By the Committee on Community Affairs; and Senator Garcia

## 578-2431-07

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A bill to be entitled An act relating to affordable housing; amending s. 163.3177, F.S., relating to the housing element of a local government comprehensive plan; requiring certain counties to adopt a plan for ensuring affordable workforce housing; providing that a local government that fails to comply with such requirement is ineligible to receive state housing assistance grants; amending s. 163.3184, F.S.; authorizing certain local government comprehensive plan amendments to be expedited; providing requirements for amendment notices; requiring a public hearing; amending s. 163.3187, F.S.; authorizing certain local government comprehensive plan amendments to be made more than twice a year; creating ss. 197.307, 197.3071, 197.3072, 197.3073, 197.3074, 197.3075, 197.3076, 197.3077, 197.3078, and 197.3079, F.S.; authorizing a county commission or municipality to adopt an ordinance providing for the deferral of ad valorem taxes and non-ad valorem assessments for affordable rental housing property under certain conditions; requiring the tax collector to provide certain notices to taxpayers about deferrals; providing specifications for such ordinances; providing eligibility requirements; authorizing a property owner to defer payment of ad valorem taxes and certain assessments; providing circumstances in which taxes and assessments may not be deferred; specifying the

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rate for deferment; providing that the taxes, assessments, and interest deferred constitute a prior lien on the property; providing an application process; providing notice requirements for applications that are not approved for deferment; providing an appeals process; requiring applications for deferral to contain a list of outstanding liens; providing the date for calculating taxes due and payable; requiring that a property owner furnish proof of certain insurance coverage under certain conditions; requiring the tax collector and the property owner to notify the property appraiser of parcels for which taxes and assessments have been deferred; requiring the property appraiser to notify the tax collector of changes in ownership or use of tax-deferred properties; providing requirements for tax certificates for deferred payment; providing the rate of interest; providing circumstances in which deferrals cease; requiring the property appraiser to notify the tax collector of deferrals that have ceased; requiring the tax collector to collect taxes, assessments and interest due; requiring the tax collector to notify the property owner of due taxes on tax-deferred property under certain conditions; requiring the tax collector to sell a tax certificate under certain circumstances; specifying persons who may pay deferred taxes, assessments and accrued interest; requiring the

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tax collector to maintain a record of payment and to distribute payments; providing for construction of provisions authorizing the deferments; providing penalties; amending s. 420.504, F.S.; providing that the corporation is a state agency for purposes of the state allocation pool; authorizing the corporation to provide notice of internal review committee meetings by publication on an Internet website; providing that the corporation is not governed by certain provisions relating to corporations not for profit; amending s. 420.506, F.S.; deleting a provision relating to lease of certain state employees; amending s. 420.5061, F.S.; deleting obsolete provisions; removing a provision requiring all assets and liabilities and rights and obligations of the Florida Housing Finance Agency to be transferred to the corporation; providing that the corporation is the legal successor to the agency; removing a provision requiring the corporation to make transfers to the General Revenue Fund; removing a provision requiring all state property in use by the agency to be transferred to and become the property of the corporation; amending s. 420.507, F.S.; requiring that an agreement financing affordable housing be recorded in the official records of the county where the real property is located; providing that such agreement is a state land use regulation; amending s. 420.5087, F.S.; authorizing the

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Florida Housing Finance Corporation to provide partially forgivable loans to nonprofit organizations that serve extremely-low-income elderly tenants; providing criteria; amending s. 420.5095, F.S.; specifying the content of rules for reviewing loan applications for workforce housing projects; requiring the corporation to establish a committee for reviewing loan applications; providing for membership; providing powers and duties of the committee; requiring the corporation's board of directors to make the final decisions concerning ranking and program participants; specifying areas where local governments may use program funds; expanding the types of projects that may receive priority funding; requiring that the processing of certain approvals of development orders or development permits be expedited; providing loan applicant requirements; revising reporting requirements; amending s. 420.511, F.S.; requiring that the corporation's annual report include information on the Community Workforce Housing Innovation Pilot Program; amending s. 420.513, F.S.; providing exemption from taxes for certain instruments issued in connection with the financing of certain housing; amending s. 420.526, F.S.; revising the cap on predevelopment loans; amending s. 420.9076, F.S.; increasing affordable housing advisory committee membership; revising membership

1 criteria; authorizing the use of fewer members 2 under certain circumstances; revising and providing duties of the advisory committee; 3 4 providing an effective date. 5 6 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 7 Section 1. Paragraph (f) of subsection (6) of section 8 163.3177, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 9 10 163.3177 Required and optional elements of comprehensive plan; studies and surveys .--11 12 (6) In addition to the requirements of subsections 13 (1)-(5) and (12), the comprehensive plan shall include the following elements: 14 (f)1. A housing element consisting of standards, 15 plans, and principles to be followed in: 16 a. The provision of housing for all current and anticipated future residents of the jurisdiction. 18 b. The elimination of substandard dwelling conditions. 19 20 c. The structural and aesthetic improvement of 21 existing housing. 22 d. The provision of adequate sites for future housing, 23 including housing for low-income, very low-income, and moderate-income families, mobile homes, and group home 2.4 facilities and foster care facilities, with supporting 2.5 infrastructure and public facilities. 26 27 e. Provision for relocation housing and identification of historically significant and other housing for purposes of conservation, rehabilitation, or replacement. 29 30 f. The formulation of housing implementation programs.

q. The creation or preservation of affordable housing 2 to minimize the need for additional local services and avoid the concentration of affordable housing units only in specific 3 4 areas of the jurisdiction. h. By July 1, 2008, each county in which the gap 5 6 between the buying power of a family of four and the median 7 county home sale price exceeds \$150,000, as determined by the 8 Florida Housing Finance Corporation, and which is not designated as an area of critical state concern shall adopt a 9 plan for ensuring affordable workforce housing, as defined in 10 s. 380.0651(3)(j). At a minimum, the plan shall identify 11 12 adequate sites for such housing. For purposes of this 13 sub-subparagraph, the term "workforce housing" means housing that is affordable to natural persons or families whose total 14 household income does not exceed 140 percent of the area 15 16 median income, adjusted for household size. 17 i. Failure by a local government to comply with the 18 requirement in sub-subparagraph h. will result in the local government being ineligible to receive any state housing 19 assistance grants until the requirement of sub-subparagraph h. 20 21 is met. 22 23 The goals, objectives, and policies of the housing element 2.4 must be based on the data and analysis prepared on housing needs, including the affordable housing needs assessment. 2.5 26 State and federal housing plans prepared on behalf of the 27 local government must be consistent with the goals, 2.8 objectives, and policies of the housing element. Local 29 governments are encouraged to utilize job training, job creation, and economic solutions to address a portion of their 30

affordable housing concerns.

