

CHAPTER 2015-98

Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 7019

An act relating to workforce services; renaming Workforce Florida, Inc., as CareerSource Florida, Inc.; amending ss. 11.45, 20.60, 216.136, 218.077, 288.047, 288.0656, 288.1252, 288.901, 288.903, 295.22, 320.20, 331.3051, 331.369, 403.973, 409.1451, 413.405, 413.407, 414.045, 414.105, 414.106, 414.295, 414.55, 420.622, 443.091, 443.171, 443.181, 445.003, 445.004, 445.006, 445.007, 445.0071, 445.008, 445.009, 445.011, 445.014, 445.016, 445.021, 445.022, 445.024, 445.026, 445.028, 445.030, 445.033, 445.035, 445.038, 445.045, 445.048, 445.051, 445.055, 446.41, 446.50, 1003.491, 1003.492, 1003.493, 1003.51, 1003.52, 1004.015, 1011.80, and 1011.801, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; making technical changes; creating a task force on preparation for the state's implementation of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act; providing membership and duties of the task force; requiring the task force to submit a report and recommendations for approval by CareerSource Florida, Inc.; requiring CareerSource Florida, Inc., to submit a specified state plan to the United States Department of Labor; providing for abolishment of the task force; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (q) of subsection (3) of section 11.45, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

11.45 Definitions; duties; authorities; reports; rules.—

(3) **AUTHORITY FOR AUDITS AND OTHER ENGAGEMENTS.**—The Auditor General may, pursuant to his or her own authority, or at the direction of the Legislative Auditing Committee, conduct audits or other engagements as determined appropriate by the Auditor General of:

(q) CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, or the programs or entities created by CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, created pursuant to s. 445.004.

Section 2. Paragraphs (a) and (c) of subsection (5) and subsections (6) and (11) of section 20.60, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

20.60 Department of Economic Opportunity; creation; powers and duties.

(5) The divisions within the department have specific responsibilities to achieve the duties, responsibilities, and goals of the department. Specifically:

(a) The Division of Strategic Business Development shall:

1. Analyze and evaluate business prospects identified by the Governor, the executive director of the department, and Enterprise Florida, Inc.

2. Administer certain tax refund, tax credit, and grant programs created in law. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the department may expend interest earned from the investment of program funds deposited in the Grants and Donations Trust Fund to contract for the administration of those programs, or portions of the programs, assigned to the department by law, by the appropriations process, or by the Governor. Such expenditures shall be subject to review under chapter 216.

3. Develop measurement protocols for the state incentive programs and for the contracted entities which will be used to determine their performance and competitive value to the state. Performance measures, benchmarks, and sanctions must be developed in consultation with the legislative appropriations committees and the appropriate substantive committees, and are subject to the review and approval process provided in s. 216.177. The approved performance measures, standards, and sanctions shall be included and made a part of the strategic plan for contracts entered into for delivery of programs authorized by this section.

4. Develop a 5-year statewide strategic plan. The strategic plan must include, but need not be limited to:

a. Strategies for the promotion of business formation, expansion, recruitment, and retention through aggressive marketing, international development, and export assistance, which lead to more and better jobs and higher wages for all geographic regions, disadvantaged communities, and populations of the state, including rural areas, minority businesses, and urban core areas.

b. The development of realistic policies and programs to further the economic diversity of the state, its regions, and their associated industrial clusters.

c. Specific provisions for the stimulation of economic development and job creation in rural areas and midsize cities and counties of the state, including strategies for rural marketing and the development of infrastructure in rural areas.

d. Provisions for the promotion of the successful long-term economic development of the state with increased emphasis in market research and information.

e. Plans for the generation of foreign investment in the state which create jobs paying above-average wages and which result in reverse investment in the state, including programs that establish viable overseas markets, assist in meeting the financing requirements of export-ready firms, broaden opportunities for international joint venture relationships, use the resources of academic and other institutions, coordinate trade assistance and facilitation services, and facilitate availability of and access to education and training programs that assure requisite skills and competencies necessary to compete successfully in the global marketplace.

f. The identification of business sectors that are of current or future importance to the state’s economy and to the state’s global business image, and development of specific strategies to promote the development of such sectors.

g. Strategies for talent development necessary in the state to encourage economic development growth, taking into account factors such as the state’s talent supply chain, education and training opportunities, and available workforce.

5. Update the strategic plan every 5 years.

6. Involve Enterprise Florida, Inc.; CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~; local governments; the general public; local and regional economic development organizations; other local, state, and federal economic, international, and workforce development entities; the business community; and educational institutions to assist with the strategic plan.

(c) The Division of Workforce Services shall:

1. Prepare and submit a unified budget request for workforce development in accordance with chapter 216 for, and in conjunction with, CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, and its board.

2. Ensure that the state appropriately administers federal and state workforce funding by administering plans and policies of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, under contract with CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~. The operating budget and midyear amendments thereto must be part of such contract.

a. All program and fiscal instructions to regional workforce boards shall emanate from the Department of Economic Opportunity pursuant to plans and policies of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, which shall be responsible for all policy directions to the regional workforce boards.

b. Unless otherwise provided by agreement with CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, administrative and personnel policies of the Department of Economic Opportunity shall apply.

3. Implement the state’s reemployment assistance program. The Department of Economic Opportunity shall ensure that the state appropriately administers the reemployment assistance program pursuant to state and federal law.

4. Assist in developing the 5-year statewide strategic plan required by this section.

(6)(a) The Department of Economic Opportunity is the administrative agency designated for receipt of federal workforce development grants and other federal funds. The department shall administer the duties and responsibilities assigned by the Governor under each federal grant assigned

to the department. The department shall expend each revenue source as provided by federal and state law and as provided in plans developed by and agreements with CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~ The department may serve as the contract administrator for contracts entered into by CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, pursuant to s. 445.004(5), as directed by CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~

(b) The Department of Economic Opportunity shall serve as the designated agency for purposes of each federal workforce development grant assigned to it for administration. The department shall carry out the duties assigned to it by the Governor, under the terms and conditions of each grant. The department shall have the level of authority and autonomy necessary to be the designated recipient of each federal grant assigned to it, and shall disburse such grants pursuant to the plans and policies of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~ The executive director may, upon delegation from the Governor and pursuant to agreement with CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, sign contracts, grants, and other instruments as necessary to execute functions assigned to the department. Notwithstanding other provisions of law, the department shall administer other programs funded by federal or state appropriations, as determined by the Legislature in the General Appropriations Act or other by law.

(11) The department shall establish annual performance standards for Enterprise Florida, Inc., CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, the Florida Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation, and Space Florida and report annually on how these performance measures are being met in the annual report required under subsection (10).

Section 3. Paragraph (b) of subsection (7) of section 216.136, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

216.136 Consensus estimating conferences; duties and principals.—

(7) WORKFORCE ESTIMATING CONFERENCE.—

(b) The Workforce Estimating Conference shall review data concerning ~~the~~ local and regional demands for short-term and long-term employment in High-Skills/High-Wage Program jobs, as well as other jobs, which data is generated through surveys conducted as part of the state's Internet-based job matching and labor market information system authorized under s. 445.011. The conference shall consider this ~~such~~ data in developing its forecasts for statewide employment demand, including reviewing the local and regional data for common trends and conditions among localities or regions which may warrant inclusion of a particular occupation on the statewide occupational forecasting list developed by the conference. Based upon its review of such survey data, the conference shall also make recommendations semi-annually to CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, on additions or deletions to lists of locally targeted occupations approved by CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~

Section 4. Subsections (5) and (6) of section 218.077, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

218.077 Wage and employment benefits requirements by political subdivisions; restrictions.—

~~(5)(a) There is created the Employer-Sponsored Benefits Study Task Force. Workforce Florida, Inc., shall provide administrative and staff support services relating to the functions of the task force. The task force shall organize by September 1, 2013. The task force shall be composed of 11 members. The President of Workforce Florida, Inc., shall serve as a member and chair of the task force. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint one member who is an economist with a background in business economics. The President of the Senate shall appoint one member who is a physician licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459 with at least 5 years of experience in the active practice of medicine. In addition, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall each appoint four additional members to the task force. The four appointments from the President of the Senate and the four appointments from the Speaker of the House of Representatives must each include:~~

- ~~1. A member of the Legislature.~~
- ~~2. An owner of a business in this state which employs fewer than 50 people.~~
- ~~3. An owner or representative of a business in this state which employs more than 50 people.~~
- ~~4. A representative of an organization who represents the nonmanagement employees of a business.~~

~~(b) Members of the task force shall serve without compensation, but are entitled to reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses in accordance with s. 112.061.~~

~~(c) The purpose of the task force is to analyze employment benefits and the impact of state preemption of the regulation of such benefits. The task force shall develop a report that includes its findings and recommendations for legislative action regarding the regulation of employment benefits. The task force shall submit the report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by January 15, 2014.~~

~~(d) This subsection is repealed June 30, 2014.~~

~~(5)(6) This section does not prohibit a federally authorized and recognized tribal government from requiring employment benefits for a person employed within a territory over which the tribe has jurisdiction.~~

Section 5. Section 288.047, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

288.047 Quick-response training for economic development.—

(1) The Quick-Response Training Program is created to meet the workforce-skill needs of existing, new, and expanding industries. The program shall be administered by CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., in conjunction with Enterprise Florida, Inc., and the Department of Education. CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., shall adopt guidelines for the administration of this program. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, shall provide technical services, and shall identify businesses that seek services through the program. CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., may contract with Enterprise Florida, Inc., or administer this program directly, if it is determined that such an arrangement maximizes the amount of the Quick Response grant going to direct services.

(2) ~~CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, shall ensure that instruction funded pursuant to this section is not available through the local community college or school district and that the instruction promotes economic development by providing specialized training to new workers or retraining for current employees to meet changing skill requirements caused by new technology or new product lines and to prevent potential layoffs. Such funds may not be expended to provide training for instruction related to retail businesses or to reimburse businesses for trainee wages. Funds made available pursuant to this section may not be expended in connection with the relocation of a business from one community to another ~~community in this state unless~~ CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., determines that, ~~in the absence of~~ ~~without~~ such relocation, the business will move outside this state or ~~determines that the business has a compelling economic rationale for the relocation which creates additional jobs.~~

(3) Requests for funding ~~may be submitted to through~~ the Quick-Response Training Program ~~by may be produced through inquiries from a specific business or industry, through inquiries from a school district director of career education or community college occupational dean on behalf of a business or industry, or through official state or local economic development efforts.~~ In allocating funds for the purposes of the program, CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., shall establish criteria for approval of requests for funding and shall select the entity that provides the most efficient, cost-effective instruction meeting such criteria. Program funds may be allocated to ~~a any~~ career center, community college, or state university. Program funds may be allocated to private postsecondary institutions only ~~after upon~~ a review that includes, but is not limited to, accreditation and licensure documentation and prior approval by CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc. 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 24 months. Costs and expenditures for the Quick-Response Training Program must be documented and separated from those incurred by the training provider.

(4) For the first 6 months of each fiscal year, CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., shall set aside 30 percent of the amount

appropriated by the Legislature for the Quick-Response Training Program ~~by the Legislature~~ to fund instructional programs for businesses located in an enterprise zone or brownfield area. Any unencumbered funds remaining undisbursed from this set-aside at the end of the 6-month period may be used to provide funding for a any program that qualifies ~~qualifying~~ for funding pursuant to this section.

(5) Prior to the allocation of funds for a any request made pursuant to this section, CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., shall prepare a grant agreement between the business or industry requesting funds, the educational institution receiving funding through the program, and CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc. Such agreement must include, but is not limited to:

(a) An 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) An identification of the estimated length of the instructional program.

(c) An identification of all direct, training-related costs, including tuition and fees, curriculum development, books and classroom materials, and overhead or indirect costs, not to exceed 5 percent of the grant amount.

(d) An identification of special program requirements that are not addressed otherwise in the agreement.

(e) Permission to access information specific to the wages and performance of participants upon the completion of instruction for evaluation purposes. Information which, if released, would disclose the identity of the person to whom the information pertains or disclose the identity of the person's employer is confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1). The agreement must specify that any evaluations published subsequent to the instruction may not identify the employer or any individual participant.

(6) For the purposes of this section, CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., may accept grants of money, materials, services, or property of any kind from any agency, corporation, or individual.

(7) In providing instruction pursuant to this section, materials that relate to methods of manufacture or production, potential trade secrets, business transactions, or proprietary information received, produced, ascertained, or discovered by employees of the respective departments, district school boards, community college district boards of trustees, or other personnel employed for the purposes of this section is confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1). The state may seek copyright protection for all instructional materials and ancillary written documents developed wholly or partially with state funds as a result of instruction provided pursuant to this

section, except for materials that are confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1).

(8) ~~The There is created~~ a Quick-Response Training Program is created to provide assistance to participants in the welfare transition program. CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., may award quick-response training grants and develop applicable guidelines for the training of participants in the welfare transition program. In addition to a local economic development organization, grants must be endorsed by the applicable regional workforce board.

(a) Training funded pursuant to this subsection may not exceed 12 months, and may be provided by the local community college, school district, regional workforce board, or the business employing the participant, including on-the-job training. Training will provide entry-level skills to new workers, including those employed in retail, who are participants in the welfare transition program.

(b) Participants trained pursuant to this subsection must be employed at a job paying at least wage not less than \$6 per hour.

(c) Funds made available pursuant to this subsection may be expended in connection with the relocation of a business from one community to another community if approved by CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc.

