

By Senator Scott

31-1101-99

See HB 1075

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to filings with the Department
3 of State; amending s. 606.03, F.S.; providing
4 definitions; amending s. 606.04, F.S.;
5 specifying purposes and use of a master
6 business index; providing requirements for
7 participating agencies; authorizing the
8 department to create a directory of business
9 activity for certain purposes; creating s.
10 606.06, F.S.; authorizing the department to use
11 a uniform business report for certain purposes;
12 amending ss. 495.071, 607.0121, 607.1622,
13 608.4511, 617.0121, 617.1622, 865.09, F.S.;
14 authorizing the department to prescribe forms;
15 providing for use of the uniform business
16 report as a substitute for certain reporting
17 and renewal requirements; amending s. 620.177,
18 F.S.; providing additional requirements for
19 annual reports; authorizing use of the uniform
20 business report; amending ss. 15.16, 607.0120,
21 607.0123, 607.0124, 607.0125, 607.0127,
22 607.0141, F.S.; providing for electronic filing
23 of documents; revising certain filing
24 requirements; amending s. 607.01401, F.S.;
25 providing definitions relating to electronic
26 filing; amending s. 339.12, F.S.; conforming a
27 cross-reference; repealing s. 15.09(1)(d);
28 repealing s. 15.091(2), F.S., relating to
29 filing or copying fees; repealing s.
30 607.1622(1)(g), (h), F.S., relating to
31 information in required corporate annual

1 reports describing intangible tax liability and
2 contributions into the Election Campaign
3 Financing Trust Fund; providing an effective
4 date.

5
6 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

7
8 Section 1. Present subsections (4) and (5) of section
9 606.03, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (5)
10 and (6), respectively, and new subsections (4) and (7) are
11 added to that section, to read:

12 606.03 Definitions.--As used in this act:

13 (4) "Participating agency" means an agency of
14 government which elects to participate in the exchange of
15 information through the master business index.

16 (7) "Uniform business report" means an information
17 gathering document distributed by the department to collect or
18 update current data for the master business index.

19 Section 2. Section 606.04, Florida Statutes, is
20 amended to read:

21 606.04 Master ~~Single~~ business index ~~identifier~~.--

22 (1)(a) The department shall create a master business
23 index, using as an initial base the commercial regulation and
24 registration program databases the department currently
25 maintains. Each business entity shall be assigned a unique
26 single business identifier for interagency use. The master
27 business index shall serve as the state's central index of
28 business entities and shall reflect a listing of all licenses
29 and registrations held by a business with any participating
30 agency.

31

1 (b) Each participating agency, notwithstanding any
2 other requirement of law, shall:

3 1. Provide updated information regarding the status of
4 a business entity which the agency regulates or licenses and
5 on which the agency maintains records.

6 2. Have the discretion to use the index as an
7 alternative means of acquiring information about a business
8 entity and, as necessary, use the information in the index to
9 comply with the various requirements for registration, license
10 issuance, renewal, or otherwise in the fulfillment of the
11 agency's statutory responsibilities.

12 3. Have the discretion to use the index in any
13 instance as an authorized source for the creation or amendment
14 of any official records.

15 (c) The department is authorized to create, in
16 conjunction with the master business index, a directory of
17 business activity which will facilitate the exchange of
18 information on Florida's business opportunities and further
19 the international and domestic economic development efforts of
20 this state.

21 (2) The department is authorized to take the actions
22 it deems necessary to integrate all nonbusiness entity or
23 commercial registrations it maintains into the master business
24 index such that all registrations maintained for a business
25 entity are reflected in the index in a consolidated manner.

26 (3) The department is authorized to enter into any
27 formal agreement with federal, state, or local agencies to
28 facilitate the registration of a business entity with that
29 agency ~~take the actions it deems practical to consolidate its~~
30 ~~various renewal or annual mailings, to include the altering of~~
31 ~~specified mailing dates and filing deadlines.~~

1 Section 3. Section 606.06, Florida Statutes, is
2 created to read:

3 606.06 Uniform business report.--The department may
4 use the uniform business report:

5 (1) To create index records and for referral to other
6 federal, state, or local agencies as requested by a
7 registrant.

8 (2) As a substitute for any annual report or renewal
9 filing required by chapters 495, 607, 608, 609, 617, 620, 621,
10 and 865.

11 (3) As the means for any registrant to apply for the
12 issuance of a Federal Employer Identification Number, pursuant
13 to any formal agreement with the Internal Revenue Service of
14 the United States.

