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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: WD	.	
01/25/2012	.	
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The Committee on Criminal Justice (Bennett) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Section 220.1893, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

220.1893 National Guard Employment Tax Credit Program.—

(1) As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Department" means the Department of Economic Opportunity.

(b) "Eligible business" means any business that is operating and authorized to do business in this state.



877326

13           (c) "Qualified employee" means a person:

14           1. Who is a current Florida National Guard member in good  
15 standing, as verified by the Adjutant General of the Florida  
16 National Guard, and has been unemployed for more than 6 months  
17 or is returning from duty abroad;

18           2. Who was hired by an eligible business on or after July  
19 1, 2012, and had not previously been employed by the eligible  
20 business or its parent or an affiliated corporation;

21           3. Who performed duties connected to the operations of the  
22 eligible business on a regular, full-time basis for an average  
23 of at least 36 hours per week and for at least 3 months before  
24 an eligible business is awarded a tax credit; and

25           4. Whose employment by the eligible business has not formed  
26 the basis for any other claim to a credit pursuant to this  
27 chapter.

28           (2) A certified business shall receive a \$10,000 tax credit  
29 for each qualified employee, subject to the limitation in  
30 subsection (5). The credit may be taken against:

31           (a) Corporate income taxes under chapter 220.

32           (b) Insurance premium tax under s. 624.509.

33           (c) Taxes on sales, use, and other transactions under  
34 chapter 212.

35           (d) Intangible personal property taxes under chapter 199.

36           (e) Excise taxes on documents under chapter 201.

37           (f) Ad valorem taxes paid, as defined in s. 220.03(1).

38           (g) State communications services taxes administered under  
39 chapter 202. This paragraph does not apply to the gross receipts  
40 tax imposed under chapter 203 and administered under chapter 202  
41 or the local communications services tax authorized under s.



877326

42 202.19.

43 (3) (a) To become a certified business, an officer of an  
44 eligible business must file under oath with the Department of  
45 Economic Opportunity an application that includes:

46 1. The name, address, and NAICS identifying code of the  
47 eligible business. As used in this subsection, "NAICS" means  
48 those classifications contained in the North American Industry  
49 Classification System, as published in 2007 by the Office of  
50 Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President.

51 2. Relevant employment information.

52 3. A sworn affidavit, signed by each employee for whom the  
53 eligible business is seeking credits under this section,  
54 attesting to his or her previous unemployment.

55 4. Verification that the wages paid by the eligible  
56 business to each of its qualified employees exceeds the wage  
57 eligibility levels for Medicaid and other public assistance  
58 programs.

59 5. Any other information necessary to process the  
60 application.

61 (b) The Department of Economic Opportunity shall process  
62 applications to certify a business in the order in which the  
63 applications are received, without regard as to whether the  
64 applicant is a new or an existing business. The department shall  
65 review and approve or deny an application within 10 days after  
66 receiving a completed application. The department shall notify  
67 the applicant in writing as to the department's decision.

68 (c)1. The department shall submit a copy of the letter of  
69 certification to the Department of Revenue within 10 days after  
70 the department issues the letter of certification to the



877326

71 applicant.

72 2. If the application of an eligible business is not  
73 sufficient to certify the applicant business, the department  
74 must deny the application and issue a notice of denial to the  
75 applicant.

76 3. If the application of an eligible business does not  
77 contain sufficient documentation of the number of qualified  
78 employees, the department shall approve the application with  
79 respect to the employees for whom the department determines are  
80 qualified employees. The department must deny the application  
81 with respect to persons for whom the department determines are  
82 not qualified employees or for whom insufficient documentation  
83 has been provided. A business may not submit a revised  
84 application for certification or for the determination of a  
85 person as a qualified employee more than 3 months after the  
86 issuance of a notice of denial with respect to the business or a  
87 particular person as a qualified employee.

88 (4) The applicant for a tax credit under this section has  
89 the responsibility to affirmatively demonstrate to the  
90 satisfaction of the department and the Department of Revenue  
91 that the applicant and the persons claimed as qualified  
92 employees meet the requirements of this section.

93 (5) The total amount of tax credits under this section  
94 which may be approved by the department for all applicants is \$5  
95 million per fiscal year.

96 (6) A tax credit amount that is granted under this section  
97 which is not fully used in the first year for which it becomes  
98 available may be carried forward to the subsequent taxable year.  
99 The carryover credit may be used in the subsequent year if the



877326

100 tax imposed by this chapter for such year exceeds the credit for  
101 such year under this section after applying the other credits  
102 and unused credit carryovers in the order provided in s.  
103 220.02(8).

104 (7) A person who fraudulently claims a credit under this  
105 section is liable for repayment of the credit plus a mandatory  
106 penalty of 100 percent of the credit. Such person also commits a  
107 misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s.  
108 775.082 or s. 775.083.

109 (8) The department may adopt rules governing the manner and  
110 form of applications for the tax credit. The department may  
111 establish guidelines for making an affirmative showing of  
112 qualification for the tax credit under this section.

113 (9) The Department of Revenue may adopt rules to administer  
114 this section, including rules relating to the creation of forms  
115 to claim a tax credit and examination and audit procedures  
116 required to administer this section.

117 (10) This section expires July 1, 2014. However, a taxpayer  
118 that is awarded a tax credit in the second year of the program  
119 may carry forward any unused credit amount to the subsequent tax  
120 reporting period. Rules adopted by the Department of Revenue to  
121 administer this section shall remain valid as long as a taxpayer  
122 may use a credit against its corporate income tax liability.

123 Section 2. Section 265.003, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
124 read:

125 265.003 Florida Veterans' Hall of Fame.—

126 (1) It is the intent of the Legislature to recognize and  
127 honor those military veterans who, through their works and lives  
128 during or after military service, have made a significant



877326

129 contribution to the State of Florida.

130 (2) There is established the Florida Veterans' Hall of  
131 Fame.

132 (a) The Florida Veterans' Hall of Fame is administered by  
133 the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs without  
134 appropriation of state funds.

135 (b) The Department of Management Services shall set aside  
136 an area on the Plaza Level of the Capitol Building along the  
137 northeast front wall and shall consult with the Department of  
138 Veterans' Affairs regarding the design and theme of the area.

139 (c) Each person who is inducted into the Florida Veterans'  
140 Hall of Fame shall have his or her name placed on a plaque  
141 displayed in the designated area of the Capitol Building.