(9) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, eligible matching contributions received under this section from the Quick-Response Training Program ~~under this section~~ may be counted toward the private sector support of Enterprise Florida, Inc., under s. 288.904.

(10) CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., and Enterprise Florida, Inc., shall coordinate and cooperate ensure maximum coordination and cooperation in administering this section ~~so, in such a manner~~ that any division of responsibility between the two organizations which relates to marketing or administering the Quick-Response Training Program is not apparent to a business that inquires about or applies for funding under this section. A business shall be provided with a single point of contact for information and assistance.

Section 6. Paragraph (a) of subsection (6) of section 288.0656, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

288.0656 Rural Economic Development Initiative.—

(6)(a) By August 1 of each year, the head of each of the following agencies and organizations shall designate a deputy secretary or higher-level staff person from within the agency or organization to serve as the REDI representative for the agency or organization:

1. The Department of Transportation.

2. The Department of Environmental Protection.
3. The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.
4. The Department of State.
5. The Department of Health.
6. The Department of Children and Families.
7. The Department of Corrections.
8. The Department of Education.
9. The Department of Juvenile Justice.
10. The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.
11. Each water management district.
12. Enterprise Florida, Inc.
13. CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~
14. VISIT Florida.
15. The Florida Regional Planning Council Association.
16. The Agency for Health Care Administration.
17. The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS).

An alternate for each designee shall also be chosen, and the names of the designees and alternates shall be sent to the executive director of the department.

Section 7. Paragraph (e) of subsection (3) of section 288.1252, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

288.1252 Florida Film and Entertainment Advisory Council; creation; purpose; membership; powers and duties.—

(3) MEMBERSHIP.—

(e) In addition to the 17 appointed members of the council, one A representative from each of Enterprise Florida, Inc., CareerSource Florida, Inc. a representative of Workforce Florida, Inc., and a representative of VISIT Florida shall serve as ex officio, nonvoting members of the council, and shall be in addition to the 17 appointed members of the council.

Section 8. Paragraph (a) of subsection (5) of section 288.901, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

288.901 Enterprise Florida, Inc.—

(5) APPOINTED MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.—

(a) In addition to the Governor or his or her ~~the Governor's~~ designee, the board of directors shall consist of the following appointed members:

1. The Commissioner of Education or his or her ~~the commissioner's~~ designee.

2. The Chief Financial Officer or his or her designee.

3. The Attorney General or his or her designee.

4. The Commissioner of Agriculture or his or her designee.

5. The chairperson of the board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~

6. The Secretary of State or his or her ~~the secretary's~~ designee.

7. Twelve members from the private sector, six of whom shall be appointed by the Governor, three of whom shall be appointed by the President of the Senate, and three of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Members appointed by the Governor are subject to Senate confirmation.

Section 9. Subsection (6) of section 288.903, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

288.903 Duties of Enterprise Florida, Inc.—Enterprise Florida, Inc., shall have the following duties:

(6) In coordination with CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, identify education and training programs that will ensure that Florida businesses have access to a skilled and competent workforce necessary to compete successfully in the domestic and global marketplace.

Section 10. Paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of section 295.22, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

295.22 Veterans Employment and Training Services Program.—

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

(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, documentation of accreditation and licensure documentation. Instruction funded through the program ~~terminates~~ must terminate when participants demonstrate competence at the level specified in the request ~~but, 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 CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., as the grant administrator.

Section 11. Subsection (4) of section 320.20, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.20 Disposition of license tax moneys.—The revenue derived from the registration of motor vehicles, including any delinquent fees and excluding those revenues collected and distributed under the provisions of s. 320.081, must be distributed monthly, as collected, as follows:

(4) Notwithstanding any other provision of law except subsections (1), (2), and (3), \$10 million shall be deposited annually into the State Transportation Trust Fund solely for the purposes of funding the Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Program as provided in chapter 311 and for funding seaport intermodal access projects of statewide significance as provided in s. 341.053. Such revenues shall be distributed to any port listed in s. 311.09(1), to be used for funding projects as follows:

(a) For any seaport intermodal access projects that are identified in the 1997-1998 Tentative Work Program of the Department of Transportation, up to the amounts needed to offset the funding requirements of this section.

(b) For seaport intermodal access projects as described in s. 341.053(6) which are identified in the 5-year Florida Seaport Mission Plan as provided in s. 311.09(3). Funding for such projects shall be on a matching basis as mutually determined by the Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Council and the Department of Transportation if a minimum of 25 percent of total project funds come from any port funds, local funds, private funds, or specifically earmarked federal funds.

(c) On a 50-50 matching basis for projects as described in s. 311.07(3)(b).

(d) For seaport intermodal access projects that involve the dredging or deepening of channels, turning basins, or harbors; or the rehabilitation of wharves, docks, or similar structures. Funding for such projects requires a 25 percent match of the funds received pursuant to this subsection. Matching funds must come from ~~any~~ port funds, federal funds, local funds, or private funds.

Such revenues may be assigned, pledged, or set aside as a trust for the payment of principal or interest on bonds, tax anticipation certificates, or other form of indebtedness issued by an individual port or appropriate local government having jurisdiction thereof, or collectively by interlocal agreement among any of the ports, or used to purchase credit support to permit such borrowings. However, such debt is not a general obligation of the state. This state covenants with holders of such revenue bonds or other instruments of indebtedness issued hereunder that it will not repeal, ~~or~~ impair, or amend this subsection in a ~~any~~ manner that will materially and adversely affect the rights of holders while ~~so long as~~ bonds authorized by this subsection remain ~~are~~ outstanding. ~~Any~~ Revenues that are not pledged to the repayment of bonds as authorized by this section may be used for purposes authorized under the Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Program. This revenue source is in addition to any amounts provided for and appropriated in accordance with s. 311.07 and subsection (3). The Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Council shall approve distribution of funds to ports for projects that have been approved pursuant to s. 311.09(5)-(8), or for seaport intermodal access projects identified in the 5-year Florida Seaport Mission Plan as provided in s. 311.09(3) and mutually agreed upon by the Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Council and the Department of Transportation. All contracts for actual construction of projects authorized by this subsection must include a provision encouraging employment of participants in the welfare transition program. The goal for such employment is 25 percent of all new employees employed specifically for the project, unless the Department of Transportation and the Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Council demonstrate that such a requirement would severely hamper the successful completion of the project. In such an instance, CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, shall establish an appropriate percentage of employees who are participants in the welfare transition program. The council and the Department of Transportation may perform such acts as are required to facilitate and implement the provisions of this subsection. To better enable the ports to cooperate to their mutual advantage, the governing body of each port may exercise powers provided to municipalities or counties in s. 163.01(7)(d) subject to the provisions of chapter 311 and special acts, if any, pertaining to a port. The use of funds provided pursuant to this subsection is limited to eligible projects listed in this subsection. The revenues available under this subsection may not be pledged to the payment of any bonds other than the Florida Ports Financing Commission Series 1996 and Series 1999 Bonds currently outstanding; however, such revenues may be pledged to secure payment of refunding bonds to refinance the Florida Ports Financing Commission Series 1996 and Series 1999 Bonds. Refunding bonds secured by revenues available under this subsection may not be issued with a final maturity later than the final maturity of the Florida Ports Financing Commission Series 1996 and Series 1999 Bonds and may not ~~or which~~ provide for higher debt service in any year than is currently payable on such bonds. Any revenue bonds or other indebtedness issued after July 1, 2000, other than refunding bonds shall be

issued by the Division of Bond Finance at the request of the Department of Transportation pursuant to the State Bond Act.

Section 12. Subsections (2) and (9) of section 331.3051, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

331.3051 Duties of Space Florida.—Space Florida shall:

(2) Enter into agreement with the Department of Education, the Department of Transportation, Enterprise Florida, Inc., and CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, for the purpose of implementing this act.

(9) Carry out its responsibility for workforce development by coordinating with CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, community colleges, colleges, public and private universities, and other public and private partners to develop a plan to retain, train, and retrain workers, from entry-level skills training through to technician-level, and 4-year degrees and higher, with the skills most relevant to aerospace employers.

Section 13. Subsections (2), (4), and (5) of section 331.369, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

331.369 Space Industry Workforce Initiative.—

(2) CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, shall coordinate development of a Space Industry Workforce Initiative in partnership with Space Florida, public and private universities, community colleges, and other training providers approved by the board. The purpose of the initiative is to use or revise existing programs and to develop innovative new programs to address the workforce needs of the aerospace industry.

(4) CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, with the assistance of Space Florida, shall convene representatives from the aerospace industry to identify the priority training and education needs of the industry and to appoint a team to design programs to meet the priority needs.

(5) CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, as part of its statutorily prescribed annual report to the Legislature, shall provide recommendations for policies, programs, and funding to enhance the workforce needs of the aerospace industry.

Section 14. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section 403.973, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

403.973 Expedited permitting; amendments to comprehensive plans.—

(3)

(c) At the request of a county or municipal government, the Department of Economic Opportunity or a Quick Permitting County may certify projects

located in counties where the ratio of new jobs per participant in the welfare transition program, as determined by CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., is less than one or otherwise critical, as eligible for the expedited permitting process. Such projects must meet the numerical job creation criteria for job creation specified in of this subsection, but the jobs created by the project do not have to be high-wage jobs that diversify the state's economy.

Section 15. Paragraph (c) of subsection (7) of section 409.1451, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.1451 The Road-to-Independence Program.—

(7) INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL.—The secretary shall establish the Independent Living Services Advisory Council for the purpose of reviewing and making recommendations concerning the implementation and operation of the provisions of s. 39.6251 and the Road-to-Independence Program. The advisory council shall function as specified in this subsection until the Legislature determines that the advisory council can no longer provide a valuable contribution to the department's efforts to achieve the goals of the services designed to enable a young adult to live independently.

(c) Members of the advisory council shall be appointed by the secretary of the department. The membership of the advisory council must include, at a minimum, representatives from the headquarters and regional offices of the Department of Children and Families, community-based care lead agencies, the Department of Juvenile Justice, the Department of Economic Opportunity, the Department of Education, the Agency for Health Care Administration, the State Youth Advisory Board, CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., the Statewide Guardian Ad Litem Office, foster parents, recipients of services and funding through the Road-to-Independence Program, and advocates for children in care. The secretary shall determine the length of the term to be served by each member appointed to the advisory council, which may not exceed 4 years.

Section 16. Paragraph (k) of subsection (1) and subsection (9) of section 413.405, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

413.405 Florida Rehabilitation Council.—There is created the Florida Rehabilitation Council to assist the division in the planning and development of statewide rehabilitation programs and services, to recommend improvements to such programs and services, and to perform the functions listed in this section.

(1) The council shall be composed of:

(k) At least one representative of the board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc.

(9) In addition to the other functions specified in this section, the council shall, after consulting with the board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.:~~

(a) Review, analyze, and advise the division regarding the performance of the responsibilities of the division under Title I of the act, particularly responsibilities relating to:

- 1. Eligibility, including order of selection.
- 2. The extent, scope, and effectiveness of services provided.
- 3. Functions performed by state agencies which ~~that~~ affect or potentially affect the ability of individuals with disabilities to achieve ~~in achieving~~ employment outcomes under Title I.

(b) In partnership with the division:

- 1. Develop, agree to, and review state goals and priorities in accordance with 34 C.F.R. s. 361.29(c); and
- 2. Evaluate the effectiveness of the vocational rehabilitation program and submit reports of progress to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the United States Secretary of Education in accordance with 34 C.F.R. s. 361.29(e).

(c) Advise the department and the division and assist in the preparation of the state plan and amendments to the plan, applications, reports, needs assessments, and evaluations required by Title I.

(d) To the extent feasible, conduct a review and analysis of the effectiveness of, and consumer satisfaction with:

- 1. The functions performed by state agencies and other public and private entities responsible for performing functions for individuals who have disabilities.
- 2. Vocational rehabilitation services:
 - a. Provided or paid for from funds made available under the act or through other public or private sources.
 - b. Provided by state agencies and other public and private entities responsible for providing vocational rehabilitation services to individuals who have disabilities.
- 3. The employment outcomes achieved by eligible individuals receiving services under this part, including the availability of health or other employment benefits in connection with those employment outcomes.

(e) Prepare and submit an annual report on the status of vocational rehabilitation programs in the state to the Governor, the President of the

Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the United States Secretary of Education and make the report available to the public.

(f) Coordinate with other councils within Florida, including the Florida Independent Living Council, the advisory panel established under s. 612(a)(21) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. s. 1412(a)(21), the State Planning Council described in s. 124 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. s. 15024, the state mental health planning council established under s. 1914 of the Public Health Service Act, 42 U.S.C. s. 300x-3, and the board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~

(g) Advise the department and division and provide for coordination and the establishment of working relationships among the department, the division, the Florida Independent Living Council, and centers for independent living in the state.

(h) Perform other functions that are consistent with the duties and responsibilities of the council under this section.

Section 17. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 413.407, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

413.407 Assistive Technology Advisory Council.—There is created the Assistive Technology Advisory Council, responsible for ensuring consumer involvement in the creation, application, and distribution of technology-related assistance to and for persons who have disabilities. The council shall fulfill its responsibilities through statewide policy development, both state and federal legislative initiatives, advocacy at both the state and federal level, planning of statewide resource allocations, policy-level management, reviews of both consumer responsiveness and the adequacy of program service delivery, and by performing the functions listed in this section.

