HB 0559

2005

| 1  | A bill to be entitled  |
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| 2  | An act relating to prosperity campaigns; creating s.             |
| 3  | 445.057, F.S.; establishing the Prosperity Campaign Office       |
| 4  | to be housed in Workforce Florida, Inc.; providing duties        |
| 5  | of the office; providing for establishment of the Florida        |
| 6  | Prosperity Campaign Council; providing membership and            |
| 7  | responsibilities; requiring development and offering of a        |
| 8  | high school financial literacy course; requiring each            |
| 9  | Prosperity Campaign to connect low-wage workers to               |
| 10 | economic benefits programs and to offer additional               |
| 11 | services; providing an effective date.                           |
| 12 |  |
| 13 | Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:        |
| 14 |  |
| 15 | Section 1. Section 445.057, Florida Statutes, is created         |
| 16 | to read:   |
| 17 | 445.057 Prosperity Campaigns                                     |
| 18 | (1) There is established the Prosperity Campaign Office,         |
| 19 | which shall be administratively housed in Workforce Florida,     |
| 20 | Inc. The office is directed to coordinate established Prosperity |
| 21 | Campaigns in the state, foster the establishment of new          |
| 22 | campaigns in designated regional workforce areas and assist in   |
| 23 | the development of their programs, coordinate with the Internal  |
| 24 | Revenue Service in providing programs for low-wage workers, and  |
| 25 | work closely with prosperity campaign offices in other states.   |
| 26 | (2) The office shall be headed by the Florida Prosperity         |
| 27 | Campaign Council which shall be composed of the following        |
| 28 | members:   |

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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

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29 (a) Five individuals each representing a different Prosperity Campaign in the state, appointed by the Governor. 30 31 (b) One member of the Senate appointed by the President of 32 the Senate. 33 (c) One member of the House of Representatives appointed 34 by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. 35 (d) The Chief Financial Officer or his or her designee. (e) One representative from Workforce Florida, Inc. 36 37 (f) One representative from the Florida Bankers 38 Association. 39 (q) One representative from the Florida Institute of CPAs. (h) One representative from the Florida Council on 40 41 Economic Education. 42 One representative from the Florida Credit Union (i) 43 League. (j) The Commissioner of Education or his or her designee. 44 (k) The Executive Director of the Department of Revenue or 45 46 his or her designee. 47 One representative from the Florida League of Cities. (1) (m) One representative from the Florida Association of 48 49 Counties. 50 One representative from the Florida Association of (n) 51 Realtors. 52 (o) One representative from United Way of Florida. 53 (p) One representative from Leadership Florida. (q) One representative from the Florida Chamber of 54 55 Commerce. 56 (r) One representative from AARP.

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2005 57 (s) One representative from a faith-based organization. 58 (3) The council's responsibilities shall include, but not 59 be limited to: 60 (a) Assisting in the development of Prosperity Campaigns 61 throughout the state. 62 (b) Coordinating with Prosperity Campaigns to assist in 63 the development of new programs. 64 (c) Coordinating financial literacy classes or programs 65 within each Prosperity Campaign. (d) Working with businesses and agencies to develop a 66 67 package of services for citizens participating in Prosperity 68 Campaigns. (e) Working with the Department of Education in developing 69 70 a one-half-credit financial literacy course to be offered in 71 high schools by the beginning of the 2006-2007 school year. The 72 course must focus on the importance of financial management, 73 savings, investments, credit scores, and additional material as 74 suggested by the Florida Council on Economic Education and the 75 Florida Bankers Association. 76 (f) Performing other activities deemed necessary by the 77 council or directed by Workforce Florida, Inc. 78 (4) Each Prosperity Campaign shall: 79 Educate citizens about available economic benefits (a) programs and the importance of wise financial decisionmaking. 80 81 (b) Connect low-wage workers to economic benefits 82 programs, including, but not limited to, the Earned Income Tax 83 Credit and the Childcare Tax Credit.

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| 84 | (c) Offer free tax preparation services, economic benefits  |
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| 85 | screening, and other related services.                      |
| 86 | (d) Provide information to businesses to enable them to     |
| 87 | distribute economic benefits information to current and new |
| 88 | employees.  |
| 89 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.         |
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