

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to veterans; amending s. 295.21, F.S.;
3 revising the purpose of Florida Is For Veterans, Inc.;
4 revising the duties of the corporation to require that
5 it conduct specified activities directed toward its
6 target market; defining the term "target market";
7 deleting obsolete language; providing that the
8 President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House
9 of Representatives may each appoint only one member
10 from his or her chamber to the corporation's board of
11 directors; making technical changes; amending s.
12 295.22, F.S.; defining terms; revising the purpose of
13 the Veterans Employment and Training Services Program;
14 revising the functions that Florida Is For Veterans,
15 Inc., must perform in administering a specified
16 program; authorizing the program to prioritize grant
17 funds; revising the uses of specified grant funds;
18 authorizing a business to receive certain other grant
19 funds in addition to specified grant funds;
20 authorizing the use of grant funds to provide for a
21 specified educational stipend; requiring the
22 corporation and the University of Florida to enter
23 into a grant agreement before certain funds are
24 expended; requiring the corporation to determine the
25 amount of the stipend; providing that specified

26 training must occur for a specified duration;
27 authorizing the corporation to provide certain
28 assistance to state agencies and entities, to provide
29 a website that has relevant hyperlinks, and to
30 collaborate with specified state agencies and other
31 entities for specified purposes;; conforming
32 provisions to changes made by the act; making
33 technical changes; creating s. 295.25, F.S.;
34 prohibiting the Department of State from charging
35 veterans who reside in this state fees for the filing
36 of specified documents; amending s. 379.353, F.S.;
37 providing free hunting, freshwater fishing, and
38 saltwater fishing licenses to certain disabled
39 veterans; amending s. 381.78, F.S.; revising the
40 membership, appointment, and meetings of the advisory
41 council on brain and spinal cord injuries; amending s.
42 1003.42, F.S.; requiring instruction on the history
43 and importance of Veterans' Day and Memorial Day;
44 requiring that certain instruction consist of two 45-
45 minute lessons that occur within a certain timeframe;
46 amending s. 288.0001, F.S.; conforming a cross-
47 reference; reenacting ss. 379.3581(2) (b) and
48 379.401(2) (b) and (3) (b), F.S., relating to special
49 authorization hunting licenses and the suspension and
50 forfeiture of licenses and permits, respectively, to

51 incorporate the amendment made to s. 379.353, F.S., in
 52 references thereto; providing an effective date.

53

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

55

56 Section 1. Subsection (2), paragraph (a) of subsection
 57 (3), and paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section 295.21,
 58 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

59 295.21 Florida Is For Veterans, Inc.—

60 (2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the corporation is to serve as
 61 the state's initial point of military transition assistance
 62 dedicated to promoting ~~promote~~ Florida as a veteran-friendly
 63 state helping ~~that seeks~~ to provide veterans and their spouses
 64 with employment opportunities and promoting ~~that promotes~~ the
 65 hiring of veterans and their spouses by the business community.
 66 The corporation shall encourage retired and recently separated
 67 military personnel to remain in this ~~the~~ state or to make this
 68 ~~the~~ state their permanent residence. The corporation shall
 69 promote the value of military skill sets to businesses in this
 70 ~~the~~ state, assist in tailoring the training of veterans and
 71 their spouses to match the needs of the employment marketplace,
 72 and enhance the entrepreneurial skills of veterans and their
 73 spouses.