(1)(a) The council shall be composed of:

1. Individuals who have disabilities and who are assistive technology consumers or family members or guardians of those individuals.
2. Representatives of consumer organizations concerned with assistive technology.
3. Representatives of business and industry, including the insurance industry, concerned with assistive technology.
4. A representative of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation.
5. A representative of the Division of Blind Services.
6. A representative of the Florida Independent Living Council.
7. A representative of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~

8. A representative of the Department of Education.
9. Representatives of other state agencies that provide or coordinate services for persons with disabilities.

Total membership on the council ~~may~~ shall not exceed 27 at any one time. A majority of the members shall be appointed in accordance with subparagraph 1.

Section 18. Section 414.045, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

414.045 Cash assistance program.—Cash assistance families include any families receiving cash assistance payments from the state program for temporary assistance for needy families as defined in federal law, whether such funds are from federal funds, state funds, or commingled federal and state funds. Cash assistance families may also include families receiving cash assistance through a program defined as a separate state program.

(1) For reporting purposes, families receiving cash assistance shall be grouped into the following categories. The department may develop additional groupings in order to comply with federal reporting requirements, to comply with the data-reporting needs of the board of directors of Career-Source Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, or to better inform the public of program progress.

(a) *Work-eligible cases.*—Work-eligible cases shall include:

1. Families containing an adult or a teen head of household, as defined by federal law. These cases are generally subject to the work activity requirements provided in s. 445.024 and the time limitations on benefits provided in s. 414.105.

2. Families with a parent where the parent's needs have been removed from the case due to sanction or disqualification shall be considered work-eligible cases to the extent that such cases are considered in the calculation of federal participation rates or would be counted in such calculation in future months.

3. Families participating in transition assistance programs.

4. Families otherwise eligible for temporary cash assistance which ~~that~~ receive diversion services, a severance payment, or participate in the relocation program.

(b) *Child-only cases.*—Child-only cases include cases that do not have an adult or teen head of household as defined in federal law. Such cases include:

1. Children in the care of caretaker relatives, if ~~where~~ the caretaker relatives choose to have their needs excluded in the calculation of the amount of cash assistance.

2. Families in the Relative Caregiver Program as provided in s. 39.5085.

3. Families in which the only parent in a single-parent family or both parents in a two-parent family receive supplemental security income (SSI) benefits under Title XVI of the Social Security Act, as amended. To the extent permitted by federal law, individuals receiving SSI shall be excluded as household members in determining the amount of cash assistance, and such cases shall not be considered families containing an adult. Parents or caretaker relatives who are excluded from the cash assistance group due to receipt of SSI may choose to participate in work activities. An individual whose ability to participate in work activities is limited who volunteers to participate in work activities ~~activity but whose ability to participate in work activities is limited~~ shall be assigned to work activities consistent with such limitations. An individual who volunteers to participate in a work activity may receive child care or support services consistent with such participation.

4. Families in which ~~where~~ the only parent in a single-parent family or both parents in a two-parent family are not eligible for cash assistance due to immigration status or other limitation of federal law. To the extent required by federal law, such cases shall not be considered families containing an adult.

5. To the extent permitted by federal law and subject to appropriations, special needs children who have been adopted pursuant to s. 409.166 and whose adopting family qualifies as a needy family under the state program for temporary assistance for needy families. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in s. 414.075, s. 414.085, or s. 414.095, a family shall be considered a needy family if:

- a. The family is determined by the department to have an income below 200 percent of the federal poverty level;
- b. The family meets the requirements of s. 414.095(2) and (3) related to residence, citizenship, or eligible noncitizen status; and
- c. The family provides any information that may be necessary to meet federal reporting requirements specified under Part A of Title IV of the Social Security Act.

Families described in subparagraph 1., subparagraph 2., or subparagraph 3. may receive child care assistance or other supports or services so that the children may continue to be cared for in their own homes or in the homes of relatives. Such assistance or services may be funded from the temporary assistance for needy families block grant to the extent permitted under federal law and to the extent funds have been provided in the General Appropriations Act.

(2) Oversight by the board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, and the service delivery and financial planning responsibilities of the regional workforce boards shall apply to the families

defined as work-eligible cases in paragraph (1)(a). The department shall be responsible for program administration related to families in groups defined in paragraph (1)(b), and the department shall coordinate such administration with the board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., to the extent needed for operation of the program.

Section 19. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 414.105, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

414.105 Time limitations of temporary cash assistance.—Except as otherwise provided in this section, an applicant or current participant shall receive temporary cash assistance for no more than a lifetime cumulative total of 48 months, unless otherwise provided by law.

(1) Hardship exemptions from ~~to~~ the time limitations provided in this section may not exceed ~~shall be limited to~~ 20 percent of the average monthly caseload, as determined by the department in cooperation with CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc. Criteria for hardship exemptions include:

(a) Diligent participation in activities, combined with inability to obtain employment.

(b) Diligent participation in activities, combined with extraordinary barriers to employment, including the conditions which may result in an exemption to work requirements.

(c) Significant barriers to employment, combined with a need for additional time.

(d) Diligent participation in activities and a need by teen parents for an exemption in order to have 24 months of eligibility beyond receipt of the high school diploma or equivalent.

(e) A recommendation of extension for a minor child of a participating family that has reached the end of the eligibility period for temporary cash assistance. The recommendation must be the result of a review that ~~which~~ determines that the termination of the child's temporary cash assistance would be likely to result in the child being placed into emergency shelter or foster care.

(3) The department, in cooperation with CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., shall establish a procedure for approving hardship exemptions and for reviewing hardship cases at least once every 2 years. Regional workforce boards may assist in making these determinations.

Section 20. Section 414.106, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

414.106 Exemption from public meetings law.—That portion of a meeting held by the department, CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., or a regional workforce board or local committee created pursuant to s.

445.007 at which personal identifying information contained in records relating to temporary cash assistance is discussed is exempt from s. 286.011 and s. 24(b), Art. I of the State Constitution if the information identifies a participant, a participant's family, or a participant's family or household member.

Section 21. Subsection (1) of section 414.295, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

414.295 Temporary cash assistance programs; public records exemption.

(1) Personal identifying information of a temporary cash assistance program participant, a participant's family, or a participant's family or household member, except for information identifying a parent who does not live in the same home as the child, which is held by the department, the Office of Early Learning, CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., the Department of Health, the Department of Revenue, the Department of Education, or a regional workforce board or local committee created pursuant to s. 445.007 is confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. Such confidential and exempt information may be released for purposes directly connected with:

(a) The administration of the temporary assistance for needy families plan under Title IV-A of the Social Security Act, as amended, by the department, the Office of Early Learning, CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., the Department of Military Affairs, the Department of Health, the Department of Revenue, the Department of Education, a regional workforce board or local committee created pursuant to s. 445.007, or a school district.

(b) The administration of the state's plan or program approved under Title IV-B, Title IV-D, or Title IV-E of the Social Security Act, as amended, or under Title I, Title X, Title XIV, Title XVI, Title XIX, Title XX, or Title XXI of the Social Security Act, as amended.

(c) An ~~Any~~ investigation, prosecution, or ~~any~~ criminal, civil, or administrative proceeding conducted in connection with the administration of any of the plans or programs specified in paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) by a federal, state, or local governmental entity, upon request by that entity, if ~~when~~ such request is made pursuant to the proper exercise of that entity's duties and responsibilities.

(d) The administration of any other state, federal, or federally assisted program that provides assistance or services on the basis of need, in cash or in kind, directly to a participant.

(e) An ~~Any~~ audit or similar activity, such as a review of expenditure reports or financial review, conducted in connection with the administration of ~~any of the~~ plans or programs specified in paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) by a governmental entity authorized by law to conduct such audit or activity.

(f) The administration of the reemployment assistance program.

(g) The reporting to the appropriate agency or official of information about known or suspected instances of physical or mental injury, sexual abuse or exploitation, or negligent treatment or maltreatment of a child or elderly person receiving assistance, if circumstances indicate that the health or welfare of the child or elderly person is threatened.

(h) The administration of services to elderly persons under ss. 430.601-430.606.

Section 22. Section 414.55, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

414.55 Implementation of community work program.—The Governor shall minimize the liability of the state by opting out of the special provision related to community work, as described in s. 402(a)(1)(B)(iv) of the Social Security Act, as amended by Pub. L. No. 104-193. The department and CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., shall implement the community work program in accordance with s. 445.024.

Section 23. Subsection (2) of section 420.622, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

420.622 State Office on Homelessness; Council on Homelessness.—

(2) The Council on Homelessness is created to consist of 17 representatives ~~a 17-member council~~ of public and private agencies ~~agency representatives~~ who shall develop policy and advise the State Office on Homelessness. The council members shall be: the Secretary of Children and Families, or his or her designee; the executive director of the Department of Economic Opportunity, or his or her designee, who shall ~~to~~ advise the council on issues related to rural development; the State Surgeon General, or his or her designee; the Executive Director of Veterans' Affairs, or his or her designee; the Secretary of Corrections, or his or her designee; the Secretary of Health Care Administration, or his or her designee; the Commissioner of Education, or his or her designee; the Director of CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., or his or her designee; one representative of the Florida Association of Counties; one representative of ~~from~~ the Florida League of Cities; one representative of the Florida Supportive Housing Coalition; the Executive Director of the Florida Housing Finance Corporation, or his or her designee; one representative of the Florida Coalition for the Homeless; and four members appointed by the Governor. The council members shall be nonpaid volunteers ~~volunteer, nonpaid persons~~ and shall be reimbursed only ~~only~~ for travel expenses only. The appointed members of the council shall be appointed to staggered 2-year terms, and the council shall meet at least four times per year. The importance of minority, gender, and geographic representation shall ~~must~~ be considered in ~~when~~ appointing members to the council.

Section 24. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section 443.091, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

443.091 Benefit eligibility conditions.—

(1) An unemployed individual is eligible to receive benefits for any week only if the Department of Economic Opportunity finds that:

(c) To make continued claims for benefits, she or he is reporting to the department in accordance with this paragraph and department rules. Department rules may not conflict with s. 443.111(1)(b), which requires that each claimant continue to report regardless of any pending appeal relating to her or his eligibility or disqualification for benefits.

1. For each week of unemployment claimed, each report must, at a minimum, include the name, address, and telephone number of each prospective employer contacted, or the date the claimant reported to a one-stop career center, pursuant to paragraph (d).

2. The department shall ~~must~~ offer an online assessment aimed at identifying that serves to identify an individual's skills, abilities, and career aptitude. The skills assessment must be voluntary, and the department shall ~~must~~ allow a claimant to choose whether to take the skills assessment. The online assessment shall be made available to any person seeking services from a regional workforce board or a one-stop career center.

a. If the claimant chooses to take the online assessment, the outcome of the assessment shall ~~must~~ be made available to the claimant, regional workforce board, and one-stop career center. The department, workforce board, or one-stop career center shall use the assessment to develop a plan for referring individuals to training and employment opportunities. Aggregate data on assessment outcomes may be made available to CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., and Enterprise Florida, Inc., for use in the development of policies related to education and training programs that will ensure that businesses in this state have access to a skilled and competent workforce.

b. Individuals shall be informed of and offered services through the one-stop delivery system, including career counseling, the provision of skill match and job market information, and skills upgrade and other training opportunities, and shall be encouraged to participate in such services at no cost to the individuals. The department shall coordinate with CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., the workforce boards, and the one-stop career centers to identify, develop, and use best practices for improving the skills of individuals who choose to participate in skills upgrade and other training opportunities. The department may contract with an entity to create the online assessment in accordance with the competitive bidding requirements in s. 287.057. The online assessment must work seamlessly with the Reemployment Assistance Claims and Benefits Information System.

Section 25. Subsections (1) and (4) of section 443.171, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

443.171 Department of Economic Opportunity and commission; powers and duties; records and reports; proceedings; state-federal cooperation.—

(1) **POWERS AND DUTIES.**—The Department of Economic Opportunity shall administer this chapter. The department may employ ~~those~~ persons, make expenditures, require reports, conduct investigations, and take other action necessary or suitable to administer this chapter. The department shall annually submit information to CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., covering the administration and operation of this chapter during the preceding calendar year for inclusion in the strategic plan under s. 445.006 and may make recommendations for amendment to this chapter.

(4) **EMPLOYMENT STABILIZATION.**—The Department of Economic Opportunity, under the direction of CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., shall take all appropriate steps to reduce and prevent unemployment; to encourage and assist in the adoption of practical methods of career training, retraining, and career guidance; to investigate, recommend, advise, and assist municipalities, counties, school districts, and the state in the establishment and operation, ~~by municipalities, counties, school districts, and the state,~~ of reserves for public works to be used in times of business depression and unemployment; to promote the reemployment of the unemployed workers throughout the state in every other way that may be feasible; to refer ~~a any~~ claimant entitled to extended benefits to suitable work ~~that which~~ meets the criteria of this chapter; and, to these ends, to carry on and publish the results of investigations and research studies.

Section 26. Subsection (1) of section 443.181, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

443.181 Public employment service.—

(1) The one-stop delivery system established under s. 445.009 is this state's public employment service as part of the national system of public employment offices established under 29 U.S.C. s. 49. The Department of Economic Opportunity, under policy direction from CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., shall cooperate with any official or agency of the United States having power or duties under 29 U.S.C. ss. 49-491-1 and shall perform those duties necessary to secure to this state the funds provided under federal law for the promotion and maintenance of the state's public employment service. In accordance with 29 U.S.C. s. 49c, this state accepts 29 U.S.C. ss. 49-491-1. The department is designated the state agency responsible for cooperating with the United States Secretary of Labor under 29 U.S.C. s. 49c. The department shall appoint sufficient employees to administer this section. The department may cooperate with or enter into agreements with the Railroad Retirement Board for the establishment, maintenance, and use of one-stop career centers.

