## LEGISLATIVE ACTION Senate House Comm: RCS 03/17/2021

The Committee on Agriculture (Rouson) recommended the following:

## Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

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Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Section 287.082, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

287.082 Commodities manufactured, grown, or produced in state given preference. - Whenever two or more competitive sealed bids are received, one or more of which relates to commodities manufactured, grown, or produced within this state, and whenever all things stated in such received bids are equal with respect

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to price, quality, and service, the commodities manufactured, grown, or produced within this state shall be given preference.

Section 2. Section 287.0823, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

287.0823 Commodities grown or produced in state given preference.-

- (1) It is the goal of the state that by 2030, 15 percent of all food commodities purchased by state agencies, Florida College System institutions, and state universities shall be grown or produced within this state.
- (2) (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, and to the extent permitted by federal law, such state agencies, institutions, and universities, when purchasing food commodities, shall give preference to food commodities grown or produced within this state.
- (b) As used in this section, the term "food commodities" means any agricultural, apicultural, aquacultural, floricultural, horticultural, viticultural, and vegetable products produced in this state or any class, variety, or use thereof, in their natural state or as processed by a producer for the purpose of marketing the product or by a processor, including, but not limited to, all agricultural products; livestock and livestock products; poultry and poultry products; fish and seafood; and products of the farms, waters, and forests of this state.
- (3) When a purchasing agreement, state term contract, or contract for the purchase of food commodities is to be awarded to the lowest responsive and responsible vendor, an otherwise qualified vendor who will fulfill the contract through the use

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of food commodities grown or produced within this state may be given preference over other vendors, provided that the price included in the bid, proposal, or reply for the food commodities grown or produced within this state is not more than 10 percent greater than the price included in a bid, proposal, or reply that is for food commodities grown or produced outside of this state.

- (4) All state agencies, Florida College System institutions, and state universities that purchase food commodities shall cooperate with the department in establishing a reporting system for identifying the percentage of purchased food commodities that are grown or produced within this state. Beginning with the 2021-2022 fiscal year, such state agencies, institutions, and universities shall report their compliance with this section for the preceding fiscal year to the Governor, the Cabinet, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on or before November 1 of each year. The report must contain, at a minimum, the following for each state agency, Florida College System institution, and state university:
- (a) Total expenditures for, and quantity of, food commodities purchased.
- (b) Total expenditures for, and quantity of, food commodities purchased that were grown or produced within this state.
- (c) Total expenditures for food commodities grown or produced outside of this state.
- (d) A statement and assessment of good faith efforts taken to cooperate with this subsection.

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Section 3. Subsections (9) and (10) are added to section 595.405, Florida Statutes, to read:

595.405 School nutrition program requirements.

- (9) To eliminate the reduced-price copayment for school breakfast meals, the department shall reimburse sponsors for each breakfast meal that meets the requirements of federal law and department rules and is served to a student who qualifies for reduced-price meals, the greater of 30 cents or the difference between the United States Department of Agriculture reimbursement rate for a free breakfast and a reduced-price breakfast.
- (10) (a) Beginning June 1, 2022, each school in which 80 percent or more of the students are eligible for free or reduced-price meals shall implement a program for special assistance certification and reimbursement alternatives, as defined by 7 C.F.R. s. 245.2, to provide universal free school breakfast and lunch meals to all students, unless a sponsor, after considering public testimony at two or more regularly scheduled school board or sponsor's administration meetings, decides not to implement a program in an eligible school. The sponsor, its school nutrition director, or other designee shall attend at least one training by the department regarding the special assistance certification and reimbursement alternatives before the decision whether to implement the special assistance certification and reimbursement alternatives is made by the school board or sponsor's administration.
- (b) For schools implementing special assistance certification and reimbursement alternatives, the Department of Education shall use alternate sources of socioeconomic data,

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such as local data collected by the city or county zoning and economic planning office; unemployment data; local Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program certification data, including direct certification and statistical sampling of the school's population using an equivalent income measurement process to the free and reduced-price application; or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families data, to establish the income level of the school population.

(c) A multiplier shall be applied when an alternate source of socioeconomic data is used to ensure school-level allocations of Title I, Part A, Basic funds for schools implementing special assistance certification and reimbursement alternatives are maintained at the same funding level or higher as the funding level received from the enrollment surveys and free and reducedprice school lunch data for the 2019-2020 school year.

Section 4. Section 595.421, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

595.421 Agricultural Surplus Purchase Program. -

- (1) The Agricultural Surplus Purchase Program is established within the department to purchase agricultural commodities from farmers in this state who are unable to sell their agricultural commodities due to unusually large yields or disruptions in the market or food supply chain. The department may consult with food banks or other nonprofit organizations to establish and implement the program.
- (2) (a) The department shall pay fair market value for any agricultural commodities it purchases from a farmer under the program.
  - (b) The department shall donate and distribute any

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agricultural commodities purchased under the program to charitable and nonprofit organizations in rural areas of opportunity as defined in s. 288.0656(2) and rural communities as defined in s. 288.0656(2). (3) The department shall adopt by rule an application

