

Fw: Governor Scott's Budget Proposal

Tom Pierce [Tom_Pierce@dcf.state.fl.us]

Sent: Thursday, March 03, 2011 3:31 PM

To: McAdams, Jeff B.

*citizn comment
3/3/2011
Jeff McAdams*

Jeff, here is the summary of the Governor's Budget Proposal.

Tom

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Tom
Pierce/D20/DCF

02/08/2011 09:16
AM

Council Members

To

cc

Subject
Governor Scott's Budget Proposal

To All Members

The budget recommendations submitted by Governor Scott yesterday would eliminate the state's funding for homeless programs.

Specifically, the proposed budget would:

1. Eliminate the funding for the Challenge Grant, which funds local services that are included in the local homeless continuum of care plan. Current budget for the program is \$2,031,354, which funded all 28 continuums in 2010-11.
2. Eliminate the funding for the local homeless coalition staffing grants. This year the \$345,729 provided \$12,600 per coalition/continuum to support a staff position.
3. Eliminates funding for the Office on Homelessness, its 2 positions, and funding for the Council on Homelessness. The current funding level is \$436,353.
4. Does not fund the Homeless Housing Assistance Grant program next year. This year's \$3,000,000 assisted 6 local projects to create 348 units of

housing for the homeless.

In addition, the budget includes implementing bill language that would repeal the authorizing legislation in section 420.622, F.S., for the Office, the Council, Challenge Grant program, and Homeless Housing Assistance Grant program. If enacted, these homeless initiatives would end on July 1, 2011.

It appears that the federally funded Emergency Shelter Grant program is included in the FY2011-12 budget proposal. The TANF funding for the Emergency Financial Assistance for Housing Program may also be included. The budget figures are rolled up by funding source in the budget document, making it difficult to see whether these federal funds are maintained. The Emergency Shelter Grant is funded at \$3,156,827 this year, and the TANF portion of the Emergency Financial Assistance program is funded at \$900,000 this year.

There is no funding to restore the Homeless Grant in Aid program, nor would the budget fund the continuation of the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program from state revenues.

In looking at some of the other parts of the budget, the state's dedicated source of funding for the state affordable housing trust funds is proposed to be repealed, with these doc stamp revenues going into the General Revenue fund instead. The budget for 2011-12 for the state's affordable housing program at Florida Housing Finance Corporation is requested at \$37.5 million from General Revenue.

The above information is based upon my initial reading and assessment of the Governor's budget and the implementing bill language.

Please review in advance of the Continuum of Care Committee call on Wednesday, February 9 at 2:00. If you have questions, let me know. On the call Wednesday, I will outline the above information as it relates to the state's homeless program budget.

Tom

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