

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to economic development;  
3           creating the "Florida Emerging and Strategic  
4           Technologies Act"; creating s. 121.155, F.S.;  
5           providing legislative findings relating to the  
6           relationship between availability of capital  
7           and the development of high-technology  
8           businesses; expressing legislative intent that  
9           Florida Retirement System investments  
10          complement economic development strategies;  
11          requiring staff of the State Board of  
12          Administration to review certain economic  
13          development information; expanding annual  
14          report requirements; amending s. 159.26, F.S.;  
15          declaring, for purposes of the Florida  
16          Industrial Development Financing Act, that the  
17          information technology industry is vital to the  
18          economy of the state; providing that the  
19          advancement of information technology is a  
20          purpose underlying the act; amending s. 159.27,  
21          F.S.; redefining the term "project" to include  
22          information technology facilities; defining the  
23          term "information technology facility";  
24          amending s. 159.705, F.S.; specifying that  
25          certain entities may operate a project located  
26          in a research and development park and financed  
27          under the Florida Industrial Development  
28          Financing Act; amending s. 240.105, F.S.;  
29          providing that the mission of the state system  
30          of postsecondary education includes supporting  
31          economic development of the state; amending s.

1 240.710, F.S.; revising duties relating to the  
2 Digital Media Education Coordination Group;  
3 eliminating obsolete provisions; providing for  
4 the group to submit an annual report; amending  
5 s. 288.108, F.S.; specifying that the  
6 information technology sector is a high-impact  
7 sector for the purposes of a grant program for  
8 investments by certain businesses; amending s.  
9 445.045, F.S.; reassigning responsibility for  
10 development and maintenance of an information  
11 technology promotion and workforce recruitment  
12 website to Workforce Florida, Inc.; requiring  
13 consistency and compatibility with other  
14 information systems; authorizing Workforce  
15 Florida, Inc., to secure website services from  
16 outside entities; requiring coordination of the  
17 information technology website with other  
18 marketing, promotion, and advocacy efforts;  
19 authorizing Workforce Florida, Inc., to act  
20 through the Agency for Workforce Innovation in  
21 fulfilling its responsibilities related to the  
22 website; directing the agency to provide  
23 services to Workforce Florida, Inc.; providing  
24 legislative findings and intent relating to  
25 establishment of joint-use advanced  
26 digital-media research and production  
27 facilities; authorizing the Office of Tourism,  
28 Trade, and Economic Development to create a  
29 program supporting establishment of the  
30 facilities; prescribing the purposes of the  
31 facilities; specifying powers and duties of the

1 office relating to establishment of the  
2 facilities; defining the term "digital media";  
3 requiring a report to the Legislature on  
4 recommended funding levels for the facilities;  
5 providing effective dates.

6  
7 WHEREAS, Enterprise Florida, Inc., has sector  
8 strategies devoted to Florida's health technology industry and  
9 information technology industry, and

10 WHEREAS, the health technology industry and information  
11 technology industry represent valued and growing sectors of  
12 Florida's economy, and

13 WHEREAS, these industries employ Floridians at high  
14 average wages, and

15 WHEREAS, these industries are dominated by small  
16 employers and entrepreneurs who look to the state, its  
17 communities, economic development organizations, and community  
18 colleges and universities to provide an environment that will  
19 nurture their development, and

20 WHEREAS, these industries have identified issues  
21 relating to workforce development, transfer of technology from  
22 universities, availability of capital, and economic  
23 development marketing and programs as affecting their  
24 viability and development, and

25 WHEREAS, the issues affecting the viability and  
26 development of these industries are also critical to other  
27 emerging and strategic high-technology industries that are  
28 critically important to the economic development of the state,  
29 and

30 WHEREAS, high-technology industries improve the quality  
31 of life for all Floridians, and

1           WHEREAS, in recognition of weakening economic  
2 conditions in the state, exacerbated by the terrorist attacks  
3 of September 11, 2001, the Legislature finds that it is  
4 important to stimulate business activity, diversify the  
5 state's economy, and further develop high-technology  
6 industries, NOW, THEREFORE,

7  
8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

9  
10           Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Florida  
11 Emerging and Strategic Technologies Act."

