

By Senator DiCeglie

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to electronic payments to local governments; amending s. 215.322, F.S.; revising legislative intent; requiring each unit of local government to accept electronic payment online for payments received by and financial obligations owed to the unit of local government; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsections (1) and (5) of section 215.322, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

215.322 Acceptance of credit cards, charge cards, debit cards, or electronic funds transfers by state agencies, units of local government, and the judicial branch.—

(1) It is the intent of the Legislature to encourage state agencies and, the judicial branch, and require units of local government, to make their goods, services, and information more convenient to the public through the acceptance of payments by credit cards, charge cards, debit cards, or other means of electronic funds transfers to the maximum extent practicable when the benefits to the participating agency and the public substantiate the cost of accepting these types of payments.

(5) Each A unit of local government, including a municipality, special district, or board of county commissioners or other governing body of a county, a consolidated or metropolitan government, and any clerk of the circuit court, sheriff, property appraiser, tax collector, or supervisor of

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30 elections and each department, subagency, and division of such
31 units of local government, shall, is authorized to accept
32 electronic payment online by use of credit cards, charge cards,
33 bank debit cards, and electronic funds transfers for payments
34 received by and financial obligations that are owing to such
35 unit of local government and to surcharge the person who uses a
36 credit card, a charge card, a bank debit card, or an electronic
37 funds transfer in payment of taxes, license fees, tuition,
38 fines, civil penalties, court-ordered payments, or court costs,
39 or other statutorily prescribed revenues an amount sufficient to
40 pay the service fee charges by the financial institution,
41 vending service company, or credit card company for such
42 services. Such A unit of local government shall verify both the
43 validity of any credit card, charge card, bank debit card, or
44 electronic funds transfer used pursuant to this subsection and
45 the existence of appropriate credit with respect to the person
46 using the card or transfer. The unit of local government does
47 not incur any liability as a result of such verification or any
48 subsequent action taken.

49 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.