

CHAPTER 2024-234

Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 1420

An act relating to the Department of Commerce; amending s. 163.3167, F.S.; providing that a citizen-led county charter amendment that is not required to be approved by the board of county commissioners which preempts certain actions is prohibited unless expressly authorized in a county charter that was lawful and in effect on a specified date; amending s. 163.3175, F.S.; conforming a provision to changes made by the act; amending s. 163.3184, F.S.; revising the process for adopting comprehensive plan amendments; providing that amendments are deemed withdrawn if the local government fails to transmit the comprehensive plan amendments to the department, in its role as the state land planning agency, within a certain timeframe; amending s. 288.066, F.S.; revising the maximum length of a loan term under the Local Government Emergency Revolving Bridge Loan Program; amending s. 288.1229, F.S.; revising the duties of the Florida Sports Foundation; amending ss. 288.980 and 288.985, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 288.987, F.S.; requiring the department to establish a direct-support organization; replacing the Florida Defense Support Task Force with the direct-support organization; specifying that the organization is a direct-support organization of the department and a corporation not for profit; requiring the organization to operate under contract with the Department of Commerce; specifying requirements for such contract; requiring the department to determine and annually certify that the organization is complying with contract terms; specifying the organization's fiscal year; specifying audit requirements applicable to the organization; authorizing the organization to take certain actions regarding administration of property and expenditures; specifying that the organization is not an agency for purposes of specified provisions of law; authorizing the department to allow the organization to use certain departmental resources, if certain conditions are met; revising the mission of the organization; modifying provisions governing the composition of the organization; revising the date by which the organization's annual report is due; providing certain powers and duties of the organization, subject to certain requirements and limitations; providing for future repeal; creating s. 288.102, F.S.; creating the Supply Chain Innovation Grant Program within the department; providing the purpose of the program; requiring the Department of Commerce and the Department of Transportation to consider applications and select grant awardees; specifying selection criteria for projects; defining the term "vertiport"; requiring each grant award made to be matched by local, federal, or private funds; providing an exception to the matching requirement; specifying restrictions on uses of grant funds; requiring the Department of Transportation and the Department of Commerce to jointly select projects for grant awards, and for the Department of Commerce to administer the grant program;

requiring a report on funded projects, their benefits, and current status; authorizing the Department of Commerce to adopt rules; providing for program expiration; amending s. 288.0001, F.S.; requiring review of the Supply Chain Innovation Grant Program by the Office of Economic and Demographic Research and the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability by a certain date and every 3 years thereafter; amending s. 445.003, F.S.; revising the definition of the term “businesses”; revising funding priority for purposes of funding grants under the Incumbent Worker Training Program; amending s. 445.004, F.S.; specifying that certain members of the state workforce development board are voting members of the board; amending s. 720.406, F.S.; specifying required actions by a certain committee for a proposed revived declaration and other governing documents to be submitted to the Department of Commerce; making technical changes; authorizing the department to amend certain previously executed loan agreements under certain circumstances; providing effective dates.

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

Section 1. Effective upon becoming a law, present paragraph (d) of subsection (8) of section 163.3167, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph (e), and a new paragraph (d) is added to that subsection, to read:

163.3167 Scope of act.—

(8)

(d) A citizen-led county charter amendment that is not required to be approved by the board of county commissioners preempting any development order, land development regulation, comprehensive plan, or voluntary annexation is prohibited unless expressly authorized in a county charter that was lawful and in effect on January 1, 2024.

Section 2. Subsection (3) of section 163.3175, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

163.3175 Legislative findings on compatibility of development with military installations; exchange of information between local governments and military installations.—

(3) ~~The direct-support organization created in s. 288.987 Florida Defense Support Task Force~~ may recommend to the Legislature changes to the military installations and local governments specified in subsection (2) based on a military base’s potential for impacts from encroachment, and incompatible land uses and development.

