

SB 284 by **Negron**; (Identical to H 0369) Student Safety

404658	A	S	L	RCS	MS, Legg	Delete L.42 - 51:	03/20 06:13 PM
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SB 1598 by **Soto**; Corporate Income Tax

255812	A	S		RCS	MS, Sachs	Delete L.33 - 35:	03/20 06:14 PM
112104	A	S	L	RCS	MS, Gibson	Delete L.25 - 28:	03/20 06:14 PM
894916	A	S	L	RCS	MS, Sachs	btw L.44 - 45:	03/20 06:14 PM

SM 1266 by **Soto**; (Similar to H 1087) United States 65th Infantry Regiment, the Borinqueneers

SPB 7032 by **MS**; Homestead Property Tax Exemptions

The Florida Senate
COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA

**MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, SPACE, AND
DOMESTIC SECURITY**

Senator Altman, Chair
Senator Gibson, Vice Chair

MEETING DATE: Wednesday, March 20, 2013
TIME: 3:00 —5:30 p.m.
PLACE: Mallory Horne Committee Room, 37 Senate Office Building

MEMBERS: Senator Altman, Chair; Senator Gibson, Vice Chair; Senators Abruzzo, Bullard, Dean, Evers, Gardiner, Legg, and Sachs

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
1	SB 284 Negron (Identical H 369)	Student Safety; Requiring district school board policies to list the emergency response agencies that are responsible for notifying the school district of emergencies; requiring the emergency response agencies to notify private schools in the school district under certain circumstances, etc. ED 03/12/2013 Favorable MS 03/20/2013 Fav/CS	Fav/CS Yeas 7 Nays 0
2	SB 1598 Soto	Corporate Income Tax; Citing this act as the "Florida Veterans Employment Act"; establishing a corporate income tax credit for the hiring of veterans; establishing an additional corporate income tax credit for the hiring of disabled veterans; authorizing the Department of Revenue to determine guidelines for qualification of the tax credit; providing for expiration of the tax credit, etc. MS 03/20/2013 Fav/CS AFT AP	Fav/CS Yeas 7 Nays 0
3	SM 1266 Soto (Similar HM 1087)	United States 65th Infantry Regiment, the Borinqueneers; Urging the President and the Congress of the United States to award the Congressional Gold Medal to the United States 65th Infantry Regiment, the Borinqueneers, etc. MS 03/20/2013 Favorable	Favorable Yeas 7 Nays 0
Consideration of proposed committee bill:			
4	SPB 7032	Homestead Property Tax Exemptions; Deleting a requirement that a disabled veteran be a resident of this state at the time of entering military service in order to receive a discount on the ad valorem tax owed on his or her homestead property; revising the type of proof that must be presented to the property appraiser to receive the discount; providing that a diagnosis of a presumptive disease does not in itself constitute evidence of a combat-related disability, etc.	Temporarily Postponed

COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA

Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security
Wednesday, March 20, 2013, 3:00 —5:30 p.m.

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
5	Series of presentations relating to military base encroachment		Presented
6	Other Related Meeting Documents		

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security

BILL: CS/SB 284

INTRODUCER: Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security and Senator Negron

SUBJECT: Student Safety

DATE: March 22, 2013 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Graf	Klebacha	ED	Favorable
2.	Ryon	Ryon	MS	Fav/CS
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

Please see Section VIII. for Additional Information:

A. COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE..... Statement of Substantial Changes

B. AMENDMENTS..... Technical amendments were recommended

Amendments were recommended

Significant amendments were recommended

I. Summary:

CS/SB 284 establishes a process through which a private school can register to be notified at the same time the public school district is notified about an emergency occurrence in the local area that could threaten student safety.

The bill requires the agency responsible for notifying a school district for each type of emergency to be listed in each district school board’s emergency response policy and model emergency management and emergency preparedness procedures. The emergency response agencies identified by a district school board must notify private schools within the school district of occurrences that threaten student safety if such private schools request notification of emergencies by opting into the district school board’s emergency notification procedures. Currently, Florida law does not expressly authorize private schools to opt into district school board emergency notification procedures for the purpose of receiving emergency notifications.

The bill authorizes both public and private schools to maintain a supply of epinephrine auto-injectors in a secure location for use in an emergency situation by authorized students and trained school personnel. Schools that choose to purchase and maintain a supply of epinephrine auto-

injectors must adopt a protocol developed by a licensed physician for the administration of an epinephrine auto-injection by trained school personnel.

The bill also provides immunity from liability for public and private school employees and agents for any injury arising from the use of an epinephrine auto-injector administered by trained school personnel.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2013.

The bill amends sections 1002.20, 1002.42, and 1006.07 of the Florida Statutes.

II. Present Situation:

Florida law requires each district school board to establish emergency response policies and model emergency management and emergency preparedness procedures. Emergency response policies must include procedures for responding to fires, natural disasters, and bomb threats. Additionally, district school board policies must include commonly used alarm system responses for specific types of emergencies and verification by each school that emergency drills are provided in accordance with law and fire protection codes.¹

District school boards must also establish model emergency management and preparedness procedures for weapon-use and hostage situations; hazardous materials or toxic chemical spills; weather emergencies, including hurricanes, tornadoes, and severe storms; and exposure resulting from manmade emergencies.²

Florida law does not expressly require that a district school board's emergency response policies and model emergency management and emergency preparedness procedures list the agencies responsible for notifying the school district regarding emergencies. However, cooperation with emergency response agencies is incorporated into the *District Safety and Security Best Practices*, a self-assessment tool that each school district must use to annually assess the effectiveness of a district school board's emergency response policies.³ Among other "best practices," the self-assessment tool suggests that school districts:⁴

- Make arrangements to work with local emergency officials, including, without limitation, law enforcement; fire department; emergency management; hospital, mental health, health, and social services agencies; and court officials.

¹ Section 1006.07(4)(a), F.S.

² Section 1006.07(4)(b), F.S.

³ Section 1006.07(6), F.S.; Florida Department of Education, *2012 Safety and Security Best Practices (Year 11)*, <http://www.fldoe.org/EM/security-practices.asp> (last visited March 10, 2013). The Best Practices are developed by the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability. Each district school superintendent must make recommendations to the district school board regarding strategies and activities to improve school safety and security based on the self-assessment results. The results of the self-assessment and any action by a district school board based on the district school superintendent's recommendations must be reported to the Commissioner of Education within 30 days after the district school board meeting. Section 1006.07(6), F.S.

⁴ Florida Department of Education, *2012 Safety and Security Best Practices (Year 11)*, <http://www.fldoe.org/EM/security-practices.asp> (last visited March 10, 2013).

- Share comprehensive school safety plans and emergency procedures with appropriate emergency response agencies.
- Implement procedures for contacting all schools simultaneously in the event of a districtwide emergency.

Private schools' emergency response policies are not regulated by the state.⁵ Private schools typically make arrangements to receive notification of emergencies from the appropriate emergency response agency. Despite such arrangements, private schools do not always receive notification of emergencies.⁶ Florida law does not expressly authorize private schools to opt into district school board emergency notification procedures for the purpose of receiving notification of emergencies from an emergency response agency.⁷

Epinephrine Auto-injection

Epinephrine is prescribed by a physician to be used in emergencies to treat very serious allergic reactions (anaphylactic reaction) to insect stings or bites, foods, drugs, or other substances. It is normally administered by a one-dose auto-injector, known as an EpiPen or Twinject.⁸ Epinephrine acts quickly to improve breathing, stimulate the heart, raise a dropping blood pressure, reverse hives, and reduce swelling of the face, lips, and throat. The effects of epinephrine are rapid, but not long-lasting.⁹

State Board of Education rule for the use of epinephrine auto-injectors dispensation is based solely on self-administration.¹⁰ The rule provides that the auto-injector is a prescription medication in a specific dose-for-weight device that is packaged for self-delivery in the event of a life-threatening allergic reaction. Written authorization is required from the physician and parent for a student to carry an epinephrine auto-injector and self-administer epinephrine. The rule requires a school nurse to develop an annual child-specific action plan for an anticipated health emergency in the school setting.¹¹

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

CS/SB 284 requires the agency responsible for notifying a school district for each type of emergency to be listed in each district school board's emergency response policy and model emergency management and emergency preparedness procedures. The emergency response agencies identified by a district school board must notify private schools within the school district of occurrences that threaten student safety if such private schools request notification of emergencies by opting into the district school board's emergency notification procedures. The

⁵ Telephone interview with staff, Governmental Relations, Florida Department of Education (March 11, 2013).

⁶ Telephone interview with the Executive Director, Florida Council of Independent Schools (March 7, 2013).

⁷ See Section 1002.42, F.S.; see also Florida Department of Education, *2013 Agency Legislative Bill Analysis for SB 284* (Feb. 18, 2013).

⁸ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health, U.S. National Library of Medicine. See: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/druginfo/meds/a603002.html>.

⁹ *Id.*

¹⁰ Rule 6A-6.0251, F.A.C., pursuant to s. 1002.20(3)(i), F.S.

¹¹ *Id.* The annual plan is developed in cooperation with the student, parent, healthcare provider, and school personnel for the student with life-threatening allergies and must specify that the emergency number 911 will be called immediately for an anaphylaxis event. It must also describe a plan of action if the student is unable to perform self-administration of the epinephrine auto-injector.

bill enables private schools to receive notification of emergencies on the same basis as district public schools.

The bill also authorizes both public and private schools to purchase from a wholesale distributor and maintain in a secure location a supply of epinephrine auto-injectors for use in an emergency situation by students authorized to self-administer epinephrine or by trained school personnel. An authorized student would be one who has previously been evaluated by a physician and prescribed epinephrine to be used in the event of a severe allergic reaction.

The bill requires school districts and private schools that choose to purchase and maintain a supply of epinephrine auto-injectors to adopt a protocol developed by a licensed physician for the administration by school personnel who are trained to recognize an anaphylactic reaction and to administer an epinephrine auto-injection.

Public and private school employees and agents cannot be held liable for any injury arising from the use of an epinephrine auto-injector administered by trained school personnel who followed the adopted protocol and determined the need to administer the epinephrine. Additionally, the bill provides that public and private school employees and agents thereof cannot be held liable:

- Unless the action was willful and wanton;
- Notwithstanding that the parents or guardians of the student to whom the epinephrine was administered were not provided notice or did not sign a statement acknowledging that the school district is not liable; and
- Regardless of whether authorization was given by the student's parents or guardians or by the student's physician, physician's assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Additional Information:**A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:**

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

CS by Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security on March 20, 2013:

The committee substitute:

- Authorizes both public and private schools to maintain a supply of epinephrine auto-injectors in a secure location for use by authorized students in an emergency situation;
- Specifies that public and private schools may purchase a supply of epinephrine auto-injectors from a wholesale distributor as defined in s. 499.003, F.S.;
- Requires school districts and private schools that choose to maintain a supply of epinephrine auto-injectors to adopt a protocol for the administration of an epinephrine auto-injection; and
- Provides for immunity from liability for public and private school employees and agents for any injury arising from the use of an epinephrine auto-injector administered by trained school personnel.

B. Amendments:

None.



LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/20/2013	.	
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The Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security (Legg) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete lines 42 - 51
and insert:

Section 2. Paragraph (i) of subsection (3) of section 1002.20, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.20 K-12 student and parent rights.—Parents of public school students must receive accurate and timely information regarding their child’s academic progress and must be informed of ways they can help their child to succeed in school. K-12 students and their parents are afforded numerous statutory rights including, but not limited to, the following:



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13 (3) HEALTH ISSUES.—

14 (i) *Epinephrine use and supply.*—

15 1. A student who has experienced or is at risk for life-
16 threatening allergic reactions may carry an epinephrine auto-
17 injector and self-administer epinephrine by auto-injector while
18 in school, participating in school-sponsored activities, or in
19 transit to or from school or school-sponsored activities if the
20 school has been provided with parental and physician
21 authorization. The State Board of Education, in cooperation with
22 the Department of Health, shall adopt rules for such use of
23 epinephrine auto-injectors that shall include provisions to
24 protect the safety of all students from the misuse or abuse of
25 auto-injectors. A school district, county health department,
26 public-private partner, and their employees and volunteers shall
27 be indemnified by the parent of a student authorized to carry an
28 epinephrine auto-injector for any and all liability with respect
29 to the student's use of an epinephrine auto-injector pursuant to
30 this paragraph.

31 2. A public school may purchase from a wholesale
32 distributor as defined in s. 499.003 and maintain in a locked,
33 secure location on its premises a supply of epinephrine auto-
34 injectors for use if a student is having an anaphylactic
35 reaction. The participating school district shall adopt a
36 protocol developed by a licensed physician for the
37 administration by school personnel who are trained to recognize
38 an anaphylactic reaction and to administer an epinephrine auto-
39 injection. The supply of epinephrine auto-injectors may be
40 provided to and used by a student authorized to self-administer
41 epinephrine by auto-injector under subparagraph 1. or trained



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42 school personnel.

43 3. The school district and its employees and agents,
44 including the physician who provides the standing protocol for
45 school epinephrine auto-injectors, are not liable for any injury
46 arising from the use of an epinephrine auto-injector
47 administered by trained school personnel who follow the adopted
48 protocol and whose professional opinion is that the student is
49 having an anaphylactic reaction:

50 a. Unless the trained school personnel's action is willful
51 and wanton;

52 b. Notwithstanding that the parents or guardians of the
53 student to whom the epinephrine is administered have not been
54 provided notice or have not signed a statement acknowledging
55 that the school district is not liable; and

56 c. Regardless of whether authorization has been given by
57 the student's parents or guardians or by the student's
58 physician, physician's assistant, or advanced registered nurse
59 practitioner.

60 Section 3. Subsections (16) and (17) are added to section
61 1002.42, Florida Statutes, to read:

62 1002.42 Private schools.—

63 (16) EMERGENCY PROCEDURES.—The emergency response agencies
64 identified in a district school board's emergency response
65 policy pursuant to s. 1006.07(4) which are responsible for
66 notifying the school district of an occurrence that threatens
67 student safety shall also notify private schools in the district
68 that request such notification by opting into the district
69 school board's emergency notification procedures.

70 (17) EPINEPHRINE SUPPLY.—



404658

71 (a) A private school may purchase from a wholesale
72 distributor as defined in s. 499.003 and maintain in a locked,
73 secure location on its premises a supply of epinephrine auto-
74 injectors for use if a student is having an anaphylactic
75 reaction. The participating private school shall adopt a
76 protocol developed by a licensed physician for the
77 administration by private school personnel who are trained to
78 recognize an anaphylactic reaction and to administer an
79 epinephrine auto-injection. The supply of epinephrine auto-
80 injectors may be provided to and used by a student authorized to
81 self-administer epinephrine by auto-injector under s.
82 1002.20(3)(i) or trained school personnel.

83 (b) The private school and its employees and agents,
84 including the physician who provides the standing protocol for
85 school epinephrine auto-injectors, are not liable for any injury
86 arising from the use of an epinephrine auto-injector
87 administered by trained school personnel who follow the adopted
88 protocol and whose professional opinion is that the student is
89 having an anaphylactic reaction:

90 1. Unless the trained school personnel's action action is
91 willful and wanton;

92 2. Notwithstanding that the parents or guardians of the
93 student to whom the epinephrine is administered have not been
94 provided notice or have not signed a statement acknowledging
95 that the school district is not liable; and

96 3. Regardless of whether authorization has been given by
97 the student's parents or guardians or by the student's
98 physician, physician's assistant, or advanced registered nurse
99 practitioner.