2. To assist local governments in housing data 2 collection and analysis and assure uniform and consistent information regarding the state's housing needs, the state 3 land planning agency shall conduct an affordable housing needs 4 assessment for all local jurisdictions on a schedule that 5 coordinates the implementation of the needs assessment with the evaluation and appraisal reports required by s. 163.3191. 8 Each local government shall utilize the data and analysis from 9 the needs assessment as one basis for the housing element of its local comprehensive plan. The agency shall allow a local 10 government the option to perform its own needs assessment, if 11 12 it uses the methodology established by the agency by rule. 13 Section 2. Subsection (19) is added to section 163.3184, Florida Statutes, to read: 14 163.3184 Process for adoption of comprehensive plan or 15 16 plan amendment.--17 (19) Any local government that identifies in its 18 comprehensive plan the types of housing developments and conditions for which it will consider plan amendments that are 19 consistent with the local housing incentive strategies 2.0 21 identified in s. 420.9076 and authorized by the local 22 government, may expedite consideration of such plan 23 amendments. At least 30 days prior to adopting a plan amendment pursuant to this subsection, the local government 2.4 shall notify the state land planning agency of its intent to 2.5 adopt such an amendment, and the notice shall include the 26 27 local government's evaluation of site suitability and 2.8 availability of facilities and services. A plan amendment considered under this subsection shall require only a single 29 public hearing before the local governing body, which shall be 30 a plan amendment adoption hearing as described in subsection

1	(7). The public notice of the hearing required under
2	subparagraph (15)(b)2. must include a statement that the local
3	government intends to use the expedited adoption process
4	authorized under this subsection. The state land planning
5	agency shall issue its notice of intent required under
6	subsection (8) within 30 days after determining that the
7	amendment package is complete. Any further proceedings shall
8	be governed by subsections (9) through (16).
9	Section 3. Paragraph (p) is added to subsection (1) of
10	section 163.3187, Florida Statutes, to read:
11	163.3187 Amendment of adopted comprehensive plan
12	(1) Amendments to comprehensive plans adopted pursuant
13	to this part may be made not more than two times during any
14	calendar year, except:
15	(p) Any local government comprehensive plan amendment
16	that is consistent with the local housing incentive strategies
17	identified in s. 420.9076 and authorized by the local
18	government.
19	Section 4. Sections 197.307, 197.3071, 197.3072,
20	197.3073, 197.3074, 197.3075, 197.3076, 197.3077, 197.3078,
21	and 197.3079, Florida Statutes, are created to read:
22	197.307 Deferrals for ad valorem taxes and non-ad
23	valorem assessments on affordable rental housing property
24	(1) A board of county commissioners or the governing
25	authority of a municipality may adopt an ordinance to allow
26	for ad valorem tax deferrals on affordable rental housing if
27	the owners are engaging in the operation, rehabilitation, or
28	renovation of such properties in accordance with the
29	quidelines provided in part VI of chapter 420.
30	(2) The board of county commissioners or the governing
31	authority of a municipality may also, by ordinance, authorize

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the deferral of non-ad valorem assessments, as defined in s. 197.3632, on affordable rental housing.

- (3) The ordinance must designate the percentage or amount of the deferral and the type and location of affordable rental housing property for which a deferral may be granted.

  The ordinance may also require the property to be located within a particular geographic area or areas of the county or municipality.
- applies only to taxes and assessments levied by the unit of government granting the deferral. However, a deferral may not be granted for taxes or non-ad valorem assessments levied for the payment of bonds or for taxes authorized by a vote of the electors pursuant to s. 9(b) or s. 12, Art. VII of the State Constitution.
- (5) The ordinance must specify that any deferral granted remains in effect for the period for which it is granted regardless of any change in the authority of the county or municipality to grant the deferral. In order to retain the deferral, however, the use and ownership of the property as affordable rental housing must be maintained over the period for which the deferral is granted.
- (6) If an application for tax deferral is granted on property that is located in a community redevelopment area as defined in s. 163.340:
- (a) The amount of taxes eliqible for deferral must be reduced, as provided for in paragraph (b), if:
- 1. The community redevelopment agency has previously issued instruments of indebtedness which are secured by increment revenues on deposit in the community redevelopment

31 trust fund; and

1	2. The instruments of indebtedness are associated with
2	the real property applying for the deferral.
3	(b) The tax deferral does not apply to an amount of
4	taxes equal to the amount that must be deposited into the
5	community redevelopment trust fund by the entity granting the
6	deferral based upon the taxable value of the property upon
7	which the deferral is being granted. Once all instruments of
8	indebtedness that existed at the time the deferral was
9	originally granted are no longer outstanding or have otherwise
10	been defeased, this paragraph no longer applies.
11	(c) If a portion of the taxes on a property are not
12	eligible for deferral as provided under paragraph (b), the
13	community redevelopment agency shall notify the property owner
14	and the tax collector 1 year before the debt instruments that
15	prevented such taxes from being deferred are no longer
16	outstanding or otherwise defeased.
17	(d) The tax collector shall notify a community
18	redevelopment agency of any tax deferral that has been granted
19	on property located within the agency's community
20	redevelopment area.
21	(e) Issuance of debt obligation after the date a
22	deferral has been granted does not reduce the amount of taxes
23	eligible for deferral.
24	(7) The tax collector shall notify:
25	(a) The taxpayer of each parcel appearing on the real
26	property assessment roll of the law allowing the deferral of
27	taxes, non-ad valorem assessments, and interest under ss.
28	197.307-197.3079. Such notice shall be printed on the back of
29	envelopes used to mail the notice of taxes as provided under
30	s. 197.322(3). Such notice shall read:
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1	NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OWNING
2	AFFORDABLE RENTAL HOUSING PROPERTY
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4	If your property meets certain conditions you
5	may qualify for a deferred tax payment plan on
6	your affordable rental housing property. An
7	application to determine your eligibility is
8	available in the county tax collector's office.
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10	(b) On or before November 1 of each year, each
11	taxpayer for whom a tax deferral has been previously granted
12	of the accumulated sum of deferred taxes, non-ad valorem
13	assessments, and interest outstanding.
14	197.3071 Eliqibility for tax deferralThe tax
15	deferral authorized by this section is applicable only on a
16	prorata basis to the ad valorem taxes levied on residential
17	units within a property which meet the following conditions:
18	(1) Units for which the monthly rent along with taxes,
19	insurance, and utilities does not exceed 30 percent of the
20	median adjusted gross annual income as defined in s. 420.0004
21	for the households described in subsection (2).
22	(2) Units that are occupied by extremely-low-income
23	persons, very-low-income persons, low-income persons, or
24	moderate-income persons as these terms are defined in s.
25	420.0004.
26	197.3072 Deferral for affordable rental housing
27	properties
28	(1) Any property owner in a jurisdiction that has
29	adopted an ad valorem tax-deferral ordinance or a deferral of
30	non-ad valorem assessments ordinance pursuant to s. 197.307
31	and who owns an eligible affordable rental housing property as