Section 3. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) and paragraph (e) of subsection (4) of section 163.3184, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

163.3184 Process for adoption of comprehensive plan or plan amendment.—

(3) EXPEDITED STATE REVIEW PROCESS FOR ADOPTION OF COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENTS.—

(c)1. The local government shall hold a its second public hearing, which shall be a hearing on whether to adopt one or more comprehensive plan amendments pursuant to subsection (11). If the local government fails, within 180 days after receipt of agency comments, to hold the second public hearing, and to adopt the comprehensive plan amendments, the amendments are shall be deemed withdrawn unless extended by agreement with notice to the state land planning agency and any affected person that provided comments on the amendment. The 180-day limitation does not apply to amendments processed pursuant to s. 380.06.

2. All comprehensive plan amendments adopted by the governing body, along with the supporting data and analysis, shall be transmitted within 10 working days after the final adoption second public hearing to the state land planning agency and any other agency or local government that provided timely comments under subparagraph (b)2. If the local government fails to transmit the comprehensive plan amendments within 10 working days after the final adoption hearing, the amendments are deemed withdrawn.

3. The state land planning agency shall notify the local government of any deficiencies within 5 working days after receipt of an amendment package. For purposes of completeness, an amendment shall be deemed complete if it contains a full, executed copy of:

a. The adoption ordinance or ordinances;

b. In the case of a text amendment, ~~a full copy of the amended language~~ in legislative format with new words inserted in the text underlined, and words deleted stricken with hypens;

c. In the case of a future land use map amendment, ~~a copy of the future land use map~~ clearly depicting the parcel, its existing future land use designation, and its adopted designation; and

d. ~~a copy of~~ Any data and analyses the local government deems appropriate.

4. An amendment adopted under this paragraph does not become effective until 31 days after the state land planning agency notifies the local government that the plan amendment package is complete. If timely challenged, an amendment does not become effective until the state land planning agency or the Administration Commission enters a final order determining the adopted amendment to be in compliance.

(4) STATE COORDINATED REVIEW PROCESS.—

(e) *Local government review of comments; adoption of plan or amendments and transmittal.*—

1. The local government shall review the report submitted to it by the state land planning agency, if any, and written comments submitted to it by any other person, agency, or government. The local government shall, upon receipt of the report from the state land planning agency, ~~shall hold its second public hearing, which shall be a hearing to determine whether to adopt the comprehensive plan or one or more comprehensive plan amendments pursuant to subsection (11).~~ and adopt the amendments within 180 days after receipt of the state land planning agency's report, the amendments shall be deemed withdrawn unless extended by agreement with notice to the state land planning agency and any affected person that provided comments on the amendment. The 180-day limitation does not apply to amendments processed pursuant to s. 380.06.

2. All comprehensive plan amendments adopted by the governing body, along with the supporting data and analysis, shall be transmitted within 10 working days after the final adoption ~~second public hearing~~ to the state land planning agency and any other agency or local government that provided timely comments under paragraph (c). If the local government fails to transmit the comprehensive plan amendments within 10 working days after the final adoption hearing, the amendments are deemed withdrawn.

3. The state land planning agency shall notify the local government of any deficiencies within 5 working days after receipt of a plan or plan amendment package. For purposes of completeness, a plan or plan amendment shall be deemed complete if it contains a full, executed copy of each of the following:

- a. The adoption ordinance or ordinances;
- b. In the case of a text amendment, ~~a full copy of~~ the amended language in legislative format with new words inserted in the text underlined, and words deleted stricken with hypens;
- c. In the case of a future land use map amendment, ~~a copy of~~ the future land use map clearly depicting the parcel, its existing future land use designation, and its adopted designation; and
- d. ~~a copy of~~ Any data and analyses the local government deems appropriate.

