

By Representative Roberts

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to economic development;  
3           providing for the establishment of the  
4           Florida-Africa Trade Program by the Office of  
5           Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development within  
6           the Executive Office of the Governor; providing  
7           purpose of the program; providing  
8           responsibilities of the Office of Tourism,  
9           Trade, and Economic Development; providing an  
10          effective date.

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

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14           Section 1. Florida-Africa Trade Program.--

15           (1) The Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic  
16 Development within the Executive Office of the Governor shall  
17 establish the Florida-Africa Trade Program for the purpose of  
18 assisting small and medium-sized Florida businesses and  
19 manufacturers in exporting their products to African nations  
20 and assisting companies from African nations interested in  
21 exporting products to or investing in Florida. In conjunction  
22 with administering the Florida-Africa Trade Program, the  
23 Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development shall  
24 pursue incentive programs that encourage African governments  
25 to locate trade or commercial offices in Florida.

26           (2) The Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic  
27 Development shall coordinate with appropriate organizations  
28 and educational institutions, and may contract with  
29 individuals or entities considered qualified by the Office of  
30 Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development, relative to the  
31 development of a comprehensive plan to expand trade between

1 Florida and Africa. The coordination may encompass market  
2 development, market promotion and research, and educational  
3 and information services relative to the expansion of trade  
4 between Florida and the African nations.

5 (3) The Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic  
6 Development may develop and administer other programs it  
7 considers advisable and appropriate for the purpose of  
8 collecting and disseminating to prospective manufacturers and  
9 businesses information regarding export to and from and  
10 foreign investment by and in African nations.

11 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
12 law.

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14 HOUSE SUMMARY

15 Provides for the establishment of the Florida-Africa  
16 Trade Program by the Office of Tourism, Trade, and  
17 Economic Development within the Executive Office of the  
18 Governor for the purpose of assisting small and  
19 medium-sized businesses and manufacturers in exporting  
20 their products to African nations, assisting companies  
21 from African nations in exporting products to or  
22 investing in Florida, and pursuing incentive programs  
23 that encourage African governments to locate trade or  
24 commercial offices in Florida. Provides responsibilities  
25 of the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic  
26 Development.