

CHAPTER 2014-1

Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 7015

An act relating to military and veteran support; amending s. 250.10, F.S.; revising participation requirements and authorizing certain courses for the Educational Dollars for Duty program; directing the Adjutant General to adopt certain rules; providing appropriations; amending s. 250.35, F.S.; updating references with respect to courts-martial; creating s. 265.0031, F.S.; establishing the Florida Veterans' Walk of Honor and the Florida Veterans' Memorial Garden; directing the Department of Management Services, in consultation with the direct-support organization of the Department of Veterans' Affairs, to make space available for such purpose; amending s. 288.0001, F.S.; directing the Office of Economic and Demographic Research and the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability to provide a specified analysis of certain grant and entrepreneur initiative programs; amending ss. 295.065, 295.07, 295.08, and 295.085, F.S.; revising and providing governmental employment preference for certain persons; creating s. 295.188, F.S.; authorizing private employers to provide employment preference for certain persons; creating s. 295.21, F.S.; establishing Florida Is For Veterans, Inc., within the Department of Veterans' Affairs; providing for a board of directors and the duties and requirements thereof; creating s. 295.22, F.S.; creating the Veterans Employment and Training Services Program within the department; providing program requirements; directing Enterprise Florida, Inc., to provide certain information about Florida Is For Veterans, Inc., to certain businesses; creating s. 295.23, F.S.; directing the Florida Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation to perform specified duties relating to Florida Is For Veterans, Inc., and to expend specified funds in the performance of such duties; requiring the Florida Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation to provide certain funds to Florida Is For Veterans, Inc.; providing appropriations; requiring Florida Is For Veterans, Inc., and the Florida Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation to submit certain plans and performance measures to the Legislative Budget Commission and receive the commission's approval before expending certain funds; directing Florida Is For Veterans, Inc., to submit a report to the Governor and Legislature relating to gaps in veteran resources; directing the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability to conduct a performance audit of Florida Is For Veterans, Inc.; amending ss. 296.06 and 296.36, F.S.; revising the eligibility requirements for residency in the Florida State Veterans' Domiciliary Home and admittance to a state veterans' nursing home; amending s. 322.031, F.S.; providing conditions under which the spouses and dependents of servicemembers are exempt from obtaining or displaying a driver license or learner's permit; amending s. 322.121, F.S.; granting an automatic extension for the expiration of a driver license to the spouse and dependents of servicemembers; amending s. 455.213, F.S.; extending the application deadline for military veterans to

have certain fees waived by the Department of Business and Professional Regulation and waiving such fees for the spouses of veterans; amending ss. 456.013 and 468.304, F.S.; extending the application deadline for military veterans to have certain fees waived by the Department of Health and waiving such fees for the spouses of veterans; amending s. 456.024, F.S.; providing licensing procedures and waiving fees for certain health care practitioners; amending ss. 458.315 and 459.0076, F.S.; revising provisions for issuance of temporary certificates for practice in areas of critical need to conform to changes made by the act; creating ss. 458.3151 and 459.00761, F.S.; providing application requirements and procedures for active duty military and veteran physicians to obtain temporary certificates for practice in areas of critical need; amending s. 499.012, F.S.; providing that specified military service meets certain permitting requirements; amending s. 1002.33, F.S.; providing legislative findings and intent with respect to establishing charter schools on military installations; encouraging military installation commanders to collaborate with the Commissioner of Education; providing for operation and control of such schools; amending s. 1009.26, F.S.; directing state universities, Florida College System institutions, and certain career centers to waive certain fees for veterans; providing applicability; providing appropriations; providing effective dates.

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

Section 1. Subsections (7) and (8) of section 250.10, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

250.10 Appointment and duties of the Adjutant General.—

(7) The Adjutant General shall develop an education assistance program for members in good standing of the Florida National Guard who enroll in an authorized course of study at a public or nonpublic postsecondary institution ~~or technical center of higher learning~~ in the state which has been accredited by an accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education or licensed by the Commission for Independent Education. Education assistance also may be used for training to obtain industry certifications approved by the Department of Education pursuant to s. 1008.44 and continuing education to maintain license certifications. The education assistance This program shall be known as the Educational Dollars for Duty program (EDD).

(a) The program shall establish ~~set forth~~ application requirements, including, but not limited to, requirements that the applicant:

1. Be 17 years of age or older.
2. Be presently domiciled in the state.

3. Be an active drilling member and in good standing in the Florida National Guard at the beginning of and throughout the entire academic term for which benefits are received.

4. Maintain continuous satisfactory participation in the Florida National Guard for the any school term for which ~~exemption~~ benefits are received.

5. Upon enrollment in the program, complete a memorandum of agreement to:

a. Comply with the rules of the program, ~~and~~

b. Serve in the Florida National Guard for the period specified in the member's enlistment or reenlistment contract.

c. Authorize the release of information pursuant to subparagraph (d)6. by the postsecondary institution or technical center to the education service office of the Department of Military Affairs, subject to applicable federal and state law.

(b) The program shall define those members of the Florida National Guard who are ineligible to participate in the program and those courses of study which are not authorized for the program.

1. Ineligible members include, but are not limited to, a any member, commissioned officer, warrant officer, or enlisted person who has obtained a master's degree using the program.

2. Inactive members of the Florida National Guard and members of the Individual Ready Reserve are not eligible to participate in the program.

~~3.2.~~ Courses not authorized include noncredit courses, courses that do not meet degree requirements, courses that do not meet requirements for completion of career training, or other courses as determined by program definitions.

4. The program may not pay repeat course fees.

(c) The program may include, but is not limited to:

1. Courses at a public or nonpublic postsecondary institution or technical center in the state which is accredited by an accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education or licensed by the Commission for Independent Education.

2. Training to obtain industry certifications, limited to certifications approved by the Department of Education under s. 1008.44.

3. Continuing education to maintain a license or certification. Notwithstanding subparagraph (b)1., members who have obtained a master's degree using the program are eligible for funding under this subparagraph.

4. Licensing and industry certification examination fees. Notwithstanding subparagraph (b)1., members who have obtained a master's degree using the program are eligible for funding under this subparagraph.

5. Notwithstanding subparagraph (b)3., developmental educational courses.

~~3.—Developmental education courses are authorized for the program.~~

(d)(e) The Adjutant General shall adopt rules for the overall policy, guidance, administration, implementation, and proper use of the program. Such rules must include, but need not be limited to;

1. Guidelines for certification by the Adjutant General of a guard member's eligibility.

2. Procedures for notification to a postsecondary an institution or technical center of a guard member's termination of eligibility. and

3. Guidelines for approving courses of study that are authorized for the program, including online courses, industry certification training, and continuing education to maintain license certifications.

4. Guidelines for approving the use of program funds for licensing and industry certification examination fees.

5. Procedures for restitution when a guard member fails to comply with the penalties described in this section.

6. Procedures that require a public or nonpublic postsecondary institution or technical center that receives funding from the program to provide information regarding course enrollment, course withdrawal, course cancellation, course completion, course failure, and grade verification of enrolled members to the education service office of the Department of Military Affairs.