4. After the state land planning agency makes a determination of completeness regarding the adopted plan or plan amendment, the state land planning agency shall have 45 days to determine whether if the plan or plan amendment is in compliance with this act. Unless the plan or plan amendment is substantially changed from the one commented on, the state land planning agency's compliance determination shall be limited to

objections raised in the objections, recommendations, and comments report. During the period provided for in this subparagraph, the state land planning agency shall issue, through a senior administrator or the secretary, a notice of intent to find that the plan or plan amendment is in compliance or not in compliance. The state land planning agency shall post a copy of the notice of intent on the agency’s Internet website. Publication by the state land planning agency of the notice of intent on the state land planning agency’s Internet site ~~is shall be~~ prima facie evidence of compliance with the publication requirements of this subparagraph.

5. A plan or plan amendment adopted under the state coordinated review process shall go into effect pursuant to the state land planning agency’s notice of intent. If timely challenged, an amendment does not become effective until the state land planning agency or the Administration Commission enters a final order determining the adopted amendment to be in compliance.

Section 4. Effective upon becoming a law, paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section 288.066, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

288.066 Local Government Emergency Revolving Bridge Loan Program.

(3) LOAN TERMS.—

(c) The term of the loan is up to 10 years ~~5 years~~.

Section 5. Paragraph (g) of subsection (7) of section 288.1229, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

288.1229 Promotion and development of sports-related industries and amateur athletics; direct-support organization established; powers and duties.—

(7) To promote amateur sports and physical fitness, the foundation shall:

~~(g) Continue the successful amateur sports programs previously conducted by the Florida Governor’s Council on Physical Fitness and Amateur Sports created under former s. 14.22.~~

Section 6. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 288.980, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

288.980 Military base retention; legislative intent; grants program.—

(2)

(b)1. The department shall, annually by October 1, request military installations in this ~~the~~ state to provide the department with a list of base buffering encroachment lands for fee simple or less-than-fee simple acquisitions ~~before October 1~~.

2. The department shall submit the list of base buffering encroachment lands to the direct-support organization Florida Defense Support Task Force created in s. 288.987.

3. The direct-support organization created in s. 288.987 Florida Defense Support Task Force shall, annually by December 1, review the list of base buffering encroachment lands submitted by the military installations and provide its recommendations for ranking the lands for acquisition to the department.

4. The department shall annually submit the list of base buffering encroachment lands provided by the direct-support organization created in s. 288.987 Florida Defense Support Task Force to the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, which may acquire the lands pursuant to s. 253.025. At a minimum, the annual list must contain all of the following for each recommended land acquisition:

- a. A legal description of the land and its property identification number,;
- b. A detailed map of the land,; and
- c. A management and monitoring agreement to ensure the land serves a base buffering purpose.

Section 7. Subsection (1) and paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 288.985, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

288.985 Exemptions from public records and public meetings requirements.—

(1) The following records held by the direct-support organization created in s. 288.987 Florida Defense Support Task Force are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution:

(a) That portion of a record which relates to strengths and weaknesses of military installations or military missions in this state relative to the selection criteria for the realignment and closure of military bases and missions under any United States Department of Defense base realignment and closure process.

(b) That portion of a record which relates to strengths and weaknesses of military installations or military missions in other states or territories and the vulnerability of such installations or missions to base realignment or closure under the United States Department of Defense base realignment and closure process, and any agreements or proposals to relocate or realign military units and missions from other states or territories.

(c) That portion of a record which relates to the state's strategy to retain its military bases during any United States Department of Defense base realignment and closure process and any agreements or proposals to relocate or realign military units and missions.

(2)(a) Meetings or portions of meetings of the direct-support organization created in s. 288.987 Florida Defense Support Task Force, or a workgroup of the direct-support organization task force, at which records are presented or discussed that are exempt under subsection (1) are exempt from s. 286.011 and s. 24(b), Art. I of the State Constitution.

Section 8. Section 288.987, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

288.987 Florida Defense Support Task Force.—

(1) The Department of Commerce shall establish a direct-support organization to support Florida's military and defense industries and communities ~~The Florida Defense Support Task Force is created.~~

(a) The direct-support organization is a corporation not for profit, as defined in s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, which is incorporated under chapter 617 and approved by the Department of State. The direct-support organization is exempt from paying filing fees under chapter 617.

