

ENROLLED  
 HB 7123, Engrossed 1

2009 Legislature

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to military base closures; creating s.  
 3           288.984, F.S.; establishing the Florida Council on  
 4           Military Base and Mission Support; providing for the  
 5           mission of the council; providing for membership;  
 6           providing for terms of appointment; providing for  
 7           reappointment of members; providing for election of a  
 8           council chair and vice chair; providing for reimbursement  
 9           of members for expenses; requiring the Office of Tourism,  
 10          Trade, and Economic Development to provide administrative  
 11          support; providing for council workgroups and tasks  
 12          thereof; requiring an annual report to the Legislature and  
 13          Governor; providing an effective date.

14  
 15 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

16  
 17           Section 1. Section 288.984, Florida Statutes, is created  
 18 to read:

19           288.984 Florida Council on Military Base and Mission  
 20 Support.--The Florida Council on Military Base and Mission  
 21 Support is established. The council shall provide oversight and  
 22 direction for initiatives, claims, and actions taken on behalf  
 23 of the state, its agencies, and political subdivisions under  
 24 this part.

25           (1) MISSION.--The mission of the council is to:

26           (a) Support and strengthen all United States Department of  
 27 Defense missions and bases located in this state.

28           (b) Know the capabilities of all state military

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29 installations in order to understand and be supportive of future  
 30 military growth opportunities in this state.

31 (c) Support local community efforts relating to mission  
 32 support of a military base by acting as a liaison between the  
 33 local communities and the Legislature.

34 (d) Enhance Florida's defense economy.

35 (2) MEMBERSHIP.--

36 (a) The council shall be composed of nine members. The  
 37 President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of  
 38 Representatives, and the Governor shall each appoint three  
 39 members as follows:

40 1. The President of the Senate shall appoint one member of  
 41 the Senate, one community representative from a community-based  
 42 defense support organization, and one member who is a retired  
 43 military general or flag-rank officer residing in this state or  
 44 an executive officer of a defense contracting firm doing  
 45 significant business in this state.

46 2. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall  
 47 appoint one member of the House of Representatives, one  
 48 community representative from a community-based defense support  
 49 organization, and one member who is a retired military general  
 50 or flag-rank officer residing in this state or an executive  
 51 officer of a defense contracting firm doing significant business  
 52 in this state.

53 3. The Governor shall appoint the director or designee of  
 54 the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development, the vice  
 55 chairperson or designee of Enterprise Florida, Inc., and one at-  
 56 large member.

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57        (b) Each of the appointed legislative members shall serve  
58 for a term of 2 years, commencing July 1 of each odd-numbered  
59 year. Each of the other appointed members shall serve for a term  
60 of 4 years, commencing July 1 in the year of appointment. A  
61 vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term  
62 in the same manner as the initial appointment. All members of  
63 the council are eligible for reappointment.

64        (c) Members of the council shall elect a chair and vice  
65 chair to serve for terms of 2 years. The chair and vice chair  
66 are eligible to succeed themselves.

67        (d) The members of the council shall serve without  
68 compensation but are entitled to reimbursement for per diem and  
69 travel expenses in accordance with s. 112.061, which shall be  
70 paid by the appointing legislative chamber or the Executive  
71 Office of the Governor, as appropriate.

72        (e) The Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development  
73 shall provide administrative support to the council.

74        (f) The Secretary of Community Affairs or his or her  
75 designee, the Secretary of Environmental Protection or his or  
76 her designee, the Secretary of Transportation or his or her  
77 designee, the Adjutant General of the state or his or her  
78 designee, and the executive director of the Department of  
79 Veterans' Affairs or his or her designee shall attend meetings  
80 held by the council and provide assistance, information, and  
81 support as requested by the council.

82        (3) WORKGROUPS.--The council shall establish the following  
83 workgroups:

84        (a) The Intrastate Activities Workgroup.--The task of the

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85 workgroup is to:

86 1. Collect information about and become familiar with the  
 87 concerns and activities of local communities in enhancing and  
 88 supporting their respective military bases.

89 2. Conduct an analysis of the strengths of each military  
 90 base and share the evaluation with the council and the affected  
 91 community.

92 3. In partnership with the Florida Defense Alliance and  
 93 local communities, conduct ongoing analyses of current and  
 94 proposed changes to the mission and military force structure and  
 95 alignment of the United States Department of Defense.

96 4. Identify the most effective methods and practices used  
 97 by local communities to address the issue of military base  
 98 support and enhancement and disseminate such best practices  
 99 among affected communities.

100 5. Ensure that affected communities and stakeholders are  
 101 informed of and invited to assist and support state-level  
 102 efforts to affect statewide coordination of information  
 103 gathering, strategy development, and the sharing of best  
 104 practices.

105 6. Educate the Legislature on the importance of supporting  
 106 legislation relating to the state's military bases.

107 (b) *The Federal Activities Workgroup.*--The task of the  
 108 workgroup is to ensure that the council has a presence at the  
 109 Pentagon and has ongoing dialogue with key Department of Defense  
 110 officials concerning the state's military bases.

111 (c) *The Competitive Advantages Workgroup.*--The task of the  
 112 workgroup is to research and identify best practices and

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113 strategies throughout the country with respect to other military  
114 communities in order to leverage the state's competitive  
115 advantage.

116 (d) *The Public Communications Workgroup*.--The task of the  
117 workgroup is to increase public awareness of the presence and  
118 value of United States military installations and their missions  
119 in Florida and public investment in supporting the state's  
120 military bases.

121 (4) ANNUAL REPORT.--The council shall prepare and submit a  
122 report to the Legislature and the Governor by January 1 of each  
123 year. The report shall summarize the current status of the  
124 state's military bases, the council's activities, and any  
125 recommendations for legislative or executive action.

126 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.