

The Florida Senate
COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA
 MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, SPACE, AND
 DOMESTIC SECURITY
 Senator Wright, Chair
 Senator Torres, Vice Chair

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, October 10, 2023
TIME: 9:00—10:30 a.m.
PLACE: 301 Senate Building

MEMBERS: Senator Wright, Chair; Senator Torres, Vice Chair; Senators Baxley, Collins, and Pizzo

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
1	Presentation by James Hartsell, Executive Director, Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs		Presented
2	Presentation by Tim MacGregor, Director of the Office of Military and Defense, Florida Department of Commerce		Presented
Other Related Meeting Documents			



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Honoring those who served U.S.

Agency Update

October 10, 2023

Major General James S. Hartsell, U.S. Marine Corps (Ret)

Executive Director

Why We Serve



***More than 1.45 Million
Veterans, including
165,000 Women Veterans!***

- **Nation's 3rd largest Veteran population**
 - 728,000 Veterans over 65 years of age
 - 401,000 service-connected disabled Veterans
 - 15,000 World War II Veterans
 - 87,000 Korean War Veterans
 - 476,000 Vietnam War Veterans
 - 582,000 Gulf War Era to include Post-9/11 Veterans



Our Mission & Vision

Mission: To advocate with purpose and passion for Florida Veterans and link them to superior services, benefits & support.

Vision: FDVA is premier point of entry for Florida Veterans to access earned services, benefits & support.

Did you know? The Sunshine State is projected to have 2nd highest Veteran population by 2032.



Veterans' Homes Program



Nine State Veterans' Homes

- Providing 1,102 skilled nursing and assisted living beds
- 1,390 Veterans' Home Staff members providing 24/7 care

State Veterans' Homes



Veteran Outreach



- **Health Care**
- **Education**
- **Earned Benefits**

FDVA.VSO@FDVA.FL.GOV
727-319-7440



Disaster Recovery Centers



Veteran Suicide Prevention



Florida

GOVERNOR'S CHALLENGE

Mission to Combat Veteran Suicide



Veterans
Crisis Line

DIAL 988 then **PRESS 1**

New number. Same support.

Dial 988 then Press 1

SB 1712 (2022) - Veteran Suicide Prevention Training Pilot Program



Florida Veterans' Benefits Guide

FLORIDA VETERANS' **BENEFITS GUIDE** **2023**

NOW AVAILABLE!

FDVA is proud to announce the updated 2023 version of the Florida Veterans' Benefits Guide.



2023 Florida Legislative Session

Veterans' Services and Recognition

HB 485 (Rep. Salzman) & SB 824 (Sen. Collins)

- Creates FDVA Division of Long-Term Care
- Revises Qualifications of County & City Veteran Service Officers (CVSOs)
- Creates “Veterans’ Adult Day Health Care of Florida Act”
- Creates Veterans Week in Florida

2023 Florida Legislative Session Additional Veteran Legislation

- **SB 274 - Nursing Education Pathway for Military Combat Medics**
- **SB 732 - Collegiate Purple Star Campuses**
 - Requires State Board of Education to adopt rules & Board of Governors to adopt regulations to establish program, providing transitional services to active duty, Veterans, and their families.

National Outreach



FDVA

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Honoring those who served U.S.



FloridaVets.org

**GET OUR FREE
UPGRADED
APP.**

It won't take
up space on
your phone.



10/10/2023
Meeting Date
Mil & Vet Affairs
Committee

The Florida Senate
APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Agency Update
Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Gen. James Hartsell Phone _____

Address 4040 Esplanade Way Email james.hartsell@fdwa.fl.gov
Street

Tallahassee FL 32311
City State Zip

Speaking: For Against Information **OR** Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)



Office of Military and Defense

Colonel Tim MacGregor, USAF (Retired), Director

Senate Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security

October 10, 2023

FloridaCommerce Overview

- In May 2023, Governor DeSantis signed HB5, which transferred the duties and functions of Enterprise Florida, Inc. to the Department of Commerce (FloridaCommerce), streamlining Florida's economic development efforts by reducing the size of government and removing barriers for both job seekers and job creators.
- In July 2023, FloridaCommerce established the Office of Military and Defense within the Division of Economic Development, to assume EFI's military and defense programs and streamline efforts to support Florida's military families and protect military installations.
- Through this office, FloridaCommerce is well positioned to engage with Florida's military and defense communities in business and economic development efforts.



