

Bill No. CS for CS for CS for SB 406, 2nd Eng.

Amendment No. 001 (for drafter's use only)

	<u>Senate</u>	CHAMBER ACTION	<u>House</u>
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Representative(s) Bradley offered the following:

Amendment (with title amendment)

On page 28, between lines 3 and 4, of the bill

insert:

Section 13. Toolkit for Economic Development.--

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

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

8 (3) DEFINITIONS.--For the purposes of this section, a
9 community is "economically distressed" if the community is
10 experiencing conditions affecting its economic viability and
11 hampering the self-sufficiency of its residents, including,
12 but not limited to, low per capita income, low property
13 values, high unemployment, high under-employment, low weekly
14 wages compared to the state average, low housing values
15 compared to the state or area average, high percentage of the
16 population receiving public assistance, high poverty levels
17 compared to the state average, and high percentage of needy
18 families.

19 (4) LIAISONS.--

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

- 24 1. Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development;
- 25 2. Office of Urban Opportunity;
- 26 3. Department of Community Affairs;
- 27 4. Department of Law Enforcement;
- 28 5. Department of Juvenile Justice;
- 29 6. Department of Transportation;
- 30 7. Department of Environmental Protection;
- 31 8. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services;

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- 1 9. Department of State;
2 10. Department of Health;
3 11. Department of Children and Family Services;
4 12. Department of Corrections;
5 13. Department of Labor and Employment Security;
6 14. Department of Education;
7 15. Department of Military Affairs;
8 16. Florida Housing Finance Corporation;
9 17. Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences;
10 18. Institute on Urban Policy and Commerce;
11 19. Florida Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation;
12 20. Enterprise Florida, Inc.;
13 21. Workforce Development Board of Enterprise Florida,
14 Inc.;
15 22. Executive Office of the Governor; and
16 23. Any other agencies or organizations as determined
17 by the coordinating partners.
18 (b) An alternate for each designee shall also be
19 chosen, and the names of the designees and alternates shall be
20 sent to the coordinating partners, which shall convene the
21 liaisons as necessary.
22 (c) Each liaison must have a comprehensive knowledge
23 of the functions, whether regulatory or service-based, of his
24 or her agency or organization. The liaison shall be the
25 primary contact for the agency or organization for the Toolkit
26 for Economic Development, assisting in expediting proposal
27 review, resolving problems, promoting flexible assistance, and
28 identifying opportunities for support within the agency or
29 organization.
30 (d) As deemed necessary by the coordinating partners,
31 liaisons shall review proposals from economically distressed

1 communities to determine if they would be properly referred or
2 submitted to their agencies or organizations. If such referral
3 and submittal is appropriate, the liaison shall then assist
4 the community as an ombudsman.

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

9 (f) Liaisons shall review their agencies' or
10 organizations' evaluation and scoring procedures for grant,
11 loan, and aid programs to ensure that economically distressed
12 communities are not unfairly disadvantaged, hampered, or
13 handicapped in competing for awards because of community
14 economic hardship. If they are, new evaluation criteria and
15 scoring procedures shall be considered that recognize
16 disproportionate requirements which an application process
17 makes of a community that lacks the resources of other more
18 prosperous communities. The evaluation criteria should weight
19 contribution in proportion to the amount of resources
20 available at the local level.

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

24 (5) COORDINATING PARTNERS.--

25 (a) The liaisons from the WAGES State Board of
26 Directors, or its successor organization, the Office of Urban
27 Opportunity, the Department of Community Affairs, Enterprise
28 Florida, Inc., and the Workforce Development Board of
29 Enterprise Florida, Inc., shall serve as the coordinating
30 partners of the Toolkit for Economic Development and act as an
31 executive committee for the liaisons. The coordinating

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1 partners shall review any request from a Front Porch Community
2 and shall provide whatever assistance that this section can
3 afford to them.