- process for farmers and charitable and nonprofit organizations to participate in the program. The application process shall, at a minimum, include eligibility requirements and criteria for prioritizing and selecting applicants.
- (4) The department is encouraged to seek funding from private entities and other governmental entities to fund the program.
- Section 5. Section 595.422, Florida Statutes, is created to read:
- 595.422 Local Food Pantry Infrastructure Assistance Grant Program.-
- (1) The Local Food Pantry Infrastructure Assistance Grant Program is established within the department to build food pantry capacity to facilitate managing donated food, to increase the availability of perishable food items, and to minimize the loss of perishable food items before distribution.
- (2) As used in this section, the term "food pantry" means a public or private nonprofit organization that distributes food to persons and households in need to relieve situations of emergency and distress.
- (3) The department shall establish by rule grant award requirements, including eligibility, application, and selection criteria.
  - (4) The department shall promote and market the program to

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food pantries as an opportunity to compete for grant funding. Section 6. Section 595.802, Florida Statutes, is created to read: 595.802 Healthy Food Access Pilot Program. -

- (1) The Healthy Food Access Pilot Program is established within the department to increase access to healthy and affordable food by providing grants to support local governments, transportation agencies, community development corporations, and nonprofit organizations in implementing transit system projects that connect low-income and low access communities in rural areas and throughout this state to grocery stores, farmers' markets, and community-supported agriculture programs.
- (2) The department shall adopt rules to implement this section and may enter into an agreement with a third-party vendor to administer the pilot program.
- (3) Beginning November 1, 2021, and each November 1 thereafter, the department shall submit an annual report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on the projects funded, the geographic distribution of the projects, the costs of the program, and the outcomes.
- (4) This section is repealed July 1, 2024, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

Section 7. (1) For the 2021-2022 fiscal year, the sum of \$2,756,801 in recurring funds from the General Revenue Fund is appropriated to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for the purpose of providing sponsor reimbursements for breakfast meals pursuant to s. 595.405, Florida Statutes.



- (2) For the 2021-2022 fiscal year, the sum of \$1 million in recurring funds from the General Revenue Fund is appropriated to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for the purpose of implementing the Agricultural Surplus Purchase Program pursuant to s. 595.421, Florida Statutes. The department may use up to 5 percent of the funds for administrative costs associated with the program.
- (3) For the 2021-2022 fiscal year, the sum of \$500,000 in recurring funds from the General Revenue Fund is appropriated to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for the purpose of implementing the Local Food Pantry Infrastructure Assistance Grant Program pursuant to s. 595.422, Florida Statutes.
- (4) (a) For the 2021-2022 fiscal year, the sum of \$350,000 in recurring funds from the General Revenue Fund is appropriated to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for the purpose of implementing the Healthy Food Access Pilot Program pursuant to s. 595.802, Florida Statutes.
- (b) Unexpended balances of appropriations provided for the Healthy Food Access Pilot Program may not revert to the General Revenue Fund at the end of the 2021-2022 fiscal year but must be retained in the Food and Nutrition Services Trust Fund and carried forward to fund the pilot program in the 2022-2023 fiscal year. Balances of appropriations provided for the pilot program which remain unexpended on July 1, 2024, shall revert to the General Revenue Fund.

Section 8. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.

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And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause and insert:

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to agriculture and nutrition; amending s. 287.082, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; creating s. 287.0823, F.S.; declaring that it is a state goal that by a specified date, a percentage of food commodities purchased by state agencies, Florida College System institutions, and state universities will be grown or produced in this state; requiring such agencies, institutions, and universities to give preference to food commodities grown or produced in this state in certain purchasing agreements, state term contracts, or contracts for the purchase of food commodities; providing conditions for such preference; defining the term "food commodities"; requiring certain of such agencies, institutions, and universities to cooperate with the Department of Management Services in establishing a reporting system; requiring such agencies, institutions, and universities to report compliance to the Governor, Cabinet, and Legislature by a specified date each year; specifying report requirements; amending s. 595.405, F.S.; providing sponsor reimbursements for certain school breakfast meals; requiring certain schools to implement a program for special assistance certification and reimbursement alternatives to provide universal free school breakfast and lunch

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meals; providing an exception; requiring sponsors or designated sponsor entities to consider certain public testimony before declining to implement the program; directing the Department of Education to use specified data and methodologies to establish income levels for schools implementing the program; requiring a specified multiplier to be applied when using certain data; creating s. 595.421, F.S.; establishing the Agricultural Surplus Purchase Program within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for a specified purpose; authorizing the department to consult with specified entities; directing the department to purchase, donate, and distribute certain agricultural commodities to specified organizations and communities and to adopt specified rules; creating s. 595.422, F.S.; establishing the Local Food Pantry Infrastructure Assistance Grant Program within the department for a specified purpose; defining the term "food pantry"; requiring the department to adopt specified rules and to promote and market the program; creating s. 595.802, F.S.; establishing the Healthy Food Access Pilot Program within the department for a specified purpose; requiring the department to adopt rules; authorizing the department to enter into agreements with third-party vendors; requiring the department to submit an annual report to the Governor and Legislature; providing that the program is repealed by a specified date unless reenacted by the Legislature; providing appropriations; providing an

effective date. 273