

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 612

BY REPRESENTATIVE HUVAL

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 22:1483.1, relative to the Louisiana Fortify Homes Program; to provide for
3 financial grants to retrofit residential property; to define certain terms; to provide for
4 eligibility requirements; to provide for confidentiality of applicants; to provide for
5 an effective date; to provide for termination of the program; and to provide for
6 related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 22:1483.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §1483.1. Louisiana Fortify Homes Program

10 A. The Louisiana Fortify Homes Program is hereby created within the
11 department. The commissioner, as program administrator, may make financial
12 grants to retrofit roofs of insurable property, as defined in R.S. 22:1483(C)(9), with
13 a homestead exemption to resist loss due to hurricane, tornado, or other catastrophic
14 windstorm events and to meet or exceed the "fortified roof" standard of the Insurance
15 Institute for Business and Home Safety. The commissioner shall promulgate rules
16 governing eligibility requirements for grants and the administration of the program.

17 B. In order to receive a grant pursuant to this Section, the grantee shall do
18 all of the following:

19 (1) Obtain all permits required by law or ordinance for construction.

20 (2) Arrange and pay for inspections required by law or ordinance and the
21 terms of the grant, which shall include inspection pursuant to R.S. 22:1483(C)(3).

22 (3) Comply with applicable building codes.

1 (4) Maintain records as required by R.S. 22:1483(C)(4) and (5) and the terms
2 of the grant.

3 C. The name of a recipient of a grant received pursuant to this Section, the
4 amount of the grant, and the municipal address of the retrofitted insurable property
5 shall be a public record.

6 D. There is hereby established in the state treasury as a special fund the
7 Louisiana Fortify Homes Program Fund, hereafter referred to in this Section as the
8 "fund". Monies appropriated or transferred to the fund shall be deposited by the state
9 treasurer after compliance with the provisions of Article VII, Section 9(B) of the
10 Constitution of Louisiana. Monies in the fund shall be invested in the same manner
11 as monies in the state general fund, and any interest earned on monies in the fund
12 shall be credited to the fund. All unexpended and unencumbered monies in the fund
13 at the end of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund. Monies in the fund shall be
14 used to provide grants pursuant to this Section.

15 E. This Section does not create any of the following:

16 (1) An entitlement for property owners to receive funding to inspect or
17 retrofit residential property.

18 (2) An obligation for the state to appropriate funding to inspect or retrofit
19 residential property.

20 F. The provisions of this Section shall terminate and have no effect
21 beginning at twelve o'clock midnight on June 30, 2025.

22 Section 2. This Act shall become effective January 1, 2023.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____