

HB 1193

2018

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to rural economic development;  
3 amending s. 288.018, F.S.; increasing the maximum  
4 grant amount under the Regional Rural Development  
5 Grants Program for organizations in rural areas of  
6 opportunity; revising the amount of a grant which  
7 organizations in rural areas of opportunity are  
8 required to match; providing an effective date.  
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10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
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12 Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 288.018, Florida  
13 Statutes, is amended to read:

14 288.018 Regional Rural Development Grants Program.—

15 (1) The department shall establish a matching grant  
16 program to provide funding to regionally based economic  
17 development organizations representing rural counties and  
18 communities for the purpose of building the professional  
19 capacity of their organizations. Such matching grants may also  
20 be used by an economic development organization to provide  
21 technical assistance to businesses within the rural counties and  
22 communities that it serves. The department is authorized to  
23 approve, on an annual basis, grants to such regionally based  
24 economic development organizations. The maximum amount an  
25 organization may receive in any year will be \$50,000, or

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26 | \$250,000 to an organization ~~\$150,000~~ in a rural area of  
27 | opportunity recommended by the Rural Economic Development  
28 | Initiative and designated by the Governor. The grant,~~and~~ must  
29 | be matched each year by the organization in an equivalent amount  
30 | of nonstate resources, except that a grant to an organization in  
31 | a rural area of opportunity must be matched each year with  
32 | nonstate resources equivalent to half of the grant amount.

33 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.