

Tab 2	SB 1726 by Montford (CO-INTRODUCERS) Powell; (Compare to CS/H 01217) Industrial Hemp Pilot Projects					
--------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

477980	A	S	RCS	AG, Steube	Delete L.69:	04/04 09:59 AM
445802	A	S	RCS	AG, Steube	Delete L.73 - 124:	04/04 09:59 AM

Tab 1	SB 600 by Grimsley (CO-INTRODUCERS) Montford, Passidomo; (Similar to CS/H 00333) Rural Economic Development Initiative					
--------------	---	--	--	--	--	--

919530	A	S	RCS	AG, Grimsley	Delete L.20 - 269:	04/04 09:58 AM
245902	AA	S	RCS	AG, Grimsley	Delete L.110 - 115:	04/04 09:58 AM

The Florida Senate
COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA

AGRICULTURE
Senator Perry, Chair
Senator Rader, Vice Chair

MEETING DATE: Monday, April 3, 2017
TIME: 1:30—3:30 p.m.
PLACE: 301 Senate Office Building

MEMBERS: Senator Perry, Chair; Senator Rader, Vice Chair; Senators Grimsley, Powell, and Steube

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
1	SB 600 Grimsley (Similar CS/H 333, Compare CS/CS/H 7005)	Rural Economic Development Initiative; Requiring an analysis of the Rural Economic Development Initiative and rural areas of opportunity; revising legislative intent relating to the Rural Economic Development Initiative; revising the duties, responsibilities, and membership of the Rural Economic Development Initiative, etc. CM 03/13/2017 Favorable AG 04/03/2017 Fav/CS GO RC	Fav/CS Yeas 4 Nays 0
2	SB 1726 Montford (Compare CS/H 1217)	Industrial Hemp Pilot Projects; Authorizing specified state universities to develop industrial hemp pilot projects in partnership with public, nonprofit, and private entities; requiring pilot projects to comply with rules adopted by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; requiring the specified state universities to develop partnerships with certain entities; requiring the pilot projects to be funded with private resources to the fullest extent possible, etc. AG 04/03/2017 Fav/CS AHS AP	Fav/CS Yeas 3 Nays 0
3	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 Agriculture

BILL: CS/SB 1726

INTRODUCER: Agriculture Committee and Senator Montford

SUBJECT: Industrial Hemp Pilot Projects

DATE: April 3, 2017

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Akhavein	Becker	AG	Fav/CS
2.	_____	_____	AHS	_____
3.	_____	_____	AP	_____

Please see Section IX. for Additional Information:

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE - Substantial Changes

I. Summary:

CS/SB 1726 allows the University of Florida and the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University to develop pilot projects to cultivate, process, test, and research, create, and market safe and effective commercial applications for industrial hemp in the agricultural sector of Florida. The bill also requires:

- Authorization from a university's board of trustees before the university may implement a pilot project;
- Pilot projects to comply with rules adopted by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (department);
- Universities to establish guidelines for the approval, oversight, and enforcement of pilot project rules; and
- A report to be submitted to the Governor and the Legislature within 2 years after the pilot project's creation.

II. Present Situation:

Industrial hemp is a number of varieties of *cannabis sativa* L. that are intended for agricultural and industrial purposes. They are grown for their seed and fiber content as well as the resulting byproducts such as oil, seed cake, hurds, etc. Industrial hemp is characterized by being low in THC (delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol) and high in CBD (cannabidiol). Industrial hemp is not marijuana. Even though they both come from *Cannabis sativa* L., the varieties that are used to make industrial hemp products (seed, fiber, etc.), and those that are used to make marijuana (flowering tops and leaves) are distinctly different. They are scientifically different and are

cultivated in very different ways.¹ Currently, more than 30 nations grow industrial hemp as an agricultural commodity, which is sold on the world market.

In the United States, production of hemp is strictly controlled under existing drug enforcement laws. Currently there is no large-scale commercial production in the United States (U.S.), and the U.S. market depends on imports.² All cannabis varieties, including hemp used for fiber and marijuana that contain THC used as a drug, are classified as “Schedule 1 controlled substances” under the Controlled Substance Act.³

Following the enactment of the 2014 Farm Bill,⁴ hemp cultivation is now allowed under certain circumstances by research institutions and state departments of agriculture if:

- The industrial hemp is grown or cultivated for research conducted under an agricultural pilot program or other agricultural or academic research; and
- The growing or cultivating of industrial hemp is allowed under state law where the university or state department of agriculture is located.⁵

At least 30 states have passed legislation related to industrial hemp. Generally, states have taken three approaches: (1) establish industrial hemp research and/or pilot programs, (2) authorize studies of the industrial hemp industry, or (3) establish commercial industrial hemp programs. Some states establishing these programs require a change in federal laws or a waiver from the DEA prior to implementation.⁶

At least 16 states have legalized industrial hemp production for commercial purposes and 20 states have passed laws allowing research and pilot programs. Seven states—Colorado, Kentucky, Maryland, Minnesota, North Dakota, Rhode Island, and Virginia—have approved the creation of both pilot/research and commercial programs. Many of the states that have legalized hemp cultivation for commercial purposes specify that state law does not allow for violation of federal law. States including California, Indiana, Kentucky, Minnesota, Montana, and Virginia have established a framework for regulating commercial hemp but still consider hemp illegal outside of research programs unless federal law changes.⁷

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 creates s. 1004.4473, F.S., to authorize the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences at the University of Florida and the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University to develop pilot projects to cultivate, process, test, research, create, and market safe and effective commercial applications for industrial hemp in rural areas of the state. The bill:

¹ <http://www.industrialhemp.net/> (Last visited March 29, 2017).

² Congressional Research Service, *Hemp as an Agricultural Commodity*, CRS Report 7-5700 Mar. 10, 2017, at p. 7, available at <https://fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RL32725.pdf> (Last visited March 29, 2017).

³ 21 U.S.C. §§801 et seq.; Title 21 C.F.R. Part 1308.11.

⁴ Agricultural Act of 2014, Pub. L. 113-79.

⁵ 7 U.S.C. § 5940.

⁶ <http://www.ncsl.org/research/agriculture-and-rural-development/state-industrial-hemp-statutes.aspx> (Last visited March 29, 2017).

⁷ *Id.*

- Provides the following definitions:
 - **Hemp material** to mean a substance containing hemp stems, leaves, fibers, seeds, extracts, oil, or any other substance derived or harvested from a species of the cannabis plant.
 - **Industrial hemp** to mean all parts and varieties of the cannabis sativa plant, cultivated or possessed by an approved grower under the pilot project, whether growing or not, which contain a tetrahydrocannabinol concentration that does not exceed 0.3 percent on a dry-weight basis.
 - **Industrial hemp pilot project** to mean a project that includes research of industrial hemp and any aspect of cultivation, harvesting, processing, market research, and sales of approved industrial hemp agricultural, industrial, and commercial products.
 - **Qualified program personnel** to mean a person who, or an employee of a company that, partners with the University of Florida or the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University on a pilot project, is certified by the university, is 18 years of age or older, and has passed the required criminal background check.
- Requires authorization from a university's board of trustees before the university may implement a pilot project. The pilot project must be registered with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and must comply with rules adopted by the department. It also specifies the content of those rules.
- Requires the universities to establish guidelines for the approval, oversight, and enforcement of pilot project rules. A contact person must be identified who is responsible for oversight of the pilot project. Each university research office must adopt procedures and guidelines that meet specified minimum requirements to ensure the proper operation of the pilot project, the proper handling of hemp material and products, and compliance with state and federal facilities.
- Requires each university to submit a report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on the status of its pilot project. The report must be prepared and submitted within two years after the pilot project's creation.
- Prohibits pilot projects implemented under this section to be funded with public funds.

Section 2 provides that this act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

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:**

Refer to Impact Statements below.

B. Private Sector Impact:

A producer would be required to obtain a non-native/invasive permit for a fee not to exceed \$50 and to pay quarterly \$50 inspection fees. The producer must also obtain a surety bond issued by a surety company admitted to do business in this state or a certificate of deposit, or other type of security, which provides a financial assurance of cost recovery for the removal of a planting.⁸

C. Government Sector Impact:

The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services has indicated that, at this time, the number of producers that will be participating in the pilot projects is unknown, so the fiscal impact of the bill and the number of FTEs needed is difficult to estimate. Industrial hemp would fall under ch. 581.083, F.S., and rule 5B-57, F.A.C., concerning non-native and invasive plant species. The department would be authorized to issue a non-native/invasive special permit and to collect a fee not to exceed \$50. The department recommends quarterly inspections for the first year and anticipates that the number could be reduced once a producer has a proven track record of passed inspections. Under rule 5B-2.010, F.A.C., Special Inspection and Certification Fees, the department would be authorized to collect a \$50 inspection fee from producers.⁹

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill creates section 1004.4473 of the Florida Statutes.

IX. Additional Information:

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

CS by Agriculture on April 3, 2017:

⁸ Analysis by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for SB 1726 (March 9, 2017).

⁹ *Id.*

The committee substitute:

- Expands the information that is required to comply with rules to be adopted by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services concerning pilot projects. Universities must also provide information on genetic research, ensuring that psychotropic compounds will not be synthesized; and
- Prohibits a pilot project implemented under this section to be funded with public funds.

B. Amendments:

None.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.



477980

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
04/04/2017	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

The Committee on Agriculture (Steube) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment

Delete line 69
and insert:
sector; genetic research, ensuring that psychotropic compounds
will not be synthesized; and compliance with state and federal
law.



