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1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to biomedical research; creating the James
3 and Esther King Center for Universal Research to Eradicate
4 Disease; providing intent and duties; creating an advisory
5 council; amending s. 215.5602, F.S.; expanding the long-
6 term goals and funding of the Florida Biomedical Research
7 Program to include the cure of specified diseases;
8 creating the Florida Cancer Research Cooperative;
9 providing for a board of directors; providing the
10 cooperative's mission and duties; providing for
11 construction of the act in pari materia with laws enacted
12 during the 2003 Regular Session of the Legislature;
13 providing an effective date.

14
15 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

16
17 Section 1. James and Esther King Center for Universal
18 Research to Eradicate Disease.--

19 (1) The Legislature finds that an estimated 128 million
20 Americans suffer from acute, chronic, and degenerative diseases
21 and that biomedical research is the key to finding cures for
22 these diseases that negatively affect all Floridians. The
23 Legislature further finds that, while there is much research
24 being conducted throughout this state and throughout the world,
25 there is a lack of coordination of efforts among researchers.
26 The Legislature, therefore, finds that there is a significant
27 need for a coordinated effort if the goal of curing disease is
28 to be achieved. Moreover, the Legislature finds that the
29 biomedical technology sector meets the criteria of a high-impact
30 sector, pursuant to section 288.108, Florida Statutes, having a



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31 high importance to this state's economy with a significant
32 potential for growth and contribution to our universities and
33 quality of life.

34 (2) It is the intent of the Legislature that Florida
35 strive to become the nation's leader in biomedical research and
36 commit itself to being the state to find cures for the most
37 deadly and widespread diseases. It is further the intent of the
38 Legislature that there be a coordinated effort among the state's
39 public and private universities and the biomedical industry to
40 discover such cures. Moreover, it is the intent of the
41 Legislature to expand the state economy by attracting biomedical
42 researchers and research companies to this state.

43 (3) There is established the James and Esther King Center
44 for Universal Research to Eradicate Disease, which shall be
45 known as the "CURED."

46 (a) The purpose of the center is to coordinate, improve,
47 expand, and monitor all biomedical research programs within the
48 state, facilitate funding opportunities, and foster improved
49 technology transfer of research findings into clinical trials
50 and widespread public use.

51 (b) The goal of the center is to find cures for diseases
52 such as cancer, heart disease, lung disease, diabetes, and
53 neurological disorders, including Alzheimer's disease, epilepsy,
54 and Parkinson's disease.

55 (c) The center shall hold an annual biomedical technology
56 summit in Florida to which biomedical researchers, biomedical
57 technology companies, business incubators, pharmaceutical
58 manufacturers, and others around the nation and world are
59 invited to share biomedical research findings in order to
60 expedite the discovery of cures. Summit attendees will be



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61 required to cover the costs of such attendance or obtain
62 sponsorship for such attendance.

63 (d) The center shall encourage clinical trials in this
64 state on research that holds promise of curing a disease or
65 condition. The center shall facilitate partnerships between
66 researchers, treating physicians, and community hospitals for
67 the purpose of sharing new techniques and new research findings,
68 as well as coordinating voluntary donations to ensure an
69 adequate supply of adult stem cells or cord blood.

70 (e) The center shall also encourage the discovery and
71 production in Florida of vaccines that prevent disease.

72 (f) The center shall monitor the supply and demand needs
73 of researchers relating to stem cell research and other types of
74 human tissue research. If the center determines that there is a
75 need for increased donation of human tissue, it shall notify
76 hospitals licensed pursuant to chapter 395, Florida Statutes,
77 that have entered into partnership agreements with research
78 institutes conducting stem cell research located in the same
79 geographic region as the researchers demanding the stem cells or
80 other tissues. Such hospitals shall then implement programs that
81 encourage voluntary donations of cord blood or other needed
82 adult tissue.

83 (g) The center shall be funded through private, state, and
84 federal sources.

