Florida House of Representatives - 1998

HB 3931

By the Committee on Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations and Representative Merchant

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to economic development grants;
3	amending s. 14.2015, F.S.; establishing an
4	economic development grant program under the
5	Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic
б	Development; providing criteria, requirements,
7	and restrictions with respect thereto; amending
8	ss. 288.108 and 288.90152, F.S.; correcting
9	cross references; providing an effective date.
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11	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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13	Section 1. Subsection (9) is added to section 14.2015,
14	Florida Statutes, to read:
15	14.2015 Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic
16	Development; creation; powers and duties
17	(9)(a) Subject to the cooperative recommendations of
18	Enterprise Florida, Inc., and the Florida Commission on
19	Tourism and to the approval of the Governor, the Office of
20	Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development is authorized to
21	expend appropriated state and federal funds for general
22	economic development grants. The office shall establish
23	criteria for the award of grants, including criteria relating
24	to highest economic return for the state as a whole, or a
25	particular region, county, city, or community, ability to
26	properly administer grant funds, and such other matters deemed
27	necessary and appropriate to further the purposes of this
28	subsection. The office shall expend all funds in accordance
29	with state law and shall use such appropriations to supplement
30	the financial support of:
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**CODING:**Words stricken are deletions; words <u>underlined</u> are additions.

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1 1. Programs that have a substantial economic 2 significance, giving emphasis to programs that benefit the 3 state as a whole. 4 2. Programs with a high potential for match funding 5 from nonstate sources. 6 3. Economic development programs for which no other 7 state grants are available. 4. Rural areas and distressed urban areas. 8 9 (b) Grants shall be made by contract with any 10 nonprofit corporation or local or state governmental entity. Of the total amount of funds available from all sources for 11 grants, 70 percent of such funds shall be awarded on a 12 13 50-percent matching basis. Up to 30 percent of such funds available may be awarded on a nonmatching basis. 14 15 (c) In administering grants, contracts, and funds appropriated for economic development programs, the office may 16 release moneys in advance on a quarterly basis. By the end of 17 the contract period, the grantee or contractee shall furnish 18 19 to the office a complete and accurate accounting of how all 20 grant funds were expended. Postaudits to be conducted by an 21 independent certified public accountant may be required in 22 accordance with criteria adopted by the office. 23 (d) The office shall not award any new grant which will, in whole or in part, inure to the personal benefit of 24 any board member of Enterprise Florida, Inc., or the Florida 25 26 Commission on Tourism during that member's term of office, if 27 the board member participated in the vote of the board or 28 panel thereof recommending the award. However, this subsection 29 does not prohibit the office from awarding a grant to an 30 entity with which a board member is associated. 31

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1 Section 2. Paragraph (e) of subsection (6) of section 2 288.108, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 3 288.108 High-impact business.--4 SELECTION AND DESIGNATION OF HIGH-IMPACT (6) 5 SECTORS. --6 (e) The study and its findings and recommendations and 7 the recommendations gathered from the sector-business network 8 must be discussed and considered during at least one of the 9 quarterly meetings required in s. 14.2015(2)(f)(h). Section 3. Subsection (7) of section 288.90152, 10 Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 11 12 288.90152 Pilot matching grant program.--13 (7) Upon completing all training funded under this pilot program, the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic 14 15 Development shall report on the outputs and outcomes for this program as part of the annual report prepared under s. 16  $14.2015(2)(e)\frac{(g)}{(g)}$ . Such report must include a recommendation on 17 18 whether it would be sound public policy to continue or 19 discontinue funding for the program. 20 Section 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a 21 law. 22 23 24 HOUSE SUMMARY 25 Establishes an economic development grant program under the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development and provides criteria, requirements, and restrictions with respect thereto. See bill for details. 2.6 27 28 29 30 31 3

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