445802

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
04/04/2017	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

The Committee on Agriculture (Steube) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete lines 73 - 124
and insert:
who invest in such projects.

(5) The universities' respective research offices shall oversee the pilot projects and ensure compliance with department rule. The offices must identify a contact person who is responsible for oversight of the pilot project. Each university research office shall adopt procedures and guidelines to ensure the proper operation of the pilot project, the proper handling



445802

12 of hemp material and products, compliance with state and federal
13 law, and the safety and security of the pilot project
14 facilities. At a minimum, the guidelines must meet all of the
15 following requirements:

16 (a) Designate the physical location, Global Positioning
17 System position, and map of the pilot project facility. Areas
18 within the facility must be designated as general access or
19 limited access. An area where hemp material is cultivated,
20 processed, stored, or packaged or where industrial hemp research
21 is conducted must be designated as limited access. Limited-
22 access areas must be restricted to entry by qualified program
23 personnel and authorized visitors accompanied at all times by
24 qualified program personnel. All other areas of the facility may
25 be designated as general access and are open to authorized
26 visitors, regardless of whether accompanied by qualified program
27 personnel.

28 (b) Identify the qualified program personnel involved in
29 the pilot projects. The personnel must have successfully
30 completed a level 2 screening pursuant to s. 435.04. Owners and
31 employees of companies directly involved in the pilot projects
32 must comply with this requirement.

33 (c) Authorize the qualified program personnel to handle,
34 grow, cultivate, process, and manufacture hemp materials.

35 (d) Establish minimum security standards for the handling
36 of industrial hemp, including:

37 1. Processing and disposal requirements for any waste that
38 contains hemp material.

39 2. Storage, testing, research, and transportation
40 requirements for hemp material.



445802

41 3. Packaging, labeling, and tracking requirements for hemp
42 material.

43 (e) Establish a testing program and protocols to ensure the
44 proper labeling of hemp material.

45 (f) Establish guidelines for attracting successful,
46 entrepreneurial, and experienced public and private investors
47 and partners who are interested in pursuing an industrial hemp
48 pilot project with either university.

49 (6) Each university that implements an industrial hemp
50 pilot project shall submit a report to the Governor, the
51 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
52 Representatives on the status of its pilot project and any
53 research related to the cultivation, harvesting, processing, and
54 uses of industrial hemp. The report must be prepared and
55 submitted within 2 years after the pilot project's creation.

56 (7) A project implemented under this section may not be
57 funded with public funds.

58
59 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

60 And the title is amended as follows:

61 Delete lines 14 - 19

62 and insert:

63 with certain entities; requiring the universities to
64 establish guidelines for the approval, oversight, and
65 enforcement of pilot project rules; requiring a report
66 to the Governor and the Legislature; prohibiting
67 projects from being funded with public funds;
68 providing an

By Senator Montford

3-01456-17

20171726__

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to industrial hemp pilot projects; creating s. 1004.4473, F.S.; authorizing specified state universities to develop industrial hemp pilot projects in partnership with public, nonprofit, and private entities; providing the purpose of the pilot projects; defining terms; requiring authorization from a university's board of trustees before the university may implement a pilot project; requiring pilot projects to comply with rules adopted by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; providing requirements for such rules; requiring the specified state universities to develop partnerships with certain entities; requiring the pilot projects to be funded with private resources to the fullest extent possible; requiring the universities to establish guidelines for the approval, oversight, and enforcement of pilot project rules; requiring a report to the Governor and the Legislature; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 1004.4473, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

1004.4473 Industrial hemp pilot projects.-

(1) The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences at the University of Florida and the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University may develop industrial hemp pilot projects

Page 1 of 5

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

3-01456-17

20171726__

in partnership with public, nonprofit, and private entities in accordance with this section and other state and federal laws. The purpose of these pilot projects is to cultivate, process, test, research, create, and market safe and effective commercial applications for industrial hemp in the agricultural sector in this state.

(2) As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Hemp material" means a substance containing hemp stems, leaves, fibers, seeds, extracts, oil, or any other substance derived or harvested from a species of the cannabis plant.

(b) "Industrial hemp" means all parts and varieties of the cannabis sativa plant, cultivated or possessed by an approved grower under the pilot project, whether growing or not, which contain a tetrahydrocannabinol concentration that does not exceed 0.3 percent on a dry-weight basis.

(c) "Industrial hemp pilot project" or "pilot project" means a project that includes research of industrial hemp and any aspect of cultivation, harvesting, processing, market research, and sales of approved industrial hemp agricultural, industrial, and commercial products.

(d) "Qualified program personnel" means a person who, or an employee of a company that, partners with the University of Florida or the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University on a pilot project, is certified by the university, is 18 years of age or older, and has passed the required criminal background check.

(3) Each university must obtain the authorization of its board of trustees before implementing an industrial hemp pilot

Page 2 of 5

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

3-01456-17

20171726__

59 project. A pilot project authorized by a university must be
 60 registered with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer
 61 Services. The pilot project must comply with rules adopted by
 62 the department, which must address safety, compliance, and
 63 accountability and, at a minimum, must require the universities
 64 to provide detailed information on the scope, design, and
 65 objectives of the pilot project; information on personnel and
 66 participants involved in the pilot project; facility locations
 67 and security; the chain of control of hemp material; the
 68 economic impact of the pilot project on the state's agricultural
 69 sector; and compliance with state and federal law.

70 (4) Each university shall develop partnerships with public,
 71 nonprofit, and private entities to attract experts and investors
 72 experienced with industrial hemp research and commercialization
 73 who invest in such projects. To the fullest extent possible,
 74 pilot projects must be funded from private resources.

75 (5) The universities' respective research offices shall
 76 oversee the pilot projects and ensure compliance with department
 77 rule. The offices must identify a contact person who is
 78 responsible for oversight of the pilot project. Each university
 79 research office shall adopt procedures and guidelines to ensure
 80 the proper operation of the pilot project, the proper handling
 81 of hemp material and products, compliance with state and federal
 82 law, and the safety and security of the pilot project
 83 facilities. At a minimum, the guidelines must meet all of the
 84 following requirements:

85 (a) Designate the physical location, Global Positioning
 86 System position, and map of the pilot project facility. Areas
 87 within the facility must be designated as general access or

3-01456-17

20171726__

88 limited access. An area where hemp material is cultivated,
 89 processed, stored, or packaged or where industrial hemp research
 90 is conducted must be designated as limited access. Limited-
 91 access areas must be restricted to entry by qualified program
 92 personnel and authorized visitors accompanied at all times by
 93 qualified program personnel. All other areas of the facility may
 94 be designated as general access and are open to authorized
 95 visitors, regardless of whether accompanied by qualified program
 96 personnel.

97 (b) Identify the qualified program personnel involved in
 98 the pilot projects. The personnel must have successfully
 99 completed a level 2 screening pursuant to s. 435.04. Owners and
 100 employees of companies directly involved in the pilot projects
 101 must comply with this requirement.

102 (c) Authorize the qualified program personnel to handle,
 103 grow, cultivate, process, and manufacture hemp materials.

104 (d) Establish minimum security standards for the handling
 105 of industrial hemp, including:

106 1. Processing and disposal requirements for any waste that
 107 contains hemp material.

108 2. Storage, testing, research, and transportation
 109 requirements for hemp material.

110 3. Packaging, labeling, and tracking requirements for hemp
 111 material.

112 (e) Establish a testing program and protocols to ensure the
 113 proper labeling of hemp material.

114 (f) Establish guidelines for attracting successful,
 115 entrepreneurial, and experienced public and private investors
 116 and partners who are interested in pursuing an industrial hemp

3-01456-17

20171726__

117 pilot project with either university.

118 (6) Each university that implements an industrial hemp
119 pilot project shall submit a report to the Governor, the
120 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
121 Representatives on the status of its pilot project and any
122 research related to the cultivation, harvesting, processing, and
123 uses of industrial hemp. The report must be prepared and
124 submitted within 2 years after the pilot project's creation.

125 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

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

4-3-17
Meeting Date

477980 1726
Bill Number (if applicable)

477980
Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Topic Hemp

Name Jodi James

Job Title Executive Director

Address 1375 Cypress
Street

Phone 321 890 7302

Melbourne FL 32935
City State Zip

Email jamesflorida@gmail.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing FL Cannabis Action Network

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)

4/3/2017

Meeting Date

Bill Number (if applicable)

477880

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Topic INDUSTRIAL HEMP PROCT

Name GAY STEIN

Job Title

Address 7035 BELT LANE LOOP

Street

Phone (513) 308-8280

WESLEY CHAPEL FL 33548

City

State

Zip

Email GSTEINMPW@MC.COM

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing SELF

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)

4-3-17

Meeting Date

1726

Bill Number (if applicable)

445802

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Topic Hemp

Name Jodi James

Job Title Executive Director

Address 1375 Cypress Ave
Street

Phone 321 890 7302

Melbourne FL 32935
City State Zip

Email jamesflorida@gmail.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Florida Cannabis Action Network

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)

4/3/2017
Meeting Date

NB1726
Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic AGRICULTURE / SUSTAINABLE HEMP

445802 / ~~477489~~
Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name GARY STEIN, MPH

Job Title _____

Address 7035 BELT LANE LOOP

Phone (913) 305-8250

Street WESLEY CARROL State FL Zip 33515
City _____

Email GSTEINMPH@ME.COM

Speaking: For Against Information
AMENDMENTS ONLY

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing SELF

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)

4/03/2017
Meeting Date

1726
Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Hemp Pilot Project

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Barbara Cohen Pippin

Job Title Director of Governmental Relations

Address Lee Hall
400
Street

Phone 850-599-3225

Tallahassee Fla. 32301
City State Zip

Email barbara.cohen.213@gmail.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing FAMU

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)

Meeting Date _____

Bill Number (if applicable) _____

Topic Hemp Amendment

Amendment Barcode (if applicable) _____

Name Keiley Staff

Job Title Pres. Southern Hemp Strategies

Address _____

Phone _____

Street

City

State

Zip

Email _____

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

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)

4/3/17

Meeting Date

1726

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic INDUSTRIAL HEMP PILOT PROJECTS

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name ROBERT CLAYTON

Job Title ENGINEER

Address PO Box 5213

Street

Phone 727-512-7771

LARGO FL 33779-5213

City

State

Zip

Email flahempProcessing@tampabay.fl.gov

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing HEMP INDUSTRIES 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.