142 (3) (a) The Florida Veterans' Hall of Fame Council is  
143 created within the Department of Veterans' Affairs as an  
144 advisory council, as defined in s. 20.03(7), consisting of seven  
145 members who shall all be honorably discharged veterans, and at  
146 least four of whom must be members of a congressionally  
147 chartered veterans service organization. The Governor, the  
148 President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of  
149 Representatives, the Attorney General, the Chief Financial  
150 Officer, the Commissioner of Agriculture, and the executive  
151 director of the Department of Veterans' Affairs shall each  
152 appoint one member. For the purposes of ensuring staggered  
153 terms, the council members appointed by the Governor, the  
154 Attorney General, the Chief Financial Officer, and the  
155 Commissioner of Agriculture shall be appointed to 4-year terms  
156 beginning on January 1 of the year of appointment, and the  
157 council members appointed by the President of the Senate, the



877326

158 Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the executive  
159 director of the Department of Veterans' Affairs shall be  
160 appointed to 2-year terms beginning on January 1 of the year of  
161 appointment. After the initial appointments, all appointees  
162 shall be appointed to 4-year terms. A member whose term expires  
163 shall continue to serve on the council until such time as a  
164 replacement is appointed.

165 (b) The members shall annually elect a chair from among  
166 their number. The council shall meet at the call of its chair,  
167 at the request of the executive director of the Department of  
168 Veterans' Affairs, or at such times as may be prescribed by the  
169 council. A majority of the members of the council currently  
170 appointed constitutes a quorum, and a meeting may not be held  
171 unless a quorum is present. The affirmative vote of a majority  
172 of the members of the council present is necessary for any  
173 official action by the council.

174 (c) Members of the council may not receive compensation or  
175 honorarium for their services, but members are entitled to  
176 reimbursement for travel expenses incurred in the performance of  
177 their duties as provided in s. 112.061.

178 (d) The original appointing authority may remove his or her  
179 appointee from the council for misconduct or malfeasance in  
180 office, neglect of duty, incompetence, or permanent inability to  
181 perform official duties or if the member is adjudicated guilty  
182 of a felony.

183 (4) ~~(3)~~ (a) The Florida Veterans' Hall of Fame Council  
184 Department of Veterans' Affairs shall annually accept  
185 nominations of persons to be considered for induction into the  
186 Florida Veterans' Hall of Fame and shall ~~then~~ transmit a list of



877326

187 up to 20 nominees ~~its recommendations~~ to the Department of  
188 Veterans' Affairs for submission to the Governor and the Cabinet  
189 who will select four persons from the list of the nominees to be  
190 inducted.

191 (b) In selecting its nominees for submission ~~making its~~  
192 ~~recommendations~~ to the Governor and the Cabinet, the Florida  
193 Veterans' Hall of Fame Council ~~Department of Veterans' Affairs~~  
194 shall give preference to veterans who were born in Florida or  
195 adopted Florida as their home state or base of operation and who  
196 have made a significant contribution to the state in civic,  
197 business, public service, or other pursuits.

198 (5)(4) The Florida Veterans' Hall of Fame Council  
199 ~~Department of Veterans' Affairs~~ may establish criteria and set  
200 specific time periods for acceptance of nominations and for the  
201 process of selection of nominees for membership and establish a  
202 formal induction ceremony to coincide with the annual  
203 commemoration of Veterans' Day.

204 Section 3. Section 295.187, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
205 read:

206 295.187 Florida ~~Service-Disabled~~ Veteran Business  
207 Enterprise Opportunity Act.—

208 (1) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the "Florida  
209 ~~Service-Disabled~~ Veteran Business Enterprise Opportunity Act."

210 (2) INTENT.—It is the intent of the Legislature to rectify  
211 the economic disadvantage of service-disabled veterans, who are  
212 statistically the least likely to be self-employed when compared  
213 to the veteran population as a whole and who have made  
214 extraordinary sacrifices on behalf of the nation, the state, and  
215 the public, by providing opportunities for service-disabled





877326

216 veteran business enterprises as set forth in this section. The  
217 Legislature also intends to recognize wartime veterans and  
218 veterans of a period of war for their sacrifices as set forth in  
219 this section.

220 (3) DEFINITIONS.—For the purpose of this section, the term:

221 (a) "Certified ~~service-disabled~~ veteran business  
222 enterprise" means a business that has been certified by the  
223 Department of Management Services to be a ~~service-disabled~~  
224 veteran business enterprise as defined in paragraph (c).

225 (b) "Service-disabled veteran" means a veteran who is a  
226 permanent Florida resident with a service-connected disability  
227 as determined by the United States Department of Veterans  
228 Affairs or who has been terminated from military service by  
229 reason of disability by the United States Department of Defense.

230 (c) "~~Service-disabled~~ Veteran business enterprise" means an  
231 independently owned and operated business that:

232 1. Employs 200 or fewer permanent full-time employees;  
233 2. Together with its affiliates has a net worth of \$5  
234 million or less or, if a sole proprietorship, has a net worth of  
235 \$5 million or less including both personal and business  
236 investments;

237 3. Is organized to engage in commercial transactions;

238 4. Is domiciled in this state;

239 5. Is at least 51 percent owned by one or more wartime  
240 veterans or service-disabled veterans; and

241 6. The management and daily business operations of which  
242 are controlled by one or more wartime veterans or service-  
243 disabled veterans or, for a service-disabled veteran having with  
244 a permanent and total disability, by the spouse or permanent



877326

245 caregiver of the veteran.

246 (d) "Wartime veteran" means:

247 1. A veteran as defined in s. 1.01(14); or

248 2. A veteran of a period of war, as used in 38 U.S.C. s.  
249 1521, who served in the active military, naval, or air service:

250 a. For 90 days or more during a period of war;

251 b. During a period of war and was discharged or released  
252 from such service for a service-connected disability;

253 c. For a period of 90 consecutive days or more and such  
254 period began or ended during a period of war; or

255 d. For an aggregate of 90 days or more in two or more  
256 separate periods of service during more than one period of war.

257 (4) VENDOR PREFERENCE.—

258 (a) A state agency, when considering two or more bids,  
259 proposals, or replies for the procurement of commodities or  
260 contractual services, at least one of which is from a certified  
261 ~~service-disabled~~ veteran business enterprise, which that are  
262 equal with respect to all relevant considerations, including  
263 price, quality, and service, shall award such procurement or  
264 contract to the certified ~~service-disabled~~ veteran business  
265 enterprise.