15 (4) To comply with any formal agreement for
16 information exchange or reciprocal issuance of a license
17 permit or registration.

18 (5) To facilitate the creation and maintenance of a
19 database and a directory of businesses and any information
20 regarding the activities of such businesses which will further
21 the international and domestic economic development efforts of
22 this state.

23 Section 4. Subsections (3), (4), and (5) of section
24 495.071, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

25 495.071 Duration and renewal.--

26 (3) The Department of State shall notify registrants
27 of marks hereunder of the necessity of renewal within the year
28 next preceding the expiration of the 10 years from the date of
29 registration by writing to the last known address of the
30 registrants. The department shall prescribe the forms on which
31 to make the required notification and the renewal called for

1 in subsection (1) and may substitute the uniform business
2 report, pursuant to s. 606.06, as a means of satisfying the
3 requirement of this part.

4 ~~(4) Any registration in force on the date on which~~
5 ~~this chapter shall become effective shall be effective for a~~
6 ~~term of 10 years from the date of the registration or of the~~
7 ~~last renewal thereof or 1 year after the effective date of~~
8 ~~this chapter, whichever is later, and may be renewed by filing~~
9 ~~an application with the Department of State on a form~~
10 ~~furnished by it and paying the aforementioned renewal fee~~
11 ~~therefor within 6 months prior to the expiration of the~~
12 ~~registration.~~

13 (4)(5) All applications for renewals under this
14 chapter shall include a statement that the mark is still in
15 use in this state, or that its nonuse is due to special
16 circumstances which excuse such nonuse and is not due to any
17 intention to abandon the mark.

18 Section 5. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section
19 607.0121, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

20 607.0121 Forms.--

21 (1) The Department of State may prescribe and furnish
22 on request forms for:

23 (d) The annual report, for which the department may
24 prescribe the use of the uniform business report, pursuant to
25 s. 606.06.

26
27 If the Department of State so requires, the use of these forms
28 shall be mandatory.

29 Section 6. Subsection (9) is added to section
30 607.1622, Florida Statutes, to read:

31 607.1622 Annual report for Department of State.--

1 (9) The department shall prescribe the forms on which
2 to make the annual report called for in this section and may
3 substitute the uniform business report, pursuant to s. 606.06,
4 as a means of satisfying the requirement of this part.

5 Section 7. Paragraph (8) is added to section 608.4511,
6 Florida Statutes, to read:

7 608.4511 Annual report for Department of State.--

8 (8) The department shall prescribe the forms on which
9 to make the annual report called for in this section and may
10 substitute the uniform business report, pursuant to s. 606.06,
11 as a means of satisfying the requirement of this part.

12 Section 8. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section
13 617.0121, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

14 617.0121 Forms.--

15 (1) The Department of State may prescribe and furnish
16 on request forms for:

17 (d) The annual report, for which the department may
18 prescribe the use of the uniform business report, pursuant to
19 s. 606.06.

20
21 If the Department of State so requires, the use of these forms
22 shall be mandatory.

23 Section 9. Subsection (9) is added to section
24 617.1622, Florida Statutes, to read:

25 617.1622 Annual report for Department of State.--

26 (9) The department shall prescribe the forms on which
27 to make the annual report called for in this section and may
28 substitute the uniform business report, pursuant to s. 606.06,
29 as a means of satisfying the requirement of this part.

30 Section 10. Section 620.177, Florida Statutes, is
31 amended to read:

1 620.177 Annual report of domestic or foreign limited
2 partnership; renewal of authority.--

3 (1) To renew the certificate of authority for a
4 limited partnership, ~~which certificate expires on January 1 of~~
5 ~~each year~~, each domestic or foreign limited partnership
6 authorized to transact business in this state shall file with
7 the Department of State, between January 1 and May 1 ~~on or~~
8 ~~before December 31~~ of each year, a sworn report on such forms
9 as the department prescribes, which report must set forth:

10 (a) If a domestic limited partnership, the name of the
11 limited partnership or, if a foreign limited partnership, the
12 name under which it is registered to transact business in this
13 state.

14 (b) The name of the state of formation.

15 (c) The date of formation in this state or the date of
16 original registration in this state.

17 (d) If a domestic limited partnership, the address of
18 the office, and the name and address of the agent for service
19 of process, required to be maintained by s. 620.105; or, if a
20 foreign limited partnership, the address of the office
21 required to be maintained by s. 620.169 and the name and
22 address of any agent for service of process appointed pursuant
23 to s. 620.169.

