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Lawmakers Expand My Safe Florida Home Program

PIFF Thanks Legislature for Prioritizing Recovery and Mitigation Efforts

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (Nov. 8, 2023) – In a state vulnerable to stronger storms, Florida lawmakers -- during a special Legislative Session -- prioritized measures to help homeowners prevent windstorm damage by strengthening their homes. Today, the Florida Legislature passed House Bill 1-C, legislation that bolsters the [My Safe Florida Home Program](#). The bill, sponsored by Representative Jason Shoaf (R-Port St. Joe) and its companion measure, Senate Bill 2-C, sponsored by Senator Corey Simon (R-Tallahassee), will enhance the safety and resilience of Florida homes. Known as the Disaster Relief Bill, changes also aim to help Floridians recover from the impacts of recent disasters.

"We know this effort was close to home for CFO Jimmy Patronis, who works constantly to inform and equip Floridians with resources like those available in the My Safe Florida Home Program," said **Michael Carlson, President and CEO of Personal Insurance Federation of Florida (PIFF)**. "We're grateful for the leadership of Governor DeSantis, CFO Patronis, and the bill sponsors, Senator Simon and Representative Shoaf, for looking out for Florida communities and making sure not only recovery but preparedness is a priority."

The demand for these home hardening grants is substantial. The My Safe Florida Home Program offers \$10,000 in grants to fortify homes with storm-resistant doors, windows and other protective measures. To date, over 87,000 free home inspections have been completed, and over 21,000 grants have been approved.

In addition to allocating Hurricane Idalia relief funds, the bill ensures funds are available for My Safe Florida Home program applications submitted on or before October 15, 2023. The bill includes an appropriation of \$176 million in non-recurring funds from the General Revenue Fund to the DFS for the purpose of providing these mitigation grants.

"We always say, 'preparedness is the best insurance' when it comes to storms in Florida," **Carlson added**. "This will help the 17,600 grant applicants that have been put on hold due to

funding constraints. The average policyholder discount has totaled over \$1,000, and policyholders have received thousands of dollars for enhancements to their homes."

PIFF encourages homeowners to participate in the state's home hardening program, which includes an initial home inspection, application through grant approval, construction, final inspection and reimbursement. For additional information and resources, please visit PIFF.net.

About PIFF:

The Personal Insurance Federation of Florida, Inc. (PIFF), is a leading voice for the personal lines property and casualty insurance industry in Florida. PIFF represents national insurance carriers and their subsidiaries, including many of the state's top writers of private passenger auto and homeowners multiperil insurance. Together, PIFF members write more than \$13 billion in premium in the state. PIFF advocates for a healthy and competitive insurance marketplace for the benefit of Florida consumers. Follow us [@PIFFNews](https://twitter.com/PIFFNews). Visit PIFF.net to learn more.

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