

BILL PCB IBFA-04

ORIGINAL

YEAR

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to the repeal of a mitigation grant
 3 program; amending s. 627.069, F.S.; deleting a mitigation
 4 grant program for certain policyholders of Citizens
 5 Property Insurance Corporation; providing an effective
 6 date.

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 8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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10 Section 1. Subsection (8) of section 627.0629, Florida
 11 Statutes, is amended to read:

12 627.0629 Residential property insurance; rate filings.—

13 ~~(8) EVALUATION OF RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY STRUCTURAL~~
 14 ~~SOUNDNESS.—~~

15 ~~(a) It is the intent of the Legislature to provide a~~
 16 ~~program whereby homeowners may obtain an evaluation of the wind~~
 17 ~~resistance of their homes with respect to preventing damage from~~
 18 ~~hurricanes, together with a recommendation of reasonable steps~~
 19 ~~that may be taken to upgrade their homes to better withstand~~
 20 ~~hurricane force winds.~~

21 ~~(b) To the extent that funds are provided for this purpose~~
 22 ~~in the General Appropriations Act, the Legislature hereby~~
 23 ~~authorizes the establishment of a program to be administered by~~
 24 ~~the Citizens Property Insurance Corporation for homeowners~~
 25 ~~insured in the high-risk account.~~

26 ~~(c) The program shall provide grants to homeowners, for~~
 27 ~~the purpose of providing homeowner applicants with funds to~~
 28 ~~conduct an evaluation of the integrity of their homes with~~

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29 ~~respect to withstanding hurricane force winds, recommendations~~
 30 ~~to retrofit the homes to better withstand damage from such~~
 31 ~~winds, and the estimated cost to make the recommended retrofits.~~

32 ~~—— (d) The Department of Community Affairs shall establish by~~
 33 ~~rule standards to govern the quality of the evaluation, the~~
 34 ~~quality of the recommendations for retrofitting, the eligibility~~
 35 ~~of the persons conducting the evaluation, and the selection of~~
 36 ~~applicants under the program. In establishing the rule, the~~
 37 ~~Department of Community Affairs shall consult with the advisory~~
 38 ~~committee to minimize the possibility of fraud or abuse in the~~
 39 ~~evaluation and retrofitting process, and to ensure that funds~~
 40 ~~spent by homeowners acting on the recommendations achieve~~
 41 ~~positive results.~~

42 ~~—— (e) The Citizens Property Insurance Corporation shall~~
 43 ~~identify areas of this state with the greatest wind risk to~~
 44 ~~residential properties and recommend annually to the Department~~
 45 ~~of Community Affairs priority target areas for such evaluations~~
 46 ~~and inclusion with the associated residential construction~~
 47 ~~mitigation program.~~

48 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2010.