7. Guidelines for the payment of tuition and fees, not to exceed the highest in-state tuition rate charged by a public postsecondary institution in the state.

(8) Subject to appropriations, the Department of Military Affairs may pay the full cost of tuition and fees for required courses for current members of the Florida National Guard. Members are eligible to use the program upon enlistment in the Florida National Guard. If a member is enrolled in a nonpublic postsecondary education institution or a nonpublic vocational-technical program, the Department of Military Affairs shall pay an amount that may not exceed the rate of the highest in-state equal to the amount that would be required to pay for the average tuition and fees at a public postsecondary education institution or public vocational-technical program.

(a) The Adjutant General shall give preference and priority to eligible members who have deployed on federal military orders while a member of the Florida National Guard.

(b) The Department of Military Affairs may reimburse a member for student textbook and instructional material costs in accordance with limits set each fiscal year based on funding availability and regardless of the source of tuition funding, but only after tuition and fees for all eligible members are paid for that fiscal year.

~~(a) A member may participate in the program if he or she maintains satisfactory participation in, and is an active drilling member of, the Florida National Guard. Inactive members of the Florida National Guard and members of the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) are not eligible to participate in the program.~~

~~(c)(b)~~ Penalties for noncompliance with program requirements include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. If a member of the Florida National Guard receives payment of tuition and fees for an ~~any~~ academic term and fails to maintain satisfactory participation in the Florida National Guard during that academic term, the member shall reimburse the Department of Military Affairs all tuition charges and student fees for the academic term for which the member received payment.

2. If a member of the Florida National Guard leaves the Florida National Guard during the period specified in the member's enlistment or reenlistment contract, the member shall reimburse the Department of Military Affairs all tuition charges and student fees for which the member received payments, regardless of whether the obligation to reimburse the department was incurred before, on, or after July 1, 2009, unless the Adjutant General finds that there are justifiable extenuating circumstances.

3. If the service of a member of the Florida National Guard is terminated or the member is placed on scholastic probation while receiving payments, the member shall reimburse the Department of Military Affairs all tuition charges and student fees for the academic term for which the member received payment.

4. If a member defaults on any reimbursement made under this paragraph, the department may charge the member the maximum interest rate authorized by law.

Section 2. Beginning in the 2014-2015 fiscal year, the sum of \$1.53 million in recurring funds is appropriated from the General Revenue Fund to the Department of Military Affairs to supplement the Educational Dollars for Duty program to ensure that Florida National Guard members are rewarded for their service to the country with the ability to pursue higher learning in the state pursuant to s. 250.10(7) and (8), Florida Statutes.

Section 3. For the 2014-2015 fiscal year, the sum of \$250,000 in nonrecurring funds is appropriated from the General Revenue Fund to the Department of Military Affairs for the purpose of information technology upgrades to accommodate administering and auditing the Educational Dollars for Duty program.

Section 4. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 250.35, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

250.35 Courts-martial.—

(1) The Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ), 10 U.S.C. ss. 801 et seq., and the Manual for Courts-Martial (2012 2008 Edition) are adopted for use by the Florida National Guard, except as otherwise provided by this chapter.

(2) Courts-martial may try a any member of the Florida National Guard for any crime or offense made punishable by the Uniform Code of Military Justice (2012 2008 Edition), except that a commissioned officer, warrant officer, or cadet may not be tried by summary courts-martial.

Section 5. Effective upon this act becoming a law, section 265.0031, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

265.0031 Florida Veterans' Walk of Honor and Florida Veterans' Memorial Garden.—

(1) To recognize and honor those military veterans who have made significant contributions to the state through their service to the United States, the Florida Veterans' Walk of Honor and the Florida Veterans' Memorial Garden are established.

(2) The Florida Veterans' Walk of Honor and the Florida Veterans' Memorial Garden shall be administered by the direct-support organization of the Department of Veterans' Affairs without funding from the state. However, donations made to the Florida Veterans' Walk of Honor and the Florida Veterans' Memorial Garden shall be credited to the direct-support organization of the Department of Veterans' Affairs and used solely to support and maintain the Florida Veterans' Walk of Honor, the Florida Veterans' Memorial Garden, and other efforts of the direct-support organization.

(3) The Department of Management Services, in consultation with the Department of Veterans' Affairs and the direct-support organization of the Department of Veterans' Affairs, shall make space available on the Capitol Complex grounds for the construction of the Florida Veterans' Walk of Honor and the Florida Veterans' Memorial Garden.

Section 6. Paragraph (d) is added to subsection (2) of section 288.0001, Florida Statutes, to read:

288.0001 Economic Development Programs Evaluation.—The Office of Economic and Demographic Research and the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA) shall develop and present to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the chairs of the legislative appropriations committees the Economic Development Programs Evaluation.

(2) The Office of Economic and Demographic Research and OPPAGA shall provide a detailed analysis of economic development programs as provided in the following schedule:

(d) By January 1, 2019, and every 3 years thereafter, an analysis of the grant and entrepreneur initiative programs established under s. 295.22(3)(d) and (e).

Section 7. Section 295.065, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

295.065 Legislative intent.—It is the intent of the Legislature to provide preference and priority in the hiring practices of this state as set forth in this chapter. ~~It~~ All written job announcements and audio and video advertisements used by employing agencies of the state and its political subdivisions must include a notice stating, there shall be a notation that certain servicemembers and veterans, and the spouses and family members of the servicemembers and veterans, receive preference and priority in employment by the state and are encouraged to apply for the positions being filled.

Section 8. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 295.07, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

295.07 Preference in appointment and retention.—

(1) The state and its political subdivisions ~~in the state~~ shall give preference in appointment and retention in positions of employment to:

(a) Those disabled veterans:

1. Who have served on active duty in any branch of the United States Armed Forces of the United States, have received an honorable discharge ~~been separated therefrom under honorable conditions~~, and have established the present existence of a service-connected disability that which is compensable under public laws administered by the United States U.S. Department of Veterans Veterans’ Affairs;; or

2. Who are receiving compensation, disability retirement benefits, or pension by reason of public laws administered by the United States U.S. Department of Veterans Veterans’ Affairs and the United States Department of Defense.

(b) The spouse of a ~~any~~ person who has a total disability, permanent in nature, resulting from a service-connected disability and who, because of this disability, cannot qualify for employment, and the spouse of a ~~any~~ person

missing in action, captured in line of duty by a hostile force, or forcibly detained or interned in line of duty by a foreign government or power.

(c) ~~A wartime veteran of any war as defined in s. 1.01(14), who has. The veteran must have served at least 1 day during a wartime period to be eligible for veterans' preference. Active duty for training may shall not be allowed for eligibility under this paragraph.~~

(d) The unremarried widow or widower of a veteran who died of a service-connected disability.

(e) The mother, father, legal guardian, or unremarried widow or widower of a member of the United States Armed Forces who died in the line of duty under combat-related conditions, as verified by the United States Department of Defense.

