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DATE: February 6, 2002

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON
HOUSE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
TRUST FUND RE-CREATION ANALYSIS**

BILL #: HB 625
RELATING TO: Digital Divide Council
SPONSOR(S): Representative(s) Jennings
TIED BILL(S): None

ORIGINATING COMMITTEE(S)/COUNCIL(S)/COMMITTEE(S) OF REFERENCE:

- (1) INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY YEAS 11 NAYS 0
 - (2) FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY COUNCIL
 - (3) READY INFRASTRUCTURE COUNCIL
 - (4)
 - (5)
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I. SUMMARY:

This bill would create the Digital Divide Trust Fund in the State Technology Office for the purpose of receiving and disbursing funds to pay part or all the cost of facilitating design and implementation of one or more programs that use information technology to educate and train members of economically disadvantaged families to become qualified to compete for high-skill, high-wage employment opportunities in the information technology industry in Florida. The bill would authorize the Digital Divide Council to administer the Trust Fund. The bill would provide means for the Trust Fund to be funded. The bill would provide for the Trust Fund to be terminated by 7/1/06 if not earlier re-created by law, and if terminated, would provide for the State Technology Office to pay any outstanding debts or obligations of the Trust Fund and for the Comptroller to close out and remove the Trust Fund from the state accounting systems.

II. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS:

A. PRESENT SITUATION:

1. MAJOR STATUTES THAT CONTROL THE TRUST FUND:

s. 215.3207, F. S.; Art. III, s. 19, Florida Constitution.

2. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FUND'S USES OR PURPOSES:

Receive and disburse appropriated public funds, public and private gifts and donations, and matching private funds to pay part or all of costs of designing and implementing one or more programs that use information technology to educate and train members of economically disadvantaged families to become qualified to compete for high-skill, high-wage employment opportunities in the information technology industry in Florida.

3. MAJOR SOURCES OF REVENUE FOR THE FUND:

Appropriated public funds; public and private gifts and donations; and matching private funds.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

N/A

III. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT:

The fiscal impact of this bill would be nominal because its enactment would only create a trust fund to serve as a fiscal vehicle for holding and disbursing any funds that may become available to pay part or all of any of the costs the Digital Divide Council and the State Technology Office may incur in carrying out the statutory mission of the Council.

IV. COMMENTS:

The bill was considered by the Committee on Information Technology during its 2/6/02 meeting and was passed by a unanimous vote of 11 yeas to 0 nays.

V. AMENDMENTS OR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES:

None

VI. SIGNATURES:

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:

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