

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS**

**BILL #:** HB 1855 (PCB AP-04-14) Department of State  
**SPONSOR(S):** Appropriations  
**TIED BILLS:** **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:**

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REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR
1) Appropriations	32 Y, 0 N	London	Baker
2)			
3)			
4)			
5)			

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**SUMMARY ANALYSIS**

HB1855 transfers certain international programs from the Department of State to the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development (OTTED) within the Executive Office of the Governor by a type two transfer and makes conforming changes. The programs being transferred include: the provision of assistance and facilities to the Organization of American States, the state protocol officer functions, international development outreach activities in Latin America and the Caribbean Basin (FAVA/CA), the Florida Intergovernmental Relations Foundation, the Accord of the States of the Gulf of Mexico, the Florida/Korea Economic Cooperation Committee, Inc; and intergovernmental relations functions.

This bill also transfers the duty of administration for the linkage institutes between postsecondary institutions in this state and foreign countries from the Department of State to the Department of Education by a type two transfer and makes conforming changes.

This document does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill sponsor or House of Representatives.

**STORAGE NAME:** h1855.ap.doc  
**DATE:** March 26, 2004

## FULL ANALYSIS

### I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

#### A. DOES THE BILL:

- |                                      |                              |                             |   |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. Reduce government?                | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Lower taxes?                      | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Expand individual freedom?        | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Increase personal responsibility? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Empower families?                 | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

For any principle that received a "no" above, please explain:

#### B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

HB1855 codifies the transfer of the administration of certain international programs from the Department of State to the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development into the Florida Statutes. The administration of these programs has been a current practice in the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development through a Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of State.

This bill also conforms the Florida Statutes to current practice within the Department of Education. It transfers the administration of the linkage institutes between postsecondary institutions in this state and foreign countries from the Department of State to the Department of Education.

#### BACKGROUND

The international programs of the Governor's Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development (OTTED) serve to enhance and coordinate international business, foreign affairs, and diplomacy for the State of Florida. OTTED fosters global relationships, provides a support system for Florida's international activities, and encourages international economic development. OTTED's vision is to ensure that Florida remains competitive in the global economy by using all of its international resources. Below are some of the international activities:

The *Florida Association of Voluntary Agencies for Caribbean Action, Inc. (FAVA/CA)*, is a private not for profit organization formed in 1981 and has statutory authority under s. 288.0251. A state appropriation, voted annually since 1986, provides a funding base for an estimated 150 volunteer missions to Central America and the Caribbean to cover the expenses of Corps volunteers who donate their time and skills on short-term technical assistance missions to help Florida's neighbors help themselves. Its aim is, through training and technical assistance, to improve environmental, social and economic conditions in the region. This international development outreach activity was once administered by the Department of State and is now administered by the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development.

The *Florida Intergovernmental Relations Foundation (FIRF)* assists in fundraising and ambassadorial outreach efforts through International Liaison Programs, coordinating Overseas Cultural Exchange Missions, supporting inbound missions from around the world, and annually hosting International Days (a 2-3 day international affairs conference) in Florida. This foundation was once administered by the Department of State and is now administered by the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development.

The *Organization of American States (OAS)* plays a central role in working toward many of the goals that are shared by the countries of North, Central and South America, and the Caribbean. Some of the

Organization's priorities are: strengthening democracy, building on peace, defending human rights, fostering free trade, combating drugs, and promoting sustainable development. Once provided by the Department of State, the responsibilities for providing assistance and facilities for OAS are now the responsibility of the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development.

The effort to unite the economies of the Americas into a single free trade area began at the Summit of the Americas, which was held in December 1994 in Miami, U.S.A. The Heads of State and Government of the 34 democracies in the region agreed to construct a *Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA)* through which barriers to trade and investment will be progressively eliminated. They agreed to complete negotiations towards this agreement by the year 2005.

