

Bill No. CS for CS for CS for SB 406, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. ____

<u>Senate</u>	CHAMBER ACTION	<u>House</u>
---------------	----------------	--------------

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31

.
.
.
.
.
.

Senator Hargrett moved the following amendment:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

On page 23, line 1, through page 24, line 4, delete those lines

insert:

Section 12. Subsection (9) of section 14.2015, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

14.2015 Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development; creation; powers and duties.--

(9)(a) The Office of Urban Opportunity is created within the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development. The director of the Office of Urban Opportunity shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

(b) The purpose of the Office of Urban Opportunity shall be to administer the Front Porch Florida initiative, a comprehensive, community-based urban core redevelopment program that will empower urban core residents to craft solutions to the unique challenges of each designated community. Front Porch Florida shall serve as a "civic

Bill No. CS for CS for CS for SB 406, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. ____

1 switchboard," connecting each Front Porch Florida community
2 with federal, state, and private-sector resources necessary to
3 implement the program.

4 (c) The Office of Urban Opportunity may be assisted in
5 carrying out its duties by the Department of Community
6 Affairs.

7 Section 13. Toolkit for Economic Development.--

8 (1) LEGISLATIVE INTENT.--The Legislature finds that
9 the state has numerous economically distressed communities
10 with a high proportion of needy families who are current or
11 former recipients of public assistance or who are at risk of
12 becoming dependent upon public assistance. The Legislature
13 also finds that the existence of safe and strong communities
14 with prosperous economies is crucial to reduce dependence on
15 public assistance and to promote employment retention and
16 self-sufficiency. It is the intent of the Legislature to
17 reduce reliance on public assistance, to promote employment
18 retention, and to increase self-sufficiency by providing
19 easily accessed and useable tools that support local
20 initiatives that create economically prosperous communities
21 for needy families.

22 (2) CREATION; PURPOSE.--There is created a program to
23 be known as the "Toolkit for Economic Development," the
24 purpose of which is to enable economically distressed
25 communities to access easily, and use effectively, federal and
26 state tools to improve conditions in the communities and
27 thereby help needy families in the communities avoid public
28 assistance, retain employment, and become self-sufficient.

29 (3) DEFINITIONS.--For the purposes of this section, a
30 community is "economically distressed" if the community is
31 experiencing conditions affecting its economic viability and

Bill No. CS for CS for CS for SB 406, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. ____

1 hampering the self-sufficiency of its residents, including,
2 but not limited to, low per capita income, low property
3 values, high unemployment, high under-employment, low weekly
4 wages compared to the state average, low housing values
5 compared to the state or area average, high percentage of the
6 population receiving public assistance, high poverty levels
7 compared to the state average, and high percentage of needy
8 families.

9 (4) LIAISONS.--

10 (a) By August 1, 2000, the head of each of the
11 following agencies or organizations shall designate a
12 high-level staff person from within the agency or organization
13 to serve as a liaison to this program:

- 14 1. Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development;
- 15 2. Office of Urban Opportunity;
- 16 3. Department of Community Affairs;
- 17 4. Department of Law Enforcement;
- 18 5. Department of Juvenile Justice;
- 19 6. Department of Transportation;
- 20 7. Department of Environmental Protection;
- 21 8. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services;
- 22 9. Department of State;
- 23 10. Department of Health;
- 24 11. Department of Children and Family Services;
- 25 12. Department of Corrections;
- 26 13. Department of Labor and Employment Security;
- 27 14. Department of Education;
- 28 15. Department of Military Affairs;
- 29 16. Florida Housing Finance Corporation;
- 30 17. Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences;
- 31 18. Institute on Urban Policy and Commerce;

Bill No. CS for CS for CS for SB 406, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. ____

1 19. Florida Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation;
2 20. Enterprise Florida, Inc.;
3 21. Workforce Development Board of Enterprise Florida,
4 Inc.;
5 22. Executive Office of the Governor; and
6 23. Any other agencies or organizations as determined
7 by the coordinating partners.

8 (b) An alternate for each designee shall also be
9 chosen, and the names of the designees and alternates shall be
10 sent to the coordinating partners, which shall convene the
11 liaisons as necessary.

12 (c) Each liaison must have a comprehensive knowledge
13 of the functions, whether regulatory or service-based, of his
14 or her agency or organization. The liaison shall be the
15 primary contact for the agency or organization for the Toolkit
16 for Economic Development, assisting in expediting proposal
17 review, resolving problems, promoting flexible assistance, and
18 identifying opportunities for support within the agency or
19 organization.

20 (d) As deemed necessary by the coordinating partners,
21 liaisons shall review proposals from economically distressed
22 communities to determine if they would be properly referred or
23 submitted to their agencies or organizations. If such referral
24 and submittal is appropriate, the liaison shall then assist
25 the community as an ombudsman.

