

By the Committee on Fiscal Policy

301-340A-99

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to grant proposals for economic
3 development; authorizing the Office of Tourism,
4 Trade, and Economic Development to administer a
5 grant program for funding economic development;
6 authorizing counties, municipalities, and
7 certain nonprofit corporations to apply for
8 such grants; requiring that the recipient
9 provide certain matching funds; providing for
10 Enterprise Florida, Inc., to review grant
11 applications and make recommendations to the
12 Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic
13 Development; prohibiting the award of a grant
14 that personally benefits a board member of
15 Enterprise Florida, Inc.; providing that the
16 Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic
17 Development may not allocate a project grant
18 unless the project is approved by the
19 Legislature; authorizing the Office of Tourism,
20 Trade, and Economic Development to adopt rules;
21 providing an effective date.

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

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25 Section 1. Grants for economic development; funding;
26 approval; allocation.--

27 (1) The Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic
28 Development may accept and administer moneys appropriated to
29 it for providing grants to counties, municipalities, and
30 qualifying nonprofit corporations to fund economic
31 development.

1 (2) A county, municipality, or qualified corporation
2 may apply for a grant of state funds for the purpose of
3 economic development. As used in this section, the term
4 "qualified corporation" means a corporation that is designated
5 as a not-for-profit corporation pursuant to s. 501(c)(3) or
6 (4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954; is described in, and
7 allowed to receive contributions pursuant to, s. 170 of the
8 Internal Revenue Code of 1954; and is a corporation not for
9 profit incorporated under chapter 617, Florida Statutes. The
10 state grant must be matched by a contribution from the county,
11 municipality, or nonprofit corporation in the amount required
12 by rule of the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic
13 Development or as otherwise specified by law.

14 (3)(a) Enterprise Florida, Inc., shall review each
15 application for a grant to fund economic development which is
16 submitted under subsection (2). Enterprise Florida, Inc.,
17 shall annually submit to the Office of Tourism, Trade, and
18 Economic Development for approval a list of all recommended
19 applications to be included by the Executive Office of the
20 Governor in its legislative budget request for an award of
21 grants, arranged in order of priority.

22 (b) The Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic
23 Development may not award any grant that will, in whole or in
24 part, inure to the personal benefit of any board member of
25 Enterprise Florida, Inc., during that member's term of office,
26 if the board member participated in the vote of the board or
27 panel thereof recommending the award. However, this paragraph
28 does not prohibit the office from awarding a grant to an
29 entity with which a board member is associated.

30 (c) The Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic
31 Development may allocate grants only for projects for which

1 the Legislature has appropriated funds. Any project that is
2 approved and recommended by the office but which is not funded
3 by the Legislature shall be retained on the project list for
4 the subsequent grant cycle. Thereafter, the grant applicant
5 must submit the required information in compliance with the
6 established deadline date of the latest grant cycle in order
7 to adequately indicate the current status of the project.

8 (4) The Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic
9 Development shall adopt by rule criteria to be applied by
10 Enterprise Florida, Inc., in recommending applications for the
11 award of grants and shall adopt rules for administering this
12 section.

13 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
14 law.

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17 SENATE SUMMARY

18 Provides for the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic
19 Development to administer a grant program to fund
20 economic development. Provides for grants to be awarded
21 to counties, municipalities, and nonprofit corporations.
22 Requires that Enterprise Florida, Inc., review grant
23 proposals and make recommendations to the Office of
24 Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development for awarding
25 grants. Provides rulemaking authority to the Office of
26 Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development.
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