



26 | damaged by Hurricane Idalia; specifying that the  
27 | exemption is available only through a refund by the  
28 | department of previously paid taxes; defining the  
29 | terms "building materials" and "nonresidential farm  
30 | building"; specifying requirements for applying for  
31 | the refund; providing criminal penalties for  
32 | furnishing a false affidavit; providing construction  
33 | and retroactive applicability; authorizing the  
34 | department to adopt emergency rules; providing an  
35 | exemption from certain fuel taxes for fuel purchased,  
36 | within a certain timeframe, for use for agricultural  
37 | shipment or hurricane debris removal after Hurricane  
38 | Idalia; specifying that the exemption is available  
39 | only through a refund by the department; defining  
40 | terms; specifying requirements for applying for the  
41 | refund; providing criminal penalties for furnishing a  
42 | false affidavit; providing applicability and  
43 | construction; providing for retroactive operation;  
44 | authorizing the department to adopt emergency rules;  
45 | amending s. 215.5586, F.S.; revising legislative  
46 | intent; specifying a requirement for the Department of  
47 | Financial Services in implementing the My Safe Florida  
48 | Home Program; authorizing the department to accept  
49 | applications for the program up to the amount of  
50 | available funds; providing an appropriation for

51 certain applications for the program; prohibiting the  
52 department from continuing to accept certain  
53 applications or creating a waiting list in  
54 anticipation of additional funding in the absence of  
55 express authority from the Legislature to do so;  
56 providing an appropriation for administration of the  
57 My Safe Florida Home program; amending s. 252.37,  
58 F.S.; providing legislative intent; requiring the  
59 Division of Emergency Management and local governments  
60 to enter into certain agreements to receive specified  
61 funds; providing requirements for such agreements;  
62 providing for allocation of funds; requiring the  
63 division to report progress on a certain timetable to  
64 specified parties; providing for expiration; providing  
65 an appropriation for the Public Assistance Program;  
66 providing requirements for appropriated funds;  
67 authorizing the undisbursed appropriation to carry  
68 forward to a certain date; amending s. 252.71, F.S.;  
69 extending the date for future review and repeal of  
70 provisions related to the Florida Emergency Management  
71 Assistance Foundation; amending s. 288.066, F.S.;  
72 revising the maximum length of a loan term under the  
73 Local Government Emergency Revolving Bridge Loan  
74 Program; authorizing the Department of Commerce to  
75 amend certain previously executed loan agreements

76 | under certain circumstances; providing an  
77 | appropriation for the Hurricane Housing Recovery  
78 | Program; requiring such appropriations to be used for  
79 | specified purposes; requiring the Florida Housing  
80 | Finance Corporation to coordinate with the division  
81 | and the Department of Commerce for a specified  
82 | purpose; providing an appropriation for hurricane  
83 | repair and recovery projects within counties with a  
84 | certain Federal Emergency Management Agency disaster  
85 | designation; authorizing certain entities to apply for  
86 | such appropriated funds; requiring such entities  
87 | requesting funding for certain purposes to secure  
88 | certain matching funds by the time of making the  
89 | application; requiring certain certifications for  
90 | applications for appropriated funds; authorizing the  
91 | division to request budget amendments up to a  
92 | specified amount to fund gaps in certain projects;  
93 | requiring the division and certain entities to  
94 | coordinate for a specified purpose; specifying  
95 | criteria for providing appropriated funds as grants or  
96 | loans; requiring reimbursed funds to be deposited into  
97 | the General Revenue Fund; providing for appropriations  
98 | for the Small County Outreach Program for certain  
99 | counties; amending chapter 2023-304, Laws of Florida;  
100 | revising a prohibition on counties and municipalities

101 proposing or adopting certain amendments to specified  
102 regulations; revising the expiration date of such  
103 prohibition; providing an appropriation for certain  
104 planning and design grants; authorizing certain  
105 fiscally constrained counties to apply for  
106 appropriated funds; requiring the division to  
107 prioritize certain applications; requiring the  
108 division to conduct a certain assessment and consider  
109 certain information; amending s. 288.0655, F.S.;  
110 authorizing the Department of Commerce to award  
111 certain grants to certain fiscally constrained  
112 counties; providing a purpose and eligible uses for  
113 such grants; providing for expiration; providing an  
114 appropriation for the grants; repealing s. 570.82,  
115 F.S., relating to Agricultural Economic Development  
116 Program disaster loans and grants and aid; creating s.  
117 570.822, F.S.; defining terms; establishing the  
118 Agriculture and Aquaculture Producers Natural Disaster  
119 Recovery Loan Program within the Department of  
120 Agriculture and Consumer Services; providing the  
121 purpose of the program; establishing the authorized  
122 use of the loans; requiring that structures or  
123 buildings constructed with loan funds meet certain  
124 standards; requiring the department to adopt such  
125 standards by rule; requiring that the loans be low-

126 interest or interest-free; providing loan limits;  
127 establishing eligibility requirements for loans;  
128 establishing application periods; setting the terms of  
129 repayment; providing for a reduction in the principal  
130 balance by a certain amount each year; restricting the  
131 amount the department may use for deferred loans;  
132 requiring repayment upon the sale of the property  
133 within a certain timeframe; specifying requirements  
134 for the department in administering the program;  
135 requiring the department to create and maintain a  
136 separate account in the General Inspection Trust Fund  
137 for the program; requiring that loan payments be  
138 returned to the loan program; providing that  
139 appropriated funds are not subject to reversion;  
140 requiring the department, or a specified third-party  
141 administrator, to manage the loan fund; requiring the  
142 department to coordinate with certain entities;  
143 requiring the department to adopt rules; requiring the  
144 department to provide an annual report to the  
145 Legislature by a specified date; specifying  
146 requirements for the report; providing for the  
147 expiration of the program on a specified date, unless  
148 reviewed and saved from repeal by the Legislature;  
149 amending s. 201.25, F.S.; exempting loans made by the  
150 Agriculture and Aquaculture Producers Natural Disaster

151 Recovery Loan Program from certain taxes; requiring  
 152 the department to adopt emergency rules to implement  
 153 the program; providing for the expiration of such  
 154 authority; requiring the transfer of specified amounts  
 155 from the General Revenue Fund to the General  
 156 Inspection Trust Fund within the department within a  
 157 specified timeframe; providing appropriations for  
 158 specified programs; providing requirements for grant  
 159 administration under such programs; specifying the  
 160 amount the department may use to administer the  
 161 programs; authorizing the department to adopt  
 162 emergency rules to implement the cost-sharing grant  
 163 program; requiring the department to coordinate with  
 164 certain entities; providing an effective date.

165

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

167

168 Section 1. Section 193.4518, Florida Statutes, is created  
 169 to read:

170 193.4518 Assessment of agricultural equipment rendered  
 171 unable to be used due to Hurricane Idalia.-

172 (1) As used in this section, the term:

173 (a) "Farm" has the same meaning as provided in s.