S-001 (10/14/14)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

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

4-3-17

Meeting Date

1726

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic (1726) Industry Hemp Pilot Project

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Bo Snively

Job Title Farmer-Production & Harvesting Manager

Address 2901 ABC Rd

Phone _____

Street

Lake Wales

FL

33859

Email _____

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Self

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



1-3-17

Meeting Date

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

1726

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic INDUST HEMP

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name DALE YOUNG

Job Title BUSINESS OWNER

Address 2401 DAIRY RD
Street

Phone 321 223 5924

McBourne FL
City State

32904
Zip

Email bethanddale@att.net

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing JOB GROWTH

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)

4/1/17
Meeting Date

1726
Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Industrial Hemp

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name David Haenauer

Job Title CEO - Green Point Consultants

Address 914 Railroad Ave.

Phone 888 772-360-7765

Street

Tallahassee
City

FL
State

32310
Zip

Email David@greenpointconsultants.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

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)

4/3/17

Meeting Date

1726

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic INDUSTRIAL HEMP

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name JEFF STARKY

Job Title SENIOR CAPITOL ALLIANCE GROUP

Address 100 E. COLLEGE AVE, SUITE 640

Phone 850 224 1460

Street

Tallah

FL

32301

City

State

Zip

Email jeffstark@gnat.com

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

Waive Speaking: [] In Support [] Against (The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing MEDICAL ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS

Appearing at request of Chair: [] Yes [] 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)

4-3-17
Meeting Date

SB 1720
Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Indecent Image

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Dr. Latresa Woodson

Job Title VP

Address 3330 NW 2nd Ave
Street

Phone 352 425-8622

Orlando FL 32801
City State Zip

Email latresa@ignition.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Black Parents + Administrators Assoc - FL

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)

4/3/17

Meeting Date

1726

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Hemp

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Ron Watson

Job Title Lobbyist

Address 3738 Mardon Way

Phone 850 567 1202

Street

City

Tallahassee

FL

State

32309

Zip

Email WatsonStrategies@comcast.net

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Scott Lewis / SLOTT INC

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)

4/3/17

Meeting Date

1726

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Hemp

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Ron Watson

Job Title Lobbyist

Address 3738 Murdon Way

Phone 850 567-1202

Tallahassee FL 32309

City State Zip

Email Watson.strategies@comcast.net

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Cannavision

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)

1726

Meeting Date _____

Bill Number (if applicable) _____

Topic _____

Amendment Barcode (if applicable) _____

Name Neil James

Job Title Associate Dean, College of Agriculture and Food Sciences, FAMU

Address ~~8th~~ ~~Blvd~~ 1740 MLK, Jr Blvd

Phone (850) 561-2127

Billahassee FL 32307
City State Zip

Email _____

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Florida A&M University

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 Agriculture

BILL: CS/SB 600
INTRODUCER: Senator Grimsley and others
SUBJECT: Rural Economic Development Initiative
DATE: April 3, 2017 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Askey</u>	<u>McKay</u>	<u>CM</u>	Favorable
2.	<u>Becker</u>	<u>Becker</u>	<u>AG</u>	Fav/CS
3.	_____	_____	<u>GO</u>	_____
4.	_____	_____	<u>RC</u>	_____

Please see Section IX. for Additional Information:
COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE - Substantial Changes

I. Summary:

CS/SB 600 makes several changes to the Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI), most notably to the agency and organization members who collaborate with the REDI. The bill changes the membership to include:

- The executive director of the Department of Economic Opportunity or their designee, to serve as chair;
- The Secretary of Transportation or their designee;
- The Secretary of Environmental Protection or their designee;
- The Commissioner of Agriculture or their designee;
- The State Surgeon General or their designee;
- The Commissioner of Education or their designee;
- The President of Enterprise Florida, Inc., or their designee;
- The chair of the board of CareerSource Florida, Inc., or their designee;
- Five members from the private sector, three who are appointed by the executive director of the Department of Economic Opportunity, and one each appointed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The bill requires that the report required of the REDI be submitted to the Department of Economic Opportunity, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by September 1st of each year and expands the information to be included in the report.

The bill makes conforming changes to address cross-references in numerous sections of the Florida Statutes.

The bill is effective upon becoming law.

II. Present Situation:

Rural Economic Development Initiative

The Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) was established in 1997 by the Legislature to encourage and facilitate the location and expansion of major economic development projects of significant scale in rural communities.¹ The REDI is responsible for coordinating and focusing the efforts and resources of state and regional agencies on the problems that affect the fiscal, economic, and community viability of Florida's economically distressed rural communities. The REDI works with local governments, community-based organizations, and private organizations that have an interest in the growth and development of these communities to find ways to balance environmental and growth management issues with local needs.

The REDI is administered by the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO), but is a collaborative effort facilitated by a group of agencies and organizations. Numerous state agencies and organizations are required to participate in the REDI by designating a deputy secretary or higher-level staff person to serve as a REDI representative. Any such representative is required to have comprehensive knowledge of their agency's regulatory and service functions, and the state's economic goals, policies, and programs. The representatives are required to work with the REDI in the reviewing, evaluating, and proposing impact mitigation of any statute or rule that may have an adverse effect on rural communities. Additionally, representatives are to inform their agencies and organizations about the REDI and provide assistance to the REDI throughout the agency or organization. The agencies and organizations that are statutorily required to designate a representative are:²

- The Department of Transportation;
- The Department of Environmental Protection;
- The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services;
- The Department of State;
- The Department of Health;
- The Department of Children and Families;
- The Department of Corrections;
- The Department of Education;
- The Department of Juvenile Justice;
- The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission;
- Each water management district;
- Enterprise Florida, Inc. (EFI);
- VISIT Florida;
- The Florida Regional Planning Council Association;
- The Agency for Health Care Administration; and

¹ Section 288.0656, F.S.

² Section 288.0656(6)(a), F.S.

- The Institute for Food and Agricultural Sciences.

The REDI can recommend up to three rural areas of opportunity (RAO) to the Governor, who can designate an RAO by executive order. The Governor, acting through the REDI, can waive criteria, requirements, or any similar provisions of any state economic development incentive in RAOs.³ A designation of RAO must be agreed upon by the DEO and the local governments included in the RAO.

RAOs may designate catalyst projects. These projects are to be confirmed by the DEO. All agencies and departments of the state are required to use all available tools and resource available to promote the creation and development of each catalyst project and the development of catalyst sites. For the purposes of this program, a catalyst project is a business locating or expanding in an RAO and serves as an economic generator of regional significance, and a catalyst site is one or more parcels of land in a RAO that is prioritized for economic development.

The REDI is required to submit a report to the DEO on all REDI activities to supplement the required annual report.⁴

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

CS/SB 600 makes several changes to the REDI, most notably to the agency and organization members who collaborate with the REDI. The bill changes the membership to include:

- The executive director of the DEO or their designee, to serve as chair;
- The Secretary of Transportation or their designee;
- The Secretary of Environmental Protection or their designee;
- The Commissioner of Agriculture or their designee;
- The State Surgeon General or their designee;
- The Commissioner of Education or their designee;
- The President of EFI or their designee;
- The chair of the board of CareerSource Florida, Inc., or their designee;
- Five members from the private sector, three who are appointed by the executive director of the DEO, and one each appointed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

In making their appointments, the executive director, the President, and the Speaker are to ensure that the diversity of the state's business community and the state's ethnic, racial, and gender diversity are reflected. Appointments are for 2-year terms, beginning on July 1 and expiring on June 30, with initial appointments beginning in July 2017. The bill provides direction for appointee vacancies and removal. The bill removes the requirement related to REDI members needing comprehensive knowledge of their agency or organization and the state's economic policies and goals.

³ Sections 288.0656(7)(a) and 288.06561, F.S.

⁴ Section 288.0656(8), F.S.

The bill authorizes the chair of the REDI to create ad hoc committees to address issues or projects. The chair is authorized to request the head of any state agency or organization to serve on the ad hoc committees, but is directed to consider requesting:

- The executive director of FWC or their designee;
- The Secretary of State or their designee;
- The Secretary of Children and Families or their designee;
- The Secretary of Corrections or their designee;
- The Secretary of Juvenile Justice or their designee;
- The Secretary of Health Care Administration or their designee; and
- A board member of the Florida Regional Councils Association or their designee.

