By the Committee on Commerce, Economic Opportunities, and Consumer Services; and Senators Saunders, Miller and Siplin

310-2151-03

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A bill to be entitled An act relating to economic stimulus; amending s. 212.08, F.S.; revising sales price criteria for characterizing business property; amending s. 212.097, F.S.; revising provisions providing for an urban job tax credit program to apply to designated urban job tax credit areas rather than high crime areas; revising and providing definitions, eligibility criteria, application procedures and requirements, and area characteristics and criteria; authorizing transfer of unused credits; specifying use of transferred credits; amending s. 220.1895, F.S.; conforming changes; removing a historical reference; amending s. 220.191, F.S.; revising definitions; amending s. 288.1045, F.S.; revising the definition of "Department of Defense contract" under the tax refund program for qualified defense contractors; extending the period applicable to a program exemption under certain conditions; amending s. 288.106, F.S.; providing for special consideration to be given to defense and homeland security under the tax refund program for qualified target industry businesses; extending the period applicable to a program exemption under certain conditions; reenacting and amending s. 288.9515, F.S.; revising and clarifying powers of Enterprise Florida, Inc., to develop authorized technology development programs; deleting a preference requirement for

contractor selections; clarifying a requirement for capitalization of a technology development 3 financing fund; revising criteria and requirements for investment of moneys in the Florida Technology Research Investment Fund; providing for payment of certain claims from the fund; specifying nonapplication of state credit or taxing power; specifying absence of state liability for certain claims; repealing s. 288.9517, F.S., relating to audits of the 11 technology development board and confidentiality of the identity of certain 12 13 contributors to the board; repealing s. 14, ch. 93-187, Laws of Florida, relating to the future 14 15 repeal and review by the Legislature of statutes governing certain technology 16 17 development programs of Enterprise Florida, Inc.; providing an effective date. 18

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

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Section 1. Paragraph (h) of subsection (5) of section 212.08, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

24 212.08 Sales, rental, use, consumption, distribution, 25 and storage tax; specified exemptions. -- The sale at retail, the rental, the use, the consumption, the distribution, and 26 the storage to be used or consumed in this state of the 27 28 following are hereby specifically exempt from the tax imposed 29 by this chapter.

- (5) EXEMPTIONS; ACCOUNT OF USE. --
 - (h) Business property used in an enterprise zone. --

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- Business property purchased for use by businesses located in an enterprise zone which is subsequently used in an enterprise zone shall be exempt from the tax imposed by this chapter. This exemption inures to the business only through a refund of previously paid taxes. A refund shall be authorized upon an affirmative showing by the taxpayer to the satisfaction of the department that the requirements of this paragraph have been met.
- To receive a refund, the business must file under oath with the governing body or enterprise zone development agency having jurisdiction over the enterprise zone where the business is located, as applicable, an application which includes:
- The name and address of the business claiming the а. refund.
- The identifying number assigned pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the enterprise zone in which the business is located.
- A specific description of the property for which a refund is sought, including its serial number or other permanent identification number.
 - The location of the property. d.
- The sales invoice or other proof of purchase of the property, showing the amount of sales tax paid, the date of purchase, and the name and address of the sales tax dealer from whom the property was purchased.
- Whether the business is a small business as defined by s. 288.703(1).
- If applicable, the name and address of each permanent employee of the business, including, for each 31 employee who is a resident of an enterprise zone, the

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30 31 identifying number assigned pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the enterprise zone in which the employee resides.

- 3. Within 10 working days after receipt of an application, the governing body or enterprise zone development agency shall review the application to determine if it contains all the information required pursuant to subparagraph 2. and meets the criteria set out in this paragraph. The governing body or agency shall certify all applications that contain the information required pursuant to subparagraph 2. and meet the criteria set out in this paragraph as eligible to receive a refund. If applicable, the governing body or agency shall also certify if 20 percent of the employees of the business are residents of an enterprise zone, excluding temporary and part-time employees. The certification shall be in writing, and a copy of the certification shall be transmitted to the executive director of the Department of Revenue. The business shall be responsible for forwarding a certified application to the department within the time specified in subparagraph 4.
- 4. An application for a refund pursuant to this paragraph must be submitted to the department within 6 months after the tax is due on the business property that is purchased.
- 5. The provisions of s. 212.095 do not apply to any refund application made pursuant to this paragraph. The amount refunded on purchases of business property under this paragraph shall be the lesser of 97 percent of the sales tax paid on such business property or \$5,000, or, if no less than 20 percent of the employees of the business are residents of an enterprise zone, excluding temporary and part-time employees, the amount refunded on purchases of business

property under this paragraph shall be the lesser of 97 percent of the sales tax paid on such business property or \$10,000. A refund approved pursuant to this paragraph shall be made within 30 days of formal approval by the department of the application for the refund. No refund shall be granted under this paragraph unless the amount to be refunded exceeds \$100 in sales tax paid on purchases made within a 60-day time period.

