CHAMBER ACTION

The Committee on Finance & Tax recommends the following:

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Committee Substitute

Remove the entire bill and insert:

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to rehabilitation of contaminated sites; amending s. 376.30781, F.S.; increasing the tax credit for rehabilitation of drycleaning-solvent-contaminated sites and brownfield sites in designated brownfield areas; increasing the maximum amount that a tax credit applicant, or multiple tax credit applicants working jointly to clean up a single site, may be granted per year in tax credits for each site voluntarily rehabilitated; increasing the total annual amount of contaminated site rehabilitation tax credits allocated by the Department of Environmental Protection; amending ss. 199.1055 and 220.1845, F.S.; increasing the amount of the contaminated site rehabilitation tax credit; increasing the maximum amount that a tax credit applicant, or multiple tax credit applicants working jointly to clean up a single site, may be granted per year in tax credits for each site voluntarily rehabilitated; increasing the total annual amount a municipality, county, or other tax credit

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applicant which voluntarily rehabilitates a site may receive per year in tax credits which it can subsequently transfer to specified entities; increasing the total amount of tax credits which may be granted annually; amending s. 288.107, F.S.; revising the definition of "eligible business" with respect to brownfield redevelopment bonus refunds; authorizing the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development to waive the fixed capital investment requirement for an eligible business for specified projects; providing conditions and requirements with respect to such waiver; amending s. 376.79, F.S.; revising the definition of "brownfield sites"; amending s. 376.80, F.S.; revising a condition under which a local government is required to designate a brownfield area; revising a required component of a brownfield site rehabilitation agreement; revising a requirement of a contractor performing site rehabilitation program tasks; revising contractor requirements that must be certified to the Department of Environmental Protection; revising and providing additional insurance requirements; amending s. 376.82, F.S.; revising terminology with respect to eligibility to participate in the brownfield rehabilitation program; providing immunity from liability for a county for preexisting soil or groundwater contamination of a property that escheats to the county; authorizing a county and the Department of Environmental Protection to enter into a written agreement for the performance, funding, and reimbursement of

investigative and remedial acts necessary for a property that escheats to the county; amending s. 376.86, F.S.; revising provisions with respect to the investment of specified funds under the Brownfield Areas Loan Guarantee Program; providing that such funds shall be derived from the Inland Protection Trust Fund rather than the Nonmandatory Land Reclamation Trust Fund; revising certain restrictions on the investment of such funds; providing for future legislative review of the Brownfield Areas Loan Guarantee Program; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (2) and subsections (3), (4), (7), and (9) of section 376.30781, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

376.30781 Partial tax credits for rehabilitation of drycleaning-solvent-contaminated sites and brownfield sites in designated brownfield areas; application process; rulemaking authority; revocation authority.--

- (2)(a) A credit in the amount of $\underline{40}$ 35 percent of the costs of voluntary cleanup activity that is integral to site rehabilitation at the following sites is allowed pursuant to ss. 199.1055 and 220.1845:
- A drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site eligible for state-funded site rehabilitation under s. 376.3078(3);
- 2. A drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site at which cleanup is undertaken by the real property owner pursuant to s.

376.3078(11), if the real property owner is not also, and has never been, the owner or operator of the drycleaning facility where the contamination exists; or

- 3. A brownfield site in a designated brownfield area under s. 376.80.
- (b) A tax credit applicant, or multiple tax credit applicants working jointly to clean up a single site, may not be granted more than \$400,000 \$250,000 per year in tax credits for each site voluntarily rehabilitated. Multiple tax credit applicants shall be granted tax credits in the same proportion as their contribution to payment of cleanup costs. Tax credits are available only for site rehabilitation conducted during the calendar year for which the tax credit application is submitted.
- (3) The Department of Environmental Protection shall be responsible for allocating the tax credits provided for in ss. 199.1055 and 220.1845, not to exceed a total of $\frac{$3.5}{4}$ million in tax credits annually.
- (4) To claim the credit for site rehabilitation conducted during the current calendar year, each tax credit applicant must apply to the Department of Environmental Protection for an allocation of the \$3.5 \$2 million annual credit by January 15 of the following year on a form developed by the Department of Environmental Protection in cooperation with the Department of Revenue. The form shall include an affidavit from each tax credit applicant certifying that all information contained in the application, including all records of costs incurred and claimed in the tax credit application, are true and correct. If the application is submitted pursuant to subparagraph(2)(a)2.,

