

2004-A Special Session
Summary of Legislation Passed



*Compiled and Edited by
Office of the Senate Secretary*

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SB 16-A — Agricultural Programs/Hurricane Impact

by Senators Argenziano, Clary, Alexander, Dockery, Siplin, Pruitt, Atwater, Peaden, Smith, Aronberg, Villalobos, Bullard, and Crist

During the 2004 hurricane season, one tropical storm and four major hurricanes made landfall in Florida. The State's agriculture industry suffered significant damage as a result of the storms, including the ability of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to conduct specific regulatory programs.

The department has estimated the hurricane related fiscal impacts to include:

- \$4,590,000 for canker eradication to remove an estimated 30,000 residential trees at a cost of \$153 per tree and \$210,000 for removal of trees in commercial groves.
- \$1,200,000 million for citrus tree compensation to provide a \$100 voucher for the first tree removed from a homeowner's property and \$55 for each subsequent tree removed.
- \$248,000 for surveying and diagnostic testing costs to control the spread of soybean rust.
- \$852,000 for the projected revenue shortfall in the Caribbean Fruit Fly Certification Program.

This bill:

- Provides legislative findings.
- Appropriates \$7.1 million from the General Revenue Fund and \$6 million from the Contracts and Grants Trust Fund in a lump sum to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (department) for FY 2004-2005 to implement activities associated with the Citrus Canker Eradication Program, Citrus Canker Tree Compensation Program, soybean rust control surveys, and Caribbean Fruit Fly Certification Program.
- Directs the department to maximize available federal funds.
- Requires the department to provide a report by February 11, 2005, to the Governor, President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives giving a detailed account of the progress made on the eradication of citrus canker disease and the Citrus Canker Tree Compensation Program.
- Requires the Executive Office of the Governor to provide notice of the allocation of these funds to the Chair and Vice Chair of the Legislative Budget Commission at least three working days prior to the allocation of these funds.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

Vote: Senate 38-0; House 116-0

HB 5-A — Discount Medical Plan Organizations

by Rep. Farkas and others (SB 6-A by Senators Peaden, Lynn, Villalobos, Bullard, and Wilson)

In 2004, the Florida Legislature established the regulation of discount medical plan organizations by the OIR, which is under the Financial Services Commission. (Chapter 2004-297, L.O.F.) The 2004 act provided that discount medical plan organizations that provide access for plan members to health care providers of medical services at a discounted fee in exchange for fees, dues, charges, or other consideration were subject to licensure and regulation by the OIR, effective January 1, 2005.

This bill extends the deadline for complying with licensure requirements for discount medical plan organizations that are subject to regulation by the Office of Insurance Regulation (OIR), from January 1, 2005, to March 31, 2005. Since the current law does not appear to authorize the OIR to adopt rules and forms, such as the application forms, until January 1, 2005, it appears that the OIR will not be able to issue valid licenses by the January 1, 2005, statutory deadline.

Part II of ch. 636, F.S., as created by the 2004 legislation, establishes licensure requirements, annual financial reporting, net worth requirements, authority for examinations and investigations, rulemaking authority for the Financial Services Commission (“commission”), prohibited activities, criminal penalties, and civil remedies. The commission is authorized to adopt rules, for licensure, standards for evaluating forms, advertisements, marketing materials, and discount cards, and the collection of data. These provisions of the law will still go into effect on January 1, 2005, which will allow the commission to adopt rules and the OIR to process applications for licensure. However, a discount medical plan organization will not be subject to the statutory requirements until March 31, 2005.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

Vote: Senate 40-0; House 117-0

HB 9-A — Hurricane Deductibles for Residential Insurance Policies

By Rep. Ross and others (CS/SB 10-A by Governmental Appropriations and Senators Garcia, Lynn, Siplin, Pruitt, Smith, Klein, Argenziano, Villalobos, Posey, and Crist)

This bill appropriates up to \$150 million from the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund for the Department of Financial Services to reimburse residential property insurance policyholders whose property was damaged by two or more hurricanes and whose insurer applied more than one hurricane deductible, up to specified limits. The bill also requires that residential policies issued on or after May 1, 2005, apply the hurricane deductible on an annual basis, rather than a per-event basis, to all hurricanes that occur during the calendar year.

