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1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to the Gulf Coast Economic Corridor; 3 amending s. 288.80, F.S.; conforming provisions; amending s. 288.8012, F.S.; providing and revising 4 5 definitions; amending s. 288.8013, F.S.; deleting the 6 creation and identification of purposes of the 7 Recovery Fund; requiring a specified percentage of 8 payments to the state from the Deepwater Horizon 9 lawsuit to be transferred from the General Revenue 10 Fund to the Triumph Gulf Coast Trust Fund; revising 11 provisions concerning the trust account managed by 12 Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc.; requiring interest in the trust account to be deposited into the Triumph Gulf 13 14 Coast Trust Fund; revising provisions related to the investment of funds in the trust account; revising 15 16 annual reporting requirements; amending s. 288.8014, 17 F.S.; expanding the membership of the board of directors; specifying conditions for appointing 18 19 additional board members; deleting references to the Recovery Fund; deleting obsolete language; revising 20 21 conflict of interest restrictions imposed on board 22 members of Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc.; removing the 23 requirement that Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., retain an independent financial advisor and an economic advisor; 24 25 revising provisions relating to conflict of interest

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26 restrictions imposed on retained staff; amending s. 27 288.8015, F.S.; conforming a provision to changes made 28 by the act; amending s. 288.8016, F.S.; requiring Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., to publish on its website 29 30 specified information prior to making an award; amending s. 288.8017, F.S.; conforming provisions to 31 32 changes made by the act; revising provisions governing the uses of awards from Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc.; 33 requiring Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., to ensure that a 34 35 minimum percentage of funds appropriated for such 36 awards from the trust fund be expended in certain 37 affected counties; repealing s. 377.43, F.S., relating to the disbursement of funds received for damages 38 39 caused by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill; providing appropriations; authorizing appropriations in the 40 2017-2018 fiscal year to be spent in the 2018-2019 41 42 fiscal year; specifying that the conflict of interest restrictions imposed on board members of the Triumph 43 Gulf Coast, Inc., apply to members after a specified 44 date; providing a directive to the Division of Law 45 Revision and Information; providing an effective date. 46 47 48 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 49 Section 1. 50 Section 288.80, Florida Statutes, is amended to

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51 read: 288.80 Short title-This section and ss. 288.8011-288.8018 52 53 288.8011-288.8017 may be cited as the "Gulf Coast Economic Corridor Act." 54 55 Section 2. Section 288.8012, Florida Statutes, is amended 56 to read: 57 288.8012 Definitions.-As used in ss. 288.80-288.8017, the 58 term: 59 (1)"Awardee" means a person, organization, or local 60 government granted an award of funds as authorized in s. 288.8017 from the Recovery Fund for a project or program. 61 62 (2) "Department" means the Department of Economic 63 Opportunity. (3) (2) "Disproportionately affected county" means Bay 64 County, Escambia County, Franklin County, Gulf County, Okaloosa 65 County, Santa Rosa County, Walton County, or Wakulla County. 66 67 (3) "Earnings" means all the income generated by 68 investments and interest. 69 (4) "Settlement agreement" means the "Settlement Agreement 70 Between the Gulf States and the BP Entities with Respect to 71 Economic and Other Claims Arising from the Deepwater Horizon 72 Incident," which was entered into on October 5, 2015, in the 73 case styled In re: Oil Spill by the Oil Rig "Deepwater Horizon" 74 in the Gulf of Mexico, on April 20, 2010, MDL 2179 in the United 75 States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana

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76 "Recovery Fund" means a trust account established by Triumph 77 Gulf Coast, Inc., for the benefit of the disproportionately 78 affected counties. 79 Section 3. Section 288.8013, Florida Statutes, is amended 80 to read: 81 288.8013 Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc.; Recovery Fund; 82 creation; funding; investment.-83 (1)There is created within the department of Economic Opportunity a nonprofit corporation, to be known as Triumph Gulf 84 Coast, Inc., which shall be registered, incorporated, organized, 85 and operated in compliance with chapter 617, and which is not a 86 87 unit or entity of state government. Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., 88 may receive, hold, invest, and administer the Recovery Fund in 89 support of this act. Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., is a separate budget entity and is not subject to control, supervision, or 90 direction by the department of Economic Opportunity in any 91 92 manner, including, but not limited to, personnel, purchasing, 93 transactions involving real or personal property, and budgetary 94 matters. 95 (2) Seventy-five percent of all payments to the state 96 pursuant to the settlement agreement shall be transferred immediately from the General Revenue Fund to the Triumph Gulf 97 98 Coast Trust Fund within the department. Triumph Gulf Coast, 99 Inc., must create and administer the Recovery Fund for the 100 benefit of the disproportionately affected counties. The Page 4 of 19

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101 principal of the fund shall derive from 75 percent of all funds 102 recovered by the Attorney General for economic damage to the 103 state resulting from the Deepwater Horizon disaster, after 104 payment of reasonable and necessary attorney fees, costs, and 105 expenses, including such attorney fees, costs, and expenses 106 pursuant to s. 16.0155.