- 6. The department shall adopt rules governing the manner and form of refund applications and may establish guidelines as to the requisites for an affirmative showing of qualification for exemption under this paragraph.
- 7. If the department determines that the business property is used outside an enterprise zone within 3 years from the date of purchase, the amount of taxes refunded to the business purchasing such business property shall immediately be due and payable to the department by the business, together with the appropriate interest and penalty, computed from the date of purchase, in the manner provided by this chapter. Notwithstanding this subparagraph, business property used exclusively in:
 - a. Licensed commercial fishing vessels,
 - b. Fishing guide boats, or
 - c. Ecotourism guide boats

that leave and return to a fixed location within an area designated under s. 370.28 are eligible for the exemption provided under this paragraph if all requirements of this paragraph are met. Such vessels and boats must be owned by a business that is eligible to receive the exemption provided

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under this paragraph. This exemption does not apply to the purchase of a vessel or boat.

- The department shall deduct an amount equal to 10 8. percent of each refund granted under the provisions of this paragraph from the amount transferred into the Local Government Half-cent Sales Tax Clearing Trust Fund pursuant to s. 212.20 for the county area in which the business property is located and shall transfer that amount to the General Revenue Fund.
- For the purposes of this exemption, "business property" means new or used property defined as "recovery property" in s. 168(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended, except:
- a. Property classified as 3-year property under s. 168(c)(2)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended;
- Industrial machinery and equipment as defined in sub-subparagraph (b)6.a. and eligible for exemption under paragraph (b);
- c. Building materials as defined in sub-subparagraph (g)8.a.; and
- Business property having a sales price of under 22 $$500$\frac{5,000}{9}$ per unit.
 - The provisions of this paragraph shall expire and be void on December 31, 2005.
 - Section 2. Section 212.097, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 212.097 Designated Urban High-Crime Area Job Tax Credit Area Program. --
 - As used in this section, the term: (1)
- 30 "Eligible business" means any sole proprietorship, 31 | firm, partnership, or corporation that is located in a

designated urban job tax credit area qualified county and is predominantly engaged in, or is headquarters for a business 2 3 predominantly engaged in, activities usually provided for consideration by firms classified within the following 4 standard industrial classifications: SIC 01-SIC 09 5 6 (agriculture, forestry, and fishing); SIC 20-SIC 39 7 (manufacturing); SIC 52-SIC 57 and SIC 59 (retail); SIC 422 (public warehousing and storage); SIC 70 (hotels and other 8 lodging places); SIC 7391 (research and development); SIC 781 9 10 (motion picture production and allied services); SIC 7992 11 (public golf courses); and SIC 7996 (amusement parks); and a targeted industry eligible for the qualified target industry 12 business tax refund under s. 288.106. A call center or similar 13 14 customer service operation that services a multistate market or international market is also an eligible business. In 15 addition, the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic 16 17 Development may, as part of its final budget request submitted pursuant to s. 216.023, recommend additions to or deletions 18 19 from the list of standard industrial classifications used to determine an eligible business, and the Legislature may 20 implement such recommendations. Excluded from eligible 21 receipts are receipts from retail sales, except such receipts 22 for SIC 52-SIC 57 and SIC 59 (retail) hotels and other lodging 23 places classified in SIC 70, public golf courses in SIC 7992, 24 25 and amusement parks in SIC 7996. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "predominantly" means that more than 50 26 27 percent of the business's gross receipts from all sources is 28 generated by those activities usually provided for 29 consideration by firms in the specified standard industrial classification. The determination of whether the business is 30 31 | located in a designated urban job tax credit qualified

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high-crime area and the tier ranking of that area must be based on the date of application for the credit under this section. Commonly owned and controlled entities are to be considered a single business entity.

- "Qualified employee" means any employee of an eligible business who performs duties in connection with the operations of the business on a regular, full-time basis for an average of at least 36 hours per week for at least 3 months within the designated urban job tax credit qualified high-crime area in which the eligible business is located. An owner or partner of the eligible business is not a qualified employee. The term also includes an employee leased from an employee leasing company licensed under chapter 468, if such employee has been continuously leased to the employer for an average of at least 36 hours per week for more than 6 months.
- "New business" means any eligible business first beginning operation on a site in a designated urban job tax credit qualified high-crime area and clearly separate from any other commercial or business operation of the business entity within a designated urban job tax credit qualified high-crime area. A business entity that operated an eligible business within a <u>designated urb</u>an job tax credit qualified high-crime area within the 48 months before the period provided for application by subsection (2) is not considered a new business.
- (d) "Existing business" means any eligible business that does not meet the criteria for a new business.
- "Designated urban job tax credit Qualified high-crime area" means an area selected by the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development in the following 31 manner: every third year, the office shall rank and tier those

