

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to veterans employment and training;
 3 amending s. 295.21, F.S.; directing Florida Is For
 4 Veterans, Inc., to serve as the state's principal
 5 assistance organization under the United States
 6 Department of Defense's SkillBridge program; amending
 7 s. 295.22, F.S.; prescribing duties of the corporation
 8 to facilitate the administration of the SkillBridge
 9 program; providing an effective date.

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

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 13 Section 1. Paragraph (g) is added to subsection (3) of
 14 section 295.21, Florida Statutes, to read:

15 295.21 Florida Is For Veterans, Inc.—

16 (3) DUTIES.—The corporation shall:

17 (g) Serve as the state's principal assistance organization
 18 under the United States Department of Defense's SkillBridge
 19 program for employers and transitioning servicemembers.

20 Section 2. Paragraph (f) is added to subsection (3) of
 21 section 295.22, Florida Statutes, to read:

22 295.22 Veterans Employment and Training Services Program.—

23 (3) ADMINISTRATION.—Florida Is For Veterans, Inc., shall
 24 administer the Veterans Employment and Training Services Program
 25 and perform all of the following functions:

26 (f) As the state's principal assistance organization under
27 the United States Department of Defense's SkillBridge program
28 for qualified businesses in this state and for transitioning
29 servicemembers who reside in, or who wish to reside in, this
30 state, the corporation shall:

31 1. Establish and maintain, as applicable, its
32 certification for the SkillBridge program or any other similar
33 workforce training and transition programs established by the
34 United States Department of Defense;

35 2. Educate businesses, business associations, and
36 transitioning servicemembers on the SkillBridge program and its
37 benefits, and educate military command and personnel within the
38 state on the opportunities available to transitioning
39 servicemembers through the SkillBridge program;

40 3. Assist businesses in obtaining approval for skilled
41 workforce training curricula under the SkillBridge program,
42 including, but not limited to, apprenticeships, internships, or
43 fellowships; and

44 4. Match transitioning servicemembers who are deemed
45 eligible for SkillBridge participation by their military command
46 with training opportunities offered by the corporation or
47 participating businesses, with the intent of having
48 transitioning servicemembers achieve gainful employment in this
49 state upon completion of their SkillBridge training.

50 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.