By Senator Benacquisto

	30-01521A-14 20141480
1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to microfinance; creating Part XIV of
3	ch. 288, F.S., consisting of ss. 288.993-288.9937,
4	relating to microfinance programs; creating s.
5	288.993, F.S.; providing a short title; creating s.
6	288.9931, F.S.; providing legislative findings and
7	intent; creating s. 288.9932, F.S.; defining terms;
8	creating s. 288.9933, F.S.; authorizing the Department
9	of Economic Opportunity to adopt rules to implement
10	this part; creating s. 288.9934, F.S.; establishing
11	the Microfinance Loan Program; providing a purpose;
12	defining the term "lender"; requiring the Department
13	of Economic Opportunity to contract with at least one
14	entity to administer the program; requiring the lender
15	to contract with the department to receive an award of
16	funds; providing other terms and conditions to
17	receiving funds; specifying fees authorized to be
18	charged by the department and the lender; requiring
19	the lender to remit the microloan principal collected
20	from all microloans made with funds awarded to the
21	lender; providing for contract termination; providing
22	for auditing and reporting; requiring applicants for
23	funds from the Microfinance Loan Program to meet
24	certain qualifications; requiring the department to be
25	guided by the 5-year statewide strategic plan and to
26	advertise and promote the loan program; requiring the
27	department to perform a study on methods and best
28	practices to increase the availability of and access
29	to credit in this state; prohibiting the pledging of

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30-01521A-14 20141480 30 the credit of the state; authorizing the department to 31 adopt rules; creating s. 288.9935, F.S.; establishing 32 the Microfinance Guarantee Program; defining the term "lender"; requiring the department to contract with 33 34 Enterprise Florida, Inc., to administer the program; 35 prohibiting Enterprise Florida, Inc., from 36 guaranteeing certain loans; requiring borrowers to 37 meet certain conditions before receiving a loan 38 guarantee; requiring Enterprise Florida, Inc., to 39 submit an annual report to the department; prohibiting 40 the pledging of the credit of the state or Enterprise 41 Florida, Inc.; creating s. 288.9936, F.S.; requiring 42 the department to report annually on the Microfinance Loan Program; requiring the Office of Program Policy 43 44 Analysis and Government Accountability to report on the effectiveness of the State Small Business Credit 45 46 Initiative; creating s. 288.9937, F.S.; requiring the 47 Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability to evaluate and report on the 48 49 Microfinance Loan Program and the Microfinance 50 Guarantee Program by a specified date; authorizing the 51 executive director of the Department of Economic 52 Opportunity to adopt emergency rules; providing an 53 effective date. 54 55 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 56 57 Section 1. Part XIV of ch. 288, Florida Statutes, 58 consisting of ss. 288.993-288.9937, is created and entitled

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59	"Microfinance Programs."
60	Section 2. Section 288.993, Florida Statutes, is created to
61	read:
62	288.993 Short title.—This part may be cited as the "Florida
63	Microfinance Act."
64	Section 3. Section 288.9931, Florida Statutes, is created
65	to read:
66	288.9931 Legislative findings and intent.—The Legislature
67	finds that the ability of entrepreneurs and small businesses to
68	access capital is vital to the overall health and growth of this
69	state's economy; however, access to capital is limited by the
70	lack of available credit for entrepreneurs and small businesses
71	in this state. The Legislature further finds that entrepreneurs
72	and small businesses could be assisted through the creation of a
73	program that will provide an avenue for entrepreneurs and small
74	businesses in this state to access credit. Additionally, the
75	Legislature finds that business management training, business
76	development training, and technical assistance are necessary to
77	ensure that entrepreneurs and small businesses that receive
78	credit develop the skills necessary to grow and achieve long-
79	term financial stability. The Legislature intends to expand job
80	opportunities for this state's workforce by expanding access to
81	credit to entrepreneurs and small businesses. Furthermore, the
82	Legislature intends to avoid duplicating existing programs and
83	to coordinate, assist, augment, and improve access to those
84	programs for entrepreneurs and small businesses in this state.
85	Section 4. Section 288.9932, Florida Statutes, is created
86	to read:
87	288.9932 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:

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88	(1) "Applicant" means an entrepreneur or small business
89	requesting the assistance of a lender for services through the
90	microloan program.
91	(2) "Domiciled in this state" means authorized to do
92	business in this state and located in this state.
93	(3) "Entrepreneur" means an individual residing in this
94	state who desires to assume the risk of organizing, managing,
95	and operating a small business in this state.
96	(4) "Network" means the Florida Small Business Development
97	Center Network.
98	(5) "Small business" means a business, regardless of
99	corporate structure, domiciled in this state which employs 25 or
100	fewer people and generated average annual gross revenues of \$1.5
101	million or less per year for the preceding 2 years. For the
102	purposes of this part, the identity of a small business is not
103	affected by name changes or changes in personnel.
104	Section 5. Section 288.9933, Florida Statutes, is created
105	to read:
106	288.9933 Rulemaking authorityThe department may adopt
107	rules to implement this part.
108	Section 6. Section 288.9934, Florida Statutes, is created
109	to read:
110	<u>288.9934 Microfinance Loan Program.—</u>
111	(1) PURPOSE.—The Microfinance Loan Program is established
112	in the department to make short-term, fixed-rate microloans in
113	conjunction with business management training, business
114	development training, and technical assistance to entrepreneurs
115	and newly established or growing small businesses for start-up
116	costs, working capital, and the acquisition of materials,

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117	supplies, furniture, fixtures, and equipment. Participation in
118	the loan program is intended to enable entrepreneurs and small
119	businesses to access private financing upon completing the loan
120	program.
121	(2) DEFINITIONAs used in this section, the term "lender"
122	means an entity that enters into a contract with the department
123	pursuant to this section to administer the loan program.
124	(3) REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL.
125	(a) By December 1, 2014, the department shall contract with
126	at least one but not more than three entities to administer the
127	loan program for a term of 3 years. The department shall award
128	the contract in accordance with the request for proposal
129	requirements in s. 287.057 to an entity that:
130	1. Is a corporation registered in this state;
131	2. Does not offer checking accounts or savings accounts;
132	3. Demonstrates that its board of directors and managers
133	are experienced in microlending and small business finance and
134	development;
135	4. Demonstrates that it has the technical skills and
136	sufficient resources and expertise to:
137	a. Analyze and evaluate applications by entrepreneurs and
138	small businesses applying for microloans;
139	b. Underwrite and service microloans provided pursuant to
140	this part; and
141	c. Coordinate the provision of such business management
142	training, business development training, and technical
143	assistance as required by this part.
144	5. Demonstrates that it has established viable, existing
145	partnerships with public and private, nonstate funding sources,

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146	economic development agencies, and workforce development and job
147	referral networks; and
148	6. Demonstrates that it has a plan that includes proposed
149	microlending activities under the loan program, including, but
150	not limited to, the types of entrepreneurs and businesses to be
151	assisted and the size and range of loans the lender intends to
152	make.
153	(b) To ensure that prospective lenders meet the
154	requirements of subparagraphs (a)26., the request for proposal
155	must require submission of the following information:
156	1. A description of the types of entrepreneurs and small
157	businesses the lender has assisted in the past, and the average
158	size and terms of loans made in the past to such entities;
159	2. A description of the experience of members of the board
160	of directors and managers in the areas of microlending and small
161	business finance and development;
162	3. A description of the lender's underwriting and credit
163	policies and procedures, credit decisionmaking process,
164	monitoring policies and procedures, and collection practices,
165	and samples of any currently used loan documentation;
166	4. A description of the nonstate funding sources that will
167	be used by the lender in conjunction with the awarded funds to
168	make microloans pursuant to this section;
169	5. The lender's three most recent financial audits or, if
170	no prior audits have been completed, the lender's three most
171	recent unaudited financial statements; and
172	6. A conflict of interest statement from the lender's
173	governing board certifying that no board member, employee,
174	agent, or other person connected to or affiliated with the