FloridaCommerce Overview

- **Division of Community Development** – The Division of Community Development manages the state’s community development and land planning responsibilities, including the expansion of broadband Internet, to ensure that new growth fosters economic development while protecting state resources.
- **Division of Economic Development** –The Division of Economic Development facilitates Florida's economic development partnerships and is responsible for supporting job creators and businesses, providing the tools and resources necessary to foster business growth, retain existing business, and attract new businesses.
- **Division of Workforce Services** – The Division of Workforce Services partners with CareerSource Florida and the state’s 24 local Workforce Development Boards to strengthen Florida’s business climate by supporting employers and helping Floridians gain employment, remain employed, and advance in their careers.



Military and Defense Focus and Synergies

Division of Community Development

- Community Planning and Growth
 - Military Base Protection Program

Division of Economic Development

- Office of Military and Defense
 - Military Base Protection Program
 - Defense Reinvestment Grant
 - Defense Infrastructure Grant
- Business Development
 - Aviation/Aerospace & Defense
 - Manufacturing
 - Job Growth Grant Fund (JGGF)
 - State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI)

Division of Workforce Services

- Military Family Employment Advocacy Program
- Veterans Employment Program
- Jobs for Veterans' State Grant

Statutorily Established Partners

- Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF)
- Florida Defense Alliance (FDA)



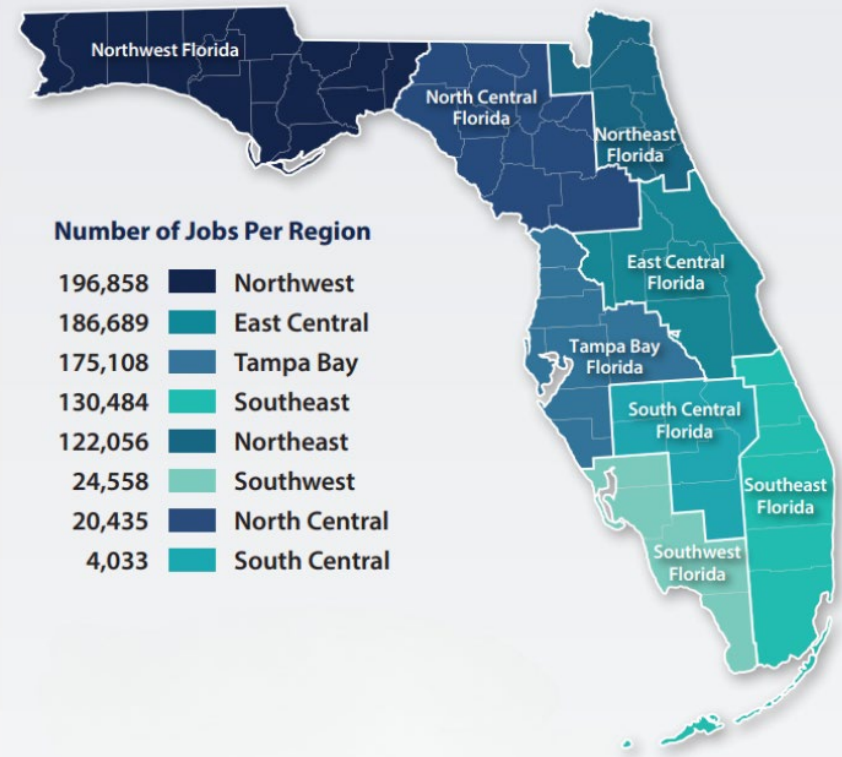
Florida's Military & Defense Presence and Impact



Florida's Military and Defense Presence and Impact:

- \$96.6 billion economic impact in the state
- 860,221 direct and indirect jobs
- The military is Florida's #2 economic driver
- Florida has the 5th largest footprint in the nation for DOD personnel
- Florida is home to over 20 major military installations

Total Employment Impacts of Defense Activities



Employment data as of 2020



Florida Aerospace and Defense Portal

- In August 2023, FloridaCommerce launched the new Florida Aerospace and Defense (FAD) portal to connect Florida's small and medium-sized businesses with employee resources and contracting opportunities that directly support Florida's vital military community.
- FloridaCommerce successfully launched the Defense Portal with the help of valuable organization partnerships including:
 - SelectFlorida
 - US OLDCC
 - Space Florida
 - Florida Defense Support Task Force
 - CareerSource Florida
 - Florida Ports Council
 - Visit Florida
- <https://fad.floridajobs.org>

HOME ABOUT US PARTNERS RESOURCES OPPORTUNITIES CONTACT US FAQ [Login](#)

Florida Aerospace and Defense Portal

The platform for connecting Florida's defense companies, local governments and corporations.