174 823.14(3).

175 (b) "Farm operation" has the same meaning as provided in

176 s. 823.14(3).

177 (c) "Unable to be used" means the tangible personal  
178 property was damaged, or the farm, farm operation, or  
179 agricultural processing facility was affected, to such a degree  
180 that the tangible personal property could not be used for its  
181 intended purpose.

182 (2) For purposes of ad valorem taxation and applying to  
183 the 2024 tax roll only, tangible personal property owned and  
184 operated by a farm, a farm operation, or an agriculture  
185 processing facility located in Charlotte, Citrus, Columbia,  
186 Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Hernando, Jefferson, Lafayette,  
187 Levy, Madison, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Sarasota, Suwannee, or  
188 Taylor County is deemed to have a market value no greater than  
189 its value for salvage if the tangible personal property was  
190 unable to be used for at least 60 days due to the effects of  
191 Hurricane Idalia.

192 (3) The deadline for an applicant to file an application  
193 with the property appraiser for assessment pursuant to this  
194 section is March 1, 2024.

195 (4) If the property appraiser denies an application, the  
196 applicant may file, pursuant to s. 194.011(3), a petition with  
197 the value adjustment board which requests that the tangible  
198 personal property be assessed pursuant to this section. Such  
199 petition must be filed on or before the 25th day after the  
200 mailing by the property appraiser during the 2024 calendar year



201 of the notice required under s. 194.011(1).

202 (5) This section applies to tax rolls beginning January 1,  
 203 2024.

204 Section 2. Fencing materials purchased for use on  
 205 agricultural lands due to Hurricane Idalia damage.-

206 (1) The purchase of fencing materials used to replace or  
 207 repair farm fences on land classified as agricultural under s.  
 208 193.461, Florida Statutes, is exempt from the tax imposed under  
 209 chapter 212, Florida Statutes, during the period from August 30,  
 210 2023, through June 30, 2024, if the fencing materials will be or  
 211 were used to replace or repair fences located in Charlotte,  
 212 Citrus, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Hernando,  
 213 Jefferson, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas,  
 214 Sarasota, Suwannee, or Taylor County that were damaged as a  
 215 direct result of the impact of Hurricane Idalia. The exemption  
 216 provided by this section is available only through a refund from  
 217 the Department of Revenue of previously paid taxes.

218 (2) To receive a refund pursuant to this section, the  
 219 owner of the fencing materials or the real property into which  
 220 the fencing materials were incorporated must apply to the  
 221 Department of Revenue by December 31, 2024. The refund  
 222 application must include the following information:

223 (a) The name and address of the person claiming the  
 224 refund.

225 (b) The address and assessment roll parcel number of the

226 agricultural land on which the fencing materials were or will be  
227 used.

228 (c) The sales invoice or other proof of purchase of the  
229 fencing materials which shows the amount of sales tax paid, the  
230 date of purchase, and the name and address of the dealer from  
231 whom the materials were purchased.

232 (d) An affidavit executed by the owner of the fencing  
233 materials or the real property into which the fencing materials  
234 were or will be incorporated, including a statement that the  
235 fencing materials were or will be used to replace or repair  
236 fencing damaged as a direct result of the impact of Hurricane  
237 Idalia.

238 (3) A person furnishing a false affidavit to the  
239 Department of Revenue pursuant to subsection (2) is subject to  
240 the penalties set forth in s. 212.085, Florida Statutes, and as  
241 otherwise authorized by law.

242 (4) This section is deemed a revenue law for the purposes  
243 of ss. 213.05 and 213.06, Florida Statutes, and s. 72.011,  
244 Florida Statutes, applies to this section.

245 (5) This section operates retroactively to August 30,  
246 2023.

247 (6) The Department of Revenue is authorized, and all  
248 conditions are deemed met, to adopt emergency rules pursuant to  
249 s. 120.54(4), Florida Statutes, for the purpose of implementing  
250 this section. Notwithstanding any other provision of law,

251 emergency rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are  
 252 effective until December 31, 2024, and may be renewed during the  
 253 pendency of procedures to adopt permanent rules addressing the  
 254 subject of the emergency rules.

255 Section 3. Building materials used to replace or repair  
 256 nonresidential farm buildings damaged by Hurricane Idalia.—

257 (1) Building materials used to replace or repair a  
 258 nonresidential farm building located in Charlotte, Citrus,  
 259 Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Hernando, Jefferson,  
 260 Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Sarasota,  
 261 Suwannee, or Taylor County that was damaged as a direct result  
 262 of the impact of Hurricane Idalia and purchased during the  
 263 period from August 30, 2023, through June 30, 2024, are exempt  
 264 from the tax imposed under chapter 212, Florida Statutes. The  
 265 exemption provided by this section is available only through a  
 266 refund from the Department of Revenue of previously paid taxes.

267 (2) As used in this section, the term:

268 (a) "Building materials" means tangible personal property  
 269 that becomes a component part of a nonresidential farm building.

270 (b) "Nonresidential farm building" has the same meaning as  
 271 provided in s. 604.50(2), Florida Statutes.

272 (3) To receive a refund pursuant to this section, the  
 273 owner of the building materials or of the real property into  
 274 which the building materials will be or were incorporated must  
 275 apply to the Department of Revenue by December 31, 2024. The

276 refund application must include all of the following  
277 information:

278 (a) The name and address of the person claiming the  
279 refund.

280 (b) The address and assessment roll parcel number of the  
281 real property where the building materials were or will be used.

282 (c) The sales invoice or other proof of purchase of the  
283 building materials which shows the amount of sales tax paid, the  
284 date of purchase, and the name and address of the dealer from  
285 whom the materials were purchased.

286 (d) An affidavit executed by the owner of the building  
287 materials or the real property into which the building materials  
288 will be or were incorporated, including a statement that the  
289 building materials were or will be used to replace or repair the  
290 nonresidential farm building damaged as a direct result of the  
291 impact of Hurricane Idalia.

292 (4) A person furnishing a false affidavit to the  
293 Department of Revenue pursuant to subsection (3) is subject to  
294 the penalties set forth in s. 212.085, Florida Statutes, and as  
295 otherwise provided by law.

296 (5) This section is deemed a revenue law for the purposes  
297 of ss. 213.05 and 213.06, Florida Statutes, and s. 72.011,  
298 Florida Statutes, applies to this section.

299 (6) This section operates retroactively to August 30,  
300 2023.

301 (7) The Department of Revenue is authorized, and all  
 302 conditions are deemed met, to adopt emergency rules pursuant to  
 303 s. 120.54(4), Florida Statutes, for the purpose of implementing  
 304 this section. Notwithstanding any other provision of law,  
 305 emergency rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are  
 306 effective until December 31, 2024, and may be renewed during the  
 307 pendency of procedures to adopt permanent rules addressing the  
 308 subject of the emergency rules.