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===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete lines 2 - 8

and insert:

An act relating to school emergencies; amending s. 1006.07, F.S.; requiring district school board policies to list the emergency response agencies that are responsible for notifying the school district of emergencies; amending s. 1002.20, F.S.; authorizing a public school to purchase and maintain a supply of epinephrine auto-injectors; requiring that the school district adopt a protocol developed by a licensed physician for the administration of epinephrine auto-injectors for emergency use when a student is having an anaphylactic reaction; providing that the supply of epinephrine auto-injectors may be provided to and used by a student authorized to self-administer epinephrine by auto-injector or trained school personnel; providing that a school district and its employees and agents, including a physician providing a standing protocol for school epinephrine auto-injectors, are not liable for an injury to a student arising from the use of an epinephrine auto-injector under certain circumstances; amending s. 1002.42, F.S.; requiring the emergency response agencies to notify private schools in the school district of emergencies under certain circumstances; authorizing a private school to purchase and maintain a supply of epinephrine auto-



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129 injectors; requiring that the private school adopt a
130 protocol developed by a licensed physician for the
131 administration of epinephrine auto-injectors for
132 emergency use when a student is having an anaphylactic
133 reaction; providing that the supply of epinephrine
134 auto-injectors may be provided to and used by a
135 student authorized to self-administer epinephrine by
136 auto-injector or trained school personnel; providing
137 that a private school and its employees and agents,
138 including a physician providing a standing protocol
139 for school epinephrine auto-injectors, are not liable
140 for an injury to a student arising from the use of an
141 epinephrine auto-injector under certain circumstances;

By Senator Negrón

32-00517-13

2013284__

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to student safety; amending s.
 3 1006.07, F.S.; requiring district school board
 4 policies to list the emergency response agencies that
 5 are responsible for notifying the school district of
 6 emergencies; amending s. 1002.42, F.S.; requiring the
 7 emergency response agencies to notify private schools
 8 in the school district under certain circumstances;
 9 providing an effective date.
 10
 11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
 12
 13 Section 1. Subsection (4) of section 1006.07, Florida
 14 Statutes, is amended to read:
 15 1006.07 District school board duties relating to student
 16 discipline and school safety.—The district school board shall
 17 provide for the proper accounting for all students, for the
 18 attendance and control of students at school, and for proper
 19 attention to health, safety, and other matters relating to the
 20 welfare of students, including:
 21 (4) EMERGENCY DRILLS; EMERGENCY PROCEDURES.—
 22 (a) Formulate and prescribe policies and procedures for
 23 emergency drills and for actual emergencies, including, but not
 24 limited to, fires, natural disasters, and bomb threats, for all
 25 the public schools of the district which comprise grades K-12.
 26 District school board policies shall include commonly used alarm
 27 system responses for specific types of emergencies and
 28 verification by each school that drills have been provided as
 29 required by law and fire protection codes. The emergency

Page 1 of 2

CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

32-00517-13

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30 response agency that is responsible for notifying the school
 31 district for each type of emergency must be listed in the
 32 district's emergency response policy.
 33 (b) ~~The district school board shall~~ Establish model
 34 emergency management and emergency preparedness procedures,
 35 including emergency notification procedures pursuant to
 36 paragraph (a), for the following life-threatening emergencies:
 37 1. Weapon-use and hostage situations.
 38 2. Hazardous materials or toxic chemical spills.
 39 3. Weather emergencies, including hurricanes, tornadoes,
 40 and severe storms.
 41 4. Exposure as a result of a manmade emergency.
 42 Section 2. Subsection (16) is added to section 1002.42,
 43 Florida Statutes, to read:
 44 1002.42 Private schools.—
 45 (16) EMERGENCY PROCEDURES.—The emergency response agencies
 46 identified in a district school board's emergency response
 47 policy pursuant to s. 1006.07(4) which are responsible for
 48 notifying the school district of an occurrence that threatens
 49 student safety shall also notify private schools in the district
 50 that request such notification by opting into the district
 51 school board's emergency notification procedures.
 52 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.

Page 2 of 2

CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

3:00
37-5013

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

WAIVE IN SUPPORT

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

3-20-2013
Meeting Date

Topic RELATIVE TO STUDENT SAFETY

Bill Number SB 284
(if applicable)

Name STEPHEN R. WIND

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Address 2007 APALACHEE PARKWAY

Phone 878-7463

TALLAHASSEE FL 32301
Street City State Zip

E-mail _____

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing FLORIDA OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

Waive in support

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

3/27

Meeting Date

Topic student safety

Bill Number 284

Name Alisa Snow

Amendment Barcode 404658
(if applicable)

Job Title _____

Address PO Box 1344
Street

Phone 443-1319

TLH 32302
City State Zip

E-mail _____

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing Florida Nurses Association

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

3/20/2013
Meeting Date

Topic Student Safety

Bill Number 284
(if applicable)

Name James Herzog

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title Associate director for Education

Address 201 W Park Ave
Street

Phone 850 2223803

Tallahassee FL 32301
City State Zip

E-mail jherzog@flacathconf.org

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing Florida Conference of Catholic Bishops

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

3/20/13

Meeting Date

Topic Ep. Pens Bill Number SB 284
(if applicable)

Name SAM BELL Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title _____ Barcode 404658

Address 1298 MILLS TREAM Phone By Senator Less
Street

TALL 32312
City State Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing FLORIDA PEDIATRIC SOCIETY

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

Waive in Support of

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

3-20-13

Meeting Date

Topic Student Safety

Bill Number 284
(if applicable)

Name Ricardo Correa, MD

Amendment Barcode 404658
(if applicable)

Job Title Internal Medicine Resident

Address 1205 Manposaw Avenue apt 306

Phone 800-542-8461

Street

Coral Gables, FL 33146

E-mail floridachapter@comcast.net

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information WAVE IN SUPPORT

Representing FL Chp. American College of Physicians

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

3-20-13

Meeting Date

Topic Student Safety

Bill Number 284
(if applicable)

Name Michelle Jacquis

Amendment Barcode 404658
(if applicable)

Job Title Dir. of Legislative Advocacy

Address PO BOX 10269

Phone 850-251-2288

Street

Tallahassee, FL 32302

City

State

Zip

E-mail mjacquis@fimedical.org

Speaking: For Against Information WAIVE IN SUPPORT

Representing FL Medical Association

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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S-001 (10/20/11)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

Meeting Date _____

Topic Epinephrine Auto-Injector

Bill Number 284
(if applicable)

Name Brenda Olsen

Amendment Barcode 404655
(if applicable)

Job Title Chief Operating Officer

Address 539 Silver Slipper Lane

Phone 850-241-2001

Tallahassee FL 32303
City State Zip

E-mail bolsen@lungfla.org

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing American Lung Association in Florida

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

March 20, 2013

Meeting Date

Topic Epinephrine Auto-Injector Amendment by Sen. Legg

Bill Number 284 (if applicable)

Name Patricia Greene

Amendment Barcode 404658 (if applicable)

Job Title Senior Policy Advisor with Metz, Husband & Daughton, P.A.

Address 215 South Monroe Street, Suite 505 Street

Phone 850-205-9000

Tallahassee FL 32301 City State Zip

E-mail patricia.greene@metzlaw.com

Speaking: [X] For [] Against [] Information

Representing Florida Academy of Family Physicians

Appearing at request of Chair: [] Yes [X] No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: [X] Yes [] No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

3/20/13

Meeting Date

Topic Student Safety

Bill Number H 284
(if applicable)

Name Melissa Kicklighter

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title Parent

Address 13927 Heathford Drive

Phone (904) 992-8832

Street

Jacksonville, FL 32224

City

State

Zip

E-mail mkicklighter@bellsouth.net

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing Florida PTA

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security

BILL: CS/SB 1598

INTRODUCER: Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security and Senator Soto

SUBJECT: Corporate Income Tax

DATE: March 21, 2013 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Spaulding	Ryon	MS	Fav/CS
2.			AFT	
3.			AP	
4.				
5.				
6.				

Please see Section VIII. for Additional Information:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| A. COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE..... | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Statement of Substantial Changes |
| B. AMENDMENTS..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | Technical amendments were recommended |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Amendments were recommended |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Significant amendments were recommended |

I. Summary:

CS/SB 1598 creates the “Florida Veterans Employment Act” to allow a business to qualify for a one-time corporate income tax credit of \$5,000 for each veteran the business hires. A business may qualify for an additional one-time \$5,000 corporate income tax credit for hiring a veteran with a service-connected disability. The credit will expire June 30, 2018.

The bill creates section 220.197 and substantially amends section 220.02 of the Florida Statutes.

II. Present Situation:

In the United States there are over 22 million living veterans, in which, over 1.6 million reside in Florida.¹ This makes Florida the state with the third largest veteran population, behind California and Texas. Section 1.01(14), F.S., defines the term “veteran” for purposes of determining veterans’ benefits eligibility. A person who has served in the active military and who has been

¹ U.S. Census Bureau, Florida Quick Facts, <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/12000.html>, last viewed March 14, 2013; Enterprise Florida-Defense Office, Florida Defense Fact book, page 1.

honorably discharged or released from active duty under honorable conditions is eligible for a number of veterans' benefits provided by the state of Florida.²

Service-Connected Disabled Veterans

Florida also has the third largest population of disabled veterans in the nation with more than 249,000.³ The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA) is the federal agency tasked with making the official determination of the existence of a service-connected disability. The term "disabled veteran" is defined in the U.S. Code as:

An individual who has served on active duty in the armed forces, has been separated therefrom under honorable conditions, and has established the existence of a service-connected disability or is receiving compensation, disability retirement benefits, or pension because of a public statute administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs or a military department.⁴

Veterans who have been determined by the USDVA to have a service-connected disability are eligible for monthly disability compensation. Disability compensation is a monetary benefit paid by the USDVA to veterans who are disabled by an injury or illness that was incurred or aggravated during active military service. These disabilities are considered to be service-connected. Monthly disability compensation varies with the degree of disability and the number of dependents a veteran has. After a medical examination, the USDVA assigns a veteran a disability rating in ten percent increments from 0%⁵-100%. This starts the process for which a disabled veteran is eligible to receive monthly disability compensation and certain USDVA medical benefits.⁶

The chart below shows the number of veterans in Florida by age range receiving disability compensation from the USDVA. This chart is based off of 2010 data.⁷

Veterans in Florida Receiving Disability Compensation from the USDVA by Age Range (2010)					
	Under 35	Between 35-55	Between 56-75	Over 75	Total
Service-disabled Veterans	20,225	75,936	101,104	39,554	236,819

There are instances in which a veteran's service-connected disability is not determined by the USDVA. In this instance, the Department of Defense (DoD) would determine the existence of a

² Section 1.01(14), F.S.

³ Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs. *Fast Facts*. Available at: http://floridavets.org/?page_id=50, last viewed March 18, 2013.

⁴ 5 USC § 2108(2), 10 USC § 101(24)(B)

⁵ A 0% disability rating means the USDVA has acknowledged a disability, but the disability is not severe enough to rate a monetary benefit at that time. The disability can be reevaluated in the future if the disability worsens.

⁶ Federal Benefits for Veterans, Dependents and Survivors, Chapter 2 Service-Connected Disabilities, Disability Compensation, http://www.va.gov/opa/publications/benefits_book/benefits_chap02.asp, last viewed March 18, 2013.

⁷ Data provided by the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs. February 15, 2013. On file with the Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security Committee.

disability and provide compensation to the veteran. This is the case when a service member acquires a medical condition or physical disability that renders him or her unfit to perform his or her required duties while on active duty. The service member may be separated or retired from the military for medical reasons. The process to determine medical fitness for continued duty involves the following two boards: the Medical Evaluation Board and the Physical Evaluation Board. The secretaries of the military departments have the authority to make the final determination.⁸ When the determination has been made that a service member must retire due to medical reasons related to the member's service in the military, the member may decide whether to receive military retirement benefits from the DoD or disability compensation from the USDVA.

Employment Initiatives for Veterans in Florida

The general unemployment rate in the United States in 2011 was 8.9%⁹ and the unemployment rate among veterans was 9.1% during the same period.¹⁰ Florida has been successful in creating opportunities specifically for veterans to find work in the state. Employ Florida¹¹ is an easily accessible resource for veterans to find employment and services offered by the state, and can also connect a veteran to the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs. Employ Florida maintains a database of available jobs for veterans across the state ranging from hourly wage jobs to professional and management jobs.¹²

The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity also offers a range of services to veterans including recruitment services, training grants, and links to federal programs offering certain employer incentives to hire veterans.¹³ Work Force Florida's Hiring Florida's Heroes program works with employers to connect them with veterans possessing needed skills.¹⁴ Enterprise Florida also offers resources, advocacy, and job listings for veterans.¹⁵

Florida ranks third in the nation for veteran owned business with over \$61 billion in annual revenue.¹⁶ Currently, there is no incentive for a privately owned company to hire a veteran. There are examples in the Florida Statutes of corporate tax incentives, but none relating to the hiring of veterans.¹⁷

⁸ 10 USC, Chapter 61.

⁹ U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, <http://data.bls.gov/timeseries/LNS14000000>, last viewed March 14, 2013.

¹⁰ U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/vet.a.htm>, last viewed March 14, 2013.

¹¹ Employ Florida links all of Florida's state and local workforce services and resources through the partnership of the Department of Economic Opportunity and Workforce Florida, Inc. There are 24 Regional Workforce Boards and nearly 100 One-Stop Career Centers located statewide offering in-person, one-on-one personalized assistance to job seekers.

¹² Employ Florida, <https://www.employflorida.com/portals/veteran/default.asp?pg=welcome>, last viewed March 14, 2013.

¹³ Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, <http://www.floridajobs.org/job-seekers-community-services/job-search-and-career-planning/job-search-resources/for-veterans>, March 14, 2013.

¹⁴ Work Force Florida, Hiring Florida's Heroes, <http://www.workforceflorida.com/PrioritiesInitiatives/vets/HiringFloridasHeroes.php>, last viewed March 14, 2013.

¹⁵ Enterprise Florida, <http://www.eflorida.com/>, last viewed March 14, 2013.

¹⁶ Enterprise Florida, Florida News, <http://efloridainnovation.com/florida-ranks-3rd-for-most-veteran-owned-businesses>, last viewed March 14, 2013.

¹⁷ S 220.192, s 220.193, s 220.194 F.S.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 creates s. 220.197, F.S., to establish the “Florida Veterans Employment Act” to encourage businesses to hire veterans by granting a one-time corporate income tax credit of \$5,000 for hiring a veteran. A business is eligible for an additional \$5,000 credit for hiring a veteran who has a service-connected disability recognized by the USDVA or who is receiving disability retirement benefits from the DoD. Before a business can claim the tax credit, the business must pay \$5,000 in gross salary to the veteran. To be eligible for the additional \$5,000 tax credit for hiring a disabled veteran, the business must pay an additional \$5,000 in gross salary to the veteran.

This tax credit benefit expires on June 30, 2018. A business that is awarded the credit may carry forward any unused credit for a period not to exceed two years. The bill authorizes the Department of Revenue to adopt rules to administer the tax credit

Section 2 amends s. 220.02 F.S., to designate the order in which the corporate income tax credits provided in the bill will be applied.

Section 3 provides an effective date of July 1, 2013.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

The Revenue Estimating Conference has not yet reviewed the fiscal impact of the bill.

B. Private Sector Impact:

A business can claim a one-time corporate income tax credit of \$5,000 for each veteran the business hires. A business may qualify for an additional one-time \$5,000 corporate income tax credit for hiring a veteran with a service-connected disability or for a veteran who is receiving disability payments from the USDVA or the DoD.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

It is unclear whether a business can apply for the tax credit toward current employees who are veterans.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Additional Information:

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

CS by Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security on March 20, 2013:

The CS makes clarifying changes and eliminates redundant language. The CS requires a business to pay a veteran a certain amount in gross salary before the business can claim the tax credit. The CS also designates the order in which the tax credits provided in the bill will be applied.

B. Amendments:

None.



255812

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/20/2013	.	
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The Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security (Sachs) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment

Delete lines 33 - 35
and insert:

(b) Is receiving disability retirement benefits from the
United States



112104

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/20/2013	.	
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The Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security (Gibson) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment

Delete lines 25 - 28
and insert:
1.01, after the business has paid \$5,000 in gross salary to the veteran.