26 (e) The liaisons shall work at the request of the
27 coordinating partners to review statutes and rules for their
28 adverse effects on economically distressed communities and to
29 develop alternative proposals to mitigate these effects.

30 (f) Liaisons shall review their agencies' or
31 organizations' evaluation and scoring procedures for grant,

Bill No. CS for CS for CS for SB 406, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. ____

1 loan, and aid programs to ensure that economically distressed
2 communities are not unfairly disadvantaged, hampered, or
3 handicapped in competing for awards because of community
4 economic hardship. If they are, new evaluation criteria and
5 scoring procedures shall be considered that recognize
6 disproportionate requirements which an application process
7 makes of a community that lacks the resources of other more
8 prosperous communities. The evaluation criteria should weight
9 contribution in proportion to the amount of resources
10 available at the local level.

11 (g) Annually, the coordinating partners shall report
12 to the Governor and the head of each agency or organization on
13 the work and accomplishments of the liaisons.

14 (5) COORDINATING PARTNERS.--

15 (a) The liaisons from the WAGES State Board of
16 Directors, or its successor organization, the Office of Urban
17 Opportunity, the Department of Community Affairs, Enterprise
18 Florida, Inc., and the Workforce Development Board of
19 Enterprise Florida, Inc., shall serve as the coordinating
20 partners of the Toolkit for Economic Development and act as an
21 executive committee for the liaisons. The coordinating
22 partners shall review any request from a Front Porch Community
23 and shall provide whatever assistance that this section can
24 afford to them.

25 (b) From time to time, the coordinating partners may
26 recommend to the head of an agency or organization, approval
27 of a project that in the unanimous judgment of the
28 coordinating partners will have an extraordinary positive
29 impact on an economically distressed community. Upon such
30 recommendation, the head of an agency or organization shall
31 give priority consideration for approval of such project.

Bill No. CS for CS for CS for SB 406, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. ____

1 (6) MATCHING-FUNDS OPTIONS.--Notwithstanding any other
2 provision of law, an agency or organization may waive any
3 state-required matching-funds requirements at the request of
4 the coordinating partners. This waiver is contingent upon the
5 determination by the coordinating partners that the community
6 is fully committed to the success of a project, but lacks the
7 community resources to meet match requirements. In-kind
8 matches shall be allowed and applied as matching-funds
9 utilizing the same determination criteria. The coordinating
10 partners must unanimously endorse each request to an agency or
11 organization. Any funds appropriated to the coordinating
12 partners may be used to meet matching-funds requirements or
13 fees for federal, state, or foundation application
14 requirements.

15 (7) INVENTORY.--The coordinating partners shall
16 develop, in consultation with the liaisons, an inventory of
17 recommended federal and state tax credits, incentives,
18 inducements, programs, opportunities, demonstrations or pilot
19 programs, grants, and other resources available through the
20 agencies and organizations which could assist Front Porch
21 Florida or economically distressed communities. Each entry in
22 the inventory must include a summary; a contact person; a
23 simple description of the application process and a timetable;
24 a profile of funding awards and funds availability; and a
25 complexity ranking. The inventory shall be organized into
26 seven categories, including:

27 (a) Leadership.--Entries that promote the skills and
28 capacities of local leaders, volunteers, organizations, and
29 employees that work on other categories of the inventory.
30 These entries shall include, but are not limited to, grants;
31 scholarships; Individual Training Accounts; Retention

Bill No. CS for CS for CS for SB 406, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. ____

1 Incentive Training Account programs; and other programs that
2 build the resident capacity to create a better community.
3 These entries shall include educational-based institutes that
4 can assist with research, consulting, technical assistance,
5 capacity building, training, and program assistance to
6 communities.

7 (b) Safety.--Entries that increase safety and reduce
8 crime. These entries shall include, but are not limited to,
9 the training and employment of public safety employees and
10 volunteers; establishing safer businesses and neighborhoods;
11 training residents in safety practices; organizing safety
12 networks and cooperatives; improving lighting; improving the
13 safety of homes, buildings, and streets; and providing for
14 community police and safety projects, including those designed
15 to protect youth in the community. Other entries may be
16 included that reinforce community and local law enforcement.

17 (c) Clean Up.--Entries that support clean up and
18 enhancement projects that quickly create visible improvements
19 in neighborhoods, including the demolition of drug havens and
20 abandoned buildings. These entries shall include, but are not
21 limited to, projects that plan, design, or implement clean up
22 strategies; main street redevelopment; and renovation
23 projects. These entries may also include planning and
24 implementation for larger neighborhood revitalization and
25 economic development projects.

26 (d) Business.--Entries that support small business
27 development, including, but not limited to, attraction of
28 national franchises; micro-loans; guaranteed commercial loans;
29 technical assistance; self-employment; linked deposit; loan
30 loss reserves; business incubators; and other activities that
31 support the market economy.