85 (h) The center shall serve as a registry of all known
86 biomedical grant opportunities and may assist any public or
87 private biomedical research program in this state in preparing
88 grant requests.

89 (i) The center shall maintain a website with links to
90 peer-reviewed biomedical research. The website shall also



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91 contain a list of all known biomedical research being conducted
92 in Florida and shall facilitate communication among researchers
93 and other interested parties.

94 (j) The center shall submit an annual report to the
95 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the
96 House of Representatives no later than January 15 which contains
97 recommendations for legislative change necessary to foster a
98 positive climate for biomedical research in this state.

99 (k) The duties of the center may be outsourced to a
100 private entity or state university.

101 (4) There is established within the center an advisory
102 council which shall meet at least annually.

103 (a) The council shall consist of the members of the board
104 of directors of the Florida Research Consortium and at least one
105 representative from:

106 1. The Emerging Technology Commission.

107 2. Enterprise Florida, Inc.

108 3. BioFlorida.

109 4. The Florida Biomedical Research Advisory Council.

110 5. The Florida Medical Foundation.

111 6. Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America.

112 (b) Members of the council shall serve without
113 compensation and each organization represented shall cover all
114 expenses of its representative.

115 Section 2. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (1),
116 subsection (2), and paragraph (f) of subsection (10) of section
117 215.5602, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

118 215.5602 Florida Biomedical Research Program.--

119 (1) There is established within the Department of Health
120 the Florida Biomedical Research Program funded by the proceeds



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121 of the Lawton Chiles Endowment Fund pursuant to s. 215.5601. The
 122 purpose of the Florida Biomedical Research Program is to provide
 123 an annual and perpetual source of funding in order to support
 124 research initiatives that address the health care problems of
 125 Floridians in the areas of tobacco-related cancer,
 126 cardiovascular disease, stroke, and pulmonary disease. The long-
 127 term goals of the program are to:

128 (a) Improve the health of Floridians by researching better
 129 prevention, diagnoses, ~~and~~ treatments, and cures for cancer,
 130 cardiovascular disease, stroke, and pulmonary disease.

131 (b) Expand the foundation of biomedical knowledge relating
 132 to the prevention, diagnosis, ~~and~~ treatment, and cure of
 133 diseases related to tobacco use, including cancer,
 134 cardiovascular disease, stroke, and pulmonary disease.

135 (2) Funds appropriated for the Florida Biomedical Research
 136 Program shall be used exclusively for the award of grants and
 137 fellowships as established in this section; for research
 138 relating to the prevention, diagnosis, ~~and~~ treatment, and cure
 139 of diseases related to tobacco use, including cancer,
 140 cardiovascular disease, stroke, and pulmonary disease; and for
 141 expenses incurred in the administration of this section.
 142 Priority shall be granted to research designed to prevent or
 143 cure disease.

144 (10) The council shall submit an annual progress report on
 145 the state of biomedical research in this state to the Governor,
 146 the Secretary of Health, the President of the Senate, and the
 147 Speaker of the House of Representatives by February 1. The
 148 report must include:

149 (f) Progress in the prevention, diagnosis, ~~and~~ treatment,
 150 and cure of diseases related to tobacco use, including cancer,



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151 cardiovascular disease, stroke, and pulmonary disease.

152 Section 3. Florida Cancer Research Cooperative.--

153 (1) Effective July 1, 2003, the Florida Cancer Research
 154 Cooperative is established for the purpose of making the State
 155 of Florida a world class center for cancer research.

156 (2)(a) A not-for-profit corporation, acting as an
 157 instrumentality of the Florida Dialogue on Cancer, shall be
 158 organized for the purpose of governing the affairs of the
 159 cooperative.

160 (b) The Florida Cancer Research Cooperative, Inc., may
 161 create not-for-profit corporate subsidiaries to fulfill its
 162 mission. The not-for-profit corporation and its subsidiaries are
 163 authorized to receive, hold, invest, and administer property and
 164 any moneys acquired from private, local, state, and federal
 165 sources, as well as technical and professional income generated
 166 or derived from the mission-related activities of the
 167 cooperative.