(3) A qualifying business qualifies for an additional one-time corporate income tax credit in the amount of \$5,000 per individual for hiring a veteran, as defined in s. 1.01, after the business has paid an additional \$5,000 in gross salary to a veteran who:



894916

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/20/2013	.	
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	.	
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The Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security (Sachs) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Between lines 44 and 45
insert:

Section 2. Subsection (8) of section 220.02, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

220.02 Legislative intent.—

(8) It is the intent of the Legislature that credits against either the corporate income tax or the franchise tax be applied in the following order: those enumerated in s. 631.828, those enumerated in s. 220.191, those enumerated in s. 220.181, those enumerated in s. 220.183, those enumerated in s. 220.182,



894916

13 those enumerated in s. 220.1895, those enumerated in s. 220.195,
14 those enumerated in s. 220.184, those enumerated in s. 220.186,
15 those enumerated in s. 220.1845, those enumerated in s. 220.19,
16 those enumerated in s. 220.185, those enumerated in s. 220.1875,
17 those enumerated in s. 220.192, those enumerated in s. 220.193,
18 those enumerated in s. 288.9916, those enumerated in s.
19 220.1899, those enumerated in s. 220.1896, those enumerated in
20 s. 220.194, ~~and~~ those enumerated in s. 220.196, and those
21 enumerated in s. 220.197.

22 Section 3. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section
23 220.13, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

24 220.13 "Adjusted federal income" defined.—

25 (1) The term "adjusted federal income" means an amount
26 equal to the taxpayer's taxable income as defined in subsection
27 (2), or such taxable income of more than one taxpayer as
28 provided in s. 220.131, for the taxable year, adjusted as
29 follows:

30 (a) *Additions.*—There shall be added to such taxable income:

31 1. The amount of any tax upon or measured by income,
32 excluding taxes based on gross receipts or revenues, paid or
33 accrued as a liability to the District of Columbia or any state
34 of the United States which is deductible from gross income in
35 the computation of taxable income for the taxable year.

36 2. The amount of interest which is excluded from taxable
37 income under s. 103(a) of the Internal Revenue Code or any other
38 federal law, less the associated expenses disallowed in the
39 computation of taxable income under s. 265 of the Internal
40 Revenue Code or any other law, excluding 60 percent of any
41 amounts included in alternative minimum taxable income, as



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42 defined in s. 55(b)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, if the
43 taxpayer pays tax under s. 220.11(3).

44 3. In the case of a regulated investment company or real
45 estate investment trust, an amount equal to the excess of the
46 net long-term capital gain for the taxable year over the amount
47 of the capital gain dividends attributable to the taxable year.

48 4. That portion of the wages or salaries paid or incurred
49 for the taxable year which is equal to the amount of the credit
50 allowable for the taxable year under s. 220.181. This
51 subparagraph shall expire on the date specified in s. 290.016
52 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act.

53 5. That portion of the ad valorem school taxes paid or
54 incurred for the taxable year which is equal to the amount of
55 the credit allowable for the taxable year under s. 220.182. This
56 subparagraph shall expire on the date specified in s. 290.016
57 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act.

58 6. The amount taken as a credit under s. 220.195 which is
59 deductible from gross income in the computation of taxable
60 income for the taxable year.

61 7. That portion of assessments to fund a guaranty
62 association incurred for the taxable year which is equal to the
63 amount of the credit allowable for the taxable year.

64 8. In the case of a nonprofit corporation which holds a
65 pari-mutuel permit and which is exempt from federal income tax
66 as a farmers' cooperative, an amount equal to the excess of the
67 gross income attributable to the pari-mutuel operations over the
68 attributable expenses for the taxable year.

69 9. The amount taken as a credit for the taxable year under
70 s. 220.1895.



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71 10. Up to nine percent of the eligible basis of any
72 designated project which is equal to the credit allowable for
73 the taxable year under s. 220.185.

74 11. The amount taken as a credit for the taxable year under
75 s. 220.1875. The addition in this subparagraph is intended to
76 ensure that the same amount is not allowed for the tax purposes
77 of this state as both a deduction from income and a credit
78 against the tax. This addition is not intended to result in
79 adding the same expense back to income more than once.

80 12. The amount taken as a credit for the taxable year under
81 s. 220.192.

82 13. The amount taken as a credit for the taxable year under
83 s. 220.193.

84 14. Any portion of a qualified investment, as defined in s.
85 288.9913, which is claimed as a deduction by the taxpayer and
86 taken as a credit against income tax pursuant to s. 288.9916.

87 15. The costs to acquire a tax credit pursuant to s.
88 288.1254(5) that are deducted from or otherwise reduce federal
89 taxable income for the taxable year.

90 16. The amount taken as a credit for the taxable year
91 pursuant to s. 220.194.

92 17. The amount taken as a credit for the taxable year under
93 s. 220.196. The addition in this subparagraph is intended to
94 ensure that the same amount is not allowed for the tax purposes
95 of this state as both a deduction from income and a credit
96 against the tax. The addition is not intended to result in
97 adding the same expense back to income more than once.

98 18. The amount taken as a credit for the taxable year under
99 s. 220.197.



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===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete line 12

and insert:

credit; amending s. 220.02, F.S.; revising the order
in which credits against the corporate income tax or
franchise tax may be taken to include the hiring of
veterans; amending s. 220.13, F.S.; redefining the
term "adjusted federal income" to include certain tax
credits taken relating to the hiring of veterans;
providing an effective date.

By Senator Soto

14-00232-13

20131598__

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to corporate income tax; creating s. 220.197, F.S.; providing a short title; establishing a corporate income tax credit for the hiring of veterans; providing eligibility requirements; establishing an additional corporate income tax credit for the hiring of disabled veterans; providing eligibility requirements; authorizing the Department of Revenue to adopt rules; authorizing the Department of Revenue to determine guidelines for qualification of the tax credit; providing for expiration of the tax credit; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 220.197, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

220.197 Corporate income tax credits for employment of veterans.—

(1) This section may be cited as the "Florida Veterans Employment Act."

(2) A business qualifies for a one-time corporate income tax credit against the tax imposed by this chapter in the amount of \$5,000 per individual for hiring a veteran, as defined in s. 1.01.

(3) A qualifying business qualifies for an additional one-time corporate income tax credit in the amount of \$5,000 per individual for hiring a veteran, as defined in s. 1.01 who:

(a) Has established the present existence of a service-

Page 1 of 2

CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

14-00232-13

20131598__

connected disability, as defined in 38 U.S.C. s. 101(16), that is compensable under public laws administered by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs; or

(b) Is receiving compensation, disability retirement benefits, or pension by reason of public laws administered by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense.

(4) The Department of Revenue may adopt rules governing the manner and form of applications for the tax credit. The department may establish guidelines for making an affirmative showing of qualification for the tax credit under this section.

(5) This section expires June 30, 2018. However, a qualifying business that is awarded a credit under this section may carry forward any unused credit for a period not to exceed 2 years.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.

Page 2 of 2

CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

3/20/13
Meeting Date

Topic Income Tax Credit for Veterans

Bill Number SB 1598
(if applicable)

Name ~~Jim Boudie~~ Mike Prendergast

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title Exec. Legislative Affairs Director

Address _____
Street

Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

3/20
Meeting Date

Topic Veterans

Bill Number 1598
(if applicable)

Name Bill Holmich

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title _____

Address 303 Johns Dr

Phone 850 251 3126

Street
Tallahassee FL 32301
City *State* *Zip*

E-mail _____

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing VFW, American Legion

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security

BILL: SM 1266

INTRODUCER: Senator Soto

SUBJECT: United States Infantry Regiment, the Borinqueneers

DATE: March 18, 2013 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Spaulding	Ryon	MS	Favorable
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

I. Summary:

SM 1266 is a memorial to the President and the Congress of the United States to urge them to award the Congressional Gold Medal to the United States 65th Infantry Regiment, the “Borinqueneers.”

II. Present Situation:

The History of the 65th Infantry Regiment “Borinqueneers”

The name “Borinqueneers” is a combination of the words "Borinquen" (which was what the Taínos¹ called the island before the arrival of the Spaniards) and "Buccaneers."²

The 65th Infantry Regiment “Borinqueneers” was originally formed on March 2, 1899 to protect America’s strategic interests in the Caribbean. The 65th participated in World War I, as a defense force securing the Panama Canal Zone. During World War II, they again assumed this security mission until 1944 when the regiment was sent to North Africa, Corsica, and eventually into France. By wars in, the Borinqueneers participated in the battle of Naples-Fogis, Rome-Arno, Central Europe, and the Rhineland. Members of the regiment earned a Distinguished Service Cross, two Silver Stars, and ninety Purple Hearts.³

The 65th Infantry Regiment was among the first reinforcements to arrive in Korea as General of the Army MacArthur began his famous counter attack driving the North Koreans to the Chinese

¹ The Taínos were seafaring indigenous people of the Caribbean. They were one of the Arawak people of South America.

² Gilberto N. Villahermosa, Honor and Fidelity The 65th Infantry in Korea, 1950–1953, http://www.history.army.mil/html/books/korea/65Inf_Korea/65Inf_KW.pdf, page 27, last viewed March 15, 2013.

³ Villahermosa, pages 5-10.

Border. The Borinqueneers fought valiantly as part of the U.S. Army's 3d Infantry Division. Although their equipment and supplies were frequently lacking, the Borinqueneers earned a reputation as a very brave and disciplined unit.⁴

The 65th was part of a task force which enabled the U.S. Marines to withdraw from the Chosin Reservoir on December 1950. The men of the 65th rushed to their defense and provided over watch protection enabling the Marines to withdraw to their ships with the 65th holding the rear guard.⁵ Throughout 1951, the Borinqueneers fought valiantly in many battles. In 1952, the regiment defended the main line of resistance for 47 days and successfully attacked Chinese positions. In June 1953, the regiment conducted a series of successful raids and successfully counter-attacked enemy units in the Numsong Valley. The 65th held their positions until the armistice was reached.⁶ On February 6, 1959, the 65th Infantry Regiment was transferred from the Regular Army to the Puerto Rico Army National Guard.⁷

The unit was cited for bravery and meritorious service on multiple occasions. Additionally, individual soldiers were awarded for bravery. Of the 10 distinguished Service Crosses and 256 Silver Stars that were awarded to members of the 65th, 4 Distinguished Service Crosses and 124 Silver Stars were awarded to native born Puerto Ricans.⁸ The 65th Infantry also was awarded 606 Bronze Stars and 2771 Purple Hearts. The Borinqueneers are credited with the last recorded battalion-sized bayonet assault in the history of the United States Army. The regiment has participated in 20 campaigns, and received 8 unit decorations, including the Army and Navy Presidential Unit Citation.⁹

The Congressional Gold Medal

The Congressional Gold Medal is an expression of public gratitude by Congress for distinguished contributions, dramatic acts of virtue and patriotism, and the remembrance of great events.¹⁰ Since the American Revolution, Congress has commissioned gold medals as its highest expression of national appreciation for distinguished achievements and contributions. Each medal honors a particular individual, institution, or event. Although the first recipients included citizens who participated in the American Revolution, the War of 1812 and the Mexican War, Congress broadened the scope of the medal to include actors, authors, entertainers, musicians, pioneers in aeronautics and space, explorers, lifesavers, notables in science and medicine, athletes, humanitarians, public servants, and foreign recipients.¹¹ The tradition of the

⁴ Villahermosa, pp 46-179.

⁵ "General Order 38", Department of the Army, 30 July 1957. pp. 2-3, <http://armypubs.army.mil/epubs/pdf/go5738.pdf>, last viewed March 15, 2013.

⁶ Villahermosa, pp 237-263.

⁷ Department of the Army, Lineage and Honors, 65th Infantry Regiment (The Borinqueneers), <http://www.history.army.mil/html/forcestruc/lineages/branches/inf/0065in.htm>, last viewed March 15, 2013.

⁸ 110th CONGRESS, 1st Session, H. CON. RES. 253, Recognizing the service, courage, and patriotism of Hispanic Americans who have served and continue to serve as members of the United States Armed Forces.

⁹ Lineage and Honors, 65TH INFANTRY REGIMENT (THE BORINQUENEERS).

¹⁰ Matthew Eric Glassman, Congressional Research Service, Congressional Gold Medals, 1776-2012, http://www.senate.gov/CRSReports/crs-publish.cfm?pid=0E%2C*PL%5B%3C%230%20%20%0A, page 1, last viewed March 15, 2013.

¹¹ United States House of Representative; History, Arts & Archives, <http://history.house.gov/Institution/Gold-Medal/Gold-Medal-Recipients/>, last viewed March 15, 2013.

Congressional Gold Medal is a medal made of gold with the portraits of those being honored or images of events in which they participated.¹²

According to Rule X, 2 (h) of the House Committee on Financial Services' Subcommittee on Domestic Policy and Technology when considering such Congressional Gold Medal legislation must be cosponsored by at least two-thirds (290) of the Members of the House. The Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee requires that at least 67 Senators must cosponsor any Congressional Gold Medal legislation before the committee will consider it.¹³

Since its inception, hundreds of medals have been issued. Some notable recipients include:¹⁴

Recipient(s)	Date of Approval	Public Law
George Washington	March 25, 1776	Continental Congress
Mother Teresa of Calcutta	June 2, 1997	P.L. 105-16, 111 Stat. 35-36
Rosa Parks	May 4, 1999	P.L. 106-26, 113 Stat. 50-51
The Tuskegee Airmen	April 11 , 2006	P.L. 109-213, 120 Stat. 322
The Fallen Heroes Act: Honoring the Men and Women who Perished as the result of the Terrorist Acts on the United States on September 11, 2001	December 23, 2011	P.L. 112-76, 125 Stat. 1275 and 1276

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The memorial urges the President and the Congress of the United States to award the Congressional Gold Medal to the United States 65th Infantry Regiment, the “Borinqueneers” in recognition of their bravery and sacrifice for our great nation.

Copies of this memorial will be dispatched to the President of the United States, to the President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, to each member of the Florida delegation to the United States Congress, to the Puerto Rico Resident Commissioner, to the President of the United States 65th Infantry Regiment Association, the chairman of the Hispanic Achievers Grant Council, and the chairman of the “Borinqueneer” Congressional Gold Medal Alliance.

¹² Glassman, page 1.

¹³ United States House of Representative; History, Arts & Archives, <http://history.house.gov/Institution/Gold-Medal/Gold-Medal-Recipients/>, last viewed March 15, 2013.

¹⁴ *Id*

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Additional Information:

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.

By Senator Soto

14-01604-13

20131266__

Senate Memorial

A memorial to the President and the Congress of the United States, urging them to award the Congressional Gold Medal to the United States 65th Infantry Regiment, the Borinqueneers.

WHEREAS, the United States 65th Infantry Regiment, the Borinqueneers, traces its lineage to the "Puerto Rican Regiment U.S. Volunteers," which was authorized by Congress on March 2, 1899, as a mounted battalion consisting of four companies, and

WHEREAS, after Puerto Rico patriotically requested that the selective service draft law be extended to Puerto Rico as the United States entered the conflict in World War I, the Borinqueneers rallied a force of nearly 2,000, defending the Panama Canal, firing on the German supply ship Odenwald from El Morro Castle in Puerto Rico, and fighting valiantly on a number of fronts for liberty, and

WHEREAS, during World War II, the Borinqueneers gallantly served in North Africa and Europe, winning the Naples-Foggian, Rome-Arne, Central Europe, and Rhineland battle campaign awards, and, after the war, were assigned dangerous security, anti-sabotage, and other occupation missions around Kaiserslautern and Mannheim, Germany, making them one of the last units to return home at war's end, and

WHEREAS, during the Korean War, some 61,000 Puerto Rican soldiers served with the United States Army, 6,000 of them with the Borinqueneers, which, again, covered themselves in glory, distinguishing themselves over a 3-year period with nine Korean battle campaign awards, the Presidential and Meritorious Unit

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CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

14-01604-13

20131266__

commendations, two Korean Presidential Unit citations, the Greek Gold Medal, the Navy Unit commendation, and many other awards for bravery, and launching the last regimental bayonet assault in United States Army history, and

WHEREAS, the Borinqueneers were awarded nine battle campaign awards for bravery between 1950 and 1953 and, in World War I, World War II, and the Korean War, combined, were awarded ten Distinguished Service Crosses, 258 Silver Stars, 628 Bronze Stars, more than 2,700 Purple Hearts, and many other individual awards, and

WHEREAS, legendary United States Army General Douglas MacArthur lauded the gallantry of the Borinqueneers, crediting them with a resolute will to victory and invincible loyalty to the United States, saying, "They write a brilliant record of achievement in battle and I am proud indeed to have them in this command. I wish that we might have many more like them!" and

WHEREAS, in 1959, the Borinqueneers passed their colors to the National Guard of the United States Territory of Puerto Rico, the only time in United States Army History that active unit colors were not retired, but, instead, turned over to a National Guard unit, and

WHEREAS, today, the legacy of the Borinqueneers lives on in the National Guard in Puerto Rico, which continues to bravely defend the United States in the ongoing War on Terrorism, and

WHEREAS, many of those who returned to civilian life after serving with the Borinqueneers have gone on to serve in leadership positions as respected businessmen, corporate executives, religious leaders, lawyers, doctors, educators, bankers, and political leaders, and

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59 WHEREAS, the Borinqueneers selflessly served and
 60 sacrificed, shedding blood for our democracy and helping to
 61 ensure our prosperity as they, themselves, faced segregation,
 62 discrimination, and unequal American citizenship, always loyally
 63 protecting our nation and nobly fighting for the good of all,
 64 and

65 WHEREAS, these brave warriors, the Borinqueneers, deserve a
 66 place with all American heroes, and should be honored,
 67 commended, and never forgotten for their epic feats, and

68 WHEREAS, the Congressional Gold Medal, along with the
 69 Presidential Medal of Freedom, is the highest civilian award in
 70 the United States, awarded to persons who have performed an
 71 achievement that has an impact on American history and culture
 72 that is likely to be recognized as a major achievement in the
 73 recipient's field long after the achievement, NOW, THEREFORE,

74

75 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

76

77 That, in recognition of the bravery and sacrifice of the
 78 United States 65th Infantry Regiment, the Borinqueneers, we urge
 79 the President and the Congress of the United States to award the
 80 Congressional Gold Medal to these true heroes and defenders of
 81 our great nation.

82 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
 83 dispatched to the President of the United States, to the
 84 President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the
 85 United States House of Representatives, to each member of the
 86 Florida delegation to the United States Congress, to the Puerto
 87 Rico Resident Commissioner, to the President of the United

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CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

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20131266__

88 States 65th Infantry Regiment Association, the chairman of the
 89 Hispanic Achievers Grant Council, and the chairman of the
 90 Borinqueneer Congressional Gold Medal Alliance.

Page 4 of 4

CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security

BILL: SPB 7032

INTRODUCER: For consideration by the Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security Committee

SUBJECT: Homestead Property Tax Exemptions

DATE: March 19, 2013 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Ryon	Ryon		Pre-meeting
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				

I. Summary:

SPB 7032 removes the requirement that a veteran must have been a resident of Florida at the time the veteran entered the military to be eligible for the property tax discount available to veterans with a combat-related disability. This change is consistent with the adoption of Amendment 2 during the 2012 General Election. In the November 2012 General Election, Florida voters approved Amendment 2 to expand the availability of the property tax discount on the homesteads of veterans who became disabled as the result of a combat injury to include those who were not Florida residents when they entered the military.

The bill also further refines the required evidence a veteran must provide to be eligible for the combat disabled property tax discount. The bill requires a veteran applying for the property tax discount to provide proof to the property appraiser that:

- The veteran is a Purple Heart medal recipient; or
- The veteran’s disability is directly related to an injury, wound, or condition sustained through combat.

The bill defines the term “combat” for purposes of determining eligibility for the property tax discount and requires a veteran applying for the discount who is not a Purple Heart medal recipient to provide a sworn statement attesting that the veteran has a service-connected disability that is directly related to combat. The bill provides examples of proof which may evidence a combat-related disability and provides that that the diagnosis of a presumptive disease recognized by the USDVA does not in itself constitute evidence of a combat-related disability.

The bill substantially amends section 196.082 of the Florida Statutes.

II. Present Situation:

Exemptions and Property Classifications

The Florida Constitution requires that all property be assessed at just value for ad valorem tax purposes.¹ However, sections 3, 4, and 6, Article VII of the Florida Constitution, provide for specified assessment limitations, property classifications and exemptions. After the property appraiser has considered any assessment limitation or use classification affecting the just value of a property, the assessed value is determined. The assessed value is then reduced by any applicable exemptions to produce the taxable value.² Available exemptions include homestead exemptions and exemptions for property used for education, religious, or charitable purposes.³

Homestead Exemption

Every person who maintains his or her permanent residence⁴ on property to which he or she holds legal and equitable title is eligible for a \$25,000 homestead tax exemption applicable to all ad valorem tax levies, including school districts.⁵ An additional \$25,000 homestead exemption applies to homesteads that have an assessed value greater than \$50,000 and up to \$75,000, excluding ad valorem taxes levied by schools.⁶

Additional Discounts for Ex-Service Members

In recognition of their service and sacrifice for our country the State of Florida has granted a number of ad valorem tax exemptions for ex-service members.

Total Ad Valorem Tax Exemption for Ex-Service Members

Section 196.081(1), F.S., provides that:

Any real estate that is owned and used as a homestead by a veteran who was honorably discharged with a service-connected total and permanent disability and for whom a letter from the United States Government or United States Department of Veterans or its predecessor has been issued certifying that the veteran is totally and permanently disabled is exempt from taxation, [provided] the veteran is a permanent resident of the state on January 1 of the tax year for which exemption is being claimed or . . . on January 1 of the year the veteran died.

¹ Fla. Const. Art. VII, s. 4.

² See s. 196.031, F.S.

³ Fla. Const. Art. VII, ss. 3 and 6.

⁴ Pursuant to s. 196.012(18), F.S., “permanent residence” means that place where a person has his or her true, fixed, and permanent home and principal establishment to which, whenever absent, he or she has the intention of returning. Intention to establish a permanent residence in Florida is a factual determination to be made, in the first instance, by the property appraiser.

⁵ Fla. Const. Art. VII, s. 6.

⁶ *Ibid.*

Section 196.091(1), F.S., further provides that:

Any real estate used and owned as a homestead by an ex-service member who has been honorably discharged with a service-connected total disability and who has a certificate from the United States Government or United States Department of Veterans Affairs or its predecessor, or its successors, certifying that the ex-service member is receiving or has received special pecuniary assistance due to disability requiring specially adapted housing and required to use a wheelchair for his or her transportation is exempt from taxation.

\$5,000 Ad Valorem Tax Exemption for Ex-Service Members

Section 196.24, F.S., provides a \$5,000 property tax exemption to any ex-service member who is a bona fide resident of the state and who has a service-connected disability to a degree of 10 percent or more. This exemption also applies to the un-remarried surviving spouse of a disabled ex-service member who had been married to such ex-service member for at least 5 years on the date of the ex-service member's death.

Property Tax Discount for Veterans with a Combat-related Disability

Section 196.082, F.S., provides a discount on ad valorem taxes owed on homestead property for veterans age 65 or older who have a disability that is combat related. The discount is commensurate with the veteran's service-connected disability rating from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA).

Property Tax Discount for Veterans with a Combat-related Disability

Article VII, section 6(e) of the Florida Constitution, grants a discount on ad valorem taxes owed on homestead property for veterans age 65 or older who have a disability that is combat related. In order to qualify for the discount, the veteran must submit to the county property appraiser, by March 1, the following:

- An official letter from the USDVA stating the percentage of the veteran's service-connected disability;
- Evidence that reasonably identifies the disability as combat related; and
- A copy of the veteran's honorable discharge.⁷

The property tax discount percentage is equal to the veteran's service-connected disability percentage, as determined by the USDVA. Although the Constitution requires the veteran's disability be combat-related in order to qualify, the total service-connected disability percentage is used to determine the discount amount even though one or more combat disabilities may be only part of the veteran's total compensable disabilities.

If the property appraiser denies the request for a discount, the appraiser must notify the applicant in writing of the reasons for denial, and the veteran may reapply.

⁷ See also s. 196.082, F.S.

The combat-disabled property tax discount was enacted in November 2006 with the adoption of Constitutional Amendment 7 by Florida voters. This constitutional provision was subsequently amended during the 2012 General Election with the adoption of Amendment 2.

Amendment 2: 2012 General Election

In the November 2012 General Election, Florida voters approved Amendment 2 which expanded the availability of the combat-disabled property tax discount to include those otherwise qualified veterans who were not Florida residents when they entered the military. Prior to the adoption of Amendment 2, an otherwise qualified veteran must have resided in Florida at the time the veteran entered the service to be eligible for the property tax discount. Amendment 2 took effect January 1, 2013.

In 2010, prior to the removal of the residency requirement, 1,206 veterans received the combat-disabled property tax discount, which amounted to a statewide property value discount of \$28,749,630. During that time, the average individual discount in taxable value was \$23,839.⁸

The removal of the residency requirement is expected to significantly expand the number of veterans eligible for the combat-disabled property tax discount. However, the estimates of the impact of Amendment 2 vary. The Revenue Estimating Conference estimated in February 2011 that approximately 40 percent of the 77,535 veterans in Florida age 65 or older receiving compensation for service related conditions have a combat-related disability.⁹ The Florida Department of Veterans Affairs estimated that 6,000 veterans are eligible to apply as a result of the adoption of Amendment 2.¹⁰

Evidence of a Combat-related Disability

The Constitution requires a veteran applying for the combat disabled property tax discount to provide to the county property appraiser, in addition to an official USDVA letter stating the percentage of the service-connected disability, evidence that reasonably identifies the disability as combat-related. While the USDVA provides an official determination as to whether a disability is service-connected, it does not make a determination as to whether the service-connected disability is a result of combat. As such, there is no standard, across-the-board evidence that proves a service-connected disability is related to combat. Furthermore, section 196.082, F.S., the corresponding Florida Statutes for the constitutional provision, does not provide guidance on acceptable evidence that would suffice as proof that a disability is combat-related for the purposes of qualifying for the property tax discount. As such, each county property appraiser has the discretion to determine what constitutes reasonable evidence of a combat-related disability. This allows for great subjectivity on the part of the property appraiser and the standards of eligibility vary from county to county.

⁸ Revenue Estimating Conference, *Disabled Veterans' Property Tax Discount SJR 592 & HJR 439* (March 11, 2011)

⁹ *Id.* This estimate does not take into account homeownership.

¹⁰ Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs. Frequently Asked Questions. Constitutional Amendment 2. January 1, 2013. On file with the Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security.

Disability Compensation Rating for Veterans

The USDVA is the federal agency tasked with making the official determination of the existence of a service-connected disability. Veterans who have been determined by the USDVA to have a service-connected disability are eligible for monthly disability compensation. Disability compensation is a monetary benefit paid by the USDVA to veterans who are disabled by an injury or illness that was incurred or aggravated during active military service. These disabilities are considered to be service-connected. Monthly disability compensation varies with the degree of disability and the number of dependents of a veteran. The USDVA assigns a veteran a disability rating in ten percent increments from 10-percent-100-percent. A disability rating of 100-percent is considered a total and permanent service-connected disability. Compensation may also be paid for post-service disabilities that are considered related or secondary to disabilities occurring in service and for disabilities presumed to be related to circumstances of military service, even though they may arise after service.¹¹

The USDVA assumes that certain diseases can be related to a veteran's qualifying military service. These are known as "presumptive diseases." For the purposes of disability compensation, the USDVA presumes that veterans were exposed to Agent Orange¹² or other herbicides if they served:

- In Vietnam anytime between January 9, 1962 and May 7, 1975; or
- In or near the Korean demilitarized zone anytime between April 1, 1968 and August 31, 1971.

These veterans do not need to prove that they were exposed to Agent Orange or other herbicides to qualify for disability compensation for diseases related to Agent Orange exposure.¹³

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The bill amends s. 196.082, F.S., to remove the requirement that a veteran must have been a resident of Florida at the time the veteran entered the military to be eligible for the property tax discount available to veterans with a combat-related disability. This change is consistent with the adoption of Amendment 2 during the 2012 General Election.

The bill also further refines the required evidence a veteran must provide to be eligible for the property tax discount. The bill requires a veteran applying for the property tax discount to provide proof to the property appraiser that:

- The veteran is a Purple Heart medal recipient; or
- The veteran's disability is directly related to an injury, wound, or condition sustained through combat.

¹¹ Federal Benefits for Veterans, Dependents and Survivors, Chapter 2 Service-Connected Disabilities, Disability Compensation, http://www.va.gov/opa/publications/benefits_book/benefits_chap02.asp, last viewed March 18, 2013.

¹² Agent Orange is a blend of tactical herbicides the U.S. military sprayed from 1962 to 1971 during Operation Ranch Hand in the Vietnam War to remove trees and dense tropical foliage that provided enemy cover.

¹³ USDVA. Disability Compensation for Agent Orange Diseases. Available at: <http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/disability-compensation.asp>

The bill requires a veteran applying for the discount who is not a Purple Heart medal recipient to provide a sworn statement attesting that the veteran has a service-connected disability that is directly related to combat.

The bill defines the term “combat” to mean “active, armed fighting with enemy forces while under threat of immediate physical harm” for the purpose of determining eligibility for the property tax discount.

The bill also provides that examples of proof may include, but are not limited to:

- Pay records showing combat-related pay;
- Medical records showing the date the injury, wound, or condition sustained;
- Service records showing deployment to a combat zone; or
- Other official documentation that demonstrates a direct link to combat.

Additionally, the bill provides that the diagnosis of a presumptive disease recognized by the USDVA does not in itself constitute evidence of a combat-related disability. To be eligible for the discount, a veteran must provide proof that the disease is directly related to combat.

The bill provides an effective date of July 1, 2013.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. Other Constitutional Issues:

The bill amends s. 196.082, F.S., relating to the residency requirement for veterans applying for the combat disabled property tax discount. This change is consistent with the adoption of Constitutional Amendment 2 during the 2012 General Election.

The bill also amends s. 196.082, F.S., to further refine the required evidence a veteran must provide to be eligible for the combat disabled property tax discount provided in Article VII, section 6(e) of the Florida Constitution.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

The further refined eligibility requirements outlined in the bill may impact the number of veterans eligible for the property tax discount. Veterans who were previously eligible for the property tax discount may not meet the eligibility requirements outlined in the bill.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Additional Information:**A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:**
(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.

FOR CONSIDERATION By the Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security

583-02400A-13

20137032__

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to homestead property tax exemptions; amending s. 196.082, F.S.; deleting a requirement that a disabled veteran be a resident of this state at the time of entering military service in order to receive a discount on the ad valorem tax owed on his or her homestead property; revising the type of proof that must be presented to the property appraiser to receive the discount; providing that a diagnosis of a presumptive disease does not in itself constitute evidence of a combat-related disability; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 196.082, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

196.082 Discounts for disabled veterans.—

(1) Each veteran who is age 65 or older and is partially or totally permanently disabled shall receive a discount from the amount of the ad valorem tax otherwise owed on homestead property that the veteran owns and resides in if:

(a) The disability was combat-related;

~~(b) The veteran was a resident of this state at the time of entering the military service of the United States, and~~

(b)(c) The veteran was honorably discharged upon separation from military service.

(2) The discount shall be in a percentage equal to the percentage of the veteran's permanent, service-connected

583-02400A-13

20137032__

disability as determined by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

(3) To qualify for the discount ~~granted~~ under this section, an applicant must submit all of the following to the county property appraiser by March 1:

~~(a) Proof of residency at the time of entering military service;~~

(a)(b) An official letter from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs which states the percentage of the veteran's service-connected disability, ~~and~~

(b) Evidence that reasonably identifies the disability as combat-related. A veteran satisfies this requirement if the veteran provides proof that:

1. The veteran is a Purple Heart medal recipient; or

2. The veteran's disability is directly related to an injury, wound, or condition sustained through combat. For purposes of this section, the term "combat" means active, armed fighting with enemy forces while under threat of immediate physical harm. Examples of proof may include, but are not limited to: pay records showing combat related pay; medical records showing the date of injury, wound, or condition sustained; service records showing deployment to a combat zone; or other official documentation that demonstrates a direct link to combat.