(f) A veteran as defined in s. 1.01(14). Active duty for training may not be allowed for eligibility under this paragraph.

(g) A current member of any reserve component of the United States Armed Forces or the Florida National Guard.

(3) Preference in employment and retention may be given only to eligible persons who are described in subsection (1) ~~and who are residents of this state.~~

Section 9. Section 295.08, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

295.08 Positions for which a numerically based selection process is used. For positions for which an examination is used to determine the qualifications for entrance into employment with the state or political subdivisions in the state, 15 points shall be added to the earned ratings of a person included under s. 295.07(1)(a) or (b), 10 points shall be added to the earned ratings of a any person included under s. 295.07(1)(c), (d), or (e) 295.07(1)(a) or (b), and 5 points shall be added to the earned rating of a any person included under s. 295.07(1)(f) or (g) 295.07(1)(e) and (d), if the person has obtained a qualifying score on the examination for the position. The names of persons eligible for preference shall be entered on an appropriate register or list in accordance with their respective augmented ratings. However, except for classes of positions with Federal Government designations of professional or technician, the names of all persons qualified to receive a 15-point 10-point preference whose service-connected disabilities have been rated by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or its predecessor or the United States Department of Defense to be 30 percent or more shall be placed at the top of the appropriate register or employment list, in accordance with their respective augmented ratings. The respective augmented rating is the examination score or evaluated score in addition to the applicable veteran's preference points.

Section 10. Section 295.085, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

295.085 Positions for which a numerically based selection process is not used.—In all positions in which the appointment or employment of persons is not subject to a written examination, with the exception of positions that are exempt under s. 295.07(4), first preference in appointment, employment, and retention shall be given by the state and political subdivisions in the state to a person ~~persons~~ included under s. 295.07(1)(a) or (b) ~~295.07(1)(a) and (b)~~, and second preference shall be given to a person ~~persons~~ included under s. 295.07(1)(c), (d), (e), (f), or (g) ~~295.07(1)(e) and (d)~~ who possess the minimum qualifications necessary to discharge the duties of the position involved.

Section 11. Section 295.188, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

295.188 Preference in hiring veterans for private employers.—

(1) The Legislature intends to establish a permissive preference in private employment for certain veterans.

(2) A private employer may adopt an employment policy that gives preference in hiring to an honorably discharged veteran, as defined in s. 1.01(14); the spouse of a veteran with a service-connected disability, as described in s. 295.07(1)(b); the unremarried widow or widower of a veteran who died of a service-connected disability, as described in s. 295.07(1)(d); or the unremarried widow or widower of a member of the United States Armed Forces who died in the line of duty under combat-related conditions. Such policy shall be applied uniformly to employment decisions regarding hiring and promotion.

(3) These preferences are not considered violations of any state or local equal employment opportunity law.

Section 12. Section 295.21, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

295.21 Florida Is For Veterans, Inc.—

(1) CREATION.—There is created within the Department of Veterans' Affairs a nonprofit corporation, to be known as "Florida Is For Veterans, Inc.," which shall be registered, incorporated, organized, and operated in compliance with chapter 617, and which is not a unit or entity of state government. As used in this section and s. 295.22, unless the context indicates otherwise, the term "corporation" means Florida Is For Veterans, Inc. The corporation shall be a separate budget entity and is not subject to the control, supervision, or direction of the department in any manner, including, but not limited to, personnel, purchasing, transactions involving real or personal property, or budgetary matters.

(2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the corporation is to promote Florida as a veteran-friendly state that seeks to provide veterans with employment opportunities and that promotes the hiring of veterans by the business community. The corporation shall encourage retired and recently separated military personnel to remain in the state or to make the state their permanent residence. The corporation shall promote the value of military

skill sets to businesses in the state, assist in tailoring the training of veterans to match the needs of the employment marketplace, and enhance the entrepreneurial skills of veterans.

(3) DUTIES.—The corporation shall:

(a) Conduct research to identify the target market and the educational and employment needs of those in the target market. The corporation shall contract with at least one entity pursuant to the competitive bidding requirements in s. 287.057 and the provisions of s. 295.187 to perform the research. Such entity must have experience conducting market research on the veteran demographic. The corporation shall seek input from the Florida Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation on the scope, process, and focus of such research.

(b) Advise the Florida Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation, pursuant to s. 295.23, on:

1. The target market as identified in paragraph (a).

2. Development and implementation of a marketing campaign to encourage members of the target market to remain in the state or to make the state their permanent residence.

3. Methods for disseminating information to the target market that relates to the interests and needs of veterans of all ages and facilitates veterans' knowledge of and access to benefits.

(c) Promote and enhance the value of military skill sets to businesses.

(d) Implement the Veterans Employment and Training Services Program established by s. 295.22.

(e) Responsibly and prudently manage all funds received and ensure that the use of such funds conforms to all applicable laws, bylaws, or contractual requirements.

(f) Administer the programs created in this section and s. 295.22.

(4) GOVERNANCE.—

(a) The corporation shall be governed by a nine-member board of directors. The Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall each appoint three members to the board. In making appointments, the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives must consider representation by active or retired military personnel and their spouses representing a range of ages and persons with expertise in business, education, marketing, and information management.

(b) The board of directors shall annually elect a chair from among the board's members.

(c) Each member of the board of directors shall be appointed for a term of 4 years, except that, to achieve staggered terms, the initial appointees of the Governor shall serve terms of 2 years. A member is ineligible for reappointment to the board except that a member appointed to a term of 2 years or less may be reappointed for an additional term of 4 years. The initial appointments to the board must be made by July 15, 2014. Vacancies on the board shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment. A vacancy that occurs before the scheduled expiration of the term of the member shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term.

(d) The Legislature finds that it is in the public interest for the members of the board of directors to be subject to the requirements of ss. 112.313, 112.3135, and 112.3143. Notwithstanding the fact that they are not public officers or employees, for purposes of ss. 112.313, 112.3135, and 112.3143, the board members shall be considered to be public officers or employees. In addition to the postemployment restrictions of s. 112.313(9), a person appointed to the board of directors may not have direct interest in a contract, franchise, privilege, project, program, or other benefit arising from an award by the corporation during the appointment term and for 2 years after the termination of such appointment. A person who accepts appointment to the board of directors in violation of this subsection, or accepts a direct interest in a contract, franchise, privilege, project, program, or other benefit granted by the corporation to an awardee within 2 years after the termination of his or her service on the board, commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. Further, each member of the board of directors who is not otherwise required to file financial disclosure under s. 8, Art. II of the State Constitution or s. 112.3144 shall file a statement of financial interests under s. 112.3145.

(e) Each member of the board of directors shall serve without compensation but is entitled to reimbursement for travel and per diem expenses as provided in s. 112.061 while performing his or her duties.

