

By Representative Eggelletion

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to the responsibilities of  
 3           Enterprise Florida, Inc.; amending ss.  
 4           288.9015, 288.903, 288.906, 288.9620, F.S.;  
 5           providing for the responsibilities of  
 6           Enterprise Florida, Inc., with respect to  
 7           workforce development to include participants  
 8           in the WAGES Program; providing additional  
 9           requirements for the annual report of  
 10          Enterprise Florida, Inc.; requiring the  
 11          workforce development board to include  
 12          participants in the WAGES Program within  
 13          populations selected for resources, guidance,  
 14          or services; providing an effective date.

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

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 18           Section 1. Section 288.9015, Florida Statutes, 1996  
 19 Supplement, is amended to read:

20           288.9015 Enterprise Florida, Inc.; purpose; duties.--

21           (1) Enterprise Florida, Inc., is the principal  
 22 economic development organization for the state. It shall be  
 23 the responsibility of Enterprise Florida, Inc., to provide  
 24 leadership for business development in Florida by aggressively  
 25 establishing a unified approach to Florida's efforts of  
 26 international trade and reverse investment; by aggressively  
 27 marketing the state as a probusiness location for potential  
 28 new investment; and by aggressively assisting in the creation,  
 29 retention, and expansion of existing businesses. In support  
 30 of this effort, Enterprise Florida, Inc., may develop and  
 31 implement specific programs or strategies that address the

1 creation, expansion, and retention of Florida business; the  
2 development of import and export trade; and the recruitment of  
3 worldwide business.

4 (2) It shall be the responsibility of Enterprise  
5 Florida, Inc., to promote and strengthen the creation and  
6 growth of small and minority businesses and to increase the  
7 opportunities for short-term and long-term rural economic  
8 development.

9 (3) It shall be the responsibility of Enterprise  
10 Florida, Inc., to develop a comprehensive approach to  
11 workforce development that will result in better employment  
12 opportunities for the residents of this state. Such  
13 comprehensive approach must include:

14 (a) Creating and maintaining a highly skilled  
15 workforce that is capable of responding to rapidly changing  
16 technology and diversified market opportunities.

17 (b) Training, educating, and assisting target  
18 populations, such as those who are economically disadvantaged  
19 or who participate in the WAGES Program or otherwise receive  
20 public assistance, to become independent, self-reliant, and  
21 self-sufficient. This approach must ensure the effective use  
22 of federal, state, local, and private resources in reducing  
23 the need for public assistance.

24 (4) Enterprise Florida, Inc., shall provide leadership  
25 in creating jobs for residents of the state, including jobs  
26 for residents who are economically disadvantaged or who  
27 participate in the WAGES Program or otherwise receive public  
28 assistance.

29 (5)~~(4)~~ Enterprise Florida, Inc., shall not endorse any  
30 candidate for any elected public office, nor shall it  
31 contribute moneys to the campaign of any such candidate.

1           Section 2. Section 288.903, Florida Statutes, 1996  
2 Supplement, is amended to read:

3           288.903 Board of directors of Enterprise Florida,  
4 Inc.; president; employees.--

5           (1) The president of Enterprise Florida, Inc., shall  
6 be appointed by the board of directors. The president is the  
7 chief administrative and operational officer of the board of  
8 directors and of Enterprise Florida, Inc., and shall direct  
9 and supervise the administrative affairs of the board of  
10 directors and any other boards of Enterprise Florida, Inc. The  
11 board of directors may delegate to its president those powers  
12 and responsibilities it deems appropriate, except for the  
13 appointment of a president.

14           (2) The board of directors may establish an executive  
15 committee consisting of the vice chair and as many additional  
16 members of the board of directors as the board deems  
17 appropriate, except that such committee must have a minimum of  
18 five members. One member of the executive committee shall be  
19 selected by each of the following: the Governor, the  
20 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of  
21 Representatives. Remaining members of the executive committee  
22 shall be selected by the board of directors. The executive  
23 committee shall have such authority as the board of directors  
24 delegates to it, except that the board may not delegate the  
25 authority to hire or fire the president.

26           (3) The president:

27           (a) May contract with or employ legal and technical  
28 experts and such other employees, both permanent and  
29 temporary, as authorized by the board of directors.

30           (b) Shall employ and supervise the president of any  
31 board established within the Enterprise Florida, Inc.,

1 corporate structure and shall coordinate the activities of any  
2 such boards.

3 (c) Shall attend all meetings of the board of  
4 directors.