Additional changes to the program include:

- Clarifying the legislative intent of the REDI to include encouraging job creation, improved community infrastructure, the development and expansion of workforce, and improved access to healthcare;
- Expanding the definition of “rural area of opportunity” to include a rural community that faces competitive disadvantages including low labor force participation, low education levels, high unemployment, a district grade of “D” or “F” pursuant to s. 1008.34,⁵ high infant mortality rates, and high rates of diabetes and obesity;
- Clarifies that the REDI is to focus its efforts on the challenges of the state’s rural areas of opportunity and economically distressed rural communities, and that REDI is to work with private organizations that have an interest in the renewed prosperity and competitiveness of these communities;
- Clarifies that when undertaking outreach and capacity-building efforts, its purpose should be to improve rural communities’ ability to compete in a global economy;
- Requires that the report required of the REDI be submitted to the DEO, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by September 1st of each year;
- Expands the information to be included in the report to include evaluation of organizational progress towards goals, REDI accomplishments, and issues affecting the performance of REDI programs and activities.

The bill makes conforming changes to address cross-references in sections 163.3177, 163.3187, 257.193, 288.019, 288.06561, 290.0055, 290.06561, 337.403, 339.2818, 339.2819, 339.63, 479.16, 627.6699, F.S.

The bill is effective upon becoming law.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

⁵ This section refers to the school grading system, school report cards, and district grades.

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:**C. Government Sector Impact:****VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends the following sections of the Florida Statutes: 288.0656, 163.3177, 163.3187, 257.193, 288.019, 288.06561, 290.0055, 290.06561, 337.403, 339.2818, 339.2819, 339.63, 479.16, and 627.6699.

IX. Additional Information:**A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:**
(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)**CS by Agriculture on April 3, 2017:**

The committee substitute removes the requirement that an analysis shall be done by OPPAGA. It clarifies that communications methods that improve community infrastructure could include more than broadband. It removes the requirement that catalyst projects must be identified by EFI.

B. Amendments:

None.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.



919530

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
04/04/2017	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

The Committee on Agriculture (Grimsley) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete lines 20 - 269

and insert:

Section 1. Section 288.0656, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

288.0656 Rural Economic Development Initiative.-

(1)~~(a)~~ Recognizing that rural communities and regions continue to face extraordinary challenges in their efforts to significantly improve their quality of life and economies,



919530

11 specifically in terms of personal income, education,
12 infrastructure, access to healthcare, and job creation, average
13 ~~wages, and strong tax bases,~~ it is the intent of the Legislature
14 to encourage and facilitate:

15 (a) Job creation through the location and expansion of
16 ~~major~~ economic development projects ~~of significant scale in such~~
17 ~~rural communities.~~

18 (b) Improved community infrastructure, including, but not
19 limited to, roads, utilities, water and sewer, and
20 communications.

21 (c) The development and expansion of a skilled workforce.

22 (d) Improved access to healthcare.

23 (2) ~~(b)~~ The Rural Economic Development Initiative, known as
24 "REDI," is created within the Department of Economic
25 Opportunity, and the participation of state and regional
26 agencies in this initiative is authorized.

27 (3) ~~(2)~~ As used in this section, the term:

28 (a) "Catalyst project" means a business locating or
29 expanding in a rural area of opportunity to serve as an economic
30 generator of regional significance for the growth of a regional
31 target industry cluster. The project must provide capital
32 investment on a scale significant enough to affect the entire
33 region and result in the development of high-wage and high-skill
34 jobs.

35 (b) "Catalyst site" means a parcel or parcels of land
36 within a rural area of opportunity that has been prioritized as
37 a geographic site for economic development through partnerships
38 with state, regional, and local organizations. The site must be
39 reviewed by REDI and approved by the department for the purposes



919530

40 of locating a catalyst project.

41 (c) "Economic distress" means conditions affecting the
42 fiscal and economic viability of a rural community, including
43 such factors as low per capita income, low per capita taxable
44 values, high unemployment, high underemployment, low weekly
45 earned wages compared to the state average, low housing values
46 compared to the state average, high percentages of the
47 population receiving public assistance, high poverty levels
48 compared to the state average, and a lack of year-round stable
49 employment opportunities.

50 (d) "Rural area of opportunity" means a rural community, or
51 a region composed of rural communities, designated by the
52 Governor, which has been adversely affected by ~~an extraordinary~~
53 ~~economic event~~, severe or chronic economic distress, and faces
54 competitive disadvantages such as low labor force participation,
55 low educational attainment levels, high unemployment, "D" or "F"
56 district grades pursuant to s. 1008.34, high infant mortality
57 rates, and high diabetes and obesity rates, and which ~~is~~ ~~a~~
58 ~~natural disaster or that~~ presents a unique economic development
59 opportunity of regional impact.

60 (e) "Rural community" means:

- 61 1. A county with a population of 75,000 or fewer.
- 62 2. A county with a population of 125,000 or fewer which is
63 contiguous to a county with a population of 75,000 or fewer.
- 64 3. A municipality within a county described in subparagraph
65 1. or subparagraph 2.
- 66 4. An unincorporated federal enterprise community or an
67 incorporated rural city with a population of 25,000 or fewer and
68 an employment base focused on traditional agricultural or



919530

69 resource-based industries, located in a county not defined as
70 rural, which has at least three or more of the economic distress
71 factors identified in paragraph (c) and verified by the
72 department.

73

74 For purposes of this paragraph, population shall be determined
75 in accordance with the most recent official estimate pursuant to
76 s. 186.901.

77 (4)~~(3)~~ REDI is ~~shall be~~ responsible for coordinating and
78 focusing the efforts and resources of state and regional
79 agencies on the challenges of the state's rural areas of
80 opportunity and economically distressed rural communities. REDI
81 shall work ~~problems which affect the fiscal, economic, and~~
82 ~~community viability of Florida's economically distressed rural~~
83 ~~communities, working~~ with local governments, community-based
84 organizations, and private organizations that have an interest
85 in the renewed prosperity and competitiveness of growth and
86 ~~development of these communities to find ways to balance~~
87 ~~environmental and growth management issues with local needs.~~

88 (5)~~(4)~~ REDI shall review and evaluate the impact of
89 statutes and rules on rural communities and shall work to
90 minimize any adverse impact and undertake outreach and capacity-
91 building efforts to improve rural communities' ability to
92 compete in a global economy.

93 (6)~~(5)~~ REDI shall facilitate better access to state
94 resources by promoting direct access and referrals to
95 appropriate state and regional agencies and statewide
96 organizations. ~~REDI may undertake outreach, capacity building,~~
97 ~~and other advocacy efforts to improve conditions in rural~~



919530

98 ~~communities. These activities may include sponsorship of~~
99 ~~conferences and achievement awards.~~

100 (7) (a) REDI shall consist of the following members:

101 1. The executive director of the Department of Economic
102 Opportunity or his or her designee, who shall serve as the
103 chair.

104 2. The Secretary of Transportation or his or her designee.

105 3. The Secretary of Environmental Protection or his or her
106 designee.

107 4. The Commissioner of Agriculture or his or her designee.

108 5. The State Surgeon General or his or her designee.

109 6. The Commissioner of Education or his or her designee.

110 7. The chair of the board of directors of CareerSource
111 Florida, Inc., or his or her designee.

112 8. The chair of the board of the regional economic
113 development organization for each of the rural areas of
114 opportunity or his or her designee.

115 9. Five members from the private sector, three of whom
116 shall be appointed by the executive director of the Department
117 of Economic Opportunity, one of whom shall be appointed by the
118 President of the Senate, and one of whom shall be appointed by
119 the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

120 (b) In making their appointments, the executive director,
121 the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
122 Representatives shall ensure that the appointments reflect the
123 diversity of Florida's business community and are representative
124 of the economic development goals in subsection (1).

125 (c) The executive director, the President of the Senate,
126 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall consider



919530

127 appointees who reflect the state's racial, ethnic, and gender
128 diversity, and who are from rural communities.

129 (d) Each appointed member shall be appointed to a 2-year
130 term.

131 (e) Initial appointments shall be made by July 1, 2017.
132 Member terms shall expire on June 30.

133 (f) A vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of an
134 unexpired term and filled in the same manner as the original
135 appointment.

136 (g) An appointed member may be removed by the appointing
137 officer for cause. Absence of a member from three consecutive
138 meetings results in automatic removal.

139 (h) The chair may request the head of any state agency or
140 organization to serve on an ad hoc committee as needed to
141 address issues or projects relating to rural areas of
142 opportunity and economically distressed rural communities. The
143 chair shall consider requesting the following individuals to
144 serve on an ad hoc committee:

145 1. The executive director of the Fish and Wildlife
146 Conservation Commission or his or her designee.

147 2. The Secretary of State or his or her designee.

148 3. The Secretary of Children and Families or his or her
149 designee.

150 4. The Secretary of Corrections or his or her designee.

151 5. The Secretary of Juvenile Justice or his or her
152 designee.

153 6. The Secretary of Health Care Administration or his or
154 her designee.

