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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

House

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Floor: WD

05/02/2011 08:19 AM

Senator Bennett moved the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Between lines 11 and 12

insert:

Section 2. Section 14.23, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

14.23 State-Federal relations.—

(1) LEGISLATIVE INTENT.—It is the intent of the Legislature to establish mechanisms through which the legislative and executive branches of state government can work together in a cooperative alliance, to strengthen the state's relationship with our Congressional Delegation and with federal executive branch agencies, to improve our position in relation to federal



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14 legislative initiatives which have a fiscal impact or
15 substantive policy impact on the state, and to establish and
16 maintain a viable network and communications structure to
17 facilitate the transmittal of essential information between
18 state and federal officials, and to take all necessary steps to
19 maximize the receipt of various federal funds by the State of
20 Florida. Florida's Congressional Delegation is, in this regard,
21 the most important linkage in representing Florida's interests
22 in the nation's capital. Therefore, the mechanisms and resources
23 created herein, for the furtherance of the state's
24 intergovernmental efforts, shall include the Congressional
25 Delegation and be available to meet its needs.

26 (2) CREATION OF THE OFFICE OF STATE-FEDERAL RELATIONS.—

27 (a) There is created, within the Executive Office of the
28 Governor, the Office of State-Federal Relations for the State of
29 Florida, hereinafter referred to as the "office," to be located
30 in Washington, D.C. The office shall represent both the
31 legislative and executive branches of state government. The
32 Legislature shall have direct access to the staff of the office.

33 (b) The duties of the office shall be determined by the
34 Governor, in consultation with the President of the Senate and
35 the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and shall include,
36 but not be limited to, the following:

37 1. To provide legislative and administrative liaison
38 between state and federal officials and agencies and with
39 Congress.

40 2. To provide grants assistance and advice to state
41 agencies.

42 3. To assist in the development and implementation of



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43 strategies for the evaluation and management of the state's
44 federal legislative program and intergovernmental efforts.

45 4. To facilitate the activities of Florida officials
46 traveling to Washington, D.C., in the performance of their
47 official duties.

48 (c) The head of the office shall be the director, who shall
49 be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

50 (3) COOPERATION.—For the purpose of centralizing the state-
51 federal relations efforts of the state, state agencies and their
52 representatives shall cooperate and coordinate their state-
53 federal efforts and activities with the office. State agencies
54 which have representatives headquartered in Washington, D.C.,
55 are encouraged to station their representatives in the office.

56 (4) ANNUAL REPORT.—By January 1 of each year, the office
57 shall submit a report to the Governor, the President of the
58 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives
59 detailing the office's budget, personnel, and activities.

60 (5) ~~(4)~~ (a) NOMINATIONS TO FEDERAL REGIONAL FISHERIES
61 MANAGEMENT COUNCILS.—The Governor is prohibited from nominating
62 for appointment to any one of the federal fisheries management
63 councils established under 16 U.S.C. ss. 1801 et seq., as
64 amended, the name of any person who is, or who has been at any
65 time during the 24 months preceding such nomination, a lobbyist
66 for any entity of any kind whatsoever whose interests are or
67 could be affected by actions or decisions of such fisheries
68 management councils.

69 (b) For purposes of this section, the term "lobbyist" means
70 any natural person who is required to register pursuant to s.
71 11.045 or the equivalent federal statute and who, for



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72 compensation, seeks, or sought during the preceding 24 months,
73 to influence the governmental decisionmaking of a reporting
74 individual or procurement employee, as those terms are defined
75 under s. 112.3148, or his or her agency, to encourage the
76 passage, defeat, or modification of any proposal or
77 recommendation by such reporting individual or procurement
78 employee or his or her agency.

79

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

81 And the title is amended as follows:

82 Delete line 6

83 and insert:

84 Advisory Council; amending s. 14.23, F.S.; requiring
85 the Office of State-Federal Relations to submit an
86 annual report to the Governor and Legislature
87 detailing its budget, personnel, and activities;
88 providing an effective date.