107 (3) The Recovery Fund must be maintained as a long-term 108 and stable source of revenue, which shall decline over a 30-year 109 period in equal amounts each year. Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., shall establish a trust account at a federally insured financial 110 111 institution to hold funds appropriated to it from the Triumph 112 Gulf Coast Trust Fund and make deposits and payments. Interest 113 earned in the trust account shall be deposited monthly into the 114 Triumph Gulf Coast Trust Fund. Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., may 115 invest surplus funds in the Local Government Surplus Funds Trust 116 Fund, pursuant to s. 218.407, and interest earned, net of fees, 117 shall be transferred monthly into the Triumph Gulf Coast Trust 118 Fund. Earnings generated by investments and interest of the 119 fund, plus the amount of principal available each year, shall be 120 available to make awards pursuant to this act and pay 121 administrative costs. Earnings shall be accounted for separately 122 from principal funds set forth in subsection (2). Administrative costs are limited to amounts appropriated for this purpose 2.25123 124 percent of the earnings in a calendar year. Administrative costs 125 include payment of investment fees, travel and per diem expenses

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of board members, audits, salary or other costs for employed or contracted staff, including required staff under s. 288.8014(9), and other allowable costs. <u>The annual salary for any employee or</u> <u>contracted staff may not exceed \$130,000 and associated benefits</u> <u>may not exceed 35 percent of salary.</u> Any funds remaining in the <u>Recovery Fund after 30 years shall revert to the State Treasury.</u>

132 (4) Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., shall invest and reinvest 133 the principal of the Recovery Fund in accordance with s. 134 617.2104, in such a manner not to subject the funds to state or 135 federal taxes, and consistent with an investment policy 136 statement adopted by the corporation.

137 (a) The board of directors shall formulate an investment 138 policy governing the investment of the principal of the Recovery 139 Fund. The policy shall pertain to the types, kinds, or nature of 140 investment of any of the funds, and any limitations, conditions 141 or restrictions upon the methods, practices, or procedures for 142 investment, reinvestments, purchases, sales, or exchange 143 transactions, provided such policies shall not conflict with nor 144 be in derogation of any state constitutional provision or law. The policy shall be formulated with the advice of the financial 145 146 advisor in consultation with the State Board of Administration. (b) Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., must competitively procure 147 148 one or more money managers, under the advice of the financial advisor in consultation with the State Board of Administration, 149 150 to invest the principal of the Recovery Fund. The applicant

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151 manager or managers may not include representatives from the 152 financial institution housing the trust account for the Recovery 153 Fund. The applicant manager or managers must present a plan to 154 invest the Recovery Fund to maximize earnings while prioritizing 155 the preservation of Recovery Fund principal. Any agreement with 156 a money manager must be reviewed by Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., 157 for continuance at least every 5 years. Plans should include 158 investment in technology and growth businesses domiciled in, or that will be domiciled in, this state or businesses whose 159 160 principal address is in this state.

161 (c) Costs and fees for investment services shall be
 162 deducted from the earnings as administrative costs. Fees for
 163 investment services shall be no greater than 150 basis points.

164 (d) Annually, Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., shall cause an 165 audit to be conducted of the investment of the Recovery Fund by 166 the independent certified public accountant retained in s. 167 288.8014. The expense of such audit shall be paid from earnings 168 for administrative purposes.

169 <u>(4)(5)</u> Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., shall report on June 30 170 and December 30 each year to the Governor, the President of the 171 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on the 172 financial status of the Recovery Fund and its investments, the 173 established priorities, the project and program selection 174 process, including a list of all submitted projects <u>and programs</u> 175 and reasons for approval or denial, and the status of all

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176 approved awards.

177 <u>(5)(6)</u> The Auditor General shall conduct an operational 178 audit of the Recovery Fund and Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., 179 annually. Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., shall provide to the Auditor 180 General any detail or supplemental data required.