4 (b) From time to time, the coordinating partners may
5 recommend to the head of an agency or organization, approval
6 of a project that in the unanimous judgment of the
7 coordinating partners will have an extraordinary positive
8 impact on an economically distressed community. Upon such
9 recommendation, the head of an agency or organization shall
10 give priority consideration for approval of such project.

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

25 (7) INVENTORY.--The coordinating partners shall
26 develop, in consultation with the liaisons, an inventory of
27 recommended federal and state tax credits, incentives,
28 inducements, programs, opportunities, demonstrations or pilot
29 programs, grants, and other resources available through the
30 agencies and organizations which could assist Front Porch
31 Florida or economically distressed communities. Each entry in

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1 the inventory must include a summary; a contact person; a
2 simple description of the application process and a timetable;
3 a profile of funding awards and funds availability; and a
4 complexity ranking. The inventory shall be organized into
5 seven categories, including:

6 (a) Leadership.--Entries that promote the skills and
7 capacities of local leaders, volunteers, organizations, and
8 employees that work on other categories of the inventory.

9 These entries shall include, but are not limited to, grants;
10 scholarships; Individual Training Accounts; Retention
11 Incentive Training Account programs; and other programs that
12 build the resident capacity to create a better community.

13 These entries shall include educational-based institutes that
14 can assist with research, consulting, technical assistance,
15 capacity building, training, and program assistance to
16 communities.

17 (b) Safety.--Entries that increase safety and reduce
18 crime. These entries shall include, but are not limited to,
19 the training and employment of public safety employees and
20 volunteers; establishing safer businesses and neighborhoods;
21 training residents in safety practices; organizing safety
22 networks and cooperatives; improving lighting; improving the
23 safety of homes, buildings, and streets; and providing for
24 community police and safety projects, including those designed
25 to protect youth in the community. Other entries may be
26 included that reinforce community and local law enforcement.

27 (c) Clean Up.--Entries that support clean up and
28 enhancement projects that quickly create visible improvements
29 in neighborhoods, including the demolition of drug havens and
30 abandoned buildings. These entries shall include, but are not
31 limited to, projects that plan, design, or implement clean up

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1 strategies; main street redevelopment; and renovation
2 projects. These entries may also include planning and
3 implementation for larger neighborhood revitalization and
4 economic development projects.

5 (d) Business.--Entries that support small business
6 development, including, but not limited to, attraction of
7 national franchises; micro-loans; guaranteed commercial loans;
8 technical assistance; self-employment; linked deposit; loan
9 loss reserves; business incubators; and other activities that
10 support the market economy.

11 (e) Schools.--Entries that upgrade schools through
12 repair or renovation, as well as training and employment
13 entries to assist with school transportation, services, and
14 security. These entries shall include, but are not limited to,
15 programs that enable school-based childcare; before, after,
16 and summer school programs; programs that broaden the use of
17 school facilities as a hub and haven within the community;
18 scholarships; and grant programs that assist families and
19 individuals to complete and enhance their education.

20 (f) Partners.--Entries that provide tax credits,
21 incentives, and other inducements to businesses that
22 contribute to community projects, such as the community
23 contribution tax credit under sections 220.183 and 624.5105,
24 Florida Statutes. These entries shall include any programs
25 that help raise federal or foundation grant funds.

26 (g) Redevelopment.--Entries that support the planning,
27 preparation, construction, marketing, and financing of
28 residential, mixed-use, and commercial redevelopment, as well
29 as residential and business infrastructure projects. These
30 entries shall include, but are not limited to, the workforce
31 development programs that influence business decisions such as

1 the Quick-Response Training Program and Quick-Response
2 Training Program for Work and Gain Economic Self-sufficiency
3 (WAGES) participants.

4 (8) START-UP INITIATIVE.--

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

10 (b) The coordinating partners, in consultation with
11 the liaisons, local economic development organizations, and
12 regional workforce development boards, shall identify 15
13 communities, seven of which must be from the state's seven
14 largest counties, three of which must be from rural counties,
15 and five of which must be from other counties in the state.

