

By Representatives Kilmer, J. Miller, Bense, Cantens, Prieguez, Farkas, C. Green, Barreiro, Sorensen, Harrington, Littlefield, Fuller, Sembler, Patterson, Stansel, Ball, Maygarden, Putnam, Bradley, Kelly, Crady, Argenio, Rubio, Byrd, Casey, Melvin, Suarez, Peaden and Spratt

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to rural economic development;
 3 amending s. 220.701, F.S.; providing for
 4 deposit of a portion of corporate income tax
 5 revenues in a Rural Economic Development Trust
 6 Fund; amending s. 288.0655, F.S.; extending
 7 deadlines for the Office of Tourism, Trade, and
 8 Economic Development to pursue execution of a
 9 memorandum of agreement with the United States
 10 Department of Agriculture, and to develop
 11 guidelines and criteria, with respect to use of
 12 the Rural Infrastructure Fund; directing
 13 specified agencies to develop a strategic plan
 14 for use of said fund and other programs to
 15 support economic development in rural
 16 communities; providing an effective date.

17
 18 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

19
 20 Section 1. Section 220.701, Florida Statutes, is
 21 amended to read:
 22 220.701 Collection authority.--The department shall
 23 deposit the revenues it collects from ~~collect~~ the taxes
 24 imposed by this chapter as follows:
 25 (1) Seven percent of the amount collected in fiscal
 26 year 2000-2001, and one percent of the amount collected in
 27 each year thereafter, shall be deposited into the Rural
 28 Economic Development Trust Fund, if that trust fund is
 29 otherwise created by law.

1 (2) The remaining balance collected each year shall be
2 deposited ~~and shall pay all moneys received by it~~ into the
3 General Revenue Fund ~~of the state.~~

4 Section 2. Paragraph (d) of subsection (2) and
5 subsection (4) of section 288.0655, Florida Statutes, are
6 amended to read:

7 288.0655 Rural Infrastructure Fund.--

8 (2)

9 (d) By September 1, 2000 ~~1999~~, the office shall pursue
10 execution of a memorandum of agreement with the United States
11 Department of Agriculture under which state funds available
12 through the Rural Infrastructure Fund may be advanced, in
13 excess of the prescribed state share, for a project that has
14 received from the department a preliminary determination of
15 eligibility for federal financial support. State funds in
16 excess of the prescribed state share which are advanced
17 pursuant to this paragraph and the memorandum of agreement
18 shall be reimbursed when funds are awarded under an
19 application for federal funding.

20 (4) By September 1, 2000 ~~1999~~, the office shall, in
21 consultation with the organizations listed in subsection (3),
22 and other organizations, develop guidelines and criteria
23 governing submission of applications for funding, review and
24 evaluation of such applications, and approval of funding under
25 this section. The office shall consider factors including, but
26 not limited to, the project's potential for enhanced job
27 creation or increased capital investment, the demonstration of
28 local public and private commitment, the location of the
29 project in an enterprise zone, the location of the project in
30 a community development corporation service area ~~as defined in~~
31 ~~s. 290.035(2)~~, the location of the project in a county

1 designated under s. 212.097, the unemployment rate of the
2 surrounding area, and the poverty rate of the community.
3 Section 3. The Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic
4 Development, Enterprise Florida, Inc., and the Florida Tourism
5 Industry Marketing Corporation, in consultation with the
6 participating agencies and organizations of the Rural Economic
7 Development Initiative, shall develop a strategic plan for the
8 use of the Rural Infrastructure Fund under s. 288.0655,
9 Florida Statutes, as well as other available programs, to
10 support economic development activities in rural communities
11 in the state. The plan shall, at a minimum, consider the
12 appropriate timing and priority for development of
13 infrastructure in support of nature-based and other rural
14 tourism, implementation of marketing initiatives directed
15 toward the use of such tourism infrastructure, creation of
16 microenterprise and other businesses in the tourism industry,
17 and development of infrastructure in support of other economic
18 development activities. This plan must be submitted to the
19 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the
20 House of Representatives by October 1, 2000.

21 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000.

22
23 *****

24 HOUSE SUMMARY

25 Provides for deposit of a portion of corporate income tax
26 revenues in a Rural Economic Development Trust Fund, if
27 that fund is created.

28 Extends deadlines for the Office of Tourism, Trade, and
29 Economic Development to pursue execution of a memorandum
30 of agreement with the United States Department of
31 Agriculture, and to develop guidelines and criteria, with
 respect to use of the Rural Infrastructure Fund. Directs
 specified agencies to develop a strategic plan for use of
 said fund and other programs to support economic
 development in rural communities.