

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to freight logistics zones; creating
 3 s. 311.103, F.S.; defining the term "freight logistics
 4 zones"; providing application requirements for a
 5 county or counties to apply for the designation of a
 6 freight logistics zone; authorizing the Secretary of
 7 Transportation, in consultation with specified
 8 entities, to designate freight logistics zones;
 9 providing evaluation criteria for freight logistics
 10 zones; providing an effective date.

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

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 14 Section 1. Section 311.103, Florida Statutes, is created
 15 to read:

16 311.103 Designation of state freight logistics zones.—

17 (1) As used in this section, the term "freight logistics
 18 zone" means a grouping of activities and infrastructure dealing
 19 with freight transportation and related services within a
 20 defined area.

21 (2) A county, or two or more contiguous counties, may
 22 apply to the Department of Transportation for designation of a
 23 geographic area or areas within its jurisdiction as a freight
 24 logistics zone. The county or counties shall submit an
 25 application developed by the department that includes, but is
 26 not limited to:

27 (a) A map depicting the geographic area or areas to be
 28 included within the designation.

29 (b) Identification of the existing or planned freight
30 facilities or logistics clusters located within the designated
31 zone.

32 (c) Identification of existing transportation
33 infrastructure, such as roads, rail, airports, and seaports,
34 within or in close proximity to the proposed freight logistics
35 zone.

36 (d) Identification of existing workforce availability
37 within or in close proximity to the proposed zone.

38 (e) Identification of any local, state, or federal
39 workforce training capabilities available for a business seeking
40 to locate or expand within the proposed zone.

41 (f) Identification of any local, state, or federal plans,
42 including transportation, seaport, or airport plans, concerning
43 the movement of freight within or in close proximity to the
44 proposed zone.

45 (g) Identification of financial or other local government
46 incentives to encourage new development, expansion of existing
47 development, or redevelopment within the proposed zone.

48 (h) Documentation that the plan is consistent with
49 applicable local government comprehensive plans and adopted
50 long-range transportation plans of a Metropolitan Planning
51 Organization, where applicable.

52 (3) Beginning July 1, 2013, the Secretary of
53 Transportation may designate up to four freight logistics zones
54 in the state in consultation with the Department of Economic
55 Opportunity, the Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic
56 Development Council, and other public and private stakeholders.

57 These zones may be eligible for priority in state funding and
58 incentive programs relating to freight logistics zones,
59 including applicable programs identified in parts I, III, and V
60 of chapter 288 and s. 311.101.

61 (4) When evaluating projects for designation as a freight
62 logistics zone, or for determining funding or incentive program
63 eligibility under this section, consideration must be given to:

64 (a) The presence of an existing or planned intermodal
65 logistics center within the freight logistics zone.

66 (b) Whether the project serves a strategic state interest.

67 (c) Whether the project facilitates the cost-effective and
68 efficient movement of goods.

69 (d) The extent to which the project contributes to
70 economic activity, including job creation, increased wages, and
71 revenues.

72 (e) The extent to which the project efficiently interacts
73 with and supports the transportation network.

74 (f) The amount of investment or commitments made by the
75 owner or developer of the existing or proposed facility.

76 (g) The extent to which the county or counties have
77 commitments with private sector businesses planning to locate
78 operations within the freight logistics zone.

79 (h) Demonstrated local financial support and commitment to
80 the project.

81 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.