the form must include an affidavit signed by the real property owner stating that it is not, and has never been, the owner or operator of the drycleaning facility where the contamination exists. Approval of partial tax credits must be accomplished on a first-come, first-served basis based upon the date complete applications are received by the Division of Waste Management. A tax credit applicant shall submit only one complete application per site for each calendar year's site rehabilitation costs. Incomplete placeholder applications shall not be accepted and will not secure a place in the first-come, first-served application line. To be eligible for a tax credit, the tax credit applicant must:

- (a) Have entered into a voluntary cleanup agreement with the Department of Environmental Protection for a drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site or a Brownfield Site Rehabilitation Agreement, as applicable; and
- (b) Have paid all deductibles pursuant to s.
 376.3078(3)(e) for eligible drycleaning-solvent-cleanup program sites.
- (7) The Department of Environmental Protection shall review the tax credit application and any supplemental documentation that the tax credit applicant may submit prior to the annual application deadline in order to have the application considered complete, for the purpose of verifying that the tax credit applicant has met the qualifying criteria in subsections (2) and (4) and has submitted all required documentation listed in subsection (5). Upon verification that the tax credit applicant has met these requirements, the department shall issue

 a written decision granting eligibility for partial tax credits (a tax credit certificate) in the amount of $\underline{40}$ 35 percent of the total costs claimed, subject to the $\underline{$400,000$}$ $\underline{$250,000$}$ limitation, for the calendar year for which the tax credit application is submitted based on the report of the certified public accountant and the certifications from the appropriate registered technical professionals.

- (9) If a tax credit applicant does not receive a tax credit allocation due to an exhaustion of the \$3.5 \$2 million annual tax credit authorization, such application will then be included in the same first-come, first-served order in the next year's annual tax credit allocation, if any, based on the prior year application.
- Section 2. Paragraphs (a), (b), and (f) of subsection (1) of section 199.1055, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
 - 199.1055 Contaminated site rehabilitation tax credit.--
 - (1) AUTHORIZATION FOR TAX CREDIT; LIMITATIONS. --
- (a) A credit in the amount of <u>40</u> 35 percent of the costs of voluntary cleanup activity that is integral to site rehabilitation at the following sites is available against any tax due for a taxable year under s. 199.032, less any credit allowed by former s. 220.68 for that year:
- A drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site eligible for state-funded site rehabilitation under s. 376.3078(3);
- 2. A drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site at which cleanup is undertaken by the real property owner pursuant to s. 376.3078(11), if the real property owner is not also, and has

never been, the owner or operator of the drycleaning facility
where the contamination exists; or

- 3. A brownfield site in a designated brownfield area under s. 376.80.
- (b) A tax credit applicant, or multiple tax credit applicants working jointly to clean up a single site, may not be granted more than \$400,000\$ \$250,000 per year in tax credits for each site voluntarily rehabilitated. Multiple tax credit applicants shall be granted tax credits in the same proportion as their contribution to payment of cleanup costs. Subject to the same conditions and limitations as provided in this section, a municipality, county, or other tax credit applicant which voluntarily rehabilitates a site may receive not more than \$400,000\$ \$250,000 per year in tax credits which it can subsequently transfer subject to the provisions in paragraph (g).
- (f) The total amount of the tax credits which may be granted under this section and s. 220.1845 is $\frac{$3.5}{4}$ million annually.
- Section 3. Paragraphs (a), (b), and (g) of subsection (1) of section 220.1845, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
 - 220.1845 Contaminated site rehabilitation tax credit .--
 - (1) AUTHORIZATION FOR TAX CREDIT; LIMITATIONS. --
- (a) A credit in the amount of $\underline{40}$ 35 percent of the costs of voluntary cleanup activity that is integral to site rehabilitation at the following sites is available against any tax due for a taxable year under this chapter:

1. A drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site eligible for state-funded site rehabilitation under s. 376.3078(3);

- 2. A drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site at which cleanup is undertaken by the real property owner pursuant to s. 376.3078(11), if the real property owner is not also, and has never been, the owner or operator of the drycleaning facility where the contamination exists; or
- 3. A brownfield site in a designated brownfield area under s. 376.80.
- (b) A tax credit applicant, or multiple tax credit applicants working jointly to clean up a single site, may not be granted more than \$400,000\$ \$250,000 per year in tax credits for each site voluntarily rehabilitated. Multiple tax credit applicants shall be granted tax credits in the same proportion as their contribution to payment of cleanup costs. Subject to the same conditions and limitations as provided in this section, a municipality, county, or other tax credit applicant which voluntarily rehabilitates a site may receive not more than \$400,000\$ \$250,000 per year in tax credits which it can subsequently transfer subject to the provisions in paragraph (h).
- (g) The total amount of the tax credits which may be granted under this section and s. 199.1055 is $\frac{$3.5}{$2}$ million annually.
- Section 4. Paragraph (e) of subsection (1) and paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 288.107, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
 - 288.107 Brownfield redevelopment bonus refunds.--

218 (1) DEFINITIONS. -- As used in this section:

(e) "Eligible business" means:

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- 1. A qualified target industry business as defined in s. 221 288.106(1)(0); or
 - 2. A business that can demonstrate a fixed capital investment of at least \$2 million in mixed-use business activities, including multiunit housing, commercial, retail, and industrial in brownfield areas and which provides benefits to its employees, unless the fixed capital investment requirement is waived pursuant to paragraph (3)(b).
 - (3) CRITERIA. -- The minimum criteria for participation in the brownfield redevelopment bonus refund are:
 - The completion of a fixed capital investment of at least \$2 million in mixed-use business activities, including multiunit housing, commercial, retail, and industrial in brownfield areas, by an eligible business applying for a refund under paragraph (2)(b) which provides benefits to its employees. The office may waive the fixed capital investment requirement at the request of the local governing body recommending the project and Enterprise Florida, Inc. The fixed capital investment requirement may only be waived for a project located in a rural city or county, community redevelopment area, enterprise zone, or empowerment zone, and only when the merits of the individual project or the specific circumstances in the community in relationship to the project warrant such action. If the local governing body and Enterprise Florida, Inc., make such a recommendation, it must be transmitted in writing and the specific justification for the waiver recommendation must be

explained. If the director elects to waive the fixed capital
 investment requirement, the waiver must be stated in writing and
 the reasons for granting the waiver must be explained.

Section 5. Subsection (3) of section 376.79, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 376.79 Definitions relating to Brownfields Redevelopment Act.--As used in ss. 376.77-376.85, the term:
- (3) "Brownfield sites" means <u>real property</u>, the expansion, <u>redevelopment</u>, or reuse of which may be <u>sites that are generally</u> abandoned, idled, or underused industrial and commercial <u>properties where expansion or redevelopment is</u> complicated by actual or perceived environmental contamination.
- Section 6. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2), paragraph (c) of subsection (5), paragraph (b) of subsection (6), and subsection (7) of section 376.80, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
- 376.80 Brownfield program administration process.-- (2)
- (b) A local government shall designate a brownfield area under the provisions of this act provided that:
- 1. A person who owns or controls a potential brownfield site is requesting the designation and has agreed to rehabilitate and redevelop the brownfield site;
- 2. The rehabilitation and redevelopment of the proposed brownfield site will result in economic productivity of the area, along with the creation of at least 10 new permanent jobs at the brownfield site, whether full-time or part-time, which are not associated with the implementation of the brownfield