 181
 Section 4.
 Subsections (2), (3), (4), (7), and (9) of

 182
 section 288.8014, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

183 288.8014 Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc.; organization; board of 184 directors.-

185 (2)Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., shall initially be governed 186 by a five-member 5-member board of directors. Each of the 187 Trustees of the State Board of Administration, the President of 188 the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives 189 shall each appoint one member from the private sector. As of the 190 effective date of this act, the number of board members 191 increases to seven, with the President of the Senate and the 192 Speaker of the House of Representatives each appointing an 193 additional private sector member from one of the four least 194 populous disproportionately affected counties as identified by 195 the United States Census Bureau in its March 2017 estimates of 196 county populations, to ensure that two such counties are 197 represented on the board. The board of directors shall annually elect a chairperson from among the board's members. The 198 chairperson may be removed by a majority vote of the members. 199 200 His or her successor shall be elected to serve for the balance

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of the removed chairperson's term. The chairperson is responsible to ensure records are kept of the proceedings of the board of directors and is the custodian of all books, documents, and papers filed with the board; the minutes of meetings of the board; and the official seal of Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc.

206 (3) Notwithstanding s. 20.052(4)(c), each initial 207 appointment to the board of directors by the Board of Trustees 208 of the State Board of Administration shall serve for a term that ends 4 years after the Legislature appropriates funds to Triumph 209 210 Gulf Coast, Inc. the Recovery Fund. To achieve staggered terms among the members of the board, each initial appointment to the 211 212 board of directors by the President of the Senate and the 213 Speaker of the House of Representatives shall serve for a term 214 that ends 5 years after the Legislature appropriates funds to 215 Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. the Recovery Fund. Thereafter, each 216 member of the board of directors shall serve for a term of 4 217 years. A member is not eligible for reappointment to the board, 218 except, however, any member appointed to fill a vacancy for a 219 term of 2 years or less may be reappointed for an additional 220 term of 4 years. The initial appointments to the board must be 221 made by November 15, 2013. Vacancies on the board of directors 222 shall be filled by the officer who originally appointed the member. A vacancy that occurs before the scheduled expiration of 223 224 the term of the member shall be filled for the remainder of the 225 unexpired term.

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226 (4)The Legislature determines that it is in the public interest for the members of the board of directors to be subject 227 228 to the requirements of ss. 112.313, 112.3135, and 112.3143, 229 notwithstanding the fact that the board members are not public 230 officers or employees. For purposes of those sections, the board 231 members shall be considered to be public officers or employees. 232 In addition to the postemployment restrictions of s. 112.313(9), 233 a person appointed to the board of directors must agree to 234 refrain from having any direct interest in any contract, 235 franchise, privilege, project, program, or other benefit arising from an award by Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., during the term of 236 237 his or her appointment and for 6 - 2 years after the termination 238 of such appointment. It is a misdemeanor of the first degree, 239 punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, for a person 240 to accept appointment to the board of directors in violation of this subsection or to accept a direct interest in any contract, 241 242 franchise, privilege, project, program, or other benefit granted 243 by Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., to an awardee within 6 2 years 244 after the termination of his or her service on the board. 245 Further, each member of the board of directors who is not 246 otherwise required to file financial disclosure under s. 8, Art. II of the State Constitution or s. 112.3144 shall file 247 disclosure of financial interests under s. 112.3145. 248 The board of directors shall meet at least quarterly, 249 (7)

250 upon the call of the chairperson or at the request of a majority

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of the membership, to review the Recovery Fund, establish and review priorities for economic recovery, diversification, and <u>enhancement of the</u> in disproportionately affected counties, and determine use of <u>funds</u> the earnings available. A majority of the members of the board of directors constitutes a quorum. Members may not vote by proxy.

(9) (a) Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., is permitted to hire or contract for all staff necessary to the proper execution of its powers and duties to implement this act. The corporation is required to retain:

An independent certified public accountant licensed in
 this state pursuant to chapter 473 to inspect the records of and
 to annually audit the expenditure of <u>funds</u> the earnings and
 available principal disbursed by Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc.

265 2. An independent financial advisor to assist Triumph Gulf
266 Coast, Inc., in the development and implementation of a
267 strategic plan consistent with the requirements of this act.

268 3. An economic advisor who will assist in the award 269 process, including the development of priorities, allocation 270 decisions, and the application and process; will assist the 271 board in determining eligibility of award applications and the 272 evaluation and scoring of applications; and will assist in the 273 development of award documentation.

274 <u>2.4.</u> A legal advisor with expertise in not-for-profit
 275 investing and contracting and who is a member of The Florida Bar

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276 to assist with contracting and carrying out the intent of this 277 act.