309 Section 4. Refund of taxes on fuel used for agricultural  
 310 shipment or hurricane debris removal after Hurricane Idalia.-

311 (1) Fuel purchased and used in this state during the  
 312 period from August 30, 2023, through June 30, 2024, which is or  
 313 was used in any motor vehicle driven or operated upon the public  
 314 highways of this state for agricultural shipment or hurricane  
 315 debris removal is exempt from all state and county taxes  
 316 authorized or imposed under parts I and II of chapter 206,  
 317 Florida Statutes, excluding the taxes imposed under s.  
 318 206.41(1)(a) and (h), Florida Statutes. The exemption provided  
 319 by this section is available to the fuel purchaser in an amount  
 320 equal to the fuel tax imposed on fuel that was purchased for  
 321 agricultural shipment or hurricane debris removal during the  
 322 period from August 30, 2023, through June 30, 2024. The  
 323 exemption provided by this section is only available through a  
 324 refund from the Department of Revenue.

325 (2) As used in this section, the term:

326        (a) "Agricultural processing or storage facility" means  
327 property used or useful in separating, cleaning, processing,  
328 converting, packaging, handling, storing, and other activities  
329 necessary to prepare crops, livestock, related products, and  
330 other products of agriculture, and includes nonfarm facilities  
331 that produce agricultural products, in whole or in part, through  
332 natural processes, animal husbandry, and apiaries.

333        (b) "Agricultural product" means the natural products of a  
334 farm, nursery, forest, grove, orchard, vineyard, garden, or  
335 apiary, including livestock as defined in s. 585.01, Florida  
336 Statutes.

337        (c) "Agricultural shipment" means the transport of any  
338 agricultural product from a farm, nursery, forest, grove,  
339 orchard, vineyard, garden, or apiary located in Charlotte,  
340 Citrus, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Hernando,  
341 Jefferson, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas,  
342 Sarasota, Suwannee, or Taylor County to an agricultural  
343 processing or storage facility.

344        (d) "Fuel" means motor fuel or diesel fuel, as those terms  
345 are defined in ss. 206.01(9) and 206.86(1), Florida Statutes,  
346 respectively.

347        (e) "Fuel tax" means all state and county taxes authorized  
348 or imposed on fuel under chapter 206, Florida Statutes.

349        (f) "Hurricane debris removal" means the transport of  
350 Hurricane Idalia debris from a farm, nursery, forest, grove,

351 orchard, vineyard, garden, or apiary located in Charlotte,  
352 Citrus, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Hernando,  
353 Jefferson, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas,  
354 Sarasota, Suwannee, or Taylor County.

355 (g) "Motor vehicle" has the same meaning as provided in s.  
356 206.01(23), Florida Statutes.

357 (h) "Public highways" has the same meaning as provided in  
358 s. 206.01(11), Florida Statutes.

359 (3) To receive a refund pursuant to this section, the fuel  
360 purchaser must apply to the Department of Revenue by December  
361 31, 2024. The refund application must include all of the  
362 following information:

363 (a) The name and address of the person claiming the  
364 refund.

365 (b) The names and addresses of up to three owners of  
366 farms, nurseries, forests, groves, orchards, vineyards, gardens,  
367 or apiaries whose agricultural products were shipped or  
368 hurricane debris was removed by the person seeking the refund  
369 pursuant to this section.

370 (c) The sales invoice or other proof of purchase of the  
371 fuel which shows the number of gallons of fuel purchased, the  
372 type of fuel purchased, the date of purchase, and the name and  
373 place of business of the dealer from whom the fuel was  
374 purchased.

375 (d) The license number or other identification number of

376 the motor vehicle that used the exempt fuel.

377 (e) An affidavit executed by the person seeking the refund  
378 pursuant to this section, including a statement that he or she  
379 purchased and used the fuel for which the refund is being  
380 claimed during the period from August 30, 2023, through June 30,  
381 2024, for an agricultural shipment or hurricane debris removal.

382 (4) A person furnishing a false affidavit to the  
383 Department of Revenue pursuant to subsection (3) is subject to  
384 the penalties set forth in s. 206.11, Florida Statutes, and as  
385 otherwise provided by law.

386 (5) The tax imposed under s. 212.0501, Florida Statutes,  
387 does not apply to fuel that is exempt under this section and for  
388 which a fuel purchaser received a refund under this section.

389 (6) This section is deemed a revenue law for the purposes  
390 of ss. 213.05 and 213.06, Florida Statutes, and s. 72.011,  
391 Florida Statutes, applies to this section.

392 (7) This section operates retroactively to August 30,  
393 2023.

394 (8) The Department of Revenue is authorized, and all  
395 conditions are deemed met, to adopt emergency rules pursuant to  
396 s. 120.54(4), Florida Statutes, for the purpose of implementing  
397 this section. Notwithstanding any other provision of law,  
398 emergency rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are  
399 effective until December 31, 2024, and may be renewed during the  
400 pendency of procedures to adopt permanent rules addressing the



401 subject of the emergency rules.

402 Section 5. Section 215.5586, Florida Statutes, is amended  
 403 to read:

404 215.5586 My Safe Florida Home Program.—There is  
 405 established within the Department of Financial Services the My  
 406 Safe Florida Home Program. The department shall provide fiscal  
 407 accountability, contract management, and strategic leadership  
 408 for the program, consistent with this section. This section does  
 409 not create an entitlement for property owners or obligate the  
 410 state in any way to fund the inspection or retrofitting of  
 411 residential property in this state. Implementation of this  
 412 program is subject to annual legislative appropriations. It is  
 413 the intent of the Legislature that, subject to the availability  
 414 of funds, the My Safe Florida Home Program provide licensed  
 415 inspectors to perform inspections for owners of site-built,  
 416 single-family, residential properties and grants to eligible  
 417 applicants ~~as funding allows.~~ The department shall implement the  
 418 program in such a manner that the total amount of funding  
 419 requested by accepted applications, whether for inspections,  
 420 grants, or other services or assistance, does not exceed the  
 421 total amount of available funds. If, after applications are  
 422 processed and approved, funds remain available, the department  
 423 may accept applications up to the available amount. The program  
 424 shall develop and implement a comprehensive and coordinated  
 425 approach for hurricane damage mitigation that may include the

426 following:

427 (1) HURRICANE MITIGATION INSPECTIONS.—

428 (a) Licensed inspectors are to provide home inspections of  
 429 site-built, single-family, residential properties for which a  
 430 homestead exemption has been granted, to determine what  
 431 mitigation measures are needed, what insurance premium discounts  
 432 may be available, and what improvements to existing residential  
 433 properties are needed to reduce the property's vulnerability to  
 434 hurricane damage. An inspector may inspect a townhouse as  
 435 defined in s. 481.203 to determine if opening protection  
 436 mitigation as listed in paragraph (2) (e) would provide  
 437 improvements to mitigate hurricane damage.