areas nominated under subsection (7)-according to the highest level of distress experienced in the categories enumerated 2. 3 under subsection (7). The Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development shall designate the 30 4 5 highest-distress-profile urban areas as eligible participants under the urban job tax credit program following prioritized 6 criteria: 7 8 1. Highest arrest rates within the geographic area for 9 violent crime and for such other crimes as drug sale, drug possession, prostitution, vandalism, and civil disturbances; 10 11 2. Highest reported crime volume and rate of specific property crimes such as business and residential burglary, 12 motor vehicle theft, and vandalism; 13 14 3. Highest percentage of reported index crimes that are violent in nature; 15 4. Highest overall index crime volume for the area; 16 17 and 18 5. Highest overall index crime rate for the geographic 19 area. 20 21 Tier-one areas are ranked 1 through 5 and represent the 22 highest crime areas according to this ranking. Tier-two areas are ranked 6 through 10 according to this ranking. Tier-three 23 24 areas are ranked 11 through 15. Notwithstanding this definition, "designated urban job tax credit qualified 25 high-crime area" also means an area that has been designated 26 27 as a federal Empowerment Zone pursuant to the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 or the Community Tax Relief Act of 2000. Such a 28 29 designated area is ranked in tier three until the areas are 30 reevaluated by the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic 31 Development.

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- (f) "Central business district" means an area comprised of at least 80 percent commercial and government buildings and properties; characterized by a high concentration of retail businesses, service businesses, offices, theaters, and hotels; and located in a Department of Transportation Urban Service Area.
- "Urban" means a densely populated nonrural area (q)located within an urban county which consists of a cluster of one or more census blocks, each of which has a population density of at least 400 people per square mile, or an area defined by the most recent United States Census as urban.
- (2) A new eligible business may apply for a tax credit under this subsection once at any time during its first year of operation. A new eliqible business in a designated urban job tax credit tier-one qualified high-crime area which has at least 10 qualified employees on the date of application shall receive a\$1,500 tax credit for each such employee. A new eligible business in a tier-two qualified high-crime area which has at least 20 qualified employees on the date of application shall receive a \$1,000 tax credit for each such employee. A new eligible business in a tier-three qualified high-crime area which has at least 30 qualified employees on the date of application shall receive a \$500 tax credit for each such employee.
- (3) An existing eligible business may apply for a tax credit under this subsection at any time it is entitled to such credit, except as restricted by this subsection. An existing eligible business in a designated urban job tax credit tier-one qualified high-crime area which on the date of application has at least 10 5 more qualified employees than it 31 | had 1 year prior to its date of application shall receive a

\$1,500 tax credit for each such additional employee. An existing eligible business in a tier-two qualified high-crime area which on the date of application has at least 10 more qualified employees than it had 1 year prior to its date of application shall receive a \$1,000 credit for each such additional employee. An existing business in a tier-three qualified high-crime area which on the date of application has at least 15 more qualified employees than it had 1 year prior to its date of application shall receive a \$500 tax credit for each such additional employee. An existing eligible business may apply for the credit under this subsection no more than once in any 12-month period. Any existing eligible business that received a credit under subsection (2) may not apply for the credit under this subsection sooner than 12 months after the application date for the credit under subsection (2).

- (4) For any new eligible business receiving a credit pursuant to subsection (2), an additional \$500 credit shall be provided for any qualified employee who is a welfare transition program participant. For any existing eligible business receiving a credit pursuant to subsection (3), an additional \$500 credit shall be provided for any qualified employee who is a welfare transition program participant. Such employee must be employed on the application date and have been employed less than 1 year. This credit shall be in addition to other credits pursuant to this section regardless of the tier-level of the high-crime area. Appropriate documentation concerning the eligibility of an employee for this credit must be submitted as determined by the department.
- (5) To be eligible for a tax credit under subsection
 (3), the number of qualified employees employed 1 year prior
 to the application date must be no lower than the number of

 qualified employees on the application date on which a credit under this section was based for any previous application, including an application under subsection (2).

- (6) Any county or municipality, or a county and one or more municipalities together, may apply to the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development for the designation of an area as a <u>designated urban job tax credit high-crime</u> area after the adoption by the governing body or bodies of a resolution that:
- (a) Finds that <u>an urban</u> a high-crime area exists in such county or municipality, or in both the county and one or more municipalities, which chronically exhibits extreme and unacceptable levels of poverty, unemployment, physical deterioration, and economic disinvestment;
- (b) Determines that the rehabilitation, conservation, or redevelopment, or a combination thereof, of such an urban a high-crime area is necessary in the interest of the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of such county or municipality, or such county and one or more municipalities; and
- (c) Determines that the revitalization of such <u>an</u> <u>urban</u> <u>a high-crime</u> area can occur if the public sector or private sector can be induced to invest its own resources in productive enterprises that build or rebuild the economic viability of the area.
- (7) The governing body of the entity nominating the area shall <u>demonstrate</u> provide to the Office of Tourism,