described in s. 197.3071 may apply for a deferral of payment 2 by filing an annual application for deferral with the county tax collector on or before January 31 following the year in 3 4 which the taxes and non-ad valorem assessments are assessed. The property owner has the burden to affirmatively demonstrate 5 6 compliance with the requirements of this section. 7 (2) Approval by the tax collector defers that portion 8 of the combined total of ad valorem taxes and any non-ad valorem assessments plus interest that are authorized to be 9 10 deferred by an ordinance enacted pursuant to 197.307. (3) Deferral may not be granted if: 11 12 (a) The total amount of deferred taxes, non-ad valorem 13 assessments, and interest plus the total amount of all other unsatisfied liens on the property exceeds 85 percent of the 14 assessed value of the property; or 15 16 (b) The primary financing on the affordable rental housing property is for an amount that exceeds 70 percent of 18 the assessed value of the property. 19 (4) The amount of taxes deferred, non-ad valorem 2.0 assessments, and interest shall accrue interest at a rate 21 equal to the annually compounded rate of 3 percent plus the 2.2 Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers; however, the 23 interest rate may not exceed 9.5 percent. (5) The deferred taxes, non-ad valorem assessments, 2.4 and interest constitute a prior lien on the affordable rental 2.5 housing property and shall attach as of the date and in the 26 2.7 same manner and be collected as other liens for taxes as 2.8 provided for under this chapter, but such deferred taxes, 29 non-ad valorem assessments, and interest are due, payable, and

delinquent as provided in ss. 197.307-197.3079.

197.3073 Deferral application.--

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1	(1) The application for a deferral of ad valorem taxes
2	and non-ad valorem assessments must be made annually upon a
3	form prescribed by the department and furnished by the county
4	tax collector. The application form must be signed under oath
5	by the property owner applying for the deferral before an
6	officer authorized by the state to administer oaths. The
7	application form must provide notice to the property owner of
8	the manner in which interest is computed. The application form
9	must contain an explanation of the conditions to be met for
10	approval of the deferral and the conditions under which
11	deferred taxes, non-ad valorem assessments, and interest
12	become due, payable, and delinquent. Each application must
13	clearly state that all deferrals pursuant to this section
14	constitute a lien on the property for which the deferral is
15	granted. The tax collector may require the property owner to
16	submit any other evidence and documentation considered
17	necessary by the tax collector in reviewing the application.
18	(2) The tax collector shall consider and render his or
19	her findings, determinations, and decision on each annual
20	application for a deferral for affordable rental housing
21	within 45 days after the date the application is filed. The
22	tax collector shall exercise reasonable discretion based upon
23	applicable information available under this section. The
24	determinations and findings of the tax collector are not quasi
25	judicial and are subject exclusively to review by the value
26	adjustment board as provided by this section. A tax collector
27	who finds that a property owner is entitled to the deferral
28	shall approve the application and file the application in the
29	permanent records.
30	(a) A tax collector who finds that a property owner is
31	not entitled to the deferral shall send a notice of

disapproval within 45 days after the date the application is 2 filed, giving reasons for the disapproval. The notice must be sent by personal delivery or registered mail to the mailing 3 4 address given by the property owner in the manner in which the original notice was served upon the property owner and must be 5 6 filed among the permanent records of the tax collector's 7 office. The original notice of disapproval sent to the 8 property owner shall advise the property owner of the right to appeal the decision of the tax collector to the value 9 10 adjustment board and provide the procedures for filing an 11 appeal. 12 (b) An appeal by the property owner of the decision of 13 the tax collector to deny the deferral must be submitted to the value adjustment board on a form prescribed by the 14 department and furnished by the tax collector. The appeal must 15 be filed with the value adjustment board within 20 days after 16 the applicant's receipt of the notice of disapproval, and the 18 board must approve or disapprove the appeal within 30 days after receipt of the appeal. The value adjustment board shall 19 review the application and the evidence presented to the tax 2.0 21 collector upon which the property owner based a claim for 2.2 deferral and, at the election of the property owner, shall 23 hear the property owner in person, or by agent on the property owner's behalf, concerning his or her right to the deferral. 2.4 The value adjustment board shall reverse the decision of the 2.5 tax collector and grant a deferral to the property owner if, 26 2.7 in its judgment, the property owner is entitled to the 2.8 deferral or shall affirm the decision of the tax collector. Action by the value adjustment board is final unless the 29 property owner or tax collector or other lienholder, within 15 30 days after the date of disapproval of the application by the 31