74 (3) DUTIES.—The corporation shall:

75 (a) Conduct marketing, awareness, and outreach activities

76 directed toward its target market. As used in this section, the
 77 term "target market" means those members, and their spouses, of
 78 the United States Armed Forces with 24 months or less until
 79 discharge, veterans with 36 months or less since discharge, and
 80 members of the Florida National Guard or reserves ~~research to~~
 81 ~~identify the target market and the educational and employment~~
 82 ~~needs of those in the target market. The corporation shall~~
 83 ~~contract with at least one entity pursuant to the competitive~~
 84 ~~bidding requirements in s. 287.057 and the provisions of s.~~
 85 ~~295.187 to perform the research. Such entity must have~~
 86 ~~experience conducting market research on the veteran~~
 87 ~~demographic. The corporation shall seek input from the Florida~~
 88 ~~Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation on the scope, process,~~
 89 ~~and focus of such research.~~

90 (4) GOVERNANCE.—

91 (a) The corporation shall be governed by a nine-member
 92 board of directors. The Governor, the President of the Senate,
 93 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall each
 94 appoint three members to the board. In making appointments, the
 95 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the
 96 House of Representatives must consider representation by active
 97 or retired military personnel and their spouses, representing a
 98 range of ages and persons with expertise in business, education,
 99 marketing, and information management. The President of the
 100 Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives may each

101 appoint only one member from the body over which he or she
 102 presides.

103 Section 2. Section 295.22, Florida Statutes, is amended to
 104 read:

105 295.22 Veterans Employment and Training Services Program.—

106 (1) LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND INTENT.—The Legislature finds
 107 that the state has a compelling interest in ensuring that each
 108 veteran or his or her spouse who is a resident of this ~~the~~ state
 109 finds employment that meets his or her professional goals and
 110 receives the training or education necessary to meet those
 111 goals. The Legislature also finds that connecting dedicated,
 112 well-trained veterans with businesses that need a dedicated,
 113 well-trained workforce is of paramount importance. The
 114 Legislature recognizes that veterans or their spouses may not
 115 currently have the skills to meet the workforce needs of Florida
 116 employers and may require assistance in obtaining additional
 117 workforce training or in transitioning their skills to meet the
 118 demands of the marketplace. It is the intent of the Legislature
 119 that the Veterans Employment and Training Services Program
 120 coordinate and meet the needs of veterans and their spouses and
 121 the business community to enhance the economy of this state.

122 (2) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of this section, the
 123 term:

124 (a) "Secondary industry business" is a business that the
 125 state has an additional interest in supporting and for which

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126 veterans and their spouses may have directly transferrable
127 skills. These businesses are in the fields of health care,
128 agriculture, commercial construction, education, law
129 enforcement, and public service.

130 (b) "Spouse" means a person who is married to a veteran,
131 or a person who was married to a veteran killed in action and is
132 not remarried.

133 (c) "Target industry business" is a business as defined in
134 s. 288.005.

135 (d) "Target market" has the same meaning as in s.
136 295.21(3)(a).

137 (e) "Veteran" means a person who the definition of veteran
138 in s. 1.01(14) or is an active or former member of the National
139 Guard or United States Coast Guard, including reserve
140 components.

141 (3) CREATION.—The Veterans Employment and Training
142 Services Program is created within the Department of Veterans'
143 Affairs to assist in connecting ~~linking~~ veterans or their
144 spouses ~~in search of employment~~ with businesses seeking to hire
145 dedicated, well-trained workers and with opportunities for
146 entrepreneurship education, training, and resources. The purpose
147 of the program is to meet the workforce demands of businesses in
148 this ~~the~~ state by facilitating access to training and education
149 in high-demand fields for veterans or their spouses and to
150 inspire the growth and development of veteran-owned small

151 businesses.

152 ~~(4)(3)~~ ADMINISTRATION.—Florida Is For Veterans, Inc.,
 153 shall administer the Veterans Employment and Training Services
 154 Program and perform all of the following functions:

155 (a) Conduct marketing and recruiting efforts directed at
 156 veterans or their spouses within the target market who reside in
 157 or ~~who~~ have an interest in relocating to this state and who are
 158 seeking employment. Marketing must include information related
 159 to how a veteran's military experience can be valuable to a
 160 target industry or secondary industry business. Such efforts may
 161 include attending veteran job fairs and events, hosting events
 162 for veterans and their spouses or the business community, and
 163 using digital and social media and direct mail campaigns. The
 164 corporation shall also include such marketing as part of its
 165 main marketing campaign.