266 (b) Notwithstanding s. 287.057(11), if a ~~service-disabled~~  
267 veteran business enterprise entitled to the vendor preference  
268 under this section and one or more businesses entitled to this  
269 preference or another vendor preference provided by law submit  
270 bids, proposals, or replies for procurement of commodities or  
271 contractual services which that are equal with respect to all  
272 relevant considerations, including price, quality, and service,  
273 ~~then~~ the state agency shall award the procurement or contract to



877326

274 the business having the smallest net worth.

275 (c) Political subdivisions of the state are encouraged to  
276 offer a similar consideration to businesses certified under this  
277 section.

278 (5) CERTIFICATION PROCEDURE.—

279 (a) The application for certification as a ~~service-disabled~~  
280 veteran business enterprise must, at a minimum, include:

281 1. The name of the business enterprise applying for  
282 certification and the name of the ~~service-disabled~~ veteran  
283 submitting the application on behalf of the business enterprise.

284 2. The names of all owners of the business enterprise,  
285 including owners who are wartime veterans, service-disabled  
286 veterans, and owners who are not a wartime veteran or a service-  
287 disabled veteran ~~veterans~~, and the percentage of ownership  
288 interest held by each owner.

289 3. The names of all persons involved in both the management  
290 and daily operations of the business, including the spouse or  
291 permanent caregiver of a veteran who has ~~with~~ a permanent and  
292 total disability.

293 4. The service-connected disability rating of all persons  
294 listed under subparagraphs 1., 2., and 3., as applicable, with  
295 supporting documentation from the United States Department of  
296 Veterans Affairs or the United States Department of Defense.

297 5. Documentation of the wartime service of all persons  
298 listed under subparagraphs 1., 2., and 3., as applicable, from  
299 the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or the United  
300 States Department of Defense.

301 ~~6.5.~~ The number of permanent full-time employees.

302 ~~7.6.~~ The location of the business headquarters.



877326

303        ~~8.7.~~ The total net worth of the business enterprise and its  
304 affiliates. In the case of a sole proprietorship, the net worth  
305 includes personal and business investments.

306        (b) To maintain certification, a ~~service-disabled~~ veteran  
307 business enterprise shall renew its certification biennially.

308        (c) ~~The provisions of~~ Chapter 120, relating to application,  
309 denial, and revocation procedures, applies ~~shall apply~~ to  
310 certifications under this section.

311        (d) A certified ~~service-disabled~~ veteran business  
312 enterprise must notify the Department of Management Services  
313 within 30 business days after any event that may significantly  
314 affect the certification of the business, including, but not  
315 limited to, a change in ownership or change in management and  
316 daily business operations.

317        (e) The certification of a ~~service-disabled~~ veteran  
318 business enterprise shall be revoked for 12 months if the  
319 Department of Management Services determines that the business  
320 enterprise violated paragraph (d). An owner of a certified  
321 ~~service-disabled~~ veteran business enterprise whose certification  
322 is revoked may ~~is~~ not ~~permitted to~~ reapply for certification  
323 under this section as an owner of any business enterprise during  
324 the 12-month revocation period.

325        1. During the 12-month revocation period, a ~~service-~~  
326 ~~disabled~~ veteran business enterprise whose certification has  
327 been revoked may bid on state contracts but is not eligible for  
328 any preference available under this section.

329        2. A ~~service-disabled~~ veteran business enterprise whose  
330 certification has been revoked may apply for certification at  
331 the conclusion of the 12-month revocation period by complying



877326

332 with requirements applicable to initial certifications.

333 (6) DUTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS.—The  
334 department shall:

335 (a) Assist the Department of Management Services in  
336 establishing a certification procedure, which shall be reviewed  
337 biennially and updated as necessary.

338 (b) Identify eligible ~~service-disabled~~ veteran business  
339 enterprises by any electronic means, including electronic mail  
340 or Internet website, or by any other reasonable means.

341 (c) Encourage and assist eligible ~~service-disabled~~ veteran  
342 business enterprises to apply for certification under this  
343 section.

344 (d) Provide information regarding services that are  
345 available from the Office of Veterans' Business Outreach of the  
346 Florida Small Business Development Center to ~~service-disabled~~  
347 veteran business enterprises.

348 (7) DUTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT SERVICES.—The  
349 department shall:

350 (a) With assistance from the Department of Veterans'  
351 Affairs, establish a certification procedure, which shall be  
352 reviewed biennially and updated as necessary.

353 (b) Grant, deny, or revoke the certification of a ~~service-~~  
354 ~~disabled~~ veteran business enterprise under this section.

355 (c) Maintain an electronic directory of certified ~~service-~~  
356 ~~disabled~~ veteran business enterprises for use by the state,  
357 political subdivisions of the state, and the public.

358 (8) REPORT.—The Small Business Development Center shall  
359 include in its report required by s. 288.705 the percentage of  
360 certified ~~service-disabled~~ veteran business enterprises using



877326

361 the statewide contracts register.

362 (9) RULES.—The Department of Veterans' Affairs and the  
363 Department of Management Services, as appropriate, may adopt  
364 rules as necessary to administer this section.

365 Section 4. Paragraph (aaaa) is added to subsection (4) of  
366 section 320.08056, Florida Statutes, to read:

367 320.08056 Specialty license plates.—

368 (4) The following license plate annual use fees shall be  
369 collected for the appropriate specialty license plates:

370 (aaaa) American Legion license plate, \$25.

371 Section 5. Subsection (79) is added to section 320.08058,  
372 Florida Statutes, to read:

373 320.08058 Specialty license plates.—

374 (79) AMERICAN LEGION LICENSE PLATES.—

375 (a) Upon American Legion, Department of Florida, meeting  
376 the requirements of s. 320.08053, the department shall develop a  
377 American Legion license plate as provided in this section. The  
378 plate must bear the colors and design approved by the department  
379 and must incorporate the American Legion emblem as adopted by  
380 the American Legion on June 9, 1919, and patented on December 9  
381 of that same year. The word "Florida" must appear at the top of  
382 the plate, and the words "American Legion" must appear at the  
383 bottom of the plate.

