant awards.—

101 (1) One or more Closing the Gap grants may be awarded in a
102 county, or in a group of adjoining counties from which a
103 multicounty application is submitted. ~~Front Porch Florida~~
104 ~~Communities grants may also be awarded in a county or group of~~
105 ~~adjoining counties that are also receiving a grant award.~~

106 (4) The department may not establish a minimum amount or a
107 maximum amount for grants and shall determine the amount of each
108 award based on the merits of the application. The department
109 shall ensure that grants are awarded to applicants in various
110 regions of this state.

111 (5) In addition to the requirements provided in s.
112 381.7353, and subject to the availability of state and federal
113 funds in the HIV/AIDS program, the department shall promote
114 synergistic initiatives between the Closing the Gap grant
115 program and the HIV/AIDS program to leverage the expertise of
116 the Closing the Gap grant program. These initiatives may include
117 the establishment of a supplemental grant program whereby
118 persons, entities, or organizations eligible for a Closing the
119 Gap grant under s. 381.7354 may submit to the department a grant
120 proposal, pursuant to the application process established under
121 s. 381.7355, for funding to further the purposes listed in s.
122 381.7355(2)(a) and to promote innovative prevention, treatment,
123 and awareness initiatives for minority populations in
124 metropolitan areas which have a higher prevalence of HIV/AIDS
125 for the purposes of reducing the incidence of the HIV infection

126 | in such communities and prioritizing the identification of
127 | individuals, in a manner consistent with the clinical guidelines
128 | of the federal Health Resources and Services Administration, who
129 | are not yet aware of their HIV status.

130 | Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.