438 (b) The Department of Financial Services shall contract  
 439 with wind certification entities to provide hurricane mitigation  
 440 inspections. The inspections provided to homeowners, at a  
 441 minimum, must include:

442 1. A home inspection and report that summarizes the  
 443 results and identifies recommended improvements a homeowner may  
 444 take to mitigate hurricane damage.

445 2. A range of cost estimates regarding the recommended  
 446 mitigation improvements.

447 3. Information regarding estimated premium discounts,  
 448 correlated to the current mitigation features and the  
 449 recommended mitigation improvements identified by the  
 450 inspection.

451 (c) To qualify for selection by the department as a wind  
452 certification entity to provide hurricane mitigation  
453 inspections, the entity must, at a minimum, meet the following  
454 requirements:

455 1. Use hurricane mitigation inspectors who are licensed or  
456 certified as:

457 a. A building inspector under s. 468.607;

458 b. A general, building, or residential contractor under s.  
459 489.111;

460 c. A professional engineer under s. 471.015;

461 d. A professional architect under s. 481.213; or

462 e. A home inspector under s. 468.8314 and who have  
463 completed at least 3 hours of hurricane mitigation training  
464 approved by the Construction Industry Licensing Board, which  
465 training must include hurricane mitigation techniques,  
466 compliance with the uniform mitigation verification form, and  
467 completion of a proficiency exam.

468 2. Use hurricane mitigation inspectors who also have  
469 undergone drug testing and a background screening. The  
470 department may conduct criminal record checks of inspectors used  
471 by wind certification entities. Inspectors must submit a set of  
472 fingerprints to the department for state and national criminal  
473 history checks and must pay the fingerprint processing fee set  
474 forth in s. 624.501. The fingerprints must be sent by the  
475 department to the Department of Law Enforcement and forwarded to

476 | the Federal Bureau of Investigation for processing. The results  
 477 | must be returned to the department for screening. The  
 478 | fingerprints must be taken by a law enforcement agency,  
 479 | designated examination center, or other department-approved  
 480 | entity.

481 |         3. Provide a quality assurance program including a  
 482 | reinspection component.

483 |             (d) An application for an inspection must contain a signed  
 484 | or electronically verified statement made under penalty of  
 485 | perjury that the applicant has submitted only a single  
 486 | application for that home.

487 |             (e) The owner of a site-built, single-family, residential  
 488 | property or townhouse as defined in s. 481.203, for which a  
 489 | homestead exemption has been granted, may apply for and receive  
 490 | an inspection without also applying for a grant pursuant to  
 491 | subsection (2) and without meeting the requirements of paragraph  
 492 | (2) (a).

493 |             (2) MITIGATION GRANTS.—Financial grants shall be used to  
 494 | encourage single-family, site-built, owner-occupied, residential  
 495 | property owners to retrofit their properties to make them less  
 496 | vulnerable to hurricane damage.

497 |             (a) For a homeowner to be eligible for a grant, the  
 498 | following criteria must be met:

499 |                 1. The homeowner must have been granted a homestead  
 500 | exemption on the home under chapter 196.

501           2. The home must be a dwelling with an insured value of  
 502 \$700,000 or less. Homeowners who are low-income persons, as  
 503 defined in s. 420.0004(11), are exempt from this requirement.

504           3. The home must undergo an acceptable hurricane  
 505 mitigation inspection as provided in subsection (1).

506           4. The building permit application for initial  
 507 construction of the home must have been made before January 1,  
 508 2008.

509           5. The homeowner must agree to make his or her home  
 510 available for inspection once a mitigation project is completed.

511  
 512 An application for a grant must contain a signed or  
 513 electronically verified statement made under penalty of perjury  
 514 that the applicant has submitted only a single application and  
 515 must have attached documents demonstrating the applicant meets  
 516 the requirements of this paragraph.

517           (b) All grants must be matched on the basis of \$1 provided  
 518 by the applicant for \$2 provided by the state up to a maximum  
 519 state contribution of \$10,000 toward the actual cost of the  
 520 mitigation project.

521           (c) The program shall create a process in which  
 522 contractors agree to participate and homeowners select from a  
 523 list of participating contractors. All mitigation must be based  
 524 upon the securing of all required local permits and inspections  
 525 and must be performed by properly licensed contractors.

526 Hurricane mitigation inspectors qualifying for the program may  
527 also participate as mitigation contractors as long as the  
528 inspectors meet the department's qualifications and  
529 certification requirements for mitigation contractors.

530 (d) Matching fund grants shall also be made available to  
531 local governments and nonprofit entities for projects that will  
532 reduce hurricane damage to single-family, site-built, owner-  
533 occupied, residential property. The department shall liberally  
534 construe those requirements in favor of availing the state of  
535 the opportunity to leverage funding for the My Safe Florida Home  
536 Program with other sources of funding.

537 (e) When recommended by a hurricane mitigation inspection,  
538 grants for eligible homes may be used for the following  
539 improvements:

- 540 1. Opening protection.
- 541 2. Exterior doors, including garage doors.
- 542 3. Reinforcing roof-to-wall connections.
- 543 4. Improving the strength of roof-deck attachments.
- 544 5. Secondary water barrier for roof.

545 (f) When recommended by a hurricane mitigation inspection,  
546 grants for townhouses, as defined in s. 481.203, may only be  
547 used for opening protection.

548  
549 The department may require that improvements be made to all  
550 openings, including exterior doors and garage doors, as a

551 condition of reimbursing a homeowner approved for a grant. The  
552 department may adopt, by rule, the maximum grant allowances for  
553 any improvement allowable under paragraph (e) or this paragraph.

554 (g) Grants may be used on a previously inspected existing  
555 structure or on a rebuild. A rebuild is defined as a site-built,  
556 single-family dwelling under construction to replace a home that  
557 was destroyed or significantly damaged by a hurricane and deemed  
558 unlivable by a regulatory authority. The homeowner must be a  
559 low-income homeowner as defined in paragraph (h), must have had  
560 a homestead exemption for that home before the hurricane, and  
561 must be intending to rebuild the home as that homeowner's  
562 homestead.

563 (h) Low-income homeowners, as defined in s. 420.0004(11),  
564 who otherwise meet the requirements of paragraphs (a), (c), (e),  
565 and (g) are eligible for a grant of up to \$10,000 and are not  
566 required to provide a matching amount to receive the grant. The  
567 program may accept a certification directly from a low-income  
568 homeowner that the homeowner meets the requirements of s.  
569 420.0004(11) if the homeowner provides such certification in a  
570 signed or electronically verified statement made under penalty  
571 of perjury.

572 (i) The department shall develop a process that ensures  
573 the most efficient means to collect and verify grant  
574 applications to determine eligibility and may direct hurricane  
575 mitigation inspectors to collect and verify grant application

576 information or use the Internet or other electronic means to  
 577 collect information and determine eligibility.

