

SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based only on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

BILL: CS/SB 2264

SPONSOR: Committee on Regulated Industries and Senator Lee

SUBJECT: Internet

DATE: April 16, 1999 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Wimsett</u>	<u>Guthrie</u>	<u>RI</u>	<u>Favorable/CS</u>
2.	<u>Hendon</u>	<u>Hadi</u>	<u>FP</u>	<u>Favorable</u>
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____

I. Summary:

The bill establishes an Information Service Technology Task Force (“task force”) in the Department of Management Services for two years for the purpose of developing policy recommendations that will foster the development and beneficial use of advanced communications networks and information technologies in Florida. The 34-member task force will be comprised of key industry and government leaders.

The task force will:

- develop principles to guide state policy decision with respect to the development and beneficial use of advanced communications networks and information technologies;
- identify key factors that will determine whether Internet-related technologies will flourish in Florida; and
- develop policy recommendations for each key factor identified by the task force.

\$375,100 from General Revenue is appropriated to the State Technology Office within the Department of Management Services and four positions for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of the act.

The act is to take effect on July 1, 1999.

II. Present Situation:

According to the *Cyberstates Update*, compiled by the American Electronics Association, high tech industry is already having a profound effect on the economy in Florida. Based on 1996 data, Florida ranks sixth in high tech employment with 184,456 jobs, 6,517 businesses, a payroll of 7.8 billion, and an average wage of \$42,148 (68% higher than the average private sector wage in

Florida of \$25,045). Thirty-five of every one thousand private sector workers in Florida are employed by high tech firms. High tech exports account for 46% of Florida's total exports (\$12.7 billion of \$27.6 billion).

Despite the importance of technology, Florida, like most states, has not yet taken a comprehensive approach to promoting the free-market development and use of advanced communications networks and information technologies. However, Florida is a leader in making government information available on the web and development of web-based delivery of governmental services is ongoing in the state.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The bill establishes an Information Service Technology Development Task Force ("task force") in the Department of Management Services for two years for the purpose of developing policy recommendations that will foster the development and beneficial use of advanced communications networks and information technologies in Florida. The task force will consist of 34 members:

- the Attorney General
- the Executive Director of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement
- the Chancellor of the State University System
- the Commissioner of Education
- the Executive Director of the State Board of Community Colleges
- the Director of the office of Tourism, Trade and Economic Development
- the Executive Director of the Department of Revenue
- a representative of the Florida Council of American Electronics Association
- a representative of the Florida Internet Providers Association
- a representative of the United States Internet Council
- the Chair of the State Technology Council
- the Secretary of the Department of Management Services

Appointments by the President of the Senate will be from the following categories:

- a facilities based interexchange telecommunications company
- a wireless telecommunications company
- an alternative local exchange telecommunications company
- an Internet service provider with more than one million customers
- the entertainment industry
- a computer or telecommunications manufacturing company
- one member of the Florida Senate

Appointments by the Speaker of the House will be from the following categories:

- a cable television provider
- a computer software company
- the banking industry
- an Internet search engine company
- a local exchange telecommunications company
- the tourist industry

- one member of the Florida House of Representatives

Appointments by the Governor will be as follows:

- one college student who relies on the Internet for academic or personal use
- a representative of a local government that is an alternative local exchange telecommunications company or an Internet service provider
- four members as determined by the Governor to appropriately represent technology providers, manufacturers, retailers, and users.

The minority leader of the House of Representatives shall appoint one member of the House of Representatives.

The minority leader of the Senate shall appoint one member of the Senate.

The Governor will also name the chair of the task force.

The task force will meet at least four times per year. Failure of a member to participate in three consecutive meetings will result in his or her replacement. The task force will implement electronic bulletin boards and other electronic means for the exchange of ideas.

The task force will:

- develop principles to guide state policy decision with respect to the development and beneficial use of advanced communications networks and information technologies;
- identify key factors that will determine whether Internet-related technologies will flourish in Florida; and
- develop policy recommendations for each key factor identified by the task force.

The task force will report to the Governor, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House by February 14, 2000, and 2001 outlining principles, policy recommendations, and any suggested legislation. The task force may develop and publish other documents throughout the year.

The task force will be staffed by the State Technology Office within the Department of Management Services. The State Technology Office is to promote public awareness of the development of principles and policy recommendations by the task force. The State University System is to assist the task force as necessary.

\$375,100 is appropriated to the State Technology Office for four positions for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of the act.

The task force will dissolve effective July 1, 2001.

The act is to take effect on July 1, 1999.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

Policies that promote development of the Internet and related industries will encourage growth in the technology industry in Florida. This growth could lead to more high technology jobs for Floridians.

C. Government Sector Impact:

\$375,100 is appropriated from the General Revenue Fund to the State Technology Office within the Department of Management Services. The bill authorizes the creation of four new full-time positions within the State Technology Office.

The State Technology Office is charged with promoting public awareness of the development of principles and policy recommendations by the task force.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Amendments:

None.

This Senate staff analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's sponsor or the Florida Senate.