 Trade, and Economic Development <u>that</u> the <u>area meets the</u> following:
 - (a) Income characteristics:

1	1. Forty percent of area residents are earning wages
2	on an annual basis that are equal to or less than the annual
3	wage of a person who is earning minimum wage; or
4	2. More than 20 percent of residents or families live
5	below the federal standard of poverty for individuals or a
6	family of four. The overall index crime rate for the
7	geographic area;
8	(b) Education characteristics:
9	1. Has a high school dropout rate higher than the
LO	county average; or
L1	2. Has a high school graduation rate lower than the
L2	state average. The overall index crime volume for the area;
L3	(c) Workforce and employment characteristics:
L4	1. Has an unemployment rate at least 3 percentage
L5	points higher than the state's unemployment rate;
L6	2. More than 50 percent of families subject to the
L7	welfare-to-work transition time limit are either within 6
L8	months of the time limit or are receiving cash assistance
L9	under a period of hardship extension to the time limit; or
20	3. Is identified as a labor surplus area using the
21	criteria established by the United States Department of
22	Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The percentage
23	of reported index crimes that are violent in nature;
24	(d) <u>Crime characteristics:</u>
25	1. Has an arrest rate higher than the state's average
26	rate for such crimes as drug sale, drug possession,
27	prostitution, vandalism, and civil disturbances, as recorded
28	by total crime index of the Department of Law Enforcement; or
29	2. Ranks in the top 30 percent of zip codes with

reported crimes that are violent in nature. The reported crime volume and rate of specific property crimes such as business

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and residential burglary, motor vehicle theft, and vandalism; and

- (e) Residential and commercial property related characteristics:
 - 1. Fifty percent or more of area residents rent;
- 2.a. Property values are within the lower 50 percent of the county's assessed property values;
- b. More than 5 percent of area homes, apartments, or buildings are abandoned, have been condemned within the previous 24 months, or have a greater number of violations of the Florida Building Code than recorded in the remainder of the county or municipality; or
- c. Tax or special assessment delinquencies exceed the fair value of the land. The arrest rates within the geographic area for violent crime and for such other crimes as drug sale, drug possession, prostitution, disorderly conduct, vandalism, and other public-order offenses.
- (8) A municipality, or a county and one or more municipalities together, may not nominate more than one urban high-crime area. However, any county as defined by s. 125.011(1) may nominate no more than three urban high-crime areas.
- (9)(a) An area nominated by a county or municipality, or a county and one or more municipalities together, for designation as an urban job tax credit a high-crime area shall be eligible only if it meets the following criteria:
- 1.(a) The selected area does not exceed 20 square miles and either has a continuous boundary or consists of not more than three noncontiguous parcels. +
- 2.(b) The selected area does not exceed the following 31 | mileage limitation:

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a.1. For areas communities having a total population of 150,000 persons or more, the selected area does not exceed 20 square miles and is within 10 miles of the central business district of a city.

- b.2. For areas communities having a total population of 50,000 persons or more, but fewer than 150,000 persons, the selected area does not exceed 10 square miles and is within 7.5 miles of the central business district of a city.
- c.3. For areas communities having a total population of 20,000 persons or more, but fewer than 50,000 persons, the selected area does not exceed 5 square miles and is within 5 miles of the central business district of a city.
- d.4. For areas communities having a total population of fewer than 20,000 persons, the selected area does not exceed 3 square miles and is within 3 miles of the central business district of a city.
- (b) A designated urban job tax credit area may not include any portion of a central business district, unless the poverty rate for each census geographic block group in the district is not less than 30 percent.
- (10)(a) In order to claim this credit, an eligible business must file under oath with the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development a statement that includes the name and address of the eligible business and any other information that is required to process the application.
- (b) Within 30 working days after receipt of an application for credit, the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development shall review the application to determine whether it contains all the information required by this subsection and meets the criteria set out in this section. 31 Subject to the provisions of paragraph (c), the Office of

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Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development shall approve all applications that contain the information required by this subsection and meet the criteria set out in this section as eligible to receive a credit.

- (c) The maximum credit amount that may be approved during any calendar year is \$5 million, of which \$1 million shall be exclusively reserved for tier-one areas. The Department of Revenue, in conjunction with the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development, shall notify the governing bodies in areas designated under this section as urban high-crime areas when the \$5 million maximum amount has been reached. Applications must be considered for approval in the order in which they are received without regard to whether the credit is for a new or existing business. This limitation applies to the value of the credit as contained in approved applications. Approved credits may be taken in the time and manner allowed pursuant to this section.
- (11) If the application is insufficient to support the credit authorized in this section, the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development shall deny the credit and notify the business of that fact. The business may reapply for this credit within 3 months after such notification.
- (12) If the credit under this section is greater than can be taken on a single tax return, excess amounts may be taken as credits on any tax return submitted within 12 months after the approval of the application by the department.
- (13) It is the responsibility of each business to affirmatively demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Department of Revenue that it meets the requirements of this section.

