

CS/HB 967

2026

A bill to be entitled  
An act relating to electronic payments made to units  
of local governments; amending s. 215.322, F.S.;  
revising legislative intent; requiring units of local  
government to accept certain forms of payments;  
providing an exception; requiring such local  
governments to accept payments online; 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; acceptance of online payments by units of local governments.—

(1) (a) 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.~~

26        (b) It is the intent of the Legislature to require units  
27 of local government to accept payments online.

28        (5)(a) Each A unit of local government, including a  
29 municipality, special district, or board of county commissioners  
30 or other governing body of a county, a consolidated or  
31 metropolitan government, and any clerk of the circuit court,  
32 sheriff, property appraiser, tax collector, or supervisor of  
33 elections, ~~shall~~ is authorized to accept payment by use of  
34 credit cards, charge cards, bank debit cards, and electronic  
35 funds transfers for financial obligations that are owing to such  
36 unit of local government, except when another form of payment is  
37 required by law, and is authorized to surcharge the person who  
38 uses a credit card, charge card, bank debit card, or electronic  
39 funds transfer in payment of taxes, license fees, tuition,  
40 fines, civil penalties, court-ordered payments, or court costs,  
41 or other statutorily prescribed revenues an amount sufficient to  
42 pay the service fee charges by the financial institution,  
43 vending service company, or credit card company for such  
44 services. Such A unit of local government shall verify both the  
45 validity of any credit card, charge card, bank debit card, or  
46 electronic funds transfer used pursuant to this subsection and  
47 the existence of appropriate credit with respect to the person  
48 using the card or transfer. The unit of local government does  
49 not incur any liability as a result of such verification or any  
50 subsequent action taken.

51        (b) A unit of local government accepting payment under  
52        paragraph (a) is required to have a method for accepting such  
53        payment online.

54        **Section 2.** This act shall take effect January 1, 2027.