

CHAMBER ACTION

1 The Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations  
2 Committee recommends the following:

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4 **Council/Committee Substitute**

5 Remove the entire bill and insert:

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7 A bill to be entitled  
8 An act relating to military personnel on duty; creating  
9 the Citizen Soldier Matching Grant Program within the  
10 Agency for Workforce Innovation; providing for matching  
11 grants to be awarded to private sector employers that  
12 provide wages to employees serving in the United States  
13 Armed Forces Reserves or the Florida National Guard while  
14 those employees are on federal active duty; providing  
15 eligibility requirements for grant recipients; directing  
16 the Agency for Workforce Innovation to develop a plan to  
17 administer the application and payment procedures for the  
18 matching grants; providing for the award of matching  
19 grants after approval of the plan; providing an  
20 appropriation; providing an effective date.

21  
22 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

HB 691 CS

2005  
CS

24           Section 1. Citizen Soldier Matching Grant Program.--The  
25 Agency for Workforce Innovation shall establish a matching grant  
26 program to award matching grants to private sector employers in  
27 this state that provide wages to employees serving in the United  
28 States Armed Forces Reserves or the Florida National Guard while  
29 those employees are on federal active duty. A grant may not be  
30 provided for federal active duty served before January 1, 2005.  
31 Each grant shall be awarded to reimburse the employer for not  
32 more than one-half of the monthly wages paid to an employee who  
33 is a resident of this state for the actual period of federal  
34 active duty. The monthly grant per employee may not exceed one-  
35 half of the difference between the amount of monthly wages paid  
36 by the employer to the employee at the level paid before the  
37 date the employee was called to federal active duty and the  
38 amount of the employee's active duty base pay, housing and  
39 variable allowances, and subsistence allowance. The agency shall  
40 develop a plan by no later than October 1, 2005, subject to the  
41 notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida  
42 Statutes, to administer the application and payment procedures  
43 for the matching grant program. The Agency for Workforce  
44 Innovation shall not award any matching grants prior to the  
45 approval of the plan.

46           Section 2. There is hereby appropriated the sum of  
47 \$1,862,961 from the General Revenue Fund and two positions to  
48 the Agency for Workforce Innovation for the purpose of  
49 implementing this act.

50           Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.