Bill No. CS for CS for CS for SB 406, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. ____

1 (e) Schools.--Entries that upgrade schools through
2 repair or renovation, as well as training and employment
3 entries to assist with school transportation, services, and
4 security. These entries shall include, but are not limited to,
5 programs that enable school-based childcare; before, after,
6 and summer school programs; programs that broaden the use of
7 school facilities as a hub and haven within the community;
8 scholarships; and grant programs that assist families and
9 individuals to complete and enhance their education.

10 (f) Partners.--Entries that provide tax credits,
11 incentives, and other inducements to businesses that
12 contribute to community projects, such as the community
13 contribution tax credit under sections 220.183 and 624.5105,
14 Florida Statutes. These entries shall include any programs
15 that help raise federal or foundation grant funds.

16 (g) Redevelopment.--Entries that support the planning,
17 preparation, construction, marketing, and financing of
18 residential, mixed-use, and commercial redevelopment, as well
19 as residential and business infrastructure projects. These
20 entries shall include, but are not limited to, the workforce
21 development programs that influence business decisions such as
22 the Quick-Response Training Program and Quick-Response
23 Training Program for Work and Gain Economic Self-sufficiency
24 (WAGES) participants.

25 (8) START-UP INITIATIVE.--

26 (a) Subject to legislative appropriation and the
27 provisions of this act, the Start-Up Initiative is created to
28 promote the use of the inventory, to boost a community's
29 efforts, and to ensure that federal funds do not go unexpended
30 or unobligated, or are not returned to federal agencies.

31 (b) The coordinating partners, in consultation with

Bill No. CS for CS for CS for SB 406, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. ____

1 the liaisons, local economic development organizations, and
2 regional workforce development boards, shall identify 15
3 communities, seven of which must be from the state's seven
4 largest counties, three of which must be from rural counties,
5 and five of which must be from other counties in the state.
6 These communities must be compact, congruent, and contiguous
7 census tracts that have high concentrations of needy families
8 who are current, former, or likely recipients of public
9 assistance. To the maximum extent possible, these communities
10 should coincide with federal empowerment zones, enterprise
11 communities, or similar designations; HOPE VI communities;
12 Front Porch Florida communities; enterprise zones established
13 under chapter 290 or chapter 370, Florida Statutes;
14 Neighborhood Improvement Districts established under chapter
15 163, Florida Statutes; community redevelopment areas
16 established under chapter 163, Florida Statutes; and Urban
17 High Crime Areas or Rural Job Tax Credit Areas established
18 under chapter 212, Florida Statutes.

19 (c) The coordinating partners shall solicit proposals
20 from Front Porch Advisory Committees, community-based
21 organizations, local governments, and neighborhood
22 associations located in the communities identified in
23 paragraph (b) and Front Porch communities. The coordinating
24 partners shall provide each applicant with the inventory and
25 recommendations on proposals that can be funded.

26 (d) Communities may prepare a proposal to access and
27 use various entries from the inventory which will launch or
28 boost their economic development efforts. Proposals must be no
29 more than 20 pages long and include:

30 1. A brief description of how the community would use
31 entries from the inventory in the community's economic

Bill No. CS for CS for CS for SB 406, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. ____

1 development strategy;

2 2. Specific evidence of community support for the
3 proposal from community-based organizations, local government,
4 regional workforce development boards, and local economic
5 development organizations;

6 3. Identification and commitment of local resources
7 for the proposal from community-based organizations, local
8 government, regional workforce development boards, and local
9 economic development organizations;

10 4. Identification of the specific entity or person
11 responsible for coordinating the community's proposal; and

12 5. Identification of a local fiscal entity for
13 contracting, administration, and accountability.

14 (e) The coordinating partners shall appoint a liaison
15 to assist each community with the proposal and its
16 implementation, if awarded.

17 (f) The coordinating partners shall design an
18 impartial and competitive proposal-review process and
19 evaluation criteria. Based on the evaluation criteria, up to
20 nine communities shall be designated to participate in the
21 Start Up Initiative. Once a community is designated, the
22 coordinating partners and the community's liaison will work to
23 finalize the proposal, including the addition of funding
24 sources for each inventory entry. The finalized proposal shall
25 serve as the contract between the community and the Start-Up
26 Initiative. If sufficient funding does not exist for an entry
27 that is essential for the community's proposal or a community
28 is ineligible for a specific inventory entry, the coordinating
29 partners may allocate funding that is under their control to
30 fulfill the entry. The proposal must be operational within 3
31 months after approval.

