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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

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House

The Committee on Governmental Oversight and Accountability
(Gruters) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete lines 54 - 173

and insert:

Section 2. Section 15.182, Florida Statutes, is amended to
read:

15.182 International travel by state-funded musical,
cultural, or artistic organizations; notification to the
Department of State Economic Opportunity.—

(1) If a musical, cultural, or artistic organization that



316316

11 receives state funding is traveling internationally for a
12 presentation, performance, or other significant public viewing,
13 including an organization associated with a college or
14 university, such organization shall notify the Department of
15 State Economic Opportunity in writing of its intentions to
16 travel, together with the date, time, and location of each
17 appearance. The notice shall be provided to the department at
18 least 30 days prior to the date the international travel is to
19 commence or, when an intention to travel internationally is not
20 formed at least 30 days in advance of the date the travel is to
21 commence, as soon as feasible after forming such travel
22 intention. The department shall take an active role in informing
23 such artistic organizations of the responsibility to provide
24 notice of international travel intentions.

25 (2) The Department of State Economic Opportunity, in
26 conjunction with the Department of Economic Opportunity and
27 Enterprise Florida, Inc., shall act as an intermediary between
28 performing musical, cultural, and artistic organizations and
29 Florida businesses to encourage and coordinate joint
30 undertakings. Such coordination may include, but is not limited
31 to, encouraging business and industry to sponsor cultural
32 events, assistance with travel of such organizations, and
33 coordinating travel schedules of cultural performance groups and
34 international trade missions.

35 ~~(3) An organization shall provide the notification to the~~
36 ~~Department of State required by this section at least 30 days~~
37 ~~before the date the international travel is to commence or, when~~
38 ~~an intention to travel internationally is not formed at least 30~~
39 ~~days in advance of the date the travel is to commence, as soon~~



316316

40 ~~as feasible after forming such travel intention. The Department~~
41 ~~of State shall take an active role in informing such groups of~~
42 ~~the responsibility to notify the department of travel~~
43 ~~intentions.~~

44 Section 3. Paragraphs (c) and (d) of subsection (2) and
45 subsection (3) of section 288.816, Florida Statutes, are amended
46 to read:

47 288.816 Intergovernmental relations.—

48 (2) The state protocol officer shall be responsible for all
49 consular relations between the state and all foreign governments
50 doing business in Florida. The state protocol officer shall
51 monitor United States laws and directives to ensure that all
52 federal treaties regarding foreign privileges and immunities are
53 properly observed. The state protocol officer shall:

54 ~~(c) Issue certificates to such foreign governmental~~
55 ~~officials after verification pursuant to proper investigations~~
56 ~~through United States Department of State sources and the~~
57 ~~appropriate foreign government.~~

58 ~~(d) Verify entitlement to sales and use tax exemptions~~
59 ~~pursuant to United States Department of State guidelines and~~
60 ~~identification methods.~~

61 (3) The state protocol officer may ~~shall operate the sister~~
62 ~~city and sister state program and establish such new programs as~~
63 ~~needed to further global understanding through the interchange~~
64 ~~of people, ideas, and culture between Florida and the world. To~~
65 ~~accomplish this purpose, the state protocol officer shall have~~
66 ~~the power and authority to:~~

67 (a) Coordinate and carry out activities designed to
68 encourage the state and its subdivisions to participate in



316316

69 sister city and sister state affiliations with foreign countries
70 and their subdivisions. Such activities may include a State of
71 Florida sister cities conference.

72 (b) Encourage cooperation with and disseminate information
73 pertaining to the Sister Cities International Program and any
74 other program whose object is to promote linkages with foreign
75 countries and their subdivisions.

76 (c) Maximize any aid available from all levels of
77 government, public and private agencies, and other entities to
78 facilitate such activities.

79 ~~(d) Establish a viable system of registration for sister
80 city and sister state affiliations between the state and foreign
81 countries and their subdivisions. Such system shall include a
82 method to determine that sufficient ties are properly
83 established as well as a method to supervise how these ties are
84 maintained.~~

85 ~~(e) Maintain a current and accurate listing of all such
86 affiliations. Sister city affiliations shall not be discouraged
87 between the state and any country specified in s. 620(f)(1) of
88 the federal Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, with
89 whom the United States is currently conducting diplomatic
90 relations unless a mandate from the United States Government
91 expressly prohibits such affiliations.~~

92 Section 4. Section 288.8165, Florida Statutes, is created
93 to read:

94 288.8165 Citizen support organizations.—

95 (1) CITIZEN SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS.—The Department of State
96 may authorize the establishment of citizen support organizations
97 to provide assistance, funding, and promotional support for the



316316

98 intergovernmental programs of the department. For the purposes
99 of this section, a "citizen support organization" means an
100 organization which:

101 (a) Is a Florida corporation not for profit incorporated
102 under chapter 617 and approved by the Department of State.

103 (b) Is organized and operated to conduct programs and
104 activities; raise funds; request and receive grants, gifts, and
105 bequests of money; acquire, receive, hold, invest, and
106 administer, in its own name, securities, funds, or real or
107 personal property; and make expenditures for the benefit of the
108 intergovernmental programs of the department; except that such
109 organization may not receive funds from the department by grant
110 or gift unless specifically authorized by the Legislature. If
111 the citizen support organization by contract provides fiscal and
112 administrative services to the department for a grant or program
113 that benefits the intergovernmental programs of the department,
114 the organization may be reimbursed or compensated for such
115 services by the department if the services are a direct benefit
116 to the intergovernmental programs of the department.

117 (c) The department has determined to be consistent with the
118 goals of the intergovernmental programs of the department and in
119 the best interests of the state.

120 (d) Is approved in writing by the department to operate for
121 the benefit of the intergovernmental programs of the department.
122 Such approval must be stated in a letter of agreement from the
123 Secretary of State.

124 (2) USE OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND PROPERTY.—

125 (a) The department may permit a citizen support
126 organization to use department property, facilities, and



316316

127 personnel free of charge. A citizen support organization may use
128 department property, facilities, and personnel if such use is
129 consistent with the approved purpose of that citizen support
130 organization and if such use does not unreasonably interfere
131 with the general public's use of department property,
132 facilities, and personnel for established purposes.

133 (b) The department may prescribe conditions upon the use by
134 a citizen support organization of department property,
135 facilities, or personnel.

136 (c) The department may not permit the use of any property,
137 facilities, or personnel of the state by a citizen support
138 organization that does not provide equal membership and
139 employment opportunities to all persons regardless of race,
140 color, national origin, religion, sex, or age.

141 (3) ANNUAL AUDIT.—Each citizen support organization shall
142 provide for an annual financial audit in accordance with s.
143 215.981.

144 (4) FUTURE REPEAL.—This section is repealed October 1,
145 2025, unless reviewed and saved from repeal by the Legislature.

146
147 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

148 And the title is amended as follows:

149 Delete lines 16 - 21

150 and insert:

151 creating s. 288.8165; authorizing the Department of
152 State to support the establishment of citizen support
153 organizations for certain purposes; defining the term
154 "citizen support organization"; prohibiting the
155 department from allowing a