

Committee on Banking and Insurance

CS/CS/CS/HB 1029 — My Safe Florida Condominium Pilot Program

by Commerce Committee; State Administration & Technology Appropriations Subcommittee; Insurance & Banking Subcommittee; and Reps. Lopez, V., Hunschofsky, and others (CS/CS/SB 1366 by Appropriations Committee; Banking and Insurance Committee; and Senators DiCeglie and Pizzo)

The bill creates the My Safe Florida Condominium Pilot Program (Program) within the Department of Financial Services (DFS), to provide hurricane mitigation inspections and hurricane mitigation grants to eligible condominium associations. Implementation of the Program is subject to annual legislative appropriations. Under the Program, the DFS must provide fiscal accountability, contract management, and strategic leadership for the Program.

The bill provides, to condominium associations with condominium property within 15 miles of the coastline, a program similar to that of the My Safe Florida Home Program (MSFH) for owners of site-built, single-family, residential properties regarding requirements for participation, hurricane mitigation inspectors and inspections, eligibility for mitigation grants, contract management by the DFS, and required annual reports.

The bill places specific limits on grant awards. The limit for roof-related projects is set at \$11 per square foot times the square feet of the replacement roof, limited to \$1,000 per unit, and the maximum grant contribution is limited to 50 percent of the project. The limit for opening protection-related projects grant contribution is a maximum of \$750 per replacement window, not to exceed \$1,500 per unit, and a maximum grant contribution of 50 percent of the project. The bill provides that an association may receive grant funds for both roof-related and opening protection-related projects, but the maximum grant contribution is limited to \$175,000 per association.

The bill provides that the DFS may not accept grant applications or maintain a waiting list for grants after the cumulative value of the grants awarded have fully obligated the appropriation, unless the Legislature provides express authority otherwise.

The bill requires the DFS to adopt rules to govern the program; to govern hurricane mitigation inspections and grants, mitigation contractors, and training of inspectors and contractors; and to carry out its duties under the Program.

If approved by the Governor, or allowed to become law without the Governor's signature, these provisions take effect July 1, 2024.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House 116-0