Bill No. CS for CS for CS for SB 406, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. ____

1 (g) Proposals that would mainly result in
2 gentrification of the community, that would not employ a
3 preponderance of residents, and that predominately create
4 residences or businesses that are beyond the anticipated
5 income level of the working residents of the community are not
6 eligible.

7 (h) Proposal awards shall be obligated for federal
8 funding purposes, and shall be considered appropriated for
9 purposes of section 216.301, Florida Statutes. The
10 coordinating partners may allocate funding that is under their
11 control to fund this initiative. Any funding appropriated to
12 assist needy families, or to promote job placement and
13 employment retention, which is in excess of revenues necessary
14 to fulfill the appropriated purpose, and which may not be
15 obligated during the budget year, may be allocated to this
16 initiative to support an approved proposal.

17 (i) Any federal funds must be used for purposes
18 consistent with applicable federal law; however, the
19 coordinating partners, with the assistance of the Department
20 of Children and Family Services, shall aggressively pursue
21 innovative uses of federal funds to support projects that
22 train community leaders, upgrade individuals skills, promote
23 safety, clean up communities, beautify neighborhoods,
24 encourage small business, stimulate employment, increase
25 educational opportunity, promote community partnering, advance
26 community redevelopment, and upgrade housing because it
27 assists needy families, promoting self-sufficiency and job
28 retention.

29 (j) The coordinating partners shall adopt procedures
30 for the Start-Up Initiative and may, if necessary, adopt,
31 through the Department of Community Affairs, emergency rules

Bill No. CS for CS for CS for SB 406, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. ____

1 to govern the submission of proposals, the evaluation of
2 proposals, the initiative awards, and the implementation
3 procedures for administration of awards.

4 (9) COMMUNITIES OF CRITICAL ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY.--The
5 coordinating partners may recommend to the Governor up to
6 three communities of critical economic opportunity. A
7 community of critical economic opportunity must be a community
8 that is economically distressed, that presents a unique
9 economic development opportunity, and that will create more
10 than 1,000 jobs over a 5-year period. The Governor may, by
11 executive order, designate up to three communities of critical
12 economic opportunity which will establish these areas as
13 priority assignments for the liaisons and coordinating
14 partners as well as to allow the Governor, acting through
15 them, to waive criteria, requirements, or similar provisions
16 of any economic development incentive. Such incentives shall
17 include, but not be limited to: the Qualified Target Industry
18 Tax Refund Program under section 288.106, Florida Statutes,
19 the Quick Response Training Program under section 288.047,
20 Florida Statutes, the WAGES Quick Response Training Program
21 under section 288.047(10), Florida Statutes, transportation
22 projects under section 288.063, Florida Statutes, the
23 brownfield redevelopment bonus refund under section 288.107,
24 Florida Statutes, and the job and employment tax credit
25 programs. Designation as a community of critical economic
26 opportunity under this subsection shall be contingent upon the
27 execution of a memorandum or agreement among the coordinating
28 partners; the governing body of the county; and the governing
29 bodies of any municipalities to be included within an area of
30 critical economic opportunity. Such agreement shall specify
31 the terms and conditions of the designation, including, but

Bill No. CS for CS for CS for SB 406, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. ____

1 not limited to, the duties and responsibilities of the county
2 and any participating municipalities to take actions designed
3 to facilitate the retention and expansion of existing
4 businesses in the area, as well as the recruitment of new
5 businesses to the area.

6 (10) FUNDING.--

7 (a) To implement the provisions of this act, the
8 coordinating partners are authorized to spend, contingent on a
9 specific appropriation, up to \$25 million from the Temporary
10 Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Block Grant through the
11 TANF administrative entity at the Department of Management
12 Services.

13 (b) Any expenditure from the TANF Block Grant shall be
14 in accordance with the requirements and limitations of Title
15 IV of the Social Security Act, as amended, or any other
16 applicable federal requirement or limitation in law. Prior to
17 any expenditure of such funds, the Workforce Development Board
18 of Enterprise Florida, Inc., and the secretary of the
19 Department of Children and Family Services, or his or her
20 designee, shall certify that controls are in place to ensure
21 that such funds are expended and reported in accordance with
22 the requirements and limitations of federal law. It shall be
23 the responsibility of any entity to which funds are awarded to
24 obtain the required certification prior to any expenditure of
25 funds.

26 (11) REPORTING.--The Office of Program Policy Analysis
27 and Government Accountability and the coordinating partners,
28 shall develop measures and criteria by October 1, 2001, for
29 evaluating the effectiveness of the Toolkit for Economic
30 Development including the liaisons, coordinating partners,
31 waivers and matching options, inventory, Start-Up Initiative,

Bill No. CS for CS for CS for SB 406, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. ____

1 and Communities of Critical Economic Opportunity. The Office
2 of Program Policy and Government Accountability shall submit
3 to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker
4 of the House of Representatives, by January 1, 2002, a report
5 detailing the progress that the Toolkit for Economic
6 Development has made toward achievement of established
7 measures.