384 (b) The annual use fees shall be distributed to the  
385 American Legion, Department of Florida which shall retain the  
386 initial revenues from the sale of the plates until all startup  
387 costs incurred in the development and approval of the plates  
388 have been reimbursed. Thereafter, the proceeds shall be  
389 distributed as follows:



877326

390           1. Sixty percent of the proceeds shall be distributed to  
391 the American Legion, Department of Florida:

392           a. To support Boys State in Florida, the Veteran Affairs  
393 and Rehabilitation program, and the Gilchrist Endowment Fund;  
394 and

395           b. For administration and marketing of the license plate,  
396 not to exceed 10 percent of the amount of the proceeds  
397 distributed to the American Legion, Department of Florida.

398           2. Twenty percent of the proceeds shall be distributed to  
399 the direct-support organization created under s. 292.055 under  
400 the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

401           3. Twenty percent of the proceeds shall be distributed to  
402 the direct-support organization created under s. 250.115 under  
403 the Department of Military Affairs.

404           Section 6. Effective October 1, 2012, section 320.089,  
405 Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

406           320.089 Members of National Guard and active United States  
407 Armed Forces reservists; former prisoners of war; survivors of  
408 Pearl Harbor; Purple Heart medal recipients; Operation Iraqi  
409 Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom Veterans; Combat Infantry  
410 Badge recipients; Vietnam War Veterans; Korean Conflict  
411 Veterans; special license plates; fee.-

412           (1) (a) Each owner or lessee of an automobile or truck for  
413 private use or recreational vehicle as specified in s.  
414 320.08(9)(c) or (d), which is not used for hire or commercial  
415 use, who is a resident of the state and an active or retired  
416 member of the Florida National Guard, a survivor of the attack  
417 on Pearl Harbor, a recipient of the Purple Heart medal, ~~or~~ an  
418 active or retired member of any branch of the United States



877326

419 Armed Forces Reserve, or a recipient of the Combat Infantry  
420 Badge shall, upon application to the department, accompanied by  
421 proof of active membership or retired status in the Florida  
422 National Guard, proof of membership in the Pearl Harbor  
423 Survivors Association or proof of active military duty in Pearl  
424 Harbor on December 7, 1941, proof of being a Purple Heart medal  
425 recipient, ~~or~~ proof of active or retired membership in any  
426 branch of the Armed Forces Reserve, or proof of membership in  
427 the Combat Infantrymen's Association, Inc., or other proof of  
428 being a recipient of the Combat Infantry Badge, and upon payment  
429 of the license tax for the vehicle as provided in s. 320.08, be  
430 issued a license plate as provided by s. 320.06, upon which, in  
431 lieu of the serial numbers prescribed by s. 320.06, shall be  
432 stamped the words "National Guard," "Pearl Harbor Survivor,"  
433 "Combat-wounded veteran," ~~or~~ "U.S. Reserve," or "Combat Infantry  
434 Badge," as appropriate, followed by the serial number of the  
435 license plate. Additionally, the Purple Heart plate may have the  
436 words "Purple Heart" stamped on the plate and the likeness of  
437 the Purple Heart medal appearing on the plate.

438 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the  
439 contrary, beginning with fiscal year 2002-2003 and annually  
440 thereafter, the first \$100,000 in general revenue generated from  
441 the sale of license plates issued under this section shall be  
442 deposited into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund, as described  
443 in s. 296.38(2), to be used for the purposes established by law  
444 for that trust fund. Any additional general revenue generated  
445 from the sale of such plates shall be deposited into the State  
446 Homes for Veterans Trust Fund and used solely to construct,  
447 operate, and maintain domiciliary and nursing homes for





877326

448 veterans, subject to the requirements of chapter 216.

449 (c) Notwithstanding any provisions of law to the contrary,  
450 an applicant for a Pearl Harbor Survivor license plate or a  
451 Purple Heart license plate who also qualifies for a disabled  
452 veteran's license plate under s. 320.084 shall be issued the  
453 appropriate special license plate without payment of the license  
454 tax imposed by s. 320.08.

455 (2) Each owner or lessee of an automobile or truck for  
456 private use, truck weighing not more than 7,999 pounds, or  
457 recreational vehicle as specified in s. 320.08(9)(c) or (d),  
458 which is not used for hire or commercial use, who is a resident  
459 of the state and who is a former prisoner of war, or their  
460 unremarried surviving spouse, shall, upon application therefor  
461 to the department, be issued a license plate as provided in s.  
462 320.06, on which license plate are stamped the words "Ex-POW"  
463 followed by the serial number. Each application shall be  
464 accompanied by proof that the applicant meets the qualifications  
465 specified in paragraph (a) or paragraph (b).

466 (a) A citizen of the United States who served as a member  
467 of the Armed Forces of the United States or the armed forces of  
468 a nation allied with the United States who was held as a  
469 prisoner of war at such time as the Armed Forces of the United  
470 States were engaged in combat, or their unremarried surviving  
471 spouse, may be issued the special license plate provided for in  
472 this subsection without payment of the license tax imposed by s.  
473 320.08.

474 (b) A person who was serving as a civilian with the consent  
475 of the United States Government, or a person who was a member of  
476 the Armed Forces of the United States who was not a United



877326

477 States citizen and was held as a prisoner of war when the Armed  
478 Forces of the United States were engaged in combat, or their  
479 unremarried surviving spouse, may be issued the special license  
480 plate provided for in this subsection upon payment of the  
481 license tax imposed by s. 320.08.

482 (3) Each owner or lessee of an automobile or truck for  
483 private use, truck weighing not more than 7,999 pounds, or  
484 recreational vehicle as specified in s. 320.08(9)(c) or (d),  
485 which is not used for hire or commercial use, who is a resident  
486 of this state and who is the unremarried surviving spouse of a  
487 recipient of the Purple Heart medal shall, upon application  
488 therefor to the department, with the payment of the required  
489 fees, be issued a license plate as provided in s. 320.06, on  
490 which license plate are stamped the words "Purple Heart" and the  
491 likeness of the Purple Heart medal followed by the serial  
492 number. Each application shall be accompanied by proof that the  
493 applicant is the unremarried surviving spouse of a recipient of  
494 the Purple Heart medal.

495 (4) The owner or lessee of an automobile or truck for  
496 private use, a truck weighing not more than 7,999 pounds, or a  
497 recreational vehicle as specified in s. 320.08(9)(c) or (d)  
498 which automobile, truck, or recreational vehicle is not used for  
499 hire or commercial use who is a resident of the state and a  
500 current or former member of the United States military who was  
501 deployed and served in Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom or in  
502 Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom shall, upon  
503 application to the department, accompanied by proof of active  
504 membership or former active duty status during one of these  
505 operations, and upon payment of the license tax for the vehicle



877326

506 as provided in s. 320.08, be issued a license plate as provided  
507 by s. 320.06 upon which, in lieu of the registration license  
508 number prescribed by s. 320.06, shall be stamped the words  
509 "Operation Iraqi Freedom" or "Operation Enduring Freedom," as  
510 appropriate, followed by the registration license number of the  
511 plate.

