

By Senator Jones

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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to Enterprise Florida, Inc.;
amending s. 288.9510, F.S.; providing
legislative intent; amending s. 288.9515, F.S.;
adding to the powers of the technology
development board within Enterprise Florida,
Inc.; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 288.9510, Florida Statutes is
amended to read:

288.9510 Legislative intent.--It is the intent of the
Legislature to establish a public-private partnership to be
known as Enterprise Florida Innovation Partnership to provide
leadership and market-driven, performance-based economic
development tools to create the diverse cross section of
innovation-driven firms that is essential to a competitive
economy in this state, characterized by better employment
opportunities leading to higher wages. The Legislature intends
that Enterprise Florida Innovation Partnership participate in
the development of minority businesses.The Legislature
recognizes that the policies, institutions, and programs that
govern the relationships between university researchers and
private industry affect the rate of commercialization in this
state.

Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 288.9515, Florida
Statutes, is amended to read:

288.9515 Authorized programs of technology development
board.--

1 (1) The board may create a technology applications
2 service, to be called the Florida Innovation Alliance. The
3 Florida Innovation Alliance shall serve as an umbrella
4 organization for technology applications service providers
5 throughout the state which provide critical, managerial,
6 technological, scientific, and related financial and business
7 expertise essential for international and domestic
8 competitiveness to small-sized and medium-sized manufacturing
9 and knowledge-based service firms. The board has ~~is authorized~~
10 the following powers in order to carry out the functions of
11 the Florida Innovation Alliance:

12 (a) Providing communication and coordination services
13 among technology applications service providers throughout the
14 state.

15 (b) Providing coordinated marketing services to
16 small-sized and medium-sized manufacturers in the state on
17 behalf of, and in partnership with, technology applications
18 service providers.

19 (c) Securing additional sources of funds on behalf of,
20 and in partnership with, technology applications service
21 providers.

22 (d) Developing plans and policies to assist
23 small-sized and medium-sized manufacturing companies or other
24 knowledge-based firms in Florida.

25 (e) Entering into contracts with technology
26 applications service providers for expanded availability of
27 high-quality assistance to small-sized and medium-sized
28 manufacturing companies or knowledge-based service firms,
29 including, but not limited to, technological, human resources
30 development, market planning, finance, and interfirm
31 collaboration. The board shall ensure that all contracts in

1 excess of \$20,000 for the delivery of such assistance to
2 Florida firms shall be based on competitive requests for
3 proposals. The board shall establish clear standards for the
4 delivery of services under such contracts. Such standards
5 include, but are not limited to:

6 1. The ability and capacity to deliver services in
7 sufficient quality and quantity.

8 2. The ability and capacity to deliver services in a
9 timely manner.

10 3. The ability and capacity to meet the needs of firms
11 in the proposed market area.

12 (f) Assisting other educational institutions,
13 enterprises, or the entities providing business assistance to
14 small-sized and medium-sized manufacturing enterprises.

15 (g) Establishing a system to evaluate the
16 effectiveness and efficiency of Florida Innovation Alliance
17 services provided to small-sized and medium-sized enterprises.

18 (h) Establishing special education and informational
19 programs for Florida enterprises and for educational
20 institutions and enterprises providing business assistance to
21 Florida enterprises.

22 (i) Evaluating and documenting the needs of firms in
23 this state for technology application services, and developing
24 means to ensure that these needs are met, consistent with the
25 powers provided for in this subsection.

26 (j) Maintaining an office in such place or places as
27 the board recommends and the board of directors of Enterprise
28 Florida, Inc., approves.

29 (k) Making and executing contracts with any person,
30 enterprise, educational institution, association, or any other
31 entity necessary or convenient for the performance of its

1 duties and the exercise of the board's powers and functions
2 under this subsection.

3 (l) Receiving funds from any source to carry out the
4 purposes of the Florida Innovation Alliance, including, but
5 not limited to, gifts or grants from any department, agency,
6 or instrumentality of the United States or of the state, or
7 any enterprise or person, for any purpose consistent with the
8 provisions of the Florida Innovation Alliance.

9 (m) Acquiring or selling, conveying, leasing,
10 exchanging, transferring, or otherwise disposing of the
11 alliance's property or interest therein.

12 (n) Providing programs and initiatives to foster the
13 development of minority business enterprises.

14 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 1999.

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17 SENATE SUMMARY

18 Provides legislative intent that Enterprise Florida
19 Innovation Partnership participate in the development of
20 minority businesses. Provides that the technology
21 development board within Enterprise Florida, Inc., shall
22 provide programs and initiatives to foster the
23 development of minority business enterprises.

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