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A bill to be entitled
 An act relating to the Seaport Employment Training
 Grant Program; reviving, reenacting, and amending s.
 288.386, F.S.; requiring the Department of Economic
 Opportunity under certain circumstances to establish
 and administer the Florida-Caribbean Basin Trade
 Initiative within the program; providing the purpose
 of, and the department's responsibilities for, the
 initiative; providing for coordination and alliances
 with certain organizations and funding programs;
 requiring the department to develop performance
 measures for the initiative; providing an effective
 date.

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

Section 1. Notwithstanding the repeal of section 288.386,
 Florida Statutes, by section 52 of chapter 2011-213, Laws of
 Florida, section 288.386, Florida Statutes, is revived,
 reenacted, and amended to read:

288.386 Florida-Caribbean Basin Trade Initiative.—

(1) Contingent upon a specific appropriation, the
department shall, within the Seaport Employment Training Grant
Program, ~~(STEP) shall~~ establish and administer the Florida-
 Caribbean Basin Trade Initiative for the purpose of assisting
 small and medium-sized businesses to become involved in
 international activities and helping them to identify markets
 with product demand, identify strategic alliances in those

29 | markets, and obtain the financing to effectuate trade
 30 | opportunities in the Caribbean Basin. The initiative must focus
 31 | assistance to businesses located in urban communities. The
 32 | initiative shall offer export readiness, assistance and referral
 33 | services, internships, seminars, workshops, conferences, and e-
 34 | commerce plus mentoring and matchmaking services, but shall
 35 | coordinate with and not duplicate those services provided by
 36 | Enterprise Florida, Inc.

37 | (2) To enhance initiative effectiveness and leverage
 38 | resources, the department STEP shall coordinate initiative
 39 | activities with Enterprise Florida, Inc., United States Export
 40 | Assistance Centers, the Florida Export Finance Corporation,
 41 | ~~Florida Trade Data Center,~~ Small Business Development Centers,
 42 | and any other organizations that the department STEP deems
 43 | appropriate. The coordination may encompass export assistance
 44 | and referral services, export financing, job-training programs,
 45 | educational programs, market research and development, market
 46 | promotion, trade missions, e-commerce, and mentoring and
 47 | matchmaking services relative to the expansion of trade between
 48 | this state Florida and the Caribbean Basin. The initiative shall
 49 | also form alliances with multilateral, international, and
 50 | domestic funding programs from this state Florida, the United
 51 | States, and the Caribbean Basin to coordinate systems and
 52 | programs for fundamental assistance in facilitating trade and
 53 | investment.

54 | (3) ~~STEP shall administer the Florida-Caribbean Basin~~
 55 | ~~Trade Initiative pursuant to a performance-based contract with~~
 56 | ~~the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development.~~ The

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57 | department ~~Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development~~
58 | shall develop performance measures, ~~standards, and sanctions~~ for
59 | the initiative, which. ~~Performance measures~~ must include, but
60 | are not limited to, the number of businesses assisted, ~~†~~ the
61 | number of urban businesses assisted, ~~†~~ and the increase in value
62 | of exports to the Caribbean which is attributable to the
63 | initiative.

64 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.