1	board, files for a de novo proceeding for a declaratory
2	judgment or other appropriate proceeding in the circuit court
3	of the county in which the property is located.
4	(3) Each application for deferral must contain a list
5	of, and the current value of, all outstanding liens on the
6	property for which a deferral is requested.
7	(4) For approved applications, the date the deferral
8	application is received by the tax collector shall be the date
9	used in calculating taxes due and payable at the expiration of
10	the tax deferral net of discounts for early payment.
11	(5) If proof has not been furnished with a prior
12	application, each property owner shall furnish proof of fire
13	and extended coverage insurance in an amount that is in excess
14	of the sum of all outstanding liens including a lien for the
15	deferred taxes, non-ad valorem assessments, and interest with
16	a loss payable clause to the county tax collector.
17	(6) The tax collector shall notify the property
18	appraiser in writing of those parcels for which taxes or
19	assessments have been deferred.
20	(7) The property appraiser shall promptly notify the
21	tax collector of changes in ownership or use of properties
22	that have been granted a deferral.
23	(8) The property owner shall promptly notify the tax
24	collector of changes in ownership or use of properties that
25	have been granted tax deferrals.
26	197.3074 Deferred payment tax certificates
27	(1) The tax collector shall notify each local
28	governing body of the amount of taxes and non-ad valorem
29	assessments deferred which would otherwise have been collected
30	for the governing body. The tax collector shall, at the time

31 of the tax certificate sale held under s. 197.432 strike each

certificate off to the county. Certificates issued under this 2 section are exempt from the public sale of tax certificates held pursuant to s. 197.432. 3 4 (2) The certificates held by the county shall bear interest at a rate equal to the annually compounded rate of 3 5 6 percent plus the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers; 7 however, the interest rate may not exceed 9.5 percent. 8 197.3075 Change in use or ownership of property. --9 (1) If there is a change in use or ownership of the 10 property that has been granted an ad valorem tax or non-ad valorem assessment deferral such that the property owner is no 11 12 longer entitled to claim the property as an affordable rental 13 housing property, or if there is a change in the legal or beneficial ownership of the property, or if the owner fails to 14 maintain the required fire and extended insurance coverage, 15 the total amount of deferred taxes, non-ad valorem 16 assessments, and interest for all previous years becomes due 18 and payable November 1 of the year in which the change in use or ownership occurs or on the date failure to maintain 19 insurance occurs, and is delinquent on April 1 of the year 2.0 21 following the year in which the change in use or ownership or 2.2 failure to maintain insurance occurs. 23 (2) Whenever the property appraiser discovers that there has been a change in the use or ownership of the 2.4 property that has been granted a deferral, the property 2.5 appraiser shall notify the tax collector in writing of the 26 2.7 date such change occurs, and the tax collector shall collect 2.8 any taxes, non-ad valorem assessments, and interest due or 29 <u>delinquent.</u> 30 (3) During any year in which the total amount of

1	other unsatisfied liens on the property exceeds 85 percent of
2	the assessed value of the property, the tax collector shall
3	immediately notify the property owner that the portion of
4	taxes, non-ad valorem assessments, and interest which exceeds
5	85 percent of the assessed value of the property is due and
6	payable within 30 days after receipt of the notice. Failure to
7	pay the amount due shall cause the total amount of deferred
8	taxes, non-ad valorem assessments, and interest to become
9	delinquent.
10	(4) If on or before June 1 following the date the
11	taxes deferred under this subsection become delinquent, the
12	tax collector shall sell a tax certificate for the delinquent
13	taxes and interest in the manner provided by s. 197.432.
14	197.3076 Prepayment of deferred taxes and non-ad
15	valorem assessments
16	(1) All or part of the deferred taxes, non-ad valorem
17	assessments, and accrued interest may at any time be paid to
18	the tax collector by:
19	(a) The property owner; or
20	(b) The property owner's next of kin, heir, child, or
21	any person having or claiming a legal or equitable interest in
22	the property, if an objection is not made by the owner within
23	30 days after the tax collector notifies the property owner of
24	the fact that such payment has been tendered.
25	(2) Any partial payment made pursuant to this section
26	shall be applied first to accrued interest.
27	197.3077 Distribution of payments When any deferred
28	tax, non-ad valorem assessment, or interest is collected, the
29	tax collector shall maintain a record of the payment, setting
30	forth a description of the property and the amount of taxes or

31 interest collected for the property. The tax collector shall

1	distribute payments received in accordance with the procedures
2	for distributing ad valorem taxes, non-ad valorem assessments,
3	or redemption moneys as prescribed in this chapter.
4	197.3078 Construction This section does not prevent
5	the collection of personal property taxes that become a lien
6	against tax-deferred property, or defer payment of special
7	assessments to benefited property other than those
8	specifically allowed to be deferred, or affect any provision
9	of any mortgage or other instrument relating to property
10	requiring a person to pay ad valorem taxes or non-ad valorem
11	assessments.
12	197.3079 Penalties
13	(1) The following penalties shall be imposed on any
14	person who willfully files information required under this
15	section which is incorrect:
16	(a) The person shall pay the total amount of deferred
17	taxes, non-ad valorem assessments, and interest which shall
18	immediately become due;
19	(b) The person shall be disqualified from filing a
20	tax-deferral application for the next 3 years; and
21	(c) The person shall pay a penalty of 25 percent of
22	the total amount of taxes, non-ad valorem assessments, and
23	interest deferred.
24	(2) Any person against whom penalties have been
25	imposed may appeal to the value adjustment board within 30
26	days after the date the penalties were imposed.
27	Section 5. Subsection (2) of section 420.504, Florida
28	Statutes, is amended to read:
29	420.504 Public corporation; creation, membership,
30	terms, expenses
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(2) The corporation is constituted as a public instrumentality, and the exercise by the corporation of the power conferred by this act is considered to be the performance of an essential public function. The corporation is shall constitute an agency for the purposes of s. 120.52 and is a state agency for purposes of s. 159.807(4). The corporation is subject to chapter 119, subject to exceptions applicable to the corporation, and to the provisions of chapter 286; however, the corporation shall be entitled to provide notice of internal review committee meetings for competitive proposals or procurement to applicants by mail, or facsimile, or publication on an Internet website, rather than by means of publication. The corporation is not governed by chapter 607 or chapter 617, but by the provisions of this part. If for any reason the establishment of the corporation is deemed in violation of law, such provision is severable and the remainder of this act remains in full force and effect.

Section 6. Section 420.506, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

420.506 Executive director; agents and employees.--The appointment and removal of an executive director shall be by the Secretary of Community Affairs, with the advice and consent of the corporation's board of directors. The executive director shall employ legal and technical experts and such other agents and employees, permanent and temporary, as the corporation may require, and shall communicate with and provide information to the Legislature with respect to the corporation's activities. The board is authorized, notwithstanding the provisions of s. 216.262, to develop and implement rules regarding the employment of employees of the corporation and service providers, including legal counsel.

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The corporation is authorized to enter into a lease agreement with the Department of Management Services or the Department of Community Affairs for the lease of state employees from such entities, wherein an employee shall retain his or her status as a state employee but shall work under the direct supervision of the corporation, and shall retain the right to participate in the Florida Retirement System. The board of directors of the corporation is entitled to establish travel procedures and guidelines for employees of the corporation. The executive director's office and the corporation's files and records must be located in Leon County. Section 7. Section 420.5061, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 420.5061 Transfer of agency assets and liabilities. -- Effective January 1, 1998, all assets and liabilities and rights and obligations, including any outstanding contractual obligations, of the agency shall be transferred to The corporation is the as legal successor in all respects to the agency, is. the corporation shall thereupon become obligated to the same extent as the agency under any existing agreements existing on December 31, 1997, and is be entitled to any rights and remedies previously afforded the agency by law or contract, including specifically the rights of the agency under chapter 201 and part VI of chapter 159. The corporation is a state agency for purposes of s. 159.807(4)(a). Effective January 1, 1998, all references under Florida law to the agency are deemed to mean the corporation. The corporation shall transfer to the General Revenue Fund an amount which otherwise would have been deducted as a service charge pursuant to s. 215.20(1) if the

Florida Housing Finance Corporation Fund established by s.

420.508(5), the State Apartment Incentive Loan Fund established by s. 420.5087(7), the Florida Homeownership 2 Assistance Fund established by s. 420.5088(4), the HOME 3 4 Investment Partnership Fund established by s. 420.5089(1), and 5 the Housing Predevelopment Loan Fund established by s. 6 420.525(1) were each trust funds. For purposes of s. 112.313, 7 the corporation is deemed to be a continuation of the agency, 8 and the provisions thereof are deemed to apply as if the same 9 entity remained in place. Any employees of the agency and agency board members covered by s. 112.313(9)(a)6. shall 10 continue to be entitled to the exemption in that subparagraph, 11 12 notwithstanding being hired by the corporation or appointed as 13 board members of the corporation. Effective January 1, 1998, all state property in use by the agency shall be transferred 14 15 to and become the property of the corporation. Section 8. Subsection (46) is added to section 16 17 420.507, Florida Statutes, to read: 18 420.507 Powers of the corporation. -- The corporation shall have all the powers necessary or convenient to carry out 19 and effectuate the purposes and provisions of this part, 2.0 21 including the following powers which are in addition to all 22 other powers granted by other provisions of this part: 23 (46) To require, as a condition of financing a multifamily rental project, that an agreement be recorded in 2.4 the official records of the county where the real property is 2.5 located, which requires that the project be used for housing 26 27 defined as affordable in s. 420.0004(3) by persons defined in 2.8 420.0004(8), (10), (11), and (15). Such an agreement is a state land use regulation that limits the highest and best use 29 30 of the property within the meaning of s. 193.011(2). 31

Section 9. Subsection (3) of section 420.5087, Florida 2 Statutes, is amended to read: 3 420.5087 State Apartment Incentive Loan 4 Program. -- There is hereby created the State Apartment Incentive Loan Program for the purpose of providing first, 5 second, or other subordinated mortgage loans or loan guarantees to sponsors, including for-profit, nonprofit, and 8 public entities, to provide housing affordable to 9 very-low-income persons. 10 (3) During the first 6 months of loan or loan guarantee availability, program funds shall be reserved for 11 12 use by sponsors who provide the housing set-aside required in 13 subsection (2) for the tenant groups designated in this subsection. The reservation of funds to each of these groups 14 shall be determined using the most recent statewide 15 very-low-income rental housing market study available at the 16 17 time of publication of each notice of fund availability required by paragraph (6)(b). The reservation of funds within 18 each notice of fund availability to the tenant groups in 19 paragraphs (a), (b), and (d) may not be less than 10 percent 20 21 of the funds available at that time. Any increase in funding 22 required to reach the 10-percent minimum  $\underline{\text{must}}$  shall be taken 23 from the tenant group that has the largest reservation. The reservation of funds within each notice of fund availability 2.4 25 to the tenant group in paragraph (c) may not be less than 5 26 percent of the funds available at that time. The tenant groups 27 are: 2.8 (a) Commercial fishing workers and farmworkers; 29 (b) Families; 30 (c) Persons who are homeless; and

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(d) Elderly persons. Ten percent of the amount 2 reserved for the elderly shall be reserved to provide loans to 3 sponsors of housing for the elderly for the purpose of making 4 building preservation, health, or sanitation repairs or improvements which are required by federal, state, or local 5 regulation or code, or lifesafety or security-related repairs or improvements to such housing. Such a loan may not exceed \$750,000 per housing community for the elderly. In order to receive the loan, the sponsor of the housing community must 10 make a commitment to match at least 5 percent of the loan amount to pay the cost of such repair or improvement. The 11 12 corporation shall establish the rate of interest on the loan, which may not exceed 3 percent, and the term of the loan, which may not exceed 15 years; however, if the lien of the 14 corporation's encumbrance is subordinate to the lien of 15 16 another mortgagee, then the term may be made coterminous with the longest term of the superior lien. The term of the loan 18 shall be <u>based on</u> established on the basis of a credit analysis of the applicant. The corporation may forgive indebtedness for a share of the loan attributable to the units 20 21 in a project reserved for extremely-low-income elderly by nonprofit organizations, as defined in s. 420.0004(5), where 22 23 the project has provided affordable housing to the elderly for 15 years or more. The corporation shall establish, by rule, the procedure and criteria for receiving, evaluating, and 25 competitively ranking all applications for loans under this 26 paragraph. A loan application must include evidence of the 2.8 first mortgagee's having reviewed and approved the sponsor's intent to apply for a loan. A nonprofit organization or 29 30 sponsor may not use the proceeds of the loan to pay for 31

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administrative costs, routine maintenance, or new construction.