12           Section 2. Section 121.155, Florida Statutes, is  
13 created to read:

14           121.155 Investments in support of economic development  
15 strategies; legislative findings and intent.--

16           (1) The Legislature finds that:

17           (a) The recruitment, retention, and expansion of  
18 high-technology businesses constitute a principal economic  
19 development strategy of the state.

20           (b) High-technology businesses have the potential to  
21 contribute significantly to the prosperity of the state and  
22 its residents through the creation of employment opportunities  
23 and through the generation of revenues into the economy.

24           (c) A significant barrier to the growth of  
25 high-technology businesses in the state is caused by a lack of  
26 access to sources of capital to support the activities of  
27 those businesses.

28           (d) The State Board of Administration, through the  
29 investment of funds of the System Trust Fund, has the ability  
30 to influence the availability of capital in the marketplace  
31 for businesses located in the state.

1           (e) The investment of funds of the System Trust Fund  
2 in a manner consistent with the economic development goals of  
3 the state enhances the prospects for fulfillment of those  
4 goals.

5           (2) It is the intent of the Legislature that the State  
6 Board of Administration, consistent with sound investment  
7 policy and with the investment provisions set forth in ss.  
8 215.44-215.53, continue to maximize opportunities for  
9 investing and reinvesting available funds of the System Trust  
10 Fund in a manner that is consistent with, and that supports  
11 fulfillment of, the economic development strategies of the  
12 state, including investing and reinvesting funds in support of  
13 the capital needs of emerging and strategic high-technology  
14 businesses located in the state. It is further the intent of  
15 the Legislature that the State Board of Administration, in  
16 supporting fulfillment of the economic development strategies  
17 of the state, establish partnerships, when feasible, with  
18 venture capital firms designed to facilitate investment of  
19 venture capital in high-technology businesses located in this  
20 state.

21           (3) Staff of the State Board of Administration shall  
22 regularly solicit information from Enterprise Florida, Inc.,  
23 concerning those high-technology business sectors that  
24 research indicates have significant potential to contribute to  
25 the economic development of the state, and shall provide that  
26 information to the Investment Advisory Council created under  
27 s. 215.444.

28           (4) As part of the annual report required under s.  
29 215.44, the State Board of Administration shall describe those  
30 investment activities undertaken during the year which are in  
31

1 furtherance of the findings and intent expressed in this  
2 section.

3 Section 3. Section 159.26, Florida Statutes, is  
4 amended to read:

5 159.26 Legislative findings and purposes.--The  
6 Legislature finds and declares that:

7 (1) The agriculture, tourism, urban development,  
8 historic preservation, information technology, education, and  
9 health care industries, among others, are vital to the economy  
10 of the state and to the welfare of the people and need to be  
11 enhanced and expanded to improve the competitive position of  
12 the state;

13 (2) There is a need to enhance other economic activity  
14 in the state by attracting manufacturing development, business  
15 enterprise management, and other activities conducive to  
16 economic promotion in order to provide a stronger, more  
17 balanced, and stable economy in the state, while providing  
18 through pollution control and otherwise for the health and  
19 safety of the people;

20 (3) In order to improve the prosperity and welfare of  
21 the state and its inhabitants; to improve education, living  
22 conditions, and health care; to promote the preservation of  
23 historic structures; to promote the rehabilitation of  
24 enterprise zones; to promote improved transportation; to  
25 promote effective and efficient pollution control throughout  
26 the state; to promote the advancement of education and science  
27 and research in and the economic development of the state; to  
28 promote the advancement of information technology; and to  
29 increase purchasing power and opportunities for gainful  
30 employment, it is necessary and in the public interest to  
31 facilitate the financing of the projects provided for in this

1 part and to facilitate and encourage the planning and  
2 development of these projects without regard to the boundaries  
3 between counties, municipalities, special districts, and other  
4 local governmental bodies or agencies in order to more  
5 effectively and efficiently serve the interests of the  
6 greatest number of people in the widest area practicable; and

7 (4) The purposes to be achieved by such projects and  
8 the financing of them in compliance with the criteria and  
9 requirements of this part are predominantly the public  
10 purposes stated in this section, and such purposes implement  
11 the governmental purposes under the State Constitution of  
12 providing for the health, safety, and welfare of the people,  
13 including implementing the purpose of s. 10(c), Art. VII of  
14 the State Constitution.