Background

The 2004 hurricane season was particularly destructive for Florida, with Hurricanes Charley, Frances, Ivan, and Jeanne causing extensive damage throughout the state. According to the Office of Insurance Regulation (OIR), as of December 2, 2004, insurance companies have reported over 1.5 million property insurance claims for all four hurricanes and \$10.5 billion in total claims payments. The companies estimate that the total expected gross property loss will reach \$20.8 billion.

Residential hurricane deductibles are typically 2 percent of policy limits and may generally be as high as 5 percent of policy limits, or even higher for certain policies. However, \$500 hurricane deductibles are still prevalent for homes and mobile homes valued under \$100,000. The deductible applies to each hurricane, which can result in significant out-of-pocket expense to many policyholders.

According to a survey of insurers by OIR, it appears that in many cases of multiple hurricane claims, the insurer waived application of multiple deductibles. But, using the survey results and attempting to account for missing information, committee staff estimates that about 36,000 policies had multiple deductibles applied and that the cost to policyholders of second and subsequent deductibles may total about \$70 million. But this estimate apparently includes only policies for which insurers paid two or more claims and deducted the full amount of the deductible, and does not include “no payment” claims below the deductible or claims not reported to the insurer.

Reimbursement for the Expense of Multiple Deductibles

This bill requires the Department of Financial Services (department) to reimburse policyholders for the financial loss due to the insurer applying multiple hurricane deductibles, based on legislative findings that such state action is a valid and necessary public purpose. The reimbursement program applies to residential property insurance policies, including both personal and commercial residential policies, under specified conditions and limitations:

- A policyholder must have incurred damage in excess of the full amount of one deductible (which may be met by adding two or more claims below the deductible).
- Maximum reimbursement of \$10,000 per policy, or \$20,000 per policy if damaged by three or more hurricanes.
- Maximum reimbursement for a condominium association policy in amount up to \$3,000 per unit.
- \$100 deductible applied to the reimbursement.
- Applications for reimbursement must be filed with the department by March 1, 2005, including such information as the department requires to verify the claim, including documentation from the insurer.

- The policyholder must provide documentation from the insurer that the insurance claim was not paid, either in full or in part, due to the application of a hurricane deductible.
- Department may investigate and adjust reimbursement claims, and may contract for this service.
- Applications for reimbursement are subject to insurance fraud penalties.
- Insurers must mail notice of the reimbursement procedures to policyholders who had more than one hurricane deductible applied.
- Total amount paid to all policyholders is limited to the amount appropriated. The department must first pay those policyholders who received claims payments for two or more hurricanes for which each payment was reduced by the full amount of the deductible. All other eligible policyholders will be paid on a pro rata basis if funding is inadequate to pay everyone in full, that is, an equal percentage of their approved claim for reimbursement.
- Up to \$150 million is transferred from the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund (FHCF) to the department's Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund and appropriated for reimbursement. In order to maintain actuarially indicated premiums, the State Board of Administration must increase future premiums to insurers for FHCF coverage over a 5-year period, beginning in 2006.
- Reimbursement may not be paid for loss amounts for which a policyholder has received a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency or any other federal, state, county, or municipal agency or program.
- Reimbursements made to policyholders are to be considered disaster-relief assistance within the meaning of the Internal Revenue Code, meaning it is the state's intent that such payments would not be taxable income.

Requiring Residential Policies to Provide Annual Hurricane Deductibles

For residential property insurance policies issued or after May 1, 2005, the bill requires that the hurricane deductible be applied on an annual basis to all hurricanes that occur during the calendar year, rather than to each hurricane. For example, if a home is insured for \$200,000 and has a 2 percent hurricane deductible, which is a \$4,000 hurricane deductible; it would apply to all hurricane losses for the year, rather than to each hurricane loss. However, insurers may apply the "other perils" deductible, which is typically \$500, or the remaining amount of the hurricane deductible, whichever is greater, to a loss for a second hurricane and each subsequent hurricane that year.

This requirement applies to hurricane losses covered under one or more policies in effect during the same calendar year that are issued by the same insurer or an insurer in the same insurer group. For example, if a policyholder has a hurricane loss in August and renews the policy in September, the hurricane deductible would apply to the August loss and to any additional hurricane losses that occur through the end of December.

The bill effectively requires insurers and policyholders to keep track of hurricane losses that occur, even if they are under the deductible. Insurers are allowed to require policyholders to report claims below their deductible and to maintain records or receipts in order to apply the loss to a subsequent hurricane.