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- (14) Any person who fraudulently claims this credit is liable for repayment of the credit plus a mandatory penalty of 100 percent of the credit and is guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- (15) A corporation may take the credit under this section against its corporate income tax liability, as provided in s. 220.1895. However, a corporation that applies its job tax credit against the tax imposed by chapter 220 may not receive the credit provided for in this section. A credit may be taken against only one tax.
- (16) An eligible business may transfer any unused credit in whole or in units of no less than 25 percent of the remaining credit. The entity acquiring such credit may use it in the same manner and with the same limitation as described in this section. Such transferred credits may not be transferred again although they may succeed to a surviving or acquiring entity subject to the same conditions and limitations described in this section.
- (17) (16) The department shall adopt rules governing the manner and form of applications for credit or transfers of credit and may establish guidelines concerning the requisites for an affirmative showing of qualification for the credit under this section.
- Section 3. Section 220.1895, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 220.1895 Rural Job Tax Credit and Designated Urban High-Crime Area Job Tax Credit Area. -- There shall be allowed a credit against the tax imposed by this chapter amounts approved by the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic 31 Development pursuant to the Rural Job Tax Credit Program in s.

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212.098 and the Designated Urban High-Crime Area Job Tax Credit Area Program in s. 212.097. A corporation that uses its credit against the tax imposed by this chapter may not take the credit against the tax imposed by chapter 212. If any credit granted under this section is not fully used in the first year for which it becomes available, the unused amount may be carried forward for a period not to exceed 5 years. The carryover may be used in a subsequent year when the tax imposed by this chapter for such year exceeds the credit for such year under this section after applying the other credits and unused credit carryovers in the order provided in s. 220.02(8). The Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development shall conduct a review of the Urban High-Crime Area Job Tax Credit and the Rural Job Tax Credit Program and submit its report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by February 1, 2000.

Section 4. Paragraphs (e) and (h) of subsection (1) of section 220.191, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

220.191 Capital investment tax credit.--

- (1) DEFINITIONS. -- For purposes of this section:
- "Jobs" means full-time equivalent positions, as such term is consistent with terms used by the Agency for Workforce Innovation Department of Labor and Employment Security and the United States Department of Labor for purposes of unemployment tax administration and employment estimation, resulting directly from a project in this state. Such term does not include temporary construction jobs involved in the construction of the project facility.
- "Qualifying project" means a new or expanding 31 | facility in this state which creates at least 100 new jobs in

this state, and is otherwise eligible for certification by the office as a qualified target industry business pursuant to s. 288.106, and exports at least 50 percent of its product or service outside of this state in one of the high-impact sectors identified by Enterprise Florida, Inc., and certified by the office pursuant to s. 288.108(6), including, but not limited to, aviation, aerospace, automotive, and silicon technology industries.

Section 5. Paragraph (e) of subsection (1) and paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section 288.1045, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

288.1045 Qualified defense contractor tax refund program.--

- (1) DEFINITIONS. -- As used in this section:
- (e) "Department of Defense contract" means a competitively bid Department of Defense contract or subcontract or a competitively bid federal agency contract or subcontract issued on behalf of the Department of Defense for manufacturing, assembling, fabricating, research, development, or design with a duration of 2 or more years, but excluding any contract or subcontract to provide goods, improvements to real or tangible property, or services directly to or for any particular military base or installation in this state. The term includes contracts or subcontracts for products or services for military or homeland security use which contracts or subcontracts are approved by the United States Department of Defense, the United States Department of State, or the United States Department of Homeland Security Coast Guard.
- (4) QUALIFIED DEFENSE CONTRACTOR TAX REFUND $\mbox{ AGREEMENT.--}$

- (b) Compliance with the terms and conditions of the agreement is a condition precedent for receipt of tax refunds each year. The failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the agreement shall result in the loss of eligibility for receipt of all tax refunds previously authorized pursuant to this section, and the revocation of the certification as a qualified applicant by the director, unless the qualified applicant is eligible to receive and elects to accept a prorated refund under paragraph (5)(g) or the office grants the qualified applicant an economic-stimulus exemption.
- 1. A qualified applicant may submit, in writing, a request to the office for an economic-stimulus exemption. The request must provide quantitative evidence demonstrating how negative economic conditions in the qualified applicant's industry, or specific acts of terrorism affecting the qualified applicant, have prevented the qualified applicant from complying with the terms and conditions of its tax refund agreement.
- 2. Upon receipt of a request under subparagraph 1., the director shall have 45 days to notify the requesting qualified applicant, in writing, if its exemption has been granted or denied. In determining if an exemption should be granted, the director shall consider the extent to which negative economic conditions in the requesting qualified applicant's industry, or specific acts of terrorism affecting the qualified applicant, have prevented the qualified applicant from complying with the terms and conditions of its tax refund agreement.
- 3. As a condition for receiving a prorated refund under paragraph (5)(g) or an economic-stimulus exemption under this paragraph, a qualified applicant must agree to