512 (5) The owner or lessee of an automobile or truck for  
513 private use, a truck weighing not more than 7,999 pounds, or a  
514 recreational vehicle as specified in s. 320.08(9)(c) or (d)  
515 which automobile, truck, or recreational vehicle is not used for  
516 hire or commercial use, who is a resident of the state and a  
517 current or former member of the United States military, and who  
518 was deployed and served in Vietnam during United States military  
519 deployment in Indochina shall, upon application to the  
520 department, accompanied by proof of active membership or former  
521 active duty status during these operations, and upon payment of  
522 the license tax for the vehicle as provided in s. 320.08, be  
523 issued a license plate as provided by s. 320.06 upon which, in  
524 lieu of the registration license number prescribed by s. 320.06,  
525 shall be stamped the words "Vietnam War Veteran," followed by  
526 the registration license number of the plate.

527 (6) The owner or lessee of an automobile or truck for  
528 private use, a truck weighing not more than 7,999 pounds, or a  
529 recreational vehicle as specified in s. 320.08(9)(c) or (d)  
530 which automobile, truck, or recreational vehicle is not used for  
531 hire or commercial use, who is a resident of the state and a  
532 current or former member of the United States military, and who  
533 was deployed and served in Korea during United States military  
534 deployment in Korea shall, upon application to the department,



877326

535 accompanied by proof of active membership or former active duty  
536 status during these operations, and upon payment of the license  
537 tax for the vehicle as provided in s. 320.08, be issued a  
538 license plate as provided by s. 320.06 upon which, in lieu of  
539 the registration license number prescribed by s. 320.06, shall  
540 be stamped the words "Korean Conflict Veteran," followed by the  
541 registration license number of the plate.

542 Section 7. Section 320.0892, Florida Statutes is created to  
543 read:

544 320.0892 Motor vehicle license plates for recipients of the  
545 Silver Star, Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross, or Air  
546 Force Cross.—Upon receipt of an application and proof that the  
547 applicant meets the qualifications listed in this section for  
548 the applicable license plate, the department shall issue the  
549 license plate without payment of the license tax imposed under  
550 s. 320.08:

551 (1) SILVER STAR.—Any United States citizen who is a  
552 resident of this state and who was awarded the Silver Star while  
553 serving as a member of the United States Armed Forces shall be  
554 issued a license plate on which is stamped the words "Silver  
555 Star" followed by the serial number.

556 (2) DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS.—Any United States citizen  
557 who is a resident of this state and who was awarded the  
558 Distinguished Service Cross while serving as a member of the  
559 United States Armed Forces shall be issued a license plate on  
560 which is stamped the words "Distinguished Service Cross"  
561 followed by the serial number.

562 (3) NAVY CROSS.—Any United States citizen who is a resident  
563 of this state and who was awarded the Navy Cross while serving



877326

564 as a member of the United States Armed Forces shall be issued a  
565 license plate on which is stamped the words "Navy Cross"  
566 followed by the serial number.

567 (4) AIR FORCE CROSS.—Any United States citizen who is a  
568 resident of this state and who was awarded the Air Force Cross  
569 while serving as a member of the United States Armed Forces  
570 shall be issued a license plate on which is stamped the words  
571 "Air Force Cross" followed by the serial number.

572 Section 8. Military veterans and servicemembers court  
573 program.—The chief judge of each judicial circuit may establish  
574 a military veterans and servicemembers court program under which  
575 veterans, as defined in s. 1.01, Florida Statutes, and  
576 servicemembers, as defined in s. 250.01, Florida Statutes, who  
577 are convicted of or charged with a criminal offense and who  
578 suffer from a mental illness, traumatic brain injury, substance  
579 use disorder, or psychological problem as a result of their  
580 military service are eligible to participate. Upon a conviction,  
581 an eligible military veteran or servicemember may be sentenced  
582 in such a manner as to appropriately address the severity of the  
583 mental illness, traumatic brain injury, substance use disorder,  
584 or psychological problem through services tailored to the  
585 individual needs of the participant. Entry into any military  
586 veterans and servicemembers court program must be based upon the  
587 sentencing court's assessment of the defendant's criminal  
588 history, military service, need for substance use treatment,  
589 need for mental health treatment, amenability to the services of  
590 the program, the advisory recommendation of the state attorney  
591 and the victim, if any, and the defendant's agreement to enter  
592 the program.



877326

593           Section 9. Section 683.146, Florida Statutes, is created to  
594 read:

595           683.146 Purple Heart Day.-

596           (1) August 7 of each year is designated as "Purple Heart  
597 Day."

598           (2) The Governor may annually issue a proclamation  
599 designating August 7 as "Purple Heart Day." Public officials,  
600 schools, private organizations, and all residents of the state  
601 are encouraged to commemorate Purple Heart Day and honor those  
602 wounded or killed while serving in any branch of the United  
603 States Armed Services.

604           Section 10. Sections 11 through 13 of this act may be cited  
605 as the "T. Patt Maney Veterans' Treatment Intervention Act."

606           Section 11. Section 921.00242, Florida Statutes, is created  
607 to read:

608           921.00242 Convicted military veterans; posttraumatic stress  
609 disorder, traumatic brain injury, substance use disorder, or  
610 psychological problems from service; treatment services.-

611           (1) The court shall hold a veterans' status hearing before  
612 sentencing for a criminal offense if the defendant has alleged  
613 that he or she committed the offense as a result of  
614 posttraumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, substance  
615 use disorder, or psychological problems stemming from service in  
616 a combat theater in the United States military.

617           (2) At a veterans' status hearing conducted as required by  
618 subsection (1), the court shall determine whether the defendant  
619 was a member of the military forces of the United States who  
620 served in a combat theater and assess whether the defendant  
621 suffers from posttraumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain



877326

622 injury, substance use disorder, or psychological problems as a  
623 result of that service. The defendant shall bear the burden of  
624 proof at the hearing.