If a policyholder has a hurricane loss and then changes the hurricane deductible, the highest deductible applies. If a policyholder has a hurricane loss and then lowers their deductible, the insurer must notify the policyholder in writing that the lower deductible amount does not apply until January 1 of the following year.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

Vote: Senate 38-1; House 115-2

HB 1-A — Early Learning

by Rep. Goodlette and others (CS/SB 2-A by Education Appropriations Committee and Senators Carlton, Alexander, Siplin, Pruitt, Lynn, Villalobos, Bullard, and Crist)

This bill creates the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program. The program allows a parent to enroll his or her child in a voluntary, free prekindergarten (Pre-K) program offered during the year before the child is eligible for admission to kindergarten. The program affords parents of eligible children a choice among three program options:

- A 540-instructional-hour school-year Pre-K program delivered by a private prekindergarten provider that has a director with a prekindergarten director credential; that has classes of at least 4 and not more than 18 students; that has for each class at least one instructor who holds at least a child development associate (CDA) or equivalent state-approved credential and who completes a 5-clock-hour course in emergent literacy training; and that, for classes of 11 or more students, has a second instructor who is not required to have those credentials or training.
- If offered in a school district that meets class-size reduction requirements, a 540-instructional-hour school-year Pre-K program delivered by a public school that has classes of at least 4 and not more than 18 students; that has for each class at least one instructor who holds at least a CDA or equivalent state-approved credential and who completes a 5-clock-hour course in emergent literacy training; and that, for classes of 11 or more students, has a second instructor who is not required to have those credentials or training.
- A 300-instructional-hour summer Pre-K program delivered by a public school or private prekindergarten provider that has classes of at least 4 and not more than 10 students and that has for each class at least one Florida-certified teacher or an instructor who holds a bachelor's or higher degree in specified early learning degree programs.

The bill specifies that every Pre-K program must provide appropriate adult supervision for students at all times. The bill requires prekindergarten instructors to be fingerprinted and screened and prohibits the employment of an instructor whose educator certificate is suspended or revoked or whose background includes certain criminal offenses.

The bill expresses the intent of the Legislature that, by the 2010-2011 school year, each Pre-K class will have at least one instructor who holds an associate's or higher degree and, for each Pre-K class composed of 11 or more students, in addition to an instructor with an associate's or higher degree, the class will have a second instructor who has a CDA or state-approved equivalent credential. Further, the bill expresses the legislative goal that, by the 2013-2014

school year, each Pre-K class will have at least one instructor who holds a bachelor's or higher degree.

The bill transfers the existing school readiness system from the Florida Partnership for School Readiness to the Agency for Workforce Innovation. The bill specifies that the Agency for Workforce Innovation would be directly responsible for state-level coordination of the school readiness program and of the school readiness coalitions, which the bill renames as "early learning coalitions." The bill reduces the number of coalitions to 30 or fewer coalitions and generally requires each coalition to serve at least 2,000 children in the school readiness program. The bill also revises the membership of the coalitions, establishes that the chair and two additional members of the coalitions would be appointed by the Governor, prohibits coalition members from voting when they have a conflict of interest, removes the privileges of certain members who represent providers or contractors of school readiness programs, and ensures that more than one-third of the board members would be private-sector business members who do not have a substantial financial interest in the Pre-K program or the board's school readiness program.

The bill directs the Pre-K program to be administered at the local level by the early learning coalitions and school districts. At the state level, the bill specifies that the Department of Education would administer the accountability requirements of the program and the Agency for Workforce Innovation would administer the operational requirements of the program.

The bill directs the Department of Education to adopt performance standards for the Pre-K program. The bill allows each private prekindergarten provider or public school to select or design its own curriculum if the curriculum meets the Pre-K performance standards, including emergent literacy.

The bill replaces the current school readiness uniform screening instrument with a new statewide kindergarten screening to be used for determining whether children entering kindergarten are ready for school. The bill requires the Department of Education to assign each private prekindergarten provider and public school with a kindergarten readiness rate based upon the results of the kindergarten screening for students completing the provider's or school's Pre-K program.

If a provider's or school's kindergarten readiness rate falls below the minimum rate established by the State Board of Education for two consecutive years, the bill specifies that the provider or school is placed on probation and is subject to corrective actions, including the required use of a curriculum approved by the Department of Education. If the provider or school falls below the minimum rate after two consecutive years on probation, the bill requires the ultimate removal of the provider or school from the Pre-K program.

