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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/19/2010	.	
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The Committee on Higher Education Appropriations (Thrasher) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Between lines 166 and 167
insert:

Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (6) of section 440.491, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

440.491 Reemployment of injured workers; rehabilitation.-

(6) TRAINING AND EDUCATION.-

(a) Upon referral of an injured employee by the carrier, or upon the request of an injured employee, the department shall conduct a training and education screening to determine whether it should refer the employee for a vocational evaluation and, if



267918

13 appropriate, approve training and education or other vocational
14 services for the employee. The department may not approve formal
15 training and education programs unless it determines, after
16 consideration of the reemployment assessment, pertinent
17 reemployment status reviews or reports, and such other relevant
18 factors as it prescribes by rule, that the reemployment plan is
19 likely to result in return to suitable gainful employment. The
20 department is authorized to expend moneys from the Workers'
21 Compensation Administration Trust Fund, established by s.
22 440.50, to secure appropriate training and education at a
23 Florida public community college as designated in s. 1000.21(3)
24 or at a career center established under s. 1001.44, or to secure
25 other vocational services when necessary to satisfy the
26 recommendation of a vocational evaluator. As used in this
27 paragraph, "appropriate training and education" includes
28 securing a general education diploma (GED), if necessary. The
29 department shall establish training and education standards
30 pertaining to employee eligibility, course curricula and
31 duration, and associated costs. For purposes of this subsection,
32 training and education services may be secured from additional
33 providers if the:

34 1. Injured employee currently holds an associate degree and
35 requests to earn a bachelor's degree not offered by a Florida
36 public college located within 50 miles from his or her customary
37 residence;

38 2. Injured employee's enrollment in an education or
39 training program in a Florida public college or career center
40 would be significantly delayed; or

41 3. Most appropriate training and education program is



267918

42 available only through a provider other than a Florida public
43 college or career center or at a Florida public college or
44 career center located more than 50 miles away from the injured
45 employee's customary residence.

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47 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

48 And the title is amended as follows:

49 Delete line 6

50 and insert:

51 or disabled veterans; amending s. 440.491, F.S.;

52 revising provisions relating to the training and

53 education of injured employees; providing that

54 training and education services may be secured from

55 additional providers under certain circumstances;

56 amending s. 1000.04, F.S.;