578 (3) EDUCATION, CONSUMER AWARENESS, AND OUTREACH.—

579 (a) The department may undertake a statewide multimedia  
 580 public outreach and advertising campaign to inform consumers of  
 581 the availability and benefits of hurricane inspections and of  
 582 the safety and financial benefits of residential hurricane  
 583 damage mitigation. The department may seek out and use local,  
 584 state, federal, and private funds to support the campaign.

585 (b) The program may develop brochures for distribution to  
 586 Citizens Property Insurance Corporation, general contractors,  
 587 roofing contractors, and real estate brokers and sales  
 588 associates who are licensed under part I of chapter 475 which  
 589 provide information on the benefits to homeowners of residential  
 590 hurricane damage mitigation. Citizens Property Insurance  
 591 Corporation is encouraged to distribute the brochure to  
 592 policyholders of the corporation. Contractors are encouraged to  
 593 distribute the brochures to homeowners at the first meeting with  
 594 a homeowner who is considering contracting for home or roof  
 595 repair or contracting for the construction of a new home. Real  
 596 estate brokers and sales associates are encouraged to distribute  
 597 the brochure to clients before the purchase of a home. The  
 598 brochures may be made available electronically.

599 (4) FUNDING.—The department may seek out and leverage  
 600 local, state, federal, or private funds to enhance the financial



601 resources of the program.

602 (5) RULES.—The Department of Financial Services shall  
603 adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to govern the  
604 program; implement the provisions of this section; including  
605 rules governing hurricane mitigation inspections and grants,  
606 mitigation contractors, and training of inspectors and  
607 contractors; and carry out the duties of the department under  
608 this section.

609 (6) HURRICANE MITIGATION INSPECTOR LIST.—The department  
610 shall develop and maintain as a public record a current list of  
611 hurricane mitigation inspectors authorized to conduct hurricane  
612 mitigation inspections pursuant to this section.

613 (7) CONTRACT MANAGEMENT.—

614 (a) The department may contract with third parties for  
615 grants management, inspection services, contractor services for  
616 low-income homeowners, information technology, educational  
617 outreach, and auditing services. Such contracts are considered  
618 direct costs of the program and are not subject to  
619 administrative cost limits. The department shall contract with  
620 providers that have a demonstrated record of successful business  
621 operations in areas directly related to the services to be  
622 provided and shall ensure the highest accountability for use of  
623 state funds, consistent with this section.

624 (b) The department shall implement a quality assurance and  
625 reinspection program that determines whether initial inspections

626 and home improvements are completed in a manner consistent with  
627 the intent of the program. The department may use valid random  
628 sampling in order to perform the quality assurance portion of  
629 the program.

630 (8) INTENT.—It is the intent of the Legislature that  
631 grants made to residential property owners under this section  
632 shall be considered disaster-relief assistance within the  
633 meaning of s. 139 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as  
634 amended.

635 (9) REPORTS.—The department shall make an annual report on  
636 the activities of the program that shall account for the use of  
637 state funds and indicate the number of inspections requested,  
638 the number of inspections performed, the number of grant  
639 applications received, the number and value of grants approved,  
640 and the estimated average annual amount of insurance premium  
641 discounts and total estimated annual amount of insurance premium  
642 discounts homeowners received from insurers as a result of  
643 mitigation funded through the program. The report must be  
644 delivered to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the  
645 House of Representatives by February 1 of each year.

646 Section 6. (1) For the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the sum of  
647 \$176,170,000 in nonrecurring funds is appropriated from the  
648 General Revenue Fund to the Department of Financial Services to  
649 provide mitigation grants pursuant to s. 215.5586(2), Florida  
650 Statutes, under the My Safe Florida Home Program. Funds must be

651 used for applications submitted on or before October 15, 2023.  
652 The department may not continue to accept applications or to  
653 create a waiting list in anticipation of additional funding  
654 unless the Legislature provides express authority to implement  
655 such actions.

656 (2) For the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the sum of \$5,285,100  
657 in nonrecurring funds is appropriated from the General Revenue  
658 Fund to the Department of Financial Services for administrative  
659 costs related to implementation of mitigation grants pursuant to  
660 s. 215.5586(2), Florida Statutes, under the My Safe Florida Home  
661 Program.

662 Section 7. Paragraph (d) is added to subsection (5) of  
663 section 252.37, Florida Statutes, to read:

664 252.37 Financing.—

665 (5) Unless otherwise specified in the General  
666 Appropriations Act:

667 (d) Subject to appropriation, and notwithstanding  
668 paragraph (a), the Legislature intends to provide the entire  
669 match requirement for Public Assistance Program grants to local  
670 governments within a county designated for individual assistance  
671 and public assistance (categories A-G) in the Federal Emergency  
672 Management Agency disaster declaration for Hurricane Idalia.  
673 Such local governments must enter into agreements with the  
674 division to have their portions of the match requirements waived  
675 and must agree to use an equal amount of funds toward further

676 disaster recovery or mitigation. Funds shall be allocated on a  
677 first-come, first-served basis. Notwithstanding paragraph (a), a  
678 local government in an agreement with the division under this  
679 paragraph is not required to provide one-half of the required  
680 match before it receives Public Assistance Program financial  
681 assistance. The division shall report quarterly to the Executive  
682 Office of the Governor and the chair of each legislative  
683 appropriations committee on the amount of match requirements  
684 waived, agreements entered into with local governments, and the  
685 amount of remaining appropriated funds. This paragraph expires  
686 June 30, 2028.

687       Section 8. For the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the nonrecurring  
688 sum of \$30 million from the General Revenue Fund is appropriated  
689 to the Division of Emergency Management within the Executive  
690 Office of the Governor to provide the match requirement for  
691 Public Assistance Program grants pursuant to s. 252.37(5)(d),  
692 Florida Statutes, as created by this act. Appropriated funds may  
693 only be used to meet federal match requirements as provided in  
694 s. 252.37(5)(d), Florida Statutes, as created by this act.  
695 Notwithstanding s. 216.301, Florida Statutes, and pursuant to s.  
696 216.351, Florida Statutes, the balance of this appropriation  
697 which is not disbursed by June 30, 2024, may be carried forward  
698 for up to 5 years after the effective date of this act.

699       Section 9. Subsection (8) of section 252.71, Florida  
700 Statutes, is amended to read:

701           252.71 Florida Emergency Management Assistance  
702 Foundation.—

703           (8) This section is repealed October 1, 2027 ~~December 31,~~  
704 ~~2024~~, unless reviewed and saved from repeal by the Legislature.

705           Section 10. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section  
706 288.066, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

707           288.066 Local Government Emergency Revolving Bridge Loan  
708 Program.—

709           (3) LOAN TERMS.—

710           (c) The term of the loan is up to 5 years ~~24 months~~.  
711 ~~However, the department may extend loan terms for up to 6 months~~  
712 ~~based on the local government's financial condition.~~

713           Section 11. The Department of Commerce is authorized to  
714 amend a loan agreement executed before November 1, 2023, and  
715 made pursuant to s. 288.066, Florida Statutes, in order to  
716 increase the loan term to a total of 5 years from the original  
717 date of execution, as authorized by this act, upon request of  
718 the local government and as determined by the department to be  
719 in the best interests of the state.