The *Accord of the States of the Gulf of Mexico* was signed in the city of Campeche, Mexico, on May 13, 1995, by the representatives of Mexico and of the eleven states of the United States that share the Gulf of Mexico region. The objective of the Accord is to establish working partnerships among these states to promote economic and infrastructure development, as well as educational and cultural exchanges. The Accord brings together public officials, entrepreneurs, investors, scientists and educators from the eleven states in a collaborative effort aimed at enhancing the welfare and the quality of life of the citizens of their respective communities, and, as a result, benefiting the Gulf of Mexico region as a whole.

The *Florida/Korea Economic Cooperation Committee, Inc. (FLOR/KOR)* is a private, non-profit organization created in 1982 to promote the development of trade, commerce, investment and technology transfer between Florida and Korea. FLOR/KOR works in close cooperation with the Korea-U.S. Economic Council (KUSEC) and the Korea International Trade Association (KITA) in Seoul. FLOR/KOR serves as a point of contact and facilitator for Florida traders, investors and professionals seeking business opportunities in Korea. FLOR/KOR also serves as the Florida representative of the Southeast U.S.-Korea Economic Committee, a seven-state regional business promotional organization with Korea.

*Linkage Institutes* assist in the cost of expansion of public and private dialogue on cooperative research and technical assistance activities, increased bilateral commerce, student and faculty exchange, cultural exchange, and the enhancement of language training skills between the postsecondary institutions in the state and those of selected foreign countries.

#### C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1. Transfers from the Department of State to the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development within the Executive Office of the Governor the following programs: the provision of assistance and facilities to the Organization of American States, state protocol officer functions, international development outreach activities in Latin America and Caribbean Basin, the Florida Intergovernmental Relations Foundation, and the intergovernmental relations functions.

Section 2. Transfers linkage institutes from Department of State to the Department of Education by a type two transfer and directs that all associated trust funds remain within the Department of State.

Section 3. Creates subsections (10) and (11) in s. 14.2015, F.S., relating to the powers and duties of the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development.

Section 4. Repeals sections 15.17 and 15.19, F.S., relating to the regional headquarters of the Organization of American States and the State protocol officer; making conforming changes.

Section 5. Amends subsections (1) and (2) of s. 15.182, F.S., making conforming changes.

Section 6. Amends s. 288.0251, F.S., making conforming changes.

Section 7. Amends subsections (1), (2), and (3) of s. 288.809, F.S., making conforming changes.

Section 8. Amends s. 288.816, F.S., making conforming changes.

Section 9. Amends s. 288.8175, F.S., making conforming changes.

Section 10. Provides an effective date.

## II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

### A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

Three positions and \$397,208 in general revenue funds will be transferred from the Department of State to the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development to administer the programs and responsibilities relating to international activities. Also being transferred is \$1,150,000 in international business grants from General Revenue Fund, as recommended in the House Bill 1835, for Fiscal Year 2004-2005. Below is a funding history for the international business grants.

<b>Advocating International Business Relationships</b>	<b>FY 2002-03</b>	<b>FY 2003-04</b>	<b>FY 2004-05</b>
FL Assoc. of Volunteer Action /Caribbean &Americas (FAVACA)	733,212	500,000	700,000
Free Trade of the Americas (FTAA) Ministerial Inc		500,000	
FL Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA)	150,000	250,000	250,000
SE Japan Association/Florida Korea Economic Coop. Comm.	150,000	125,000	150,000
Gulf of Mexico States Accord (GoMSA) Secretariat	150,000	50,000	50,000
Sister Cities	100,000	Above amounts are estimates.	Recommended in HB 1835
Linkage Institutes	200,000		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,483,212</b>	<b>1,425,000</b>	<b>1,150,000</b>

### B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

### C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

None.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

This bill appears to have no fiscal impact, it merely transfers the budget related to international activities from the Department of State to the Office of Tourism, Trade and Economic Development.

**III. COMMENTS**

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

Not applicable.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None

**IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES**