

By Senator Rich

34-1068-05

See HB 559

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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to prosperity campaigns;
creating s. 445.057, F.S.; establishing the
Prosperity Campaign Office to be housed in
Workforce Florida, Inc.; providing duties of
the office; providing for establishment of the
Florida Prosperity Campaign Council; providing
membership and responsibilities; requiring
development and offering of a high school
financial literacy course; requiring each
Prosperity Campaign to connect low-wage workers
to economic benefits programs and to offer
additional services; providing an effective
date.

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

Section 1. Section 445.057, Florida Statutes, is
created to read:

445.057 Prosperity Campaigns.--

(1) There is established the Prosperity Campaign
Office, which shall be administratively housed in Workforce
Florida, Inc. The office is directed to coordinate established
Prosperity Campaigns in the state, foster the establishment of
new campaigns in designated regional workforce areas and
assist in the development of their programs, coordinate with
the Internal Revenue Service in providing programs for
low-wage workers, and work closely with prosperity campaign
offices in other states.

- 1 (2) The office shall be headed by the Florida
2 Prosperity Campaign Council which shall be composed of the
3 following members:
- 4 (a) Five individuals each representing a different
5 Prosperity Campaign in the state, appointed by the Governor.
- 6 (b) One member of the Senate appointed by the
7 President of the Senate.
- 8 (c) One member of the House of Representatives
9 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- 10 (d) The Chief Financial Officer or his or her
11 designee.
- 12 (e) One representative from Workforce Florida, Inc.
- 13 (f) One representative from the Florida Bankers
14 Association.
- 15 (g) One representative from the Florida Institute of
16 CPAs.
- 17 (h) One representative from the Florida Council on
18 Economic Education.
- 19 (i) One representative from the Florida Credit Union
20 League.
- 21 (j) The Commissioner of Education or his or her
22 designee.
- 23 (k) The Executive Director of the Department of
24 Revenue or his or her designee.
- 25 (l) One representative from the Florida League of
26 Cities.
- 27 (m) One representative from the Florida Association of
28 Counties.
- 29 (n) One representative from the Florida Association of
30 Realtors.
- 31 (o) One representative from United Way of Florida.

1 (p) One representative from Leadership Florida.

2 (q) One representative from the Florida Chamber of
3 Commerce.

4 (r) One representative from AARP.

5 (s) One representative from a faith-based
6 organization.

7 (3) The council's responsibilities shall include, but
8 not be limited to:

9 (a) Assisting in the development of Prosperity
10 Campaigns throughout the state.

11 (b) Coordinating with Prosperity Campaigns to assist
12 in the development of new programs.

13 (c) Coordinating financial literacy classes or
14 programs within each Prosperity Campaign.

15 (d) Working with businesses and agencies to develop a
16 package of services for citizens participating in Prosperity
17 Campaigns.

18 (e) Working with the Department of Education in
19 developing a one-half-credit financial literacy course to be
20 offered in high schools by the beginning of the 2006-2007
21 school year. The course must focus on the importance of
22 financial management, savings, investments, credit scores, and
23 additional material as suggested by the Florida Council on
24 Economic Education and the Florida Bankers Association.

25 (f) Performing other activities deemed necessary by
26 the council or directed by Workforce Florida, Inc.

27 (4) Each Prosperity Campaign shall:

28 (a) Educate citizens about available economic benefits
29 programs and the importance of wise financial decisionmaking.

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1 (b) Connect low-wage workers to economic benefits
2 programs, including, but not limited to, the Earned Income Tax
3 Credit and the Childcare Tax Credit.

4 (c) Offer free tax preparation services, economic
5 benefits screening, and other related services.

6 (d) Provide information to businesses to enable them
7 to distribute economic benefits information to current and new
8 employees.

9 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.

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