

Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Conforming Bill  
Relating to Faith and Community

BILL

2025

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to Faith and Community; creating s.  
3           14.3101, F.S.; establishing the Governor's Office of Faith  
4           and Community; providing an effective date.

5  
6 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

7  
8           Section 1. Section 14.3101, Florida Statutes, is created  
9           to read:

10           14.3101 Governor's Office of Faith and Community.—

11           (1) LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS.—The Legislature finds that faith  
12 institutions, community, and non-profit organizations have long  
13 been cornerstones of prosperous and verdant society, serving as  
14 the origin model of community care. As generators of  
15 extraordinary economic and social impact, faith and community  
16 networks play an integral role in serving the vulnerable people  
17 of a community, including foster children, foster families, kin  
18 caregivers, single parents, people in poverty, veterans,  
19 individuals with unique abilities, kids in juvenile justice  
20 system, and vulnerable elders. Faith and community networks  
21 offer a more impactful, efficient, and viable long-term  
22 solution, wholly apart from or in partnership with governmental  
23 programs. The impact of faith and community networks is greatly  
24 enhanced by the reduction of unnecessary bureaucracy through  
25 enhanced collaboration, communication, and connection with civil  
26 service. Responsible connection with faith and community

Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Conforming Bill  
Relating to Faith and Community

BILL

2025

27 networks is a just and necessary component of good governance in  
28 pursuit of greater human flourishing in this state.  
29 Additionally, greater, responsible investment in such efforts  
30 have demonstrated empirically the exponential yield of taxpayer  
31 savings, efficiency of governance, and effectiveness of care. It  
32 is therefore the intent of the Legislature to establish and  
33 create outlets of governmental infrastructure to preserve,  
34 protect, advance, and better connect the faith and community  
35 networks of Florida for the greater social and economic benefit  
36 of generations to come.

37 (2) PURPOSES OF THE CHAPTER.—The purposes of this Chapter  
38 are to establish the role of Liaison for Faith and Community,  
39 and a Governor’s Office of Faith and Community within the  
40 Executive Office of the Governor to better connect, communicate  
41 with, and resource Florida’s faith and community organizations.

42 (3) Establishment of the Liaison for Faith and Community.—

43 (a) The position of Liaison for Faith and Community is  
44 established within the Executive Office of the Governor, and  
45 shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

46 (b) The functions of this role shall include but are not  
47 limited to:

48 1. Serve as a senior advisor of faith and community-based  
49 issues to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and senior  
50 leadership within the Executive Office of the Governor.

Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Conforming Bill  
Relating to Faith and Community

BILL

2025

51 2. The position shall lead the Governor's Office of Faith  
52 and Community and execute the objectives outlined within this  
53 Chapter.

54 3. Engage, advise, and coordinate with executive agency  
55 heads in the provision of faith and community based initiatives  
56 in relevant agencies, as determined by the Governor.

57 (4) Establishment of the Office.-

58 (a) The Governor's Office of Faith and Community is  
59 established within the Executive Office of the Governor.

60 (b) The Office will be under the direction of the Liaison  
61 for Faith and Community, or a Director appointed by and  
62 reporting to the Liaison for Faith and Community. The primary  
63 purpose of the Office is to better serve the vulnerable people  
64 of Florida through more robust and connected faith and community  
65 networks in coordination with state resources.

66 (c) General functions of the Office shall include but are  
67 not limited to:

68 1. Advocate for faith and community organizations seeking  
69 access, direction, or support from state government entities to  
70 include the provision and operation of the Florida Faith and  
71 Community Phone, a direct phone line specifically created for  
72 Florida faith and community leaders to connect with the  
73 Executive Office of the Governor.

74 2. Establish meaningful lines of communication to connect  
75 with and resource faith and community organizations in Florida.  
76 The Office shall deliver relevant and useful information from

Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Conforming Bill  
Relating to Faith and Community

BILL

2025

77 the Executive Office of the Governor and state agencies to the  
78 faith and community networks in Florida.

79 3. Resource and develop enhanced connection between civil  
80 service and state agencies, and the faith and community  
81 organizations of Florida. Specifically, the Office shall help  
82 implement, market, and expand the use of CarePortal, a care-  
83 sharing platform that allows faith institutions, non-profits,  
84 businesses, and individuals to see real time, verified, and  
85 vetted needs in their community.

86 4. In coordination with executive agency heads and the  
87 Liaison for Faith and Community, identify bureaucratic or  
88 regulatory burdens within the state government that  
89 unnecessarily restrict, impede, or otherwise burden faith and  
90 community organization involvement, collaboration, or service to  
91 vulnerable people and populations in Florida.

92 5. Staff and provide administrative support to the Florida  
93 Faith Based and Community Based Advisory Council as established  
94 in Ch. 14.31, F.S.

95 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.