15 Section 4. Subsection (5) of section 159.27, Florida  
16 Statutes, is amended and subsection (25) is added to that  
17 section to read:

18 159.27 Definitions.--The following words and terms,  
19 unless the context clearly indicates a different meaning,  
20 shall have the following meanings:

21 (5) "Project" means any capital project comprising an  
22 industrial or manufacturing plant, a research and development  
23 park, an information technology facility, an agricultural  
24 processing or storage facility, a warehousing or distribution  
25 facility, a headquarters facility, a tourism facility, a  
26 convention or trade show facility, an urban parking facility,  
27 a trade center, a health care facility, an educational  
28 facility, a correctional or detention facility, a motion  
29 picture production facility, a preservation or rehabilitation  
30 of a certified historic structure, an airport or port  
31 facility, a commercial project in an enterprise zone, a

1 pollution-control facility, a hazardous or solid waste  
2 facility, a social service center, or a mass commuting  
3 facility, including one or more buildings and other  
4 structures, whether or not on the same site or sites; any  
5 rehabilitation, improvement, renovation, or enlargement of, or  
6 any addition to, any buildings or structures for use as a  
7 factory, a mill, a processing plant, an assembly plant, a  
8 fabricating plant, an industrial distribution center, a  
9 repair, overhaul, or service facility, a test facility, an  
10 agricultural processing or storage facility, a warehousing or  
11 distribution facility, a headquarters facility, a tourism  
12 facility, a convention or trade show facility, an urban  
13 parking facility, a trade center, a health care facility, an  
14 educational facility, a correctional or detention facility, a  
15 motion picture production facility, a preservation or  
16 rehabilitation of a certified historic structure, an airport  
17 or port facility, a commercial project in an enterprise zone,  
18 a pollution-control facility, a hazardous or solid waste  
19 facility, a social service center, or a mass commuting  
20 facility, and other facilities, including research and  
21 development facilities and information technology facilities,  
22 for manufacturing, processing, assembling, repairing,  
23 overhauling, servicing, testing, or handling of any products  
24 or commodities embraced in any industrial or manufacturing  
25 plant, in connection with the purposes of a research and  
26 development park, or other facilities for or used in  
27 connection with an agricultural processing or storage  
28 facility, a warehousing or distribution facility, a  
29 headquarters facility, a tourism facility, a convention or  
30 trade show facility, an urban parking facility, a trade  
31 center, a health care facility, an educational facility, a



1 correctional or detention facility, a motion picture  
 2 production facility, a preservation or rehabilitation of a  
 3 certified historic structure, an airport or port facility, or  
 4 a commercial project in an enterprise zone or for controlling  
 5 air or water pollution or for the disposal, processing,  
 6 conversion, or reclamation of hazardous or solid waste, a  
 7 social service center, or a mass commuting facility; and  
 8 including also the sites thereof and other rights in land  
 9 therefor whether improved or unimproved, machinery, equipment,  
 10 site preparation and landscaping, and all appurtenances and  
 11 facilities incidental thereto, such as warehouses, utilities,  
 12 access roads, railroad sidings, truck docking and similar  
 13 facilities, parking facilities, office or storage or training  
 14 facilities, public lodging and restaurant facilities, dockage,  
 15 wharfage, solar energy facilities, and other improvements  
 16 necessary or convenient for any manufacturing or industrial  
 17 plant, research and development park, information technology  
 18 facility, agricultural processing or storage facility,  
 19 warehousing or distribution facility, tourism facility,  
 20 convention or trade show facility, urban parking facility,  
 21 trade center, health care facility, educational facility, a  
 22 correctional or detention facility, motion picture production  
 23 facility, preservation or rehabilitation of a certified  
 24 historic structure, airport or port facility, commercial  
 25 project in an enterprise zone, pollution-control facility,  
 26 hazardous or solid waste facility, social service center, or a  
 27 mass commuting facility and any one or more combinations of  
 28 the foregoing.

