15-660A-98 See CS/HB 823

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to financial matters; amending s. 18.10, F.S., which provides requirements for deposit and investment of state money; revising the standards that certain corporate obligations and state and local government obligations must meet to be qualified for such investment; authorizing investment in certain foreign bonds and certain convertible debt obligations of corporations domiciled in the United States; providing an effective date.

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

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15 16 Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 18.10, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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18.10 Deposits and investments of state money.--

(2) The Treasurer shall make funds available to meet

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the disbursement needs of the state. Funds which are not needed for this purpose shall be placed in qualified public depositories that will pay rates established by the Treasurer at levels not less than the prevailing rate for United States Treasury securities with a corresponding maturity. In the event money is available for interest-bearing time deposits or savings accounts as provided herein and qualified public depositories are unwilling to accept such money and pay thereon the rates established above, then such money which

qualified public depositories are unwilling to accept shall be invested in:

- (a) Direct United States Treasury obligations.
- (b) Obligations of the Federal Farm Credit Banks.

- (c) Obligations of the Federal Home Loan Bank and its district banks.
- (d) Obligations of the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, including participation certificates.
- (e) Obligations guaranteed by the Government National Mortgage Association.
- (f) Obligations of the Federal National Mortgage Association.
- (g) Commercial paper of prime quality of the highest letter and numerical rating as provided for by at least one nationally recognized rating service.
- (h) Time drafts or bills of exchange drawn on and accepted by a commercial bank, otherwise known as "bankers acceptances," which are accepted by a member bank of the Federal Reserve System having total deposits of not less than \$400 million or which are accepted by a commercial bank which is not a member of the Federal Reserve System with deposits of not less than \$400 million and which is licensed by a state government or the Federal Government, and whose senior debt issues are rated in one of the two highest rating categories by a nationally recognized rating service and which are held in custody by a domestic bank which is a member of the Federal Reserve System.
- (i) Intermediate-term Corporate obligations or corporate master notes of any corporation within the United States, if the long-term obligations of such corporation are rated by at least two nationally recognized rating services in any one of the <u>four three</u> highest classifications. However, if such obligations are rated by on ly one nationally recognized rating service, then the obligations shall be rated in any one of the two highest classifications.

- (j) Obligations of the Student Loan Marketing Association.
 - (k) Obligations of the Resolution Funding Corporation.
- (1) Asset-backed or mortgage-backed securities of the highest credit quality.
- (m) Any obligations not previously listed which are guaranteed as to principal and interest by the full faith and credit of the United States Government or are obligations of United States agencies or instrumentalities which are rated in the highest category by a nationally recognized rating service.
- (n) Commingled no-load investment funds or no-load mutual funds in which all securities held by the funds are authorized in this subsection.
- (o) Money market mutual funds as defined and regulated by the Securities and Exchange Commission.
- (p) Obligations of state and local governments rated in any of the <u>four three</u> highest classifications by <u>at least</u> two one or more nationally recognized rating services <u>if their purchase is for the purpose of meeting federal investment requirements for funds accumulated from bonds or other obligations. However, if such obligations are rated by only one nationally recognized rating service, then the obligations shall be rated in any one of the two highest classifications.</u>
- (q) Derivatives of investment instruments authorized
 in paragraphs (a) through (m).
- (r) Covered put and call options on investment instruments authorized in this subsection for the purpose of hedging transactions by investment managers to mitigate risk or to facilitate portfolio management.

- (s) Negotiable certificates of deposit issued by financial institutions whose long-term debt is rated in one of the three highest categories by at least two nationally recognized rating services, the investment in which shall not be prohibited by any provision of chapter 280.
- (t) Foreign bonds denominated in United States dollars and registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission for sale in the United States, if the long-term obligations of such issuers are rated by at least two nationally recognized rating services in any one of the four highest classifications. However, if such obligations are rated by only one nationally recognized rating service, the obligations shall be rated in any one of the two highest classifications.
- (u) Convertible debt obligations of any corporation domiciled within the United States, if the convertible debt issue is rated by at least two nationally recognized rating services in any one of the four highest classifications.

 However, if such obligations are rated by only one nationally recognized rating service, then the obligations shall be rated in any one of the two highest classifications.
- $\underline{(v)}$ (t) Securities not otherwise described in this subsection. However, not more than 3 percent of the funds under the control of the Treasurer shall be invested in securities described in this paragraph.

These investments may be in varying maturities and may be in book-entry form. Investments made pursuant to this subsection may be under repurchase agreement. The Treasurer is authorized to hire registered investment advisers and other consultants to assist in investment management and to pay fees directly from investment earnings. Investment securities, proprietary

investment services related to contracts, performance evaluation services, investment-related equipment or software used directly to assist investment trading or investment accounting operations including bond calculators, telerates, Bloombergs, special program calculators, intercom systems, and software used in accounting, communications, and trading, and advisory and consulting contracts made under this section are exempt from the provisions of chapter 287.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1 of the year in which enacted.

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

Revises provisions that specify requirements for the deposit and investment of state funds. Revises the standards that certain corporate obligations and state and local government obligations must meet in order to qualify for such investment. Authorizes the investment of state funds in certain foreign bonds and certain. convertible debt obligations of corporations domiciled in the United States.

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