~~(c) A copy of the veteran's honorable discharge, and~~

~~(d) Proof of age as of January 1 of the year to which the discount applies will apply.~~

(e) A sworn statement attesting that the applicant has a service-connected disability that is directly related to combat.

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59 A veteran who provides proof under subparagraph (b)1. is not
60 required to make such attestation.

61 (4) The diagnosis of a presumptive disease recognized by
62 the United States Department of Veterans Affairs does not in
63 itself constitute evidence of a combat-related disability. A
64 veteran must provide proof that the disease is directly related
65 to combat.

66 (5) An ~~any~~ applicant who is qualified to receive a discount
67 under this section and who fails to file an application by March
68 1 may file an application for the discount and ~~may file,~~
69 ~~pursuant to s. 194.011(3),~~ a petition with the value adjustment
70 board pursuant to s. 194.011(3) requesting that the discount be
71 granted. Such application and petition ~~are shall be~~ subject to
72 the same procedures as ~~for~~ exemptions under ~~set forth in~~ s.
73 196.011(8).

74 (6) ~~(4)~~ If the property appraiser denies the request for a
75 discount, the appraiser must notify the applicant in writing,
76 stating the reasons for denial, on or before July 1 of the year
77 for which the application was filed. The applicant may reapply
78 for the discount in a subsequent year using the procedure in
79 this section. All notifications must specify the right to appeal
80 to the value adjustment board and the procedures to follow in
81 obtaining such an appeal under s. 196.193(5).

82 (7) ~~(5)~~ The property appraiser shall apply the discount by
83 reducing the taxable value before certifying the tax roll to the
84 tax collector.

85 (a) The property appraiser shall first ascertain all other
86 applicable exemptions, including exemptions provided pursuant to
87 local option, and deduct such ~~all other~~ exemptions from the

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20137032__

88 assessed value.

89 (b) The percentage discount portion of the remaining value
90 which is attributable to service-connected disabilities shall be
91 subtracted to yield the discounted taxable value.

92 (c) The resulting taxable value shall be included in the
93 certification for use by taxing authorities in setting millage.

94 (d) The property appraiser shall place the discounted
95 amount on the tax roll when it is extended.

96 (8) ~~(6)~~ An applicant for the discount ~~under this section~~ may
97 apply for the discount before receiving the necessary
98 documentation from the United States Department of Veterans
99 Affairs or its predecessor. Upon receipt of the documentation,
100 the discount shall be granted as of the date of the original
101 application, and the excess taxes paid shall be refunded. Any
102 refund of excess taxes paid ~~is shall be~~ limited to those paid
103 during the 4-year period of limitation set forth in s.
104 197.182(1) (e).

105 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.



THE FLORIDA NATIONAL GUARD DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS

Camp Blanding Compatible Use

*Maj Gen Emmett R. Titshaw Jr.
The Adjutant General of Florida*



Agenda



- **Encroachment Terms**
- **Camp Blanding Joint Training Center Overview**
- **Compatible Land Use at CBJTC**
- **Current Environment**



Encroachment Terms

Compatibility

“A condition in which land uses or conditions can coexist in relative proximity over time, such that no use or condition is unduly negatively impacted directly or indirectly by another use or condition.”

-- Florida Administrative Code

Army Compatible Use Buffer (ACUB) Program

Creates land conservation partnerships between the Army and outside organizations to protect land from development that is incompatible with the military mission through market value purchase of adjacent property within a 3-mile radius.” Seeks to:

- **Identify and mitigate potential safety hazards**
- **Protect training activities of the installation**
- **Minimize complaints of dust, smoke and noise**
- **Preserve natural resources and wildlife**

**Over 20 Military Bases
in Florida**

**Defense is 3rd Largest
Economic Generator**



Camp Blanding Joint Training Center



Overview

- 73,000 acre installation
- Identified as Regional Collective Training Capability (RCTC)
- Home to several tenant units and Florida Youth ChalleNGe Academy
- More than 50 “live-fire” ranges
- Supported more than 353,911 training days in 2012
- Rooms and barracks for more than 3,500 personnel
- Partnership with Space Florida’s unmanned aerial system training initiative

Facilities

- Continuity of Government Site
- Continuity of Operations Site
- Emergency Operations Center Training Facility
- World Class Regional Training Institute



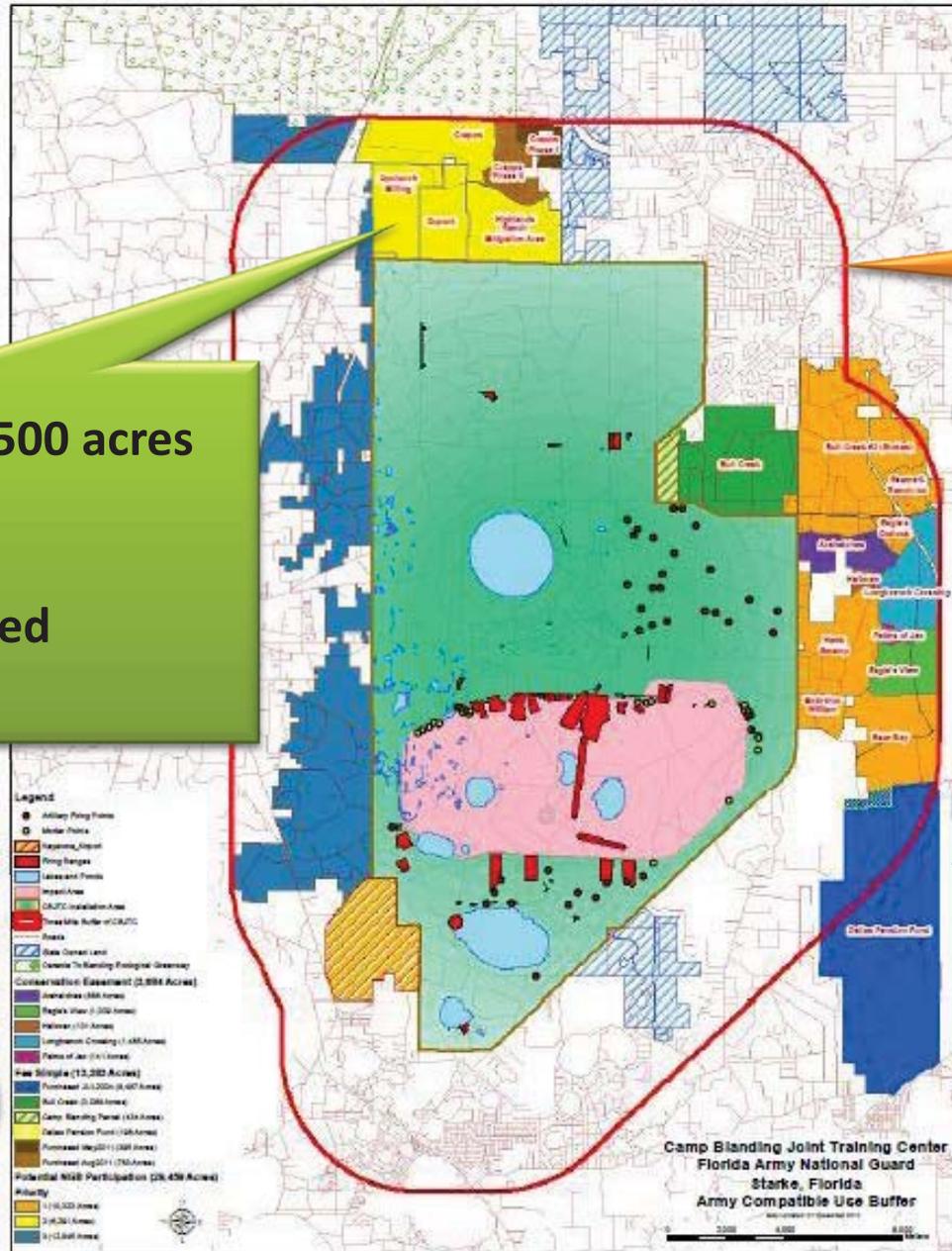


CBJTC Compatible Use Buffer Plan



- State purchased 1,500 acres on March 7, 2013
- \$2.1M
- 71% federally funded

Same considerations for over 20 bases from Key West to Pensacola



ACUB 3-Mile Buffer Line

Land parcels that would enhance compatibility



CBJTC Current Environment



- **Enhancing community relations:**
 - altered artillery firing times
 - adjusted artillery impact area
 - created no-fly areas
- **Partnering with Blanding-Osceola Greenway Initiative:**
 - “Preserve 153,000 acres between Camp Blanding and Osceola National Forest”
- **Leveraging Readiness and Environmental Protection Initiative (REPI) for land purchase**

**Overall Goal:
Purchase 80,000 acres of
adjacent land to create
conservation area and
ensure compatibility**



State Progress



- Routine Governor and Installation Commander Meetings
- Statutorily Created “Florida Defense Support Task Force”
- House Bill 7075, Signed by Governor Scott on 6 April 2012

“The bill amends s. 163.3175, F.S., to clarify provisions relating to military commanding officer comments on proposed land use changes that may have an impact on the mission of a military installation. The bill clarifies that commanding officer comments on proposed land use changes are advisory to the local government, and provides that the advisory comments must be based upon appropriate data and analyses provided with the comments. The bill also provides that the local government must consider a commanding officer’s comments, underlying studies, and reports in the same manner as comments received by other reviewing agencies representing interests that may be affected by proposed changes such as the environment, public schools, or transportation.”



Summary



- **CBJTC and other Florida installations are benefitting from support of FDSTF, FDA and Governor meetings**
- **CBJTC enjoys a healthy relationship with neighboring communities**
- **FLNG will continue to work through established processes and programs to achieve compatibility**

REPI

READINESS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION INITIATIVE

FACT SHEET



The Department of Defense's (DoD) Readiness and Environmental Protection Initiative (REPI) protects the Nation's military readiness, enhances relationships with communities, and preserves the environment.

REPI funds cost-sharing partnerships for the military with state and local governments and private conservation organizations, as authorized by Congress in 2002 under section 2684a of title 10, United States Code. The partnerships obtain easements or other interests in land from willing sellers that preserve critical buffer areas near our military installations.

Since program inception, REPI has protected **almost 250,000 acres of buffer land in 66 locations in 24 states.** Overseen by the Office of the Secretary of Defense and implemented by the military Services, REPI projects help to preserve vital missions at key installations.

Congress has raised REPI's original funding from \$12.5 million (FY 2005) to \$100 million (FY 2011). Thus far, for completed transactions, DoD's \$305.8 million investment in the program has attracted over \$327 million in partner contributions. With its ability to leverage other funding, REPI has proven to be a cost-effective tool in protecting mission capabilities that are at risk.

WHY THE NEED FOR REPI?

DoD's ability to conduct realistic live-fire training and weapons system testing is vital to preparing troops and their equipment for real-world combat. However, incompatible land use threatens these operations.

New development and increasing competition for land, airspace, and water access continue to constrain training, testing, and other military activities. For example, nearby development can incorporate lighting that reduces the effectiveness of night vision training, or it can drive threatened and endangered species onto an installation, limiting on-base operations.

Given the growing potential for land use conflicts, the Department's best option for sustaining the capabilities of our installations is to preserve key land that will help prevent further development from impacting operations. REPI helps avoid more expensive current and future costs, such as the need for training workarounds.

REPI gives DoD the ability to effectively leverage its funds with outside organizations also interested in preserving land. The easements created through this cost-sharing approach allow the landowner – be it a private landowner or a REPI partner from a non-federal agency or conservation organization – to maintain ownership of the land.

These protected lands are not owned by the military for the purposes of military training or testing. For the military, they serve as compatible land use buffers, and can also reduce on-base habitat restriction requirements by protecting additional off-base species habitat. For the partner, the protected lands support their missions in a host of ways, including as described in the below.

DELIVERING MULTIPLE BENEFITS

REPI projects have delivered multiple benefits and shown the power of innovative partnerships in the following ways:

- **Enhanced military readiness** by limiting incompatible development near military installations
- **Protected valuable habitat** and provided opportunities for endangered species recovery
- **Preserved open space**, including working farms and forestland, that add value to surrounding communities
- **Strengthened military-community relationships** and forged partnerships with new allies
- **Spurred collaboration** with other federal land conservation programs and landscape-scale initiatives

REPI delivers results to support our Nation's long-term military readiness.

REPI PROJECTS AROUND THE COUNTRY

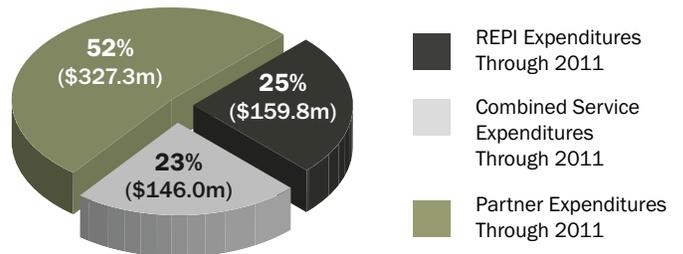


The map above shows REPI projects through FY 2011 at 66 locations in 24 states across the country.

REQUISITES OF A REPI PROJECT

- Partnership between the military and eligible entity – State or local government or private conservation organization
- Military and partner share the cost for partner to acquire a land interest or easement to protect the land
- Land owner enters into sale voluntarily and willingly
- Protected land ensures compatible land use or habitat preservation

REPI LEVERAGES PARTNER CONTRIBUTIONS



Partner funds have covered more than half of the total costs to date. REPI partners and contributors have included:

- The Nature Conservancy
- The Conservation Fund
- Local and regional land trusts
- U.S. Department of Agriculture (including Forest Service; Natural Resources Conservation Service)
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (including Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program)
- State and local governments



Example Project: Located in the Mojave Desert, Marine Corps Air-Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, provides vital training before deployment to desert combat areas. However, these training requirements put a strain on sensitive desert natural resources on-base. In partnership with the Mojave Desert Land Trust, Twentynine Palms helped protect land adjacent to the popular Joshua Tree National Park, and provided habitat for the threatened desert tortoise.

REPI 2012

READINESS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION INITIATIVE



6th Annual Report to Congress

SUBMITTED ON BEHALF OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE BY THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR ACQUISITIONS, TECHNOLOGY and LOGISTICS

DoD Use of 10 USC § 2684a Partnerships and the Readiness and Environmental Protection Initiative (REPI) to Protect Military Readiness

APRIL 2012



2012 REPI Report to Congress

DoD Use of 10 USC § 2684a Partnerships and the Readiness and Environmental Protection Initiative (REPI) to Protect Military Readiness

The Department of Defense’s (DoD) Readiness and Environmental Protection Initiative (REPI) is a key tool for combating the encroachment that could negatively impact the operations of our bases. Under REPI, DoD partners with conservation organizations and state and local governments to preserve buffer land around our installations and ranges. Preserving this buffer land allows DoD to avoid much more costly alternatives, such as training workarounds or investments to replace existing test and training capability, while enhancing relationships with communities and preserving the environment. Through its unique cost-sharing partnerships, REPI directly leverages the Department’s investments one-to-one. In the current real estate market, where property is more affordable and there are a great many willing sellers, REPI is a particularly good investment.

“REPI has provided extra breathing room for military readiness in a number of key venues.”

– *RADM Lemmons, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Readiness*

PURPOSE: SUSTAINING MISSION CAPABILITIES

The Department’s ability to deploy and support operational forces, perform realistic live-fire training, and conduct weapons system testing is vital to maintaining military readiness. However, incompatible land uses threaten these activities. REPI projects have delivered multiple benefits and shown the power of innovative partnerships in the following ways:

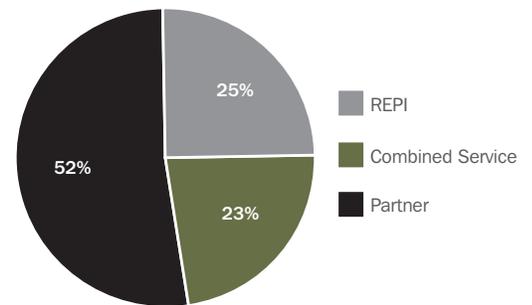
- Enhances military readiness by limiting incompatible development near military installations
- Protects valuable habitat and provided opportunities for endangered species recovery
- Preserves open space, working farms, and forestland that add value to surrounding communities
- Strengthens military-community relationships
- Spurs collaboration with other Federal land conservation programs

By promoting innovative land conservation solutions that benefit both military readiness and the environment, REPI ensures that our military can conduct effective and realistic test, training, and operations now and into the future.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: COST-SHARING FOR PROTECTION

This sixth annual report on REPI describes the activities undertaken by the Department under the authority of 10 USC § 2684a. As shown in Figure 1, partner contributions have more than doubled DoD funds. Not only does REPI multiply taxpayer dollars, these proactive projects help relieve or avoid land use conflicts and protect against reactive spending for training workarounds, moving missions to new locations, or constructing new range or maneuver areas.