8 (12) EXPIRATION.--This section expires June 30, 2002.

9 Section 14. Section 288.1260, Florida Statutes, is
10 created to read:

11 288.1260 Front Porch Florida Initiative.--

12 (1) LEGISLATIVE INTENT.--The Legislature finds that
13 the State of Florida has many communities that, in times of
14 general fiscal prosperity, have not experienced the same
15 levels of economic fulfillment as other areas of our state.
16 These neighborhoods and communities are often found in the
17 urban core areas of our cities, and have been the recipients
18 of top down imposed state and federal programs that have
19 lacked a comprehensive approach to revitalization. The
20 Legislature further finds that these distressed urban cores
21 have often had a narrow set of solutions imposed on them
22 without regard to the unique nature of the problems that face
23 each neighborhood.

24 (2) CREATION.--The Front Porch Florida initiative will
25 be a community-based effort, giving residents the power to
26 define the causes of their problems and harnessing the
27 collective power of individual neighborhoods to craft unique
28 solutions to these problems. The Front Porch Florida
29 initiative is created to provide a comprehensive,
30 community-based approach to neighborhood revitalization in
31 Florida, engaging the resources of the state as a facilitator

Bill No. CS for CS for CS for SB 406, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. ____

1 for community solutions and a civic switchboard to match
2 communities with resources.

3 (3) PRINCIPLES.--The Front Porch Florida initiative is
4 built upon the following principles:

5 (a) Urban revitalization begins in Florida's
6 neighborhoods and not in state government. The resources for
7 solving some of their problems may reside in part in state and
8 local government, but the solutions to the unique challenges
9 of each neighborhood must come from citizens who live in these
10 neighborhoods.

11 (b) Expanded business opportunities and access to
12 capital are critical to sustaining any urban renewal efforts.
13 There must be a multi-faceted commitment of fiscal resources
14 and increased business opportunities that stimulates
15 entrepreneurship in urban core neighborhoods.

16 (c) Government cannot raise expectations beyond its
17 capacity to deliver. State and local governments have roles in
18 our urban cores, but government is not the panacea.

19 (d) An effective state urban policy must support
20 existing efforts and work with the on-going activities of
21 local communities, mayors, and municipalities. The state must
22 also leverage faith-based and community-based groups into the
23 equation in a way that has never been tried before. Churches,
24 ministers, pastors, rabbis, and other community leaders are
25 often the greatest agents of improvement in our urban cores.
26 They must be empowered to be involved in Front Porch Florida
27 to the greatest extent possible.

28 (4) LIAISONS TO FRONT PORCH FLORIDA COMMUNITIES.--No
29 later than August 1, 2000, the head of each of the following
30 agencies or organizations shall designate a high-level staff
31 person from within the agency or organization to serve as the

Bill No. CS for CS for CS for SB 406, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. ____

1 Front Porch Florida liaison to the Front Porch Florida "A"

2 Team:

- 3 1. Department of Community Affairs;
- 4 2. Department of Law Enforcement;
- 5 3. Department of Juvenile Justice;
- 6 4. Department of Corrections;
- 7 5. Department of Transportation;
- 8 6. Department of Environmental Protection;
- 9 7. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services;
- 10 8. Department of State;
- 11 9. Department of Health;
- 12 10. Department of Children and Family Services;
- 13 11. Department of Labor and Employment Security;
- 14 12. Department of Education;
- 15 13. Department of Military Affairs;
- 16 14. Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences;
- 17 15. Enterprise Florida, Inc.;
- 18 16. Workforce Development Board of Enterprise Florida,
- 19 Inc.; and
- 20 17. Executive Office of the Governor.

21

22 Each Front Porch Florida liaison must have comprehensive
23 knowledge of his or her agency's functions. This person shall
24 be the primary point of contact for his or her agency on
25 issues and projects relating to economically distressed
26 communities, shall ensure a prompt effective response to
27 problems arising with regard to community issues, and shall
28 assist in the identification of opportunities for preferential
29 awards of program funds to facilitate the civic switchboard
30 function of Front Porch Florida.

31 (5) INVENTORY.--Front Porch Florida communities shall

Bill No. CS for CS for CS for SB 406, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. ____

1 use the inventory of federal and state resources developed as
2 part of the Toolkit for Economic Development to facilitate
3 solutions to their unique challenges.

4 (6) SELECTION OF FRONT PORCH FLORIDA COMMUNITIES.--

5 (a) The Office of Urban Opportunity, created in
6 section 14.2015(9)(a), Florida Statutes, will solicit
7 applications from Florida communities that wish to be
8 designated as Front Porch Florida communities. The application
9 should specify the boundaries of the nominated area, quantify
10 the need for revitalization, demonstrate a history of
11 grass-roots activities in the neighborhood, and identify the
12 resources within each community that will contribute to their
13 success as Front Porch Florida communities.

