

Amendment No. 1

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION

ADOPTED	<u> </u>	(Y/N)
ADOPTED AS AMENDED	<u> </u>	(Y/N)
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION	<u> </u>	(Y/N)
FAILED TO ADOPT	<u> </u>	(Y/N)
WITHDRAWN	<u> </u>	(Y/N)
OTHER	<u> </u>	

1 Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Commerce Committee
 2 Representative Ponder offered the following:

Amendment (with title amendment)

5 Between lines 118 and 119, insert:

6 Section 2. Paragraph (c) of subsection (4) of section
 7 295.21, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

8 295.21 Florida Is For Veterans, Inc.—

9 (4) GOVERNANCE.—

10 (c) Each member of the board of directors shall be
 11 appointed for a term of 4 years, except that, to achieve
 12 staggered terms, the initial appointees of the Governor shall
 13 serve terms of 2 years. A member is eligible ~~ineligible~~ for
 14 reappointment to the board ~~except that a member appointed to a~~
 15 ~~term of 2 years or less may be reappointed for one an~~ additional
 16 term of 4 years. ~~The initial appointments to the board must be~~

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17 ~~made by July 15, 2014.~~ Vacancies on the board shall be filled in
18 the same manner as the original appointment. A vacancy that
19 occurs before the scheduled expiration of the term of the member
20 shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term.

21 Section 3. Paragraphs (d) and (e) of subsection (3) of
22 section 295.22, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

23 295.22 Veterans Employment and Training Services Program.—

24 (3) ADMINISTRATION.—Florida Is For Veterans, Inc., shall
25 administer the Veterans Employment and Training Services Program
26 and perform all of the following functions:

27 (d) Create a grant program to provide funding to assist
28 veterans in meeting the workforce-skill needs of businesses
29 seeking to hire, promote, or generally improve specialized
30 skills of veterans, establish criteria for approval of requests
31 for funding, and maximize the use of funding for this program.
32 Grant funds may be used only in the absence of available
33 veteran-specific federally funded programs. Grants may fund
34 specialized training specific to a particular business.

35 1. ~~Grant funds may be allocated to any training provider~~
36 ~~selected by the business, including a career center, a Florida~~
37 ~~College System institution, a state university, or an in-house~~
38 ~~training provider of the business.~~ If grant funds are used to
39 provide a technical certificate, a licensure, or a degree, funds
40 may be allocated only upon a review that includes, but is not
41 limited to, documentation of accreditation and licensure.

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42 Instruction funded through the program terminates when
43 participants demonstrate competence at the level specified in
44 the request but may not exceed 12 ~~48~~ months. Preference shall be
45 given to target industry businesses, as defined in s. 288.106,
46 and to businesses in the defense supply, cloud virtualization,
47 or commercial aviation manufacturing industries.

48 ~~2. Costs and expenditures for the grant program must be~~
49 ~~documented and separated from those incurred by the training~~
50 ~~provider.~~ Costs and expenditures shall be limited to \$8,000 per
51 veteran trainee. Qualified businesses must cover the entire cost
52 for all of the training provided before receiving reimbursement
53 from the corporation equal to 50 percent of the cost to train a
54 veteran who is a permanent, full-time employee. Eligible costs
55 and expenditures include:

- 56 a. Tuition and fees.
57 ~~b. Curriculum development.~~
58 c. Books and classroom materials.
59 d. Rental fees for facilities ~~at public colleges and~~
60 ~~universities, including virtual training labs.~~
61 ~~e. Overhead or indirect costs not to exceed 5 percent of~~
62 ~~the grant amount.~~

63 3. Before funds are allocated for a request pursuant to
64 this section, the corporation shall prepare a grant agreement
65 between the business requesting funds, ~~the educational~~
66 ~~institution or training provider receiving funding through the~~

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67 ~~program,~~ and the corporation. Such agreement must include, but
68 need not be limited to:

69 a. Identification of the personnel necessary to conduct
70 the instructional program, instructional program description,
71 and any vendors used to conduct the instructional program~~the~~
72 ~~qualifications of such personnel, and the respective~~
73 ~~responsibilities of the parties for paying costs associated with~~
74 ~~the employment of such personnel.~~

75 ~~b. Identification of the match provided by the business,~~
76 ~~including cash and in-kind contributions, equal to at least 50~~
77 ~~percent of the total grant amount.~~

78 ~~b.c.~~ Identification of the estimated duration of the
79 instructional program.

80 ~~c.d.~~ Identification of all direct, training-related costs.

81 ~~d.e.~~ Identification of special program requirements that
82 are not otherwise addressed in the agreement.

83 ~~e.f.~~ Permission to access aggregate information specific
84 to the wages and performance of participants upon the completion
85 of instruction for evaluation purposes. The agreement must
86 specify that any evaluation published subsequent to the
87 instruction may not identify the employer or any individual
88 participant.

89 4. A business may receive a grant under the Quick-Response
90 Training Program created under s. 288.047 and a grant under this
91 section for the same veteran trainee. If a business receives

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92 funds under both programs, one grant agreement may be entered
93 into with CareerSource Florida, Inc., as the grant
94 administrator.

95 (e) Contract with one or more entities to administer an
96 entrepreneur initiative program for veterans in this state which
97 connects business leaders in the state with veterans seeking to
98 become entrepreneurs.

99 1. The corporation shall award each contract in accordance
100 with the competitive bidding requirements in s. 287.057 to one
101 or more public or private entities ~~universities~~ that:

102 a. Demonstrate the ability to implement the program and
103 the commitment of ~~university~~ resources, including financial
104 resources, to such programs.

105 b. Have a demonstrated experience working with military
106 ~~and veteran entrepreneurs resource center~~.

107 c. ~~Have a regional small business development center in~~
108 ~~the Florida Small Business Development Center Network.~~

109 ~~d.~~ As determined by the corporation, have been ~~nationally~~
110 recognized for their performance in assisting entrepreneurs
111 launch successful businesses in Florida ~~commitment to the~~
112 ~~military and veterans~~.

113 2. Each contract must include performance metrics,
114 including a focus on employment and business creation. ~~Each~~
115 ~~university must coordinate with any entrepreneurship center~~
116 ~~located at the university~~. The entity ~~university~~ may also work

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117 with an university or college ~~entity~~ offering related programs
118 to refer veterans or to provide services. The entrepreneur
119 initiative program may include activities and assistance such as
120 peer-to-peer learning sessions, mentoring, technical assistance,
121 business roundtables, networking opportunities, support of
122 student organizations, speaker series, or other tools within a
123 virtual environment.

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

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Between lines 5 and 6, insert:

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amending s. 295.21, F.S., providing that a member of the board
129 of directors for Florida is for Veterans, Inc., is eligible for
130 reappointment under certain circumstances; amending s.

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295.22(3), F.S., providing requirements and limitations for

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receiving training grants from Florida is for Veterans, Inc.;