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175	lender is receiving or will receive any type of compensation or
176	remuneration from an entrepreneur or small business that has
177	received or will receive funds from the loan program. The
178	department may waive this requirement for good cause shown.
179	(4) CONTRACT AND AWARD OF FUNDS
180	(a) The selected lender must enter into a contract with the
181	department for a term of 3 years to receive loan program funds.
182	The amount of state funds used in any microloan made pursuant to
183	this part may not exceed 50 percent of the total microloan
184	amount. The department shall establish financial performance
185	measures and objectives for the loan program and for the lender
186	in order to maximize state funds.
187	(b) Funds awarded may be used only to provide direct
188	microloans to entrepreneurs and small businesses according to
189	the limitations, terms, and conditions provided in this part.
190	Except as provided in subsection (5), funds awarded may not be
191	used to pay administrative costs, underwriting costs, servicing
192	costs, or any other costs associated with providing microloans,
193	business management training, business development training, or
194	technical assistance.
195	(c) The lender shall reserve 10 percent of the total award
196	amount from the department to provide microloans pursuant to
197	this part to entrepreneurs and small businesses that employ no
198	more than five people and generate annual gross revenues
199	averaging no more than \$250,000 per year for the last 2 years.
200	(d)1. If the loan program is appropriated funding in a
201	fiscal year, the department shall distribute such funds to the
202	lender within 30 days of the execution of the contract by the
203	department and the lender.
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204	2. The total amount of funding allocated to the lender in a
205	fiscal year may not exceed the amount appropriated for the loan
206	program in the same fiscal year. If the funds appropriated to
207	the loan program in a fiscal year exceed the amount of funds
208	awarded to the lender, such excess funds shall revert to the
209	General Revenue Fund.
210	(e) Within 30 days of executing its contract with the
211	department, the lender must enter into a memorandum of
212	understanding with the network:
213	1. For the provision of business management training,
214	business development training, and technical assistance to
215	entrepreneurs and small businesses that receive microloans under
216	this part; and
217	2. To promote the program to underserved entrepreneurs and
218	small businesses.
219	(f) By September 1, 2014, the department shall review
220	industry best practices and determine the minimum business
221	management training, business development training, and
222	technical assistance that must be provided by the network to
223	achieve the goals of this part.
224	(g) The lender must meet the requirements of this section,
225	the terms of its contract with the department, and any other
226	applicable state or federal laws to be eligible to receive funds
227	in any fiscal year. The contract with the lender must specify
228	any sanctions for the lender's failure to comply with the
229	contract or this part.
230	(5) FEES.—
231	(a) Except as provided in this section, the department may
232	not charge fees or interest or require collateral from the

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233	lender. The department may charge a fee or interest of no
234	greater than 80 percent of the Federal Funds Rate as of the date
235	specified in the contract for funds awarded under the loan
236	program. The department shall require as collateral an
237	assignment of the notes receivable of the microloans made by the
238	lender under the loan program.
239	(b) The lender is entitled to retain a one-time
240	administrative servicing fee of 1 percent of the total award
241	amount to offset the administrative costs of underwriting and
242	servicing microloans made pursuant to this part. This fee may
243	not be charged to or paid by microloan borrowers participating
244	in the loan program. Except as provided in subsection (7)(c),
245	the lender may not be required to return this fee to the
246	department. The lender may not charge fees or costs except as
247	authorized in this paragraph.
248	(6) REPAYMENT OF AWARD FUNDS.—
249	(a) After collecting interest and any fees or costs
250	permitted under this part in satisfaction of all microloans made
251	pursuant to this part, the lender shall remit to the department
252	the microloan principal collected from all microloans made with
253	funds awarded under this part. Repayment of microloan principal
254	to the department may be deferred by the department for a period
255	not to exceed 6 months; however, the lender may not provide a
256	microloan under this part after the contract with the department
257	expires.
258	(b) If for any reason the lender is unable to make
259	repayments to the department in accordance with the contract,
260	the department may accelerate maturity of the awarded funds and
261	demand repayment in full. In this event, or if a lender violates