Create an account to become active in Florida's defense community.

[Get Started](#)

Access the only combination of resources to:

- Review defense contract and grant opportunities located in Florida
- Find and connect with Florida defense manufacturers, vendors and suppliers
- Discover additional resources including manufacturing, cybersecurity training, export assistance, workforce assistance and how to apply for, win, and manage contracts

If a potential customer is looking for a business with your capabilities, would they find you?

The Florida Defense Directory is a defense-only business listing where registered businesses can find and increase subcontracting opportunities.

Search by NAICS code, key words, or company name.

Get Started

Cybersecurity
Learn how to understand and remain compliant with DOD cyber security requirements.

State of Florida Awards
Locate Florida-based defense contracts and opportunities.

Federal Awards
Locate federal awards from the Department of Defense and its divisions.

Defense Data and Reports
Explore defense data specific to Florida.

Collaborate
Once your account is approved, connect with defense related organizations to expand opportunities.

Learn From Other Organizations for Additional Opportunities



Florida Aerospace and Defense Portal

- The FAD portal provides users with free access to the Florida Defense Directory, a defense specific business listing where registered users can connect with and increase their subcontracting opportunities.
- Additionally, the FAD Portal enables users to access resources related to:
 - Cybersecurity training and assessments
 - Free consultation services provided by the Florida Procurement Technical Assistance Center and the Florida Small Business Development Center Network
 - Disaster preparedness information
 - How to obtain and manage government-awarded contracts



Office of Military & Defense Grant Programs

- **Defense Reinvestment Grant (DRG)** - The Defense Reinvestment Grant established by s. 288.980(4) F.S. supports community-based activities that protect existing military installations. These grants are awarded to economic development organizations that represent local governments with military installations that could be adversely affected by federal actions.
- **Defense Infrastructure Grant (DIG)** - The Defense Infrastructure Grant Program established by s. 288.980(5) F.S. supports local infrastructure projects deemed to have an impact on the military value of installations within the state. Projects funded under this program include transportation, utilities, housing, security, and projects that protect military installations from encroachment.
- In June 2023, Governor DeSantis announced \$6.1M in DIG, DRG, and FDSTF awards to projects that promote, preserve, or enhance military missions and installations in Florida.
- FloridaCommerce expects to open an additional application cycle in Fall 2023.