Section 27. Section 445.003, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

445.003 Implementation of the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998.—

(1) WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT PRINCIPLES.—The state’s approach to implementing the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998, Pub. L. No. 105-220, should have six elements:

(a) *Streamlining Services*.—Florida’s employment and training programs must be coordinated and consolidated at locally managed one-stop delivery system centers.

(b) *Empowering Individuals*.—Eligible participants will make informed decisions, choosing the qualified training program that best meets their needs.

(c) *Universal Access*.—Through a one-stop delivery system, every Floridian will have access to employment services.

(d) *Increased Accountability*.—The state, localities, and training providers will be held accountable for their performance.

(e) *Local Board and Private Sector Leadership*.—Local boards will focus on strategic planning, policy development, and oversight of the local system, choosing local managers to direct the operational details of their one-stop delivery system centers.

(f) *Local Flexibility and Integration*.—Localities will have exceptional flexibility to build on existing reforms. Unified planning will free local groups from conflicting micromanagement, while waivers and WorkFlex will allow local innovations.

(2) FIVE-YEAR PLAN.—~~CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, shall prepare and submit a 5-year plan, which must include ~~includes~~ secondary career education, to fulfill the early implementation requirements of Pub. L. No. 105-220 and applicable state statutes. Mandatory and optional ~~Mandatory and optional~~ federal partners ~~and optional federal partners~~ shall be fully involved in designing the plan’s one-stop delivery system strategy. The plan shall detail ~~a process to~~ clearly define each program’s statewide duties and role relating to the system. Any optional federal partner may immediately choose to fully integrate its program’s plan with this plan, which shall, notwithstanding any other state provisions, fulfill all their state planning and reporting requirements as they relate to the one-stop delivery system. The plan must ~~shall~~ detail a process that would fully integrate all federally mandated and optional partners by the second year of the plan. All optional federal program partners in the planning process shall be mandatory participants in the second year of the plan.

(3) FUNDING.—

(a) Title I, Workforce Investment Act of 1998 funds; Wagner-Peyser funds; and NAFTA/Trade Act funds will be expended based on the 5-year plan of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~ The plan shall outline and direct the method used to administer and coordinate various funds and programs that are operated by various agencies. The following provisions ~~shall also~~ apply to these funds:

1. At least 50 percent of the Title I funds for Adults and Dislocated Workers ~~which that~~ are passed through to regional workforce boards shall be allocated to and expended on Individual Training Accounts unless a regional workforce board obtains a waiver from CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~ Tuition, books, and fees of training providers and other training services prescribed and authorized by the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 qualify as Individual Training Account expenditures.

2. Fifteen percent of Title I funding shall be retained at the state level and ~~shall be~~ dedicated to state administration and shall be used to design, develop, induce, and fund innovative Individual Training Account pilots, demonstrations, and programs. Of such funds retained at the state level, \$2 million shall be reserved for the Incumbent Worker Training Program, created under subparagraph 3. Eligible state administration costs include the costs of: funding for the board and staff of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~; operating fiscal, compliance, and management accountability systems through CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~; conducting evaluation and research on workforce development activities; and providing technical and capacity building assistance to regions at the direction of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~ Notwithstanding s. 445.004, such administrative costs may ~~shall~~ not exceed 25 percent of these funds. An amount not to exceed 75 percent of these funds shall be allocated to Individual Training Accounts and other workforce development strategies for other training designed and tailored by CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, including, but not limited to, programs for incumbent workers, displaced homemakers, nontraditional employment, and enterprise zones. CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, shall design, adopt, and fund Individual Training Accounts for distressed urban and rural communities.

3. The Incumbent Worker Training Program is created for the purpose of providing grant funding for continuing education and training of incumbent employees at existing Florida businesses. The program will provide reimbursement grants to businesses that pay for preapproved, direct, training-related costs.

a. The Incumbent Worker Training Program will be administered by CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~ ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, which may, at its discretion, may contract with a private business organization to serve as grant administrator.

b. To be eligible for the program's grant funding, a business must have been in operation in Florida for a minimum of 1 year prior to the application

for grant funding; have at least one full-time employee; demonstrate financial viability; and be current on all state tax obligations. Priority for funding shall be given to businesses with 25 employees or fewer, businesses in rural areas, businesses in distressed inner-city areas, businesses in a qualified targeted industry, businesses whose grant proposals represent a significant upgrade in employee skills, or businesses whose grant proposals represent a significant layoff avoidance strategy.

c. All costs reimbursed by the program must be preapproved by CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, or the grant administrator. The program ~~may~~ will not reimburse businesses for trainee wages, the purchase of capital equipment, or the purchase of any item or service that may possibly be used outside the training project. A business approved for a grant may be reimbursed for preapproved, direct, training-related costs including tuition,[;] fees,[;] books and training materials,[;] and overhead or indirect costs not to exceed 5 percent of the grant amount.

d. A business that is selected to receive grant funding must provide a matching contribution to the training project, including, but not limited to, wages paid to trainees or the purchase of capital equipment used in the training project; must sign an agreement with CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, or the grant administrator to complete the training project as proposed in the application; must keep accurate records of the project's implementation process; and must submit monthly or quarterly reimbursement requests with required documentation.

e. All Incumbent Worker Training Program grant projects shall be performance-based with specific measurable performance outcomes, including completion of the training project and job retention. CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, or the grant administrator shall withhold the final payment to the grantee until a final grant report is submitted and all performance criteria specified in the grant contract have been achieved.

f. CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, may establish guidelines necessary to implement the Incumbent Worker Training Program.

g. No more than 10 percent of the Incumbent Worker Training Program's total appropriation may be used for overhead or indirect purposes.

4. At least 50 percent of Rapid Response funding shall be dedicated to Intensive Services Accounts and Individual Training Accounts for dislocated workers and incumbent workers who are at risk of dislocation. CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, shall also maintain an Emergency Preparedness Fund from Rapid Response funds, which will immediately issue Intensive Service Accounts, and Individual Training Accounts, and as well as other federally authorized assistance to eligible victims of natural or other disasters. At the direction of the Governor, ~~for events that qualify under federal law,~~ these Rapid Response funds shall be released to regional

workforce boards for immediate use after events that qualify under federal law. Funding shall also be dedicated to maintain a unit at the state level to respond to Rapid Response emergencies and around the state, to work with state emergency management officials, and ~~to work with regional workforce boards~~. All Rapid Response funds must be expended based on a plan developed by CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, and approved by the Governor.

(b) The administrative entity for Title I, Workforce Investment Act of 1998 funds, and Rapid Response activities ~~is~~, shall be the Department of Economic Opportunity, which shall provide direction to regional workforce boards regarding Title I programs and Rapid Response activities pursuant to the direction of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~

(4) FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS, EXCEPTIONS AND REQUIRED MODIFICATIONS.—

(a) CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, may provide indemnification from audit liabilities to regional workforce boards that act in full compliance with state law and board policy ~~the board's policies~~.

(b) CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, may negotiate and settle all outstanding issues with the United States Department of Labor relating to decisions made by CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, any predecessor workforce organization, and the Legislature with regard to the Job Training Partnership Act, making settlements and closing out all JTPA program year grants.

(c) CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, may make modifications to the state's plan, policies, and procedures to comply with federally mandated requirements that in its judgment must be complied with to maintain funding provided pursuant to Pub. L. No. 105-220. The board shall provide written notice to notify in writing the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives within 30 days after any such changes or modifications.

(5) LONG-TERM CONSOLIDATION OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT.—~~CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, may recommend workforce-related divisions, bureaus, units, programs, duties, commissions, boards, and councils for elimination, consolidation, or privatization that can be eliminated, consolidated, or privatized.

Section 28. Section 445.004, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

445.004 CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~; creation; purpose; membership; duties and powers.—

(1) CareerSource Florida, Inc., ~~There is created as a not-for-profit corporation, to be known as "Workforce Florida, Inc.,"~~ which shall be registered, incorporated, organized, and operated in compliance with chapter 617. ~~CareerSource Florida, Inc., is not, and which shall not be a unit or entity~~

of state government and is shall be exempt from chapters 120 and 287. CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., shall apply the procurement and expenditure procedures required by federal law for the expenditure of federal funds. CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., shall be administratively housed within the Department of Economic Opportunity; however, CareerSource Florida, Inc., ~~is not Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, shall not be subject to control, supervision, or direction by the department in any manner. The Legislature finds determines, however, that public policy dictates that CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., operate in the most open and accessible manner consistent with its public purpose. To this end, the Legislature specifically declares that CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., its board, councils, and any advisory committees or similar groups created by CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., are subject to the provisions of chapter 119 relating to public records, and those provisions of chapter 286 relating to public meetings.

(2) CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., is the principal workforce policy organization for the state. The purpose of CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., is to design and implement strategies that help Floridians enter, remain in, and advance in the workplace, so that they may become becoming more highly skilled and successful, which benefits benefiting these Floridians, Florida businesses, and the entire state, and fosters the development of ~~to assist in developing~~ the state's business climate.

(3)(a) CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., shall be governed by a board of directors, ~~the number of directors to be determined by the Governor~~, whose membership and appointment must be consistent with Pub. L. No. 105-220, Title I, s. 111(b). Members described in Pub. L. No. 105-220, Title I, s. 111(b)(1)(C)(vi) shall be nonvoting members. The number of directors shall be determined by the Governor, who shall consider the importance of minority, gender, and geographic representation in shall be considered when making appointments to the board. The Governor, When the Governor is in attendance, he or she shall preside at all meetings of the board of directors.

(b) The board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., shall be chaired by a board member designated by the Governor pursuant to Pub. L. No. 105-220. A member may not and shall serve no more than two terms.

(c) Members appointed by the Governor may serve no more than two terms and must be appointed for 3-year terms. However, in order to establish staggered terms for board members, the Governor shall appoint or reappoint one-third of the board members for 1-year terms, one-third of the board members for 2-year terms, and one-third of the board members for 3-year terms beginning July 1, 2005. Subsequent appointments or reappointments shall be Following that date, the Governor shall appoint or reappoint board members for 3-year terms exclusively, except that, when a board member appointed to fill a vacancy on the board is replaced before the end of a 3-year

term, the replacement shall be appointed to serve only the remainder of the ~~that term of the member whom he or she is replacing, and, after which the~~ replacement may be appointed for a subsequent full 3-year term. Private sector representatives of businesses, appointed by the Governor pursuant to Pub. L. No. 105-220, shall constitute a majority of the membership of the board. Private sector representatives shall be appointed from nominations received by the Governor, including, but not limited to, those nominations made by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Private sector appointments to the board must ~~shall~~ be representative of the business community of this state; no fewer than one-half of the appointments ~~to the board~~ must be representative of small businesses, and at least five members must have economic development experience. Members appointed by the Governor serve at the pleasure of the Governor and are eligible for reappointment.

(d) A member of the board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, may be removed by the Governor for cause. Absence from three consecutive meetings results in automatic removal. The chair of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, shall notify the Governor of such absences.

(e) Representatives of businesses appointed to the board of directors may not include providers of workforce services.

(4)(a) The president of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, shall be hired by the board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor in the capacity of an executive director and secretary of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~

(b) The board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, shall meet at least quarterly and at other times upon the call of its chair. The board and its committees, subcommittees, or other subdivisions may use any method of telecommunications to conduct meetings, including establishing a quorum through telecommunications, if ~~provided that~~ the public is given proper notice of the telecommunications meeting and is given reasonable access to observe and, if ~~when~~ appropriate, participate.

(c) A majority of the total current membership of the board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc., ~~constitutes Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, comprises a quorum ~~of the board~~.

(d) A majority of those voting is required to organize and conduct the business of the board, except that a majority of the entire board of directors is required to adopt or amend the bylaws.

(e) Except as delegated or authorized by the board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, individual members have no authority to control or direct the operations of CareerSource Florida,

~~Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, or the actions of its officers and employees, including the president.

(f) Members of the board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, and its committees shall serve without compensation, but these members, the president, and the all employees of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, may be reimbursed for all reasonable, necessary, and actual expenses pursuant to s. 112.061.

(g) The board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, may establish an executive committee consisting of the chair and at least six additional board members selected by the chair, one of whom must be a representative of organized labor. The executive committee and the president shall have such authority as the board delegates to them it, except that the board of directors may not delegate to the executive committee authority to take action that requires approval by a majority of the entire board of directors.

(h) The chair may appoint committees to fulfill the board's ~~its~~ responsibilities, to comply with federal requirements, or to obtain technical assistance, and must incorporate members of regional workforce development boards into its structure.

(i) Each member of the board of directors who is not otherwise required to file a financial disclosure pursuant to s. 8, Art. II of the State Constitution or s. 112.3144 must file disclosure of financial interests pursuant to s. 112.3145.

(5) CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, shall have all the powers and authority; not explicitly prohibited by statute which are; necessary or convenient to carry out and effectuate its ~~the~~ purposes as determined by statute, Pub. L. No. 105-220, and the Governor, as well as its functions, duties, and responsibilities, including, but not limited to, the following:

(a) Serving as the state's Workforce Investment Board pursuant to Pub. L. No. 105-220. Unless otherwise required by federal law, at least 90 percent of ~~the~~ workforce development funding must go toward ~~into~~ direct customer service costs.