Figure 1: § 2684a Cost-Share through FY 2011



Through FY 2011, REPI has protected more than 215,000 acres, benefitting the DoD mission, local communities, and our Nation’s natural resources. Table 1 summarizes project accomplishments by Service for 60 locations in 24 states. Detailed information by project is provided in Tables 2 through 5. More detailed partnership information is available at www.repi.mil.

Table 1: § 2684a Accomplishments by Service through FY 2011

	Transactions	Acres Protected	REPI	Service	Partner	Combined Total
Army	333	166,901	\$95,432,237	\$121,576,316	\$228,666,796	\$445,675,349
Navy	89	10,554	\$26,252,083	\$4,994,500	\$34,901,874	\$66,148,457
Marine Corps	36	33,863	\$31,609,559	\$19,170,776	\$55,728,369	\$106,508,704
Air Force	28	3,797	\$6,519,404	\$321,840	\$8,035,163	\$14,876,407
Total	486	215,115	\$159,813,283	\$146,063,432	\$327,332,203	\$633,208,917

Select Service totals reported in Table 1 may vary slightly from Service totals reported in Tables 2 through 5 on page 3 because of consolidation due to Joint Basing.

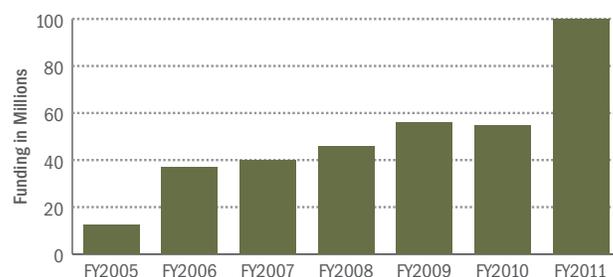
REPI ACCOMPLISHMENT – NAVAL AIR STATION FALLON: The Navy, Churchill County, Nevada, Lahonton Valley Land and Water Alliance, and the Nevada Land Conservancy have purchased 38 easements totaling almost 3,500 acres since 2006. The partners combined \$7.7M in REPI funds along with their \$3.8M to acquire these property interests. REPI protection at the NAS Fallon main station allows the staging of an entire Carrier Air Wing in close proximity to the training ranges, greatly increasing training time while minimizing fuel and airframe operational costs for more than 62,000 sorties annually.

Several locations have completed REPI objectives to secure current test and training capabilities. In 2011, the Army completed a 9-year process to protect the entire southern and eastern borders of Fort Carson, Colorado from encroachment that threatened use of the impact areas and four ranges. Fort Carson joins the Townsend Bombing Range, Georgia; Naval Air Station Fallon, Nevada; Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland; and Fort Custer, Michigan, which have all achieved demonstrable success using REPI to stabilize or eliminate encroachment threats. Also in 2011, the Department introduced several new initiatives to support REPI and sustain the mission. DoD joined with other Federal agencies to establish a longleaf pine forest stewardship fund that will leverage private dollars to support place-based longleaf pine protection and restoration projects near key military installations in the Southeast. DoD and the Departments of the Interior and Agriculture have identified other demonstration landscapes where we can work together to strengthen interagency coordination and advance large-scale conservation across jurisdictional boundaries.

PROCESS

Figure 2 shows congressional appropriations for REPI and the portion set aside for DoD-wide priorities. The cost for program management averages 9 percent, which is consistent with the overhead costs for similar Federal land protection programs. The Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) and the Services have developed a process that annually evaluates and prioritizes proposed REPI projects based on criteria focusing primarily on the threat to military test, training, and operations and the benefits of proposed projects to the military mission. Other criteria include benefits to the partner and the community, ability of the partnership to complete transactions in a timely manner, and innovations that increase benefits, leverage additional funds, or create new tools.

Figure 2: REPI Fiscal Year funding



Appropriation	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011
Less DoD-wide Priorities	(\$0)	(\$1.7)	(\$4.6)	(\$4.0)	(\$6.9)	(\$7.3)	(\$16.7)
Less Program Management	(\$3.5)	(\$5.1)	(\$4.5)	(\$5.8)	(\$4.7)	(\$3.7)	(\$3.9)
Less Landscape Management	(\$0)	(\$0)	(\$0)	(\$0)	(\$0)	(\$0)	(\$0.9)
Additional OSD Funding	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$7.8	\$0
Allocated to Services	\$9.0	\$30.3	\$30.9	\$36.2	\$44.3	\$51.5	\$78.4
Locations	7	19	27	29	36	38	37

WAY AHEAD

Pressures on test and training land are a matter of serious concern. These pressures are intensified by the increasing state-side operational missions, reset activities for the returning troops and requirements for testing new weapons systems. REPI investments serve as a cost-effective tool to protect current test, training and operational capabilities and avoid the need for more expensive and time-consuming efforts to replace capabilities lost to encroachment.

Market conditions in the real estate sector continue to provide significant near-term opportunities for REPI partnerships to increase the rate of land protection around installations and ranges. Increasing REPI capacity for protection will require exploring new uses of the 10 USC § 2684a authority, marshalling more effective use of external funds, and applying conservation finance techniques. For example, the Services are developing projects that coordinate REPI efforts with additional authorities for conservation banking to support the sustainable recovery of threatened and endangered species such as the red-cockaded woodpecker. These projects will provide a broader landscape to balance training and species needs while ensuring the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will provide regulatory relief from species habitat restrictions.

In addition, OSD and individual Services must continue to leverage their efforts by working with regions and across jurisdictions and Services. REPI projects can target shared spaces and habitat corridors so that installations and ranges will derive a greater readiness return on the REPI investment. Our ability to match REPI funds with other Federal funding sources also serves to enhance readiness, conservation, and taxpayer benefits. OSD also continues research and discussions on legislative and administrative initiatives to support the development of a full range of tools to help the Services protect mission capability for the American Warfighter.

Table 2: Army Projects through FY 2011

Project	State	Number of Parcels / Transactions Through 2011	Total Acres Protected Through 2011	Total Cost Through 2011
99th Armed Forces Reserve Center	CT	1	54	\$1,749,000
Aberdeen Proving Ground	MD	1	163	\$1,481,994
Camp Blanding	FL	9	17,137	\$53,287,007
Camp Bullis	TX	3	3,870	\$21,864,018
Camp Rilea	OR	1	109	\$1,459,700
Camp Ripley	MN	87	29,415	\$65,968,621
Camp Roberts	CA	3	285	\$1,196,465
Camp San Luis Obispo	CA	5	1,342	\$2,440,100
Camp Shelby	MS	5	611	\$1,249,604
Fort A.P Hill	VA	12	8,868	\$22,277,593
Fort Benning	GA	18	8,653	\$25,465,405
Fort Bliss	TX	2	5,169	\$1,254,817
Fort Bragg	NC	43	13,685	\$48,901,858
Fort Bragg USASOC	NC	6	1,415	\$5,247,179
Fort Campbell	KY	8	2,801	\$9,463,060
Fort Carson	CO	16	24,157	\$40,220,025
Fort Custer	MI	1	326	\$2,092,100
Fort Drum	NY	6	1,418	\$2,916,050
Fort Huachuca	AZ	7	4,331	\$11,598,786
Fort Knox	KY	2	308	\$714,762
Fort Pickett	VA	11	2,970	\$5,732,415
Fort Polk	LA	0	0	\$0
Fort Riley	KS	13	10,198	\$8,289,606
Fort Sill	OK	29	3,105	\$9,884,718
Fort Stewart	GA	23	10,178	\$41,944,969
Joint Base Lewis-McChord	WA	9	1,035	\$14,612,673
MAJIC	SC	8	4,997	\$12,720,780
U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii	HI	4	10,302	\$31,892,044
Army Totals		333	166,901	\$445,925,349

Table 4: Marine Corps Projects through FY 2011

Project	State	Number of Parcels / Transactions Through 2011	Total Acres Protected Through 2011	Total Cost Through 2011
MCAGCC 29 Palms	CA	1	958	\$1,450,000
MCAS Beaufort	SC	11	1,622	\$43,221,436
MCAS Cherry Point Piney Island	NC	9	5,055	\$19,168,918
MCB Camp Lejeune / MCAS New River	NC	7	1,794	\$11,584,850
MCB Camp Pendleton	CA	3	1,291	\$4,336,000
MCB Quantico	VA	1	302	\$2,859,500
Townsend Bombing Range	GA	4	22,841	\$23,888,000
Marine Corps Total		36	33,863	\$106,508,704

Select numbers in Tables 2, 3 and 5 may vary slightly from numbers reported in the 2011 REPI Report to Congress because of consolidation due to Joint Basing.

Table 3: Navy Projects through FY 2011

Project	State	Number of Parcels / Transactions Through 2011	Total Acres Protected Through 2011	Total Cost Through 2011
Atlantic Test Range	MD	4	676	\$2,047,088
NAS Fallon	NV	38	3,496	\$11,522,971
NAS JRB New Orleans	LA	1	202	\$7,300,000
NAS Oceana	VA	17	1,007	\$11,867,521
NAS Patuxent River	MD	0	0	\$0
NAS Pensacola	FL	1	48	\$1,300,000
NAS Whidbey Island	WA	1	18	\$2,200,000
NAS Whiting Field	FL	17	2,615	\$11,968,249
NAWS China Lake	CA	0	0	\$0
NB Coronado ATWTC	CA	2	330	\$840,000
NSA Norfolk NW Annex	VA	0	0	\$0
OLF Coupeville	WA	2	112	\$1,154,000
OLF Whitehouse	FL	6	2,052	\$15,948,628
Navy Totals		89	10,554	\$66,148,457

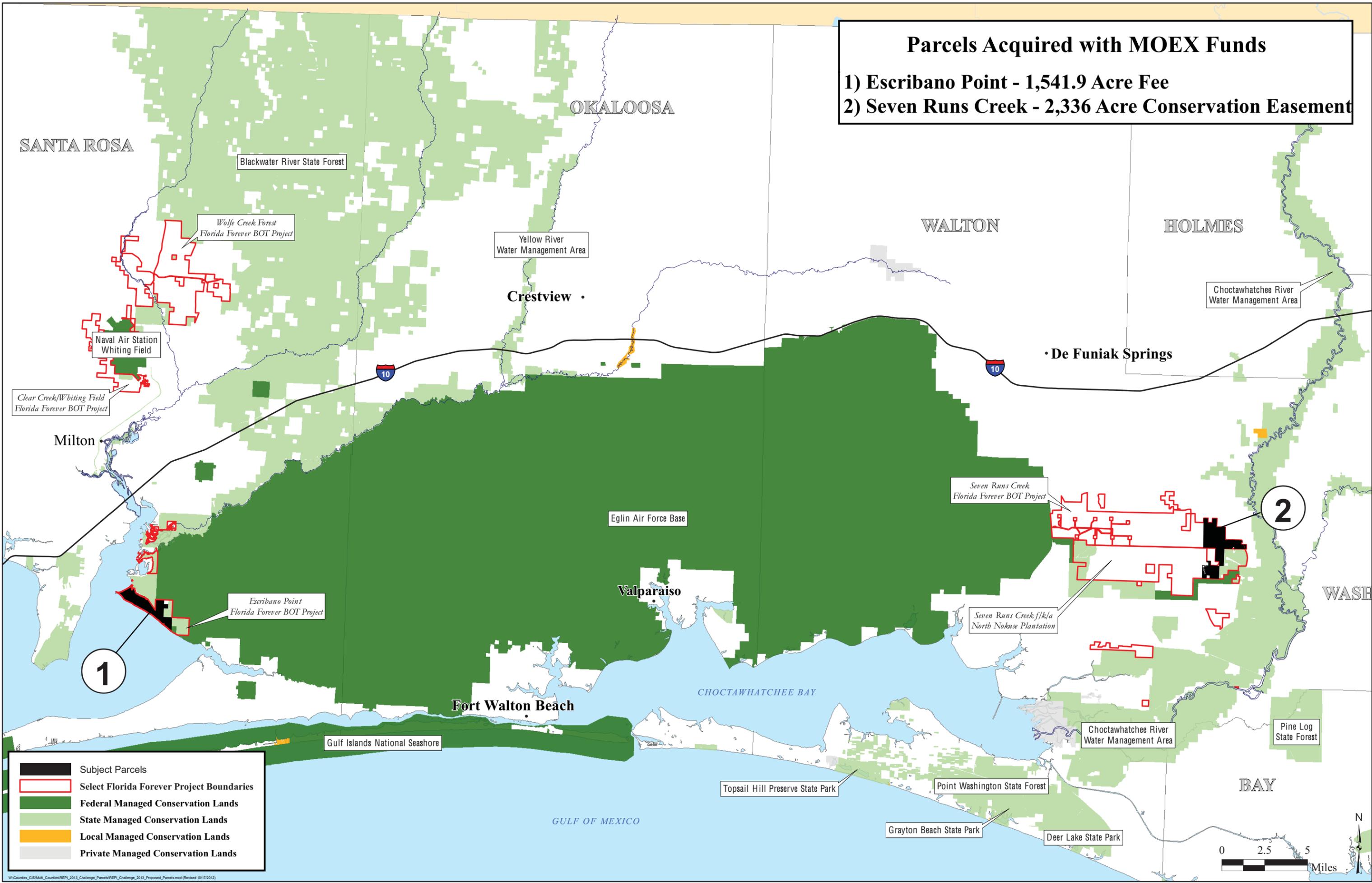
Table 5: Air Force Projects through FY 2011

Project	State	Number of Parcels / Transactions Through 2011	Total Acres Protected Through 2011	Total Cost Through 2011
Avon Park AFR	FL	0	0	\$0
Beale AFB	CA	0	0	\$0
Cape Canaveral AFS	FL	2	108	\$2,350,000
Dare County Range	NC	0	0	\$0
Edwards AFB	CA	0	0	\$0
Eglin AFB	FL	2	2,199	\$2,672,714
Fairchild AFB	WA	1	150	\$600,000
Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst	NJ	11	1,000	\$7,386,732
Robins AFB	GA	6	14	\$633,660
Tinker AFB	OK	0	0	\$0
Travis AFB	CA	1	147	\$539,000
Warren Grove Range	NJ	5	179	\$444,301
Air Force Totals		28	3,797	\$14,626,407

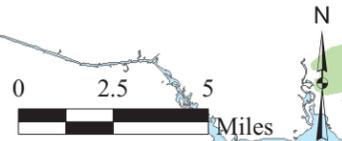
Cover photo credits (left to right, and bottom):

1. Marine Corps photo by Pfc. Franklin E. Mercado at MCB Camp Lejeune
2. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Reece Lodder at MCAGCC 29 Palms
3. Army courtesy photo at Aberdeen Proving Ground
4. Navy photo by Intelligence Specialist 1st Class Daniel Penn at NAS Fallon

Parcels Acquired with MOEX Funds
1) Escribano Point - 1,541.9 Acre Fee
2) Seven Runs Creek - 2,336 Acre Conservation Easement



- Subject Parcels
- Select Florida Forever Project Boundaries
- Federal Managed Conservation Lands
- State Managed Conservation Lands
- Local Managed Conservation Lands
- Private Managed Conservation Lands



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NORTHEAST FLORIDA MILITARY BASE PROXIMITY

-  Military Bases
-  Florida Forever Project Boundaries
-  State Managed Conservation Lands