(b) The direct-support organization shall operate under contract with the department pursuant to s. 20.60. The contract must provide that:

1. The department may review the direct-support organization's articles of incorporation.

2. The direct-support organization shall submit an annual budget proposal to the department, on a form provided by the department, in accordance with department procedures for filing budget proposals based on recommendations of the department.

3. Any funds that the direct-support organization holds in trust must revert to the state upon the expiration or cancellation of the contract.

4. The direct-support organization is subject to an annual financial and performance review by the department to determine whether the direct-support organization is complying with the terms of the contract and is acting in a manner consistent with the goals of the department and in the best interest of the state.

(c) The department must determine and annually certify that the direct-support organization is complying with the terms of the contract and is doing so consistent with the goals and purposes of the organization and in the best interests of the state.

(d) The fiscal year of the direct-support organization begins on July 1 and ends on June 30 of the next succeeding year. By August 15 of each fiscal year, the department shall submit a proposed operating budget for the direct-support organization to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

(e) The direct-support organization shall provide an annual financial audit in accordance with s. 215.981.

(f) The direct-support organization is not an agency for purposes of chapter 120; s. 215.31; chapter 216; ss. 255.21, 255.25, and 255.254, relating to leasing of buildings; and ss. 283.33 and 283.35, relating to bids for printing.

(g) Subject to the approval of the Secretary of Commerce, the department may allow the direct-support organization to use the property, facilities, personnel, and services of the department if the direct-support organization provides equal employment opportunities to all persons regardless of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

(2)(a) The mission of the direct-support organization task force is to carry out the provisions of this section, to make recommendations to preserve and protect military installations, to assist Florida is for Veterans, Inc., created in s. 295.21, with economic and workforce development efforts in military communities, to conduct planning and research and development to support military missions, businesses, and military families to support the state's position in research and development related to or arising out of military missions and contracting, and to improve the state's military-friendly environment for servicemembers, military dependents, military retirees, and businesses that bring military and base-related jobs to the state.

(b) The direct-support organization is organized and operated to request, receive, hold, invest, and administer property and to manage and make expenditures related to its mission and for joint planning with host communities to accommodate military missions and prevent base encroachment, provide advocacy on the state's behalf with federal civilian and military officials, promotion of the state to military and related contractors and employers, and support of economic and product research and development activities of the defense industry.

(c) As necessary and requested by Florida is for Veterans, Inc., the direct-support organization may undertake such activities that assist the corporation with job training and placement for military spouses in communities with high proportions of active duty military personnel. As necessary and requested by the Department of Education, school districts, or Florida College System institutions and state universities, the direct-support organization may undertake such activities that assist in providing a smooth transition for dependents of military personnel and other military students. The direct-support organization is intended to complement but may not supplant the activities of other state entities.

(3) The direct-support organization shall be governed by a board of directors.

~~(a) The board of directors is composed of the Governor, or his or her designee, and the following members task force shall be comprised of the Governor or his or her designee, and 12 members appointed as follows:~~

~~1.(a) Four members appointed by the Governor.~~

~~2.(b) Four members appointed by the President of the Senate.~~

~~3.(c) Four members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.~~

~~(b)(d) Appointed members must represent defense-related industries or communities that host military bases and installations. All appointments in place as of July 1, 2024, must continue in effect until the expiration of the term must be made by August 1, 2011. Members shall serve for a term of 4 years, with the first term ending July 1, 2015. However, if members of the Legislature are appointed to the task force, those members shall serve until the expiration of their legislative term and may be reappointed once. A vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term in the same manner as the initial appointment. All members of the council are eligible for reappointment.~~

~~(c) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall each appoint a current member of their respective chambers who shall serve ex officio, nonvoting. An appointed senator or representative shall serve until the expiration of the member's legislative term and may be reappointed once. An appointed senator or representative A member who serves in the Legislature may participate in all direct-support organization task force activities but may not only vote on matters that are advisory.~~

