

Senate Bill No. 2164

An act relating to enterprise zones; amending s. 290.00675, F.S.; authorizing the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development to amend the boundaries of specified communities and increasing the population limit thereof; amending s. 290.00676, F.S.; extending the deadline for requests to amend rural enterprise zone boundaries; creating s. 290.00679, F.S.; authorizing the amendment of the boundaries of certain rural enterprise zones after recommendation of Enterprise Florida, Inc., and upon recommendation of the local development agency; creating s. 290.00684, F.S.; authorizing Escambia County to apply to the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development for designation of one enterprise zone, notwithstanding certain limitations; providing requirements with respect thereto; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 290.00675, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

290.00675 Amendment of certain enterprise zone boundaries.—Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development may amend the boundaries of an area designated as an enterprise zone in a community having a population of 235,000 persons but less than 260,000 ~~245,000~~, so long as the area does not increase the overall size of the zone by greater than 25 acres and the increased area is contiguous to the existing enterprise zone. The amendment must also be consistent with the limitations imposed by s. 290.0055 upon establishment of the enterprise zone.

Section 2. Subsection (3) of section 290.00676, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

290.00676 Amendment of rural enterprise zone boundaries.—Notwithstanding any other law, upon recommendation by Enterprise Florida, Inc., the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development may approve requests to amend the boundaries of rural enterprise zones as defined in s. 290.004(8). Boundary amendments authorized by this section are subject to the following requirements:

(3) The local enterprise zone development agency must request the amendment from Enterprise Florida, Inc., prior to December 30, ~~2003~~ 2001. The request must contain maps and sufficient information to allow the office to determine the number of noncontiguous areas and the total size of the rural enterprise zone.

Section 3. Section 290.00679, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

290.00679 Amendment to certain rural enterprise zone boundaries.—Notwithstanding any other law, upon recommendation by Enterprise Florida, Inc., the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development may

approve requests to amend the boundaries of rural enterprise zones as defined in s. 290.004(8). Boundary amendments authorized by this section are subject to the following requirements:

(1) The amendment may increase the size of the rural enterprise zone up to a maximum zone size of 20 square miles.

(2) For purposes of this section, the pervasive poverty criterion may be set aside.

(3) The local enterprise zone development agency must request the amendment from Enterprise Florida, Inc., before December 31, 2003. The request must contain maps and sufficient information to allow the office to determine the total size of the rural enterprise zone.

Section 4. Enterprise zone designation for Escambia County.—Escambia County may apply to the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development for designation of one enterprise zone within the county encompassing an area which shall not exceed 20 square miles and shall have a contiguous boundary or shall consist of not more than three noncontiguous areas. The application must be submitted by December 31, 2003, and must comply with the requirements of section 290.0055, Florida Statutes, except section 290.0055(3), Florida Statutes. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 290.0065, Florida Statutes, limiting the total number of enterprise zones designated and the number of enterprise zones within a population category, the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development may designate one enterprise zone under this section. The Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development shall establish the initial effective date of the enterprise zone designated pursuant to this section.

Section 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor May 21, 2003.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 21, 2003.