 renegotiate its tax refund agreement with the office to, at a minimum, ensure that the terms of the agreement comply with current law and office procedures governing application for and award of tax refunds. Upon approving the award of a prorated refund or granting an economic-stimulus exemption, the office shall renegotiate the tax refund agreement with the qualified applicant as required by this subparagraph. When amending the agreement of a qualified applicant receiving an economic-stimulus exemption, the office may extend the duration of the agreement for a period not to exceed 1 year.

- 4. A qualified applicant may submit a request for an economic-stimulus exemption to the office in lieu of any tax refund claim scheduled to be submitted after January 1, 2001, but before <u>June 30, 2004</u> July 1, 2003. <u>However, a qualified applicant that has received at least one economic-stimulus exemption may not apply for an additional exemption.</u>
- 5. A qualified applicant that receives an economic-stimulus exemption may not receive a tax refund for the period covered by the exemption.

Section 6. Paragraph (o) of subsection (1) and paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section 288.106, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

288.106 Tax refund program for qualified target industry businesses.--

- (1) DEFINITIONS.--As used in this section:
- (o) "Target industry business" means a corporate headquarters business or any business that is engaged in one of the target industries identified pursuant to the following criteria developed by the office in consultation with Enterprise Florida, Inc.:

- 1. Future growth.--Industry forecasts should indicate strong expectation for future growth in both employment and output, according to the most recent available data. Special consideration should be given to Florida's growing access to international markets or to replacing imports.
- 2. Stability.--The industry should not be subject to periodic layoffs, whether due to seasonality or sensitivity to volatile economic variables such as weather. The industry should also be relatively resistant to recession, so that the demand for products of this industry is not necessarily subject to decline during an economic downturn.
- 3. High wage.--The industry should pay relatively high wages compared to statewide or area averages.
- 4. Market and resource independent.--The location of industry businesses should not be dependent on Florida markets or resources as indicated by industry analysis.
- 5. Industrial base diversification and strengthening.—The industry should contribute toward expanding or diversifying the state's or area's economic base, as indicated by analysis of employment and output shares compared to national and regional trends. Special consideration should be given to industries that strengthen regional economies by adding value to basic products or building regional industrial clusters as indicated by industry analysis. Special consideration also should be given to developing strong industrial clusters, including defense and homeland security.
- 6. Economic benefits.--The industry should have strong positive impacts on or benefits to the state and regional economies.

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The office, in consultation with Enterprise Florida, Inc., shall develop a list of such target industries annually and submit such list as part of the final agency legislative budget request submitted pursuant to s. 216.023(1). A target industry business may not include any industry engaged in retail activities; any electrical utility company; any phosphate or other solid minerals severance, mining, or processing operation; any oil or gas exploration or production operation; or any firm subject to regulation by the Division of Hotels and Restaurants of the Department of Business and Professional Regulation.

- (4) TAX REFUND AGREEMENT. --
- (b) Compliance with the terms and conditions of the agreement is a condition precedent for the receipt of a tax refund each year. The failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the tax refund agreement results in the loss of eligibility for receipt of all tax refunds previously authorized under this section and the revocation by the director of the certification of the business entity as a qualified target industry business, unless the business is eligible to receive and elects to accept a prorated refund under paragraph (5)(d) or the office grants the business an economic-stimulus exemption.
- 1. A qualified target industry business may submit, in writing, a request to the office for an economic-stimulus exemption. The request must provide quantitative evidence demonstrating how negative economic conditions in the business's industry, or specific acts of terrorism affecting the qualified target industry business, have prevented the business from complying with the terms and conditions of its 31 tax refund agreement.

- 2. Upon receipt of a request under subparagraph 1., the director shall have 45 days to notify the requesting business, in writing, if its exemption has been granted or denied. In determining if an exemption should be granted, the director shall consider the extent to which negative economic conditions in the requesting business's industry, or specific acts of terrorism affecting the qualified target industry business, have prevented the business from complying with the terms and conditions of its tax refund agreement.
- 3. As a condition for receiving a prorated refund under paragraph (5)(d) or an economic-stimulus exemption under this paragraph, a qualified target industry business must agree to renegotiate its tax refund agreement with the office to, at a minimum, ensure that the terms of the agreement comply with current law and office procedures governing application for and award of tax refunds. Upon approving the award of a prorated refund or granting an economic-stimulus exemption, the office shall renegotiate the tax refund agreement with the business as required by this subparagraph. When amending the agreement of a business receiving an economic-stimulus exemption, the office may extend the duration of the agreement for a period not to exceed 1 year.
- 4. A qualified target industry business may submit a request for an economic-stimulus exemption to the office in lieu of any tax refund claim scheduled to be submitted after January 1, 2001, but before June 30, 2004 July 1, 2003.