24 (e) The name and the business address of each general
25 partner. Each general partner that is a legal or commercial
26 entity and not an individual must be organized or otherwise
27 registered with the Department of State as required by law,
28 must maintain an active status, and must not be dissolved,
29 revoked, or withdrawn.

30 (f) A mailing address for the partnership.

31

1 (g) If a domestic limited partnership, the amount of
2 the capital contributions of its limited partners or, if a
3 foreign limited partnership, the amount of the capital
4 contributions of its limited partners that is allocated for
5 the purpose of transacting business in this state.

6 (h) The federal employer identification number of the
7 limited partnership, if any, or if none, whether one has been
8 applied for.

9 (i)~~(h)~~ Any additional information that is necessary or
10 appropriate to enable the department to carry out the
11 provisions of this act.

12 (2) Each report must be executed by a general partner
13 of the partnership or, if the partnership is in the hands of a
14 receiver or trustee, must be executed on behalf of the
15 partnership by the receiver or trustee, and the execution of
16 such report shall have the same legal effect as if made under
17 oath, without the necessity of appending the oath to the
18 report.

19 (3) Proof to the satisfaction of the department that
20 the annual report was deposited, on or before May ~~January~~ 1 of
21 the report year, in the United States mail in a sealed
22 envelope, properly addressed with postage prepaid, is
23 considered proof of compliance with the time requirement.

24 (4) The department shall examine each annual report
25 when received; and, if it finds that the report conforms to
26 the requirements of this section, it shall file the report as
27 information and keep such report as a public record. If the
28 department finds that the report does not so conform, the
29 department shall promptly return the report to the partnership
30 for correction, in which event, if such report is corrected to
31 conform with the requirements of this section and returned to

1 the department within 30 days from the date on which the
2 report was mailed to the partnership by the department, the
3 penalties provided in s. 620.178 will not apply.

4 (5) The first annual report must be delivered to the
5 Department of State between January 1 and May 1 of the year
6 following the calendar year in which a domestic partnership
7 was formed or a foreign partnership was authorized to conduct
8 affairs. Subsequent annual reports must be delivered to the
9 Department of State between January 1 and May 1 of the
10 subsequent calendar years.

11 (6) Information in the annual report must be current
12 as of the date the annual report is executed on behalf of the
13 partnership.

14 (7) If an additional report is received, the
15 department shall file the document and make the information
16 contained in the report part of the official record.

17 (8) Any partnership that fails to file an annual
18 report which complies with the requirements of this section
19 may not maintain or defend any action in any court of this
20 state until such report is filed and all fees and taxes due
21 under this act are paid and is subject to revocation of its
22 certificate of authority to conduct its affairs as provided in
23 this act.

24 (9)(5) The department shall prescribe the forms on
25 which to make the annual reports called for in this section
26 and may substitute the uniform business report, pursuant to s.
27 606.06, as a means of satisfying the requirement of this part
28 shall furnish blank forms on request.

29 Section 11. Subsections (6) and (11) of section
30 865.09, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, are amended to
31 read:

1 865.09 Fictitious name registration.--

2 (6) RENEWAL.--

3 (a) Renewal of a fictitious name registration shall
4 occur on or after January ~~July~~ 1 and on or before December 31
5 of the expiration year. Upon timely filing of a renewal
6 statement, the effectiveness of the name registration is
7 continued for 5 years as provided in subsection (5).

8 (b) In the last year of the registration, the division
9 shall mail to the last reported mailing address or to the
10 address of any registered owner of a name of each name
11 ~~registration on its records, at least 3 months prior to its~~
12 ~~expiration date,~~ a statement of renewal.

13 (c) If the owner of the name registration fails to
14 file a renewal and pay the appropriate processing fees prior
15 to December 31 of the year of expiration, the name
16 registration expires. The division shall remove any expired
17 or canceled name registration from its records and may purge
18 such registrations. Failure to receive the statement of
19 renewal required by paragraph (b) shall not constitute grounds
20 for appeal of a registration's expiration or removal from the
21 division's records.

22 (11) FORMS.--Registration, cancellation, and renewal
23 shall be made on forms prescribed by the Department of State,
24 which may include the uniform business report, pursuant to s.
25 606.06, as a means of satisfying the requirement of this part.