The bill creates the Florida Early Learning Advisory Council for the purpose of submitting recommendations to the Department of Education and the Agency for Workforce Innovation on early learning policy, including recommendations on the Pre-K and school readiness programs.

The bill provides appropriations and authorizes additional positions in three state agencies (i.e., Department of Education, Agency for Workforce Innovation, and Department of Children and Family Services) for the initial administrative and program development costs of the Pre-K program during the remaining months of FY 2004-2005. The bill also requires early learning coalitions to use school readiness funds made available due to enrollment shifts from school readiness programs to the Pre-K program for increasing the number of children served in school readiness programs before increasing payment rates.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

Vote: Senate 36-4; House 82-34

HB 19-A — Hurricane-Relief Funding

by Rep. Waters and others (SB 20-A by Senators Constantine, Siplin, Pruitt, Villalobos, Argenziano, Clary, Peaden, Lynn, and Crist)

This bill contains a number of provisions relating to the receipt of federal emergency management assistance, including the appropriation of non-recurring funding to address needs caused by Tropical Storm Bonnie and Hurricanes Charley, Frances, Ivan, and Jeanne.

The bill amends s. 252.37, F.S., to provide that whenever the state accepts federal financial assistance which requires matching funds, the state will provide the entire match requirement for state agencies. The state will provide one-half the required match for grants to local governments. Local governments are required to provide one-half the required match prior to receipt of financial assistance. The Governor is authorized to waive, subject to legislative notice and review, the required match for public assistance projects for local governments if the match requirement cannot be provided, and if the local government applies for the waiver within 18 months following the disaster declaration. This same section is amended to provide that whenever the state accepts assistance through the federal Hazard Mitigation Grant Program the recipient local agencies are required to provide the full amount of the required match prior to receipt of the financial assistance.

The bill provides a nonrecurring appropriation of \$55,722,888 from the General Revenue Fund to the Department of Community Affairs for the purpose of meeting the state's portion of the required match under the Individuals and Households, Other Needs Assistance Program. The funds are deposited into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund and then appropriated from that fund (known as "double-budgeting") to a lump sum appropriation category.

The bill provides a nonrecurring appropriation of \$578,193,040 from the U.S. Contributions Trust Fund within the Department of Community Affairs to provide supplemental federal disaster grant assistance to eligible recipients. Prior to the release of funds the Department is required to ensure that the affected local government has provided a 5 percent local match. However, depending on the magnitude of the costs, the local government's share of the public assistance project may be initially provided by the state, with future payment being provided directly by the local government, or deductions from the local government's state revenue-sharing allocation.

The bill appropriates \$35,526,935 in nonrecurring General Revenue Funds to the Department of Community Affairs for the purpose of meeting the state's match requirement for grants under the Public Assistance Grant Program. The funds are deposited into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund and then appropriated from that fund (known as "double-budgeting") to a lump sum appropriation category.

The bill appropriates \$305,405 in nonrecurring General Revenue Funds and \$916,214 in nonrecurring federal funds from U.S. Contributions Trust Fund to the Department of Community Affairs for the purpose of paying the state administrative management costs for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. The General Revenue funds are deposited into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund and then appropriated from that fund (known as “double-budgeting”) to a lump sum appropriation category.

Finally, the bill provides that notwithstanding the 14-day notice requirement for interim budgetary actions pursuant to s. 216.177, F.S., the Governor shall provide notice of the allocation of the lump sum appropriations authorized in the bill into traditional appropriation categories to the chair and vice chair of the Legislative Budget Commission at least 3 working days prior to the effective date of the allocation.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

Vote: Senate 40-0; House 117-0

HB 11-A — Educational Facilities/Restoration

by Rep. Pickens and others (SB 12-A by Senators Alexander, Siplin, Lynn, Villalobos, Peaden, Clary, Crist, Aronberg, Atwater, and Wilson)