(f) Each member of the board of directors is accountable for the proper performance of the duties of office and owes a fiduciary duty to the people of this state to ensure that awards provided are disbursed and used as prescribed by law and contract. An appointed member of the board of directors may be removed by the officer who appointed the member for malfeasance, misfeasance, neglect of duty, incompetence, permanent inability to perform official duties, unexcused absence from three consecutive board meetings, arrest or indictment for a crime that is a felony or a misdemeanor involving theft or a crime of dishonesty, or pleading guilty or nolo contendere to or being found guilty of any crime.

(g) A majority of the members of the board of directors constitutes a quorum. Council meetings may be held via teleconference or other electronic means.

(5) POWERS.—In addition to the powers and duties prescribed in chapter 617 and the articles and bylaws adopted thereunder, the board of directors may:

(a) Make and enter into contracts and other instruments necessary or convenient for the exercise of its powers and functions. However, notwithstanding s. 617.0302, the corporation may not issue bonds.

(b) Make expenditures, including any necessary administrative expenditure.

(c) Adopt, amend, and repeal bylaws, consistent with the powers granted to it under this section or the articles of incorporation, for the administration of the activities of the corporation, and the exercise of its corporate powers.

(d) Accept funding for its programs and activities from federal, state, local, and private sources.

(e) Adopt and register a fictitious name for use in its marketing activities.

The credit of the State of Florida may not be pledged on behalf of the corporation.

(6) PUBLIC RECORDS AND MEETINGS.—The corporation is subject to the provisions of chapters 119 and 286 relating to public records and meetings, respectively.

(7) STAFFING AND ASSISTANCE.—

(a) The corporation is authorized to hire or contract for all staff necessary for the proper execution of its powers and duties. All employees of the corporation shall comply with the Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees under part III of chapter 112. Corporation staff must agree to refrain from having any direct interest in any contract, franchise, privilege, project, program, or other benefit arising from an award by the corporation during the term of their appointment and for 2 years after the termination of such appointment.

(b) All agencies of the state are authorized and directed to provide such technical assistance as the corporation may require to identify programs within each agency which provide assistance or benefits to veterans who are located in this state or who are considering relocation to this state.

(c) The Department of Veterans' Affairs may authorize the corporation's use of the department's property, facilities, and personnel services, subject to this section. The department may prescribe by contract any condition with which the corporation must comply in order to use the department's property, facilities, or personnel services.

(d) The department may not authorize the use of its property, facilities, or personnel services if the corporation does not provide equal employment

opportunities to all persons regardless of race, color, religion, sex, age, or national origin.

(8) ANNUAL REPORT.—The corporation shall submit an annual progress report and work plan by December 1 to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The report must include:

(a) Status and summary of findings regarding the target market, veteran benefits, and any identified gaps in services.

(b) Status of the marketing campaign, delivery systems of the marketing campaign, and outreach to the target market.

(c) Status of the Veterans Employment and Training Services Program administered under s. 295.22.

(d) Proposed revisions or additions to performance measurements for the programs administered by the corporation.

(e) Identification of contracts that the corporation has entered into to carry out its duties.

(f) An annual compliance and financial audit of accounts and records for the previous fiscal year prepared by an independent certified public accountant pursuant to rules adopted by the Auditor General.

(9) DISSOLUTION.—All moneys and property held by the corporation shall revert to the state if the corporation ceases to exist.

Section 13. Section 295.22, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

295.22 Veterans Employment and Training Services Program.—

(1) LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND INTENT.—The Legislature finds that the state has a compelling interest in ensuring that each veteran who is a resident of the state finds employment that meets his or her professional goals and receives the training or education necessary to meet those goals. The Legislature also finds that connecting dedicated, well-trained veterans with businesses that need a dedicated, well-trained workforce is of paramount importance. The Legislature recognizes that veterans may not currently have the skills to meet the workforce needs of Florida employers and may require assistance in obtaining additional workforce training or in transitioning their skills to meet the demands of the marketplace. It is the intent of the Legislature that the Veterans Employment and Training Services Program coordinate and meet the needs of veterans and the business community to enhance the economy of this state.

(2) CREATION.—The Veterans Employment and Training Services Program is created within the Department of Veterans' Affairs to assist in linking veterans in search of employment with businesses seeking to hire

dedicated, well-trained workers. The purpose of the program is to meet the workforce demands of businesses in the state by facilitating access to training and education in high-demand fields for veterans.

(3) ADMINISTRATION.—Florida Is For Veterans, Inc., shall administer the Veterans Employment and Training Services Program and perform all of the following functions:

(a) Conduct marketing and recruiting efforts directed at veterans who reside in or who have an interest in relocating to this state and who are seeking employment. Marketing must include information related to how a veteran's military experience can be valuable to a business. Such efforts may include attending veteran job fairs and events, hosting events for veterans or the business community, and using digital and social media and direct mail campaigns. The corporation shall also include such marketing as part of its main marketing campaign.

(b) Assist veterans who reside in or relocate to this state and who are seeking employment. The corporation shall offer skills assessments to veterans and assist them in establishing employment goals and applying for and achieving gainful employment.

1. Assessment may include skill match information, skill gap analysis, resume creation, translation of military skills into civilian workforce skills, and translation of military achievements and experience into generally understood civilian workforce skills.

2. Assistance may include providing the veteran with information on current workforce demand by industry or geographic region, creating employment goals, and aiding or teaching general knowledge related to completing applications. The corporation may provide information related to industry certifications approved by the Department of Education under s. 1008.44 as well as information related to earning academic college credit at public postsecondary educational institutions for college-level training and education acquired in the military under s. 1004.096.

3. The corporation shall encourage veterans to register with the state's job bank system and may refer veterans to local one-stop career centers for further services. The corporation shall provide each veteran with information about state workforce programs and shall consolidate information about all available resources on one website that, if possible, includes a hyperlink to each resource's website and contact information, if available. If appropriate, a veteran shall be encouraged to participate in the Complete Florida Degree Program established under s. 1006.735.

4. Assessment and assistance may be in person or by electronic means, as determined by the corporation to be most efficient and best meet the needs of veterans.

(c) Assist Florida businesses in recruiting and hiring veterans. The corporation shall provide services to Florida businesses to meet their hiring needs by connecting businesses with suitable veteran applicants for employment. Suitable applicants include veterans who have appropriate job skills or may need additional training to meet the specific needs of a business. The corporation shall also provide information about the state and federal benefits of hiring veterans.

(d) Create a grant program to provide funding to assist veterans in meeting the workforce-skill needs of businesses seeking to hire veterans, establish criteria for approval of requests for funding, and maximize the use of funding for this program. Grant funds may be used only in the absence of available veteran-specific federally funded programs. Grants may fund specialized training specific to a particular business.

1. Grant funds may be allocated to any training provider selected by the business, including a career center, a Florida College System institution, a state university, or an in-house training provider of the business. If grant funds are used to provide a technical certificate, a licensure, or a degree, funds may be allocated only upon a review that includes, but is not limited to, accreditation and licensure documentation. Instruction funded through the program must terminate when participants demonstrate competence at the level specified in the request; however, the grant term may not exceed 48 months. Preference shall be given to target industry businesses, as defined in s. 288.106, and to businesses in the defense supply, cloud virtualization, or commercial aviation manufacturing industries.