26 Section 12. Section 15.16, Florida Statutes, is
27 amended to read:

28 15.16 Reproduction of records; admissibility in
29 evidence; electronic receipt and transmission of records;
30 certification; acknowledgment.--

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1 (1) The Department of State may cause to be made
2 copies of any records maintained by it by miniature
3 photographic microfilming or microphotographic processes or
4 any other photographic, mechanical, or other process
5 heretofore or hereafter devised, including electronic data
6 processing.

7 (2) Photographs, nonerasable optical images, or
8 microphotographs in the form of film, facsimiles, or prints of
9 any records made in compliance with the provisions of this
10 section shall have the same force and effect as the originals
11 thereof and shall be treated as originals for the purpose of
12 their admissibility in evidence. Duly certified or
13 authenticated reproductions of such photographs, nonerasable
14 optical images, or microphotographs shall be admitted in
15 evidence equally with the original photographs, nonerasable
16 optical images, or microphotographs.

17 (3) The Department of State may cause to be received
18 electronically any records that are required to be filed with
19 it pursuant to chapter 55, chapter 606, chapter 607, chapter
20 608, chapter 617, chapter 620, chapter 621, chapter 679,
21 chapter 713, or chapter 865, through facsimile or other
22 electronic transfers, for the purpose of filing such records.
23 The originals of all such electronically transmitted records
24 must be executed in the manner provided in paragraph (5)(b) by
25 ~~law and must contain in the lower left hand corner of the~~
26 ~~first page the name, address, and telephone number of the~~
27 ~~preparer of the original and, if prepared by an attorney~~
28 ~~licensed in this state, the preparer's Florida Bar membership~~
29 ~~number.~~ The receipt of such electronic transfer constitutes
30 delivery to the department as required by law.

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1 (4) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the
2 department may certify or acknowledge and electronically
3 transmit any record maintained by it. The certification must
4 be evidenced by a certification code on each page transmitted
5 which must include the ~~charter or~~ filing number of the
6 document, date of transmission, and page number of the total
7 number of pages transmitted, and a sequential certification
8 number assigned by the department which will identify the
9 transmission and be available for verification of any
10 transmitted acknowledgment or certified document.

11 (5) Notwithstanding any other provision of ~~if not~~
12 ~~otherwise provided by~~ law, the Department of State shall
13 determine, ~~by rule, the appropriate format for, number of~~
14 ~~copies of, manner of execution of, method of electronic~~
15 ~~transmission of, and amount of and method of payment of fees~~
16 for purposes of electronic filing of any document placed under
17 its jurisdiction for filing or recordation:-

18 (a) The appropriate format, which must be retrievable
19 or reproducible in typewritten or printed form and must be
20 legible.

21 (b) The manner of execution, which may include any
22 symbol, manual, facsimile, conformed, or electronic signature
23 adopted by a person with the present intent to authenticate a
24 document.

25 (c) The method of electronic transmission, and fee
26 payment for such document.

27 (d) The amount of any fee surcharge or discount for
28 the use of an electronic filing format.

29 (6) The Department of State may use government or
30 private sector contractors in the promotion or provision of
31 any electronic filing services.

1 Section 13. Subsections (4), (7), and (9) of section
2 607.0120, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection (10)
3 is added to that section, to read:

4 607.0120 Filing requirements.--

5 (4) The document must be typewritten or printed, or,
6 if electronically transmitted, the document must be in a
7 format that can be retrieved or reproduced in typewritten or
8 printed form,and must be legible.

9 (7) The person executing the document shall sign it
10 and state beneath or opposite his or her signature his or her
11 name and the capacity in which he or she signs. The document
12 may, but need not, contain+

13 ~~(a)~~ the corporate seal,

14 ~~(b)~~ an attestation ~~by the secretary or an assistant~~
15 ~~secretary,~~

16 ~~(c)~~ an acknowledgment, or a verification,~~or proof.~~

17 (9) The document must be delivered to the office of
18 the Department of State for filing. Delivery may be made by
19 electronic transmission if and to the extent permitted by the
20 Department of State. If it is filed in typewritten or printed
21 form and not transmitted electronically, the Department of
22 State may require,~~may be accompanied by~~ one exact or
23 conformed copy, to be delivered with the document,(except as
24 provided in s. 607.1509),~~and must be accompanied by the~~
25 ~~correct filing fee and any other tax or penalty required by~~
26 ~~this act or other law.~~

27 (10) When the document is delivered to the Department
28 of State for filing, the correct filing fee, and any other
29 tax, license fee, or penalty required to be paid by this act
30 or other law shall be paid or provision for payment made in a
31 manner permitted by the Department of State.