Naval Station
Mayport

Whitehouse
OLF

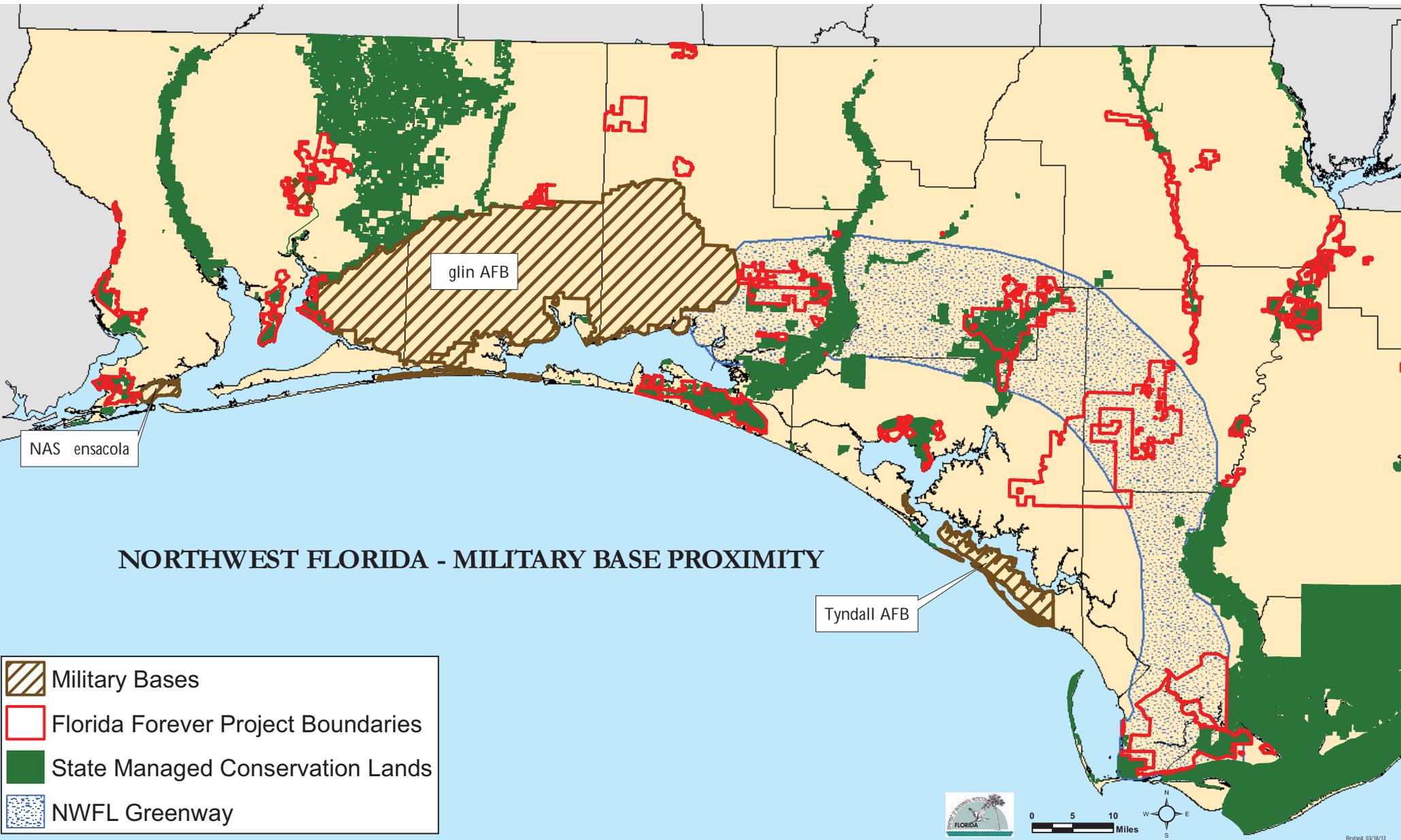
NAS Jacksonville

Camp Blanding
Joint Training Center

Rodman
Bomb Target



Revised: 03/18/13



NORTHWEST FLORIDA - MILITARY BASE PROXIMITY

CENTRAL FLORIDA MILITARY BASE PROXIMITY

CA CANA RAL
A R STAT ON

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BAS

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A R FORC
RAN

-  Military Bases
-  Florida Forever Project Boundaries
-  State Managed Conservation Lands



Revised: 03/18/11

SOUTH FLORIDA MILITARY BASE PROXIMITY

-  Military Bases
-  Florida Forever Project Boundaries
-  State Managed Conservation Lands

NA AL A R STAT ON
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The Nature
Conservancy



Protecting nature. Preserving life.

Soldier in Weeds. © TNC

ROOM TO MANEUVER

Preventing Encroachment

The Department of Defense recognizes that full access to military installations, ranges, operating areas, sea and airspace is essential for the realistic training and testing environments needed to prepare our troops for the missions they support. Over the past several decades, access to these resources has been increasingly challenged by external encroachment that inhibits military use of installations and operating areas.

In response to this potential threat to the defense missions, Florida, the Federal government, local communities and conservation organizations have proactively partnered to prevent future encroachment on and around Florida's military installations.

The purchase of private lands for conservation, placing conservation easements over privately owned lands to prevent future incompatible development, and local growth management have worked to buffer the bases from future incompatible development.

The result is a broad-based, multi-faceted effort aimed at addressing encroachment and range sustainment while simultaneously protecting Florida's natural systems, water resources, nature-based and defense economies.

READINESS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION INITIATIVE (REPI)

is a key tool for combating encroachment. Under REPI, the Department of Defense partners with conservation organizations and state and local governments to preserve buffer land and habitat around our military's installations and ranges.

By promoting innovative land conservation solutions that benefit both military readiness and the environment, REPI ensures that our military can conduct effective and realistic training and testing now and into the future.



Blue Head Ranch river © CARLTON WARD

**Total Florida REPI Obligation
from 2005–2012 \$32,463,526**

**REPI projects completed in Florida from
2005–2012**

Acres protected 24,848
REPI funds \$15,207,042
Service add \$5,695,000

Total Federal funds \$20,902,042

2012 FL REPI Obligation \$7,383,526
which is 15.6% of the total REPI 2012 Obligations

Florida Forever

Governor Scott included a request for \$25 million in general revenue and \$50 million in spending authority from the proceeds generated from the sale of surplus lands in his proposed budget. The budget request includes language that directs Florida Forever spending to acquire: *“conservation lands needed for springs protection, military buffering or water resource protection or for land acquisitions that are less-than-fee interest for where the state’s portion of the acquisition cost is no more than 50 percent.”* In order to compete successfully for U.S. Department of Defense Readiness and Environmental Protection Initiative (REPI) grants, it is critical that the Florida Forever appropriation include the \$25 million in cash to ensure that funds are available to provide match as the Department of Defense budget becomes more competitive.

Rural and Family Lands Protection Program

This program, administered by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, encourages the purchase of agricultural easements over working lands that have conservation and agricultural protection value.

The Nature Conservancy supports an appropriation of \$25 million for fiscal year 2013-14 to fund the program. These funds could be used to buy easements over working lands that provide military base mission protection; for example, working ranchlands in the vicinity of Avon Park Air Force Range and timberlands in Northwest Florida near Eglin Air Force Base, in addition to protecting other important working lands in Florida.

Military Base Protection—Florida Defense Support Task Force

Governor Scott has requested a \$1 million appropriation for military base protection and \$2 million to fund the Florida Defense Support Task Force. The Nature Conservancy supports the Governor’s request and encourages the use of these funds to provide grants to local governments to provide match for the REPI. In January, the Florida Defense Support Task Force granted Highlands County Economic Development Council \$500,000 to fund the acquisition of conservation easements that protect the military mission of Avon Park Air Force Range.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:



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dkeller@tnc.org



A successful partnership between Florida's military installations, conservation and working lands.

Protecting Mission ROOM to MANEUVER by Minimizing encroachment threats and protecting Natural Resources

**Incompatible development
surrounding the installation**

**Protecting populations of
Endangered and threatened
species**

Habitat Management

Working lands

Water Resource Protection

Defence Economy



Defense spending was directly or indirectly responsible for \$73.4 Billion or 9/4% of Florida's 2011 Gross State Product, 758,112 Jobs and state tax revenue of \$5.41 Billion in FY 2011.

\$32,463,526 Total REPI Obligation to FL

\$20,902,042 Total Federal funds EXPENDED in FL for conservation base buffering

- 24,848 acres of REPI Completed Conservation buffers
- REPI funds - \$15,207,042
- Service add - \$5,695,000 (\$1.5 M Army; \$4,195 Navy)

FL Bases with completed projects funded in part by REPI

Camp Blanding	17,137 acres
Cape Canaveral	189 acres
Eglin	2,199 acres
Pensacola	48 acres
Whiting	2,615 acres
Whitehouse	2,660 acres

**\$7,383,526 2012 REPI Obligation to FL –
(15.6% of total REPI Obligations made in 2012)**

Over the life of the REPI program, (2005-2012)
Florida has **expended 11.70% of all U.S. buffer projects**

Strong State Matching Funding Programs

Rural and Family Lands program - Conservation Easements

Florida Forever - \$25 million in Gov. Scott's budget recommendation

Enterprise Florida's Defense Infrastructure Grants

FL Defense Support Task Force – Mil. Base Protection

Conservation Easements –

no recurring land management obligations for the state

Rural and Family Lands

Working Lands/Water and Wildlife Protection

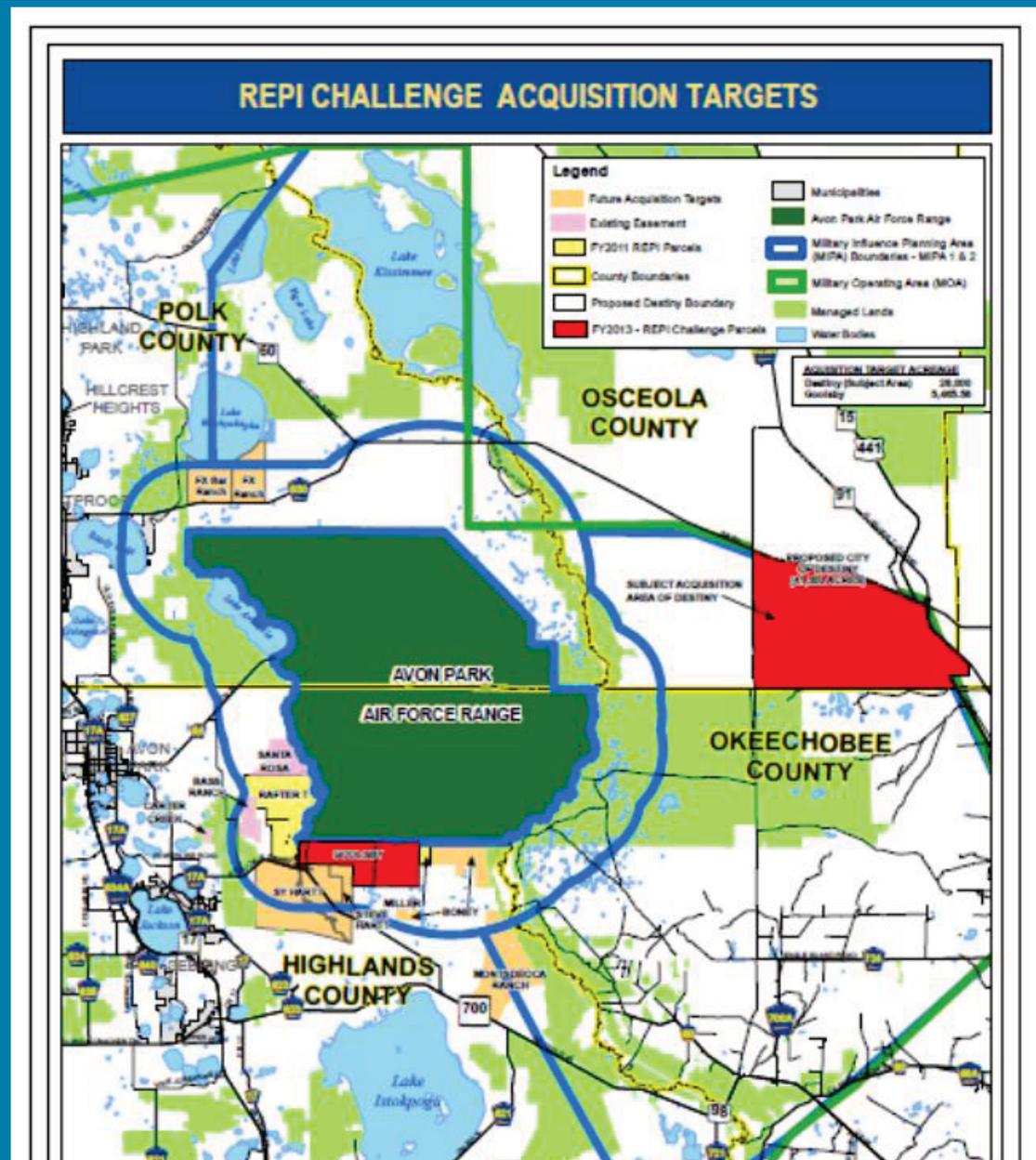
Land and Water Conservation Fund

Farm Bill – Wetlands Restoration

Everglades Headwaters National Wildlife Refuge

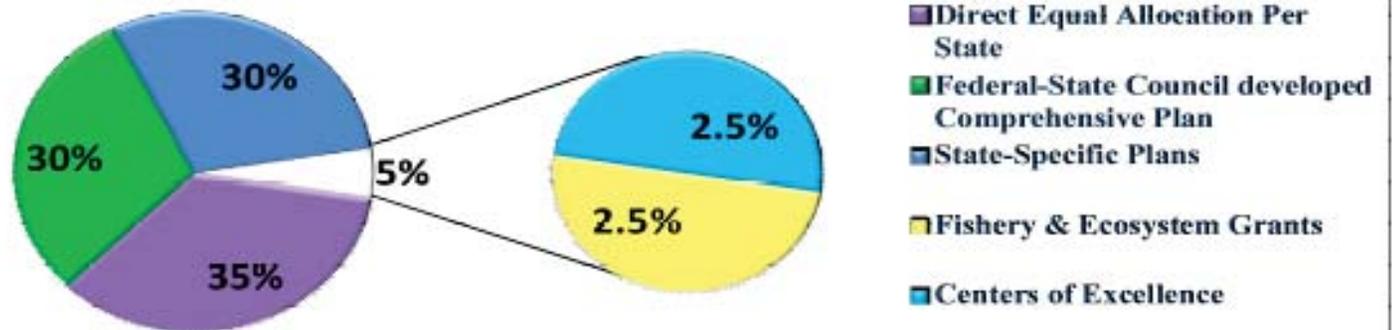
The Nature Conservancy's Role

- Identify Conservation / Base Buffering Projects using science and partner input
- Landowner Contact
- Develop and submit proposals
- Leverage funding packages
- Secure Funding
- Negotiate deals
- Assist with ecosystem management



RESTORE Act

Percentage of Trust Fund



Thank you.