~~(d)(4) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall each designate one of their appointees under paragraph (a) to serve as chair of the direct-support organization task force. The chair shall serve a 2-year term, rotating on December 1 of each even-numbered year rotate each July 1. The appointee designated by the President of the Senate shall serve as initial chair. If the Governor, instead of his or her designee, participates in the activities of the direct-support organization task force, then the Governor shall serve as chair.~~

~~(e)(5) The Secretary of Commerce Economic Opportunity, or his or her designee, shall serve as the ex officio, nonvoting executive director of the direct-support organization task force.~~

~~(f) The Executive Director of the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs and the Adjutant General of the Florida National Guard, or their designees, shall serve as ex officio, nonvoting members of the direct-support organization.~~

~~(g) Any employees and appointed board members, in their capacity of service on the board, are not public employees for the purposes of chapter~~

110 or chapter 112, except that such employees and appointed board members of the corporation are subject to the provisions of s. 112.061, related to reimbursement for travel and per diem exempts incurred while performing duties, and part III of chapter 112. Otherwise, each member of the board of directors shall serve without compensation.

~~(4)(6)~~ The direct-support organization task force shall submit an annual progress report and work plan to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives each November 1, which may be submitted as a supplement report with the annual report of the department pursuant to s. 20.60 February 1.

(5) The direct-support organization, in the performance of its duties, may:

(a) Make and enter into contracts and assume such other functions as are necessary to carry out the mission of the direct-support organization and its contract with the department, provided that any such contracts and assumptions are not inconsistent with this section or any other applicable provision of law governing the direct-support organization. A proposed contract with a total cost of \$750,000 or more is subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177. If the chair and vice chair of the Legislative Budget Commission, or the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, timely advise the direct-support organization in writing that such proposed contract is contrary to legislative policy and intent, the direct-support organization may not enter into such proposed contract. The direct-support organization may not divide one proposed contract with a total cost of \$750,000 or more into multiple contracts to circumvent the requirements of this paragraph.

(b) Establish grant programs and administer grant awards to support its mission. The direct-support organization must publicly adopt guidelines and application procedures and must publish such guidelines, application procedures, and awards on its website. The direct-support organization may assist the department as requested and necessary with any statutorily established grants or other programs, but may not administer such grants on behalf of the department.

~~(7) The department shall support the task force and contract with the task force for expenditure of appropriated funds, which may be used by the task force for economic and product research and development, joint planning with host communities to accommodate military missions and prevent base encroachment, advocacy on the state's behalf with federal civilian and military officials, assistance to school districts in providing a smooth transition for large numbers of additional military-related students, job training and placement for military spouses in communities with high proportions of active duty military personnel, and promotion of the state to military and related contractors and employers. The task force may~~

(c) Annually spend up to \$250,000 of funds appropriated to the department for the ~~direct-support organization task force~~ for staffing and administrative expenses of the ~~direct-support organization task force~~, including travel and per diem costs incurred by ~~task force members who are not otherwise eligible for state reimbursement.~~

(6) This section is repealed October 1, 2029, unless reviewed and saved from repeal by the Legislature.

Section 9. Section 288.102, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

288.102 Supply Chain Innovation Grant Program.—

(1) The Supply Chain Innovation Grant Program is created within the department to fund, subject to appropriation by the Legislature, proposed projects that support supply chain innovation.

(2) The department shall accept applications from ports listed in s. 311.09(1); class I, II, or III freight railroads; public airports as defined in s. 330.27; and intermodal logistics centers or inland ports as defined in s. 311.101(2).

(3)(a) The department shall collaborate with the Department of Transportation review applications submitted and select projects for awards which create strategic investments in infrastructure to increase capacity and address freight mobility to meet the economic development goals of the state.

(b) Priority must be given to projects with innovative plans, advanced technologies, and development strategies that focus on future growth and economic prosperity of the supply chain across the state.