720           Section 12. (1) For the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the  
721 nonrecurring sum of \$25 million from the Local Government  
722 Housing Trust Fund is appropriated in the Affordable Housing for  
723 Hurricane Recovery appropriation category to the Florida Housing  
724 Finance Corporation. The corporation shall use these funds for  
725 hurricane recovery purposes through the Hurricane Housing

726 Recovery Program, to be administered in accordance with part VII  
727 of chapter 420, Florida Statutes, for eligible counties and  
728 municipalities based on Hurricane Idalia Federal Emergency  
729 Management Agency damage assessment data and population.  
730 Hurricane recovery purposes may include, but are not limited to,  
731 any of the following:

732 (a) Site preparation, demolition, repair, and replacement  
733 of housing.

734 (b) Repair, replacement, and relocation assistance for  
735 manufactured homes.

736 (c) Acquisition of building materials for home repair and  
737 construction.

738 (d) Assistance to homeowners to pay insurance deductibles.

739 (e) Down payment assistance.

740 (f) Housing reentry assistance, such as security deposits,  
741 utility deposits, and temporary storage of household  
742 furnishings.

743 (2) The Florida Housing Finance Corporation shall  
744 coordinate with the Division of Emergency Management within the  
745 Executive Office of the Governor and the Department of Commerce  
746 to prevent duplication of benefits related to other state or  
747 federal programs for recipients of funds appropriated under this  
748 section.

749 Section 13. (1) For the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the  
750 nonrecurring sum of \$50 million from the General Revenue Fund is

751 appropriated to the Division of Emergency Management within the  
752 Executive Office of the Governor to provide grants or loans for  
753 hurricane repair and recovery projects within counties  
754 designated for individual assistance and public assistance  
755 (categories A-G) in the Federal Emergency Management Agency  
756 disaster declaration for Hurricane Idalia. Local governments,  
757 independent special districts, and school boards, including  
758 charter schools, may apply to the division for the appropriated  
759 funds in a manner designated by the division. At the time of the  
760 application, a local government, an independent special  
761 district, or a school board requesting funding for  
762 infrastructure repair, beach renourishment projects, or dredging  
763 of public waterway projects must have secured matching funds of  
764 at least 50 percent of the project costs. The matching  
765 requirement for a project within a fiscally constrained county  
766 may be waived.

767 (2) Applications to the division must contain a  
768 certification that includes, but is not limited to, both of the  
769 following statements:

770 (a) That the funding requested is necessary to maintain  
771 services or infrastructure essential to support health, safety,  
772 and welfare functions, and to reimburse the local government,  
773 independent special district, or school board for unanticipated  
774 expenses related to responding to Hurricane Idalia or for the  
775 loss of revenues related to the impact of Hurricane Idalia.

776 (b) That insufficient state funds, federal funds, private  
777 funds, or insurance proceeds are available and that should  
778 sufficient funds subsequently become available to meet the need  
779 of the original application, the local government or entity will  
780 reimburse the state in the amount of such funds subsequently  
781 received.

782 (3) The division is authorized to request budget  
783 amendments up to \$50 million which request the release of funds  
784 pursuant to chapter 216, Florida Statutes, to provide resources  
785 to fund gaps in the following projects:

786 (a) Mitigation of local and county revenue losses and  
787 operating deficits.

788 (b) Infrastructure repair and replacement, including road,  
789 sewer, and water facilities.

790 (c) Beach renourishment.

791 (d) Debris removal.

792 (e) Dredging of public waterways.

793 (4) The division shall coordinate with other state  
794 agencies and the local government, independent special district,  
795 or school board to ensure there is no duplication of benefits  
796 between these funds and other funding sources, such as insurance  
797 proceeds and any other federal or state programs, including  
798 Public Assistance Program requests to the Federal Emergency  
799 Management Agency and Community Development Block Grant Disaster  
800 Recovery grants. Applications approved by the division for



801 funding which are for projects ineligible for any other funding  
802 sources, whether federal or state programs, may be provided as  
803 grants. Funding for requests approved by the division, which  
804 requests are for projects eligible for other funding sources,  
805 must be provided as loans that must be repayable up to the  
806 amount of other funding sources subsequently received. Any funds  
807 reimbursed to the state must be deposited in the General Revenue  
808 Fund.

809 Section 14. For the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the  
810 nonrecurring sum of \$10 million from the State Transportation  
811 Trust Fund is appropriated to the Department of Transportation  
812 for transportation projects under the Small County Outreach  
813 Program under s. 339.2818, Florida Statutes, within counties  
814 designated for individual assistance and public assistance  
815 (categories A-G) in the Federal Emergency Management Agency  
816 disaster declaration for Hurricane Idalia.

817 Section 15. Section 14 of chapter 2023-304, Laws of  
818 Florida, is amended to read:

819 Section 14. (1) Due to the impacts of Hurricane Ian,  
820 Charlotte, Collier, Desoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands,  
821 Lee, Manatee, and Sarasota Counties, and any a county or  
822 municipality located within one of those counties, may entirely  
823 or partially within 100 miles of where either Hurricane Ian or  
824 Hurricane Nicole made landfall shall not propose or adopt any  
825 moratorium on construction, reconstruction, or redevelopment of

826 any property damaged by Hurricane Ian ~~or Hurricane Nicole~~;  
 827 propose or adopt more restrictive or burdensome amendments to  
 828 its comprehensive plan or land development regulations; or  
 829 propose or adopt more restrictive or burdensome procedures  
 830 concerning review, approval, or issuance of a site plan,  
 831 development permit, or development order, to the extent that  
 832 those terms are defined by s. 163.3164, Florida Statutes, before  
 833 October 1, 2026 ~~2024~~, and any such moratorium or restrictive or  
 834 burdensome comprehensive plan amendment, land development  
 835 regulation, or procedure shall be null and void ab initio. This  
 836 subsection applies retroactively to September 28, 2022.

837 (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), any comprehensive plan  
 838 amendment, land development regulation amendment, site plan,  
 839 development permit, or development order approved or adopted by  
 840 a county or municipality before or after the effective date of  
 841 this section may be enforced if:

842 (a) The associated application is initiated by a private  
 843 party other than the county or municipality.

844 (b) The property that is the subject of the application is  
 845 owned by the initiating private party.

846 (3) This section shall ~~take effect upon becoming a law and~~  
 847 expire June 30, 2027 ~~2025~~.

848 Section 16. (1) For the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the  
 849 nonrecurring sum of \$3 million in Fixed Capital Outlay from the  
 850 General Revenue Fund is appropriated to the Division of

851 Emergency Management within the Executive Office of the Governor  
852 to provide planning and design grants for new facilities for  
853 emergency operations to the following fiscally constrained  
854 counties impacted by Hurricane Idalia: Columbia, Dixie,  
855 Gilchrist, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lafayette, Levy, Madison,  
856 Suwannee, and Taylor counties.