14 (b) Successful applications for designation may
15 include strategies for expanding business opportunities and
16 access to capital, closing the gap in education, building upon
17 the activities of faith-based and community-based groups,
18 providing affordable, quality housing, strengthening public
19 safety, and creating a healthy environment.

20 (c) Upon designation as a Front Porch Florida
21 community, the neighborhood will form a Governor's
22 Revitalization Council, comprised of partners and stakeholders
23 in each community. Each council should be representative of
24 the broad diversity and interests in the community and should
25 include residents, neighborhood associations, faith-based
26 organizations, and community-based organizations. Each council
27 should also develop partnerships with local government, law
28 enforcement agencies, lenders, schools, and health care
29 providers. Each council will prepare a specialized
30 Neighborhood Action Plan that will assist the Office of Urban
31 Opportunity in identifying and garnering the resources that

Bill No. CS for CS for CS for SB 406, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. ____

1 are needed to help successfully implement community
2 revitalization.

3 (7) MONITORING AND REPORTING.--The Office of Urban
4 Opportunity shall require each designated Front Porch Florida
5 community to submit a monthly report which details the
6 activities and accomplishments of the neighborhood. On a
7 quarterly basis, each designated community must submit a
8 report that specifically addresses the elements of each
9 Neighborhood Action Plan to determine progress toward
10 achieving stated goals. The community's Governor's
11 Revitalization Council will submit an annual progress report
12 as part of their recertification process in order to maintain
13 designation as a Front Porch Florida community.

14 Section 15. Florida-Caribbean Basin Trade
15 Initiative.--

16 (1) Contingent upon a specific appropriation, the
17 Seaport Employment Training Grant Program (STEP) shall
18 establish and administer the Florida-Caribbean Basin Trade
19 Initiative for the purpose of assisting small and medium-sized
20 businesses to become involved in international activities and
21 helping them to identify markets with product demand, identify
22 strategic alliances in those markets, and obtain the financing
23 to effectuate trade opportunities in the Caribbean Basin. The
24 initiative must focus assistance to businesses located in
25 urban communities. The initiative shall offer export
26 readiness, assistance and referral services, internships,
27 seminars, workshops, conferences, and e-commerce plus
28 mentoring and matchmaking services, but shall coordinate with
29 and not duplicate those services provided by Enterprise
30 Florida, Inc.

31 (2) To enhance initiative effectiveness and leverage

Bill No. CS for CS for CS for SB 406, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. ____

1 resources, STEP shall coordinate initiative activities with
2 Enterprise Florida, Inc., United States Export Assistance
3 Centers, Florida Export Finance Corporation, Florida Trade
4 Data Center, Small Business Development Centers, and any other
5 organizations STEP deems appropriate. The coordination may
6 encompass export assistance and referral services, export
7 financing, job-training programs, educational programs, market
8 research and development, market promotion, trade missions,
9 e-commerce, and mentoring and matchmaking services relative to
10 the expansion of trade between Florida and the Caribbean
11 Basin. The initiative shall also form alliances with
12 multilateral, international, and domestic funding programs
13 from Florida, the United States, and the Caribbean Basin to
14 coordinate systems and programs for fundamental assistance in
15 facilitating trade and investment.

16 (3) STEP shall administer the Florida-Caribbean Basin
17 Trade Initiative pursuant to a performance-based contract with
18 the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development. The
19 Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development shall
20 develop performance measures, standards, and sanctions for the
21 initiative. Performance measures must include, but are not
22 limited to, the number of businesses assisted; the number of
23 urban businesses assisted; and the increase in value of
24 exports to the Caribbean which is attributable to the
25 initiative.

26 Section 16. Paragraphs (n) and (o) are added to
27 subsection (5) of section 212.08, Florida Statutes, to read:

28 212.08 Sales, rental, use, consumption, distribution,
29 and storage tax; specified exemptions.--The sale at retail,
30 the rental, the use, the consumption, the distribution, and
31 the storage to be used or consumed in this state of the

Bill No. CS for CS for CS for SB 406, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. ____

1 following are hereby specifically exempt from the tax imposed
2 by this chapter.

3 (5) EXEMPTIONS; ACCOUNT OF USE.--

4 (n) Materials for construction of single-family homes
5 in certain areas.--

6 1. As used in this paragraph, the term:

7 a. "Building materials" means tangible personal
8 property that becomes a component part of a qualified home.

9 b. "Qualified home" means a single-family home having
10 an appraised value of no more than \$160,000 which is located
11 in an enterprise zone, empowerment zone, or Front Porch
12 Florida Community and which is constructed and occupied by the
13 owner thereof for residential purposes.

