

By Senator Bennett

21-03502-08

20082304__

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to state economic development incentives
3 for the recreational marine industry; creating the
4 Recreational Marine Business Retention Program within
5 Enterprise Florida, Inc.; providing goals for the program,
6 including recruiting new marine businesses, supporting
7 existing recreational marine businesses in the state, and
8 promoting the state's recreational marine industry through
9 various venues; requiring Enterprise Florida, Inc., in
10 conjunction with the Department of Environmental
11 Protection, to submit a report to the Legislature
12 regarding the effect of an expedited permitting process on
13 the goals of the program; requiring Enterprise Florida,
14 Inc., to work with the Office of Tourism, Trade, and
15 Economic Development to provide additional tax incentives
16 for the recreational marine industry; providing an
17 effective date.

18
19 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

20
21 Section 1. (1) In order to aid the recreational marine
22 industry in this state, the Recreational Marine Business
23 Retention Program is created in Enterprise Florida, Inc., with
24 the mission of retaining marine industry businesses in this
25 state, recruiting businesses to establish operations in the
26 state, and generally supporting the state's recreational marine
27 industry. In meeting its mission, the program shall:

28 (a) Recruit boat manufacturers and marine accessory
29 manufacturers to establish operations in the state;

21-03502-08

20082304__

30 (b) Support the growth of recreational marine businesses
31 presently operating in the state;

32 (c) Promote the state's recreational marine industry at
33 trade shows and through media advertisements and a website; and

34 (d) Monitor trends in public marine water access and any
35 loss or gain of marina and boatyard facilities in the state and
36 any gain or loss in recreational marine businesses to other
37 states. The program shall annually submit a report to the
38 Legislature on its findings regarding such issues.

39 (2) Enterprise Florida, Inc., in conjunction with the
40 Department of Environmental Protection shall submit a report to
41 the Legislature by November 1, 2008, detailing how the permitting
42 process can be revised to expedite permitting so as to facilitate
43 the goals of this section.

44 (3) Enterprise Florida, Inc., shall work with the Office of
45 Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development in the Executive Office
46 of the Governor to designate the recreational marine industry as
47 a qualified target industry for purposes of inclusion in the
48 Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund Program established in s.
49 288.106, Florida Statutes, and to adjust the wage eligibility
50 criteria for inclusion in the program to encourage increased
51 participation by the recreational marine industry.

52 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.