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Singer's AIDS plea

Elton John wants Florida governor
to maintain drug help service



SINGER Sir Elton John (*pic*) is urging Florida Governor Rick Scott to protect a programme that helps low-income HIV/AIDS patients get medication needed to control the virus.

John, founder of the Elton John AIDS Foundation, wrote to Scott on Tuesday after hearing the Department of Health was considering changes in income eligibility.

A department spokeswoman says there are no immediate plans to change the AIDS Drug Assistance Programme, though it held hearings to discuss the possibility of lowering income requirements to participate.

In their letter, John and foundation chairman David Furnish say lowering income eligibility could mean 1,600 people will no longer get help obtaining anti-retroviral medication. — AP