29       (25) "Information technology facility" means a  
 30 building or structure, including infrastructure such as roads,  
 31 power, water, network access points, and fiber optic cable

1 leading to the structure, which is used to house businesses  
2 classified within the following codes of the North American  
3 Industry Classification System (NAICS): 334111 (electronic  
4 computer manufacturing), 334112 (computer storage device  
5 manufacturing), 334113 (computer terminal manufacturing),  
6 334119 (other computer peripheral equipment manufacturing),  
7 334613 (magnetic and optical recording media manufacturing),  
8 334418 (printed circuit assembly manufacturing), 334411  
9 (electron tube manufacturing), 334412 (bare printed circuit  
10 board manufacturing), 334413 (semiconductor and related device  
11 manufacturing), 334417 (electronic connector manufacturing),  
12 334611 (software reproducing), 541512 (computer systems design  
13 services), 51421 (data processing services), 514191 (on-line  
14 information services), 811212 (computer and office machine  
15 repair and maintenance), 44312 (computer and software  
16 stores-retail), 541519 (other computer related services),  
17 42143 (computer and computer peripheral equipment and software  
18 wholesalers), 51121 (software publishers), 541511 (custom  
19 computer programming services), and 61142 (computer training).  
20 The term also includes joint-use advanced digital media  
21 research and production facilities created pursuant to  
22 authority from the Legislature to enable the Office of  
23 Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development to administer a  
24 program facilitating the establishment and maintenance of such  
25 digital media facilities.

26 Section 5. Subsection (10) of section 159.705, Florida  
27 Statutes, is amended to read:

28 159.705 Powers of the authority.--The authority is  
29 authorized and empowered:

30 (10) Other provisions of law to the contrary  
31 notwithstanding, to acquire by lease, without consideration,

1 purchase, or option any lands owned, administered, managed,  
2 controlled, supervised, or otherwise protected by the state or  
3 any of its agencies, departments, boards, or commissions for  
4 the purpose of establishing a research and development park,  
5 subject to being first designated a research and development  
6 authority under the provisions of ss. 159.701-159.7095. The  
7 authority may cooperate with state and local political  
8 subdivisions and with private profit and nonprofit entities to  
9 implement the public purposes set out in s. 159.701. Such  
10 cooperation may include agreements for the use of the  
11 resources of state and local political subdivisions, agencies,  
12 or entities on a fee-for-service basis or on a cost-recovery  
13 basis. A project that is located in a research and development  
14 park and is financed under the provisions of the Florida  
15 Industrial Development Financing Act may be operated by a  
16 research and development authority, a state university, a  
17 Florida community college, or a governmental agency if the  
18 purpose and operation of the project is consistent with the  
19 purposes and policies specified in ss. 159.701-159.7095.

20 Section 6. Section 240.105, Florida Statutes, is  
21 amended to read:

22 240.105 Statement of purpose and mission.--

23 (1) The Legislature finds it in the public interest to  
24 provide a system of higher education which is of the highest  
25 possible quality; which enables students of all ages,  
26 backgrounds, and levels of income to participate in the search  
27 for knowledge and individual development; which stresses  
28 undergraduate teaching as its main priority; which offers  
29 selected professional, graduate, and research programs with  
30 emphasis on state and national needs; which fosters diversity  
31 of educational opportunity; which promotes service to the

1 public; which promotes economic development of the state;  
2 which makes effective and efficient use of human and physical  
3 resources; which functions cooperatively with other  
4 educational institutions and systems; and which promotes  
5 internal coordination and the wisest possible use of  
6 resources.

7 (2) The mission of the state system of postsecondary  
8 education is to develop human resources, to discover and  
9 disseminate knowledge, to extend knowledge and its application  
10 beyond the boundaries of its campuses, and to serve and  
11 stimulate society by developing in students heightened  
12 intellectual, cultural, and humane sensitivities; scientific,  
13 professional, and technological expertise; and a sense of  
14 purpose. Inherent in this broad mission are methods of  
15 instruction, research, extended training, and public service  
16 designed to educate people, promote the economic development  
17 of the state,and improve the human condition. Basic to every  
18 purpose of the system is the search for truth.