2. Costs and expenditures for the grant program must be documented and separated from those incurred by the training provider. Costs and expenditures shall be limited to \$8,000 per veteran trainee. Eligible costs and expenditures include:

- a. Tuition and fees.
- b. Curriculum development.
- c. Books and classroom materials.
- d. Rental fees for facilities at public colleges and universities, including virtual training labs.
- e. Overhead or indirect costs not to exceed 5 percent of the grant amount.

3. Before funds are allocated for a request pursuant to this section, the corporation shall prepare a grant agreement between the business requesting funds, the educational institution or training provider receiving funding through the program, and the corporation. Such agreement must include, but need not be limited to:

- a. Identification of the personnel necessary to conduct the instructional program, the qualifications of such personnel, and the respective

responsibilities of the parties for paying costs associated with the employment of such personnel.

b. Identification of the match provided by the business, including cash and in-kind contributions, equal to at least 50 percent of the total grant amount.

c. Identification of the estimated duration of the instructional program.

d. Identification of all direct, training-related costs.

e. Identification of special program requirements that are not otherwise addressed in the agreement.

f. Permission to access aggregate information specific to the wages and performance of participants upon the completion of instruction for evaluation purposes. The agreement must specify that any evaluation published subsequent to the instruction may not identify the employer or any individual participant.

4. A business may receive a grant under the Quick-Response Training Program created under s. 288.047 and a grant under this section for the same veteran trainee. If a business receives funds under both programs, one grant agreement may be entered into with Workforce Florida, Inc., as the grant administrator.

(e) Contract with one or more entities to administer an entrepreneur initiative program for veterans in this state which connects business leaders in the state with veterans seeking to become entrepreneurs.

1. The corporation shall award each contract in accordance with the competitive bidding requirements in s. 287.057 to one or more public or private universities that:

a. Demonstrate the ability to implement the program and the commitment of university resources, including financial resources, to such programs.

b. Have a military and veteran resource center.

c. Have a regional small business development center in the Florida Small Business Development Center Network.

d. As determined by the corporation, have been nationally recognized for commitment to the military and veterans.

2. Each contract must include performance metrics, including a focus on employment and business creation. Each university must coordinate with any entrepreneurship center located at the university. The university may also work with an entity offering related programs to refer veterans or to provide services. The entrepreneur initiative program may include activities

and assistance such as peer-to-peer learning sessions, mentoring, technical assistance, business roundtables, networking opportunities, support of student organizations, speaker series, or other tools within a virtual environment.

(4) DUTIES OF ENTERPRISE FLORIDA, INC.—Enterprise Florida, Inc., shall provide information about the corporation and its services to prospective, new, expanding, and relocating businesses seeking to conduct business in this state. Enterprise Florida, Inc., shall, to the greatest extent possible, collaborate with the corporation to meet the employment needs, including meeting the job-creation requirements, of any business receiving assistance or services from Enterprise Florida, Inc.

Section 14. Section 295.23, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

295.23 Veterans research and marketing campaign.—

(1) The Florida Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation shall:

(a) Provide input to Florida Is For Veterans, Inc., on research to identify the target market and the educational and employment needs of those in the target market.

(b) Develop and conduct a marketing campaign to encourage retired and recently separated military personnel to remain in the state or to make the state their permanent residence.

(c) Develop a process for the dissemination of information to the target market and targeting that information to the interests and needs of veterans of all ages to facilitate veterans' knowledge of and access to benefits.

(2) The Florida Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation shall seek advice from Florida Is For Veterans, Inc., on the scope, process, and focus of the marketing campaign. Input must be received before invitations to bid, requests for proposals, or invitations to negotiate for contracted services are advertised. Florida Is For Veterans, Inc., shall be kept informed at each stage of the marketing campaign and may provide recommendations to the Florida Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation to ensure that the effort effectively reaches veterans.

(3) For the purposes of this section, the Florida Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation shall expend \$1 million annually on marketing the state to veterans as a permanent home and on information dissemination to improve veterans' knowledge of and access to benefits through a combination of existing funds appropriated to the Florida Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation by the Legislature and private funds.

Section 15. For fiscal year 2014-2015, the Florida Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation shall provide Florida Is For Veterans, Inc., \$300,000 to conduct market research pursuant to s. 295.21(3)(a), Florida Statutes.

Section 16. For the 2014-2015 fiscal year, the sum of \$56,768 in recurring funds and \$4,258 in nonrecurring funds are appropriated from the General Revenue Fund to the Department of Veterans' Affairs, and one full-time equivalent position with associated salary rate of 36,350, is authorized to assist Florida Is For Veterans, Inc., in performing state financial activities. The funds appropriated in this section shall be released pursuant to s. 216.192, Florida Statutes.

Section 17. For the 2014-2015 fiscal year, the sum of \$344,106 in recurring funds and \$14,391 in nonrecurring funds from the General Revenue Fund is appropriated to the Department of Veterans' Affairs for the purpose of funding the costs for startup, staffing, and general operations of the Florida Is For Veterans, Inc. The funds appropriated in this section shall be released pursuant to s. 216.192, Florida Statutes.

Section 18. By August 15, 2014, Florida Is For Veterans, Inc., shall submit a plan to the Legislative Budget Commission, through the Department of Veterans' Affairs, pursuant to s. 216.177, Florida Statutes. The plan shall:

(1) Provide a strategy and framework for the general operations of Florida Is For Veterans, Inc., including the fulfillment of its purpose, duties, and goals as provided in ss. 295.21 and 295.22, Florida Statutes;

(2) Include specific performance measures by which Florida Is For Veterans, Inc., and its functions shall be evaluated; and

(3) Include details of the existing expenditures and obligations of Florida Is For Veterans, Inc., as well as a budget and timelines for expected expenditures related both to general operations and to products, services, and grants to be provided under programs administered by Florida Is For Veterans, Inc.

Copies of the plan shall also be submitted to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The Legislative Budget Commission must approve the plan, including the performance measures, before Florida Is For Veterans, Inc., may expend funds for the duties required under s. 295.22, Florida Statutes.

Section 19. By August 15, 2014, the Florida Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation and Florida Is For Veterans, Inc., shall jointly develop and submit to the Legislative Budget Commission, through the Department of Economic Opportunity, pursuant to s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, specific performance measures by which the research and marketing campaign established under s. 295.23, Florida Statutes, shall be evaluated. Copies of the performance measures shall also be submitted to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The Legislative Budget Commission must approve the performance measures before the Florida Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation or Florida Is For Veterans,

Inc., may expend funds for the duties required under s. 295.23, Florida Statutes.

Section 20. By February 2, 2016, Florida Is For Veterans, Inc., shall submit a report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives identifying existing gaps in veteran resources and recommending best practices that may be used to assist veterans and improvements to current or new resources and programs.