Section 10. Section 420.5095, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

420.5095 Community Workforce Housing Innovation Pilot Program.--

- (1) The Legislature finds and declares that recent rapid increases in the median purchase price of a home and the cost of rental housing have far outstripped the increases in median income in the state, preventing essential services personnel from living in the communities where they serve and thereby creating the need for innovative solutions for the provision of housing opportunities for essential services personnel.
- (2) The Community Workforce Housing Innovation Pilot Program is created to provide affordable rental and home ownership community workforce housing for essential services personnel affected by the high cost of housing, using regulatory incentives and state and local funds to promote local public-private partnerships and leverage government and private resources.
- (3) For purposes of this section, the <u>term</u> <del>following</del> <del>definitions apply:</del>
- (a) "Workforce housing" means housing affordable to natural persons or families whose total annual household income does not exceed 140 percent of the area median income, adjusted for household size, or 150 percent of area median income, adjusted for household size, in areas of critical state concern designated under s. 380.05, for which the Legislature has declared its intent to provide affordable housing, and areas that were designated as areas of critical

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state concern for at least 20 consecutive years prior to removal of the designation.

- (b) "Essential services personnel" means persons in need of affordable housing who are employed in occupations or professions in which they are considered essential services personnel, as defined by each county and eligible municipality within its respective local housing assistance plan pursuant to s. 420.9075(3)(a).
- (c) "Public-private partnership" means any form of business entity that includes substantial involvement of at least one county, one municipality, or one public sector entity, such as a school district or other unit of local government in which the project is to be located, and at least one private sector for-profit or not-for-profit business or charitable entity, and may be any form of business entity, including a joint venture or contractual agreement.
- (4) The Florida Housing Finance Corporation is authorized to provide Community Workforce Housing Innovation Pilot Program loans to an applicant for construction or rehabilitation of workforce housing in eligible areas. The corporation shall establish a funding process and selection criteria by rule or request for proposals. This funding is intended to be used with other public and private sector resources.
- (5) The corporation shall establish a loan application process by rule which includes selection criteria, an application review process, and a funding process. The corporation shall also establish an application review committee that may include up to three private citizens representing the areas of housing or real estate development,

1	banking, community planning, or other areas related to the
2	development or financing of workforce and affordable housing.
3	(a) The selection criteria and application review
4	process must include a procedure for curing errors in the loan
5	applications which do not make a substantial change to the
6	proposed project.
7	(b) To achieve the goals of the pilot program, the
8	application review committee may approve or reject loan
9	applications or responses to questions raised during the
10	review of an application due to the insufficiency of
11	information provided.
12	(c) The application review committee shall make
13	recommendations concerning program participation and funding
14	to the corporation's board of directors.
15	(d) The board of directors shall approve or reject
16	loan applications, determine the tentative loan amount
17	available to each applicant, and rank all approved
18	applications.
19	(e) The board of directors shall decide which approved
20	applicants will become program participants and determine the
21	maximum loan amount for each program participant.
22	(6)(5) The corporation shall provide incentives for
23	local governments in eligible areas to use local affordable
24	housing funds, such as those from the State Housing
25	Initiatives Partnership Program, to assist in meeting the
26	affordable housing needs of persons eligible under this
27	program. Local governments are authorized to use State Housing
28	Initiative Partnership Program funds for persons or families
29	whose total annual household income does not exceed:
30	(a) One hundred and forty percent of the area median

31 <u>income</u>, adjusted for household size; or

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(b) One hundred and fifty percent of the area median income, adjusted for household size, in areas that were designated as areas of critical state concern for at least 20 consecutive years prior to the removal of the designation and in areas of critical state concern, designated under s.

380.05, for which the Legislature has declared its intent to provide affordable housing.

(7)(6) Funding shall be targeted to <u>innovative</u> projects in areas where the disparity between the area median income and the median sales price for a single-family home is greatest, and <u>for projects in areas</u> where population growth as a percentage rate of increase is greatest. The corporation may also fund projects in areas where innovative regulatory and financial incentives are made available. The corporation shall fund at least one eligible project in as many counties <u>and</u> regions of the state as is practicable, consistent with <u>program goals</u> as possible.

(8)(7) Projects shall receive priority consideration for funding where:

(a) The local jurisdiction <u>has adopted</u>, or <u>is</u> committed to adopting, adopts appropriate regulatory incentives, local contributions or financial strategies, or other funding sources to promote the development and ongoing financial viability of such projects. Local incentives include such actions as expediting review of development orders and permits, supporting development near transportation hubs and major employment centers, and adopting land development regulations designed to allow flexibility in densities, use of accessory units, mixed-use developments, and flexible lot configurations. Financial strategies include such actions as

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promoting employer-assisted housing programs, providing tax increment financing, and providing land.

- (b) Projects are innovative and include new construction or rehabilitation; mixed-income housing; or commercial and housing mixed-use elements; innovative design, green building principles; storm-resistant construction; or other elements that reduce long-term costs relating to maintenance, utilities, or insurance and those that promote homeownership. The program funding may shall not exceed the costs attributable to the portion of the project that is set aside to provide housing for the targeted population.
- (c) Projects that set aside at least 80 percent of units for workforce housing and at least 50 percent for essential services personnel and for projects that require the least amount of program funding compared to the overall housing costs for the project.

(9)(8) Notwithstanding the provisions of s.

163.3184(3)-(6), any local government comprehensive plan amendment to implement a Community Workforce Housing
Innovation Pilot Program project found consistent with the provisions of this section shall be expedited as provided in this subsection. At least 30 days prior to adopting a plan amendment under pursuant to this subsection, the local government shall notify the state land planning agency of its intent to adopt such an amendment, and the notice shall include its evaluation related to site suitability and availability of facilities and services. The public notice of the hearing required by s. 163.3184(15)(b)2. s.

163.3184(15)(e) shall include a statement that the local government intends to use utilize the expedited adoption process authorized by this subsection. Such amendments shall

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require only a single public hearing before the governing board, which shall be an adoption hearing as described in s. 163.3184(7)., and The state land planning agency shall issue 3 its notice of intent pursuant to s. 163.3184(8) within 30 days 4 after determining that the amendment package is complete. Any 5 6 further proceedings shall be governed by ss. 163.3184(9)-(16). 7 Amendments proposed under this section are not subject to s. 8 163.3187(1), which limits the adoption of a comprehensive plan amendment to no more than two times during any calendar year. 9

(10) The processing of approvals of development orders or development permits, as defined in s. 163.3164(7) and (8), for innovative community workforce housing projects shall be expedited.