625 (3) If the court concludes that the defendant is a person  
626 described in subsection (2) who is eligible for probation or  
627 community control and the court places the defendant on county  
628 or state probation or into community control, the court may  
629 order the defendant into a local, state, federal, or private  
630 nonprofit treatment program as a condition of probation or  
631 community control if the defendant agrees to participate in the  
632 program and the court determines that an appropriate treatment  
633 program exists.

634 (4) A defendant who is placed on county or state probation  
635 or into community control and committed to a residential  
636 treatment program under this section shall earn sentence credits  
637 for the actual time he or she serves in the residential  
638 treatment program if the court makes a written finding that it  
639 would otherwise have sentenced the defendant to incarceration  
640 except for the fact that the defendant is a person described in  
641 subsection (2).

642 (5) In making an order under this section to commit a  
643 defendant to a treatment program, whenever possible, the court  
644 shall place the defendant in a treatment program that has a  
645 history of successfully treating combat veterans who suffer from  
646 posttraumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, substance  
647 use disorder, or psychological problems as a result of combat  
648 service. The court shall give preference to treatment programs  
649 for which the veteran is eligible through the United States  
650 Department of Veterans Affairs or the Department of Veterans'



877326

651 Affairs.

652 Section 12. Present subsection (7) of section 948.08,  
653 Florida Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (8), and a new  
654 subsection (7) is added to that section, to read:

655 948.08 Pretrial intervention program.—

656 (7) (a) Notwithstanding any provision of this section, a  
657 person who is charged with a felony, other than a felony listed  
658 in s. 948.06(8)(c), and identified as a servicemember, as  
659 defined in s. 250.01, or veteran, as defined in s. 1.01, who  
660 suffers from a military service-related mental illness,  
661 traumatic brain injury, substance use disorder, or psychological  
662 problem, is eligible for voluntary admission into a pretrial  
663 veterans' treatment intervention program approved by the chief  
664 judge of the circuit, upon motion of either party or the court's  
665 own motion, except:

666 1. If a defendant was previously offered admission to a  
667 pretrial veterans' treatment intervention program at any time  
668 before trial and the defendant rejected that offer on the  
669 record, the court may deny the defendant's admission to such a  
670 program.

671 2. If a defendant previously entered a court-ordered  
672 veterans' treatment program, the court may deny the defendant's  
673 admission into the pretrial veterans' treatment program.

674 (b) While enrolled in a pretrial intervention program  
675 authorized by this subsection, the participant shall be subject  
676 to a coordinated strategy developed by a veterans' treatment  
677 intervention team. The coordinated strategy should be modeled  
678 after the therapeutic jurisprudence principles and key  
679 components in s. 397.334(4), with treatment specific to the





877326

680 needs of servicemembers and veterans. The coordinated strategy  
681 may include a protocol of sanctions that may be imposed upon the  
682 participant for noncompliance with program rules. The protocol  
683 of sanctions may include, but need not be limited to, placement  
684 in a treatment program offered by a licensed service provider or  
685 in a jail-based treatment program or serving a period of  
686 incarceration within the time limits established for contempt of  
687 court. The coordinated strategy must be provided in writing to  
688 the participant before the participant agrees to enter into a  
689 pretrial veterans' treatment intervention program or other  
690 pretrial intervention program. Any person whose charges are  
691 dismissed after successful completion of the pretrial veterans'  
692 treatment intervention program, if otherwise eligible, may have  
693 his or her arrest record to the dismissed charges expunged under  
694 s. 943.0585.

695 (c) At the end of the pretrial intervention period, the  
696 court shall consider the recommendation of the treatment program  
697 and the recommendation of the state attorney as to disposition  
698 of the pending charges. The court shall determine, by written  
699 finding, whether the defendant has successfully completed the  
700 pretrial intervention program. If the court finds that the  
701 defendant has not successfully completed the pretrial  
702 intervention program, the court may order the person to continue  
703 in education and treatment, which may include treatment programs  
704 offered by licensed service providers or jail-based treatment  
705 programs, or order that the charges revert to normal channels  
706 for prosecution. The court shall dismiss the charges upon a  
707 finding that the defendant has successfully completed the  
708 pretrial intervention program.



877326

709           Section 13. Section 948.16, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
710 read:

711           948.16 Misdemeanor pretrial substance abuse education and  
712 treatment intervention program; misdemeanor pretrial veterans'  
713 treatment intervention program.—

714           (1) (a) A person who is charged with a misdemeanor for  
715 possession of a controlled substance or drug paraphernalia under  
716 chapter 893, and who has not previously been convicted of a  
717 felony nor been admitted to a pretrial program, is eligible for  
718 voluntary admission into a misdemeanor pretrial substance abuse  
719 education and treatment intervention program, including a  
720 treatment-based drug court program established pursuant to s.  
721 397.334, approved by the chief judge of the circuit, for a  
722 period based on the program requirements and the treatment plan  
723 for the offender, upon motion of either party or the court's own  
724 motion, except, if the state attorney believes the facts and  
725 circumstances of the case suggest the defendant is involved in  
726 dealing and selling controlled substances, the court shall hold  
727 a preadmission hearing. If the state attorney establishes, by a  
728 preponderance of the evidence at such hearing, that the  
729 defendant was involved in dealing or selling controlled  
730 substances, the court shall deny the defendant's admission into  
731 the pretrial intervention program.

732           (b) While enrolled in a pretrial intervention program  
733 authorized by this section, the participant is subject to a  
734 coordinated strategy developed by a drug court team under s.  
735 397.334(4). The coordinated strategy may include a protocol of  
736 sanctions that may be imposed upon the participant for  
737 noncompliance with program rules. The protocol of sanctions may



877326

738 include, but is not limited to, placement in a substance abuse  
739 treatment program offered by a licensed service provider as  
740 defined in s. 397.311 or in a jail-based treatment program or  
741 serving a period of incarceration within the time limits  
742 established for contempt of court. The coordinated strategy must  
743 be provided in writing to the participant before the participant  
744 agrees to enter into a pretrial treatment-based drug court  
745 program or other pretrial intervention program. Any person whose  
746 charges are dismissed after successful completion of the  
747 treatment-based drug court program, if otherwise eligible, may  
748 have his or her arrest record and plea of nolo contendere to the  
749 dismissed charges expunged under s. 943.0585.