278 (b) All Triumph Culf Coast, Inc., shall require all 279 employees of the corporation shall to comply with the code of 280 ethics for public employees under part III of chapter 112. 281 Retained staff under paragraph (a) must agree to refrain from 282 having any direct interest in any contract, franchise, 283 privilege, project, program, or other benefit arising from an 284 award of funds by Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., during the term of 285 his or her appointment and for $6\frac{2}{2}$ years after the termination 286 of such appointment.

287 (c) Retained staff under paragraph (a) shall be available
 288 to consult with the board of directors and shall attend meetings
 289 of the board of directors. These individuals shall not be
 290 permitted to vote on any matter before the board.

291 Section 5. Subsection (2) of section 288.8015, Florida 292 Statutes, is amended to read:

293 288.8015 Board of directors; powers.—In addition to the 294 powers and duties prescribed in chapter 617 and the articles and 295 bylaws adopted in compliance with that chapter, the board of 296 directors may:

297 (2) Make expenditures including any necessary
 298 administrative expenditure from earnings consistent with its
 299 powers.

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301 Under no circumstances may the credit of the State of Florida be pledged on behalf of Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. 302 303 Section 6. Subsection (4) of section 288.8016, Florida 304 Statutes, is amended to read: 305 288.8016 Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc.; duties.-Triumph Gulf 306 Coast, Inc., shall have the following duties: 307 (4) Operate in a transparent manner, providing public 308 access to information, notice of meetings, awards, and the 309 status of projects and programs. To this end, Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., shall maintain a website that provides public 310 access to this information. No less than 14 calendar days before 311 312 approving an award pursuant to s. 288.8017, Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., shall publish on the website a summary of the project or 313 program and indicate its intent to approve the award. 314 315 Section 7. Section 288.8017, Florida Statutes, is amended 316 to read: 317 288.8017 Awards.-318 Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., shall make awards from (1)319 available appropriations earnings and principal derived under s. 288.8013(2) to projects or programs that meet the priorities for 320 321 economic recovery, diversification, and enhancement of the 322 disproportionately affected counties, notwithstanding s. 377.43. Awards may be provided for: 323 Ad valorem tax rate reduction within 324 (a)

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disproportionately affected counties;

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326	(b) Payment of impact fees adopted pursuant to s.
327	163.31801 and imposed within disproportionately affected
328	counties;
329	(c) Administrative funding for economic development
330	organizations located within the disproportionately affected
331	counties;
332	(b) (d) Local match requirements of <u>s.288.0655</u> ss.
333	288.0655, 288.0659, 288.1045, and 288.106 for projects in the
334	disproportionately affected counties;
335	(e) Economic development projects in the
336	disproportionately affected counties;
337	<u>(c)</u> <u>Public</u> infrastructure projects that are shown to
338	enhance economic recovery, diversification, and enhancement of
339	development in the disproportionately affected counties;
340	(d) (g) Grants to local governments in the
341	disproportionately affected counties to establish and maintain
342	equipment and trained personnel for local action plans of
343	response to respond to disasters, such as plans created for the
344	Coastal Impacts Assistance Program;
345	(e) Early childhood development and educational programs
346	and services for children from birth to 5 years of age in the
347	disproportionately affected counties;
348	<u>(f)</u> Grants to support programs of excellence that
349	prepare students for future occupations and careers at K-20
350	institutions that have home campuses in the disproportionately
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351 affected counties. Eligible programs include those that increase 352 students' technology skills and knowledge; encourage industry 353 certifications; provide rigorous, alternative pathways for 354 students to meet high school graduation requirements; strengthen 355 career readiness initiatives; fund high-demand programs of 356 emphasis at the bachelor's and master's level designated by the 357 Board of Governors; and, similar to or the same as talent 358 retention programs created by the Chancellor of the State 359 University System and the Commission of Education, encourage 360 students with interest or aptitude for science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and medical disciplines to pursue 361 362 postsecondary education at a state university or a Florida 363 College System institution within the disproportionately 364 affected counties; and

365 (g) Grants to support programs that provide participants 366 in the disproportionately affected counties with transferrable, 367 sustainable workforce skills that are not confined to a single 368 employer; and

369 <u>(h)(i)</u> Grants to the tourism entity created under s.
370 288.1226 for the purpose of advertising and promoting tourism,
371 Fresh From Florida, or related content on behalf of one or all
372 of the disproportionately affected counties.

