

606-2102-07

Proposed Committee Substitute by the Committee on  
Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to youth work experience programs; amending s. 334.351, F.S.; requiring nonprofit youth organizations that contract with the Department of Transportation for the purpose of operating youth work experience programs to certify that the program participants are residents of the state and possess valid identification; specifying criteria for the department to consider in awarding contracts to such organizations; requiring that the nonprofit youth organizations submit certain reports and audits to the department and demonstrate participation in a peer assessment or review process; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 334.351, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

334.351 Youth work experience program; findings and intent; authority to contract; limitation.--

(1) The Legislature finds and declares that young men and women of the state should be given an opportunity to obtain public service work and training experience that protects and conserves the valuable resources of the state and promotes participation in other community enhancement projects. Notwithstanding the requirements of chapters 287 and 337, the Department of Transportation is authorized to contract with public agencies and nonprofit organizations for

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1 the performance of work related to the construction and  
2 maintenance of transportation-related facilities by youths  
3 enrolled in youth work experience programs. The total amount  
4 of contracts entered into by the department under this section  
5 in any fiscal year may not exceed the amount specifically  
6 appropriated by the Legislature for this program.

7 (2) Each nonprofit youth organization that provides  
8 services under a contract with the department must certify  
9 that each young person enrolled in its work experience program  
10 is a resident of this state and possesses a valid Florida  
11 driver's license or identification card.

12 (3) When selecting a nonprofit youth organization to  
13 perform work on transportation-related facilities and before  
14 awarding a contract under this section, the department must  
15 consider the following criteria:

16 (a) The number of participants receiving  
17 life-management skills training;

18 (b) The number of participants receiving high school  
19 diplomas or GEDs;

20 (c) The number of participants receiving scholarships;

21 (d) The number of participants receiving bonuses;

22 (e) The number of participants who have secured  
23 full-time jobs; and

24 (f) The other programs or services that support the  
25 development of disadvantaged youths.

26 (4) Each nonprofit youth organization under contract  
27 with the department must:

28 (a) Submit an annual report to the department by  
29 January 1 of each year. The report must include, but need not  
30 be limited to, the applicable performance of the organization  
31 when measured by the criteria in subsection (3) for the

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1 organization's most recently completed fiscal year.

2       (b) Submit an independent audit of the organization's  
3 financial records to the department each year. The  
4 organization's contract with the department must allow the  
5 department the right to inspect the organization's financial  
6 and program records.

7       (c) Demonstrate participation in a peer assessment or  
8 review process, such as the Excellence in Corps Operations of  
9 the National Association of Service and Conservation Corps.

10           Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.

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