166 (b) Assist veterans or their spouses who reside in or
 167 relocate to this state and who are seeking employment with
 168 target industry or secondary industry businesses. The
 169 corporation shall offer skills assessments to veterans or their
 170 spouses and assist them in establishing employment goals and
 171 applying for and achieving gainful employment.

172 1. Assessment may include skill match information, skill
 173 gap analysis, résumé creation, translation of military skills
 174 into civilian workforce skills, and translation of military
 175 achievements and experience into generally understood civilian

176 workforce skills.

177 2. Assistance may include providing the veteran or his or
 178 her spouse with information on current workforce demand by
 179 industry or geographic region, creating employment goals, and
 180 aiding or teaching general knowledge related to completing
 181 applications. ~~The corporation may provide information related to
 182 industry certifications approved by the Department of Education
 183 under s. 1008.44 as well as information related to earning
 184 academic college credit at public postsecondary educational
 185 institutions for college-level training and education acquired
 186 in the military under s. 1004.096.~~

187 3. ~~The corporation shall encourage veterans or their
 188 spouses to register with the state's job bank system and may
 189 refer veterans to local one-stop career centers for further
 190 services. The corporation shall provide each veteran with
 191 information about state workforce programs and shall consolidate
 192 information about all available resources on one website that,
 193 if possible, includes a hyperlink to each resource's website and
 194 contact information, if available.~~

195 4. Assessment and assistance may be in person or by
 196 electronic means, as determined by the corporation to be most
 197 efficient and best meet the needs of veterans or their spouses.

198 (c) Assist Florida target industry and secondary industry
 199 businesses in recruiting and hiring veterans and veterans'
 200 spouses. The corporation shall provide services to Florida

201 businesses to meet their hiring needs by connecting businesses
 202 with suitable veteran applicants for employment. Suitable
 203 applicants include veterans or veterans' spouses who have
 204 appropriate job skills or may need additional training to meet
 205 the specific needs of a business. The corporation shall also
 206 provide information about the state and federal benefits of
 207 hiring veterans.

208 (d) Create a grant program to provide funding to assist
 209 veterans in meeting the workforce-skill needs of target industry
 210 and secondary industry businesses seeking to hire, promote, or
 211 generally improve specialized skills of veterans, establish
 212 criteria for approval of requests for funding, and maximize the
 213 use of funding for this program. Grant funds may be used only in
 214 the absence of available veteran-specific federally funded
 215 programs. Grants may fund specialized training specific to a
 216 particular business.

217 1. The program may prioritize ~~If grant funds~~ to be ~~are~~
 218 used to provide a ~~technical~~ certificate, a license ~~licensure~~, or
 219 nondegree training from the Master Credentials List pursuant to
 220 s. 445.004(4)(h); any federally created certifications or
 221 licenses; and any skills-based industry certifications or
 222 licenses deemed relevant or necessary by the corporation. a
 223 ~~degree~~, Funds may be allocated only upon a review that includes,
 224 but is not limited to, documentation of accreditation and
 225 licensure. ~~Instruction funded through the program terminates~~

226 ~~when participants demonstrate competence at the level specified~~
227 ~~in the request but may not exceed 12 months. Preference shall be~~
228 ~~given to target industry businesses, as defined in s. 288.005,~~
229 ~~and to businesses in the defense supply, cloud virtualization,~~
230 ~~health care, or commercial aviation manufacturing industries.~~

231 2. Costs and expenditures are ~~shall be~~ limited to \$8,000
232 per veteran trainee. Qualified businesses must cover the entire
233 cost for all of the training provided before receiving
234 reimbursement from the corporation equal to 50 percent of the
235 cost to train a veteran who is a permanent, full-time employee.
236 Eligible costs and expenditures include, but are not limited to:

- 237 a. Tuition and fees.
238 b. Books and classroom materials.
239 c. Rental fees for facilities.