1 Section 14. Subsections (1) and (2) of section
2 607.0123, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

3 607.0123 Effective time and date of document.--

4 (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) and in s.
5 607.0124(3), a document accepted for filing is effective:

6 (a) At the date ~~time~~ of filing ~~on the date it is~~
7 ~~filed~~, as evidenced by such means as the Department of State
8 may use for the purpose of recording the date of filing
9 ~~State's date and time endorsement on the original document; or~~

10 (b) At the date ~~time~~ specified in the document as its
11 effective ~~time on the date it is~~ filed.

12 (2) A document may specify a delayed effective ~~time~~
13 ~~and~~ date, and if it does the document shall become effective
14 on at ~~the time and~~ date specified. If a delayed effective
15 date, ~~but no time,~~ is specified, the document shall become
16 effective at the start ~~close~~ of business on that date. Unless
17 otherwise permitted by this act, a delayed effective date for
18 a document may not be later than the 90th day after the date
19 on which it is filed.

20 Section 15. Section 607.0124, Florida Statutes, is
21 amended to read:

22 607.0124 Correcting filed document.--

23 (1) A domestic or foreign corporation may correct a
24 document filed by the Department of State within 10 business
25 days of filing if the document:

26 (a) Contains an inaccuracy ~~incorrect statement; or~~

27 (b) Was defectively executed, attested, sealed,
28 verified, or acknowledged; or

29 (c) The electronic transmission was defective.

30 (2) A document is corrected:

31 (a) By preparing articles of correction that:

1 1. Describe the document (including its filing date)
2 or attach a copy of it to the articles;

3 2. Specify the inaccuracy or defect to be corrected
4 ~~incorrect statement and the reason it is incorrect or the~~
5 ~~manner in which the execution was defective; and~~

6 3. Correct the inaccuracy or defect ~~incorrect~~
7 ~~statement or defective execution; and~~

8 (b) By delivering the executed articles of correction
9 to the Department of State for filing.

10 (3) Articles of correction are effective on the
11 effective date of the document they correct except as to
12 persons relying on the uncorrected document and adversely
13 affected by the correction. As to those persons, articles of
14 correction are effective when filed.

15 Section 16. Subsection (2) of section 607.0125,
16 Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

17 607.0125 Filing duties of Department of State.--

18 (2) The Department of State files a document by
19 recording it as filed on ~~stamping or otherwise endorsing~~
20 ~~"filed," together with the Secretary of State's official title~~
21 ~~and the date and time of receipt. After filing a document,~~
22 the Department of State shall deliver an acknowledgment or
23 certified copy to the domestic or foreign corporation or its
24 representative.

25 Section 17. Section 607.0127, Florida Statutes, is
26 amended to read:

27 607.0127 Evidentiary effect of copy of filed
28 document.--A certificate from the Department of State
29 delivered with attached to a copy of a document filed by the
30 Department of State, ~~bearing the signature of the Secretary of~~
31 ~~State (which may be in facsimile) and the seal of this state,~~

1 is conclusive evidence that the original document is on file
2 with the department.

3 Section 18. Subsection (7) of section 607.01401,
4 Florida Statutes, is amended, present subsections (9)-(24) are
5 renumbered as subsections (10)-(25), respectively, present
6 subsections (25)-(29) are renumbered as subsections (27)-(31),
7 respectively, and new subsections (9) and (26) are added to
8 that section, to read:

9 607.01401 Definitions.--As used in this act, unless
10 the context otherwise requires, the term:

11 (7) "Deliver" or "delivery" means any method of
12 delivery used in conventional commercial practice, including
13 delivery by hand, includes mail, commercial delivery, and
14 electronic transmission.

15 (9) "Electronic transmission" or "electronically
16 transmitted" means any process of communication not directly
17 involving the physical transfer of paper that is suitable for
18 the retention, retrieval, and reproduction of information by
19 the recipient.

20 (26) "Sign" or "signature" means any symbol, manual,
21 facsimile, conformed, or electronic signature adopted by a
22 person with the intent to authenticate a document.

23 Section 19. Section 607.0141, Florida Statutes, is
24 amended to read:

25 607.0141 Notice.--

26 (1) Notice under this act must be in writing, unless
27 oral notice is:

28 (a) Expressly authorized by the articles of
29 incorporation or the bylaws, and

30 (b) Reasonable under the circumstances.