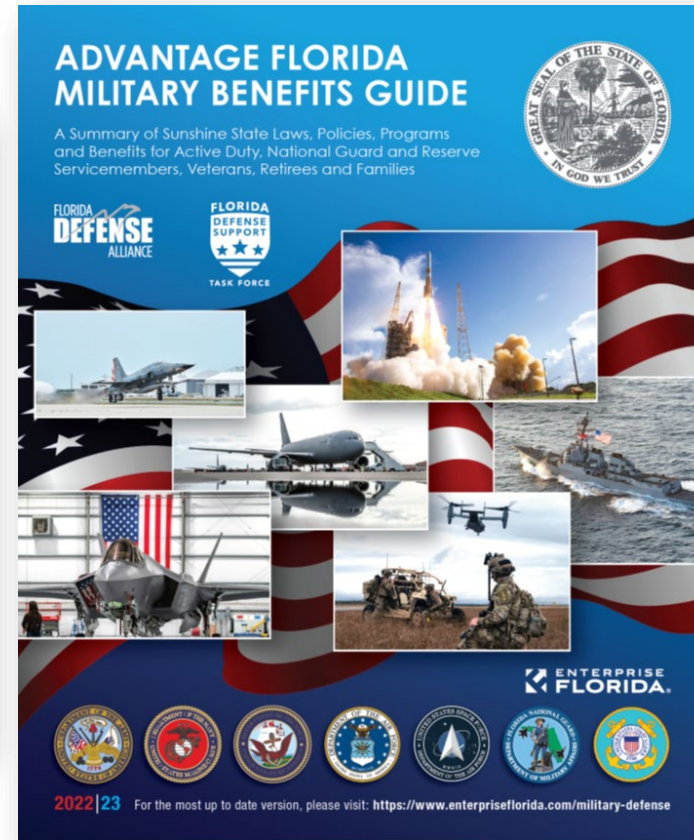


Florida Defense Support Task Force

- Established by **section 288.987 Florida Statutes**, the Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF) was created in 2011 with the mission to make recommendations to preserve and protect military installations, support the state's position in research and development related to military missions and contracting, and improve the state's military-friendly environment for service members, military families, veterans, and businesses that bring military and defense-related jobs to the state.
- The Florida Defense Support Task Force Upcoming Monthly Meetings:
 - Thursday, October 19 via Zoom
 - Thursday, November 16, Tampa



Florida Defense Support Task Force Publications



Florida Defense Support Task Force Grant Program

Pursuant to section 288.987(7) Florida Statutes, FloridaCommerce supports and contracts with the Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF).

Historically, FDSTF receives an annual appropriation of \$3M. With these funds the FDSTF may administer grants for:

- **Economic and product research and development**
- **Joint planning** with host communities to accommodate military missions and prevent base encroachment
- **Advocacy** on the state's behalf with federal civilian and military officials
- **Assistance to school districts** in providing a smooth transition for large numbers of additional military-related students
- **Job training and placement** for military spouses in communities with high proportions of active-duty military personnel
- **Promotion of the state** to military and related contractors and employers



Questions

Thank You.

If you have questions or comments about this presentation, please contact us



Tim MacGregor

Email: timothy.macgregor@commerce.fl.gov

Office: Military and Defense

Phone: 850-717-8976



The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

October 10, 2023

Meeting Date

Presentation

Bill Number or Topic

Deliver both copies of this form to Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Senate Military+Veterans Affairs & Domestic Security Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Tim MacGregor, Florida Commerce

Phone 850-245-7109

Address 107 E. Madison St.

Email timothy.macgregor@commerce.fl.gov

Street

Tallahassee

FL

32399

City

State

Zip

Speaking: [] For [] Against [x] Information OR Waive Speaking: [] In Support [] Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

[x] I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

[] I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

CourtSmart Tag Report

Room: SB 301

Case No.:

Type:

Caption: Senate Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security

Judge:

Started: 10/10/2023 9:00:54 AM

Ends: 10/10/2023 9:38:06 AM

Length: 00:37:13

9:00:54 AM Chair Wright calls meeting to order
9:01:14 AM Roll call, quorum is present
9:01:29 AM Pledge of Allegiance
9:01:55 AM Chair Wright makes opening remarks
9:03:02 AM Senator Pizzo
9:03:15 AM Chair Wright addresses Bob Asztalos, FDVA
9:03:45 AM Chair Wright additional remarks
9:03:50 AM Tab 1, Presentation by James Hartsell, Executive Director, Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs
9:04:21 AM Chair Wright recognizes Major General James Hartsell to present
9:04:34 AM Major General Hartsell
9:16:30 AM Questions:
9:16:31 AM Senator Torres
9:18:12 AM Chair Wright
9:18:21 AM Major General Hartsell
9:19:07 AM Chair Wright
9:19:14 AM Major General Hartsell
9:19:20 AM Chair Wright
9:19:34 AM Major General Hartsell
9:19:59 AM Chair Wright
9:20:15 AM Tab 2, Presentation by Tim MacGregor, Director of the Office of Military and Defense, Florida Department of Commerce
9:20:18 AM Chair Wright recognizes Colonel Tim MacGregor to present
9:20:36 AM Colonel Tim MacGregor
9:35:27 AM Questions:
9:35:35 AM Chair Wright
9:35:42 AM Colonel MacGregor
9:36:13 AM Chair Wright
9:36:16 AM Colonel MacGregor
9:36:35 AM Chair Wright
9:36:43 AM Senator Pizzo
9:36:56 AM Chair Wright
9:37:49 AM Senator Pizzo moves to adjourn
9:37:56 AM Meeting adjourned