

By Senator Abruzzo

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to minority business status for
3 disabled persons; amending s. 288.703, F.S.; revising
4 the definition of the term "minority person" to
5 include disabled persons for purposes of the Florida
6 Small and Minority Business Assistance Act; providing
7 an effective date.

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

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11 Section 1. Paragraph (f) is added to subsection (4) of
12 section 288.703, Florida Statutes, to read:

13 288.703 Definitions.—As used in ss. 288.702-288.706, the
14 term:

15 (4) "Minority person" means a lawful, permanent resident of
16 Florida who is:

17 (f) A disabled person. For purposes of this paragraph, the
18 term "disabled" means having a severe physical or mental
19 disability that:

20 1. Is a result of amputation, arthritis, autism, blindness,
21 burn injury, cancer, cerebral palsy, cystic fibrosis, deafness,
22 head injury, heart disease, hemiplegia, hemophilia, respiratory
23 or pulmonary dysfunction, mental retardation, mental illness,
24 multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, musculoskeletal
25 disorder, neurological disorder, including stroke and epilepsy,
26 paraplegia, quadriplegia, and other spinal cord injuries, sickle
27 cell anemia, specific learning disabilities, or end stage renal
28 disease; and

29 2. Substantially limits one or more of the person's major

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30 life activities.

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32 Another disability or combination of disabilities may be
33 considered a severe physical or mental disability for purposes
34 of this paragraph if the disability or combination of
35 disabilities causes a comparable degree of substantial
36 limitation similar to the list of disabilities provided in
37 subparagraph 1.

38 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.