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site rehabilitation agreement and are not associated with redevelopment project demolition or construction activities pursuant to the redevelopment agreement required under paragraph(5)(i) or an agreement, between the person responsible for site rehabilitation and the local government with jurisdiction, which contains terms for the redevelopment of the brownfield site or brownfield area;

- 3. The redevelopment of the proposed brownfield site is consistent with the local comprehensive plan and is a permittable use under the applicable local land development regulations;
- 4. Notice of the proposed rehabilitation of the brownfield area has been provided to neighbors and nearby residents of the proposed area to be designated, and the person proposing the area for designation has afforded to those receiving notice the opportunity for comments and suggestions about rehabilitation. Notice pursuant to this subsection must be made in a newspaper of general circulation in the area, at least 16 square inches in size, and the notice must be posted in the affected area; and
- 5. The person proposing the area for designation has provided reasonable assurance that he or she has sufficient financial resources to implement and complete the rehabilitation agreement and redevelopment plan.
- (5) The person responsible for brownfield site rehabilitation must enter into a brownfield site rehabilitation agreement with the department or an approved local pollution control program if actual contamination exists at the brownfield site. The brownfield site rehabilitation agreement must include:

(c) A commitment to conduct site rehabilitation in accordance with <u>department quality assurance rules</u> an approved comprehensive quality assurance plan under department rules;

- (6) Any contractor performing site rehabilitation program tasks must demonstrate to the department that the contractor:
- (b) Has obtained the necessary approvals for conducting sample collection and analyses pursuant to approval for the comprehensive quality-assurance plan prepared under department rules.
- (7) The contractor who is performing the majority of the site rehabilitation program tasks pursuant to a brownfield site rehabilitation agreement or supervising the performance of such tasks by licensed subcontractors in accordance with the provisions of s. 489.113(9) must certify to the department that the contractor:
 - (a) Complies with applicable OSHA regulations.
- (b) Maintains workers' compensation insurance for all employees as required by the Florida Workers' Compensation Law.
- with limits of not less than \$1 million per occurrence and \$2 million general aggregate for bodily injury and property damage and comprehensive automobile liability coverage insurance with minimum limits of not less than at least \$2 \$1 million combined single limit. The contractor shall also maintain pollution liability coverage with limits of not less than \$3 million aggregate for personal injury or death, \$1 million per occurrence for personal injury or death, and \$1 million per occurrence for property damage. The contractor's certificate of

insurance shall name per claim and \$1 million annual aggregate, sufficient to protect it from claims for damage for personal injury, including accidental death, as well as claims for property damage which may arise from performance of work under the program, designating the state as an additional insured party.

- (d) Maintains professional liability insurance of at least \$1 million per claim occurrence and \$1 million annual aggregate.
- (e) Has the capacity to perform or directly supervise the majority of the work at a site in accordance with s. 489.113(9).
- Section 7. Subsection (1) of section 376.82, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (1) is added to subsection (2) of said section, to read:
 - 376.82 Eligibility criteria and liability protection.--
- (1) ELIGIBILITY.--Any person who has not caused or contributed to the contamination of a brownfield site on or after July 1, 1997, is eligible to participate in the brownfield rehabilitation program established in ss. 376.77-376.85, subject to the following:
- (a) Potential brownfield sites that are subject to an ongoing formal judicial or administrative enforcement action or corrective action pursuant to federal authority, including, but not limited to, the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act, 42 U.S.C. ss. 9601 et seq., as amended; the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. ss. 300f-300i, as amended; the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. ss. 1251-1387, as amended; or under an order from the United States Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to s. 3008(h) of the Resource

Conservation and Recovery Act, as amended (42 U.S.C.A. s. 6928(h)); or that have obtained or are required to obtain a permit for the operation of a hazardous waste treatment, storage, or disposal facility; a postclosure permit; or a permit pursuant to the federal Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984, are not eligible for participation unless specific exemptions are secured by a memorandum of agreement with the United States Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to paragraph (2)(g). A brownfield site within an eligible brownfield area that subsequently becomes subject to formal judicial or administrative enforcement action or corrective action under such federal authority shall have its eligibility revoked unless specific exemptions are secured by a memorandum of agreement with the United States Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to paragraph (2)(g).