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262	this part or the terms of its contract, the lender shall
263	surrender to the department possession of all collateral
264	required pursuant to subsection (5). Any loss or deficiency
265	greater than the value of the collateral may be recovered by the
266	department from the lender.
267	(c) In the event of a default as specified in the contract,
268	termination of the contract, or violation of this section, the
269	state may, in addition to any other remedy provided by law,
270	bring suit to enforce its interest.
271	(d) A microloan borrower's default does not relieve the
272	lender of its obligation to repay an award to the department.
273	(7) CONTRACT TERMINATION
274	(a) The lender's contract with the department may be
275	terminated by the department, and the lender required to
276	immediately return all state funds, including any fees it would
277	otherwise be entitled to retain pursuant to subsection (5) for
278	that fiscal year, upon a finding by the department that:
279	1. The lender has, within the previous 5 years,
280	participated in a state-funded economic development program in
281	this or any other state and was found to have failed to comply
282	with the requirements of that program;
283	2. The lender is currently in material noncompliance with
284	any statute, rule, or program administered by the department;
285	3. The lender or any member of its board of directors,
286	officers, partners, managers, or shareholders has pled no
287	contest or been found guilty, regardless of whether adjudication
288	was withheld, of any felony or any misdemeanor involving fraud,
289	misrepresentation, or dishonesty;
290	4. The lender failed to meet or agree to the terms of the

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291	contract with the department or failed to meet this part; or
292	5. The department finds that the lender provided fraudulent
293	or misleading information to the department.
294	(b) The lender's contract with the department may be
295	terminated by the department at any time for any reason upon 30
296	days' notice by the department. In such a circumstance, the
297	lender shall return all awarded funds to the department within
298	60 days of the termination. However, the lender may retain any
299	fees it has collected pursuant to subsection (5).
300	(c) The lender's contract with the department may be
301	terminated by the lender at any time for any reason upon 30
302	days' notice by the lender. In such a circumstance, the lender
303	shall return all awarded funds to the department, including any
304	fees it has retained or would otherwise be entitled to retain
305	pursuant to subsection (5), within 30 days of the termination.
306	(8) AUDITS AND REPORTING
307	(a) The lender shall annually submit to the department a
308	financial audit performed by an independent certified public
309	accountant and an operational performance audit for the most
310	recently completed fiscal year. Both audits must indicate
311	whether any material weakness or instances of material
312	noncompliance are indicated in the audit.
313	(b) The lender shall submit quarterly reports to the
314	department as required by s. 288.9935(3).
315	(c) The lender shall make its books and records related to
316	the loan program available to the department or its designee for
317	inspection upon reasonable notice.
318	(9) ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATION.
319	(a) To be eligible for a microloan, an applicant must, at a