168 (c) The affairs of the not-for-profit corporation shall be
 169 managed by a board of directors which shall consist of:

170 1. The Secretary of the Department of Health or his or her
 171 designee;

172 2. The Chief Executive Officer of the H. Lee Moffitt
 173 Cancer Center or his or her designee;

174 3. The President of the University of Florida Shands
 175 Cancer Center or his or her designee;

176 4. The Chief Executive Officer of the University of Miami
 177 Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center or his or her designee;

178 5. The Chief Executive Officer of the Mayo Clinic,
 179 Jacksonville, or his or her designee;

180 6. The Chief Executive Officer of the American Cancer



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181 Society, Florida Division, or his or her designee;

182 7. The President of the American Cancer Society, Florida
183 Division, Board of Directors or his or her designee;

184 8. The President of the Florida Society of Clinical
185 Oncology or his or her designee;

186 9. The Chief Executive Officer of Enterprise Florida,
187 Inc., or his or her designee;

188 10. Three representatives from large Florida hospitals or
189 institutions, not delineated in subparagraphs 1. through 6.,
190 that treat a large volume of cancer patients. One shall be
191 appointed by the Governor, one shall be appointed by the Speaker
192 of the House of Representatives, and one shall be appointed by
193 the President of the Senate;

194 11. Three representatives from community-based, statewide
195 organizations serving populations that experience cancer
196 disparities, one of whom shall be appointed by the Governor, one
197 of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of
198 Representatives, and one of whom shall be appointed by the
199 President of the Senate;

200 12. One member of the Florida House of Representatives, to
201 be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

202 13. One member of the Florida Senate, to be appointed by
203 the President of the Senate;

204 14. Three university presidents, one of whom shall be
205 appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall be appointed by the
206 Speaker of the House of Representatives, and one of whom shall
207 be appointed by the President of the Senate; and

208 15. Five representatives from other statewide public
209 health organizations whose missions include public education and
210 the eradication of cancer, three of whom shall be appointed by



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211 the Governor, one of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker of
212 the House of Representatives, and one of whom shall be appointed
213 by the President of the Senate.

214 (d) Appointments made by the Speaker of the House of
215 Representatives and the President of the Senate pursuant to
216 paragraph (c) shall be for 2-year terms, concurrent with the
217 bienniums in which they serve as presiding officers.

218 (e) Appointments made by the Governor pursuant to
219 paragraph (c) shall be for 2-year terms, although the Governor
220 may reappoint directors.

221 (f) Members of the board of directors of the not-for-
222 profit corporation or any subsidiaries shall serve without
223 compensation.

224 (3) The cooperative shall issue an annual report to the
225 Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the
226 President of the Senate, by December 15 of each year, with
227 policy and funding recommendations regarding cancer research
228 capacity in Florida and related issues.

229 Section 4. Florida Cancer Research Cooperative; mission
230 and duties.--

231 (1) The cooperative shall develop and centralize the
232 processes and shared services for expanding cancer research in
233 Florida through:

234 (a) Support through bioinformatics, in order to create a
235 cancer informatics infrastructure that enhances information and
236 resource exchange and integration through researchers working in
237 diverse disciplines to facilitate the full spectrum of cancer
238 investigations;

239 (b) Technical coordination, business development, and
240 support of intellectual property;



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241 (c) Development of a statewide cancer clinical trials
 242 network as contemplated in section 1; and

243 (d) Other multidisciplinary research support activities.

244 (2) The cooperative shall work in concert with the Center
 245 for Universal Research to Eradicate Disease created in section 1
 246 to ensure that the goals of the center are advanced.

247 Section 5. If any law amended by this act was also amended
 248 by a law enacted at the 2003 Regular Session of the Legislature,
 249 such laws shall be construed as if they had been enacted at the
 250 same session of the Legislature, and full effect shall be given
 251 to each if possible.

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