14 c. "Substantially completed" has the same meaning as
15 provided in s. 192.042(1).

16 2. Building materials used in the construction of a
17 qualified home and the costs of labor associated with the
18 construction of a qualified home are exempt from the tax
19 imposed by this chapter upon an affirmative showing to the
20 satisfaction of the department that the requirements of this
21 paragraph have been met. This exemption inures to the owner
22 through a refund of previously paid taxes. To receive this
23 refund, the owner must file an application under oath with the
24 department which includes:

25 a. The name and address of the owner.

26 b. The address and assessment roll parcel number of
27 the home for which a refund is sought.

28 c. A copy of the building permit issued for the home.

29 d. A certification by the local building inspector
30 that the home is substantially completed.

31 e. A sworn statement, under penalty of perjury, from

Bill No. CS for CS for CS for SB 406, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. ____

1 the general contractor licensed in this state with whom the
2 owner contracted to construct the home, which statement lists
3 the building materials used in the construction of the home
4 and the actual cost thereof, the labor costs associated with
5 such construction, and the amount of sales tax paid on these
6 materials and labor costs. If a general contractor was not
7 used, the owner shall provide this information in a sworn
8 statement, under penalty of perjury. Copies of invoices
9 evidencing payment of sales tax must be attached to the sworn
10 statement.

11 f. A sworn statement, under penalty of perjury, from
12 the owner affirming that he or she is occupying the home for
13 residential purposes.

14 3. An application for a refund under this paragraph
15 must be submitted to the department within 6 months after the
16 date the home is deemed to be substantially completed by the
17 local building inspector. Within 30 working days after receipt
18 of the application, the department shall determine if it meets
19 the requirements of this paragraph. A refund approved pursuant
20 to this paragraph shall be made within 30 days after formal
21 approval of the application by the department. The provisions
22 of s. 212.095 do not apply to any refund application made
23 under this paragraph.

24 4. The department shall establish by rule an
25 application form and criteria for establishing eligibility for
26 exemption under this paragraph.

27 5. The exemption shall apply to purchases of materials
28 on or after July 1, 2000.

29 (o) Building materials in redevelopment projects.--

30 1. As used in this paragraph, the term:

31 a. "Building materials" means tangible personal

Bill No. CS for CS for CS for SB 406, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. ____

1 property that becomes a component part of a housing project or
2 a mixed-use project.

3 b. "Housing project" means the conversion of an
4 existing manufacturing or industrial building to housing units
5 in an urban high-crime area, enterprise zone, empowerment
6 zone, Front Porch Community, designated brownfield area, or
7 urban infill area and in which the developer agrees to set
8 aside at least 20 percent of the housing units in the project
9 for low-income and moderate-income persons.

10 c. "Mixed-use project" means the conversion of an
11 existing manufacturing or industrial building to mixed-use
12 units that include artists' studios, art and entertainment
13 services, or other compatible uses. A mixed-use project must
14 be located in an urban high-crime area, enterprise zone,
15 empowerment zone, Front Porch Community, designated brownfield
16 area, or urban infill area and the developer must agree to set
17 aside at least 20 percent of the square footage of the project
18 for low-income and moderate-income housing.

19 d. "Substantially completed" has the same meaning as
20 provided in s. 192.042(1).

21 2. Building materials used in the construction of a
22 housing project or mixed-use project are exempt from the tax
23 imposed by this chapter upon an affirmative showing to the
24 satisfaction of the department that the requirements of this
25 paragraph have been met. This exemption inures to the owner
26 through a refund of previously paid taxes. To receive this
27 refund, the owner must file an application under oath with the
28 department which includes:

29 a. The name and address of the owner.

30 b. The address and assessment roll parcel number of
31 the project for which a refund is sought.

Bill No. CS for CS for CS for SB 406, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. ____

1 c. A copy of the building permit issued for the
2 project.

3 d. A certification by the local building inspector
4 that the project is substantially completed.

5 e. A sworn statement, under penalty of perjury, from
6 the general contractor licensed in this state with whom the
7 owner contracted to construct the project, which statement
8 lists the building materials used in the construction of the
9 project and the actual cost thereof, and the amount of sales
10 tax paid on these materials. If a general contractor was not
11 used, the owner shall provide this information in a sworn
12 statement, under penalty of perjury. Copies of invoices
13 evidencing payment of sales tax must be attached to the sworn
14 statement.

15 3. An application for a refund under this paragraph
16 must be submitted to the department within 6 months after the
17 date the project is deemed to be substantially completed by
18 the local building inspector. Within 30 working days after
19 receipt of the application, the department shall determine if
20 it meets the requirements of this paragraph. A refund approved
21 pursuant to this paragraph shall be made within 30 days after
22 formal approval of the application by the department. The
23 provisions of s. 212.095 do not apply to any refund
24 application made under this paragraph.