Section 21. By February 1, 2018, the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability shall conduct a performance audit of Florida Is For Veterans, Inc. The audit shall assess the implementation and outcomes of activities under ss. 295.21 and 295.22, Florida Statutes, and evaluate the corporation's accomplishments and progress toward making Florida a veteran-friendly state. The audit must provide recommendations for any necessary improvements. The report of the audit's findings shall be submitted to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Section 22. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 296.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

296.06 State policy; eligibility requirements.—

(2) To be eligible for residency in the home, a veteran must:

~~(b) Have been a resident of the state for 1 year immediately preceding application and~~ Be a resident of the state at the time of application.

Section 23. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 296.36, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

296.36 Eligibility and priority of admittance.—

(1) To be eligible for admittance to the home, the person must be a veteran as provided in s. 1.01(14) or have eligible peacetime service as defined in s. 296.02 and must:

~~(b) Be Have been a resident of the state for 1 year immediately preceding, and~~ at the time of application for, admission to the home.

Section 24. Section 322.031, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

322.031 Nonresident; when license required.—

(1) In each every case in which a nonresident, except a nonresident migrant or seasonal farm worker as defined in s. 316.003(61), accepts employment or engages in ~~a any~~ trade, profession, or occupation in this state or enters his or her children to be educated in the public schools of this state, such nonresident shall, within 30 days after beginning the commencement of such employment or education, be required to obtain a Florida driver driver's

license if such nonresident operates a motor vehicle on the highways of this state. The spouse or dependent child of such nonresident shall also be required to obtain a Florida driver ~~driver's~~ license within that 30-day period before ~~prior to~~ operating a motor vehicle on the highways of this state.

(2) A member of the United States Armed Forces on active duty in this state, his or her spouse, or a dependent residing with him or her, ~~is shall not be required to obtain or display a Florida driver driver's license if he or she is in possession of a valid military identification card and either a valid driver license or learner's permit issued by another state, or a valid military driving permit. Such a person is not required to obtain or display a Florida driver license under this section solely because he or she enters his or her children to be educated in the public schools of this state or because he or she accepts employment or engages in a trade, profession, or occupation in this state if he or she has a valid military driving permit or a valid driver's license issued by another state.~~

(3) A nonresident who is domiciled in another state and who commutes into this state in order to work ~~is shall not be required to obtain a Florida driver driver's license under this section solely because he or she has accepted employment or engages in a~~ any trade, profession, or occupation in this state if he or she has a valid driver ~~driver's~~ license issued by another state. Further, a ~~any~~ person who is enrolled as a student in a college or university and who is a nonresident but is in this state for a period of up to 6 months engaged in a work-study program for which academic credits are earned from a college whose credits or degrees are accepted for credit by at least three accredited institutions of higher learning, as defined in s. 1005.02, ~~is shall not be required to obtain a Florida driver driver's license for the duration of the work-study program if such person has a valid driver driver's license issued by another state. A~~ Any nonresident who is enrolled as a full-time student in any such institution of higher learning is also exempt from the requirement of obtaining a Florida driver ~~driver's~~ license for the duration of such enrollment.

(4) A nonresident who is at least 21 years of age and who has in his or her immediate possession a valid commercial driver ~~driver's~~ license issued in substantial compliance with the Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1986 may operate a motor vehicle of the type permitted by his or her license to be operated in this state.

Section 25. Subsection (5) of section 322.121, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

322.121 Periodic reexamination of all drivers.—

(5) A member ~~Members~~ of the United States Armed Forces, his or her spouse, or a dependent ~~their dependents~~ residing with him or her ~~them~~, shall be granted an automatic extension for the expiration of his or her ~~their~~ Class E license ~~licenses~~ without reexamination while the member of the United States Armed Forces is ~~is~~ serving on active duty outside this state. This

extension is valid for 90 days after the member of the United States Armed Forces is either discharged or returns to this state to live.

Section 26. Subsection (12) of section 455.213, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

455.213 General licensing provisions.—

(12) The department shall waive the initial licensing fee, the initial application fee, and the initial unlicensed activity fee for a military veteran or his or her spouse at the time of discharge, if he or she who applies to the department for a license, in a format prescribed by the department, within 60 24 months after the veteran is discharged ~~discharge~~ from any branch of the United States Armed Forces. To qualify for this waiver, the veteran must have been honorably discharged.

Section 27. Subsection (13) of section 456.013, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

456.013 Department; general licensing provisions.—

(13) The department shall waive the initial licensing fee, the initial application fee, and the initial unlicensed activity fee for a military veteran or his or her spouse at the time of discharge, if he or she who applies to the department for an initial license within 60 24 months after the veteran is ~~being~~ honorably discharged from any branch of the United States Armed Forces. The applicant must apply for the fee waiver using a form prescribed by the department and must submit supporting documentation as required by the department.

Section 28. Subsection (3) of section 456.024, Florida Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (4), and a new subsection (3) is added to that section, to read:

456.024 Members of Armed Forces in good standing with administrative boards or the department; spouses; licensure.—

(3) A person who serves or has served as a health care practitioner in the United States Armed Forces, United States Reserve Forces, or the National Guard or a person who serves or has served on active duty with the United States Armed Forces as a health care practitioner in the United States Public Health Service is eligible for licensure in this state. The department shall develop an application form and each board, or the department if there is no board, shall waive the application fee, licensure fee, and unlicensed activity fee for such applicants. For purposes of this subsection, “health care practitioner” means a health care practitioner as defined in s. 456.001 and a person licensed under part III of chapter 401 or part IV of chapter 468.

(a) The board, or department if there is no board, shall issue a license to practice in this state to a person who:

1. Submits a complete application.
2. Receives an honorable discharge within 6 months before, or will receive an honorable discharge within 6 months after, the date of submission of the application.
3. Holds an active, unencumbered license issued by another state, the District of Columbia, or a possession or territory of the United States and who has not had disciplinary action taken against him or her in the 5 years preceding the date of submission of the application.
4. Attests that he or she is not, at the time of submission, the subject of a disciplinary proceeding in a jurisdiction in which he or she holds a license or by the United States Department of Defense for reasons related to the practice of the profession for which he or she is applying.
5. Actively practiced the profession for which he or she is applying for the 3 years preceding the date of submission of the application.
6. Submits a set of fingerprints for a background screening pursuant to s. 456.0135, if required for the profession for which he or she is applying.

The department shall verify information submitted by the applicant under this subsection using the National Practitioner Data Bank.

(b) Each applicant who meets the requirements of this subsection shall be licensed with all rights and responsibilities as defined by law. The applicable board, or department if there is no board, may deny an application if the applicant has been convicted of or pled guilty or nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, any felony or misdemeanor related to the practice of a health care profession regulated by this state.

(c) An applicant for initial licensure under this subsection must submit the information required by s. 456.039(1) and 456.0391(1) no later than 1 year after the license is issued.