16 These communities must be compact, congruent, and contiguous
17 census tracts that have high concentrations of needy families
18 who are current, former, or likely recipients of public
19 assistance. To the maximum extent possible, these communities
20 should coincide with federal empowerment zones, enterprise
21 communities, or similar designations; HOPE VI communities;
22 Front Porch Florida communities; enterprise zones established
23 under chapter 290 or chapter 370, Florida Statutes;
24 Neighborhood Improvement Districts established under chapter
25 163, Florida Statutes; community redevelopment areas
26 established under chapter 163, Florida Statutes; and Urban
27 High Crime Areas or Rural Job Tax Credit Areas established
28 under chapter 212, Florida Statutes.

29 (c) The coordinating partners shall solicit proposals
30 from Front Porch Advisory Committees, community-based
31 organizations, local governments, and neighborhood

1 associations located in the communities identified in
2 paragraph (b) and Front Porch communities. The coordinating
3 partners shall provide each applicant with the inventory and
4 recommendations on proposals that can be funded.

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

9 1. A brief description of how the community would use
10 entries from the inventory in the community's economic
11 development strategy;

12 2. Specific evidence of community support for the
13 proposal from community-based organizations, local government,
14 regional workforce development boards, and local economic
15 development organizations;

16 3. Identification and commitment of local resources
17 for the proposal from community-based organizations, local
18 government, regional workforce development boards, and local
19 economic development organizations;

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

22 5. Identification of a local fiscal entity for
23 contracting, administration, and accountability.

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

27 (f) The coordinating partners shall design an
28 impartial and competitive proposal-review process and
29 evaluation criteria. Based on the evaluation criteria, up to
30 nine communities shall be designated to participate in the
31 Start Up Initiative. Once a community is designated, the

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1 coordinating partners and the community's liaison will work to
2 finalize the proposal, including the addition of funding
3 sources for each inventory entry. The finalized proposal shall
4 serve as the contract between the community and the Start-Up
5 Initiative. If sufficient funding does not exist for an entry
6 that is essential for the community's proposal or a community
7 is ineligible for a specific inventory entry, the coordinating
8 partners may allocate funding that is under their control to
9 fulfill the entry. The proposal must be operational within 3
10 months after approval.

11 (g) Proposals that would mainly result in
12 gentrification of the community, that would not employ a
13 preponderance of residents, and that predominately create
14 residences or businesses that are beyond the anticipated
15 income level of the working residents of the community are not
16 eligible.

17 (h) Proposal awards shall be obligated for federal
18 funding purposes, and shall be considered appropriated for
19 purposes of section 216.301, Florida Statutes. The
20 coordinating partners may allocate funding that is under their
21 control to fund this initiative. Any funding appropriated to
22 assist needy families, or to promote job placement and
23 employment retention, which is in excess of revenues necessary
24 to fulfill the appropriated purpose, and which may not be
25 obligated during the budget year, may be allocated to this
26 initiative to support an approved proposal.

27 (i) Any federal funds must be used for purposes
28 consistent with applicable federal law; however, the
29 coordinating partners, with the assistance of the Department
30 of Children and Family Services, shall aggressively pursue
31 innovative uses of federal funds to support projects that

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1 train community leaders, upgrade individuals skills, promote
2 safety, clean up communities, beautify neighborhoods,
3 encourage small business, stimulate employment, increase
4 educational opportunity, promote community partnering, advance
5 community redevelopment, and upgrade housing because it
6 assists needy families, promoting self-sufficiency and job
7 retention.

8 (j) The coordinating partners shall adopt procedures
9 for the Start-Up Initiative and may, if necessary, adopt,
10 through the Department of Community Affairs, emergency rules
11 to govern the submission of proposals, the evaluation of
12 proposals, the initiative awards, and the implementation
13 procedures for administration of awards.

