

April 4, 2022

Mobile Home Tie-Down Program Update

Greetings all!

I have been asked many relevant questions recently about the status of the Program and want to provide as much explanation as possible. The final version of HB 837 is still in possession of the Legislature, as is the budget. (The \$ 7 million additional funding for our Program is in the budget, as well as the spending authority for the Program.)

There is no way to determine when either bill will be sent to the Governor. There is no official protocol or procedure for this part of the process. When the Governor receives the bills, he has 15 days to take action: sign the bill into law; or, permit the bill to become law without his signature; or, veto the bill. FMO is not leaving anything to chance and is already in dialogue with the Executive Branch.

Of the 3,735 member bills and committee bills filed, 285 passed both Chambers. The Governor has acted on 32 bills, at this writing, and 9 more are in his possession and pending action. Our bill and the budget are among the 244 still in possession of the Governor.

The Program itself is in transition. Tallahassee Community College is not accepting any further Applications. Gulf Coast State College will have the responsibility for the Program beginning July 1. FMO will be communicating with both entities to keep all of you informed as much as possible.

In the meantime, a few reminders may be helpful:

- The Program is designed for homes installed in 1999, and prior, before installation requirements changed due to Florida's hurricanes and windstorms
- Considerations for eligibility include skirting, height between bottom of the beam and dirt, and soil restrictions.
- An application to participate is submitted by the park manager or HOA President on behalf of the entire park. After that a vendor will conduct a site visit to evaluate eligibility. If the community is eligible, a community meeting will be held for explanation and Q & A. Participation by homeowners is strictly voluntary.
- The existing wait list of 6 years should be reduced with the additional funding.

FMO will keep you informed as new information comes to pass.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Stewart
FMO Legislative Counsel