

26 | programs must be established at the state and local levels.

27 | 2. The Shimberg Center for Housing Studies at the
 28 | University of Florida shall develop and maintain statewide data
 29 | on housing needs and production, provide technical assistance
 30 | relating to real estate development and finance, operate an
 31 | information clearinghouse on housing programs, and coordinate
 32 | state housing initiatives with local government and federal
 33 | programs.

34 | 3. The corporation shall maintain a consumer-focused
 35 | website for connecting tenants with affordable housing.

36 | (b) The long-range program plan of the department must
 37 | include specific goals, objectives, and strategies that
 38 | implement the housing policies in this section.

39 | (c) The Shimberg Center for Housing Studies at the
 40 | University of Florida, in consultation with the department and
 41 | the corporation, shall perform functions related to the research
 42 | and planning for affordable housing. Functions must include
 43 | quantifying affordable housing needs, documenting results of
 44 | programs administered, and inventorying the supply of affordable
 45 | housing units made available in this state. The recommendations
 46 | required in this section and a report of any programmatic
 47 | modifications made as a result of these policies must be
 48 | included in the housing report required by s. 420.6075. The
 49 | report must identify the needs of specific populations,
 50 | including, but not limited to, elderly persons, persons with

51 disabilities, and persons with special needs, and may recommend
 52 statutory modifications when appropriate.

53 (d) The Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government
 54 Accountability (OPPAGA) shall evaluate affordable housing issues
 55 pursuant to the schedule set forth in this paragraph. OPPAGA may
 56 coordinate with and rely upon the expertise and research
 57 activities of the Shimberg Center for Housing Studies in
 58 conducting the evaluations. The analysis may include relevant
 59 reports prepared by the Shimberg Center for Housing Studies, the
 60 department, the corporation, and the provider of the Affordable
 61 Housing Catalyst Program; interviews with the agencies,
 62 providers, offices, developers, and other organizations related
 63 to the development and provision of affordable housing at the
 64 state and local levels; and any other relevant data. When
 65 appropriate, each report must recommend policy and statutory
 66 modifications for consideration by the Legislature. Each report
 67 must be submitted to the President of the Senate and the Speaker
 68 of the House of Representatives pursuant to the schedule. OPPAGA
 69 shall review and evaluate:

70 1. By December 15, 2023, and every 5 years thereafter,
 71 innovative affordable housing strategies implemented by other
 72 states, their effectiveness, and their potential for
 73 implementation in this state.

74 2. By December 15, 2024, and every 5 years thereafter,
 75 affordable housing policies enacted by local governments, their

76 effectiveness, and which policies constitute best practices for
 77 replication across this state. The report must include a review
 78 and evaluation of the extent to which interlocal cooperation is
 79 used, effective, or hampered.

80 3. By December 15, 2025, and every 5 years thereafter,
 81 existing state-level housing rehabilitation, production,
 82 preservation, and finance programs to determine their
 83 consistency with relevant policies in this section and
 84 effectiveness in providing affordable housing. The report must
 85 also include an evaluation of the degree of coordination between
 86 housing programs of this state, and between state, federal, and
 87 local housing activities, and shall recommend improved program
 88 linkages when appropriate.

89 (e) The department and the corporation should conform the
 90 administrative rules for each housing program to the policies
 91 stated in this section, provided that such changes in the rules
 92 are consistent with the statutory intent or requirements for the
 93 program. This authority applies only to programs offering loans,
 94 grants, or tax credits and only to the extent that state
 95 policies are consistent with applicable federal requirements.

96 (f) Local assistance plans shall authorize the termination
 97 of recorded and unrecorded easements or rights, interests, or
 98 servitudes in the nature of easements for use of or access to a
 99 lake with respect to up to no more than one-third of the area of
 100 such lake and its upland banks for purposes of redeveloping the

101 land to create affordable housing under this Chapter and
 102 pursuant to s. 196.1978 within 90 days from the date of such
 103 authorization request. The authorization may apply to easements,
 104 interests, and servitudes in favor of the public or any other
 105 party, other than a public utility or governmental body or
 106 agency. Termination of interests shall be achieved through a
 107 quiet title action, for which service of process may be made to
 108 a party by certified mail, return receipt requested. At the time
 109 of filing a quiet title action, a notice must be recorded in the
 110 public records in the county in which the land is located. Said
 111 notice shall identify the action seeking to terminate easements,
 112 rights, or servitudes to use or access the specified lake; the
 113 interests to be terminated; the names of the record owners of
 114 those interests and the owners of the land underlying the lake
 115 and its banks, and a legal description of the lake and its
 116 banks. Upon issuance of a final order quieting title to any
 117 interest, that order together with an instrument describing all
 118 interests that have been extinguished and providing a legal
 119 description of the newly established boundaries of the lake
 120 shall also be recorded in the public records in the county in
 121 which the land is located.

122 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.