1989

Session Law 89-006

Florida Senate & House of Representatives

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S 13  GENERAL BILL by Woodson-Howard (Identical H 454)
Southeastern Guide Dog School/Permit: exempts Southeastern Guide Dogs school from requirement that permit be secured from Blind Services Division prior to soliciting funds for benefit of the blind, subject to certain conditions.
Amends 413.069. Effective Date: 05/15/89.

12/16/88 SENATE Prefiled
12/21/88 SENATE Referred to Education
02/20/89 SENATE On Committee agenda—Education, 03/08/89, 1:15 pm, Room-A
03/08/89 SENATE Comm. Report: Favorable by Education, placed on Calendar
04/04/89 SENATE Introduced, referred to Education—SJ 9; Comm. Report: Favorable by Education, placed on Calendar—SJ 60
04/11/89 SENATE Placed on Special Order Calendar—SJ 116; Passed; YEAS 38 NAYS 0—SJ 120; Immediately certified—SJ 123
04/11/89 HOUSE In Messages
04/19/89 HOUSE Received, placed on Calendar—HJ 236
04/25/89 HOUSE Placed on Special Order Calendar; Substituted for HB 454;
Read second time—HJ 271
04/27/89 HOUSE Read third time; Passed; YEAS 115 NAYS 0—HJ 285
04/28/89 ORDERED ENROLLED—SJ 247
05/08/89 Signed by Officers and presented to Governor—SJ 287
05/15/89 Approved by Governor; Chapter No. 89-6—SJ 360

NOTES: Above bill history from Division of Legislative Information's FINAL LEGISLATIVE BILL INFORMATION, 1989 SESSIONS. Staff Analyses for bills amended beyond final committee action may not be in accordance with the enacted law. Journal page numbers (HJ & SJ) refer to daily Journals and may not be the same as final bound Journals.
SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

SUBJECT: BILL NO. AND SPONSOR:
Dog Guides
SB 13 by
Senator Woodson-Howard

I. SUMMARY:

A. Present Situation:

Section 413.069, F.S., exempts four organizations--The National Federation of the Blind in Florida, the Florida Council of the Blind, the Blinded Veterans Association of Florida, and the Lions Clubs of Florida--from the provisions of ss. 413.061-413.068, F.S., which require organizations soliciting for the blind to obtain a permit from the Division of Blind Services in the Department of Education and to display on every ticket, article, or advertisement used for solicitation a notice of approval by the division.

Southeastern Guide Dogs, Inc., is a not-for-profit organization that operates the only school in Florida for training the blind to use guide dogs. It solicits from private donors and does not receive any state or federal funds. It receives an annual permit from the Division of Blind Services.

B. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The bill would amend s. 413.069, F.S., to exempt Southeastern Guide Dogs, Inc., from the provisions of ss. 413.061-413.068, F.S., thus allowing it to solicit funds for the blind without obtaining and displaying a permit from the Division of Blind Services in the Department of Education.

II. ECONOMIC IMPACT AND FISCAL NOTE:

A. Public:

None.

B. Government:

None.

III. COMMENTS:

None.

IV. AMENDMENTS:

None.
This bill exempts Southeastern Guide Dogs, Inc., from the requirement that they first obtain a permit from the Division of Blind Services before soliciting funds for the benefit of blind persons.

A. PRESENT SITUATION:

Section 413.061, F.S., requires that organizations first secure a permit from the Division of Blind Services before engaging in solicitation of funds for the benefit of blind persons. The Division investigates each applicant to insure compliance with its policy prohibiting solicitation which emphasizes the plight of blind persons. There is no fee associated with this process, and each permit must be renewed annually.

Section 413.069, F.S., exempts four organizations from these requirements due to their proven track records with the Division. They are the National Federation of the Blind of Florida, Florida Council of the Blind, Blinded Veterans Association of Florida, and Lion Clubs of Florida.

Southeastern Guide Dogs, Incorporated, is a not-for-profit organization located in Palmetto, Florida. The school trains guide dogs, and instructs blind persons in the use of guide dogs. The school solicits funds to support these programs, and has been subject to Division scrutiny for approximately seven years. Because of its proven record, the Division feels Southeastern deserves to be exempt from the annual permit requirements.
B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

This bill amends s. 413.069, F.S., to add Southeastern Guide Dogs, Inc. to the list of exempt organizations. The change will reduce the administrative paperwork for both Southeastern and the Division of Blind Services.

C. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS:

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT:

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE AGENCIES/STATE FUNDS:

1. Non-recurring or First Year Start-Up Effects:
   None

2. Recurring or Annualized Continuation Effects:
   None

3. Long Run Effects Other Than Normal Growth:
   None

4. Appropriations Consequences:
   None

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AS A WHOLE:

1. Non-recurring or First Year Start-Up Effects:
   None

2. Recurring or Annualized Continuation Effects:
   None

3. Long Run Effects Other Than Normal Growth:
   None

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

1. Direct Private Sector Costs:
   None

2. Direct Private Sector Benefits:
   None
3. Effects on Competition, Private Enterprise, and Employment Markets:

None

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

III. LONG RANGE CONSEQUENCES:

None

IV. COMMENTS:

The Lions Club of Florida, already exempt under s. 413.069, F.S., has approved Southeastern Guide Dogs as a club-sponsored "project." This is a district wide sponsorship, as compared to local, and indicative of Southeastern's credibility and reputation.

A substantially similar bill (HB 793) was heard last year by both the House Commerce Committee and the Senate Education Committee, but the Legislature adjourned before hearing the bill.

V. LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

ENACTED BILL:

Senate Bill 13 was prefiled by Senator Woodson-Howard on 12/16/88. The bill was reported favorably by the Education Committee on 4/4/89 and placed on the calendar (SJ 00060). On 4/11/89, the Senate passed the bill by a vote of 38-0 (SJ 00120). On 4/25/89, SB 13 was placed on the House Special Order Calendar and substituted for HB 454. The House passed SB 13 by a vote of 115-0 on 4/27/89 (HJ 00285). On 5/15/89, the bill was approved by the Governor (SJ 00360).

DISPOSITION OF COMPANION:

House Bill 454 was prefiled by Representative Simone on 2/28/89. The bill was reported favorably by the Commerce Committee on 4/13/89 and placed on the calendar (HJ 00225). On 4/25/89, SB 13 was substituted for HB 454.

VI. SIGNATURES:

SUBSTANTIVE COMMITTEE:
Prepared by:                   Staff Director:
Robert A. Henderson  William Leary

(28) STANDARD FORM 1/89