

By Senator Klein

28-1039-02

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
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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 Film and
4 Entertainment; 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 Film and Entertainment, 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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18 SENATE SUMMARY

19 Creates the "Florida Emerging and Strategic Technologies
20 Act" to stimulate business activity, diversify the
21 state's economy, and further develop high-technology
22 industries. (See bill for details.)
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