31

1 Notice by electronic transmission is written notice.

2 (2) Notice may be communicated in person; by
3 telephone, voice mail (where oral notice is permitted), or
4 other electronic means ~~telegraph, teletype, or other form of~~
5 ~~electronic communication~~; or by mail or other method of
6 delivery.

7 (3) Written notice by a domestic or foreign
8 corporation authorized to transact business in this state to
9 its shareholder, if in a comprehensible form, is effective:
10 ~~when mailed~~

11 (a) Upon deposit into the United States mail, if
12 mailed postpaid and correctly addressed to the shareholder's
13 address shown in the corporation's current record of
14 shareholders; or

15 (b) When electronically transmitted to the shareholder
16 in a manner authorized by the shareholder.

17 (4) Written notice to a domestic or foreign
18 corporation authorized to transact business in this state may
19 be addressed:

20 (a) To its registered agent at its registered office;
21 or

22 (b) To the corporation or its secretary at its
23 principal office or electronic mail address as authorized and
24 shown in its most recent annual report or, in the case of a
25 corporation that has not yet delivered an annual report, in a
26 domestic corporation's articles of incorporation or in a
27 foreign corporation's application for certificate of
28 authority.

29 (5) Except as provided in subsection (3) or elsewhere
30 in this act, written notice, if in a comprehensible form, is
31 effective at the earliest date of the following:

1 (a) When received;

2 (b) Five days after its deposit in the United States
3 mail, ~~as evidenced by the postmark~~, if mailed postpaid and
4 correctly addressed; or

5 (c) On the date shown on the return receipt, if sent
6 by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, and
7 the receipt is signed by or on behalf of the addressee.

8 (6) Oral notice is effective when communicated if
9 communicated directly to the person to be notified in a
10 comprehensible manner.

11 (7) If this act prescribes notice requirements for
12 particular circumstances, those requirements govern. If
13 articles of incorporation or bylaws prescribe notice
14 requirements not less stringent than the requirements of this
15 section or other provisions of this act, those requirements
16 govern.

17 Section 20. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section
18 339.12, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

19 339.12 Aid and contributions by governmental entities
20 for department projects; federal aid.--

21 (4)(a) Prior to accepting the contribution of road
22 bond proceeds, time warrants, or cash for which reimbursement
23 is sought, the department shall enter into agreements with the
24 governing body of the governmental entity for the project or
25 project phases in accordance with specifications agreed upon
26 between the department and the governing body of the
27 governmental entity. The department in no instance is to
28 receive from such governmental entity an amount in excess of
29 the actual cost of the project or project phase. By specific
30 provision in the written agreement between the department and
31 the governing body of the governmental entity, the department

1 may agree to reimburse the governmental entity for the actual
2 amount of the bond proceeds, time warrants, or cash used on a
3 highway project or project phases that are not revenue
4 producing and are contained in the department's adopted work
5 program, or any public transportation project contained in the
6 adopted work program. Subject to appropriation of funds by the
7 Legislature, the department may commit state funds for
8 reimbursement of such projects or project phases.
9 Reimbursement to the governmental entity for such a project or
10 project phase must be made from funds appropriated by the
11 Legislature, and reimbursement for the cost of the project or
12 project phase is to begin in the year the project or project
13 phase is scheduled in the work program as of the date of the
14 agreement. Funds advanced pursuant to this section, which were
15 originally designated for transportation purposes and so
16 reimbursed to a county or municipality, shall be used by the
17 county or municipality for any transportation expenditure
18 authorized under s. 336.025(7). Also, cities and counties may
19 receive funds from persons, and reimburse those persons, for
20 the purposes of this section. Such persons may include, but
21 are not limited to, those persons defined in s.
22 607.01401(19)~~(18)~~.

23 Section 21. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section
24 15.09, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, subsection (2) of
25 section 15.091, Florida Statutes, and paragraphs (g) and (h)
26 of subsection (1) of section 607.1622, Florida Statutes, are
27 repealed.

28 Section 22. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
29 law.

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

Specifies purposes and use of a master business index and provides requirements for participating agencies. Authorizes the Department of State create a directory of business activity, to use a uniform business report, prescribe forms, and use the uniform business report as a substitute for reporting and renewal requirements. Provides for electronic filing of documents. (See bill for details.)