750 (2) (a) A servicemember, as defined in s. 250.01, or  
751 veteran, as defined in s. 1.01, who suffers from a military  
752 service-related mental illness, traumatic brain injury,  
753 substance use disorder, or psychological problem, and who is  
754 charged with a misdemeanor is eligible for voluntary admission  
755 into a misdemeanor pretrial veterans' treatment intervention  
756 program approved by the chief judge of the circuit, for a period  
757 based on the program's requirements and the treatment plan for  
758 the offender, upon motion of either party or the court's own  
759 motion. However, the court may deny the defendant admission into  
760 a misdemeanor pretrial veterans' treatment intervention program  
761 if the defendant has previously entered a court-ordered  
762 veterans' treatment program.

763 (b) While enrolled in a pretrial intervention program  
764 authorized by this section, the participant shall be subject to  
765 a coordinated strategy developed by a veterans' treatment  
766 intervention team. The coordinated strategy should be modeled



877326

767 after the therapeutic jurisprudence principles and key  
768 components in s. 397.334(4), with treatment specific to the  
769 needs of servicemembers and veterans. The coordinated strategy  
770 may include a protocol of sanctions that may be imposed upon the  
771 participant for noncompliance with program rules. The protocol  
772 of sanctions may include, but need not be limited to, placement  
773 in a treatment program offered by a licensed service provider or  
774 in a jail-based treatment program or serving a period of  
775 incarceration within the time limits established for contempt of  
776 court. The coordinated strategy must be provided in writing to  
777 the participant before the participant agrees to enter into a  
778 misdemeanor pretrial veterans' treatment intervention program or  
779 other pretrial intervention program. Any person whose charges  
780 are dismissed after successful completion of the misdemeanor  
781 pretrial veterans' treatment intervention program, if otherwise  
782 eligible, may have his or her arrest record to the dismissed  
783 charges expunged under s. 943.0585.

784 (3)~~(2)~~ At the end of the pretrial intervention period, the  
785 court shall consider the recommendation of the treatment program  
786 and the recommendation of the state attorney as to disposition  
787 of the pending charges. The court shall determine, by written  
788 finding, whether the defendant successfully completed the  
789 pretrial intervention program. Notwithstanding the coordinated  
790 strategy developed by a drug court team pursuant to s.  
791 397.334(4) or by the veterans' treatment intervention team, if  
792 the court finds that the defendant has not successfully  
793 completed the pretrial intervention program, the court may order  
794 the person to continue in education and treatment or return the  
795 charges to the criminal docket for prosecution. The court shall



877326

796 dismiss the charges upon finding that the defendant has  
797 successfully completed the pretrial intervention program.

798 (4)~~(3)~~ Any public or private entity providing a pretrial  
799 substance abuse education and treatment program under this  
800 section shall contract with the county or appropriate  
801 governmental entity. The terms of the contract shall include,  
802 but not be limited to, the requirements established for private  
803 entities under s. 948.15(3). This requirement does not apply to  
804 services provided by the Department of Veterans' Affairs or the  
805 United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

806 Section 14. Section 948.21, Florida Statutes, is created to  
807 read:

808 948.21 Condition of probation or community control;  
809 military servicemembers and veterans.—Effective for a  
810 probationer or community controllee whose crime was committed on  
811 or after July 1, 2012, and who is a servicemember, as defined in  
812 s. 250.01, or veteran, as defined in s. 1.01, who suffers from a  
813 military service-related mental illness, traumatic brain injury,  
814 substance use disorder, or psychological problem, the court may,  
815 in addition to any other conditions imposed, impose a condition  
816 requiring the probationer or community controllee to participate  
817 in a treatment program capable of treating the probationer or  
818 community controllee's mental illness, traumatic brain injury,  
819 substance use disorder, or psychological problem. The court  
820 shall give preference to treatment programs for which the  
821 probationer or community controllee is eligible through the  
822 Department of Veterans' Affairs or the United States Department  
823 of Veterans' Affairs.

824 Section 15. Subsection (1) of section 1003.05, Florida



877326

825 Statutes, is amended to read:

826 1003.05 Assistance to transitioning students from military  
827 families.—

828 (1) The Legislature finds that school-aged dependents of  
829 military personnel, otherwise known as military students, are  
830 faced with numerous transitions during their formative years and  
831 that moves during the high school years provide special  
832 challenges to learning and future achievement.

833 (a) Recognizing the challenges faced by military students  
834 and the importance of military families to our community and  
835 economy, the Department of Education shall assist the transition  
836 of these students by improving the timely transfer of records,  
837 developing systems to ease student transition during the first 2  
838 weeks of enrollment, promoting practices which foster access to  
839 extracurricular programs, establishing procedures to lessen the  
840 adverse impact of moves from the end of the junior year as well  
841 as before and during the senior year, encouraging or continuing  
842 partnerships between the military base and the school system,  
843 providing services for transitioning students when applying to  
844 and finding funding for postsecondary study, and providing other  
845 assistance as identified by department, school, and military  
846 personnel.

847 (b) If a local school board adjusts school zones within its  
848 boundaries, military students shall be given the option of  
849 remaining at the school they are currently attending or may  
850 attend the school assigned as a result of the rezoning.

851 Section 16. Section 1004.075, Florida Statutes, is created  
852 to read:

853 1004.075 Priority course registration for veterans.—Each



877326

854 Florida College System institution and state university that  
855 offers priority course registration for a segment of the student  
856 population, or upon implementation of priority course  
857 registration for a segment of the student population, shall  
858 provide priority course registration for each veteran of the  
859 United States Armed Forces. Priority registration shall be given  
860 to the spouse or a dependent child of the veteran to whom GI  
861 Bill educational benefits have been transferred. Each eligible  
862 veteran shall be granted priority for course registration for  
863 the duration of his or her attendance at a Florida College  
864 System institution and state university if priority registration  
865 is offered. A spouse or dependent child shall also be granted  
866 priority for registration until the expiration of the GI Bill  
867 educational benefits.

868 Section 17. Section 1005.09, Florida Statutes, is created  
869 to read:

870 1005.09 Priority course registration for veterans.—Each  
871 independent postsecondary educational institution that is under  
872 the jurisdiction of the commission or is exempt from the  
873 jurisdiction of the commission and that offers priority course  
874 registration for a segment of the student population, or upon  
875 implementation of priority course registration for a segment of  
876 the student population, is encouraged to provide priority course  
877 registration for each veteran of the United States Armed Forces,  
878 or his or her spouse or dependent children, who is receiving GI  
879 Bill educational benefits, in accordance with s. 1004.075.