857 (2) Such fiscally constrained counties may apply to the  
858 division in a manner designated by the division for a grant to  
859 be used for engineering, planning, and design services. The  
860 division shall prioritize applications for grants that will fund  
861 public safety complexes, combining emergency operations, fire  
862 services, police services, emergency medical services, or  
863 dispatch in one facility.

864 (3) The division must also conduct an assessment of need  
865 of the applicants and award grants based on the greatest need.  
866 The division, in awarding a grant, shall consider all of the  
867 following information:

868 (a) Whether current structures are damaged or unsafe.

869 (b) Whether current structures are aged or appropriately  
870 hurricane rated for the geographic location or proposed site.

871 (c) The need for a consolidated and updated facility.

872 (d) Whether the proposed facility can be expanded in the  
873 future as population increases or needs of the locality change.

874 Section 17. Subsection (7) is added to section 288.0655,  
875 Florida Statutes, to read:

876           288.0655 Rural Infrastructure Fund.—  
 877           (7) For the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the Department of  
 878 Commerce may award grants for the following fiscally constrained  
 879 counties impacted by Hurricane Idalia: Columbia, Dixie,  
 880 Gilchrist, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lafayette, Levy, Madison,  
 881 Suwannee, and Taylor. The purpose of the grants is to facilitate  
 882 the planning, preparing, and financing of infrastructure  
 883 projects. Eligible uses of the grants include roads or other  
 884 remedies to transportation impediments, stormwater systems,  
 885 water or wastewater facilities, and telecommunications  
 886 facilities. This subsection expires July 1, 2024.

887           Section 18. For the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the  
 888 nonrecurring sum of \$5 million in Fixed Capital Outlay from the  
 889 General Revenue Fund is appropriated to the Department of  
 890 Commerce for grants awarded pursuant to s. 288.0655(7), Florida  
 891 Statutes, as created by this act.

892           Section 19. Section 570.82, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

893           Section 20. Section 570.822, Florida Statutes, is created  
 894 to read:

895           570.822 Agriculture and Aquaculture Producers Natural  
 896 Disaster Recovery Loan Program.—

897           (1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

898           (a) "Bona fide farm operation" means a farm operation  
 899 engaged in a good faith commercial agricultural use of land on  
 900 land classified as agricultural pursuant to s. 193.461 or on

901 sovereign submerged land that is leased to the applicant by the  
902 department pursuant to s. 597.010 and that produces agricultural  
903 products within the definition of agriculture under s. 570.02.

904 (b) "Declared natural disaster" means a natural disaster  
905 for which a state of emergency is declared pursuant to s.  
906 252.36.

907 (c) "Department" means the Department of Agriculture and  
908 Consumer Services.

909 (d) "Essential physical property" means fences, equipment,  
910 structural production facilities, such as shade houses and  
911 greenhouses, or other agriculture or aquaculture facilities or  
912 infrastructure.

913 (e) "Program" means the Agriculture and Aquaculture  
914 Producers Natural Disaster Recovery Loan Program.

915 (2) USE OF LOAN FUNDS; LOAN TERMS.—

916 (a) The program is established within the department to  
917 make loans to agriculture and aquaculture producers that have  
918 experienced damage or destruction from a declared natural  
919 disaster. Loan funds may be used to restore, repair, or replace  
920 essential physical property or remove vegetative debris from  
921 essential physical property. A structure or building constructed  
922 using loan proceeds must comply with storm-hardening standards  
923 for nonresidential farm buildings as defined in s. 604.50(2).  
924 The department shall adopt such standards by rule.

925 (b) The department may make a low-interest or interest-

926 free loan to an eligible applicant. The maximum amount that an  
927 applicant may receive during the application period for a loan  
928 is \$500,000. An applicant may not receive more than one loan per  
929 application period and no more than two loans per year or no  
930 more than five loans in any 3-year period. A loan term is 10  
931 years.

932 (3) ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS.—To be eligible for the program,  
933 an applicant must:

934 (a) Own or lease a bona fide farm operation that is  
935 located in a county named in a declared natural disaster and  
936 that was damaged or destroyed as a result of such declared  
937 natural disaster.

938 (b) Maintain complete and acceptable farm records,  
939 pursuant to criteria published by the department, and present  
940 them as proof of production levels and bona fide farm  
941 operations.

942 (4) LOAN APPLICATION AND AGREEMENT.—

943 (a) Requests for loans must be made by application to the  
944 department. Upon a determination that funding for loans is  
945 available, the department shall publicly notice an application  
946 period for the declared natural disaster, beginning within 60  
947 days after the date of the declared natural disaster and running  
948 up to 1 year after the date of the declared natural disaster or  
949 until all available loan funds are exhausted, whichever occurs  
950 first.

951 (b) An applicant must demonstrate the need for financial  
952 assistance and an ability to repay or meet a standard credit  
953 rating determined by the department.

954 (c) Loans must be made pursuant to written agreements  
955 specifying the terms and conditions agreed to by the approved  
956 applicant and the department. The loan agreement must specify  
957 that the loan is due upon sale if the property or other  
958 collateral for the loan is sold.

959 (d) An approved applicant must agree to stay in production  
960 for the duration of the loan. A loan is not assumable.

961 (5) LOAN SECURITY REQUIREMENTS.—All loans must be secured  
962 by a lien, subordinate only to any mortgage held by a financial  
963 institution as defined in s. 655.005, on property or other  
964 collateral as set forth in the loan agreement. The specific type  
965 of collateral required may vary depending upon the loan purpose,  
966 repayment ability, and the particular circumstances of the  
967 applicant. The department shall record the lien in public  
968 records in the county where the property is located and, in the  
969 case of personal property, perfect the security interest by  
970 filing appropriate Uniform Commercial Code forms with the  
971 Florida Secured Transaction Registry as required pursuant to  
972 chapter 679.

973 (6) LOAN REPAYMENT.—

974 (a) A loan is due and payable in accordance with the terms  
975 of the loan agreement.

976        (b) The department shall defer payments for the first 3  
977 years of the loan. After 3 years, the department shall reduce  
978 the principal balance annually through the end of the loan term  
979 such that the original principal balance is reduced by 30  
980 percent. If the principal balance is repaid before the end of  
981 the 10th year, the applicant may not be required to pay more  
982 than 70 percent of the original principal balance. The approved  
983 applicant must continue to be actively engaged in production in  
984 order to receive the original principal balance reductions and  
985 must continue to meet the loan agreement terms to the  
986 satisfaction of the department.

987        (c) An approved applicant may make payments on the loan at  
988 any time without penalty. Early repayment is encouraged as other  
989 funding sources or revenues become available to the approved  
990 applicant.