19 Section 7. Section 240.710, Florida Statutes, is  
20 amended to read:

21 240.710 Digital Media Education Coordination Group.--

22 (1) The Division of Colleges and Universities of the  
23 Department of Education ~~Board of Regents~~ shall create a  
24 Digital Media Education Coordination Group composed of  
25 representatives of the universities within the State  
26 University System that shall work in conjunction with the  
27 Division ~~Department of Education, the State Board~~ of Community  
28 Colleges, the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic  
29 Development,and the Articulation Coordinating Committee ~~on~~  
30 ~~the development of a plan~~ to enhance Florida's ability to meet  
31 the current and future workforce needs of the digital media

1 industry. The following purposes of the group shall be  
2 included in its plan development process:

3 (a) Coordination of the use of existing academic  
4 programs and research and faculty resources to promote the  
5 development of a digital media industry in this state.

6 (b) Address strategies to improve opportunities for  
7 interdisciplinary study and research within the emerging field  
8 of digital media through the development of tracts in existing  
9 degree programs, new interdisciplinary degree programs, and  
10 interdisciplinary research centers.

11 (c) Address the sharing of resources among  
12 universities in such a way as to allow a student to take  
13 courses from multiple departments or multiple educational  
14 institutions in pursuit of competency, certification, and  
15 degrees in digital information and media technology.

16 (2) Where practical, private accredited institutions  
17 of higher learning in this state should be encouraged to  
18 participate.

19 ~~(3) In addition to the elements of the plan governed~~  
20 ~~by the purposes described in subsection (1), the plan shall~~  
21 ~~include, to the maximum extent practical, the coordination of~~  
22 ~~educational resources to be provided by distance learning and~~  
23 ~~shall facilitate to the maximum extent possible articulation~~  
24 ~~and transfer of credits between community colleges and the~~  
25 ~~state universities. The plan shall address student enrollment~~  
26 ~~in affected programs with emphasis on enrollment beginning as~~  
27 ~~early as fall term, 2001.~~

28 (3)(4) The Digital Media Education Coordination Group  
29 shall submit an annual report of its activities with any  
30 recommendations for policy implementation or funding to the  
31 Florida Board of Education and its plan to the President of

1 the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by  
 2 February 1 of each year ~~no later than January 1, 2001.~~

3 Section 8. Paragraph (i) of subsection (6) of section  
 4 288.108, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

5 288.108 High-impact business.--

6 (6) SELECTION AND DESIGNATION OF HIGH-IMPACT  
 7 SECTORS.--

8 (i) For the purposes of this subsection, the  
 9 semiconductor ~~a high-impact sector consists of the silicon~~  
 10 technology sector and the information technology sector are  
 11 ~~that Enterprise Florida, Inc., has found to be focused around~~  
 12 ~~the type of high-impact businesses for which the incentive~~  
 13 ~~created in this section~~ subsection is designed. These sectors  
 14 ~~required and will create the kinds of~~ economic sector and  
 15 ~~economy-wide~~ benefits that justify the use of state resources  
 16 as economic development incentives. Further, the use of state  
 17 resources to encourage investment in these sectors is  
 18 necessary to encourage these investments and require  
 19 ~~substantial inducements~~ to compete with the incentive packages  
 20 offered by other states and nations. For the purposes of this  
 21 subsection and s. 220.191, the term "information technology  
 22 sector" includes, but is not limited to, the digital media  
 23 sector as defined by Enterprise Florida, Inc., and approved by  
 24 the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development.

25 Section 9. Section 445.045, Florida Statutes, is  
 26 amended to read:

27 445.045 Development of an Internet-based system for  
 28 information technology industry promotion and workforce  
 29 recruitment.--

30 (1) Workforce Florida, Inc., is responsible for  
 31 directing ~~The Department of Labor and Employment Security~~

1 ~~shall facilitate efforts to ensure~~ the development and  
2 maintenance of a website that promotes and markets the  
3 information technology industry in this state. The website  
4 shall be designed to inform the public concerning the scope of  
5 the information technology industry in the state and shall  
6 also be designed to address the workforce needs of the  
7 industry. The website shall include, through links or actual  
8 content, information concerning information technology  
9 businesses in this state, including links to such businesses;  
10 information concerning employment available at these  
11 businesses; and the means by which a jobseeker may post a  
12 resume on the website.

13 (2) Workforce Florida, Inc., ~~The Department of Labor~~  
14 ~~and Employment Security~~ shall coordinate with the State  
15 Technology Office and the Agency for Workforce Innovation  
16 ~~Workforce Development Board of Enterprise Florida, Inc.,~~ to  
17 ensure links, where feasible and appropriate, to existing job  
18 information websites maintained by the state and state  
19 agencies and to ensure that information technology positions  
20 offered by the state and state agencies are posted on the  
21 information technology website.

