

**FOR CONSIDERATION By** the Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security

583-01777B-13

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to military installations; amending s.  
3           288.980, F.S.; providing legislative findings;  
4           providing functions of the Military Base Protection  
5           Program; authorizing the Department of Economic  
6           Opportunity to annually recommend nonconservation  
7           lands to acquire through fee simple purchase or less-  
8           than-fee interest purchase to the Board of Trustees of  
9           the Internal Improvement Trust Fund for the purpose of  
10          preventing the encroachment of military installations;  
11          requiring the board of trustees to also consider land  
12          acquisition recommendations of the Florida Defense  
13          Support Task Force; authorizing funds appropriated to  
14          the Military Base Protection Program to be used for  
15          land acquisition to prevent or reduce encroachment of  
16          military installations; amending s. 253.025, F.S.;  
17          authorizing the board of trustees to acquire certain  
18          nonconservation lands to buffer a military  
19          installation against encroachment; providing an  
20          effective date.

21  
22   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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24           Section 1. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 288.980,  
25   Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

26           288.980 Military base retention; legislative intent; grants  
27   program.—

28           (1) (a) It is the intent of this state to provide the  
29   necessary means to assist communities with military

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30 installations in supporting and sustaining those installations.  
31 It is further the intent to encourage communities to initiate a  
32 coordinated program of response and plan of action in advance of  
33 future actions of the federal government relating to  
34 realignments and closures. It is critical that communities  
35 develop and implement strategies to preserve and protect  
36 military installations. The Legislature hereby recognizes that  
37 the state needs to coordinate all efforts that can support  
38 military installations throughout the state. The Legislature,  
39 therefore, declares that providing such assistance to support  
40 the defense-related initiatives within this section is a public  
41 purpose for which public money may be used.

42 (b) The Florida Defense Alliance, an organization within  
43 Enterprise Florida, Inc., is designated as the organization to  
44 ensure that Florida, its resident military bases and missions,  
45 and its military host communities are in competitive positions  
46 as the United States continues its defense realignment and  
47 downsizing. The defense alliance shall serve as an overall  
48 advisory body for defense-related activity of Enterprise  
49 Florida, Inc. The Florida Defense Alliance may receive funding  
50 from appropriations made for that purpose administered by the  
51 department.

52 (c) The Legislature finds that encroachment of military  
53 installations has been identified by local, state, and federal  
54 leaders as a critical issue in protecting, preserving, and  
55 enhancing military installations in this state. Encroachment can  
56 be detrimental to the current and future missions of military  
57 installations due to the incompatible use of adjacent land. The  
58 Legislature recognizes the unique need to secure lands that may

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59 present an encroachment threat to a military installation, but  
60 which has no conservation value.

61 (2) (a) The Military Base Protection Program is created. The  
62 function of the Military Base Protection Program includes, but  
63 is not limited to:

64 1. Securing nonconservation lands to serve as a buffer to  
65 protect military installations against encroachment; and

66 2. Supporting local community efforts to engage in service  
67 partnerships with military installations.

68 (b) The department may, pursuant to s. 253.025(18),  
69 annually submit a list to the Board of Trustees of the Internal  
70 Improvement Trust Fund of nonconservation lands to acquire,  
71 subject to a specific appropriation, through fee simple purchase  
72 or through perpetual, less-than-fee interest purchase, for the  
73 purpose of buffering a military base against encroachment. The  
74 Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund shall  
75 also consider the recommendations of the Florida Defense Support  
76 Task Force, created in s. 288.987, when selecting  
77 nonconservation lands to purchase for the purpose of securing  
78 and protecting a military installation against encroachment.  
79 This paragraph does not preclude the acquisition of such lands  
80 through fee simple purchase or through perpetual, less-than-fee  
81 interest purchase, for the purpose of buffering a military base  
82 against encroachment by local governments.

83 (c) Funds appropriated to this program may be used to  
84 address emergent needs relating to mission sustainment,  
85 encroachment reduction or prevention, and base retention. All  
86 funds appropriated for the purposes of this program are eligible  
87 to be used for matching of federal funds. The department shall

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88 coordinate and implement this program.

89 Section 2. Subsection (18) is added to section 253.025,  
90 Florida Statutes, to read:

91 253.025 Acquisition of state lands for purposes other than  
92 preservation, conservation, and recreation.—

93 (18) The board of trustees may acquire nonconservation  
94 lands from the annual list submitted by the Department of  
95 Economic Opportunity pursuant to s. 288.980(2)(b) for the  
96 purpose of buffering a military base against encroachment.

97 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.