(b) Providing oversight and policy direction to ensure that the following programs are administered by the department in compliance with approved plans and under contract with CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.:~~

1. Programs authorized under Title I of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, Pub. L. No. 105-220, with the exception of programs funded directly by the United States Department of Labor under Title I, s. 167.

2. Programs authorized under the Wagner-Peyser Act of 1933, as amended, 29 U.S.C. ss. 49 et seq.

3. Activities authorized under Title II of the Trade Act of 2002, as amended, 19 U.S.C. ss. 2272 et seq., and the Trade Adjustment Assistance Program.

4. Activities authorized under 38 U.S.C., chapter 41, including job counseling, training, and placement for veterans.

5. Employment and training activities carried out under funds awarded to this state by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

6. Welfare transition services funded by the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program, created under the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, as amended, Pub. L. No. 104-193, and Title IV, s. 403, of the Social Security Act, as amended.

7. Displaced homemaker programs, provided under s. 446.50.

8. The Florida Bonding Program, provided under Pub. L. No. 97-300, s. 164(a)(1).

9. The Food Assistance Employment and Training Program, provided under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, 7 U.S.C. ss. 2011-2032; the Food Security Act of 1988, Pub. L. No. 99-198; and the Hunger Prevention Act, Pub. L. No. 100-435.

10. The Quick-Response Training Program, provided under ss. 288.046-288.047. Matching funds and in-kind contributions that are provided by clients of the Quick-Response Training Program shall count toward the requirements of s. 288.904, pertaining to the return on investment from activities of Enterprise Florida, Inc.

11. The Work Opportunity Tax Credit, provided under the Tax and Trade Relief Extension Act of 1998, Pub. L. No. 105-277, and the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997, Pub. L. No. 105-34.

12. Offender placement services, provided under ss. 944.707-944.708.

(c) The department may adopt rules necessary to administer the provisions of this chapter which relate to implementing and administering the programs listed in paragraph (b) as well as rules related to eligible training providers and auditing and monitoring subrecipients of the workforce system grant funds.

(d) Contracting with public and private entities as necessary to further the directives of this section. All contracts executed by CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, must include specific performance expectations and deliverables. All CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~ contracts, including those solicited, managed, or paid by the department pursuant to s. 20.60(5)(c) are exempt from s. 112.061, but shall be governed by subsection (1).

(e) Notifying the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of noncompliance by the department or other agencies or obstruction of the board's efforts by such agencies. Upon such notification, the Executive Office of the Governor shall assist agencies to bring them into compliance with board objectives.

(f) Ensuring that the state does not waste valuable training resources. Thus, The board shall direct that all resources, including equipment purchased for training Workforce Investment Act clients, be available for use at all times by eligible populations as first priority users. At times when eligible populations are not available, such resources shall be used for any other state-authorized ~~state-authorized~~ education and training purpose. CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, may authorize expenditures to award suitable framed certificates, pins, or other tokens of recognition for performance by a regional workforce board, its committees and subdivisions, and other units of the workforce system. CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, may also authorize expenditures for promotional items, such as t-shirts, hats, or pens printed with messages promoting the state's workforce system to employers, job seekers, and program participants. However, such expenditures are subject to federal regulations applicable to the expenditure of federal funds.

(g) Establishing ~~Establish~~ a dispute resolution process for all memoranda of understanding or other contracts or agreements entered into between the department and regional workforce boards.

(h) Archiving records with the Bureau of Archives and Records Management of the Division of Library and Information Services of the Department of State.

(6) CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, may take action that it deems necessary to achieve the purposes of this section, including, but not limited to:

(a) Creating a state employment, education, and training policy that ensures that programs to prepare workers are responsive to present and future business and industry needs and complement the initiatives of Enterprise Florida, Inc.

(b) Establishing policy direction for a funding system that provides incentives to improve the outcomes of career education, ~~programs, and of~~ registered apprenticeship, and work-based learning programs; and that focuses resources on occupations related to new or emerging industries that add greatly to the value of the state's economy.

(c) Establishing a comprehensive policy related to the education and training of target populations such as those who have disabilities, are economically disadvantaged, receive public assistance, are not proficient in English, or are dislocated workers. This approach should ensure the effective

use of federal, state, local, and private resources in reducing the need for public assistance.

(d) Designating Institutes of Applied Technology composed of public and private postsecondary institutions working together with business and industry to ensure that career education programs use the most advanced technology and instructional methods available and respond to the changing needs of business and industry.

(e) Providing policy direction for a system to project and evaluate labor market supply and demand using the results of the Workforce Estimating Conference created in s. 216.136 and the career education performance standards identified under s. 1008.43.

(f) Reviewing the performance of public programs that are responsible for economic development, education, employment, and training. The review must include an analysis of the return on investment of these programs.

(g) Expanding the occupations identified by the Workforce Estimating Conference to meet needs created by local emergencies or plant closings or to capture occupations within emerging industries.

(7) By December 1 of each year, CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., shall submit to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Senate Minority Leader, and the House Minority Leader a complete and detailed annual report setting forth:

(a) All audits, including any ~~the~~ audit conducted under ~~in~~ subsection (8), ~~if conducted.~~

(b) The operations and accomplishments of the board, including the programs or entities specified ~~listed~~ in subsection (6).

(8) ~~The Auditor General may, Pursuant to his or her own authority or at the direction of the Legislative Auditing Committee, the Auditor General may~~ conduct an audit of CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., or the programs or entities created by CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc. The Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability, pursuant to its authority or at the direction of the Legislative Auditing Committee, may review the systems and controls related to performance outcomes and quality of services of CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc.

(9) CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., in collaboration with the regional workforce boards and appropriate state agencies and local public and private service providers; and in consultation with the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability, shall establish uniform measures and standards to gauge the performance of the workforce development strategy. These measures and standards must be organized into three outcome tiers.

(a) The first tier of measures must be organized to provide benchmarks for systemwide outcomes. CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., ~~shall must~~, in collaboration with the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability, establish goals for the tier-one outcomes. Systemwide outcomes may include employment in occupations demonstrating continued growth in wages; continued employment after 3, 6, 12, and 24 months; reduction in and elimination of public assistance reliance; job placement; employer satisfaction; and positive return on investment of public resources.

(b) The second tier of measures must be organized to provide a set of benchmark outcomes for the strategic components of the workforce development strategy. Cost per entered employment, earnings at placement, retention in employment, job placement, and entered employment rate must be included among the performance outcome measures.

(c) The third tier of measures must be the operational output measures to be used by the agency implementing programs, which ~~and it~~ may be specific to federal requirements. The tier-three measures must be developed by the agencies implementing programs, which ~~and Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, may consult with CareerSource Florida, Inc., ~~be consulted~~ in this effort. Such measures must be reported to CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., by the appropriate implementing agency.

(d) Regional differences must be reflected in the establishment of performance goals and may include job availability, unemployment rates, average worker wage, and available employable population.

(e) Job placement must be reported pursuant to s. 1008.39. Positive outcomes for providers of education and training must be consistent with ss. 1008.42 and 1008.43.

(f) The uniform measures of success that are adopted by CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., or the regional workforce boards must be developed in a manner that provides for an equitable comparison of the relative success or failure of any service provider in terms of positive outcomes.

(g) By December 1 of each year, CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., shall provide the Legislature with a report detailing the performance of Florida's workforce development system, as reflected in the three-tier measurement system. ~~The~~ Additionally, this report also must benchmark Florida outcomes ~~for, at all tiers~~ as compared with, against other states that collect data similarly.

(10) The workforce development strategy for the state shall be designed by CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc. The strategy must include efforts that enlist business, education, and community support for students to achieve long-term career goals, ensuring that young people have the academic and occupational skills required to succeed in the workplace.

The strategy must also assist employers in upgrading or updating the skills of their employees and assisting workers to acquire the education or training needed to secure a better job with better wages. The strategy must assist the state's efforts to attract and expand job-creating businesses offering high-paying, high-demand occupations.

(11) The workforce development system ~~shall~~ must use a charter-process approach aimed at encouraging local design and control of service delivery and targeted activities. ~~CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc.,~~ shall be responsible for granting charters to regional workforce boards that have a membership consistent with the requirements of federal and state law and ~~that~~ have developed a plan consistent with the state's workforce development strategy. The plan must specify methods for allocating the resources and programs in a manner that eliminates unwarranted duplication, minimizes administrative costs, meets the existing job market demands and the job market demands resulting from successful economic development activities, ensures access to quality workforce development services for all Floridians, allows for pro rata or partial distribution of benefits and services, prohibits the creation of a waiting list or other indication of an unserved population, serves as many individuals as possible within available resources, and maximizes successful outcomes. As part of the charter process, ~~CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc.,~~ shall establish incentives for effective coordination of federal and state programs, outline rewards for successful job placements, and institute collaborative approaches among local service providers. Local decisionmaking and control shall be important components for inclusion in this charter application.

(12) ~~CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc.,~~ shall enter into agreement with Space Florida and collaborate with vocational institutes, community colleges, colleges, and universities in this state, to develop a workforce development strategy to implement the workforce provisions of s. 331.3051.

Section 29. Subsections (1) and (2), paragraph (g) of subsection (3), and paragraph (a) of subsection (6) of section 445.006, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

445.006 Strategic and operational plans for workforce development.—

(1) ~~CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc.,~~ in conjunction with state and local partners in the workforce system, shall develop a strategic plan that produces skilled employees for employers in the state. The strategic plan shall be updated or modified by January 1 of each year. The plan must include, but need not be limited to, strategies for:

(a) Fulfilling the workforce system goals and strategies prescribed in s. 445.004;

(b) Aggregating, integrating, and leveraging workforce system resources;

- (c) Coordinating the activities of federal, state, and local workforce system partners;
- (d) Addressing the workforce needs of small businesses; and
- (e) Fostering the participation of rural communities and distressed urban cores in the workforce system.

(2) CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, shall establish an operational plan to implement the state strategic plan. The operational plan shall be submitted to the Governor and the Legislature along with the strategic plan and must reflect the allocation of resources as appropriated by the Legislature to specific responsibilities enumerated in law. As a component of the operational plan required under this section, CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, shall develop a workforce marketing plan, with the goal of educating individuals inside and outside the state about the employment market and employment conditions in the state. The marketing plan must include, but need not be limited to, strategies for:

- (a) Distributing information to secondary and postsecondary education institutions about the diversity of businesses in the state, specific clusters of businesses or business sectors in the state, and occupations by industry which are in demand by employers in the state;
- (b) Distributing information about and promoting use of the Internet-based job matching and labor market information system authorized under s. 445.011; and
- (c) Coordinating with Enterprise Florida, Inc., to ensure that workforce marketing efforts complement the economic development marketing efforts of the state.

(3) The operational plan must include performance measures, standards, measurement criteria, and contract guidelines in the following areas with respect to participants in the welfare transition program:

(g) Other issues identified by the board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~

(6)(a) The operational plan must include strategies that are designed to prevent or reduce the need for a person to receive public assistance, including:

1. A teen pregnancy prevention component that includes, but is not limited to, a plan for implementing the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Community Initiative within each county of the services area in which the teen birth rate is higher than the state average;
2. A component that encourages community-based welfare prevention and reduction initiatives that increase support provided by noncustodial parents to their welfare-dependent children and are consistent with program

and financial guidelines developed by CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., and the Commission on Responsible Fatherhood. These initiatives may include improved paternity establishment, work activities for noncustodial parents, programs aimed at decreasing out-of-wedlock pregnancies, encouraging involvement of fathers with their children which includes court-ordered supervised visitation, and increasing child support payments;

3. A component that encourages formation and maintenance of two-parent families through, among other things, court-ordered supervised visitation;

4. A component that fosters responsible fatherhood in families receiving assistance; and

5. A component that fosters the provision of services that reduce the incidence and effects of domestic violence on women and children in families receiving assistance.

Section 30. Subsections (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), (9), (10), (11), and (12) of section 445.007, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

445.007 Regional workforce boards.—

(3) The Department of Economic Opportunity, under the direction of CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., shall assign staff to meet with each regional workforce board annually to review the board's performance and to certify that the board is in compliance with applicable state and federal law.

(4) In addition to the duties and functions specified by CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., and by the interlocal agreement approved by the local county or city governing bodies, the regional workforce board shall have the following responsibilities:

(a) Develop, submit, ratify, or amend the local plan pursuant to Pub. L. No. 105-220, Title I, s. 118, and the provisions of this act.

(b) Conclude agreements necessary to designate the fiscal agent and administrative entity. A public or private entity, including an entity established pursuant to s. 163.01, which makes a majority of the appointments to a regional workforce board may serve as the board's administrative entity if approved by CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., based upon a showing that a fair and competitive process was used to select the administrative entity.

(c) Complete assurances required for the charter process of CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., and provide ongoing oversight related to administrative costs, duplicated services, career counseling, economic development, equal access, compliance and accountability, and performance outcomes.

(d) Oversee the one-stop delivery system in its local area.

(5) ~~CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, shall implement a training program for the regional workforce boards to familiarize board members with the state's workforce development goals and strategies.