(c) The department, in consultation with the Department of Transportation, must adopt selection criteria that include, but are not limited to, consideration of the project’s:

1. Consistency with plans and studies produced by the department, the Department of Transportation, or another state entity.

2. Direct increase in efficiency in the delivery of goods.

3. Improvement of freight mobility access while reducing congestion. This may include overnight truck parking at rest areas, weigh stations, and intermodal logistics centers.

4. Increase of fuel storage and distribution capacity across the state, including, but not limited to, petroleum, hydrogen, ethanol, and natural gas located at seaports and spaceports.

5. Ability to secure a sustainable logistics transportation network throughout this state.

6. Development of connections to multimodal transportation systems.

7. Ability to address emerging supply chain and transportation industry challenges.

(d) A public or private entity seeking to develop and establish vertiports in this state may also apply to the department for funding. For purposes of this subsection, the term “vertiport” means a system or infrastructure with supporting services and equipment used for landing, ground handling, and takeoff of manned or unmanned vertical takeoff and landing (VTOL) aircraft.

(4) A minimum of a one-to-one match of nonstate resources, including local, federal, or private funds, to the state contribution is required. An award may not be made for a project that is receiving or using state funding from another state source or statutory program, including tax credits. The one-to-one match requirement is waived for a public entity located in a fiscally constrained county as defined in s. 218.67(1).

(5) Applicants may seek funding for capital expenditures and operations but grant funding awarded under this section may not be used to pay salary and benefits or general business or office expenses. A project may not be awarded the entirety of any appropriation in a fiscal year.

(6) The Department of Transportation and the Department of Commerce shall jointly select projects for award. Grants awarded under this program shall be administered by the department.

(7) The Department of Commerce, in conjunction with the Department of Transportation, shall annually provide a list of each project awarded, the benefit of each project in meeting the goals and objectives of the program, and the current status of each project. The department shall include such information in its annual incentives report required under s. 20.0065.

(8) The department may adopt rules to implement this section.

(9) This section expires June 30, 2034.

Section 10. Paragraph (e) is added to subsection (2) of section 288.0001, Florida Statutes, to read:

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

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

(e) By January 1, 2027, and every 3 years thereafter, an analysis of the Supply Chain Innovation Grant Program established under s. 288.102.

Section 11. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 445.003, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

445.003 Implementation of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.—

(3) FUNDING.—

(a) Title I, Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act funds; Wagner-Peyser funds; and NAFTA/Trade Act funds will be expended based on the 4-year plan of the state board. The plan must outline and direct the method used to administer and coordinate various funds and programs that are operated by various agencies. The following provisions apply to these funds:

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

2. Fifteen percent of Title I funding shall be retained at the state level and dedicated to state administration and shall be used to design, develop, induce, fund, and evaluate the long-term impact of innovative Individual Training Account pilots, demonstrations, and programs to enable participants to attain self-sufficiency and to evaluate the effectiveness of performance-based contracts used by local workforce development boards under s. 445.024(5) on increasing wages and employment over the long term. Of such funds retained at the state level, \$2 million may be reserved for the Incumbent Worker Training Program created under subparagraph 3. Eligible state administration costs include the costs of funding for the state board and state board staff; operating fiscal, compliance, and management accountability systems through the department; conducting evaluation and research on workforce development activities; and providing technical and capacity building assistance to local workforce development areas at the direction of the state board. Notwithstanding s. 445.004, such administrative costs may 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 the state board in consultation with the department, including, but not limited to, programs for incumbent workers, nontraditional employment, and enterprise zones. The state board, in consultation with the department, 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. For purposes of this subparagraph, the term “businesses” includes hospitals and health care facilities operated by nonprofit or local government entities which provide nursing or allied health care opportunities to acquire new or improved skills.

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

b. The program shall be administered under s. 134(d)(4) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. Funding priority shall be given in the following order:

(I) Businesses that provide employees with opportunities to acquire new or improved skills by earning a credential on the Master Credentials List.

