

CHAPTER 2021-66

House Bill No. 435

An act relating to veterans employment and training; amending s. 295.21, F.S.; directing Florida Is For Veterans, Inc., to serve as the state's principal assistance organization under the United States Department of Defense's SkillBridge program; amending s. 295.22, F.S.; prescribing duties of the corporation to facilitate the administration of the SkillBridge program; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (g) is added to subsection (3) of section 295.21, Florida Statutes, to read:

295.21 Florida Is For Veterans, Inc.—

(3) DUTIES.—The corporation shall:

(g) Serve as the state's principal assistance organization under the United States Department of Defense's SkillBridge program for employers and transitioning servicemembers.

Section 2. Paragraph (f) is added to subsection (3) of section 295.22, Florida Statutes, 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:

(f) As the state's principal assistance organization under the United States Department of Defense's SkillBridge program for qualified businesses in this state and for transitioning servicemembers who reside in, or who wish to reside in, this state, the corporation shall:

1. Establish and maintain, as applicable, its certification for the SkillBridge program or any other similar workforce training and transition programs established by the United States Department of Defense;

2. Educate businesses, business associations, and transitioning servicemembers on the SkillBridge program and its benefits, and educate military command and personnel within the state on the opportunities available to transitioning servicemembers through the SkillBridge program;

3. Assist businesses in obtaining approval for skilled workforce training curricula under the SkillBridge program, including, but not limited to, apprenticeships, internships, or fellowships; and

4. Match transitioning servicemembers who are deemed eligible for SkillBridge participation by their military command with training opportunities offered by the corporation or participating businesses, with the intent of having transitioning servicemembers achieve gainful employment in this state upon completion of their SkillBridge training.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.

Approved by the Governor June 4, 2021.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 4, 2021.