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320	minimum, be an entrepreneur or small business located in this
321	state.
322	(b) Microloans may not be made if the direct or indirect
323	purpose or result of granting the microloan would be to:
324	1. Pay off any creditors of the applicant, including the
325	refund of a debt owed to a small business investment company
326	organized pursuant to 15 U.S.C. s. 681;
327	2. Provide funds, directly or indirectly, for payment,
328	distribution, or as a microloan to owners, partners, or
329	shareholders of the applicant's business, except as ordinary
330	compensation for services rendered;
331	3. Finance the acquisition, construction, improvement, or
332	operation of real property which is, or will be, held primarily
333	for sale or investment;
334	4. Pay for lobbying activities; or
335	5. Replenish funds used for any of the purposes specified
336	in subparagraphs 14.
337	(c) A microloan applicant shall submit a written
338	application in the format prescribed by the lender and shall pay
339	an application fee not to exceed \$50 to the lender.
340	(d) The following minimum terms apply to a microloan made
341	by the lender:
342	1. The amount of a microloan may not exceed \$50,000;
343	2. A borrower may not receive more than \$75,000 per year in
344	total microloans;
345	3. A borrower may not receive more than two microloans per
346	year and may not receive more than five microloans in any 3-year
347	period;
348	4. The proceeds of the microloan may be used only for
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349	startup costs, working capital, and the acquisition of
350	materials, supplies, furniture, fixtures, and equipment;
351	5. The period of any microloan may not exceed 1 year;
352	6. The interest rate may not exceed the prime rate
353	published in the Wall Street Journal as of the date specified in
354	the microloan, plus 1000 basis points;
355	7. All microloans must be personally guaranteed;
356	8. The borrower must participate in business management
357	training, business development training, and technical
358	assistance as determined by the lender in the microloan
359	agreement;
360	9. The borrower shall provide such information as required
361	by the lender, including monthly job creation and financial
362	data, in the manner prescribed by the lender; and
363	10. The lender may collect fees for late payments which are
364	consistent with standard business lending practices and may
365	recover costs and fees incurred for any collection efforts
366	necessitated by a borrower's default.
367	(e) The department may not review microloans made by the
368	lender pursuant to this part prior to approval by the lender.
369	(10) STATEWIDE STRATEGIC PLANIn implementing this
370	section, the department shall be guided by the 5-year statewide
371	strategic plan adopted pursuant to s. 20.60(5). The department
372	shall promote and advertise the loan program by, among other
373	things, cooperating with government, nonprofit, and private
374	industry to organize, host, or participate in seminars and other
375	forums for entrepreneurs and small businesses.
376	(11) STUDYBy December 31, 2014, the department shall
377	commence or commission a study to identify methods and best

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378	practices that will increase access to credit to entrepreneurs
379	and small businesses in this state. The study must also explore
380	the ability of, and limitations on, Florida nonprofit
381	organizations and private financial institutions to expand
382	access to credit to entrepreneurs and small businesses in this
383	state.
384	(12) CREDIT OF THE STATEWith the exception of funds
385	appropriated to the loan program by the Legislature, the credit
386	of the state may not be pledged. The state is not liable or
387	obligated in any way for claims on the loan program or against
388	the lender or the department.
389	Section 7. Section 288.9935, Florida Statutes, is created
390	to read:
391	288.9935 Microfinance Guarantee Program.—
392	(1) The Microfinance Guarantee Program is established in
393	the department. The purpose of the program is to stimulate
394	access to credit for entrepreneurs and small businesses in this
395	state by providing targeted guarantees to loans made to such
396	entrepreneurs and small businesses. Funds appropriated to the
397	program must be reinvested and maintained as a long-term and
398	stable source of funding for the program.
399	(2) As used in this section, the term "lender" means a
400	financial institution as defined in s. 655.005.
401	(3) The department must enter into a contract with
402	Enterprise Florida, Inc., to administer the Microfinance
403	Guarantee Program. In administering the program, Enterprise
404	Florida, Inc., must, at a minimum:
405	(a) Establish lender and borrower eligibility requirements
406	in addition to those provided in this section;