25 4. The department shall establish by rule an
26 application form and criteria for establishing eligibility for
27 exemption under this paragraph.

28 5. The exemption shall apply to purchases of materials
29 on or after July 1, 2000.

30 Section 17. The agencies involved with the Urban
31 Infill Implementation Project Grants Program under section

Bill No. CS for CS for CS for SB 406, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. ____

1 163.2523, Florida Statutes, the State Apartment Incentive Loan
2 Program under section 420.5087, Florida Statutes, the HOME
3 Investment Partnership Program under section 420.5089, Florida
4 Statutes, and the State Housing Tax Credit Program under
5 section 420.5093, Florida Statutes, shall give priority
6 consideration to projects that would convert vacant industrial
7 and manufacturing facilities to affordable housing units
8 within urban high-crime areas, enterprise zones, empowerment
9 zones, Front Porch Communities, designated brownfield areas,
10 or urban infill areas.

11 Section 18. The Department of Community Affairs, in
12 conjunction with the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic
13 Development, the Office of Urban Opportunities, and Enterprise
14 Florida, Inc., shall recommend new economic incentives or
15 revisions to existing economic incentives in order to promote
16 the reuse of vacant industrial and manufacturing facilities
17 for affordable housing and mixed-use development. The report
18 must also identify any state regulatory or programmatic
19 barriers to the reuse of such facilities. The department
20 shall submit a report to the President of the Senate and the
21 Speaker of the House of Representatives containing its
22 recommendations by January 31, 2001. Based upon consultation
23 with the Department of Environmental Protection, the
24 department shall include, as a component of the report, any
25 recommended modifications to the Brownfields Redevelopment
26 Act, sections 376.77-376.85, Florida Statutes, for revising
27 liability protection or economic incentives under the act to
28 promote reuse of such facilities.

29
30 (Redesignate subsequent sections.)

31

Bill No. CS for CS for CS for SB 406, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. ____

1 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

2 And the title is amended as follows:

3 On page 2, line 21, delete that line

4

5 and insert:

6 duties; amending s. 14.2015, F.S.; describing
7 the role of the Front Porch Florida initiative;
8 providing for assistance from the Department of
9 Community Affairs; providing for creation and
10 purpose of the Toolkit for Economic
11 Development; defining the term "economically
12 distressed"; requiring the appointment of
13 liaisons from agencies and organizations;
14 providing for requirements and duties; creating
15 coordinating partners to serve as the program's
16 executive committee; providing for duties and
17 powers; providing for waivers of state-required
18 matching-funds requirements; requiring an
19 inventory of programs that help economically
20 distressed communities; requiring that the
21 inventory be categorized; creating the Start-Up
22 Initiative to promote the use of the inventory;
23 providing for identification of communities;
24 providing for solicitation of proposals;
25 providing for proposal content; providing for
26 review process and evaluation criteria;
27 providing for funding; providing for the
28 designation of communities of critical economic
29 opportunity; providing an appropriation to the
30 coordinating partners; providing for use of
31 funds and certification; providing for

Bill No. CS for CS for CS for SB 406, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. ____

1 reporting; providing for expiration; creating
2 s. 288.1260, F.S.; creating the Front Porch
3 Florida initiative; providing legislative
4 intent; providing for purposes and principles
5 of the program; creating liaisons to Front
6 Porch Florida communities; providing for
7 liaison requirements and duties; providing for
8 use of the inventory of federal and state
9 resources; providing for application
10 requirements; providing for the formation of a
11 Governor's Revitalization Council; providing
12 for duties; providing for monitoring and
13 reporting; providing for the establishment of
14 the Florida-Caribbean Basin Trade Initiative by
15 the Seaport Employment Training Grant Program
16 contingent upon a specific appropriation;
17 providing purpose of the initiative; providing
18 responsibilities of the Seaport Employment
19 Training Grant Program; providing for a
20 performance-based contract with the Office of
21 Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development;
22 amending s. 212.08, F.S.; providing an
23 exemption from the tax on sales, use, and other
24 transactions for building materials used in the
25 construction of certain single-family homes
26 located in an enterprise zone, empowerment
27 zone, or Front Porch Florida Community;
28 providing an exemption from the tax on sales,
29 use, and other transactions for building
30 materials used in the construction of specified
31 redevelopment projects; providing requirements

Bill No. CS for CS for CS for SB 406, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. ____

1 for refund applications; providing for rules;
2 directing the agencies involved with specified
3 housing programs to give priority consideration
4 to specified projects in urban-core
5 neighborhoods; directing the Department of
6 Community Affairs to propose modifications to
7 the Brownfields Redevelopment Act and other
8 economic incentives for consideration by the
9 Legislature; providing an effective date.
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31