

1 SB389
2 129302-4
3 By Senators Brooks, Pittman, Keahey and Bedford
4 RFD: Banking and Insurance
5 First Read: 12-APR-11

1 SB389

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4 ENROLLED, An Act,

5 To establish the Strengthen Alabama Homes Program to
6 aid homeowners in retrofitting insurable property to resist
7 loss due to hurricane, tornado, or other catastrophic
8 windstorm events.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

10 Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited
11 as the Strengthen Alabama Homes Act.

12 Section 2. (a) There is established within the
13 Department of Insurance, the Strengthen Alabama Homes Program.

14 (b) There is established the Strengthen Alabama
15 Homes Fund within the State Treasury for the use of the
16 department to administer the program.

17 (c) This act does not create an entitlement for
18 property owners or obligate the state in any way to fund the
19 inspection or retrofitting of residential property in this
20 state. Implementation of this program is subject to annual
21 legislative appropriations, receipt of federal grants or
22 funds, or receipt of other sources of grants or funds. The
23 department shall use its best efforts to obtain grants or
24 funds from the federal government or other funding sources to

1 supplement the financial resources of the program that may be
2 provided by the state.

3 (d) Monies in the program shall be deposited in the
4 Strengthen Alabama Homes Fund. Monies shall not lapse, unless
5 otherwise specified under federal funding or a federal grant,
6 or a grant or funds from another source, or be transferred to
7 the General Fund or other state funds and shall not be
8 redistributed. Monies shall be used for the purpose of
9 assisting the program in performing all acts that relate to
10 the function and purpose of the program.

11 (e) The program shall apply for financial grants to
12 retrofit insurable property as defined in Section 27-31D-3,
13 Code of Alabama 1975, to resist loss due to hurricane,
14 tornado, or other catastrophic windstorm events as prescribed
15 in subsection (b) of Section 27-31D-2, Code of Alabama 1975.

16 (f) The program may also make grants or funding
17 available to nonprofit entities for projects to retrofit an
18 insurable property to resist loss due to hurricane, tornado,
19 or other catastrophic windstorm events if such grants or
20 funding to nonprofit entities are allowable under grant or
21 funding rules, requirements, guidelines, or criteria. However,
22 a nonprofit entity shall agree to administer the grants or
23 funds as the program would be required to administer grants or
24 funds and the entity shall provide documentation to the
25 department in a timely manner as requested by the department.

(g) All mitigation shall be based upon the securing of all required local permits and applicable inspections in keeping with local building codes and the Fortified for Existing Homes Program. Mitigation projects are subject to random reinspection of all projects.

(h) The department may promulgate rules and eligibility requirements necessary for the proper administration of this act and pursuant to any instructions or requirements on grants or funds received by the program.

Section 3. (a) To be eligible for a grant, residential property owners applying for a grant must have an insurable property that has been granted a homestead exemption and must be able to meet the eligibility requirements as set forth by the department for each grant type.

(b) Grants to residential property owners must be used to retrofit an insurable property as defined in Section 27-31D-3, Code of Alabama 1975, to resist loss due to hurricane, tornado, or other catastrophic windstorm events as prescribed in subsection (b) of Section 27-31D-2, Code of Alabama 1975.

Section 4. This act shall become effective immediately upon its passage and approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

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Senate 27-APR-11.

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I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and passed
9 the Senate, as amended.

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Senate 26-MAY-11

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I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and passed
12 the Senate, as amended by Executive Amendment.

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Patrick Harris
Secretary

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House of Representatives

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Amended and Passed: 05-MAY-11

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House of Representatives

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Passed: 02-JUN-11, as amended by Executive Amendment.

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By: Senator Brooks