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407	(b) Determine a reasonable leverage ratio of loan amounts
408	guaranteed to state funds; however, the leverage ratio may not
409	exceed 3 to 1;
410	(c) Establish reasonable fees and interest;
411	(d) Promote the program to financial institutions that
412	provide loans to entrepreneurs and small businesses in order to
413	maximize the number of lenders throughout the state which
414	participate in the program;
415	(e) Enter into a memorandum of understanding with the
416	network to promote the program to underserved entrepreneurs and
417	small businesses;
418	(f) Establish limits on the total amount of loan guarantees
419	a single lender can receive;
420	(g) Establish an average loan guarantee amount for loans
421	guaranteed under this section;
422	(h) Establish a risk-sharing strategy to be employed in the
423	event of a loan failure; and
424	(i) Establish financial performance measures and objectives
425	for the program in order to maximize state funds.
426	(4) Enterprise Florida, Inc., is limited to providing loan
427	guarantees for loans with total loan amounts of at least \$50,000
428	and not more than \$250,000. A loan guarantee may not exceed 50
429	percent of the total loan amount.
430	(5) Enterprise Florida, Inc., may not guarantee a loan if
431	the direct or indirect purpose or result of the loan would be
432	<u>to:</u>
433	(a) Pay off any creditors of the applicant, including the
434	refund of a debt owed to a small business investment company
435	organized pursuant to 15 U.S.C. s. 681;

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436	(b) Provide funds, directly or indirectly, for payment,
437	distribution, or as a loan to owners, partners, or shareholders
438	of the applicant's business, except as ordinary compensation for
439	services rendered;
440	(c) Finance the acquisition, construction, improvement, or
441	operation of real property which is, or will be, held primarily
442	for sale or investment;
443	(d) Pay for lobbying activities; or
444	(e) Replenish funds used for any of the purposes specified
445	in paragraphs (a) through (d).
446	(6) To be eligible to receive a loan guarantee under the
447	Microfinance Guarantee Program, a borrower must, at a minimum:
448	(a) Be an entrepreneur or small business located in this
449	<pre>state;</pre>
450	(b) Employ 25 or fewer people;
451	(c) Generate average annual gross revenues of \$1.5 million
452	or less per year for the last 2 years; and
453	(d) Meet any additional requirements established by
454	Enterprise Florida, Inc.
455	(7) By October 1 of each year, Enterprise Florida, Inc.,
456	shall submit a complete and detailed annual report to the
457	department for inclusion in the department's report required
458	under s. 288.9935. The report must, at a minimum, provide:
459	(a) A comprehensive description of the program, including
460	an evaluation of its application and guarantee activities,
461	recommendations for change, and identification of any other
462	state programs that overlap with the program;
463	(b) An assessment of the current availability of and access
464	to credit for entrepreneurs and small businesses in this state;

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465	(c) A summary of the financial and employment results of
466	the entrepreneurs and small businesses receiving loan
467	guarantees, including the number of full-time equivalent jobs
468	created as a result of the guaranteed loans and the amount of
469	wages paid to employees in the newly created jobs;
470	(d) Industry data about the borrowers, including the six-
471	digit North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)
472	code;
473	(e) The name and location of lenders that receive loan
474	guarantees;
475	(f) The amount of state funds received by Enterprise
476	Florida, Inc.;
477	(g) The number of loan guarantee applications received;
478	(h) The number, duration, location, and amount of
479	guarantees made;
480	(i) The number and amount of guaranteed loans outstanding,
481	if any;
482	(j) The number and amount of guaranteed loans with payments
483	overdue, if any;
484	(k) The number and amount of guaranteed loans in default,
485	if any;
486	(1) The repayment history of the guaranteed loans made; and
487	(m) An evaluation of the program's ability to meet the
488	financial performance measures and objectives specified in
489	subsection (3).
490	(8) The credit of the state or Enterprise Florida, Inc.,
491	may not be pledged except for funds appropriated by law to the
492	Microfinance Guarantee Program. The state is not liable or
493	obligated in any way for claims on the program or against

