

By Senator Posey

15-873-02

See HB 531

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to technological and economic  
3           development; creating the Commission on  
4           Intellectual Capital, Technology Transfer, and  
5           Leading Edge Business Development; providing  
6           for membership; providing purposes; requiring  
7           the commission to develop a plan; requiring an  
8           annual report to the Legislature; providing  
9           commission goals; providing for staff;  
10          providing an effective date.

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12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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14           Section 1. Commission on Intellectual Capital,  
15 Technology Transfer, and Leading Edge Business Development.--

16           (1) There is created the Commission on Intellectual  
17 Capital, Technology Transfer, and Leading Edge Business  
18 Development. The commission shall be administratively housed  
19 within the Board of Education's Office of the Secretary;  
20 however, the commission shall not be subject to the control,  
21 supervision, or direction of the Secretary of Education or the  
22 Board of Education, except for the purpose of ensuring that  
23 the commission is effectively staffed pursuant to this  
24 section.

25           (2)(a) Members of the commission shall consist of the  
26 following persons or their appointees:

27           1. The chair of the Board of Education.

28           2. The chair of the Council for Education Policy,  
29 Research, and Improvement.

30           3. The chair of Enterprise Florida, Inc.

31           4. The chair of Workforce Florida, Inc.

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2 In addition, the Governor shall appoint three chief executive  
3 officers of existing companies or heads of former companies  
4 known for new initiatives and three heads of existing venture  
5 capital companies to the commission.

6 (b) All commission members shall be appointed no later  
7 than July 1, 2002.

8 (c) The commission shall meet at least twice a year.

9 (d) The commission may create and dissolve advisory  
10 committees, working groups, and task forces as necessary to  
11 carry out the duties and responsibilities of the commission.  
12 Such advisory committees, working groups, and task forces may  
13 consist of commission members and other persons with knowledge  
14 and expertise related to the committee, group, or task force  
15 created.

16 (3) The purposes of the commission shall be to foster  
17 and facilitate technology-based research and the enhancement  
18 of intellectual capital, the promotion of product development  
19 and commercialization, and the creation of new companies and  
20 expansion of existing companies located within this state to  
21 the fullest extent possible. The commission shall also  
22 develop a plan which shall include recommendations to address  
23 the following and all related issues:

24 (a) Targeting industrial development in areas of  
25 particular promise for Florida.

26 (b) Facilitating the collaboration among state  
27 universities, state agencies, and the private sector for  
28 conducting research and accelerating the transfer and  
29 commercialization of technology and intellectual products into  
30 the private sector, including determining the extent to which  
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1 provisions in section 112.313, Florida Statutes, create  
2 barriers to technology transfer.

3 (c) Recommending to the Legislature and the Board of  
4 Education any funding and initiatives to enhance  
5 university-based or university-affiliated scientific and  
6 technical research in areas with potential to create  
7 top-tiered employment in Florida's economy, recruit  
8 outstanding university research faculty who have demonstrated  
9 an expertise and an excellence in research, and develop  
10 world-class research facilities.

11 (d) Promoting collaboration among multiple  
12 universities on research projects so that the synergies of  
13 Florida's research universities can support the development  
14 and achievement of the industrial and economic goals of the  
15 state.

16 (e) Ensuring that appropriate business, financial, and  
17 technical assistance is available in the early, high-risk  
18 stages of development.

19 (f) Identifying opportunities and mobilizing state  
20 efforts to establish government and private sector supported  
21 research labs.

22 (g) Identifying and reporting to the Office of  
23 Workforce and Economic Development of the Commissioner of  
24 Education specific academic and vocational training programs  
25 that produce the skilled workforce necessary for targeted  
26 industries.

27 (h) Building strong and long-term partnerships among  
28 worldwide industries, Florida's universities, and vocational  
29 training programs so that all are strengthened.

30 (i) Developing incentive mechanisms and performance  
31 measures for the activities by universities, vocational

1 training programs, and other government programs that support  
2 technology-based industry.

3 (j) Building an entrepreneurial culture in Florida's  
4 universities and state agencies that supports and nurtures  
5 technology transfer and the formation of new products and  
6 companies.

7 (k) Coordinating commission efforts with Enterprise  
8 Florida, Inc., Workforce Florida, Inc., the Agency for  
9 Workforce Innovation, the Board of Education, the Council for  
10 Education Policy, Research, and Improvement, and the state's  
11 postsecondary educational institutions.

12 (4) The commission shall provide to the President of  
13 the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, no  
14 later than June 30, 2003, and each year thereafter, an annual  
15 report of the activities and accomplishments of the commission  
16 and participating businesses and institutions.

17 (a) The report shall include:

18 1. The plan required pursuant to subsection (3).

19 2. A description of activities such as the patenting  
20 and licensing of intellectual property by participating  
21 universities, state agencies, and businesses.

22 3. The production of graduates from programs as a  
23 result of targeted efforts.

24 4. The activities of business-education  
25 collaborations.

26 (b) The report shall describe and evaluate the impact  
27 of commission and legislative initiatives to promote the  
28 development of new technology in this state and recommend new  
29 or amended initiatives. The report shall also describe and  
30 evaluate existing programs that support small businesses and  
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1 determine whether new programs are needed or existing programs  
2 should be improved, consolidated, or organized differently.

3 (5) An initial effort of the commission shall be to  
4 evaluate alternative approaches needed to facilitate  
5 technology transfer. The commission shall examine existing  
6 initiatives in this state, other states, and other countries  
7 that include collaboration among multiple universities,  
8 policies and initiatives for promoting collaboration and  
9 resolving disputes over intellectual property rights, and  
10 other related issues. Finally, the commission shall develop a  
11 set of criteria for targeting and funding enhancements to  
12 universities and vocational programs.

13 (6) The Technology Research and Development Authority  
14 may be contracted to staff the commission and manage all  
15 administration as deemed necessary and appropriate to carry  
16 out the commission's responsibilities and functions, including  
17 preparing the plan required pursuant to subsection (3) and the  
18 annual report required pursuant to subsection (4).

19 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
20 law.

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23 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

24 Creates the Commission on Intellectual Capital,  
25 Technology Transfer, and Leading Edge Business  
26 Development to foster and facilitate technology-based  
27 research and the enhancement of intellectual capital, the  
28 promotion of product development and commercialization,  
29 and the creation of new companies and expansion of  
30 existing companies located within this state. (See bill  
31 for details.)