Naval Support Activity Panama City

Installation Protection Plan

Florida Senate Committee on
Military and Veterans Affairs, Space,
and Domestic Security

March 20, 2013

Naval Support Activity Panama City



Bay Defense Alliance



Economic Impact

\$581M

NSA PC Annual Payroll

		<u>Tenants</u>	<u>Total</u>
Civilians	\$10.7M	\$140.6M	\$151.3M
Military	\$ 3.9M	\$ 31.1M	\$ 35.0M
Contractors	\$ 3.1M	\$132.0M	\$135.1M
Total	\$17.7M	\$303.5M	\$321.4M

Contract Totals

	NSA PC	Tenants	Total
Contracts	\$14.7M	\$245M	\$259.7M



Employment Levels

	NSA PC	Tenants	Students	Total
Civilians	256	1557	16	1829
Military	43	310	1194	1547
Badged Contractors	42	923		965
Total	341	2790	1210	4341

**Includes all students for the year, with approximately 200 aboard at a given time.*

NSA PC Tenant Commands

- Naval Surface Warfare Center Panama City Division
- Naval Diving and Salvage Training Center
- Navy Experimental Diving Unit
- Naval Explosive Ordnance Disposal MU12
- Center for EOD and Diving





Rd

Back Beach Rd

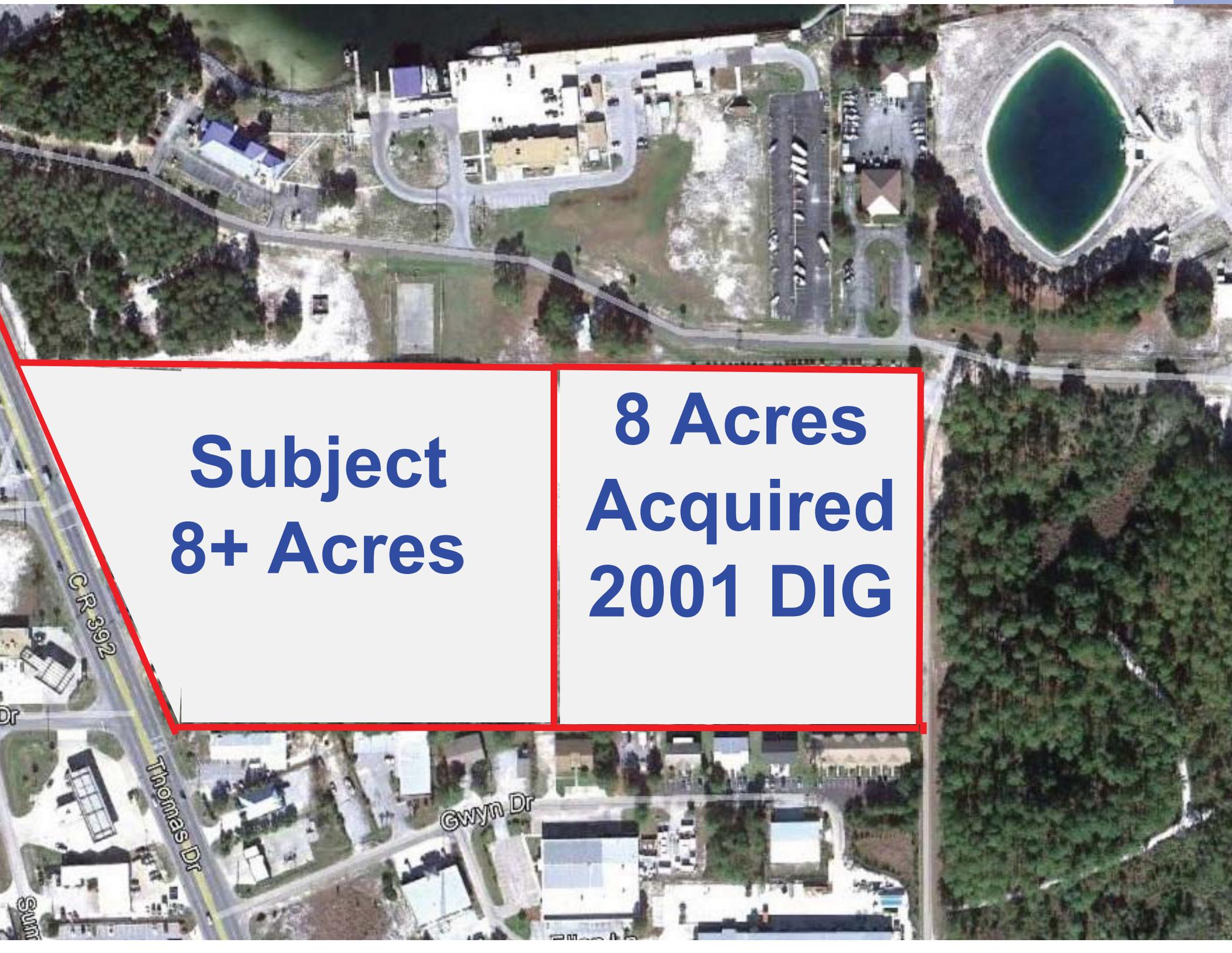
9830A

368

East Ave

16 Acres





**Subject
8+ Acres**

**8 Acres
Acquired
2001 DIG**

Deployable Joint Command and Control



Core Facts

- Identified as potential encroachment & security threat.
- Top local & regional Navy priority since 2007.
- Acquisition approved by Naval Facilities Command.
- #1 short-term strategic SPECTRUM recommendation
- Recommendation of Joint Land Use Study
- Aligns with FDSTF mission and goal in Strategic Plan.
- MILCON Funding approved by House.
- Included in Senate Omnibus Bill – never passed.
- Bay County Commission advanced interim funding.
- County can return property to the developer in 2014.
- Helps resolve a potential BRAC weakness – mission growth / surge capacity.
- Last contiguous parcel available for growth.





THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

Meeting Date _____

Topic MILITARY BASTES

Bill Number _____
(if applicable)

Name MAJ. GEN. TITSHAW

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title TAG - FLNG

Address 82 MARINE ST.
Street

Phone (804) 823-0107

ST. AUGUSTINE FL 32085
City State Zip

E-mail EMMETT.R.TITSHAW.M.L
@MAIL.M.L

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing _____

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

3/20/13

Meeting Date

Topic pcb MILITARY BASE
~~SPB 7028~~ BUFFERING

Bill Number SPB 7028
(if applicable)

Name SUSAN GRANDIN

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF STATE LANDS

Address 3900 COMMONWEALTH AVE MS-100
Street

Phone 245-2555

TALLAHASSEE FL 32399
City State Zip

E-mail SUSAN.C.GRANDIN@
DEP.STATE.FL.US

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing DEP

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/20/11)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

3/20/2013
Meeting Date

Topic Base Buffering w/ Conservation Lands Bill Number _____
(if applicable)

Name Deborah Keller Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title Sr. Policy Rep/ The Nature Conservancy

Address 625 N. Adams St Phone (561) 7051
Street

THH 32501 E-mail dkeller@tnc.org
City State Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing The Nature Conservancy

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

3-20-13

Meeting Date

Topic Military Base encroachment

Bill Number (if applicable)

Name Mike McDaniel

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Job Title Bureau Chief, Comprehens. Planning, DEO

Address 107 E. Madison St

Phone 717-8499

Tallahassee FL 32399

E-mail mike.mcdaniel@deo.

myflorida.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing DEO

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

3/20/13

Meeting Date

Topic Base Buffering/NSA-PC

Bill Number (if applicable)

Name Elizabeth J Walters

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Job Title

Address 5203 Bella Casa Pl

Phone 850 236 4444

Street Panama City, FL 32408
City State Zip

E-mail ewalters@burkeblz.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing Bay Defense Alliance

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

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S-001 (10/20/11)

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

03-20-13

Meeting Date

Agenda Item 5 - Series of presentations relating to military bases

Topic

Military Installation Compatibility

Bill Number

SPB 7028

(if applicable)

Name

Mark Scruby

Amendment Barcode

(if applicable)

Job Title

County Attorney, Clay County

Address

Box 1366

Phone

904 269 6377

Street

Green Cove Springs FL 32073

E-mail

mark.scruby@co.clay.fl.us

City

State

Zip

Speaking:

For

Against

Information

Representing

Clay County

Appearing at request of Chair:

Yes

No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature:

Yes

No

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S-001 (10/20/11)

Presentation

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

Meeting Date

Topic State Land Base Encroachment Bill Number SPB 7028
(if applicable)

Name Jimmy Weeks Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title _____

Address 2447 ROBBIE LEE LANE Phone 904-838-1006
Street
GREENCOVE SPGS FLA. 32043
City State Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing _____

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

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Presentation

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

Meeting Date _____

Topic BUFFER ISSUE

Bill Number SPB 7028
(if applicable)

Name BILL AGRICOLA

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title _____

Address 1879 PERIMETER PARK

Phone 904-655-6928

Street
fernandina Bch. FL 32034
City State Zip

E-mail _____

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing _____

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.



THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

COMMITTEES:

Agriculture, *Vice Chair*
Appropriations Subcommittee on Education
Appropriations Subcommittee on General
Government
Education
Environmental Preservation and Conservation
Military Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security

JOINT COMMITTEE:

Joint Administrative Procedures Committee

SENATOR DWIGHT BULLARD

39th District

March 18, 2013

Chairman Altman,

I am requesting to be excused from our Military and Veteran Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security Committee meeting on Wednesday, March 20, 2013 at 3:00 pm.

Due to the passing of my mother, Senator Larcenia Bullard, I will be out this week tending to family matters.

Sincerely,

Dwight M. Bullard

State Senator, District 39

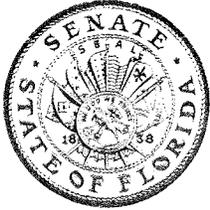
REPLY TO:

- 10720 Caribbean Boulevard, #435, Cutler Bay, Florida 33189
- 218 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5039

Senate's Website: www.flsenate.gov

DON GAETZ
President of the Senate

GARRETT RICHTER
President Pro Tempore



THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

COMMITTEES:

Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation,
Tourism, and Economic Development, *Chair*
Appropriations
Appropriations Subcommittee on Finance and Tax
Environmental Preservation and Conservation
Ethics and Elections
Gaming
Judiciary
Military Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security
Rules

JOINT COMMITTEE:

Joint Legislative Budget Commission

SENATOR ANDY GARDINER

13th District

March 21, 2013

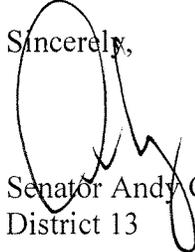
The Honorable Thad Altman, Chair
Military Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security Committee
111 Senate Office Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Chair Altman,

I am writing to respectfully request that I be excused from the Military Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security Committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday, March 20. I have a scheduling conflict and unfortunately will not be able to attend the meeting.

If you have any questions regarding this request, please do not hesitate to call my office. Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,


Senator Andy Gardiner
District 13

AG:svc

Cc: Ms. Elizabeth Ryon, Staff Director

REPLY TO:

- 1013 East Michigan Street, Orlando, Florida 32806 (407) 428-5800
- 420 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5013

Senate's Website: www.flsenate.gov

DON GAETZ
President of the Senate

GARRETT RICHTER
President Pro Tempore

CourtSmart Tag Report

Room: LL 37

Case:

Type:

Caption: Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security

Judge:

Started: 3/20/2013 3:06:37 PM

Ends: 3/20/2013 5:31:02 PM Length: 02:24:26

3:06:39 PM Meeting called to order by Chairman Altman
3:06:51 PM Roll call by Administrative Assistant, Lois Graham
3:07:07 PM Chairman stated that Senator Gardiner had and excused absence
3:07:15 PM Chairman stated that Senator Abruzzo would be late
3:07:33 PM Chairman stated that Senator Bullard had an excused absence due to the death of his mother
3:07:55 PM Senator Bullard is excused
3:08:07 PM Chairman Altman stated that Tab 4 SPB 7032 will be TP'd
3:08:18 PM Tab 1 SB 284 Senator Negron TP'd for a brief moment
3:08:42 PM Tab 2 SB 1598 presented by Senator Soto
3:10:04 PM Amendment 255812 presented by Senator Sachs
3:10:33 PM Amendment adopted
3:11:00 PM Amendment 112104 presented by Senator Gibson
3:12:32 PM Question from Senator Dean
3:12:46 PM Response from Senator Gibson
3:14:05 PM Question from Senator Dean
3:14:21 PM Response from Senator Gibson
3:15:10 PM Question from Senator Evers
3:15:33 PM Response from Senator Gibson
3:16:49 PM Question from Senator Evers
3:17:32 PM Response from Senator Gibson
3:20:34 PM Amendment 112104 adopted
3:21:10 PM Amendment 894916 presented by Senator Sachs
3:22:09 PM Amendment adopted
3:22:23 PM Back on SB 1598 as amended
3:22:59 PM Senator Soto closed on the bill as amended
3:23:48 PM Senator Gibson moved to have SB 1598 to be a CS
3:24:25 PM Roll call on CS/SB 1598
3:24:34 PM CS/SB 1598 passes favorably
3:25:02 PM Tab 1 SB 284 presented by Senator Negron
3:25:52 PM Amendment 404658 by Senator Legg presented by Senator Negron
3:26:12 PM Amendment adopted
3:26:29 PM Back on SB 284 as amended
3:29:04 PM Comments by Senator Sachs
3:29:23 PM More comments on SB 284 as amended
3:29:37 PM Comments from Senator Evers
3:30:06 PM Senator Negron closes on SB 284
3:30:35 PM Senator Legg moves SB 284 as a CS
3:31:04 PM Roll call on CS/SB 284 passes favorably
3:31:23 PM Senator Dean introduces the Marion County Youth Group
3:32:04 PM TAB 3 SM 1266 presented by Senator Soto
3:35:20 PM Comments from Senator Evers

3:35:45 PM Comments from Senator Sachs
3:36:44 PM Senator Soto closes on SM 1266
3:37:30 PM Roll call on SM 1266
3:37:44 PM SM 1266 passes favorably
3:38:53 PM Tab 5 The Chairman comments regarding Military base encroachment
3:42:22 PM Senator Gibson moves to vote "Yea" for CS/SB 284 and SM 1266
3:42:58 PM General Titshaw speaking on Camp Blanding
3:56:34 PM Comments from Chairman Altman
3:57:12 PM Comments from Senator Evers
3:57:21 PM Comments from Chairman Altman
3:57:48 PM Ms. Susan Grandin, Director, Division of State Lands of DEP speaking on Florida Forever Funds
4:00:40 PM Senator Abruzzo move to vote "Yea" for CS/SB 284, SB 1598 and SM 1266
4:01:41 PM Ms. Susan Grandin continues speaking on Florida Forever Funds
4:05:40 PM Question from Chairman Altman
4:06:15 PM Response from Susan Grandin
4:09:08 PM Questions from Senator Dean
4:09:59 PM Response from Susan Grandin
4:11:08 PM Comments from Chairman Altman
4:12:16 PM Ms. Deborah Keller, Senior Policy Representative, The Nature Conservancy
4:23:58 PM Question from Chairman Altman
4:24:05 PM Response from Deborah Keller
4:27:01 PM Mr. Mike McDaniel, Bureau Chief, Comprehensive Planning, DEO speaking on non-conservative base buffering at MacDill Air Force Base
4:36:22 PM Comments from Chairman Altman
4:36:55 PM Mike McDaniel continues presentation
4:38:34 PM Comments from Chairman Altman
4:40:32 PM Questions from Chairman Altman
4:40:56 PM Response from Mike McDaniel
4:41:27 PM Ms. Elizabeth J. Walters, Bay Defense Alliance, speaking regarding non-conservation base buffering issue at Naval Support Activity, Panama City
4:49:35 PM Comments from Chairman Altman
4:51:05 PM Mr. Jimmy Weeks asked that Attorney Mark Scruby speaks before he speaks
4:51:28 PM Mr. Mark Scruby, County Attorney, Clay County
4:58:19 PM Comments from Chairman Altman
4:59:44 PM Continued speaking by Mark Scruby
5:02:09 PM Comments from Senator Dean
5:02:15 PM Response from Mark Scruby
5:02:21 PM Comments from Chairman Altman
5:02:30 PM Mr. Jimmy Weeks, Land Owner in Green Cove Springs, Florida
5:10:00 PM Question from Senator Evers
5:10:35 PM Response from Jimmy Weeks
5:11:54 PM Question from Senator Evers
5:12:14 PM Response from Jimmy Weeks
5:12:35 PM Comments/answer from Chairman Altman
5:14:47 PM Response from Mark Scruby
5:20:24 PM Comments from Chairman Altman
5:20:32 PM Question from Senator Dean
5:20:45 PM Response from Jimmy Weeks
5:23:22 PM Comments from Senator Gibson
5:25:11 PM Comments from Chairman Altman
5:26:46 PM Comments from Senator Evers

5:27:12 PM Comments from Chairman Altman

5:27:21 PM Comments from Mr. Bill Agricola, Fernandina Beach, FL

5:30:19 PM Comments from Chairman Altman

5:30:27 PM Senator Dean moves to rise