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494	Enterprise Florida, Inc., or the department.
495	Section 8. Section 288.9936, Florida Statutes, is created
496	to read:
497	288.9936 Annual report of the Microfinance Loan Program
498	(1) The department shall include in the report required by
499	s. 20.60(10) a complete and detailed annual report on the
500	Microfinance Loan Program. The report must include:
501	(a) A comprehensive description of the program, including
502	an evaluation of its application and funding activities,
503	recommendations for change, and identification of any other
504	state programs that overlap with the program;
505	(b) The financial institutions and the public and private
506	organizations and individuals participating in the program;
507	(c) An assessment of the current availability of and access
508	to credit for entrepreneurs and small businesses in this state;
509	(d) A summary of the financial and employment results of
510	the entities receiving microloans;
511	(e) The number of full-time equivalent jobs created as a
512	result of the guaranteed loans and the amount of wages paid to
513	employees in the newly created jobs;
514	(f) The number and location of prospective lenders that
515	responded to the department request for proposals;
516	(g) The amount of funds awarded to the lender;
517	(h) The number of microloan applications received by the
518	lender;
519	(i) The number, duration, and location of microloans made
520	by the lender;
521	(j) The number and amount of microloans outstanding, if
522	any;
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523	(k) The number and amount of microloans with payments
524	overdue, if any;
525	(1) The number and amount of microloans in default, if any;
526	(m) The repayment history of the microloans made;
527	(n) The repayment history and performance of funding
528	awards;
529	(o) An evaluation of the program's ability to meet the
530	financial performance measures and objectives specified in s.
531	288.9934; and
532	(p) A description and evaluation of the technical
533	assistance and business management and development training
534	provided by the network pursuant to its memorandum of
535	understanding with the lender.
536	(2) The department shall submit the report provided to the
537	department from Enterprise Florida, Inc., pursuant to
538	288.9935(7) for inclusion in the department's annual report
539	required under s. 20.60(10).
540	(3) The department shall require at least quarterly reports
541	from the lender. The lender's report must include, at a minimum,
542	information required by the department as specified in
543	subsection (1). The report must also include the number of
544	microloan applications received, the number of microloans made,
545	the amount and interest rate of each microloan made, the amount
546	of technical assistance or business development and management
547	training provided, the number of full-time equivalent jobs
548	created as a result of the microloans, the amount of wages paid
549	to employees in the newly created jobs, the six-digit North
550	American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code associated
551	with the borrower's business, and the borrower's locations.

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552	(4) The Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government
553	Accountability shall conduct a study to evaluate the
554	effectiveness and return on investment of the State Small
555	Business Credit Initiative operated in this state pursuant to 12
556	U.S.C. ss. 5701 et seq. The office shall submit a report to the
557	President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
558	Representatives by January 1, 2015.
559	Section 9. Section 288.9937, Florida Statutes, is created
560	to read:
561	288.9937 Evaluation of programs.—The Office of Program
562	Policy Analysis and Government Accountability shall analyze,
563	evaluate, and determine the economic benefits, as defined in s.
564	288.005, of the first 3 years of the Microfinance Loan Program
565	and the Microfinance Guarantee Program. The analysis must also
566	evaluate the number of jobs created, the increase or decrease in
567	personal income, and the impact on state gross domestic product
568	from the direct, indirect, and induced effects of the state's
569	investment. The analysis must also identify any inefficiencies
570	in the programs and provide recommendations for changes to the
571	programs. The office shall submit a report to the President of
572	the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by
573	January 1, 2018. This section expires January 31, 2018.
574	Section 10. (1) The executive director of the Department of
575	Economic Opportunity is authorized, and all conditions are
576	deemed to be met, to adopt emergency rules pursuant to ss.
577	120.536(1) and 120.54(4), Florida Statutes, for the purpose of
578	implementing this act.
579	(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the
580	emergency rules adopted pursuant to subsection (1) remain in

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effect for 6 months after adoption and may be renewed during the
pendency of procedures to adopt permanent rules addressing the
subject of the emergency rules.
(3) This section shall expire October 1, 2015.
Section 11. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014.