22 (3) Workforce Florida, Inc., shall ensure that the  
23 website developed and maintained under this section is  
24 consistent, compatible, and coordinated with the workforce  
25 information systems required under s. 445.011, including, but  
26 not limited to, the automated job-matching information system  
27 for employers, job seekers, and other users.

28 (4)(a) Workforce Florida, Inc., shall coordinate  
29 development and maintenance of the website under this section  
30 with the state's Chief Information Officer in the State  
31

1 Technology Office to ensure compatibility with the state's  
2 information system strategy and enterprise architecture.

3 (b) Workforce Florida, Inc., may enter into an  
4 agreement with the State Technology Office, the Agency for  
5 Workforce Innovation, or any other public agency with the  
6 requisite information technology expertise for the provision  
7 of design, operating, or other technological services  
8 necessary to develop and maintain the website.

9 (c) Workforce Florida, Inc., may procure services  
10 necessary to implement the provisions of this section, if it  
11 employs competitive processes, including requests for  
12 proposals, competitive negotiation, and other competitive  
13 processes to ensure that the procurement results in the most  
14 cost-effective investment of state funds.

15 (5) In furtherance of the requirements of this section  
16 that the website promote and market the information technology  
17 industry by communicating information on the scope of the  
18 industry in this state, Workforce Florida, Inc., shall  
19 coordinate its efforts with the high-technology industry  
20 marketing efforts of Enterprise Florida, Inc., under s.  
21 288.911. Through links or actual content, the website  
22 developed under this section shall serve as a forum for  
23 distributing the marketing campaign developed by Enterprise  
24 Florida, Inc., under s. 288.911. In addition, Workforce  
25 Florida, Inc., shall solicit input from the not-for-profit  
26 corporation created to advocate on behalf of the information  
27 technology industry as an outgrowth of the Information Service  
28 Technology Development Task Force created under chapter  
29 99-354, Laws of Florida.

30 (6) In fulfilling its responsibilities under this  
31 section, Workforce Florida, Inc., may enlist the assistance of



1 and act through the Agency for Workforce Innovation. The  
2 agency is authorized and directed to provide the services that  
3 Workforce Florida, Inc., and the agency consider necessary to  
4 implement this section.

5 Section 10. Joint-use advanced digital-media research  
6 and production facilities.--

7 (1) The Legislature finds that developments in digital  
8 media are having, and will continue to have, a profound effect  
9 on the state, its residents, and its businesses in areas  
10 including, but not limited to, information technology,  
11 simulation technology, and film and entertainment production  
12 and distribution. The digital-media industry represents a  
13 strategic economic development opportunity for the state to  
14 become a global leader in this emerging and dynamic field. The  
15 ability of the state to succeed in developing the  
16 digital-media sector, however, depends upon having a workforce  
17 with skills necessary to meet the demands of the industry. The  
18 Legislature further finds that the convergence of media and  
19 the collaboration of businesses and multi-disciplinary  
20 academic research programs will enable this state to compete  
21 more successfully with other digital-media innovation centers  
22 around the country and around the world. Therefore, it is the  
23 intent of the Legislature to support the establishment and  
24 maintenance of joint-use advanced digital-media research and  
25 production facilities in the state to provide regional focal  
26 points for collaboration between research and education  
27 programs and digital-media industries.

28 (2) Subject to legislative appropriation, the Office  
29 of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development may create and  
30 administer a program to facilitate the establishment and  
31 maintenance of joint-use advanced digital-media research and

1 production facilities at strategic locations around the state.  
2 The office shall administer all facets of this program in  
3 cooperation and consultation with the Office of the Film  
4 Commissioner; Enterprise Florida, Inc.; Workforce Florida,  
5 Inc.; the Digital Media Education Coordination Group of the  
6 State University System; and a not-for-profit corporation that  
7 represents information technology businesses throughout the  
8 state.

9 (3) The purposes of a joint-use advanced digital-media  
10 research and production facility include:

11 (a) Creating opportunities for industry, academia, and  
12 government to benefit from student and researcher involvement  
13 in applied research and development projects and other  
14 projects related to digital media.