240 3. Before funds are allocated for a request pursuant to
241 this section, the corporation shall prepare a grant agreement
242 between the business requesting funds and the corporation. Such
243 agreement must include, but need not be limited to:

- 244 a. Identification of the personnel necessary to conduct
245 the instructional program, instructional program description,
246 and any vendors used to conduct the instructional program.
247 b. Identification of the estimated duration of the
248 instructional program.
249 c. Identification of all direct, training-related costs.
250 d. Identification of special program requirements that are

251 not otherwise addressed in the agreement.

252 e. Permission to access aggregate information specific to
 253 the wages and performance of participants upon the completion of
 254 instruction for evaluation purposes. The agreement must specify
 255 that any evaluation published subsequent to the instruction may
 256 not identify the employer or any individual participant.

257 4. A business may receive a grant under any state program
 258 ~~the Quick-Response Training Program created under s. 288.047~~ and
 259 a grant under this section for the same veteran trainee.

260 5. A portion of grant funds, as determined by the
 261 corporation, may be used for veterans who are not active members
 262 of the United States Armed Forces for educational stipends while
 263 training at any location of the University of Florida's
 264 Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences within this state.
 265 The corporation and the University of Florida shall enter into a
 266 grant agreement before funds are expended. The corporation must
 267 determine the amount of the stipend. The training for any
 268 individual may not be less than 4 months and not more than 6
 269 months.

270 (e) Contract with one or more entities to administer an
 271 entrepreneur initiative program for veterans in this state which
 272 connects business leaders in the state with veterans seeking to
 273 become entrepreneurs.

274 1. The corporation shall award each contract in accordance
 275 with the competitive bidding requirements in s. 287.057 to one

276 or more public or private entities that:

277 a. Demonstrate the ability to implement the program and

278 the commitment of resources, including financial resources, to

279 such programs.

280 b. Have a demonstrated experience working with veteran

281 entrepreneurs.

282 c. As determined by the corporation, have been recognized

283 for their performance in assisting entrepreneurs to launch

284 successful businesses in this ~~the~~ state.

285 2. Each contract must include performance metrics,

286 including a focus on employment and business creation. The

287 entity may also work with a university or college offering

288 related programs to refer veterans or to provide services. The

289 entrepreneur initiative program may include activities and

290 assistance such as peer-to-peer learning sessions, mentoring,

291 technical assistance, business roundtables, networking

292 opportunities, support of student organizations, speaker series,

293 or other tools within a virtual environment.

294 (f) Administer a ~~As the state's principal assistance~~

295 ~~organization under the United States Department of Defense's~~

296 SkillBridge initiative program for target industry and secondary

297 industry ~~qualified~~ businesses in this state and for eligible

298 veterans ~~transitioning servicemembers~~ who reside in, or who wish

299 to reside in, this state. In administering the initiative, the

300 corporation shall:

301 1. Establish and maintain, as applicable, its
 302 certification for the SkillBridge initiative ~~program~~ or any
 303 other similar workforce training and transition programs
 304 established by the United States Department of Defense;

305 2. Educate businesses, business associations, and eligible
 306 veterans ~~transitioning servicemembers~~ on the SkillBridge
 307 initiative ~~program~~ and its benefits, and educate military
 308 command and personnel within the state on the opportunities
 309 available to eligible veterans ~~transitioning servicemembers~~
 310 ~~through the SkillBridge program;~~

311 3. Assist businesses in obtaining approval for skilled
 312 workforce training curricula under the SkillBridge initiative
 313 ~~program~~, including, but not limited to, apprenticeships,
 314 internships, or fellowships; and

315 4. Match eligible veterans ~~transitioning servicemembers~~
 316 ~~who are deemed eligible for SkillBridge participation by their~~
 317 ~~military command~~ with training opportunities offered by the
 318 corporation or participating businesses, with the intent of
 319 having them ~~transitioning servicemembers~~ achieve gainful
 320 employment in this state upon completion of their SkillBridge
 321 training.

