

By Senator Jones

35-00341A-22

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Florida's Potential Grant
3 Program; creating s. 445.11, F.S.; establishing the
4 Florida's Potential Grant Program within the
5 Department of Education; providing purposes for the
6 program; authorizing Florida College System
7 institutions to apply to the department to receive a
8 grant under the program for certain purposes;
9 authorizing the department to award grants to
10 applicants; requiring the Department of Economic
11 Opportunity to partner with each institution receiving
12 a grant under the program to provide specified
13 insight; requiring the State Board of Education to
14 adopt rules; providing an effective date.

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

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18 Section 1. Section 445.11, Florida Statutes, is created to
19 read:

20 445.11 Florida's Potential Grant Program.—

21 (1) Florida's Potential Grant Program is established within
22 the Department of Education for the purpose of providing grants
23 to Florida College System institutions to assist the
24 institutions with providing workforce education and training to
25 the residents of zip codes that have low levels of postsecondary
26 educational attainment, compared to the level of postsecondary
27 educational attainment in this state, in combination with a
28 higher unemployment rate than this state's unemployment rate and
29 to promote local job growth and economic development.

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30 (2) A Florida College System institution may apply to the
31 Department of Education for a grant under the program to provide
32 educational opportunities to the residents in at least one zip
33 code that the institution serves but does not currently have a
34 campus or a center in that area. Subject to appropriation of
35 funds by the Legislature, the department may award grants to
36 institutions that apply for grants pursuant to this subsection.
37 The Department of Economic Opportunity shall partner with each
38 Florida College System institution receiving a grant under this
39 section to provide insight into serving the needs of the
40 residents of the zip codes being provided educational
41 opportunities under the program.

42 (3) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to
43 implement this section.

44 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.