## Florida Senate - 2006

By Senator Bullard

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39-533-06
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1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to the Biomass Energy and
3	Economic Development Program; providing
4	definitions; directing the Department of
5	Environmental Protection, in consultation with
6	the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic
7	Development to establish a program to fund
8	biomass energy projects; requiring a
9	competitive process to select projects funded
10	by the program; providing criteria to determine
11	project eligibility and prioritize funding of
12	eligible projects; requiring persons whose
13	project is funded to provide written reports;
14	authorizing rulemaking by the department;
15	providing an effective date.
16	
17	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
18	
19	Section 1. Biomass energy and economic development
20	(1) As used in this section, the term:
21	(a) "Biomass energy" means a source of energy that is
22	developed or deployed in this state and derived from renewable
23	organic matter.
24	(b) "Department" means the Department of Environmental
25	Protection.
26	(c) "Financial assistance" means funding through
27	various means, including grants, loans, or loan guarantees.
28	(d) "Renewable organic matter" means paper and trees,
29	plants, or animal wastes that are naturally recurring and,
30	unlike fossil fuels, can be used to produce energy
31	indefinitely without diminishing in availability or abundance.
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**CODING:** Words stricken are deletions; words <u>underlined</u> are additions.

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<ul> <li>that seeks or receives funding for a project under this</li> <li>section.</li> <li>(2) The department, in consultation with the Office of</li> <li>Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development shall establish the</li> <li>Biomass Energy and Economic Development Program. The purpose</li> <li>of the program is to stimulate the development and deployment</li> <li>of biomass energy in a manner that provides widespread</li> <li>economic benefits in this state, including more jobs,</li> <li>increased business and educational opportunities, and enhanced</li> <li>energy self-sufficiency by a reduced reliance on imported</li> <li>fossil fuels. The department shall administer the program as</li> <li>provided in this section.</li> <li>(3) Using funding that is available from state or</li> <li>federal sources, the Biomass Energy and Economic Development</li> <li>process.</li> <li>(a) Program funds may not be used for conferences, for</li> <li>ordanizational support, or to support a project or phase of a</li> <li>project if the financing for that project was secured or</li> <li>otherwise approved on or before July 1, 2006. To be eligible</li> <li>for funding, a project must:</li> <li>1. Assist with achieving the purpose of the program as</li> <li>stated in subsection (2).</li> <li>2. Have a sponsor whose technical and financial</li> <li>experience and credentials are appropriate to successfully</li> <li>undertake and complete the project.</li> <li>3. Be proposed for completion within 2 years, or such</li> <li>other period as the department specifies by rule. À</li> </ul>	1	(e) "Sponsor" means the person or group of persons
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1 longer-term project may be divided into shorter phases that 2 are evaluated as separate projects. 3 4. Produce biomass energy. 4 5. Specify deliverables and have a work plan and budget that are feasible and complete. 5 б 6. Achieve other goals that are consistent with the 7 purpose of the program as stated in subsection (2) and adopted 8 by rule of the department. 9 (b) In selecting eligible projects, the department 10 shall give priority to new biomass energy projects that: 1. Leverage significant commercial, institutional, 11 12 financial, or technical resources. 2. Have demonstration value that will accelerate the 13 commercial deployment of biomass energy. 14 Coordinate initiatives within the State University 15 3. System involving the research, development, demonstration, and 16 17 deployment of biomass energy. 4. Build technical and financial capability for 18 biomass energy within a region. 19 5. Foster sustainable development in rural areas of 20 21 <u>this state.</u> 22 6. Are not otherwise easily fundable. 23 Achieve other goals that are consistent with the purpose of the program as stated in subsection (2) and adopted 2.4 by rule of the department. 25 (4) Each sponsor receiving funds under this section 26 27 shall provide the department with an annual written report 28 that describes the activities conducted, the project participants, the benefits resulting in comparison to the 29 initial project goals and objectives, and the events that 30 significantly affected the outcome, including a full 31

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1	accounting of the income and expenditures of the project which
2	specifies the expenditure of funds received under this
3	section. If a project or portion of a project is completed in
4	less than 1 year, the report must be provided within 3 months
5	after completion.
6	(5) The department may adopt rules to administer this
7	section.
8	Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.
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11	SENATE SUMMARY
12	Provides for establishment of the Biomass Energy and Economic Development Program by the Department of
13	Economic Development Program by the Department of Environmental Protection, in consultation with the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development. Requires a
14	competitive process to select projects funded by the program. Provides criteria to determine project
15	eligibility and prioritize funding of eligible projects. Requires persons whose project is funded to provide
16	written reports. Authorizes rulemaking by the department.
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