Section 29. Subsections (3) through (5) of section 458.315, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (2) through (4), respectively, and subsections (1) and (2) of that section are amended, to read:

458.315 Temporary certificate for practice in areas of critical need.—

~~(1) A certificate issued pursuant to this section may be cited as the “Rear Admiral LeRoy Collins, Jr., Temporary Certificate for Practice in Areas of Critical Need.”~~

~~(1)(2)~~ A Any physician who:

~~(a)~~ (a) is licensed to practice in any jurisdiction ~~of~~ in the United States and whose license is currently valid;~~or~~

~~(b) Has served as a physician in the United States Armed Forces for at least 10 years and received an honorable discharge from the military;~~

and who pays an application fee of \$300 may be issued a temporary certificate for practice in areas of critical need.

Section 30. Section 458.3151, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

458.3151 Temporary certificate for active duty military and veterans practicing in areas of critical need.—

(1) A certificate issued pursuant to this section may be cited as the “Rear Admiral LeRoy Collins, Jr., Temporary Certificate for Practice in Areas of Critical Need.”

(2) The board may issue a temporary certificate to a physician who complies with subsection (3) and who will:

(a) Practice in an area of critical need;

(b) Be employed by or practice in a county health department; correctional facility; Department of Veterans’ Affairs clinic; community health center funded by s. 329, s. 330, or s. 340 of the United States Public Health Services Act; or other agency or institution that is approved by the State Surgeon General and provides health care to meet the needs of underserved populations in this state; or

(c) Practice for a limited time to address critical physician-specialty, demographic, or geographic needs for this state’s physician workforce as determined by the State Surgeon General.

(3) To be eligible for a temporary certificate, a physician must submit to the board:

(a) A complete application.

(b) Proof of an active and valid license to practice in a jurisdiction of the United States.

(c) If on active duty, a letter from the physician’s military command authorizing the physician to practice medicine at an approved entity in an area of critical need.

(d) Documentation demonstrating the physician is serving on active duty in the United States Armed Forces as a commissioned medical officer or has served as a commissioned medical officer in the United States Armed Forces for at least 10 years and received an honorable discharge from the military.

(4) The board shall use a simplified application for a temporary certificate for practice in areas of critical need to reduce administrative impediments and maximize participation.

(5) The application fee and all licensure fees, including neurological injury compensation assessments, shall be waived for a physician obtaining a temporary certificate to practice in areas of critical need for the purpose of providing volunteer, uncompensated care for low-income residents. The applicant must submit an affidavit from the employing agency or institution stating that the physician will not receive any compensation for any service involving the practice of medicine.

(6)(a) Within 60 days after receipt of a complete application for a temporary certificate, the board shall review the application and associated documentation and:

1. Issue the temporary certificate;
2. Deny the temporary certificate; or
3. Require the applicant to complete additional assessment, training, education, or other requirements as a condition of certification. The board shall issue a temporary certificate upon receipt of documentation demonstrating that the requirements of the board have been met.

(b) If an applicant has not actively practiced medicine during the prior 3 years and the board determines the applicant may lack clinical competency, possess diminished or inadequate skills, lack necessary medical knowledge, or exhibit patterns of deficits in clinical decisionmaking, the board may, within 60 days after receipt of a complete application:

1. Deny the application;
2. Issue a temporary certificate having reasonable restrictions, including, but not limited to, a requirement that the applicant practice under the supervision of a physician approved by the board; or
3. Issue a temporary certificate upon receipt of documentation confirming that the applicant has met any reasonable conditions of the board, including, but not limited to, completing continuing education or undergoing an assessment of skills and training.

(c) The board may not issue a temporary certificate for practice in areas of critical need to a physician who is under investigation in any jurisdiction of the United States for an act that would constitute a violation of this chapter until such time as the investigation is complete, at which time the provisions of s. 458.331 apply.

(7) The recipient of a temporary certificate for practice in areas of critical need shall, within 30 days after accepting employment, notify the board of all approved institutions in which the licensee practices and of all approved institutions where practice privileges have been denied. A physician holding a temporary certificate for practice in areas of critical need may enter into a contract to provide volunteer health care services pursuant to s. 766.1115.

(8) A temporary certificate issued under this section is valid only so long as the State Surgeon General determines that the reason for which it was issued remains a critical need to the state. The board shall review each temporary certificateholder at least annually to ascertain compliance with the minimum requirements of this chapter, including this section, and rules adopted thereunder. If it is determined that such minimum requirements are not being met, the board shall revoke such certificate or shall impose restrictions or conditions, or both, as a condition of continued practice under the certificate.

Section 31. Subsections (3) through (5) of section 459.0076, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (2) through (4), respectively, and subsections (1) and (2) of that section are amended, to read:

459.0076 Temporary certificate for practice in areas of critical need.—

~~(1) A certificate issued pursuant to this section may be cited as the “Rear Admiral LeRoy Collins, Jr., Temporary Certificate for Practice in Areas of Critical Need.”~~

(1)(2) A Any physician who:

(a) is licensed to practice in any jurisdiction of in the United States and whose license is currently valid; or

(b) Has served as a physician in the United States Armed Forces for at least 10 years and received an honorable discharge from the military;

and who pays an application fee of \$300 may be issued a temporary certificate for practice in areas of critical need.

Section 32. Section 459.00761, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

459.00761 Temporary certificate for active duty military and veterans practicing in areas of critical need.—

(1) A certificate issued pursuant to this section may be cited as the “Rear Admiral LeRoy Collins, Jr., Temporary Certificate for Practice in Areas of Critical Need.”

(2) The board may issue a temporary certificate to a physician who complies with subsection (3) and who will:

(a) Practice in an area of critical need;

(b) Be employed by or practice in a county health department; correctional facility; Department of Veterans’ Affairs clinic; community health center funded by s. 329, s. 330, or s. 340 of the United States Public Health Services Act; or other agency or institution that is approved by the State Surgeon General and provides health care to meet the needs of underserved populations in this state; or

(c) Practice for a limited time to address critical physician-specialty, demographic, or geographic needs for this state's physician workforce as determined by the State Surgeon General.

(3) To be eligible for a temporary certificate, a physician must submit to the board:

(a) A complete application.

(b) Proof of an active and valid license to practice in any jurisdiction of the United States.

(c) If on active duty, a letter from the physician's military command authorizing the physician to practice medicine at an approved entity in an area of critical need.

(d) Documentation demonstrating the physician is serving on active duty in the United States Armed Forces as a commissioned medical officer or has served as a commissioned medical officer in the United States Armed Forces for at least 10 years and received an honorable discharge from the military.

(4) The board shall use a simplified application for a temporary certificate for practice in areas of critical need to reduce administrative impediments and maximize participation.

(5) The application fee and all licensure fees, including neurological injury compensation assessments, shall be waived for a physician obtaining a temporary certificate to practice in areas of critical need for the purpose of providing volunteer, uncompensated care for low-income residents. The applicant must submit an affidavit from the employing agency or institution stating that the physician will not receive any compensation for any service involving the practice of medicine.