373 (2) Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., shall establish an
374 application procedure for awards and a scoring process for the
375 selection of projects and programs that have the potential to

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376 generate increased economic activity in the disproportionately 377 affected counties, giving priority to projects and programs 378 that:

(a) Generate maximum estimated economic benefits, based on
tools and models not generally employed by economic input-output
analyses, including cost-benefit, return-on-investment, or
dynamic scoring techniques to determine how the long-term
economic growth potential of the disproportionately affected
counties may be enhanced by the investment.

385 (b) Increase household income in the disproportionately386 affected counties above national average household income.

387 (c) Expand high growth industries or establish new high 388 growth industries in the region.

389 1. Industries that are supported must have strong growth 390 potential in the disproportionately affected counties.

391 2. An industry's growth potential is defined based on a 392 detailed review of the current industry trends nationally and 393 the necessary supporting asset base for that industry in the 394 disproportionately affected counties region.

395 <u>(c) (d)</u> Leverage or further enhance key regional assets, 396 including educational institutions, research facilities, and 397 military bases.

398 <u>(d) (e)</u> Partner with local governments to provide funds, 399 infrastructure, land, or other assistance for the project.

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(f) Have investment commitments from private equity or

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401	private venture capital funds.
402	(g) Provide or encourage seed stage investments in start-
403	up-companies.
404	(h) Provide advice and technical assistance to companies
405	on restructuring existing management, operations, or production
406	to attract advantageous business opportunities.
407	(e) (i) Benefit the environment in addition to the economy.
408	<u>(f)</u> Provide outcome measures for programs of excellence
409	support, including terms of intent and metrics.
410	(g) (k) Partner with K-20 educational institutions or
411	school districts located within the disproportionately affected
412	counties.
413	(1) Partner with convention and visitor bureaus, tourist
414	development councils, or chambers of commerce located within the
415	disproportionately affected counties.
416	(3) Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., may make awards as
417	applications are received or may establish application periods
418	for selection. Awards may not be used to finance 100 percent of
419	any project or program. Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., may require a
	any project of program. Iffamph carr coase, inc., may require a
420	one-to-one private-sector match or higher for an award, if
420 421	
	one-to-one private-sector match or higher for an award, if
421	one-to-one private-sector match or higher for an award, if applicable and deemed prudent by the board of directors. An
421 422	one-to-one private-sector match or higher for an award, if applicable and deemed prudent by the board of directors. An awardee may not receive all of the <u>funds</u> carnings or available
421 422 423	one-to-one private-sector match or higher for an award, if applicable and deemed prudent by the board of directors. An awardee may not receive all of the <u>funds</u> carnings or available principal in any given year. <u>An award may supplement but may not</u>

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426 counties directly benefit from awards and ensure that at least 6 427 percent of funds appropriated for awards from the Triumph Gulf 428 Coast Trust Fund are expended in each of those counties over the 429 lifetime of the settlement agreement. 430 (4) A contract executed by Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., with 431 an awardee must include provisions requiring a performance 432 report on the contracted activities, must account for the proper 433 use of funds provided under the contract, and must include 434 provisions for recovery of awards in the event the award was 435 based upon fraudulent information or the awardee is not meeting 436 the performance requirements of the award. Awardees must 437 regularly report to Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., the expenditure of 438 funds and the status of the project or program on a schedule 439 determined by the corporation. 440 Section 8. Section 377.43, Florida Statutes, is repealed. 441 Section 9. Effective July 1, 2017, the sum of \$299,000,000 442 in nonrecurring funds from the Triumph Gulf Coast Trust Fund is 443 appropriated to Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., for deposit into the 444 trust account to fund awards for programs and projects 445 authorized in s. 288.8017. 446 Section 10. The sum of \$1,000,000 in nonrecurring funds 447 from the Triumph Gulf Coast Trust Fund is appropriated to Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., for deposit into the trust account to 448 449 pay administrative costs. 450 Section 11. Notwithstanding s. 216.301, and pursuant to s.

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451 216.351, funds appropriated pursuant to this act for the 2017-452 2018 fiscal year may be expended through the 2018-2019 fiscal 453 year. 454 Section 12. The revision to s. 288.8014(4), made by this 455 act applies only to persons who serve on the board of trustees 456 of Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., on or after July 1, 2017. 457 Section 13. The Division of Law Revision and Information 458 is directed to replace the phrase "the effective date of this 459 act" where it occurs in this act with the date this act takes 460 effect. 461 Section 14. This act shall take effect upon becoming a 462 law.

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