

By Senator Lynn

7-87-06

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A bill to be entitled  
An act relating to qualified job training organizations; creating s. 288.1171, F.S.; defining the term "qualified job-training organization"; providing for the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development to certify qualified job-training organizations; providing for the distribution of certain funds to a certified organization; specifying uses of the funds; authorizing the Auditor General to audit such organizations for certain purposes; providing for revocation of certification under certain circumstances; providing for appropriations to be distributed through the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 288.1171, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

288.1171 Qualified job-training organizations; certification; duties.--

(1) As used in this section, the term "qualified job-training organization" means an organization that:

(a) Is accredited by the Commission for Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities;

(b) Collects Florida state sales tax;

(c) Operates statewide and has more than 100 locations within the state;

1        (d) Is exempt from income taxation under s. 501(c)3 or  
2 s. 501(c)4 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended;

3        (e) Specializes in the retail sale of donated items;

4        (f) Provides job training and employment services to  
5 individuals who have workplace disadvantages and disabilities;

6 and

7        (g) Uses a majority of its revenues for job training  
8 and placement programs that create jobs and foster economic  
9 development.

10       (2) To be eligible for funding, an organization must  
11 be certified by the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic  
12 Development as meeting the criteria in subsection (1).

13       (3) A qualified job-training organization that is  
14 certified must use the proceeds provided solely to encourage  
15 and provide economic development through capital construction,  
16 improvements, or the purchase of equipment that will result in  
17 expanded employment opportunities.

18       (4) The Auditor General may audit a qualified job-  
19 training organization to verify that distributions made to the  
20 organization have been expended pursuant to this section. If  
21 the Auditor General determines that the distributions have not  
22 been expended as required, the Office of Tourism, Trade, and  
23 Economic Development may recover such proceeds pursuant to the  
24 laws and rules governing the assessment of taxes.

25       (5) The failure to use the proceeds as required  
26 constitutes grounds for revoking certification.

27       Section 2. There is appropriated \$3 million per year  
28 from nonrecurring general revenue for 10 years to the Office  
29 of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development for the purpose  
30 specified in s. 288.1171(3), Florida Statutes. For the  
31 2006-2007 fiscal year, these funds are appropriated from

1 nonrecurring general revenue. For the 2007-2008 through  
2 2016-2017 fiscal years, the funds shall be appropriated from  
3 nonrecurring general revenue or as specifically provided in  
4 the General Appropriations Act. The funds shall be distributed  
5 by the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development to  
6 organizations meeting the requirements of s. 288.1171, Florida  
7 Statutes, solely to encourage and provide economic development  
8 through capital construction, improvements, or the purchase of  
9 equipment that will result in expanded employment  
10 opportunities.

11 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.

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14 SENATE SUMMARY

15 Provides for funding certain job-training organizations  
16 that provide economic development through capital  
17 construction, improvements, or the purchase of equipment  
18 resulting in expanded employment opportunities. Provides  
19 for audits of the organizations by the Auditor General.  
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