(11)(9) The corporation shall award loans with interest rates set at 1 to 3 percent, which may be made forgivable when long-term affordability is provided and when at least 80 percent of the units are set aside for workforce housing and at least 50 percent of the units are set aside for essential services personnel.

(12) (10) All eligible applications shall:

- (a) For home ownership, limit the sales price of a detached unit, townhome, or condominium unit to not more than 90 80 percent of the median sales price for that type of unit in that county, or the statewide median sales price for that type of unit, whichever is higher, and require that all eligible purchasers of home ownership units occupy the homes as their primary residence.
- (b) For rental units, restrict rents for all workforce housing serving those with incomes at or below 120 percent of area median income at the appropriate income level using the restricted rents for the federal low-income housing tax credit

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program and, for workforce housing units serving those with incomes above 120 percent of area median income, restrict rents to those established by the corporation, not to exceed 30 percent of the maximum household income adjusted to unit size.

- (c) Demonstrate that the applicant is a public-private partnership in an agreement, contract, partnership agreement, memorandum of understanding, or other written instrument signed by all the project partners.
- (d) Have grants, donations of land, or contributions from the public-private partnership or other sources collectively totaling at least 15 percent of the total development cost. Such grants, donations of land, or contributions must be evidenced by a letter of commitment, an agreement, contract, deed, memorandum of understanding, or other written instrument only at the time of application. Grants, donations of land, or contributions in excess of 15 percent of the development cost shall increase the application score.
- (e) Demonstrate how the applicant will use the regulatory incentives and financial strategies outlined in subsection (8) paragraph (7)(a) from the local jurisdiction in which the proposed project is to be located. The corporation may consult with the Department of Community Affairs in evaluating the use of regulatory incentives by applicants.
- (f) Demonstrate that the applicant possesses title to or site control of land and evidences availability of required infrastructure.
- (g) Demonstrate the applicant's affordable housing development and management experience.

1	(h) Provide any research or facts available supporting
2	the demand and need for rental or home ownership workforce
3	housing for eligible persons in the market in which the
4	project is proposed.
5	(13)(11) Projects may include manufactured housing
6	constructed after June 1994 and installed in accordance with
7	mobile home installation standards of the Department of
8	Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.
9	(14)(12) The corporation may adopt rules pursuant to
10	ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement the provisions of this
11	section.
12	(15)(13) The corporation may use a maximum of 2
13	percent of the annual program appropriation for administration
14	and compliance monitoring.
15	(16) (14) The corporation shall review the success of
16	the Community Workforce Housing Innovation Pilot Program to
17	ascertain whether the projects financed by the program are
18	useful in meeting the housing needs of eligible areas and
19	shall include its findings in the annual report required under
20	s. 420.511(3). The corporation shall submit its report and any
21	recommendations regarding the program to the Governor, the
22	Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the President of
23	the Senate not later than 2 months after the end of the
24	corporation's fiscal year.
25	Section 11. Subsection (3) of section 420.511, Florida
26	Statutes, is amended to read:
27	420.511 Business plan; strategic plan; annual
28	report
29	(3) (3) The corporation shall submit to the Governor
30	and the presiding officers of each house of the Legislature,
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within 2 months after the end of its fiscal year, a complete and detailed report setting forth:

- 1.(a) Its operations and accomplishments;
- 2.(b) Its receipts and expenditures during its fiscal year in accordance with the categories or classifications established by the corporation for its operating and capital outlay purposes;
- 3.(c) Its assets and liabilities at the end of its fiscal year and the status of reserve, special, or other funds;
- 4.(d) A schedule of its bonds outstanding at the end of its fiscal year, together with a statement of the principal amounts of bonds issued and redeemed during the fiscal year; and
- 5.(e) Information relating to the corporation's activities in implementing the provisions of ss. 420.5087, and 420.5088, and 420.5095.
- 18 (b) The report required by this subsection shall include, but not be limited to:
  - The number of people served, delineated by income, age, family size, and racial characteristics.
    - 2. The number of units produced under each program.
  - 3. The average cost of producing units under each program.
- 4. The average sales price of single-family units financed under s. 420.5088.
- 5. The average amount of rent charged based on unit size on units financed under s. 420.5087.
- 29 6. The number of persons in rural communities served 30 under each program.

The number of farmworkers served under each 2 program. 3 The number of homeless persons served under each 8. 4 program. 5 The number of elderly persons served under each 9. 6 program. 7 10. The extent to which geographic distribution has 8 been achieved in accordance with the provisions of s. 420.5087. 9 10 11. The success of the Community Workforce Housing Innovation Pilot Program in meeting the housing needs of 11 12 eligible areas. 13 12.11. Any other information the corporation deems 14 appropriate. Section 12. Subsection (1) of section 420.513, Florida 15 Statutes, is amended to read: 16 420.513 Exemption from taxes and eligibility as 18 investment.--(1) The property of the corporation, the transactions 19 and operations thereof, the income therefrom, and the bonds of 20 21 the corporation issued under this act, together with all notes, mortgages, security agreements, letters of credit, or 23 other instruments that arise out of or are given to secure the repayment of bonds issued in connection with the financing of 2.4 any housing development under this part, and all notes, 25 mortgages, security agreements, letters of credit, or other 26 27 instruments that arise out of or are given to secure the 28 repayment of loans issued in connection with the financing of any housing under this part, as well as the interest thereon 29 30 and income therefrom, <u>regardless of the status of any party</u>

thereto as a private party, shall be exempt from taxation by

affordable housing.