15 (b) Promoting paths to future employment for students  
16 participating in the activities of the facility.

17 (c) Contributing to the development of a skilled  
18 workforce to support the needs of the digital-media industry.

19 (d) Facilitating the transfer of research results to  
20 commercial and government applications.

21 (e) Integrating the efforts and activities of the  
22 diverse, high-technology industries in the state which are  
23 critical to the economic future of the state.

24 (f) Assisting producers, suppliers, and distributors  
25 in making the transition from well-established passive media  
26 infrastructure to a highly interactive and immersive media  
27 infrastructure.

28 (g) Performing other functions or activities designed  
29 to contribute to the success of the state in becoming a leader  
30 in the digital-media industry, as approved by the Office of  
31 Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development.

1           (4) In carrying out its responsibilities under this  
2 section, the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic  
3 Development:

4           (a) Shall develop a strategic plan for how joint-use  
5 advanced digital-media research and production facilities will  
6 be governed and for how those facilities will be funded in the  
7 long term. The office may contract for the preparation of the  
8 strategic plan required by this paragraph.

9           (b) May contract for the establishment of joint-use  
10 advanced digital-media research and production facilities. In  
11 identifying, approving, and executing contracts, the office  
12 shall attempt to maximize the use and integration of existing  
13 facilities and programs in the state which are suitable for  
14 application as joint-use advanced digital-media facilities.  
15 Funds awarded under the contracts may be used to lease or  
16 refurbish existing facilities to create state-of-the-art  
17 digital-media design, production, and research laboratories  
18 that are shared by public and private educational institutions  
19 and industry partners.

20           (c) Shall ensure that funds appropriated for the  
21 program authorized in this section are expended in a manner  
22 consistent with the priority needs for developing the  
23 digital-media industry in this state, as identified by the  
24 organizations listed in subsection (2).

25           (d) Shall require any entity or organization receiving  
26 state funding under this section to match that funding with  
27 nonstate sources.

28           (e) Shall require any joint-use advanced digital-media  
29 research and production facility receiving state funds to  
30 submit for approval by the office a detailed plan for the  
31 operation of the facility. The operating plan must, at a

1 minimum, include provisions for the establishment of a tenant  
2 association, with representation by each tenant using the  
3 facility, and for the collection of annual dues from tenants  
4 to support the operation and maintenance of the facility.

5 (f) Shall require any joint-use advanced digital-media  
6 research and production facility receiving state funding to  
7 submit an annual report to the office by a date established by  
8 the office. Upon receipt of the annual reports, the office  
9 shall provide copies to the Governor, the President of the  
10 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

11 (g) Shall establish guidelines and criteria governing  
12 the application for and receipt of funds under this section.

13 (h) May, as part of the annual report on the business  
14 climate of the state required under section 14.2015, Florida  
15 Statutes, recommend to the Legislature policies designed to  
16 enhance the effectiveness of the program for joint-use  
17 advanced digital-media research and production facilities or  
18 policies designed to otherwise promote the development of the  
19 digital-media industry in the state.

20 (5) For the purposes of this section, the term  
21 "digital media" is defined as a discipline based on the  
22 creative convergence of art, science, and technology for human  
23 expression, communication, and social interaction. The Office  
24 of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development, in cooperation  
25 and consultation with the organizations identified in  
26 subsection (2), shall identify specific types of businesses or  
27 types of business activity to be included within the term  
28 "digital media."

29 Section 11. The Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic  
30 Development, the Office of the Film Commissioner, and the  
31 Digital Media Education Coordination Group shall jointly

1 report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the  
2 House of Representatives by February 1, 2002, on recommended  
3 funding levels for the program to facilitate establishment and  
4 maintenance of joint-use advanced digital-media research and  
5 production facilities as authorized by this act. The report  
6 must include options based on different funding levels and  
7 information on the number and types of facilities that the  
8 organizations estimate could be established under each funding  
9 option. The report also must include an assessment of the  
10 long-term costs associated with operating the facilities and  
11 an assessment of nonstate funding sources that could be  
12 accessed to support establishment and maintenance of the  
13 facilities.

14           Section 12. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
15 law.

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