155 7. A board member of the Florida Regional Councils



919530

156 Association or his or her designee.

157 ~~(6) (a) By August 1 of each year, the head of each of the~~
158 ~~following agencies and organizations shall designate a deputy~~
159 ~~secretary or higher-level staff person from within the agency or~~
160 ~~organization to serve as the REDI representative for the agency~~
161 ~~or organization:~~

- 162 ~~1. The Department of Transportation.~~
- 163 ~~2. The Department of Environmental Protection.~~
- 164 ~~3. The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.~~
- 165 ~~4. The Department of State.~~
- 166 ~~5. The Department of Health.~~
- 167 ~~6. The Department of Children and Families.~~
- 168 ~~7. The Department of Corrections.~~
- 169 ~~8. The Department of Education.~~
- 170 ~~9. The Department of Juvenile Justice.~~
- 171 ~~10. The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.~~
- 172 ~~11. Each water management district.~~
- 173 ~~12. Enterprise Florida, Inc.~~
- 174 ~~13. CareerSource Florida, Inc.~~
- 175 ~~14. VISIT Florida.~~
- 176 ~~15. The Florida Regional Planning Council Association.~~
- 177 ~~16. The Agency for Health Care Administration.~~
- 178 ~~17. The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS).~~

179
180 ~~An alternate for each designee shall also be chosen, and the~~
181 ~~names of the designees and alternates shall be sent to the~~
182 ~~executive director of the department.~~

183 (i) (b) Each REDI member from a state agency or organization
184 ~~representative must have comprehensive knowledge of his or her~~



919530

185 ~~agency's functions, both regulatory and service in nature, and~~
186 ~~of the state's economic goals, policies, and programs. This~~
187 ~~person~~ shall be the primary point of contact for his or her
188 agency with REDI on issues and projects relating to rural areas
189 of opportunity and economically distressed rural communities and
190 with regard to expediting project review, shall ensure a prompt
191 effective response to problems arising with regard to rural
192 issues, and shall work closely with the other REDI members
193 ~~representatives~~ in the identification of opportunities for
194 preferential awards of program funds and allowances and waiver
195 of program requirements when necessary to encourage and
196 facilitate long-term private capital investment and job
197 creation. The member shall also ensure that each district office
198 or facility of his or her agency or organization is informed
199 about REDI and shall provide assistance throughout the agency in
200 the implementation of REDI activities.

201 ~~(c) The REDI representatives shall work with REDI in the~~
202 ~~review and evaluation of statutes and rules for adverse impact~~
203 ~~on rural communities and the development of alternative~~
204 ~~proposals to mitigate that impact.~~

205 ~~(d) Each REDI representative shall be responsible for~~
206 ~~ensuring that each district office or facility of his or her~~
207 ~~agency is informed about the Rural Economic Development~~
208 ~~Initiative and for providing assistance throughout the agency in~~
209 ~~the implementation of REDI activities.~~

210 ~~(8) (7) (a) REDI may recommend to the Governor up to three~~
211 ~~rural areas of opportunity. The Governor may by executive order~~
212 ~~designate up to three rural areas of opportunity which will~~
213 ~~establish these areas as priority assignments for REDI. as well~~



919530

214 ~~as to allow~~ The Governor may, acting through REDI, ~~to~~ waive
215 criteria, requirements, or similar provisions of any economic
216 development incentive. ~~Such incentives shall include, but are~~
217 ~~not limited to, the Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund Program~~
218 ~~under s. 288.106, the Quick Response Training Program under s.~~
219 ~~288.047, the Quick Response Training Program for participants in~~
220 ~~the welfare transition program under s. 288.047(8),~~
221 ~~transportation projects under s. 339.2821, the brownfield~~
222 ~~redevelopment bonus refund under s. 288.107, and the rural job~~
223 ~~tax credit program under ss. 212.098 and 220.1895.~~

224 (b) Designation as a rural area of opportunity under this
225 subsection shall be contingent upon the execution of a
226 memorandum of agreement among the department; the governing body
227 of the county; and the governing bodies of any municipalities to
228 be included within a rural area of opportunity. Such agreement
229 shall specify the terms and conditions of the designation,
230 including, but not limited to, the duties and responsibilities
231 of the county and any participating municipalities to take
232 actions designed to facilitate the retention and expansion of
233 existing businesses in the area, as well as the recruitment of
234 new businesses to the area.

235 (c) Each rural area of opportunity may designate catalyst
236 projects, provided that each catalyst project is specifically
237 recommended by REDI, ~~identified as a catalyst project by~~
238 ~~Enterprise Florida, Inc.,~~ and confirmed as a catalyst project by

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

241 And the title is amended as follows:

242 Delete lines 3 - 12



919530

243 and insert:

244 Initiative; amending s. 288.0656, F.S.; revising
245 legislative intent relating to the Rural Economic
246 Development Initiative; redefining the term "rural
247 area of opportunity"; revising the duties,
248 responsibilities, and membership of the Rural Economic
249 Development Initiative; deleting a provision limiting
250 the number of rural areas of opportunity that may be
251 designated; deleting a provision listing the economic
252 development incentives for which the Governor may
253 waive criteria requirements or similar provisions;
254 deleting a requirement that certain catalyst projects
255 be identified as catalyst projects by Enterprise
256 Florida, Inc.; revising reporting requirements;
257 amending



245902

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
04/04/2017	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

The Committee on Agriculture (Grimsley) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment to Amendment (919530)

Delete lines 110 - 115

and insert:

7. The President of Enterprise Florida, Inc., or his or her designee.

8. The chair of the board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc., or his or her designee.

9. The chair of the board of the regional economic development organization for each of the rural areas of



245902

11 opportunity or his or her designee.

12 10. Five members from the private sector, three of whom

By Senator Grimsley

26-00648A-17

2017600__

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the Rural Economic Development Initiative; amending s. 288.0001, F.S.; requiring an analysis of the Rural Economic Development Initiative and rural areas of opportunity; amending s. 288.0656, F.S.; revising legislative intent relating to the Rural Economic Development Initiative; redefining the term "rural area of opportunity"; revising the duties, responsibilities, and membership of the Rural Economic Development Initiative; deleting a provision limiting the number of rural areas of opportunity that may be designated; revising reporting requirements; amending ss. 163.3177, 163.3187, 257.193, 288.019, 288.06561, 290.0055, 290.06561, 337.403, 339.2818, 339.2819, 339.63, 479.16, and 627.6699, F.S.; conforming cross-references; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (f) is added to subsection (2) of section 288.0001, Florida Statutes, to read:

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

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

(f) By January 1, 2020, and every 3 years thereafter, an

Page 1 of 21

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

26-00648A-17

2017600__

analysis of rural areas of opportunity and the Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) established under s. 288.0656.

Section 2. Section 288.0656, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

288.0656 Rural Economic Development Initiative.—

(1) ~~(a)~~ Recognizing that rural communities and regions continue to face extraordinary challenges in their efforts to significantly improve their quality of life and economies, specifically in terms of personal income, education, infrastructure, access to healthcare, and job creation, average wages, and strong tax bases, it is the intent of the Legislature to encourage and facilitate:

(a) Job creation through the location and expansion of major economic development projects ~~of significant scale in such rural communities.~~

(b) Improved community infrastructure, including, but not limited to, roads, utilities, water and sewer facilities, and broadband.

(c) The development and expansion of a skilled workforce.

(d) Improved access to healthcare.

~~(2)(b)~~ The Rural Economic Development Initiative, known as "REDI," is created within the Department of Economic Opportunity, and the participation of state and regional agencies in this initiative is authorized.

~~(3)(2)~~ As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Catalyst project" means a business locating or expanding in a rural area of opportunity to serve as an economic generator of regional significance for the growth of a regional target industry cluster. The project must provide capital

Page 2 of 21

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

26-00648A-17

2017600__

62 investment on a scale significant enough to affect the entire
63 region and result in the development of high-wage and high-skill
64 jobs.

65 (b) "Catalyst site" means a parcel or parcels of land
66 within a rural area of opportunity that has been prioritized as
67 a geographic site for economic development through partnerships
68 with state, regional, and local organizations. The site must be
69 reviewed by REDI and approved by the department for the purposes
70 of locating a catalyst project.

71 (c) "Economic distress" means conditions affecting the
72 fiscal and economic viability of a rural community, including
73 such factors as low per capita income, low per capita taxable
74 values, high unemployment, high underemployment, low weekly
75 earned wages compared to the state average, low housing values
76 compared to the state average, high percentages of the
77 population receiving public assistance, high poverty levels
78 compared to the state average, and a lack of year-round stable
79 employment opportunities.

80 (d) "Rural area of opportunity" means a rural community, or
81 a region composed of rural communities, designated by the
82 Governor, which has been adversely affected by an ~~extraordinary~~
83 ~~economic event~~, severe or chronic economic distress and faces
84 competitive disadvantages such as low labor force participation,
85 low educational attainment levels, high unemployment, a district
86 grade of "D" or "F" pursuant to s. 1008.34, high infant
87 mortality rates, and high diabetes and obesity rates and which,
88 ~~or a natural disaster or that~~ presents a unique economic
89 development opportunity of regional impact.

90 (e) "Rural community" means:

Page 3 of 21

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

26-00648A-17

2017600__

- 91 1. A county with a population of 75,000 or fewer.
92 2. A county with a population of 125,000 or fewer which is
93 contiguous to a county with a population of 75,000 or fewer.
94 3. A municipality within a county described in subparagraph
95 1. or subparagraph 2.
96 4. An unincorporated federal enterprise community or an
97 incorporated rural city with a population of 25,000 or fewer and
98 an employment base focused on traditional agricultural or
99 resource-based industries, located in a county not defined as
100 rural, which has at least three or more of the economic distress
101 factors identified in paragraph (c) and verified by the
102 department.

103
104 For purposes of this paragraph, population shall be determined
105 in accordance with the most recent official estimate pursuant to
106 s. 186.901.

107 ~~(4)(3)~~ REDI is shall be responsible for coordinating and
108 focusing the efforts and resources of state and regional
109 agencies on the challenges of the state's rural areas of
110 opportunity and economically distressed rural communities. REDI
111 shall work ~~problems which affect the fiscal, economic, and~~
112 ~~community viability of Florida's economically distressed rural~~
113 ~~communities, working~~ with local governments, community-based
114 organizations, and private organizations that have an interest
115 in the renewed prosperity and competitiveness of growth and
116 ~~development of these communities to find ways to balance~~
117 ~~environmental and growth management issues with local needs.~~

118 ~~(5)(4)~~ REDI shall review and evaluate the impact of
119 statutes and rules on rural communities and shall work to

Page 4 of 21

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

26-00648A-17

2017600__

120 minimize any adverse impact and undertake outreach and capacity-
 121 building efforts to improve rural communities' ability to
 122 compete in a global economy.