880 Section 18. Present paragraphs (c) through (k) of  
881 subsection (10) of section 1009.21, Florida Statutes, are  
882 redesignated as paragraphs (d) through (l), respectively, and a



877326

883 new paragraph (c) is added to that subsection, to read:

884       1009.21 Determination of resident status for tuition  
885 purposes.—Students shall be classified as residents or  
886 nonresidents for the purpose of assessing tuition in  
887 postsecondary educational programs offered by charter technical  
888 career centers or career centers operated by school districts,  
889 in Florida College System institutions, and in state  
890 universities.

891       (10) The following persons shall be classified as residents  
892 for tuition purposes:

893       (c) Veterans of the Armed Services of the United States,  
894 including reserve components thereof, who attend the physical  
895 location of a public college, university, or institution of  
896 higher learning within the state.

897       Section 19. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this  
898 act, this act shall take effect July 1, 2012.

899

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

901 And the title is amended as follows:

902       Delete everything before the enacting clause  
903 and insert:

904                               A bill to be entitled  
905       An act relating to current and former military  
906 personnel; creating s. 220.1893, F.S.; providing a tax  
907 credit program for eligible businesses that hire  
908 certain national guard members; providing definitions;  
909 providing credits against specified taxes for  
910 certified businesses; providing guidelines for  
911 becoming a certified business; requiring the





877326

912 Department of Economic Opportunity to certify  
913 qualified businesses; providing criteria for the  
914 certification; limiting the total amount of tax  
915 credits; providing for certain tax credits to be  
916 carried forward; providing penalties for fraudulent  
917 claims; authorizing the Department of Economic  
918 Opportunity and the Department of Revenue to adopt  
919 rules; providing for future expiration of the tax  
920 credit program; amending s. 265.003, F.S.; creating  
921 the Florida Veterans' Hall of Fame Council; providing  
922 for membership and terms of appointment; providing for  
923 the appointment of a chair; providing for meetings, a  
924 quorum, and voting; providing for reimbursement of  
925 travel expenses; providing for the removal of an  
926 appointee; providing for the Florida Veterans' Hall of  
927 Fame Council rather than the Department of Veterans'  
928 Affairs to select nominees for induction into the  
929 Florida Veterans' Hall of Fame and to establish the  
930 criteria for selection; requiring that the Governor  
931 and Cabinet annually select a specified number of  
932 nominees for induction; amending s. 295.187, F.S.;  
933 revising legislative intent; renaming and revising the  
934 Florida Service-Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise  
935 Opportunity Act to expand the vendor preference in  
936 state contracting to include certain businesses owned  
937 and operated by wartime veterans or veterans of a  
938 period of war; amending s. 320.08056, F.S.; providing  
939 the license plate annual use fee for an American  
940 Legion license plate; amending s. 320.08058, F.S.;



877326

941 creating the American Legion license plate; providing  
942 for the distribution of use fees received from the  
943 sale of the license plates; amending s. 320.089, F.S.;  
944 providing for the issuance of a Combat Infantry Badge  
945 license plate; providing qualifications and  
946 requirements for the plate; providing for the use of  
947 proceeds from the sale of the plate; providing for  
948 issuance of a Vietnam War Veterans' license plate and  
949 the Korean Conflict Veterans' license plate; providing  
950 qualifications and requirements for the plates;  
951 creating s. 320.0892, F.S.; providing for the  
952 Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to  
953 issue Silver Star, Distinguished Service Cross, Navy  
954 Cross, and Air Force Cross license plates, without  
955 payment of the license tax, to persons meeting  
956 specified criteria; creating a court program for  
957 certain servicemembers and military veterans who  
958 suffer from mental illness, traumatic brain injury,  
959 substance use disorder, or psychological problems as a  
960 result of their military service; providing  
961 qualifications for entrance into the court program;  
962 creating s. 683.146, F.S.; designating August 7 of  
963 each year as "Purple Heart Day"; providing a short  
964 title; creating s. 921.00242, F.S.; providing that a  
965 person who alleges that he or she committed a criminal  
966 offense as a result of posttraumatic stress disorder,  
967 traumatic brain injury, substance use disorder, or  
968 psychological problems stemming from service in a  
969 combat theater in the United States military may have



877326

970 a hearing on that issue before sentencing; providing  
971 that a defendant who is eligible for probation or  
972 community control may be placed in a treatment program  
973 in certain circumstances; providing for sentence  
974 credit for a defendant placed in treatment who would  
975 have otherwise been incarcerated; providing a  
976 preference for treatment programs that have histories  
977 of successfully treating such combat veterans;  
978 amending s. 948.08, F.S.; creating a pretrial  
979 veterans' and servicemembers' treatment intervention  
980 program; providing requirements for a defendant to be  
981 voluntarily admitted to the pretrial program;  
982 providing certain exceptions to such admission;  
983 providing for the disposition of pending charges  
984 following a defendant's completion of the pretrial  
985 intervention program; providing for the charges to be  
986 expunged under certain circumstances; amending s.  
987 948.16, F.S.; creating a misdemeanor pretrial  
988 veterans' treatment intervention program; providing  
989 requirements for voluntary admission to the  
990 misdemeanor pretrial program; providing for the  
991 misdemeanor charges to be expunged under certain  
992 circumstances; exempting treatment services provided  
993 by the Department of Veterans' Affairs or the United  
994 States Department of Veterans Affairs from certain  
995 contract requirements; creating s. 948.21, F.S.;  
996 authorizing the court to impose a condition of  
997 probation or community control for certain defendant  
998 veterans or servicemembers which requires



877326

999 participation in a treatment program capable of  
1000 treating a mental illness, a traumatic brain injury, a  
1001 substance use disorder, or a psychological problem;  
1002 amending s. 1003.05, F.S.; requiring that a school  
1003 board provide an option to school-aged dependents of  
1004 military personnel to choose certain schools if the  
1005 student is reassigned as a result of school rezoning;  
1006 creating s. 1004.075, F.S.; requiring certain Florida  
1007 College System institutions and state universities to  
1008 provide priority course registration for veterans;  
1009 providing eligibility requirements; creating s.  
1010 1005.09, F.S.; encouraging certain independent  
1011 postsecondary educational institutions to provide  
1012 priority course registration for veterans; amending s.  
1013 1009.21, F.S.; providing that veterans of the Armed  
1014 Services of the United States, including reserve  
1015 components thereof, who attend the physical location  
1016 of a public college, university, or institution of  
1017 higher learning within the state are residents for  
1018 tuition purposes; providing effective dates.