991        (d) All repayments of principal and interest, if  
992 applicable, received by the department in a fiscal year must be  
993 returned to the loan fund and made available for loans to other  
994 applicants in the next application period.

995        (e) The department may periodically review an approved  
996 applicant to determine whether he or she continues to be in  
997 compliance with the terms of the loan agreement. If the  
998 department finds that an applicant is no longer in production or  
999 has otherwise violated the loan agreement, the department may  
1000 seek repayment of the full original principal balance



1001 outstanding, including any interest or costs, as applicable, and  
 1002 excluding any applied or anticipated original principal balance  
 1003 reductions.

1004 (7) ADMINISTRATION.—

1005 (a) The department shall create and maintain a separate  
 1006 account in the General Inspection Trust Fund as a fund for the  
 1007 program. All repayments must be returned to the loan fund and  
 1008 made available as provided in this section. Notwithstanding s.  
 1009 216.301, funds appropriated for the loan program are not subject  
 1010 to reversion. The department shall manage the fund, establishing  
 1011 loan practices that must include, but are not limited to,  
 1012 procedures for establishing loan interest rates, uses of  
 1013 funding, application procedures, and application review  
 1014 procedures. The department is authorized to contract with a  
 1015 third-party administrator to administer the program and manage  
 1016 the loan fund. A contract for a third-party administrator that  
 1017 includes management of the loan fund must, at a minimum, require  
 1018 maintenance of the loan fund to ensure that the program may  
 1019 operate in a revolving manner.

1020 (b) The department shall coordinate with other state  
 1021 agencies and other entities to ensure to the greatest extent  
 1022 possible that agriculture and aquaculture producers in this  
 1023 state have access to the maximum financial assistance available  
 1024 following a natural disaster. The coordination must endeavor to  
 1025 ensure that there is no duplication of financial assistance

1026 between the loan program and other funding sources, such as any  
1027 federal or other state programs, including public assistance  
1028 requests to the Federal Emergency Management Agency or financial  
1029 assistance from the United States Department of Agriculture,  
1030 which could render the approved applicant ineligible for other  
1031 financial assistance.

1032 (8) RULES.—The department shall adopt rules to implement  
1033 this section.

1034 (9) REPORTS.—By December 1, 2024, and each December 1  
1035 thereafter, the department shall provide a report on program  
1036 activities during the previous fiscal year to the President of  
1037 the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The  
1038 report must include information on noticed application periods,  
1039 the number and value of loans awarded under the program for each  
1040 application period, the number and value of loans outstanding,  
1041 the number and value of any loan repayments received, and an  
1042 anticipated repayment schedule for all loans.

1043 (10) SUNSET.—This section expires July 1, 2043, unless  
1044 reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the  
1045 Legislature.

1046 Section 21. Subsection (3) of section 201.25, Florida  
1047 Statutes, is amended to read:

1048 201.25 Tax exemptions for certain loans.—There shall be  
1049 exempt from all taxes imposed by this chapter:

1050 (3) Any loan made by the Agriculture and Aquaculture

1051 Producers Natural Disaster Recovery Loan Program pursuant to s.  
 1052 570.822 Agricultural Economic Development Program pursuant to s.  
 1053 570.82.

1054 Section 22. The Department of Agriculture and Consumer  
 1055 Services shall, and all conditions are deemed met to, adopt  
 1056 emergency rules pursuant to s. 120.54(4), Florida Statutes, for  
 1057 the purpose of implementing s. 570.822, Florida Statutes.  
 1058 Notwithstanding any other law, emergency rules adopted pursuant  
 1059 to this section are effective for 6 months after adoption and  
 1060 may be renewed during the pendency of the procedure to adopt  
 1061 permanent rules addressing the subject of the emergency rules.

1062 Section 23. Within 30 days after this act becomes a law,  
 1063 the Chief Financial Officer shall transfer \$75 million in  
 1064 nonrecurring funds from the General Revenue Fund to the General  
 1065 Inspection Trust Fund within the Department of Agriculture and  
 1066 Consumer Services. For the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the sum of \$75  
 1067 million in nonrecurring funds from the General Inspection Trust  
 1068 Fund is appropriated in fixed capital outlay to the Department  
 1069 of Agriculture and Consumer Services for the Agriculture and  
 1070 Aquaculture Producers Natural Disaster Recovery Loan Program  
 1071 established pursuant to s. 570.822, Florida Statutes. The  
 1072 department is authorized to use up to 5 percent of the  
 1073 appropriated funds for administrative costs to implement the  
 1074 program. Notwithstanding s. 570.822(4)(a), Florida Statutes, as  
 1075 created by this act, in order for the department to adopt

1076 emergency rules and establish the administration of the program,  
 1077 the department is authorized to publicly notice the opening of  
 1078 the application period for Hurricane Idalia no later than 60  
 1079 days after this act becomes a law.

1080 Section 24. (1) For the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the sum of  
 1081 \$37.5 million in nonrecurring funds from the General Revenue  
 1082 Fund in fixed capital outlay is appropriated to the Department  
 1083 of Agriculture and Consumer Services to administer a cost-  
 1084 sharing grant program to assist timber landowners in Charlotte,  
 1085 Citrus, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Hernando,  
 1086 Jefferson, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas,  
 1087 Sarasota, Suwannee, and Taylor Counties whose timber land was  
 1088 damaged as a result of Hurricane Idalia. Grants made to eligible  
 1089 timber landowners must be for up to 75 percent of the costs for  
 1090 site preparation and tree replanting on lands classified as  
 1091 agricultural lands under s. 193.461, Florida Statutes. The  
 1092 maximum grant award is \$250,000. Site preparation work may  
 1093 include downed tree removal by a variety of methods, including  
 1094 mechanical harvesting or prescribed burns authorized by the  
 1095 Florida Forest Service pursuant to s. 590.125, Florida Statutes.  
 1096 The department may use up to \$1 million of the appropriated  
 1097 funds for administrative costs to implement the grant program.

1098 (2) The department is authorized, and all conditions are  
 1099 deemed met, to adopt emergency rules pursuant to s. 120.54(4),  
 1100 Florida Statutes, for the purpose of implementing this section.

1101 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, emergency rules  
1102 adopted pursuant to this subsection are effective for 6 months  
1103 after adoption and may be renewed during the pendency of  
1104 procedures to adopt permanent rules addressing the subject of  
1105 the emergency rules.

1106 (3) The department shall coordinate with other state  
1107 agencies and other entities to ensure to the greatest extent  
1108 possible that timber landowners have access to the maximum  
1109 financial assistance available following Hurricane Idalia. The  
1110 coordination must endeavor to ensure that there is no  
1111 duplication of financial assistance between these funds and  
1112 other funding sources, such as any federal or other state  
1113 programs, including public assistance requests to the Federal  
1114 Emergency Management Agency or financial assistance from the  
1115 United States Department of Agriculture, which could render the  
1116 approved applicant ineligible for other financial assistance.

1117 Section 25. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
1118 law.