

By Senator Holzendorf

2-1308-98

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to economic development;  
3           creating s. 288.049, F.S.; defining areas of  
4           critical need for purposes of economic  
5           development; amending ss. 288.047, 288.063, and  
6           288.106, F.S.; setting aside a portion of  
7           appropriated revenues for specified economic  
8           development projects; exempting such funds from  
9           reversion at the end of the fiscal year;  
10          providing an effective date.

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

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14           Section 1. Present subsections (6), (7), (8), and (9)  
15 of section 288.047, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as  
16 subsections (7), (8), (9), and (10), respectively, and new  
17 subsection (6) of that section is created to read:

18           288.047 Quick-response training for economic  
19 development.--

20           (6) For each fiscal year, Enterprise Florida, Inc.,  
21 shall set aside 10 percent of the amount appropriated for the  
22 Quick-Response Training Program by the Legislature to fund  
23 instructional programs for businesses located in areas of  
24 critical need as defined in s. 288.049. Notwithstanding the  
25 provisions of s. 216.301, funds appropriated for the  
26 Quick-Response Training Program and set aside for purposes of  
27 this subsection are not subject to reversion and may be  
28 expended only for the purposes for which they have been set  
29 aside.

30           Section 2. Section 288.049, Florida Statutes, is  
31 created to read:

1           288.049 Determination of areas of critical need.--

2           (1) By July 31 of each fiscal year, each county may  
3 apply to the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic  
4 Development for designation of a portion of the county as an  
5 area of critical need. Areas proposed for the designation may  
6 be composed of contiguous property of not less than 4 square  
7 miles and not more than 25 square miles.

8           (2) Working with the Department of Law Enforcement and  
9 the Department of Labor and Employment Security, the Office of  
10 Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development shall, no later than  
11 August 30, designate no more than five proposed areas as areas  
12 of critical need. In making the determination, the following  
13 factors shall be considered:

14           (a) Total amount of crime in the designated area.

15           (b) Total amount of violent crime in the designated  
16 area.

17           (c) Total amount of unemployment in the designated  
18 area.

19           Section 3. Subsections (4) and (9) of section 288.063,  
20 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

21           288.063 Contracts for transportation projects.--

22           (4)(a) The Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic  
23 Development may adopt criteria by which transportation  
24 projects are to be specified and identified. In approving  
25 transportation projects for funding, the Office of Tourism,  
26 Trade, and Economic Development shall consider factors  
27 including, but not limited to, the cost per job created or  
28 retained considering the amount of transportation funds  
29 requested; the average hourly rate of wages for jobs created;  
30 the reliance on the program as an inducement for the project's  
31 location decision; the amount of capital investment to be made

1 by the business; the demonstrated local commitment; the  
2 location of the project in an enterprise zone designated  
3 pursuant to s. 290.0055; the location of the project in a  
4 community development corporation service area as defined in  
5 s. 290.035(2); the unemployment rate of the surrounding area;  
6 the poverty rate of the community; and the adoption of an  
7 economic element as part of its local comprehensive plan in  
8 accordance with s. 163.3177(7)(j). The Office of Tourism,  
9 Trade, and Economic Development may contact any agency it  
10 deems appropriate for additional input regarding the approval  
11 of projects.

12 (b) For each fiscal year, the Office of Tourism, Trade,  
13 and Economic Development shall set aside 10 percent of the  
14 amount appropriated by the Legislature to fund economic  
15 development transportation projects as authorized by this  
16 section for transportation projects for businesses located in  
17 areas of critical need as defined in s. 288.049.

18 (9) Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 216.301,  
19 funds appropriated for this purpose shall not be subject to  
20 reversion. Funds set aside under subsection (4) are not  
21 subject to reversion and may be expended only for the purposes  
22 for which they were set aside.

23 Section 4. Paragraph (e) of subsection (4) of section  
24 288.106, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

25 288.106 Tax refund program for qualified target  
26 industry businesses.--

27 (4) APPLICATION AND APPROVAL PROCESS.--

28 (e)1. Within 30 days after receipt of the office's  
29 findings and evaluation, the director shall enter a final  
30 order that either approves or disapproves the application of  
31 the target industry business. The decision must be in writing

1 and must provide the justifications for approval or  
2 disapproval.  
3           2. If appropriate, the director shall enter into a  
4 written agreement with the qualified target industry business  
5 pursuant to subsection (5).  
6           3. Ten percent of the total amount of funds  
7 appropriated by the Legislature for qualified target industry  
8 business refund must be set aside for businesses located in  
9 areas of critical need as defined in s. 288.049. Funds set  
10 aside under this subparagraph are not subject to reversion and  
11 may be expended only for the purposes for which they were set  
12 aside.  
13           Section 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
14 law.

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17 SENATE SUMMARY

18 Directs Enterprise Florida, Inc., to set aside a portion  
19 of appropriated funds for specified economic development  
20 projects and exempts those funds from reversion at the  
21 end of the fiscal year. Provides criteria for the  
22 determination of areas of critical need for purposes of  
23 economic development.  
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**CODING:** Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.