14 (9) COMMUNITIES OF CRITICAL ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY.--The
15 coordinating partners may recommend to the Governor up to
16 three communities of critical economic opportunity. A
17 community of critical economic opportunity must be a community
18 that is economically distressed, that presents a unique
19 economic development opportunity, and that will create more
20 than 1,000 jobs over a 5-year period. The Governor may, by
21 executive order, designate up to three communities of critical
22 economic opportunity which will establish these areas as
23 priority assignments for the liaisons and coordinating
24 partners. The provisions of the Qualified Target Industry Tax
25 Refund Program under section 288.106, Florida Statutes, the
26 Quick Response Training Program under section 288.047, Florida
27 Statutes, the WAGES Quick Response Training Program under
28 section 288.047(10), Florida Statutes, transportation projects
29 under section 288.063, Florida Statutes, the brownfield
30 redevelopment bonus refund under section 288.107, Florida
31 Statutes, the job and employment tax credit programs and any

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1 other applicable economic development initiative or incentive
2 may be utilized to the maximum extent allowable to address the
3 critical economic opportunity or threat identified by the
4 coordinating partners. Designation as a community of critical
5 economic opportunity under this subsection shall be contingent
6 upon the execution of a memorandum or agreement among the
7 coordinating partners; the governing body of the county; and
8 the governing bodies of any municipalities to be included
9 within an area of critical economic opportunity. Such
10 agreement shall specify the terms and conditions of the
11 designation, including, but not limited to, the duties and
12 responsibilities of the county and any participating
13 municipalities to take actions designed to facilitate the
14 retention and expansion of existing businesses in the area, as
15 well as the recruitment of new businesses to the area.

16 (10) FUNDING.--

17 (a) To implement the provisions of this act, there is
18 hereby appropriated the sum of \$25 million from non-recurring
19 Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds to the
20 TANF administrative entity at the Department of Management
21 Services. The Department of Management Services shall contract
22 with entities recommended by the coordinating partners for
23 funding pursuant to this section.

24 (b) Any expenditure from the TANF funds shall be in
25 accordance with the requirements and limitations of Title IV
26 of the Social Security Act, as amended, or any other
27 applicable federal requirement or limitation in law. Prior to
28 any expenditure of such funds, the Workforce Development Board
29 of Enterprise Florida, Inc., and the secretary of the
30 Department of Children and Family Services, or his or her
31 designee, shall certify that controls are in place to ensure

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1 that such funds are expended and reported in accordance with
2 the requirements and limitations of federal law. It shall be
3 the responsibility of any entity to which funds are awarded to
4 obtain the required certification prior to any expenditure of
5 funds.

6 (11) REPORTING.--The Office of Program Policy Analysis
7 and Government Accountability and the coordinating partners,
8 shall develop measures and criteria by October 1, 2001, for
9 evaluating the effectiveness of the Toolkit for Economic
10 Development including the liaisons, coordinating partners,
11 waivers and matching options, inventory, Start-Up Initiative,
12 and Communities of Critical Economic Opportunity. The Office
13 of Program Policy and Government Accountability shall submit
14 to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker
15 of the House of Representatives, by January 1, 2002, a report
16 detailing the progress that the Toolkit for Economic
17 Development has made toward achievement of established
18 measures.

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

20 Renumber Subsequent Section.

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

24 And the title is amended as follows:

25 On page 3, line 29, after the semicolon,

27 insert:

28 providing for creation and purpose of the
29 Toolkit for Economic Development; defining the
30 term "economically distressed"; requiring the
31 appointment of liaisons from agencies and

1 organizations; providing for requirements and
2 duties; creating coordinating partners to serve
3 as the program's executive committee; providing
4 for duties and powers; providing for waivers of
5 state-required matching-funds requirements;
6 requiring an inventory of programs that help
7 economically distressed communities; requiring
8 that the inventory be categorized; creating the
9 Start-Up Initiative to promote the use of the
10 inventory; providing for identification of
11 communities; providing for solicitation of
12 proposals; providing for proposal content;
13 providing for review process and evaluation
14 criteria; providing for funding; providing for
15 the designation of communities of critical
16 economic opportunity; providing for use of
17 funds and certification; providing for
18 reporting; providing for expiration;

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