(6)(a) Within 60 days after receipt of a complete application for a temporary certificate, the board shall review the application and associated documentation and:

1. Issue the temporary certificate;

2. Deny the temporary certificate; or

3. Require the applicant to complete additional assessment, training, education, or other requirements as a condition of certification. The board shall issue a temporary certificate upon receipt of documentation demonstrating that the requirements of the board have been met.

(b) If an applicant has not actively practiced medicine during the prior 3 years and the board determines the applicant may lack clinical competency, possess diminished or inadequate skills, lack necessary medical knowledge, or exhibit patterns of deficits in clinical decisionmaking, the board may, within 60 days after receipt of a complete application:

1. Deny the application;

2. Issue a temporary certificate having reasonable restrictions, including, but not limited to, a requirement that the applicant practice under the supervision of a physician approved by the board; or

3. Issue a temporary certificate upon receipt of documentation confirming that the applicant has met any reasonable conditions of the board, including, but not limited to, completing continuing education or undergoing an assessment of skills and training.

(c) The board may not issue a temporary certificate for practice in areas of critical need to a physician who is under investigation in any jurisdiction of the United States for an act that would constitute a violation of this chapter until such time as the investigation is complete, at which time the provisions of s. 459.015 apply.

(7) The recipient of a temporary certificate for practice in areas of critical need shall, within 30 days after accepting employment, notify the board of all approved institutions in which the licensee practices and of all approved institutions where practice privileges have been denied. A physician holding a temporary certificate for practice in areas of critical need may enter into a contract to provide volunteer health care services pursuant to s. 766.1115.

(8) A temporary certificate issued under this section is valid as long as the State Surgeon General determines that the reason for which it was issued remains a critical need to the state. The board shall review each temporary certificateholder at least annually to ascertain compliance with the minimum requirements of this chapter, including this section, and rules adopted thereunder. If it is determined that such minimum requirements are not being met, the board shall revoke such certificate or shall impose restrictions or conditions, or both, as a condition of continued practice under the certificate.

Section 33. Subsection (1) of section 468.304, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

468.304 Certification.—The department shall certify any applicant who meets the following criteria:

(1) Pays to the department a nonrefundable fee that may not exceed \$100, plus the actual per-applicant cost to the department for purchasing the examination from a national organization. The department shall waive the initial application fee for a military veteran or his or her spouse at the time of discharge, if he or she who applies to the department for an initial certification within ~~60~~ 24 months after the veteran is being honorably discharged from any branch of the United States Armed Forces. The applicant must apply for the fee waiver using a form prescribed by the department and must submit supporting documentation as required by the

department. This waiver does not include the fee for purchasing the examination from a national organization.

The department may not certify any applicant who has committed an offense that would constitute a violation of any of the provisions of s. 468.3101 or applicable rules if the applicant had been certified by the department at the time of the offense. An application for a limited computed tomography certificate may not be accepted. A person holding a valid computed tomography certificate as of October 1, 1984, is subject to s. 468.309.

Section 34. Paragraph (b) of subsection (16) of section 499.012, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

499.012 Permit application requirements.—

(16)

(b) To be certified as a designated representative, a natural person must:

1. Submit an application on a form furnished by the department and pay the appropriate fees;

2. Be at least 18 years of age;

3. Have at least ~~not less than~~ 2 years of verifiable full-time:

a. Work experience in a pharmacy licensed in this state or another state, where the person's responsibilities included, but were not limited to, recordkeeping for prescription drugs; ~~or have not less than 2 years of verifiable full-time~~

b. Managerial experience with a prescription drug wholesale distributor licensed in this state or in another state; or

c. Managerial experience with the United States Armed Forces, where the person's responsibilities included, but were not limited to, recordkeeping, warehousing, distributing, or other logistics services pertaining to prescription drugs;

4. Receive a passing score of at least 75 percent on an examination given by the department regarding federal laws governing distribution of prescription drugs and this part and the rules adopted by the department governing the wholesale distribution of prescription drugs. This requirement shall be effective 1 year after the results of the initial examination are mailed to the persons that took the examination. The department shall offer such examinations at least four times each calendar year; ~~and~~

5. Provide the department with a personal information statement and fingerprints pursuant to subsection (9).

Section 35. Subsection (27) of section 1002.33, Florida Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (28), and a new subsection (27) is added to that section, to read:

1002.33 Charter schools.—

(27) MILITARY INSTALLATIONS.—

(a) The Legislature finds that military families face unique challenges due to the highly mobile nature of military service. Among the many challenges that military families face is providing a high-quality education for their children without disruption. The state has a compelling interest in assisting the development and enhancement of learning opportunities for military children and addressing their unique needs.

(b) It is the intent of the Legislature that a framework be established to address the needs of military children who, along with their families, face unique challenges due to the highly mobile nature of military service. In establishing this framework, military installation commanders are encouraged to collaboratively work with the Commissioner of Education to increase military family student achievement, which may include the establishment of charter schools on military installations. Although the State Board of Education, through the Commissioner of Education, shall supervise this collaboration, the applicable school district shall operate and maintain control over any school that is established on the military installation.

Section 36. Subsection (12) is added to section 1009.26, Florida Statutes, to read:

1009.26 Fee waivers.—

(12)(a) There is established the Congressman C. W. Bill Young Veteran Tuition Waiver Program. A state university, Florida College System institution, career center operated by a school district under s. 1001.44, or charter technical career center shall waive out-of-state fees for an honorably discharged veteran of the United States Armed Forces, the United States Reserve Forces, or the National Guard who physically resides in this state while enrolled in the institution. Tuition and fees charged to a veteran who qualifies for the out-of-state fee waiver under this subsection may not exceed the tuition and fees charged to a resident student. The waiver is applicable for 110 percent of the required credit hours of the degree or certificate program for which the student is enrolled. Each state university, Florida College System institution, career center operated by a school district under s. 1001.44, and charter technical career center shall report to the Board of Governors and the State Board of Education, respectively, the number and value of all fee waivers granted annually under this subsection.

(b) This subsection may be cited as the “Congressman C.W. Bill Young Tuition Waiver Act.”

Section 37. For the 2014-2015 fiscal year, the sum of \$12.5 million in nonrecurring funds is appropriated from the General Revenue Fund to the Department of Military Affairs for the purpose of continuing renovations to state readiness centers to meet state and federal building codes.

Section 38. For the 2014-2015 fiscal year, the sum of \$7,489,975 in nonrecurring funds is appropriated from the General Revenue Fund to the Department of Environmental Protection to allow the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund to acquire, pursuant to s. 288.980, Florida Statutes, nonconservation land adjacent to the following installations for the purpose of securing and protecting the installations against encroachment:

- (1) MacDill Air Force Base.
- (2) Naval Support Activity Panama City.
- (3) Naval Station Mayport.

Section 39. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon this act becoming a law, this act shall take effect July 1, 2014.

Approved by the Governor March 31, 2014.

Filed in Office Secretary of State March 31, 2014.