 However, a qualified target industry business that has received at least one economic-stimulus exemption may not apply for an additional exemption.

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5. A qualified target industry business that receives an economic-stimulus exemption may not receive a tax refund for the period covered by the exemption.

Section 7. Notwithstanding section 14 of chapter 93-187, Laws of Florida, section 288.9515, Florida Statutes, shall not stand repealed on December 31, 2003, as scheduled by such law, but that section is reenacted and amended to read:

288.9515 Authorized technology development programs. --

- (1) Enterprise Florida, Inc., may create technology development and applications services, and may serve as an umbrella organization for the coordination of information that provides technology applications service providers throughout the state which provide critical, managerial, technological, scientific, and related financial and business expertise essential for international and domestic competitiveness to small-sized and medium-sized manufacturing and knowledge-based service firms. Enterprise Florida, Inc., is authorized the following powers in order to carry out these functions:
- (a) Providing communication and coordination services among technology development and applications service providers throughout the state.
- (b) Providing coordinated marketing services to small-sized and medium-sized manufacturers in the state on behalf of, and in partnership with, technology applications service providers.

(b) (c) Securing additional sources of funds on behalf of, and in partnership with, technology-based businesses applications service providers.

(c)(d) Developing plans and policies to assist small-sized and medium-sized manufacturing companies or other 31 knowledge-based firms in Florida.

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(e) Entering into contracts with technology applications service providers for expanded availability of high-quality assistance to small-sized and medium-sized manufacturing companies or knowledge-based service firms, including, but not limited to, technological, human resources development, market planning, finance, and interfirm collaboration. Enterprise Florida, Inc., shall ensure that all contracts in excess of \$20,000 for the delivery of such assistance to Florida firms shall be based on competitive requests for proposals and shall establish clear standards for the delivery of services under such contracts. Such standards include, but are not limited to: 1. The ability and capacity to deliver services in sufficient quality and quantity. 2. The ability and capacity to deliver services in a timely manner. 3. The ability and capacity to meet the needs of firms in the proposed market area. (d)(f) Assisting other educational institutions, enterprises, or the entities providing business assistance to small-sized and medium-sized manufacturing and knowledge-based services enterprises. (g) Establishing a system to evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of technology applications services provided to small-sized and medium-sized enterprises. (e)(h) Establishing special education and informational programs for Florida enterprises and for educational institutions and enterprises providing business

(f)(i) Assisting in evaluating and documenting the

31 needs of firms in this state for technology development and

assistance to Florida enterprises.

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application services, and developing means to ensure that these needs are met, consistent with the powers provided for in this subsection.

(g)(j) Maintaining an office in such place or places as the board of directors of Enterprise Florida, Inc., approves.

(h) (k) Making and executing contracts with any person, enterprise, educational institution, association, or any other entity necessary or convenient for the performance of its duties and the exercise of the powers and functions of Enterprise Florida, Inc., under this subsection.

(i)(1) Receiving funds from any source to carry out the purposes of providing technology development and applications services, including, but not limited to, gifts or grants from any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States or of the state, or any enterprise or person, for any purpose consistent with the provisions of this subsection.

- (2) When choosing contractors under this section, preference shall be given to existing institutions, organizations, and enterprises so long as these existing institutions, organizations, and enterprises demonstrate the ability to perform at standards established by Enterprise Florida, Inc., under paragraph (1)(e). Neither the provisions of ss. 288.9511-288.9517 nor the actions taken by Enterprise Florida, Inc., under this section shall impair or hinder the operations, performance, or resources of any existing institution, organization, or enterprise.
- (3) Enterprise Florida, Inc., may create a technology development financing fund, to be called the Florida 31 Technology Research Investment Fund. The fund shall increase

 technology development in this state by investing in technology development projects that have the potential to generate investment-grade technologies of importance to the state's economy as evidenced by the willingness of private businesses to coinvest in such projects. Enterprise Florida, Inc., may also demonstrate and develop effective approaches to, and benefits of, commercially oriented research collaborations between businesses, universities, and state and federal agencies and organizations. Enterprise Florida, Inc., shall endeavor to maintain the fund as a self-supporting fund once the fund is sufficiently capitalized <u>under Enterprise</u> Florida, Inc., program guidelines as reflected in the minimum funding report required in s. 288.9516. The technology research investment projects may include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Technology development projects expected to lead to a specific investment-grade technology that is of importance to industry in this state.
- (b) Technology development centers and facilities expected to generate a stream of products and processes with commercial application of importance to industry in this state.
- (c) Technology development projects that have, or are currently using, other federal or state funds such as federal Small Business Innovation Research awards.
- (4) Enterprise Florida, Inc., shall invest moneys contained in the Florida Technology Research Investment Fund in technology application research or for technology development projects that have the potential for commercial market application. The partnership shall coordinate any investment in any space-related technology projects with the

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Florida Space Authority and the Technological Research and Development Authority.

