



1 Africa, which shall include, but not be limited to, the  
2 following components:

3 (a) The establishment and maintenance of a strategic  
4 alliance between Enterprise Florida, Inc., and the United  
5 States Agency for International Development that focuses on  
6 identifying and qualifying business opportunities in  
7 sub-Saharan Africa through the United States Agency for  
8 International Development's 12 African offices, and matching  
9 those leads with Florida companies.

10 (b) A Team Florida mission, which the Governor of  
11 Florida will be invited to lead, to South Africa in the winter  
12 of fiscal year 2000-2001.

13 (c) Establishment of a Certified Trade Events Program  
14 to provide financial and technical support for business  
15 development initiatives targeting Africa, organized by  
16 qualified economic development organizations in Florida.  
17 Priority shall be given to qualified not-for-profit minority  
18 organizations.

19 (d) Support for local business development programs  
20 that provide business information on Africa and promote  
21 bilateral business opportunities.

22 (e) Provision of export counseling services for  
23 Florida businesses through Enterprise Florida's seven state  
24 field offices and staff located in Miami.

25 (f) Establishment of international representation for  
26 the state in South Africa for the purpose of dramatically  
27 expanding business, infrastructure, and cultural ties between  
28 Florida and Africa, as well as promoting Florida's trade  
29 advantages in Africa.

30 (2) Enterprise Florida, Inc., shall coordinate with  
31 appropriate organizations and educational institutions in the

1 execution of this market expansion program to maximize the  
2 resources and information services for the expansion of trade  
3 between Florida and the nations of Africa.

4 (3) Enterprise Florida, Inc., may establish an African  
5 trade or consular office in Florida for the nations of  
6 Senegal, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Benin, South Africa, and other  
7 sub-Saharan countries, contingent upon a specific  
8 appropriation.

9 Section 2. Florida-Caribbean Basin Trade Program.--

10 (1) Contingent upon a specific appropriation, the  
11 Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development  
12 Council shall establish the Florida-Caribbean Basin Trade  
13 Program for the purpose of assisting small and medium-sized  
14 businesses in becoming involved in international trade  
15 activities and helping them identify markets with product  
16 demand, identify strategic alliances in those markets, and  
17 obtain the financing to effectuate trade opportunities. In  
18 addition, the program shall assist urban communities in  
19 increasing access to growth industries in the state, such as  
20 international trade, maritime, transportation, tourism, and  
21 information technology. The program shall offer export  
22 readiness, assistance and referral services, adult job  
23 training, career awareness, internships, seminars, workshops,  
24 conferences, E-commerce, and mentoring and matchmaking  
25 services.

26 (2) The program shall focus on urban development and  
27 job opportunities and seek to create a permanent economic base  
28 in urban areas for international trade. The program shall also  
29 focus on the development and utilization of urban inner-city  
30 areas as platforms on which to provide and develop new  
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1 support, staging, manufacturing, and service centers within  
2 Florida.

3 (3) The Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic  
4 Development Council shall coordinate with appropriate  
5 organizations and educational institutions, and may contract  
6 with individuals or entities considered qualified relative to  
7 the development of a comprehensive plan, to expand trade  
8 between Florida and the Caribbean Basin. The coordination may  
9 encompass export assistance and referral services, export  
10 financing, job training programs, educational programs, market  
11 research and development, market promotion, trade missions,  
12 E-commerce, and mentoring and matchmaking services relative to  
13 the expansion of trade between Florida and the Caribbean  
14 Basin. The program shall also form alliances with  
15 multilateral, international, and domestic funding programs  
16 from Florida, the United States, and the Caribbean Basin  
17 region to coordinate systems and programs for fundamental  
18 assistance in facilitating trade and investment.

19 (4) The Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic  
20 Development Council may develop and administer other programs  
21 it considers advisable and appropriate for the purpose of  
22 collecting and disseminating to prospective manufacturers and  
23 businesses information regarding export to and from, and  
24 foreign investment by and in, Caribbean Basin nations.

25 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming  
26 law.

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HOUSE SUMMARY

Provides for the establishment of the Florida-Africa Market Expansion Program by Enterprise Florida, Inc., contingent upon a specific appropriation, to enhance the economy of the state by increasing international trade between Florida and the nations of Africa. Provides purposes of the program. Provides responsibilities of Enterprise Florida, Inc. Authorizes Enterprise Florida, Inc., to establish certain offices contingent upon an appropriation.

Provides for the establishment of the Florida-Caribbean Basin Trade Program by the Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Council, contingent upon a specific appropriation, to assist small and medium-sized businesses in becoming involved in international trade activities. Provides purposes of the program. Provides responsibilities of the Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Council.