the state and its political subdivisions. The exemption 2 granted by this subsection shall not apply to any tax imposed by chapter 220 on interest, income, or profits on debt 3 obligations owned by corporations. 4 Section 13. Subsection (7) of section 420.526, Florida 5 6 Statutes, is amended to read: 7 420.526 Predevelopment Loan Program; loans and grants 8 authorized; activities eligible for support .--(7) No predevelopment loan made under this section 9 10 shall exceed the lesser of: (a) The development and acquisition costs for the 11 12 project, as determined by rule of the corporation; or 13 (b) Seven hundred and fifty Five hundred thousand dollars. 14 Section 14. Subsections (2), (4), (5), and (6) of 15 section 420.9076, Florida Statutes, are amended, and 16 17 subsection (8) is added to that section, to read: 420.9076 Adoption of affordable housing incentive 18 strategies; committees.--19 (2) The governing board of a county or municipality 20 21 shall appoint the members of the affordable housing advisory 22 committee by resolution. Pursuant to the terms of any 23 interlocal agreement, a county and municipality may create and jointly appoint an advisory committee to prepare a joint plan. 2.4 The ordinance adopted pursuant to s. 420.9072 which creates 2.5 the advisory committee or the resolution appointing the 26 27 advisory committee members must provide for eleven nine 2.8 committee members and their terms. The committee must include: 29 (a) One citizen who is actively engaged in the 30 residential home building industry in connection with

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- (b) One citizen who is actively engaged in the banking or mortgage banking industry in connection with affordable housing.
- (c) One citizen who is a representative of those areas of labor actively engaged in home building in connection with affordable housing.
- (d) One citizen who is actively engaged as an advocate for low-income persons in connection with affordable housing.
- (e) One citizen who is actively engaged as a for-profit provider of affordable housing.
- (f) One citizen who is actively engaged as a not-for-profit provider of affordable housing.
- (g) One citizen who is actively engaged as a real estate professional in connection with affordable housing.
- (h) One citizen who actively serves on the local planning agency pursuant to s. 163.3174.
- (i) One citizen who resides within the jurisdiction of the local governing body making the appointments.
- (j) One citizen who represents employers within the jurisdiction.
- (k) One citizen who represents essential services personnel, as defined in the local housing assistance plan.

If a county or eligible municipality whether due to its small size, the presence of a conflict of interest by prospective appointees, or other reasonable factor, is unable to appoint a citizen actively engaged in these activities in connection

with affordable housing, a citizen engaged in the activity

without regard to affordable housing may be appointed. <u>Local</u>

30 governments that receive the minimum allocation under the

State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program may elect to

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appoint an affordable housing advisory committee with fewer
than eleven representatives if they are unable to find
representatives that meet the criteria of paragraphs (a)-(k).

- (4) Triennially, the advisory committee shall review the established policies and procedures, ordinances, land development regulations, and adopted local government comprehensive plan of the appointing local government and shall recommend specific actions or initiatives to encourage or facilitate affordable housing while protecting the ability of the property to appreciate in value. The Such recommendations may include the modification or repeal of existing policies, procedures, ordinances, regulations, or plan provisions; the creation of exceptions applicable to affordable housing; or the adoption of new policies, procedures, regulations, ordinances, or plan provisions. At a minimum, each advisory committee shall submit a report to the local governing body that includes make recommendations on, and triennially thereafter evaluates the implementation of, affordable housing incentives in the following areas:
- (a) The processing of approvals of development orders or permits, as defined in s. 163.3164(7) and (8), for affordable housing projects is expedited to a greater degree than other projects.
- (b) The modification of impact-fee requirements, including reduction or waiver of fees and alternative methods of fee payment for affordable housing.
- (c) The allowance of <u>flexibility in densities</u> increased density levels for affordable housing.
- (d) The reservation of infrastructure capacity for housing for very-low-income persons, and low-income persons, and moderate-income persons.

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- (e) The allowance of affordable accessory residential units in residential zoning districts.
- (f) The reduction of parking and setback requirements for affordable housing.
- (g) The allowance of <u>flexible lot configurations</u>, <u>including</u> zero-lot-line configurations for affordable housing.
- (h) The modification of street requirements for affordable housing.
- (i) The establishment of a process by which a local government considers, before adoption, policies, procedures, ordinances, regulations, or plan provisions that increase the cost of housing.
- (j) The preparation of a printed inventory of locally owned public lands suitable for affordable housing.
- (k) The support of development near transportation hubs and major employment centers and mixed-use developments.

The advisory committee recommendations <u>may</u> <del>must</del> also include other affordable housing incentives identified by the advisory committee. <u>Local governments that receive the minimum</u> <u>allocation under the State Housing Initiatives Partnership</u> <u>Program shall perform the initial review, but may elect to not perform the triennial review.</u>

(5) The approval by the advisory committee of its local housing incentive strategies recommendations and its review of local government implementation of previously recommended strategies must be made by affirmative vote of a majority of the membership of the advisory committee taken at a public hearing. Notice of the time, date, and place of the public hearing of the advisory committee to adopt final local housing incentive strategies recommendations must be published

in a newspaper of general paid circulation in the county. <u>The Such</u> notice must contain a short and concise summary of the local housing incentives strategies recommendations to be considered by the advisory committee. The notice must state the public place where a copy of the tentative advisory committee recommendations can be obtained by interested persons.

- (6) Within 90 days after the date of receipt of the local housing incentive strategies recommendations from the advisory committee, the governing body of the appointing local government shall adopt an amendment to its local housing assistance plan to incorporate the local housing incentive strategies it will implement within its jurisdiction. The amendment must include, at a minimum, the local housing incentive strategies required under s. 420.9071(16). The local government must consider the strategies specified in paragraphs(4)(a)-(k) as recommended by the advisory committee (4)(a) (j).
- (8) The advisory committee may perform other duties at the request of the local government, including:
- (a) The provision of mentoring services to affordable housing partners including developers, banking institutions, employers, and others to identify available incentives, assist with applications for funding requests, and develop partnerships between various parties.
- (b) The creation of best practices for the development of affordable housing in the community.

Section 15. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.

Senate Bill 780  The committee substitute makes the following substantial changes:  Requires certain counties to adopt a plan to ensure workforce housing.  Creates an expedited amendment process for plan amendments consistent with local government affordable housing strategies.  Allows the adoption of certain comprehensive plan amendments more than twice a year.  Requires that certain agreements for affordable housing be recorded in the public records and provides that such agreements are state land use regulations.  Allows the Florida Housing Finance Corporation to create a loan application process for the Community Workforce Innovative Housing Pilot Program.  Allows certain local governments to use SHIP funds for workforce housing projects.  Creates an tax deferral program for affordable housing rental properties.  Creates an expedited approval process for development orders and permits for workforce housing.  Makes revisions to the local government affordable housing advisory committees.	
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