- (a) The investment of moneys contained in the Florida Technology Research Investment Fund is limited to <u>qualified</u> investments in <u>qualified</u> securities in which a private enterprise in this state coinvests at least 40 percent of the total project costs, in conjunction with other cash or noncash investments from state educational institutions, state and federal agencies, or other institutions.
- (b) All moneys in the Florida Technology Research Investment Fund shall be continuously appropriated to the fund and may be used for loan guarantees, letter of credit guarantees, cash reserves for loan and letter of credit guarantees, payments of claims pursuant to contracts for guarantees, subordinated loans, loans with warrants, royalty investments, equity investments, and For the purposes of this fund, qualified securities include loans, loans convertible to equity, equity, loans with warrants attached that are beneficially owned by the board, royalty agreements, or any other contractual arrangements through which the Florida Technology Research Investment Fund receives an interest, rights, return of funds, or other consideration, and may be used for operations of the fund. All such uses of moneys in the fund are qualified investments arrangement in which the board is providing scientific and technological services to any federal, state, county, or municipal agency, or to any individual, corporation, enterprise, association, or any other entity involving technology development. Any claim against the fund or Enterprise Florida, Inc., relating to investment of moneys in the fund shall be paid solely from the fund. Neither the credit nor the taxing power of the state shall be pledged

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to secure the fund or moneys in the fund, other than from moneys appropriated or assigned to the fund, and the state shall not be liable or obligated in any way for any claims against the fund or against Enterprise Florida, Inc.

- (c) Not more than \$175,000 or 5 percent of the revenues generated by investment of moneys contained in the Florida Technology Research Investment Fund plus 5 percent of the revenues generated by investments under the Florida Small Business Technology Growth Program under s. 288.95155, whichever is greater, may be used on an annual basis to pay the combined operating expenses associated with operation of the Florida Technology Research Investment Fund and the Florida Small Business Technology Growth Program.
- (d) In the event of liquidation or dissolution of Enterprise Florida, Inc., or the Florida Technology Research Investment Fund, any rights or interests in a qualified security or portion of a qualified security purchased with moneys invested by the State of Florida shall vest in the state, under the control of the State Board of Administration. The state is entitled to, in proportion to the amount of investment in the fund by the state, any balance of funds remaining in the Florida Technology Research Investment Fund after payment of all debts and obligations upon liquidation or dissolution of Enterprise Florida, Inc., or the fund.
- (e) The investment of funds contained in the Florida Technology Research Investment Fund does not constitute a debt, liability, or obligation of the State of Florida or of any political subdivision thereof, or a pledge of the faith and credit of the state or of any such political subdivision.
- (5) Enterprise Florida, Inc., may create technology 31 commercialization programs in partnership with private

enterprises, educational institutions, and other institutions to increase the rate at which technologies with potential commercial application are moved from university, public, and industry laboratories into the marketplace. Such programs shall be created based upon research to be conducted by Enterprise Florida, Inc. Section 8. Section 288.9517, Florida Statutes, is repealed. Section 9. Section 14 of chapter 93-187, Laws of Florida, is repealed. Section 10. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003.

1		STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN	
2	COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR Senate Bills 2328 & 2252		
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4	The committee substitute makes the following changes to the underlying bills comprising the committee substitute:		
5		deletes provisions that would have created a sales and	
6		use tax exemption on materials, tools, and labor used for research and development purposes;	
7	2.	revises the types of businesses eligible to receive the	
8		capital investment tax credit for new or expanding facilities that create at least 100 new jobs in this	
9		state to include businesses that may qualify as a qualified target industry business and that export at	
10		least 50 percent of their products or services outside of Florida;	
11		modifies the definition of "Department of Defense	
12 13		contract" under the Tax Refund Program for Qualified Defense Contractors to include contracts with the Department of Homeland Security;	
14	4.	extends the deadline for certain qualified defense	
15		contractors participating in a tax refund program, which have not received an economic-stimulus exemption, to	
16		apply for an exemption before June 30, 2004;	
17	5.	extends the deadline for certain qualified target industry businesses participating in a tax refund program, which have not received an economic-stimulus	
18		exemption, to apply for an exemption before June 30, 2004;	
19	6.	clarifies the authorized uses of moneys in the Florida	
20		Technology Research Investment Fund; and	
21	7.	limits the liability of Enterprise Florida, Inc., for loan quarantees and other investments under a technology	
22		program to funds within the Florida Technology Research Investment Fund.	
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