123 ~~(6)(5)~~ REDI shall facilitate better access to state
 124 resources by promoting direct access and referrals to
 125 appropriate state and regional agencies and statewide
 126 organizations. ~~REDI may undertake outreach, capacity building,~~
 127 ~~and other advocacy efforts to improve conditions in rural~~
 128 ~~communities. These activities may include sponsorship of~~
 129 ~~conferences and achievement awards.~~

130 (7) (a) REDI shall consist of the following members:

131 1. The executive director of the Department of Economic
 132 Opportunity or his or her designee, who shall serve as the
 133 chair.

134 2. The Secretary of Transportation or his or her designee.

135 3. The Secretary of Environmental Protection or his or her
 136 designee.

137 4. The Commissioner of Agriculture or his or her designee.

138 5. The State Surgeon General or his or her designee.

139 6. The Commissioner of Education or his or her designee.

140 7. The President of Enterprise Florida, Inc., or his or her
 141 designee.

142 8. The chair of the board of directors of CareerSource
 143 Florida, Inc., or his or her designee.

144 9. The chair of the board of the regional economic
 145 development organization for each of the rural areas of
 146 opportunity or his or her designee.

147 10. Five members from the private sector, three of whom
 148 shall be appointed by the executive director of the Department

26-00648A-17

2017600__

149 of Economic Opportunity, one of whom shall be appointed by the
 150 President of the Senate, and one of whom shall be appointed by
 151 the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

152 (b) In making their appointments, the executive director,
 153 the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
 154 Representatives shall ensure that the appointments reflect the
 155 diversity of Florida's business community and are representative
 156 of the economic development goals in subsection (1).

157 (c) The executive director, the President of the Senate,
 158 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall consider
 159 appointees who reflect the state's racial, ethnic, and gender
 160 diversity and who are from rural communities.

161 (d) Each appointed member shall be appointed to a 2-year
 162 term, which begins on July 1 and expires on June 30.

163 (e) Initial appointments shall be made by July 1, 2017.

164 (f) A vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of an
 165 unexpired term and filled in the same manner as the original
 166 appointment.

167 (g) An appointed member may be removed by the appointing
 168 officer for cause. Absence of a member from three consecutive
 169 meetings results in automatic removal.

170 (h) The chair may request the head of any state agency or
 171 organization to serve on an ad hoc committee as needed to
 172 address issues or projects relating to rural areas of
 173 opportunity and economically distressed rural communities. The
 174 chair shall consider requesting the following individuals to
 175 serve on an ad hoc committee:

176 1. The executive director of the Fish and Wildlife
 177 Conservation Commission or his or her designee.

26-00648A-17

2017600__

- 178 2. The Secretary of State or his or her designee.
 179 3. The Secretary of Children and Families or his or her
 180 designee.
 181 4. The Secretary of Corrections or his or her designee.
 182 5. The Secretary of Juvenile Justice or his or her
 183 designee.
 184 6. The Secretary of Health Care Administration or his or
 185 her designee.
 186 7. A board member of the Florida Regional Councils
 187 Association or his or her designee.
 188 ~~(6) (a) By August 1 of each year, the head of each of the~~
 189 ~~following agencies and organizations shall designate a deputy~~
 190 ~~secretary or higher level staff person from within the agency or~~
 191 ~~organization to serve as the REDI representative for the agency~~
 192 ~~or organization:~~
 193 ~~1. The Department of Transportation.~~
 194 ~~2. The Department of Environmental Protection.~~
 195 ~~3. The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.~~
 196 ~~4. The Department of State.~~
 197 ~~5. The Department of Health.~~
 198 ~~6. The Department of Children and Families.~~
 199 ~~7. The Department of Corrections.~~
 200 ~~8. The Department of Education.~~
 201 ~~9. The Department of Juvenile Justice.~~
 202 ~~10. The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.~~
 203 ~~11. Each water management district.~~
 204 ~~12. Enterprise Florida, Inc.~~
 205 ~~13. CareerSource Florida, Inc.~~
 206 ~~14. VISIT Florida.~~

Page 7 of 21

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

26-00648A-17

2017600__

- 207 ~~15. The Florida Regional Planning Council Association.~~
 208 ~~16. The Agency for Health Care Administration.~~
 209 ~~17. The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS).~~
 210
 211 ~~An alternate for each designee shall also be chosen, and the~~
 212 ~~names of the designees and alternates shall be sent to the~~
 213 ~~executive director of the department.~~
 214 (i) (b) Each REDI member from a state agency or organization
 215 representative must have comprehensive knowledge of his or her
 216 agency's functions, both regulatory and service in nature, and
 217 of the state's economic goals, policies, and programs. This
 218 person shall be the primary point of contact for his or her
 219 agency with REDI on issues and projects relating to rural areas
 220 of opportunity and economically distressed rural communities and
 221 with regard to expediting project review, shall ensure a prompt
 222 effective response to problems arising with regard to rural
 223 issues, and shall work closely with the other REDI members
 224 representatives in the identification of opportunities for
 225 preferential awards of program funds and allowances and waiver
 226 of program requirements when necessary to encourage and
 227 facilitate long-term private capital investment and job
 228 creation. The member shall also ensure that each district office
 229 or facility of his or her agency or organization is informed
 230 about REDI and shall provide assistance throughout the agency in
 231 the implementation of REDI activities.
 232 ~~(c) The REDI representatives shall work with REDI in the~~
 233 ~~review and evaluation of statutes and rules for adverse impact~~
 234 ~~on rural communities and the development of alternative~~
 235 ~~proposals to mitigate that impact.~~

Page 8 of 21

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

26-00648A-17

2017600__

236 ~~(d) Each REDI representative shall be responsible for~~
 237 ~~ensuring that each district office or facility of his or her~~
 238 ~~agency is informed about the Rural Economic Development~~
 239 ~~Initiative and for providing assistance throughout the agency in~~
 240 ~~the implementation of REDI activities.~~

241 ~~(8)(7)(a) REDI may recommend to the Governor up to three~~
 242 ~~rural areas of opportunity.~~ The Governor may by executive order
 243 designate ~~up to three~~ rural areas of opportunity which will
 244 establish these areas as priority assignments for REDI, ~~as well~~
 245 ~~as to allow~~ The Governor may, acting through REDI, ~~to~~ waive
 246 criteria, requirements, or similar provisions of any economic
 247 development incentive. Such incentives shall include, but are
 248 not limited to, the Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund Program
 249 under s. 288.106, the Quick Response Training Program under s.
 250 288.047, the Quick Response Training Program for participants in
 251 the welfare transition program under s. 288.047(8),
 252 transportation projects under s. 339.2821, the brownfield
 253 redevelopment bonus refund under s. 288.107, and the rural job
 254 tax credit program under ss. 212.098 and 220.1895.

255 (b) Designation as a rural area of opportunity under this
 256 subsection shall be contingent upon the execution of a
 257 memorandum of agreement among the department; the governing body
 258 of the county; and the governing bodies of any municipalities to
 259 be included within a rural area of opportunity. Such agreement
 260 shall specify the terms and conditions of the designation,
 261 including, but not limited to, the duties and responsibilities
 262 of the county and any participating municipalities to take
 263 actions designed to facilitate the retention and expansion of
 264 existing businesses in the area, as well as the recruitment of

26-00648A-17

2017600__

265 new businesses to the area.

266 (c) Each rural area of opportunity may designate catalyst
 267 projects, provided that each catalyst project is specifically
 268 recommended by REDI, identified as a catalyst project by
 269 Enterprise Florida, Inc., and confirmed as a catalyst project by
 270 the department. All state agencies and departments shall use all
 271 available tools and resources to the extent permissible by law
 272 to promote the creation and development of each catalyst project
 273 and the development of catalyst sites.

274 ~~(9)(8) Before September 1 of each year,~~ REDI shall submit a
 275 ~~report~~ to the department, the Governor, the President of the
 276 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a
 277 complete and detailed report, including, but not limited to on
 278 all REDI activities for the previous fiscal year as a supplement
 279 to the department's annual report required under s. 20.60. This
 280 supplementary report must include:

281 (a) A description of the operations of status report on all
 282 projects currently being coordinated through REDI, the number of
 283 preferential awards and allowances made pursuant to this
 284 section, the dollar amount of such awards, ~~and~~ the names of the
 285 recipients, and an evaluation of progress toward achieving
 286 organizational goals and specific performance outcomes, as
 287 established by the department.

288 (b) A description of the accomplishments of REDI and
 289 identification of major trends, initiatives, or developments
 290 affecting the performance of a program or activity coordinated
 291 through REDI.

292 (c) A description of all waivers of program requirements
 293 granted.

