	CHAMBER ACTION <u>Senate</u> <u>House</u>
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5	ORIGINAL STAMP BELOW
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11	Representative(s) Rojas offered the following:
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13	Amendment to Amendment (243299)
14	On page 1, between lines 17 & 18,
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16	insert:
17	Section 1. Section 288.9958, Florida Statutes, is
18	created to read:
19	288.9958 PRIDE Job Placement Incentive Program
20	(1) The Legislature recognizes that the location of
21	some correctional facilities has been determined by the desire
22	to provide employment opportunities for residents of
23	communities that have not experienced the economic growth of
24	other portions of the state. The Legislature further
25	recognizes that the corporation authorized by chapter 946 to
26	manage correctional work programs can provide expertise and
27	assistance in the areas of on-the-job training and employment
28	assistance. Partnerships between the state and the corporation
29	authorized by chapter 946 to manage correctional work programs
30	may result in increased employment opportunities for local
31	citizens. To assist the corporation authorized by chapter 946
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in economic development initiatives that specifically enhance the employment opportunities for WAGES participants, the PRIDE Job Placement Incentive Program is created. The Legislature hereby permits the corporation authorized by chapter 946 to participate in the PRIDE Job Training Placement Incentive Program.

- (2) The PRIDE Job Placement Incentive Program is created to encourage the use of the corporation's expertise and resources, including correctional facilities, in job training and employment assistance in the economic development of the state. The program shall be administered by the Workforce Development Board of Enterprise Florida, Inc. The Workforce Development Board shall adopt guidelines for the administration of this program. Awarding of grants is dependent upon legislative appropriation.
- (a) The Workforce Development Board may authorize a grant of \$1,000 to the corporation authorized by chapter 946, or a business working in association with such corporation, for full-time employment of a WAGES participant in those workforce development regions and two sites identified by the Workforce Development Board pursuant to subsection (3). The incentive payment shall be paid incrementally, with a payment of \$250 upon initial employment, \$250 at an employment duration of 1 year. Such grants are provided to off-set the costs of business location and training the local workforce.
- (b) The Workforce Development Board may authorize a grant of \$2,400 to the corporation authorized by chapter 946, or a business working in association with such corporation for full-time employment of a WAGES participant and when the corporation provides on-the-job training to the WAGES

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participant.

- (c) Grants may not be issued for the employment of individuals who have participated in a prison rehabilitative industry program longer that 6 months in the 2 years prior to employment.
- (d) WAGES participants eligible for employment in the PRIDE Job Placement Incentive Program must be referred by local WAGES coalitions to the corporation authorized by chapter 946.
- (3) The Workforce Development Board shall identify five workforce development regions in the state which have the least employment opportunities per WAGES participant and, if approved by the Workforce Development Board, two sites where the corporation authorized by chapter 946 has facilities or resources. The five workforce development regions and two sites, if applicable, designated by the Workforce Development Board as having the fewest employment opportunities per WAGES participant are those in which the corporation authorized by chapter 946 or businesses working in association with such corporation may be eligible for job placement incentives.
- (4) Businesses that have accepted a job placement incentive pursuant to this section may also be eligible to apply for any tax credits, wage supplementation, wage subsidy, or employer payment for that employee which are authorized in law or by agreement with the employer.
- (5) If approved by the Department of Corrections,
 WAGES participants may be employed by the corporation
 authorized by chapter 946 in those facilities not operated
 within the secured perimeters of the prison grounds that are
 managed by such corporation, and in other areas, as approved
 by the Department of Corrections. A safety plan for all WAGES

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participants in this program must be completed by the corporation in cooperation with the Department of Corrections. (6) In carrying out the provisions of this section, the corporation shall be entitled to all the privileges and immunities as set forth in part II of chapter 946.