The bill establishes an Educational Facilities Hurricane Restoration Cash Flow Loan Program for FY 2004-2005. The amount of \$100 million of nonrecurring funds is appropriated from the General Revenue Fund to the Department of Education to be used for the sole purpose of making temporary cash flow loans to school districts when necessary to make timely payments to contractors and suppliers for restoration of hurricane damaged facilities. School districts applying for an Educational Facilities Hurricane Restoration Cash Flow Loan must agree to repay the funds received in a timely manner. Further, if they fail to repay, the Department shall withhold future distribution of state appropriated fixed capital outlay funds until such time as repayment is made.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House 117-0

CS/SB 14-A — Restoration of Hurricane-Damaged Beaches and Dunes

by General Government Appropriations Committee and Senators Clary, Lynn, Klein, Peaden, Siplin, Atwater, Pruitt, Haridopolos, Argenziano, Dockery, Aronberg, Villalobos, Posey, and Crist

The bill addresses the damage to nearly all of the state's sandy beach shoreline due to the impact of four hurricanes and one tropical storm during 2004. Specific provisions include:

- Legislative findings detailing the impact of the storms to the state's coastline. In response to these storms, the Department of Environmental Protection developed the "2004 Hurricane Recovery Plan for Florida's Beach and Dune System."
- The bill provides \$64.6 million from non-recurring general revenue and \$3.8 million from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund for specific beach nourishment, beach restoration studies and dune restoration projects contained in the recovery plan. Funding also includes statewide and regional activities and projects for sand search, surveys, debris removal, and dune restoration in the impacted State Parks.
- The bill requires a 10-percent local match for the \$53.8 million dune restoration and beach restoration studies for enhancement or expansion of these projects. Provides that the department not release the final 25 percent of funds to the local government until the local government has met the match requirement.
- Provides an exemption from the match requirement for any county, or municipality within such county, with a per capita personal income level below the state's per capita personal income level. In addition, the bill includes a waiver provision if it is determined the match requirement cannot be provided, or would impose a documented hardship on the local government.
- The bill directs the department to report to the Governor and to the Legislature by February 11, 2005 on the progress made to date on the plan's activities and beach and dune repair and restoration projects.
- The bill authorizes the department to redistribute the funds appropriated among projects to maximize federal and local matching funds. Five days prior to any redistribution of project funds within the recovery plan, the department must provide a justification to the Governor and the Legislature.

- The bill directs the department to take the necessary steps to ensure the timely implementation and completion of the projects.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House 114-0

**Senate Committee on
Government Efficiency Appropriations**

**CS/SB 8-A — Relief for Persons Whose Primary Residences were Damaged
by Hurricanes or Tropical Storms**

by Government Efficiency Appropriations Committee and Senators Atwater, Lynn, Argenziano, Peaden, Clary, Siplin, Pruitt, Haridopolos, Aronberg, Villalobos, Posey, and Crist

This bill provides for owners of homestead property to be reimbursed for a portion of the property taxes levied on their property if it was rendered uninhabitable for at least 60 days in 2004 by a hurricane or tropical storm. The reimbursement is equal to the 2004 property taxes levied on the property times the number of days the property was uninhabitable in 2004, divided by 366. Property owners must apply for reimbursement by March 1, 2005, and the property appraiser must investigate the claims made in the applications. The property appraiser must calculate the reimbursement due for each approved application and forward a list of property owners entitled to reimbursement to the Department of Revenue by April 1, 2005. The amount of each reimbursement is capped at \$1,500.

The bill also provides for mobile home owners to be reimbursed for the state sales tax paid on mobile homes purchased to replace mobile homes damaged by a hurricane or tropical storm. Mobile home owners must apply for reimbursement by May 1, 2005, and the property appraiser must investigate the claims made in the applications. The property appraiser must calculate the reimbursement due for each approved application and forward a list of mobile home owners entitled to reimbursement to the Department of Revenue by June 1, 2005. The amount of each reimbursement is capped at \$1,500.

The Department of Revenue will issue reimbursement checks, and must reduce all reimbursement payments proportionately if the total amount claimed exceeds the amount appropriated to pay for reimbursement. There is a process by which the property appraisers' determinations with respect to eligibility may be appealed. The department must retain a portion of the money appropriated for reimbursement to cover the applications subject to appeal.