26-00648A-17

2017600__

294 (d)~~(e)~~ Information as to the economic impact of the
 295 projects coordinated by REDI.
 296 (e)~~(d)~~ Recommendations based on the review and evaluation
 297 of statutes and rules having an adverse impact on rural
 298 communities and proposals to mitigate such adverse impacts.
 299 Section 3. Paragraph (e) of subsection (7) of section
 300 163.3177, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 301 163.3177 Required and optional elements of comprehensive
 302 plan; studies and surveys.—
 303 (7)
 304 (e) This subsection does not confer the status of rural
 305 area of opportunity, or any of the rights or benefits derived
 306 from such status, on any land area not otherwise designated as
 307 such pursuant to s. 288.0656(8) ~~s. 288.0656(7)~~.
 308 Section 4. Subsection (3) of section 163.3187, Florida
 309 Statutes, is amended to read:
 310 163.3187 Process for adoption of small-scale comprehensive
 311 plan amendment.—
 312 (3) If the small scale development amendment involves a
 313 site within a rural area of opportunity as defined under s.
 314 288.0656(3)(d) ~~s. 288.0656(2)(d)~~ for the duration of such
 315 designation, the 10-acre limit listed in subsection (1) shall be
 316 increased by 100 percent to 20 acres. The local government
 317 approving the small scale plan amendment shall certify to the
 318 state land planning agency that the plan amendment furthers the
 319 economic objectives set forth in the executive order issued
 320 under s. 288.0656(8) ~~s. 288.0656(7)~~, and the property subject to
 321 the plan amendment shall undergo public review to ensure that
 322 all concurrency requirements and federal, state, and local

Page 11 of 21

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

26-00648A-17

2017600__

323 environmental permit requirements are met.
 324 Section 5. Subsection (2) of section 257.193, Florida
 325 Statutes, is amended to read:
 326 257.193 Community Libraries in Caring Program.—
 327 (2) The purpose of the Community Libraries in Caring
 328 Program is to assist libraries in rural communities, as defined
 329 in s. 288.0656(3) ~~s. 288.0656(2)~~ and subject to the provisions
 330 of s. 288.06561, to strengthen their collections and services,
 331 improve literacy in their communities, and improve the economic
 332 viability of their communities.
 333 Section 6. Section 288.019, Florida Statutes, is amended to
 334 read:
 335 288.019 Rural considerations in grant review and evaluation
 336 processes.—Notwithstanding any other law, and to the fullest
 337 extent possible, the member agencies and organizations of the
 338 Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) as defined in s.
 339 288.0656(7)(a) ~~s. 288.0656(6)(a)~~ shall review all grant and loan
 340 application evaluation criteria to ensure the fullest access for
 341 rural counties as defined in s. 288.0656(3) ~~s. 288.0656(2)~~ to
 342 resources available throughout the state.
 343 (1) Each REDI agency and organization shall review all
 344 evaluation and scoring procedures and develop modifications to
 345 those procedures which minimize the impact of a project within a
 346 rural area.
 347 (2) Evaluation criteria and scoring procedures must provide
 348 for an appropriate ranking based on the proportionate impact
 349 that projects have on a rural area when compared with similar
 350 project impacts on an urban area.
 351 (3) Evaluation criteria and scoring procedures must

Page 12 of 21

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

26-00648A-17 2017600__

352 recognize the disparity of available fiscal resources for an
 353 equal level of financial support from an urban county and a
 354 rural county.

355 (a) The evaluation criteria should weight contribution in
 356 proportion to the amount of funding available at the local
 357 level.

358 (b) In-kind match should be allowed and applied as
 359 financial match when a county is experiencing financial distress
 360 through elevated unemployment at a rate in excess of the state's
 361 average by 5 percentage points or because of the loss of its ad
 362 valorem base.

363 (4) For existing programs, the modified evaluation criteria
 364 and scoring procedure must be delivered to the department for
 365 distribution to the REDI agencies and organizations. The REDI
 366 agencies and organizations shall review and make comments.
 367 Future rules, programs, evaluation criteria, and scoring
 368 processes must be brought before a REDI meeting for review,
 369 discussion, and recommendation to allow rural counties fuller
 370 access to the state's resources.

371 Section 7. Section 288.06561, Florida Statutes, is amended
 372 to read:

373 288.06561 Reduction or waiver of financial match
 374 requirements.—Notwithstanding any other law, the member agencies
 375 and organizations of the Rural Economic Development Initiative
 376 (REDI), as defined in s. 288.0656(7)(a) ~~s. 288.0656(6)(a)~~, shall
 377 review the financial match requirements for projects in rural
 378 areas as defined in s. 288.0656(3) ~~s. 288.0656(2)~~.

379 (1) Each agency and organization shall develop a proposal
 380 to waive or reduce the match requirement for rural areas.

26-00648A-17 2017600__

381 (2) Agencies and organizations shall ensure that all
 382 proposals are submitted to the department for review by the REDI
 383 agencies.

384 (3) These proposals shall be delivered to the department
 385 for distribution to the REDI agencies and organizations. A
 386 meeting of REDI agencies and organizations must be called within
 387 30 days after receipt of such proposals for REDI comment and
 388 recommendations on each proposal.

389 (4) Waivers and reductions must be requested by the county
 390 or community, and such county or community must have three or
 391 more of the factors identified in s. 288.0656(3)(c) ~~s.~~
 392 ~~288.0656(2)(e)~~.

393 (5) Any other funds available to the project may be used
 394 for financial match of federal programs when there is fiscal
 395 hardship, and the match requirements may not be waived or
 396 reduced.

397 (6) When match requirements are not reduced or eliminated,
 398 donations of land, though usually not recognized as an in-kind
 399 match, may be permitted.

400 (7) To the fullest extent possible, agencies and
 401 organizations shall expedite the rule adoption and amendment
 402 process if necessary to incorporate the reduction in match by
 403 rural areas in fiscal distress.

404 (8) REDI shall include in its annual report an evaluation
 405 on the status of changes to rules, number of awards made with
 406 waivers, and recommendations for future changes.

407 Section 8. Paragraph (d) of subsection (6) of section
 408 290.0055, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 409 290.0055 Local nominating procedure.—

26-00648A-17

2017600__

410 (6)
 411 (d)1. The governing body of a jurisdiction which has
 412 nominated an application for an enterprise zone that is at least
 413 15 square miles and less than 20 square miles and includes a
 414 portion of the state designated as a rural area of opportunity
 415 under s. 288.0656(8) ~~s. 288.0656(7)~~ may apply to the department
 416 to expand the boundary of the existing enterprise zone by not
 417 more than 3 square miles.

418 2. The governing body of a jurisdiction which has nominated
 419 an application for an enterprise zone that is at least 20 square
 420 miles and includes a portion of the state designated as a rural
 421 area of opportunity under s. 288.0656(8) ~~s. 288.0656(7)~~ may
 422 apply to the department to expand the boundary of the existing
 423 enterprise zone by not more than 5 square miles.

424 3. An application to expand the boundary of an enterprise
 425 zone under this paragraph must be submitted by December 31,
 426 2013.

427 4. Notwithstanding the area limitations specified in
 428 subsection (4), the department may approve the request for a
 429 boundary amendment if the area continues to satisfy the
 430 remaining requirements of this section.

431 5. The department shall establish the initial effective
 432 date of an enterprise zone designated under this paragraph.

433 Section 9. Section 290.06561, Florida Statutes, is amended
 434 to read:

435 290.06561 Designation of rural enterprise zone as catalyst
 436 site.—Notwithstanding s. 290.0065(1), the Department of Economic
 437 Opportunity, upon request of the host county, shall designate as
 438 a rural enterprise zone any catalyst site as defined in s.

26-00648A-17

2017600__

439 288.0656(3)(b) ~~s. 288.0656(2)(b)~~ that was approved before
 440 January 1, 2010, and that is not located in an existing rural
 441 enterprise zone. The request from the host county must include
 442 the legal description of the catalyst site and the name and
 443 contact information for the county development authority
 444 responsible for managing the catalyst site. The designation
 445 shall provide businesses locating within the catalyst site the
 446 same eligibility for economic incentives and other benefits of a
 447 rural enterprise zone designated under s. 290.0065. The
 448 reporting criteria for a catalyst site designated as a rural
 449 enterprise zone under this section are the same as for other
 450 rural enterprise zones. Host county development authorities may
 451 enter into memoranda of agreement, as necessary, to coordinate
 452 their efforts to implement this section.

453 Section 10. Paragraph (h) of subsection (1) of section
 454 337.403, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

455 337.403 Interference caused by utility; expenses.—

456 (1) If a utility that is placed upon, under, over, or
 457 within the right-of-way limits of any public road or publicly
 458 owned rail corridor is found by the authority to be unreasonably
 459 interfering in any way with the convenient, safe, or continuous
 460 use, or the maintenance, improvement, extension, or expansion,
 461 of such public road or publicly owned rail corridor, the utility
 462 owner shall, upon 30 days' written notice to the utility or its
 463 agent by the authority, initiate the work necessary to alleviate
 464 the interference at its own expense except as provided in
 465 paragraphs (a)-(j). The work must be completed within such
 466 reasonable time as stated in the notice or such time as agreed
 467 to by the authority and the utility owner.

26-00648A-17

2017600__

468 (h) If a municipally owned utility or county-owned utility
 469 is located in a rural area of opportunity, as defined in s.
 470 288.0656(3) ~~s. 288.0656(2)~~, and the department determines that
 471 the utility is unable, and will not be able within the next 10
 472 years, to pay for the cost of utility work necessitated by a
 473 department project on the State Highway System, the department
 474 may pay, in whole or in part, the cost of such utility work
 475 performed by the department or its contractor.

476 Section 11. Subsection (7) of section 339.2818, Florida
 477 Statutes, is amended to read:

478 339.2818 Small County Outreach Program.—

479 (7) Subject to a specific appropriation in addition to
 480 funds annually appropriated for projects under this section, a
 481 municipality within a rural area of opportunity or a rural area
 482 of opportunity community designated under s. 288.0656(8) (a) ~~s.~~
 483 ~~288.0656(7) (a)~~ may compete for the additional project funding
 484 using the criteria listed in subsection (4) at up to 100 percent
 485 of project costs, excluding capacity improvement projects.

