

By Senator DiCeglie

18-01232-26

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1 A bill to be entitled  
2 An act relating to electronic payments to local  
3 governments; amending s. 215.322, F.S.; revising  
4 legislative intent; requiring each unit of local  
5 government to accept electronic payment online for  
6 payments received by and financial obligations owed to  
7 the unit of local government; providing an effective  
8 date.

9  
10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

11  
12 Section 1. Subsections (1) and (5) of section 215.322,  
13 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

14 215.322 Acceptance of credit cards, charge cards, debit  
15 cards, or electronic funds transfers by state agencies, units of  
16 local government, and the judicial branch.—

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

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

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

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