5 (d) Shall cause copies to be made of all minutes and  
6 other records and documents of the board of directors and  
7 shall certify that such copies are true copies. All persons  
8 dealing with the board of directors may rely upon such  
9 certifications.

10 (e) Shall be responsible for coordinating and  
11 advocating the interests of rural, minority, and small  
12 businesses within Enterprise Florida, Inc., its boards, and in  
13 all its economic development efforts.

14 (f) Shall administer the finances of Enterprise  
15 Florida, Inc., and its boards to ensure appropriate  
16 accountability and the prudent use of public and private  
17 funds.

18 (g) Shall be the chief spokesperson for Enterprise  
19 Florida, Inc., regarding economic development efforts in the  
20 state.

21 (h) Shall coordinate all activities and  
22 responsibilities of Enterprise Florida, Inc., with respect to  
23 participants in the WAGES Program.

24 (i)~~(h)~~ Shall supervise and coordinate the collection,  
25 research, and analysis of information for Enterprise Florida,  
26 Inc., and its boards.

27 (4) The board of directors of Enterprise Florida,  
28 Inc., and its officers shall be responsible for the prudent  
29 use of all public and private funds and shall ensure that the  
30 use of such funds is in accordance with all applicable laws,  
31 bylaws, or contractual requirements.

1 Section 3. Subsection (1) of section 288.906, Florida  
2 Statutes, 1996 Supplement, is amended to read:

3 288.906 Annual report of Enterprise Florida, Inc.;  
4 audits; confidentiality.--

5 (1) Prior to December 1 of each year, Enterprise  
6 Florida, Inc., shall submit to the Governor, the President of  
7 the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the  
8 Senate Minority Leader, and the House Minority Leader a  
9 complete and detailed report setting forth:

10 (a) Its operations and accomplishments during the  
11 fiscal year;

12 (b) Its business and operational plan and its economic  
13 development plan, including recommendations on methods for  
14 implementing and funding the economic development plan;

15 (c) Its assets and liabilities at the end of its most  
16 recent fiscal year; ~~and~~

17 (d) A copy of an annual financial and compliance audit  
18 of its accounts and records conducted by an independent  
19 certified public accountant performed in accordance with rules  
20 adopted by the Auditor General; ~~and~~

21 (e) An assessment of employee training and job  
22 creation that directly benefits participants in the WAGES  
23 Program.

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25 The detailed report required by this subsection shall also  
26 include the information identified in paragraphs (a)-(e)  
27 ~~(a)-(d)~~, if applicable, for any board established within the  
28 corporate structure of Enterprise Florida, Inc.

29 Section 4. Subsection (1) of section 288.9620, Florida  
30 Statutes, 1996 Supplement, as amended by section 112 of  
31 chapter 96-320, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

1           288.9620 Workforce development board.--

2           (1) The Legislature finds that the growth and  
3 competitive strength of Florida's economy depend upon the  
4 state's ability to attract and support industries that add to  
5 the value of the state's social capital as well as to its  
6 economic capital. It is crucial to the retention and growth of  
7 these high-value-added industries to assure that skilled human  
8 resources are adequate in quality and quantity. The  
9 Legislature intends to adopt a uniform policy to guide  
10 education, training, and employment programs, so that the  
11 combined efforts of all the programs accomplish the following  
12 objectives:

13           (a) Provide for a skilled workforce to enable Florida  
14 to compete in a global economy.

15           (b) Respond to changes in technology and to emerging  
16 industries.

17           (c) Promote the development of market-driven programs  
18 through a planning and funding system based upon products of  
19 the Occupational Forecasting Conference created in s. 216.136.

20           (d) Base evaluations of program success on student and  
21 participant outcomes rather than processes.

22           (e) Coordinate state, federal, local, and private  
23 funds for maximum impact.

24           (f) Encourage the participation, education, and  
25 training of members of populations selected by state or  
26 federal policy to receive additional resources, guidance, or  
27 services. The selected populations must include people with  
28 disabilities or economic disadvantages, especially those who  
29 are participants in the WAGES Program,are eligible for public  
30 assistance,or are dislocated workers.

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1           Section 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
2 law.

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5                                 SENATE SUMMARY

6           Requires that participants in the WAGES Program be  
7 included in the workforce development activities of  
8 Enterprise Florida, Inc. Requires that the annual report  
9 of Enterprise Florida, Inc., include an assessment of  
10 employee training and job creation that benefits WAGES  
11 participants.

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