- (b) Persons who have not caused or contributed to the contamination of a brownfield site on or after July 1, 1997, and who, prior to the department's approval of a brownfield site rehabilitation agreement, are subject to ongoing corrective action or enforcement under state authority established in this chapter or chapter 403, including those persons subject to a pending consent order with the state, are eligible for participation in a brownfield <u>site rehabilitation agreement</u> corrective action if:
- 1. The proposed brownfield site is currently idle or underutilized as a result of the contamination, and participation in the brownfield program will immediately, after cleanup or sooner, result in increased economic productivity at

the site, including at a minimum the creation of 10 new permanent jobs, whether full-time or part-time, which are not associated with implementation of the brownfield site rehabilitation agreement corrective action plan; and

- 2. The person is complying in good faith with the terms of an existing consent order or department-approved corrective action plan, or responding in good faith to an enforcement action, as evidenced by a determination issued by the department or an approved local pollution control program.
- (c) Potential brownfield sites owned by the state or a local government which contain contamination for which a governmental entity is potentially responsible and which are already designated as federal brownfield pilot projects or have filed an application for designation to the United States Environmental Protection Agency are eligible for participation in a brownfield <u>site rehabilitation agreement</u> corrective action.
- (d) After July 1, 1997, petroleum and drycleaning contamination sites shall not receive both restoration funding assistance available for the discharge under this chapter and any state assistance available under s. 288.107. Nothing in this act shall affect the cleanup criteria, priority ranking, and other rights and obligations inherent in petroleum contamination and drycleaning contamination site rehabilitation under ss. 376.30-376.319, or the availability of economic incentives otherwise provided for by law.
 - (2) LIABILITY PROTECTION. --
- (1) When a property, including a brownfield site, escheats to a county, the county is not subject to any liability imposed

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by this chapter or chapter 403 for preexisting soil or groundwater contamination due solely to its ownership. However, this paragraph does not affect the rights or liabilities of any past or future owners of the escheated property and does not affect the liability of any governmental entity for the results of its actions that create or exacerbate a pollution source.

The county and the Department of Environmental Protection may enter into a written agreement for the performance, funding, and reimbursement of the investigative and remedial acts necessary for a property that escheats to the county.

Section 8. Subsections (3) and (8) of section 376.86, Florida Statutes, as amended by section 56 of chapter 2003-399, Laws of Florida, are amended to read:

376.86 Brownfield Areas Loan Guarantee Program. --

- (3) The council may enter into an investment agreement with the Department of Environmental Protection and the State Board of Administration concerning the investment of the earnings accrued and collected upon the investment of the balance of funds maintained in the Inland Protection Trust Fund Nonmandatory Land Reclamation Trust Fund. The investment must be limited as follows:
- (a) Not more than \$5 million of the investment earnings earned on the investment of the minimum balance of the Inland Protection Trust Fund Nonmandatory Land Reclamation Trust Fund in a fiscal year may be at risk at any time on loan guarantees or as loan loss reserves. Of that amount, 15 percent shall be reserved for investment agreements involving predominantly

minority-owned businesses which meet the requirements of subsection (4).

- (b) <u>Such funds at risk at any time</u> The investment earnings may not be used to guarantee any loan guaranty or loan loss reserve agreement for a period longer than 5 years.
- Legislature by February 1 of each year describing its activities and agreements approved relating to redevelopment of brownfield areas. This section shall be reviewed by the Legislature by January 1, 2007 October 1, 2003, and a determination made related to the need to continue or modify this section. New loan guarantees may not be approved in 2007 2003 until the review by the Legislature has been completed and a determination has been made as to the feasibility of continuing the use of the Inland Protection Trust Fund Nonmandatory Land Reclamation Trust Fund to guarantee portions of loans under this section.
 - Section 9. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004.