

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to the Expedited DNA Testing Grant  
3       Program; creating s. 943.328, F.S.; defining the term  
4       "private laboratory"; creating the Expedited DNA  
5       Testing Grant Program within the Department of Law  
6       Enforcement; providing for the annual award of grants;  
7       specifying uses of grants; requiring an annual report  
8       by each grant recipient; providing rulemaking  
9       authority; providing an effective date.

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

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13       **Section 1.   Section 943.328, Florida Statutes, is created**  
14   **to read:**

15       943.328   Expedited DNA Testing Grant Program.—

16       (1)   As used in this section, the term "private laboratory"  
17   means any DNA laboratory accredited for a minimum of 5 years in  
18   accordance with ISO/IEC 17025:2017 and the applicable Federal  
19   Bureau of Investigation Quality Assurance Standards.

20       (2)   There is created within the department the Expedited  
21   DNA Testing Grant Program to award grants to law enforcement  
22   agencies for the processing of evidentiary items for DNA testing  
23   as provided in subsection (4).

24       (3)   The department shall annually award to law enforcement  
25   agencies any funds specifically appropriated for the grant

26 program to cover testing of DNA samples by private laboratories  
27 as provided in subsection (4).

28 (4) Grants may be used by a law enforcement agency for any  
29 of the following:

30 (a) When the technology or technique needed to properly  
31 test the DNA sample is not readily available at a local or state  
32 laboratory.

33 (b) When, in the agency's judgment, expedited testing of  
34 the DNA sample is in the best interest of advancing an  
35 investigation.

36 (5) Each grant recipient shall provide a report to the  
37 executive director no later than 1 year after receipt of  
38 funding. The report shall include:

39 (a) The amount of annual funding received from this grant.

40 (b) The number of cases tested by the private laboratory.

41 (c) The type of DNA testing used, including the name of  
42 the private laboratory to which such testing was outsourced and  
43 the type of primary equipment used by the private laboratory for  
44 such testing.

45 (d) The lab report with the results of the DNA testing.

46 (e) The average amount of time it took to complete the DNA  
47 testing.

48 (6) The department may adopt rules pursuant to ss.  
49 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement and administer this section  
50 and to establish the process for the allocation of grant funds.

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2025

51      **Section 2.**   This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.