

By the Committees on Finance and Taxation; Commerce, Economic Opportunities, and Consumer Services; Military and Veterans' Affairs, Base Protection, and Spaceports; and Senator Hill

314-2525-03

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to military service family
3 relief; providing a short title; authorizing
4 the Agency for Workforce Innovation to provide
5 grants to private-sector employers for wages
6 paid to Florida residents of the United States
7 Armed Forces Reserves or the Florida National
8 Guard while on federal active duty; providing
9 for calculation of grant amounts; identifying
10 the period for which grants can be provided;
11 requiring the agency to develop a plan to
12 implement the grant process; providing that the
13 total amount of agency grants shall not exceed
14 aggregate amount in the 2003-2004 General
15 Appropriations Act; providing an effective
16 date.

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

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20 Section 1. This act may be cited as the "First
21 Sergeant Carey Baker Military Relief Act."

22 Section 2. The Agency for Workforce Innovation shall
23 provide matching grants to private-sector employers in this
24 state that continue to provide wages to employees who are
25 serving in the United States Armed Forces Reserves or the
26 Florida National Guard while such employees are on federal
27 active duty, provided that the employees are residents of the
28 state during the period of such federal active duty.

29 Section 3. Grants shall be provided for monthly wages
30 paid to employees for the actual period of federal active
31 duty, but in no case shall grants be provided for any federal

1 active duty prior to January 1, 2003, or subsequent to June
2 30, 2004. The monthly grant per employee may not exceed the
3 lesser of \$500 or one-half of the monthly wages paid by the
4 employer to the employee at the level paid prior to the
5 employee being called to federal active duty, minus the amount
6 of active duty base pay and benefit package.

7 Section 4. The agency shall develop a plan subject to
8 the notice, review, and objection procedures of section
9 216.177, Florida Statutes, to implement the application and
10 payment processes for such matching grants.

11 Section 5. The agency is authorized to provide
12 matching grants in an aggregate amount not to exceed specific
13 appropriations included in the 2003-2004 fiscal year General
14 Appropriations Act for this purpose.

15 Section 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003.

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17 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
18 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
19 CS/CS/SB 1794

20 This committee substitute changes the bill from a tax credit
21 program to a matching grants program for private sector
22 employers that continue to provide wages to employees who are
23 serving in the United States Armed Forces Reserves or the
24 Florida National Guard while such employees are on federal
25 active duty between January 1, 2003 and June 30, 2004. The
26 amount of grants provided in aggregate is may not exceed
27 specific appropriations in the General Appropriations Act for
28 fiscal year 2003-2004.
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