(6) The regional workforce board shall designate all local service providers and may not transfer this authority to a third party. Consistent with the intent of the Workforce Investment Act, regional workforce boards should provide the greatest possible choice of training providers to those who qualify for training services. A regional workforce board may not restrict the choice of training providers based upon cost, location, or historical training arrangements. However, a board may restrict the amount of training resources available to any one client. Such restrictions may vary based upon the cost of training in the client's chosen occupational area. The regional workforce board may be designated as a one-stop operator and direct provider of intake, assessment, eligibility determinations, or other direct provider services except training services. Such designation may occur only with the agreement of the chief elected official and the Governor as specified in 29 U.S.C. s. 2832(f)(2). ~~CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, shall establish procedures by which a regional workforce board may request permission to operate under this section and the criteria under which such permission may be granted. The criteria shall include, but need not be limited to, a reduction in the cost of providing the permitted services. Such permission shall be granted for a period not to exceed 3 years for any single request submitted by the regional workforce board.

(7) Regional workforce boards shall adopt a committee structure consistent with applicable federal law and state policies established by ~~CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc.~~

(9) For purposes of procurement, regional workforce boards and their administrative entities are not state agencies and are exempt from chapters 120 and 287. The regional workforce boards shall apply the procurement and expenditure procedures required by federal law and policies of the Department of Economic Opportunity and ~~CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, for the expenditure of federal, state, and nonpass-through funds. The making or approval of smaller, multiple payments for a single purchase with the intent to avoid or evade the monetary thresholds and procedures established by federal law and policies of the Department of Economic Opportunity and ~~CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, is grounds for removal for cause. Regional workforce boards, their administrative entities, committees, and subcommittees, and other workforce units may authorize expenditures to award suitable framed certificates, pins, or other tokens of recognition for performance by units of the workforce system. Regional workforce boards; their administrative entities, committees, and subcommittees; and other workforce units may authorize expenditures for promotional items, such as t-shirts, hats, or pens printed with messages promoting Florida's workforce system to employers, job seekers, and program participants. However, such expenditures are subject to federal

regulations applicable to the expenditure of federal funds. All contracts executed by regional workforce boards must include specific performance expectations and deliverables.

(10) State and federal funds provided to the regional workforce boards may not be used directly or indirectly to pay for meals, food, or beverages for board members, staff, or employees of regional workforce boards, CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, or the Department of Economic Opportunity except as expressly authorized by state law. Preapproved, reasonable, and necessary per diem allowances and travel expenses may be reimbursed. Such reimbursement shall be at the standard travel reimbursement rates established in s. 112.061 and shall be in compliance with all applicable federal and state requirements. CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, shall develop a statewide fiscal policy applicable to the state board and all regional workforce boards, to hold both the state and regional boards strictly accountable for adherence to the policy and subject to regular and periodic monitoring by the Department of Economic Opportunity, the administrative entity for CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~ Boards are prohibited from expending state or federal funds for entertainment costs and recreational activities for board members and employees as these terms are defined by 2 C.F.R. part 230.

(11) To increase transparency and accountability, a regional workforce board must comply with the requirements of this section before contracting with a member of the board or a relative, as defined in s. 112.3143(1)(c), of a board member or of an employee of the board. Such contracts may not be executed before or without the approval of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~ Such contracts, as well as documentation demonstrating adherence to this section as specified by CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, must be submitted to the Department of Economic Opportunity for review and recommendation according to criteria to be determined by CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~ Such a contract must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the board, a quorum having been established; all conflicts of interest must be disclosed before the vote; and any member who may benefit from the contract, or whose relative may benefit from the contract, must abstain from the vote. A contract under \$25,000 between a regional workforce board and a member of that board or between a relative, as defined in s. 112.3143(1)(c), of a board member or of an employee of the board is not required to have the prior approval of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, but must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the board, a quorum having been established, and must be reported to the Department of Economic Opportunity and CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, within 30 days after approval. If a contract cannot be approved by CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, a review of the decision to disapprove the contract may be requested by the regional workforce board or other parties to the disapproved contract.

(12) Each regional workforce board shall develop a budget for the purpose of carrying out the duties of the board under this section, subject to the

approval of the chief elected official. Each regional workforce board shall submit its annual budget for review to CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., no later than 2 weeks after the chair approves the budget.

Section 31. Subsections (1) and (4) of section 445.0071, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

445.0071 Florida Youth Summer Jobs Pilot Program.—

(1) CREATION.—Contingent upon appropriations, there is created the Florida Youth Summer Jobs Pilot Program within workforce development district 22 served by the Broward Workforce Development Board. The board shall, in consultation with CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., provide a program offering at-risk and disadvantaged children summer jobs in partnership with local communities and public employers.

(4) GOVERNANCE.—

(a) The pilot program shall be administered by the regional workforce board in consultation with CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc.

(b) The regional workforce board shall report to CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., the number of at-risk and disadvantaged children who enter the program, the types of work activities they participate in, and the number of children who return to school, go on to postsecondary school, or enter the workforce full time at the end of the program. CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., shall report to the Legislature by November 1 of each year on the performance of the program.

Section 32. Section 445.008, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

445.008 Workforce Training Institute.—

(1) CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., may create the Workforce Training Institute, which shall be a comprehensive program of workforce training courses designed to meet the unique needs of, and shall include Internet-based training modules suitable for and made available to, professionals integral to the workforce system, including advisors and counselors in educational institutions.

(2) CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., may enter into a contract for the provision of administrative support services for the institute and Workforce Florida, Inc., shall adopt policies for the administration and operation of the institute and establish admission fees in an amount which, in the aggregate, does not exceed the cost of the program. CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., may accept donations or grants of any type for any function or purpose of the institute.

(3) All moneys, fees, donations, or grants collected by CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., under this section shall be applied to cover all costs incurred in establishing and conducting the workforce training

programs authorized under this section, including, but not limited to, salaries for instructors and costs of materials connected to such programs.

Section 33. Subsections (2) and (4), paragraph (b) of subsection (6), subsection (7), paragraphs (a), (c), and (d) of subsection (8), and subsection (9) of section 445.009, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

445.009 One-stop delivery system.—

(2)(a) Subject to a process designed by CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., and in compliance with Pub. L. No. 105-220, regional workforce boards shall designate one-stop delivery system operators.

(b) A regional workforce board may designate as its one-stop delivery system operator any public or private entity that is eligible to provide services under any state or federal workforce program that is a mandatory or discretionary partner in the region's one-stop delivery system if approved by CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., upon a showing by the regional workforce board that a fair and competitive process was used in the selection. As a condition of authorizing a regional workforce board to designate such an entity as its one-stop delivery system operator, CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., must require the regional workforce board to demonstrate that safeguards are in place to ensure that the one-stop delivery system operator will not exercise an unfair competitive advantage or unfairly refer or direct customers of the one-stop delivery system to services provided by that one-stop delivery system operator. A regional workforce board may retain its current One-Stop Career Center operator without further procurement action ~~if where~~ the board has an established a One-Stop Career Center that has complied with federal and state law.

(4) One-stop delivery system partners shall enter into a memorandum of understanding pursuant to Pub. L. No. 105-220, Title I, s. 121, with the regional workforce board. Failure of a local partner to participate cannot unilaterally block the majority of partners from moving forward with their one-stop delivery system, and CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., pursuant to s. 445.004(5)(e), may make notification of a local partner that fails to participate.

(6)

(b) To expand electronic capabilities, CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., working with regional workforce boards, shall develop a centralized help center to assist regional workforce boards in fulfilling core services, minimizing the need for fixed-site one-stop delivery system centers.

(7) Intensive services and training provided pursuant to Pub. L. No. 105-220, shall be provided to individuals through Intensive Service Accounts and Individual Training Accounts. CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., shall develop an implementation plan, including identification of

initially eligible training providers, transition guidelines, and criteria for use of these accounts. Individual Training Accounts must be compatible with Individual Development Accounts for education allowed in federal and state welfare reform statutes.

(8)(a) Individual Training Accounts must be expended on programs that prepare people to enter high-wage occupations identified by the Workforce Estimating Conference created by s. 216.136, and on other programs as approved by CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~

(c) CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, shall periodically review Individual Training Account pricing schedules developed by regional workforce boards and present findings and recommendations for process improvement to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

(d) To the maximum extent possible, training providers shall use funding sources other than the funding provided under Pub. L. No. 105-220. CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, shall develop a system to encourage the leveraging of appropriated resources for the workforce system and shall report on such efforts as part of the required annual report.

(9)(a) CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, working with the department, shall coordinate among the agencies a plan for a One-Stop Electronic Network made up of one-stop delivery system centers and other partner agencies that are operated by authorized public or private for-profit or not-for-profit agents. The plan shall identify resources within existing revenues to establish and support this electronic network for service delivery that includes Government Services Direct. If necessary, the plan shall identify additional funding needed to achieve the provisions of this subsection.

(b) The network shall assure that a uniform method is used to determine eligibility for and management of services provided by agencies that conduct workforce development activities. The Department of Management Services shall develop strategies to allow access to the databases and information management systems of the following systems in order to link information in those databases with the one-stop delivery system:

1. The Reemployment Assistance Program under chapter 443.
2. The public employment service described in s. 443.181.
3. The FLORIDA System and the components related to temporary cash assistance, food assistance, and Medicaid eligibility.
4. The Student Financial Assistance System of the Department of Education.
5. Enrollment in the public postsecondary education system.

6. Other information systems determined appropriate by CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~

Section 34. Section 445.011, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

445.011 Workforce information systems.—

(1) CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, shall implement, subject to legislative appropriation, automated information systems that are necessary for the efficient and effective operation and management of the workforce development system. These information systems shall include, but need not be limited to, the following:

(a) An integrated management system for the one-stop service delivery system, which includes, at a minimum, common registration and intake, screening for needs and benefits, case planning and tracking, training benefits management, service and training provider management, performance reporting, executive information and reporting, and customer-satisfaction tracking and reporting.

1. The system should report current budgeting, expenditure, and performance information for assessing performance related to outcomes, service delivery, and financial administration for workforce programs pursuant to s. 445.004(5) and (9).

2. The information system should include auditable systems and controls to ensure financial integrity and valid and reliable performance information.

3. The system should support service integration and case management by providing for case tracking for participants in welfare transition programs.

(b) An automated job-matching information system that is accessible to employers, job seekers, and other users via the Internet, and that includes, at a minimum:

1. Skill match information, including skill gap analysis; resume creation; job order creation; skill tests; job search by area, employer type, and employer name; and training provider linkage;

2. Job market information based on surveys, including local, state, regional, national, and international occupational and job availability information; and

3. Service provider information, including education and training providers, child care facilities and related information, health and social service agencies, and other providers of services that would be useful to job seekers.

(2) In procuring workforce information systems, CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, shall employ competitive processes, including requests for proposals, competitive negotiation, and other competitive

processes to ensure that the procurement results in the most cost-effective investment of state funds.

(3) CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, may procure independent verification and validation services associated with developing and implementing any workforce information system.

(4) CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, shall coordinate development and implementation of workforce information systems with the executive director of the Agency for State Technology to ensure compatibility with the state’s information system strategy and enterprise architecture.

Section 35. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 445.014, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

445.014 Small business workforce service initiative.—

(1) Subject to legislative appropriation, CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, shall establish a program to encourage regional workforce development boards to establish one-stop delivery systems that maximize the provision of workforce and human-resource support services to small businesses. Under the program, a regional workforce board may apply, on a competitive basis, for funds to support the provision of such services to small businesses through the region’s one-stop delivery system.

(3) CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, shall establish guidelines governing the administration of this program and shall establish criteria to be used in evaluating applications for funding. Such criteria must include, but need not be limited to, a showing that the regional board has in place a detailed plan for establishing a one-stop delivery system designed to meet the workforce needs of small businesses and for leveraging other funding sources in support of such activities.

Section 36. Subsection (5) of section 445.016, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

445.016 Untried Worker Placement and Employment Incentive Act.—

(5) Incentives must be paid according to the incentive schedule developed by CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, the Department of Economic Opportunity, and the Department of Children and Families which costs the state less per placement than the state’s 12-month expenditure on a welfare recipient.

Section 37. Subsections (2) and (4) of section 445.021, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

445.021 Relocation assistance program.—

(2) The relocation assistance program shall involve five steps by the regional workforce board, in cooperation with the Department of Children and Families:

(a) A determination that the family is receiving temporary cash assistance or that all requirements of eligibility for diversion services would likely be met.

(b) A determination that there is a basis for believing that relocation will contribute to the ability of the applicant to achieve self-sufficiency. For example, the applicant:

1. Is unlikely to achieve economic self-sufficiency at the current community of residence;

2. Has secured a job that provides an increased salary or improved benefits and that requires relocation to another community;

3. Has a family support network that will contribute to job retention in another community;

4. Is determined, pursuant to criteria or procedures established by the board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, to be a victim of domestic violence who would experience reduced probability of further incidents through relocation; or

5. Must relocate in order to receive education or training that is directly related to the applicant's employment or career advancement.

(c) Establishment of a relocation plan that includes such requirements as are necessary to prevent abuse of the benefit and provisions to protect the safety of victims of domestic violence and avoid provisions that place them in anticipated danger. The payment to defray relocation expenses shall be determined based on criteria approved by the board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~ Participants in the relocation program shall be eligible for diversion or transitional benefits.

(d) A determination, pursuant to criteria adopted by the board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, that a community receiving a relocated family has the capacity to provide needed services and employment opportunities.

(e) Monitoring the relocation.

(4) The board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, may establish criteria for developing and implementing relocation plans and for drafting agreements to restrict a family from applying for temporary cash assistance for a specified period after receiving a relocation assistance payment.

