

HB 0729

2004

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to military personnel on duty; creating the Citizen Soldier Matching Grant Program within the Agency for Workforce Innovation; providing for matching grants to be awarded to private sector employers that provide wages to employees serving in the United States Armed Forces Reserves or the Florida National Guard while those employees are on federal active duty; providing eligibility requirements for grant recipients; directing the agency to develop a plan to administer the application and payment procedures for the matching grants; providing for the grant program to be funded by legislative appropriations; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Citizen Soldier Matching Grants Program.--The Agency for Workforce Innovation shall establish a matching grant program to award matching grants to private sector employers in this state which provide wages to employees serving in the United States Armed Forces Reserves or the Florida National Guard while those employees are on federal active duty. Grants shall be awarded for monthly wages paid to employees who are residents of this state for the actual period of federal active duty. Grants may not be provided for federal active duty served prior to January 1, 2004. The monthly grant per employee may not exceed one-half of the monthly wages paid by the employer to the employee at the level paid prior to the date the employee was called to federal active duty, minus the amount of the

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30 employee's active duty base pay and benefit package. The agency
31 shall develop a plan, subject to the notice, review, and
32 objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, to
33 administer the application and payment procedures for the
34 matching grant program. The matching grant program shall be
35 funded by legislative appropriations.

36 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004.