(II) Hospitals or health care facilities operated by nonprofit or local government entities that provide ~~nursing~~ opportunities in health care to acquire new or improved skills.

(III) Businesses whose grant proposals represent a significant upgrade in employee skills.

(IV) Businesses with 25 employees or fewer, businesses in rural areas, and businesses in distressed inner-city areas.

(V) Businesses in a qualified targeted industry 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., or the grant administrator. The program may 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., 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., 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. The state board 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. The department shall also maintain an Emergency Preparedness Fund from Rapid Response funds, which will immediately issue Intensive Service Accounts, Individual Training Accounts, and other federally authorized assistance to eligible victims of natural or other disasters. At the direction of the Governor, these Rapid Response funds shall be released to local workforce development 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 to work with state emergency management officials and local workforce development boards. All Rapid Response funds must be expended based on a plan developed by the state board in consultation with the department and approved by the Governor.

Section 12. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 445.004, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

445.004 CareerSource Florida, Inc., and the state board; creation; purpose; membership; duties and powers.—

(3)(a) Members of the state board described in Pub. L. No. 113-128, Title I, s. 101(b)(1)(C)(iii)(I)(aa) are ~~voting nonvoting~~ members. The number of members is determined by the Governor, who shall consider the importance of minority, gender, and geographic representation in making appointments to the state board. When the Governor is in attendance, he or she shall preside at all meetings of the state board.

Section 13. Section 720.406, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

720.406 Department of Commerce ~~Economic Opportunity~~; submission; review and determination.—

(1) Within No later than 60 days after obtaining valid written consent from a majority of the affected parcel owners, or within 60 days after the date the proposed revived declaration and other governing documents are approved by the affected parcel owners by vote at a meeting, the organizing

committee or its designee must submit the proposed revived governing documents and supporting materials to the Department of Commerce Economic Opportunity to review and determine whether to approve or disapprove of the proposal to preserve the residential community. The submission to the department must include:

(a) The full text of the proposed revived declaration of covenants and articles of incorporation and bylaws of the homeowners' association.;

(b) A verified copy of the previous declaration of covenants and other previous governing documents for the community, including any amendments thereto.;

(c) The legal description of each parcel to be subject to the revived declaration and other governing documents and a plat or other graphic depiction of the affected properties in the community.;

(d) A verified copy of the written consents of the requisite number of the affected parcel owners approving the revived declaration and other governing documents or, if approval was obtained by a vote at a meeting of affected parcel owners, verified copies of the notice of the meeting, attendance, and voting results.;

(e) An affidavit by a current or former officer of the association or by a member of the organizing committee verifying that the requirements for the revived declaration set forth in s. 720.404 have been satisfied.;

(f) Such other documentation that the organizing committee believes is supportive of the policy of preserving the residential community and operating, managing, and maintaining the infrastructure, aesthetic character, and common areas serving the residential community.

(2) Within ~~No later than~~ 60 days after receiving the submission, the department must determine whether the proposed revived declaration of covenants and other governing documents comply with the requirements of this act.

(a) If the department determines that the proposed revived declaration and other governing documents comply with the act and have been approved by the parcel owners as required by this act, the department shall notify the organizing committee in writing of its approval.

(b) If the department determines that the proposed revived declaration and other governing documents do not comply with, ~~this act~~ or have not been approved as required by, ~~this act~~, the department shall notify the organizing committee in writing that it does not approve the governing documents and shall state the reasons for the disapproval.

Section 14. Effective upon becoming a law, the Department of Commerce is authorized to amend a loan agreement executed before February 1, 2024, and made pursuant to s. 288.066, Florida Statutes, in order to increase the

loan term to a total of 10 years from the original date of execution, as authorized by this act, upon request of the local government and as determined by the department to be in the best interests of the state.

Section 15. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon this act becoming a law, this act shall take effect July 1, 2024.

Approved by the Governor June 13, 2024.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 13, 2024.