Section 38. Section 445.022, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

445.022 Retention Incentive Training Accounts.—To promote job retention and to enable upward job advancement into higher skilled, higher paying employment, the board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., and the regional workforce boards may assemble, from postsecondary education institutions, a list of programs and courses offered by postsecondary educational institutions which may be available to ~~for~~ participants who have become employed to which promote job retention and advancement.

(1) The board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., may establish Retention Incentive Training Accounts (RITAs) to use. ~~RITAs shall utilize~~ Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) block grant funds specifically appropriated for this purpose. RITAs must complement the Individual Training Account required by the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998, Pub. L. No. 105-220.

(2) RITAs may pay for tuition, fees, educational materials, coaching and mentoring, performance incentives, transportation to and from courses, child care costs during education courses, and other such costs as the regional workforce boards determine are necessary to effect successful job retention and advancement.

(3) Regional workforce boards shall retain only those courses that continue to meet their performance standards as established in their local plan.

(4) Regional workforce boards shall report annually to the Legislature on the measurable retention and advancement success of each program provider and the effectiveness of RITAs, making recommendations for any needed changes or modifications.

Section 39. Paragraph (e) of subsection (5) of section 445.024, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

445.024 Work requirements.—

(5) USE OF CONTRACTS.—Regional workforce boards shall provide work activities, training, and other services, as appropriate, through contracts. In contracting for work activities, training, or services, the following applies:

(e) The administrative costs associated with a contract for services provided under this section may not exceed the applicable administrative cost ceiling established in federal law. An agency or entity that is awarded a contract under this section may not charge more than 7 percent of the value of the contract for administration, ~~unless an exception is approved by the regional workforce board.~~ A list of any exceptions approved must be submitted to the board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., for review, and the board may rescind approval of the exception.

Section 40. Subsection (6) of section 445.026, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

445.026 Cash assistance severance benefit.—An individual who meets the criteria listed in this section may choose to receive a lump-sum payment in lieu of ongoing cash assistance payments, provided the individual:

(6) Signs an agreement not to apply for or accept cash assistance for 6 months after receipt of the one-time payment. In the event of an emergency, such agreement shall provide for an exception to this restriction, provided that the one-time payment shall be deducted from any cash assistance for which the family subsequently is approved. This deduction may be prorated over an 8-month period. The board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, shall adopt criteria defining the conditions under which a family may receive cash assistance due to such emergency.

Such individual may choose to accept a one-time, lump-sum payment of \$1,000 in lieu of receiving ongoing cash assistance. Such payment shall only count toward the time limitation for the month in which the payment is made in lieu of cash assistance. A participant choosing to accept such payment shall be terminated from cash assistance. However, eligibility for Medicaid, food assistance, or child care shall continue, subject to the eligibility requirements of those programs.

Section 41. Section 445.028, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

445.028 Transitional benefits and services.—In cooperation with CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, the Department of Children and Families shall develop procedures to ensure that families leaving the temporary cash assistance program receive transitional benefits and services that will assist the family in moving toward self-sufficiency. At a minimum, such procedures must include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1) Each recipient of cash assistance who is determined ineligible for cash assistance for a reason other than a work activity sanction shall be contacted by the workforce system case manager and provided information about the availability of transitional benefits and services. Such contact shall be attempted prior to closure of the case management file.

(2) Each recipient of temporary cash assistance who is determined ineligible for cash assistance due to noncompliance with the work activity requirements shall be contacted and provided information in accordance with s. 414.065(1).

(3) The department, in consultation with the board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, shall develop informational material, including posters and brochures, to better inform families about the availability of transitional benefits and services.

(4) CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, in cooperation with the Department of Children and Families shall, to the extent permitted

by federal law, develop procedures to maximize the utilization of transitional Medicaid by families who leave the temporary cash assistance program.

Section 42. Section 445.030, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

445.030 Transitional education and training.—In order to assist former recipients of temporary cash assistance who are working or actively seeking employment in continuing their training and upgrading their skills, education, or training, support services may be provided for up to 2 years after the family is no longer receiving temporary cash assistance. This section does not constitute an entitlement to transitional education and training. If funds are not sufficient to provide services under this section, the board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., may limit or otherwise prioritize transitional education and training.

(1) Education or training resources available in the community at no additional cost shall be used whenever possible.

(2) Regional workforce boards may authorize child care or other support services in addition to services provided in conjunction with employment. For example, a participant who is employed full time may receive child care services related to that employment and may also receive additional child care services in conjunction with training to upgrade the participant's skills.

(3) Transitional education or training must be job-related, but may include training to improve job skills in a participant's existing area of employment or may include training to prepare a participant for employment in another occupation.

(4) A regional workforce board may enter into an agreement with an employer to share the costs relating to upgrading the skills of participants hired by the employer. For example, a regional workforce board may agree to provide support services such as transportation or a wage subsidy in conjunction with training opportunities provided by the employer.

Section 43. Section 445.033, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

445.033 Evaluation.—The board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., and the Department of Children and Families shall arrange for evaluation of TANF-funded programs operated under this chapter, as follows:

(1) If required by federal waivers or other federal requirements, the board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., and the department may provide for evaluation according to these requirements.

(2) The board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., and the department shall participate in the evaluation of this program in conjunction with evaluation of the state's workforce development programs or similar activities aimed at evaluating program outcomes, cost-effectiveness, or return on investment, and the impact of time

limits, sanctions, and other welfare reform measures set out in this chapter. Evaluation shall also contain information on the number of participants in work experience assignments who obtain unsubsidized employment, including, but not limited to, the length of time the unsubsidized job is retained, wages, and the public benefits, if any, received by such families while in unsubsidized employment. The evaluation ~~shall~~ must solicit the input of consumers, community-based organizations, service providers, employers, and the general public, and ~~shall~~ must publicize, especially in low-income communities, the process for submitting comments.

(3) The board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, and the department may share information with and develop protocols for information exchange with the Florida Education and Training Placement Information Program.

(4) The board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, and the department may initiate or participate in additional evaluation or assessment activities that will further the systematic study of issues related to program goals and outcomes.

(5) In providing for evaluation activities, the board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, and the department shall safeguard the use or disclosure of information obtained from program participants consistent with federal or state requirements. Evaluation methodologies may be used which are appropriate for evaluation of program activities, including random assignment of recipients or participants into program groups or control groups. To the extent necessary or appropriate, evaluation data shall provide information with respect to the state, district, or county, or other substate area.

(6) The board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, and the department may contract with a qualified organization for evaluations conducted under this section.

Section 44. Section 445.035, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

445.035 Data collection and reporting.—The Department of Children and Families and the board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, shall collect data necessary to administer this chapter and make the reports required under federal law to the United States Department of Health and Human Services and the United States Department of Agriculture.

Section 45. Section 445.038, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

445.038 Digital media; job training.—CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, through the Department of Economic Opportunity, may use funds dedicated for incumbent worker training for the digital media industry. Training may be provided by public or private training providers for broadband digital media jobs listed on the targeted occupations list

developed by the Workforce Estimating Conference or CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc. Programs that operate outside the normal semester time periods and coordinate the use of industry and public resources should be given priority status for funding.

Section 46. Section 445.045, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

445.045 Development of an Internet-based system for information technology industry promotion and workforce recruitment.—

(1) CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., is responsible for directing the development and maintenance of a website that promotes and markets the information technology industry in this state. The website shall be designed to inform the public concerning the scope of the information technology industry in the state and shall also be designed to address the workforce needs of the industry. The website must ~~shall~~ include, through links or actual content, information concerning information technology businesses in this state, including links to such businesses; information concerning employment available at these businesses; and the means by which a job seeker may post a resume on the website.

(2) CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., shall coordinate with the Agency for State Technology and the Department of Economic Opportunity to ensure links, as ~~where~~ feasible and appropriate, to existing job information websites maintained by the state and state agencies and to ensure that information technology positions offered by the state and state agencies are posted on the information technology website.

(3) CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., shall ensure that the website developed and maintained under this section is consistent, compatible, and coordinated with the workforce information systems required under s. 445.011, including, but not limited to, the automated job-matching information system for employers, job seekers, and other users.

(4)(a) CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., shall coordinate development and maintenance of the website under this section with the executive director of the Agency for State Technology to ensure compatibility with the state’s information system strategy and enterprise architecture.

(b) CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., may enter into an agreement with the Agency for State Technology, the Department of Economic Opportunity, or any other public agency with the requisite information technology expertise for the provision of design, operating, or other technological services necessary to develop and maintain the website.

(c) CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., may procure services necessary to implement this section, if it employs competitive processes, including requests for proposals, competitive negotiation, and other competitive processes to ensure that the procurement results in the most cost-effective investment of state funds.

(5) In furtherance of the requirements of this section that the website promote and market the information technology industry by communicating information on the scope of the industry in this state, CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., shall coordinate its efforts with the high-technology industry marketing efforts of Enterprise Florida, Inc., under s. 288.911. Through links or actual content, the website developed under this section shall serve as a forum for distributing the marketing campaign developed by Enterprise Florida, Inc., under s. 288.911. In addition, CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., shall solicit input from the not-for-profit corporation created to advocate on behalf of the information technology industry as an outgrowth of the Information Service Technology Development Task Force created under chapter 99-354, Laws of Florida.

(6) In fulfilling its responsibilities under this section, CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., may enlist the assistance of and act through the Department of Economic Opportunity. The department is authorized and directed to provide the services that CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., and the department consider necessary to implement this section.

Section 47. Section 445.048, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

445.048 Passport to Economic Progress program.—

(1) AUTHORIZATION.—Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., in conjunction with the Department of Children and Families and the Department of Economic Opportunity, shall implement a Passport to Economic Progress program consistent with the provisions of this section. CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., may designate regional workforce boards to participate in the program. Expenses for the program may come from appropriated revenues or from funds otherwise available to a regional workforce board which may be legally used for such purposes. CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., must consult with the applicable regional workforce boards and the applicable local offices of the Department of Children and Families which serve the program areas and must encourage community input into the implementation process.

(2) WAIVERS.—If CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., in consultation with the Department of Children and Families, finds that federal waivers would facilitate implementation of the program, the department shall immediately request such waivers, and CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., shall report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives if any refusal of the federal government to grant such waivers prevents the implementation of the program. If CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., finds that federal waivers to provisions of the Food Assistance Program would facilitate implementation of the program, the Department of Children and Families shall immediately request such waivers in accordance with s. 414.175.

(3) TRANSITIONAL BENEFITS AND SERVICES.—In order to assist them in making the transition to economic self-sufficiency, former recipients of temporary cash assistance participating in the passport program shall be eligible for the following benefits and services:

(a) Notwithstanding the time period specified in s. 445.030, transitional education and training support services as specified in s. 445.030 for up to 4 years after the family is no longer receiving temporary cash assistance;

(b) Notwithstanding the time period specified in s. 445.031, transitional transportation support services as specified in s. 445.031 for up to 4 years after the family is no longer receiving temporary cash assistance; and

(c) Notwithstanding the time period specified in s. 445.032, transitional child care as specified in s. 445.032 for up to 4 years after the family is no longer receiving temporary cash assistance.

All other provisions of ss. 445.030, 445.031, and 445.032 shall apply to such individuals, as appropriate. This subsection does not constitute an entitlement to transitional benefits and services. If funds are insufficient to provide benefits and services under this subsection, the board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, or its agent, may limit such benefits and services or otherwise establish priorities for the provisions of such benefits and services.

(4) INCENTIVES TO ECONOMIC SELF-SUFFICIENCY.—

(a) The Legislature finds that:

1. There are former recipients of temporary cash assistance and families who are eligible for temporary assistance for needy families who are working full time but whose incomes are below 200 percent of the federal poverty level.

2. Having incomes below 200 percent of the federal poverty level makes such individuals particularly vulnerable to reliance on public assistance despite their best efforts to achieve or maintain economic independence through employment.

3. It is necessary to implement a performance-based program that defines economic incentives for achieving specific benchmarks toward self-sufficiency while the individual is working full time.

(b) CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, in cooperation with the Department of Children and Families and the Department of Economic Opportunity, shall offer performance-based incentive bonuses as a component of the Passport to Economic Progress program. The bonuses do not represent a program entitlement and ~~are~~ shall be contingent on achieving specific benchmarks prescribed in the self-sufficiency plan. If the funds appropriated for this purpose are insufficient to provide this financial incentive, the board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc.

~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, may reduce or suspend the bonuses in order not to exceed the appropriation or may direct the regional boards to use resources otherwise given to the regional workforce to pay such bonuses if such payments comply with applicable state and federal laws.

(c) To be eligible for an incentive bonus under this subsection, an individual must:

1. Be a former recipient of temporary cash assistance who last received such assistance on or after January 1, 2000, or be part of a family that is eligible for temporary assistance for needy families;

2. Be employed full time, which for the purposes of this subsection means employment averaging at least 32 hours per week, until the United States Congress enacts legislation reauthorizing the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families block grant and, after the reauthorization, means employment complying with the employment requirements of the reauthorization; and

3. Have an average family income for the 6 months preceding the date of application for an incentive bonus which is less than 200 percent of the federal poverty level.

(5) EVALUATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.—~~CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, in conjunction with the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Economic Opportunity, and the regional workforce boards, shall conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the effectiveness of the program operated under this section. Evaluations and recommendations for the program shall be submitted by CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., as part of its annual report to the Legislature.

(6) CONFLICTS.—If there is a conflict between the implementation procedures described in this section and federal requirements and regulations, federal requirements and regulations shall control.