This bill provides General Revenue appropriations of \$20 million for the partial reimbursement of ad valorem taxes, \$15 million for sales tax reimbursements, and \$70,000 to the Department of Revenue to administer these programs. Based on Red Cross damage assessments and property values in the most severely damaged counties, these amounts are expected to cover all applications for reimbursement and administrative costs. There is a provision for unused funds appropriated for the bill to be certified forward on July 1. There is legislative intent expressed that the reimbursements are disaster relief assistance for IRS purposes.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House 116-0

**Senate Committee on
Health and Human Services Appropriations**

SB 18-A — Hurricane Relief/Health/Human Services

by Senators Saunders, Atwater, Clary, Lynn, Siplin, Peaden, Aronberg, Villalobos, Bullard, and Crist

The bill appropriates in lump sum a total of \$22.5 million in federal hurricane relief funds (non-FEMA) to provide critically needed services to the elderly, children, families, individuals with disabilities, and low-income individuals in order to address the impact of Hurricanes Charley, Frances, Jeanne, and Ivan and Tropical Storm Bonnie, which struck the state during 2004.

Following are the amounts appropriated:

- \$12 million to the Department of Elderly Affairs for support services to the elderly.
- \$4.7 million to the Department of Children and Family Services for support services to children and families (i.e., domestic violence needs, adult services, and child welfare services).
- \$4.5 million to the Department of Children and Family Services for support services to children and families (i.e., substance abuse and mental health services).
- \$1.3 million to the Agency for Persons with Disabilities for support services to the developmentally disabled.

The bill provides for a three-day notification period rather than the currently required 14-day notice for interim budget actions for allocation of lump-sums.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House 116-0

SB 28-A — Florida KidCare Program Eligibility

by Senators Posey, Rich, Siplin, Lynn, Argenziano, Dockery, Pruitt, Clary, Klein, Peaden, Aronberg, Villalobos, Crist, and Wilson

The bill amends s. 409.814(8)(a), F.S., to eliminate redundant document requirements for determining eligibility in the Florida KidCare program. The bill changes the current “three document” requirement for proof of family income by requiring applicants to provide a copy of their most recent federal income tax return. In the absence of a federal income tax return, applicants may submit wages and earnings statements (pay stubs), W-2 forms, or other appropriate documents.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House 117-0

CS/SB 4-A — Juvenile Detention

by Justice Appropriations Committee and Senators Crist, Lynn, and Villalobos

In the 2004 session the Legislature enacted SB 2564, creating s. 985.2155, F.S., requiring joint financial participation of the state and counties in the provision of secure juvenile detention. The law has since been challenged in circuit court, and the court has ruled the law to be unconstitutional. The bill amends s. 985.2155, F.S., to remove the responsibility of the Chief Financial Officer to withhold funds from counties that refuse to pay their required share of the cost of juvenile detention. The bill also removes language requiring other states to cover the cost of detaining juveniles who are not residents of the State of Florida. In addition, the bill adds language that counties are not responsible for the cost of nonmedical educational and therapeutic services delivered to juveniles in secure detention. The bill appropriates \$65.1 million of nonrecurring general revenue funds for FY 2004-2005 to the Department of Juvenile Justice to operate juvenile detention centers and restore money transferred from other appropriations or received from the counties to meet current operational costs. The bill reenacts, with amendments, the portion of the law requiring counties to pay for preadjudication detention. The bill delays the effective date of the current law until July 1, 2005.

This bill substantially amends s. 985.2155, F.S. This bill also amends Chapter 2004-263, L.O.F.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

Vote: Senate 34-5; House 82-34

**Senate Committee on
Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations**

HB 21-A — Agency for Workforce Innovation – Funding for Hurricane Displaced Workers

by Rep. D. Davis and others (SB 22-A by Senators Fasano, Siplin, Villalobos, Argenziano, Lynn, Bullard, Crist, and Atwater)

The bill appropriates \$21 million in grant funds received from the United States Department of Labor (USDOL) National Emergency Grant (NEG) to the Agency for Workforce Innovation (AWI) to provide temporary jobs for eligible workers dislocated by Tropical Storm Bonnie and Hurricanes Charley, Frances, Ivan and Jeanne. Temporary jobs performed by these workers relate to clean-up and restoration efforts resulting from the hurricanes. The bill requires AWI to provide quarterly reports to the Senate President, Speaker of the House, and Governor. The bill also exempts the appropriations in this bill from the required 14-day notice for interim budget actions, but requires the Governor to notify the chair and vice chair of the Legislative Budget Commission of the allocations to traditional appropriation categories at least three working days prior to the effective date of the allocation.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

Vote: Senate 40-0; House 117-0

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