

By Senator Klein

28-910-00

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to information technology;  
3           requiring a report to explore the feasibility  
4           of and need for a public Network Access Point  
5           in this state; providing report requirements;  
6           requiring a review and plan for the  
7           establishment of information technology  
8           business "incubators" in this state;  
9           prescribing incubator components; requiring  
10          development and maintenance of a website for  
11          information technology industry marketing and  
12          workforce recruitment; providing an  
13          appropriation; providing an effective date.  
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15          WHEREAS, the information technology industry is growing  
16 rapidly and provides high-wage, high-skill jobs, and  
17          WHEREAS, Florida can capitalize on its geographic  
18 location and human-resource assets to develop an information  
19 technology sector, and  
20          WHEREAS, Florida can be recognized as a global leader  
21 in the information technology industry, particularly in Latin  
22 America, and  
23          WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the Legislature and  
24 the State of Florida to encourage, promote, and invest in new  
25 information technology businesses and to ensure that those  
26 businesses have available to them technical, management, and  
27 business counseling to provide the highest probability of  
28 success, NOW, THEREFORE,  
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30 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
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1           Section 1. This act may be cited as the "ITflorida.com  
2 Act of 2000."

3           Section 2. Establishment of a public Network Access  
4 Point.--

5           (1) The State Technology Office in the Executive  
6 Office of the Governor, in coordination with the Information  
7 Service Technology Development Task Force, shall prepare a  
8 report that outlines the feasibility of and need for a public  
9 Network Access Point (NAP) in this state. If the office finds  
10 that a public NAP in this state is both feasible and needed,  
11 the report must include a detailed action plan for  
12 establishing such a NAP which plan, at a minimum:

13           (a) Identifies the telecommunications or other  
14 infrastructure necessary to support the establishment of a  
15 public NAP;

16           (b) Recommends potential locations for a public NAP;

17           (c) Specifies roles for the public sector and the  
18 private sector in the establishment of a public NAP; and

19           (d) Identifies barriers to the establishment of a  
20 public NAP and recommends methods to remove such barriers.

21           (2) The report required by subsection (1) must be  
22 presented to the Legislature by July 1, 2000, and must be a  
23 cumulative effort of public-sector and private-sector  
24 stakeholders.

25           (3) As used in this section, the term "public NAP"  
26 means a NAP that must have assistance from the state to  
27 stimulate its development, but that ultimately is maintained  
28 and managed by the private sector.

29           Section 3. Establishment of Information Technology  
30 Business Incubators.--

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1           (1) To foster the growth of the information technology  
2 industry in this state, the State Technology Office in the  
3 Executive Office of the Governor shall review the state's  
4 existing incubators to determine whether they are meeting the  
5 industry's needs. If the office finds that additional  
6 incubators are needed to fill an unmet need, the office must  
7 develop a plan to establish information technology business  
8 incubators in this state. The plan may include recommendations  
9 for consideration by the Legislature which promote the  
10 location of private information technology business incubators  
11 in the state, or it may include recommendations to establish  
12 or promote information technology business incubators  
13 associated with universities in this state. If the plan  
14 recommends the establishment of an incubator that would be  
15 associated with a state university, the plan must provide for  
16 the financial self-sufficiency of the incubator within 2  
17 years. The review, and the plan if developed, must be  
18 presented to the Legislature by July 1, 2000.

19           (2) For the purposes of this section, an information  
20 technology business incubator is a facility that allows new  
21 businesses engaged in information technology to increase their  
22 probability of success through sharing needed equipment,  
23 services, and facilities, including substantially all of the  
24 following:

- 25           (a) Reception and meeting areas.  
26           (b) Secretarial services.  
27           (c) Accounting and bookkeeping services.  
28           (d) Research libraries.  
29           (e) Onsite financial, management, legal, and technical  
30 counseling.  
31           (f) Flexible lease arrangements for flexible space.

1           (g) Computer and word-processing facilities.

2           (h) Office furniture rentals.

3           (i) Management and entrepreneurial training programs.

4           Section 4. Development of an Internet-based system for  
5 information technology industry promotion and workforce  
6 recruitment.--

7           (1) The State Technology Office in the Executive  
8 Office of the Governor shall facilitate efforts to ensure the  
9 development and maintenance of a website that promotes and  
10 markets the information technology industry in this state. The  
11 website must be designed to inform the public concerning the  
12 scope of the information technology industry in the state and  
13 must also be designed to address the workforce needs of the  
14 industry. The website must include, through links or actual  
15 content, information concerning information technology  
16 businesses in this state, including links to these businesses,  
17 employment available at these businesses, and means by which a  
18 jobseeker may post a resume on the website.

19           (2) The State Technology Office shall coordinate with  
20 the Department of Management Services, the Department of Labor  
21 and Employment Security, and the Workforce Development Board  
22 of Enterprise Florida, Inc., to ensure linkages, where  
23 feasible and appropriate, to existing job-information websites  
24 maintained by the state and its agencies and to ensure that  
25 information technology positions offered by the state and its  
26 agencies are posted on the information technology website.

27           Section 5. The sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is appropriated for  
28 fiscal year 2000-2001 from the General Revenue Fund to the  
29 State Technology Office in the Executive Office of the  
30 Governor to carry out the requirements of this act. Of this

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1 appropriation, the Governor shall reserve \$ to implement  
2 plans developed under this act.

3 Section 6. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
4 law.

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7 SENATE SUMMARY

8 Relates to information technology. Requires the State  
9 Technology Office in the Executive Office of the  
10 Governor, together with the Information Service  
11 Technology Development Task Force, to prepare a report  
12 that explores the feasibility of and need for a public  
13 Network Access Point in this state. Provides requirements  
14 for the report. Requires the State Technology Office to  
15 review and plan for the establishment of information  
16 technology business "incubators" in this state.  
17 Prescribes the components of such incubators. Requires  
18 the development and maintenance of a website for  
19 information-technology-industry marketing and workforce  
20 recruitment. Provides an appropriation.  
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