Section 48. Subsections (6), (8), (11), and (13) of section 445.051, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

445.051 Individual development accounts.—

(6) CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~The Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, shall establish procedures for regional workforce boards to include in their annual program and financial plan an application to offer an individual development account program as part of their TANF allocation. These procedures must shall include, but need not be limited to, administrative costs permitted for the fiduciary organization and policies relative to identifying the match ratio and limits on the deposits for which the match will be provided in the application process. CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., shall establish policies and procedures ~~that are~~ necessary to ensure that funds

held in an individual development account are not withdrawn except for one or more of the qualified purposes described in this section.

(8) ~~CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, shall establish procedures for controlling the withdrawal of funds for uses other than qualified purposes, including specifying conditions under which an account must be closed.

(11) Financial institutions approved by ~~CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, may establish individual development accounts pursuant to this section. A financial institution shall certify the establishment of the individual development accounts in accordance with the forms, documentation, and requirements prescribed by ~~CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc.~~

(13) Pursuant to policy direction by ~~CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, the Department of Economic Opportunity shall adopt such rules as are necessary to implement this act.

Section 49. Subsection (2), paragraph (e) of subsection (3), and subsection (4) of section 445.055, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

445.055 Employment advocacy and assistance program targeting military spouses and dependents.—

(2) ~~CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, shall establish an employment advocacy and assistance program targeting military spouses and dependents. This program shall deliver employment assistance services through military family employment advocates colocated within selected one-stop career centers. Persons eligible for assistance through this program shall include spouses and dependents of active duty military personnel, Florida National Guard members, and military reservists.

(3) Military family employment advocates are responsible for providing the following services and activities:

(e) Other employment assistance services ~~CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, deems necessary.

(4) ~~CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, may enter into agreements with public and private entities to provide services authorized under this section.

Section 50. Section 446.41, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

446.41 Legislative intent with respect to rural workforce training and development; establishment of Rural Workforce Services Program.—In order that the state may achieve its full economic and social potential, consideration must be given to rural workforce training and development to enable those living in its rural areas citizens ~~as well as urban citizens~~ to develop their maximum capacities and participate productively in ~~our~~ society. It is,

therefore, the policy of the state to make available those services needed to assist individuals and communities in rural areas to improve their quality of life. It is with a great sense of urgency that a Rural Workforce Services Program is established within the Department of Economic Opportunity, under the direction of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, to provide equal access to all manpower training programs available to rural as well as urban areas.

Section 51. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 446.50, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

446.50 Displaced homemakers; multiservice programs; report to the Legislature; Displaced Homemaker Trust Fund created.—

(3) POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY.—

(a) The Department of Economic Opportunity, under plans established by CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, shall establish, or contract for the establishment of, programs for displaced homemakers which shall include:

1. Job counseling, by professionals and peers, specifically designed for a person entering the job market after a number of years as a homemaker.

2. Job training and placement services, including:

a. Training programs for available jobs in the public and private sectors, taking into account the skills and job experiences of a homemaker and developed by working with public and private employers.

b. Assistance in locating available employment for displaced homemakers, some of whom could be employed in existing job training and placement programs.

c. Utilization of the services of the state employment service in locating employment opportunities.

3. Financial management services providing information and assistance with respect to insurance, including, but not limited to, life, health, home, and automobile insurance, and taxes, estate and probate problems, mortgages, loans, and other related financial matters.

4. Educational services, including high school equivalency degree and such other courses that as the department determines would be of interest and benefit to displaced homemakers.

5. Outreach and information services with respect to federal and state employment, education, health, and reemployment assistance programs that the department determines would be of interest and benefit to displaced homemakers.

Section 52. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section 1003.491, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.491 Florida Career and Professional Education Act.—The Florida Career and Professional Education Act is created to provide a statewide planning partnership between the business and education communities in order to attract, expand, and retain targeted, high-value industry and to sustain a strong, knowledge-based economy.

(4) The State Board of Education shall establish a process for the continual and uninterrupted review of newly proposed core secondary courses and existing courses requested to be considered as core courses to ensure that sufficient rigor and relevance is provided for workforce skills and postsecondary education and aligned to state curriculum standards.

(a) The review of newly proposed core secondary courses shall be the responsibility of a curriculum review committee whose membership is approved by CareerSource Florida, Inc. The membership of the committee Workforce Florida, Inc., and shall include:

1. Three certified high school counselors recommended by the Florida Association of Student Services Administrators.

2. Three assistant superintendents for curriculum and instruction, recommended by the Florida Association of District School Superintendents, and who serve in districts that operate successful career and professional academies pursuant to s. 1003.492 or a successful series of courses that lead to industry certification. Committee members in this category shall employ the expertise of appropriate subject area specialists in the review of proposed courses.

3. Three workforce representatives recommended by the Department of Economic Opportunity.

4. Three admissions directors of postsecondary institutions accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, representing both public and private institutions.

5. The Commissioner of Education, or his or her designee, who is responsible for K-12 curriculum and instruction ~~and. The commissioner~~ shall employ the expertise of appropriate subject area specialists in the review of proposed courses.

Section 53. Subsections (3), (4), and (5) of section 1003.492, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1003.492 Industry-certified career education programs.—

(3) The State Board of Education shall use the expertise of CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., and the Department of Agriculture and

Consumer Services to develop and adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 for implementing an industry certification process.

(a) For nonfarm occupations, industry certification must ~~shall~~ be based upon the highest available national standards for specific industry certification to ensure student skill proficiency and to address emerging labor market and industry trends. A regional workforce board or a school principal may apply to CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., to request additions to the approved list of industry certifications based on high-skill, high-wage, and high-demand job requirements in the regional economy.

(b) For farm occupations submitted pursuant to s. 570.07, industry certification must ~~shall~~ demonstrate student skill proficiency and be based upon the best available data to address critical local or statewide economic needs.

(4) The list of industry certifications approved by CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and the Department of Education shall be published and updated annually by a date certain, to be included in the adopted rule.

(5) The Department of Education shall collect student achievement and performance data in industry-certified career education programs and career-themed courses and shall work with CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., and the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in the analysis of collected data. The data collection and analyses shall examine the performance of participating students over time. Performance factors must ~~shall~~ include, but need ~~not~~ be limited to, graduation rates, retention rates, Florida Bright Futures Scholarship awards, additional educational attainment, employment records, earnings, industry certification, return on investment, and employer satisfaction. The results of this study shall be submitted to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives annually by December 31.

Section 54. Subsection (6) of section 1003.493, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.493 Career and professional academies and career-themed courses.

(6) CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., shall serve in an advisory role and offer technical assistance in the development and deployment of newly established career and professional academies and career-themed courses.

Section 55. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 1003.51, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.51 Other public educational services.—

(2) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules articulating expectations for effective education programs for students in Department of Juvenile

Justice programs, including, but not limited to, education programs in juvenile justice prevention, day treatment, residential, and detention programs. The rule shall establish policies and standards for education programs for students in Department of Juvenile Justice programs and shall include the following:

(b) The responsibilities of the Department of Education, the Department of Juvenile Justice, CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, district school boards, and providers of education services to students in Department of Juvenile Justice programs.

Section 56. Subsection (23) of section 1003.52, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.52 Educational services in Department of Juvenile Justice programs.—

(23) The Department of Juvenile Justice and the Department of Education, in consultation with CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, the statewide Workforce Development Youth Council, district school boards, Florida College System institutions, providers, and others, shall jointly develop a multiagency plan for CAPE which describes the funding, curriculum, transfer of credits, goals, and outcome measures for career education programming in juvenile commitment facilities, pursuant to s. 985.622. The plan must be reviewed annually.

Section 57. Paragraph (g) of subsection (2) of section 1004.015, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1004.015 Higher Education Coordinating Council.—

(2) Members of the council shall include:

(g) The president of CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, or his or her designee.

Section 58. Subsection (8) of section 1011.80, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1011.80 Funds for operation of workforce education programs.—

(8) The State Board of Education and CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~, shall provide the Legislature with recommended formulas, criteria, timeframes, and mechanisms for distributing performance funds. The commissioner shall consolidate the recommendations and develop a consensus proposal for funding. The Legislature shall adopt a formula and distribute the performance funds to the State Board of Education for Florida College System institutions and school districts through the General Appropriations Act. These recommendations shall be based on formulas that would discourage low-performing or low-demand programs and encourage through performance-funding awards:

(a) Programs that prepare people to enter high-wage occupations identified by the Workforce Estimating Conference created by s. 216.136 and other programs as approved by CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc. At a minimum, performance incentives shall be calculated for adults who reach completion points or complete programs that lead to specified high-wage employment and to their placement in that employment.

(b) Programs that successfully prepare adults who are eligible for public assistance, economically disadvantaged, disabled, not proficient in English, or dislocated workers for high-wage occupations. At a minimum, performance incentives shall be calculated at an enhanced value for the completion of adults identified in this paragraph and job placement of such adults upon completion. In addition, adjustments may be made in payments for job placements for areas of high unemployment.

(c) Programs that are specifically designed to be consistent with the workforce needs of private enterprise and regional economic development strategies, as defined in guidelines set by CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc. CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., shall develop guidelines to identify such needs and strategies based on localized research of private employers and economic development practitioners.

(d) Programs identified by CareerSource Florida, Inc. Workforce Florida, Inc., as increasing the effectiveness and cost efficiency of education.

Section 59. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 1011.801, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1011.801 Workforce Development Capitalization Incentive Grant Program.—The Legislature recognizes that the need for school districts and Florida College System institutions to be able to respond to emerging local or statewide economic development needs is critical to the workforce development system. The Workforce Development Capitalization Incentive Grant Program is created to provide grants to school districts and Florida College System institutions on a competitive basis to fund some or all of the costs associated with the creation or expansion of workforce development programs that serve specific employment workforce needs.

(2) The State Board of Education shall accept applications from school districts or Florida College System institutions for workforce development capitalization incentive grants. Applications from school districts or Florida College System institutions shall contain projected enrollments and projected costs for the new or expanded workforce development program. The State Board of Education, in consultation with CareerSource Florida, Inc. the Workforce Florida, Inc., shall review and rank each application for a grant according to subsection (3) and shall submit to the Legislature a list in priority order of applications recommended for a grant award.

(3) The State Board of Education shall give highest priority to programs that train people to enter high-skill, high-wage occupations identified by the Workforce Estimating Conference and other programs approved by CareerSource Florida, Inc. ~~Workforce Florida, Inc.~~; programs that train people to enter occupations under the welfare transition program; or programs that train for the workforce adults who are eligible for public assistance, economically disadvantaged, disabled, not proficient in English, or dislocated workers. The State Board of Education shall consider the statewide geographic dispersion of grant funds in ranking the applications and shall give priority to applications from education agencies that are making maximum use of their workforce development funding by offering high-performing, high-demand programs.

Section 60. (1) There is created a task force on preparation for the state’s implementation of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, Pub. L. No. 113-128. The task force is assigned to CareerSource Florida, Inc., for administrative purposes only.

(2) The task force shall convene no later than June 1, 2015, and shall be composed of the following 20 members:

(a) The president of CareerSource Florida, Inc., who shall serve as chair of the task force.

(b) The executive director of the Department of Economic Opportunity or his or her designee.

(c) The Commissioner of Education or his or her designee.

(d) The Chancellor of the State University System or his or her designee.

(e) The Chancellor of the Florida College System or his or her designee.

(f) The Chancellor of the Division of Career and Adult Education of the Department of Education or his or her designee.

(g) The director of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation of the Department of Education or his or her designee.

(h) The director of the Division of Blind Services of the Department of Education or his or her designee.

(i) The director of the Agency for Persons with Disabilities or his or her designee.

(j) The Secretary of Elderly Affairs or his or her designee.

(k) The Secretary of Children and Families or his or her designee.

(l) The Secretary of Juvenile Justice or his or her designee.

(m) The Secretary of Corrections or his or her designee.

(n) The president of Enterprise Florida, Inc., or his or her designee.

(o) The president of the Florida Workforce Development Association, Inc., and two of his or her designees from regional workforce boards, one of whom must be a representative of a rural regional workforce board.

(p) The statewide director of the Florida Small Business Development Center Network or his or her designee.

(q) The president of the Florida Association of Postsecondary Schools and Colleges, Inc., or his or her designee.

(r) The president of the Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida, Inc., or his or her designee.

(2)(a) CareerSource Florida, Inc., shall provide administrative and staff support services to the task force which relate to its functions, including creating workgroups or subcommittees of the task force.

(b) Members of the task force shall serve without compensation but are entitled to reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses in accordance with s. 112.061, Florida Statutes. Per diem and travel expenses incurred by a member of the task force shall be paid from funds budgeted to the state agency or entity that the member represents.

(3)(a) The task force shall develop recommendations for the state's implementation of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, which recommendations shall be presented to and approved by the board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc. The recommendations shall include, but are not limited to:

1. A review of current workforce service delivery and recommendations for inclusiveness of programs.

2. A regional planning design.

3. A one-stop service delivery design.

4. The integration of economic development, workforce development, and the state's education system.

5. The development of sector strategies and career pathways.

(b) The task force shall submit a report containing the approved recommendations to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by December 1, 2015.

(4) CareerSource Florida, Inc., shall incorporate the task force's approved recommendations into the state plan required under the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, which, upon approval of the state plan by the board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc., shall be submitted to the United States Department of Labor, with a copy of the state plan provided to

the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

(5) The task force is abolished June 30, 2016, or at an earlier date as provided by the task force.

Section 61. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor June 2, 2015.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 2, 2015.