486 Section 12. Paragraph (c) of subsection (4) of section
 487 339.2819, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

488 339.2819 Transportation Regional Incentive Program.—

489 (4)

490 (c) The department shall give priority to projects that:

- 491 1. Provide connectivity to the Strategic Intermodal System
- 492 developed under s. 339.64.
- 493 2. Support economic development and the movement of goods
- 494 in rural areas of opportunity designated under s. 288.0656(8) ~~s.~~
- 495 ~~288.0656(7)~~.
- 496 3. Are subject to a local ordinance that establishes

26-00648A-17

2017600__

497 corridor management techniques, including access management
 498 strategies, right-of-way acquisition and protection measures,
 499 appropriate land use strategies, zoning, and setback
 500 requirements for adjacent land uses.

501 4. Improve connectivity between military installations and
 502 the Strategic Highway Network or the Strategic Rail Corridor
 503 Network.

504

505 The department shall also consider the extent to which local
 506 matching funds are available to be committed to the project.

507 Section 13. Paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section
 508 339.63, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

509 339.63 System facilities designated; additions and
 510 deletions.—

511 (5)

512 (b) A facility designated part of the Strategic Intermodal
 513 System pursuant to paragraph (a) that is within the jurisdiction
 514 of a local government that maintains a transportation
 515 concurrency system shall receive a waiver of transportation
 516 concurrency requirements applicable to Strategic Intermodal
 517 System facilities in order to accommodate any development at the
 518 facility which occurs pursuant to a building permit issued on or
 519 before December 31, 2017, but only if such facility is located:

- 520 1. Within an area designated pursuant to s. 288.0656(8) ~~s.~~
- 521 ~~288.0656(7)~~ as a rural area of opportunity;
- 522 2. Within a rural enterprise zone as defined in s.
- 523 290.004(5); or
- 524 3. Within 15 miles of the boundary of a rural area of
- 525 opportunity or a rural enterprise zone.

26-00648A-17

2017600__

526 Section 14. Subsection (16) of section 479.16, Florida
 527 Statutes, is amended to read:
 528 479.16 Signs for which permits are not required.—The
 529 following signs are exempt from the requirement that a permit
 530 for a sign be obtained under this chapter but are required to
 531 comply with s. 479.11(4)-(8), and subsections (15)-(20) may not
 532 be implemented or continued if the Federal Government notifies
 533 the department that implementation or continuation will
 534 adversely affect the allocation of federal funds to the
 535 department:
 536 (16) Signs placed by a local tourist-oriented business
 537 located within a rural area of opportunity as defined in s.
 538 288.0656(3) ~~s. 288.0656(2)~~ which are:
 539 (a) Not more than 8 square feet in size or more than 4 feet
 540 in height;
 541 (b) Located only in rural areas on a facility that does not
 542 meet the definition of a limited access facility, as defined in
 543 s. 334.03;
 544 (c) Located within 2 miles of the business location and at
 545 least 500 feet apart;
 546 (d) Located only in two directions leading to the business;
 547 and
 548 (e) Not located within the road right-of-way.
 549
 550 A business placing such signs must be at least 4 miles from any
 551 other business using this exemption and may not participate in
 552 any other directional signage program by the department.
 553
 554 If the exemptions in subsections (15)-(20) are not implemented

26-00648A-17

2017600__

555 or continued due to notification from the Federal Government
 556 that the allocation of federal funds to the department will be
 557 adversely impacted, the department shall provide notice to the
 558 sign owner that the sign must be removed within 30 days after
 559 receipt of the notice. If the sign is not removed within 30 days
 560 after receipt of the notice by the sign owner, the department
 561 may remove the sign, and the costs incurred in connection with
 562 the sign removal shall be assessed against and collected from
 563 the sign owner.
 564 Section 15. Paragraph (d) of subsection (14) of section
 565 627.6699, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 566 627.6699 Employee Health Care Access Act.—
 567 (14) SMALL EMPLOYERS ACCESS PROGRAM.—
 568 (d) *Eligibility.*—
 569 1. Any small employer that is actively engaged in business,
 570 has its principal place of business in this state, employs up to
 571 25 eligible employees on business days during the preceding
 572 calendar year, employs at least 2 employees on the first day of
 573 the plan year, and has had no prior coverage for the last 6
 574 months may participate.
 575 2. Any municipality, county, school district, or hospital
 576 employer located in a rural community as defined in s.
 577 288.0656(3) ~~s. 288.0656(2)~~ may participate.
 578 3. Nursing home employers may participate.
 579 4. Each dependent of a person eligible for coverage is also
 580 eligible to participate.
 581
 582 Any employer participating in the program must do so until the
 583 end of the term for which the carrier providing the coverage is

26-00648A-17

2017600_

584 obligated to provide such coverage to the program. Coverage for
585 a small employer group that ceases to meet the eligibility
586 requirements of this section may be terminated at the end of the
587 policy period for which the necessary premiums have been paid.

588 Section 16. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

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

4.3.17

Meeting Date

SB 600

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic FEDI BILL

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name ROY BAKER / OPPORTUNITY FLORIDA

Job Title BUSINESS DEV. COORDINATOR

Address 4636 HWY 90

Phone 850.633.4119

Street

MARIANNA

City

FL

State

32446

Zip

Email ROYB@OPPORTUNITYFLORIDA.COM

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing OPPORTUNITY 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.

S-001 (10/14/14)

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

4/13/2017

Meeting Date

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

600

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Rural Economic Development Initiative

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Adam Basford

Job Title Director, Legislative Affairs

Address 310 W College Ave

Phone 222-2557

Tallahassee

City

FL

State

32301

Zip

Email adam.basford@fla.org

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Florida Farm Bureau

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)

4/3/17
Meeting Date

600
Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Rural Economic Development

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Jim Spratt

Job Title _____

Address PO Box 10011

Phone 850-228-1296

Street

TLH FL 32302

City

State

Zip

Email Jim@magnoliastrategiesllc.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Associated Industries of 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)

4-4-17
Meeting Date

SB 600
Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Rural Economic Development Initiative Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Chris Doolin

Job Title Consultant to the Small County Coalition

Address 1118 B THOMASVILLE ROAD Phone 850-508-5492
Street

Tallah, Fla 32308 Email cdoolin@nettally.com
City State Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Small County Coalition

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)

4/3/2017
Meeting Date

600
Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Rural Economic Development Initiative

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Ellen N. Anderson

Job Title Director of Government Relations

Address 106 E. College Ave. Suite 650
Street

Phone 228.7959

Tallahassee
City State Zip

Email ellen_anderson@chs.net

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Community Health Systems

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)

4-3-2017

Meeting Date

600

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic RED I

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Grace Lovett

Job Title Dir of legislative Affairs

Address PL 10 The Capitol

Phone 850 617 7700

Street

Tallahassee

City

FL

State

32399

Zip

Email grace.lovette@redforflorida.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing FDACS

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 (10/14/14)



THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

COMMITTEES:

Agriculture, *Vice Chair*
Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and
Human Services
Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation,
Tourism, and Economic Development
Governmental Oversight and Accountability
Transportation

JOINT COMMITTEE:

Joint Administrative Procedures Committee,
Alternating Chair

SENATOR KEVIN J. RADER
29th District

March 29, 2017

The Honorable Keith Perry
312 Senate Office Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

Dear Chairman Perry:

In accordance with Senate Rule 1.21, I am writing to you to be excused from the Agriculture Committee meeting that will be held on April 3, 2017 at 1:30pm due to family matters that need my immediate attention. I sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to contact me at 561-866-4020 if you have any questions.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kevin Rader".

Kevin Rader
State Senator
District 29

cc: Katherine Becker, Staff Director

REPLY TO:

- 5301 N. Federal Hwy, Suite 135, Boca Raton, Florida 33487
- 222 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5029

Senate's Website: www.flsenate.gov

JOE NEGRON
President of the Senate

ANITERE FLORES
President Pro Tempore

CourtSmart Tag Report

Room: SB 301

Caption: Senate Agriculture Committee

Case No.:

Judge:

Type:

Started: 4/3/2017 1:31:55 PM

Ends: 4/3/2017 1:53:53 PM **Length:** 00:21:59

1:31:58 PM	Call to Order
1:32:00 PM	Roll Call
1:32:44 PM	SB 600 - Rural Economic Development Initiative
1:33:40 PM	Amendment 919530
1:34:22 PM	Amendment 245902 to Amendment 919530
1:34:47 PM	Back on 919530
1:35:02 PM	Back on Bill as Amended
1:35:57 PM	Roll Call Vote
1:36:23 PM	SB 1726 - Industrial Hemp Pilot Project
1:37:24 PM	Amendment 477980
1:38:23 PM	Amendment 445802
1:38:49 PM	Gary Stein, MPH, Self
1:40:33 PM	Jodi James, Executive Director, Florida Cannabis Action Network
1:42:26 PM	Keily Stiff, President, Southern Hemp Strategies
1:43:05 PM	Sen. Powell - Debate
1:44:11 PM	Sen. Perry - Debate
1:44:22 PM	Sen. Steube - Closing
1:44:45 PM	Back on Bill as Amended
1:45:06 PM	Robert Clayton, Engineer, Hemp Industries Assoc.
1:49:48 PM	Bo Snively, Farmer, Production, and Harvesting Manager
1:53:12 PM	Roll Call Vote
1:53:47 PM	Senator Powell moves the meeting Adjourned