322 ~~(g) Assist veterans and their spouses in accessing~~
 323 ~~training, education, and employment in health care professions.~~

324 ~~(h) Coordinate with the Office of Veteran Licensure~~
 325 ~~Services within the Department of Health to assist veterans and~~

326 ~~their spouses in obtaining licensure pursuant to s. 456.024.~~

327 (5) COLLABORATION.—The corporation may assist state
328 agencies and entities with recruiting veteran talent into their
329 workforce. The corporation is encouraged to, and may collaborate
330 with, state agencies and other entities in efforts to, maximize
331 access to and to provide information on one website that, if
332 possible, includes hyperlinks to the websites of and contact
333 information, if available, for state agencies and other entities
334 that maintain benefits, services, training, education, and other
335 resources that are available to veterans and their spouses.

336 (a) Outreach, information exchange, marketing, and
337 referrals between agencies, entities, and the corporation
338 regarding programs and initiatives that may be conducted
339 include, but are not limited to, the Veterans Employment and
340 Training Services Program and those within any of the following:

341 1. The Department of Veterans' Affairs:

342 a. Access to benefits and assistance programs.

343 b. Hope Navigators Program.

344 2. The Department of Commerce:

345 a. The Disabled Veteran Outreach Program and Local Veteran
346 Employment Representatives.

347 b. CareerSource Florida, Inc., and local workforce boards
348 employment and recruitment services.

349 c. The Quick-Response Training Program.

350 d. Select Florida.

351 3. The Department of Business and Professional Regulation,
 352 reciprocity and the availability of certain license and fee
 353 waivers.

354 4. The Department of Education:

355 a. CAPE industry certifications under s. 1008.44.

356 b. Information related to earning postsecondary credit at
 357 public postsecondary educational institutions for college-level
 358 training and education acquired in the military under s.
 359 1004.096.

360 5. The Department of Health:

361 a. The Office of Veteran Licensure Services.

362 b. The Florida Veterans Application for Licensure Online
 363 Response expedited licensing.

364 (b) The corporation may coordinate and collaborate with
 365 the Office of Reimagining Education and Career Help, the State
 366 University System, the Florida College System, the Florida
 367 Defense Support Task Force, the Florida Small Business
 368 Development Center Network, and the Florida Talent Development
 369 Council, as necessary.

370 Section 3. Section 295.25, Florida Statutes, is created to
 371 read:

372 295.25 Veterans exempt from certain filing fees.—The
 373 Department of State may not charge veterans who reside in this
 374 state the applicable fees for filing articles of organization,
 375 articles of incorporation, a certificate of limited partnership,

376 or a partnership registration statement, or for the designation
 377 of a registered agent, if applicable, as provided in s.
 378 605.0213, s. 607.0122, s. 617.0122, s. 620.1109, or s.
 379 620.81055.

380 Section 4. Subsection (1) of section 379.353, Florida
 381 Statutes, is amended to read:

382 379.353 Recreational licenses and permits; exemptions from
 383 fees and requirements.—

384 (1) The commission shall issue without fee hunting,
 385 freshwater fishing, and saltwater fishing licenses and permits
 386 ~~shall be issued without fee~~ to any resident who is certified or
 387 determined to be:

388 (a) ~~To be~~ Totally and permanently disabled for purposes of
 389 workers' compensation under chapter 440 as verified by an order
 390 of a judge of compensation claims or written confirmation by the
 391 carrier providing workers' compensation benefits, or to be
 392 totally and permanently disabled by the Railroad Retirement
 393 Board, by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or
 394 its predecessor, or by any branch of the United States Armed
 395 Forces, or who holds a valid identification card issued under
 396 ~~the provisions of~~ s. 295.17, upon proof of such certification or
 397 determination ~~same~~. Any license issued under this paragraph
 398 after January 1, 1997, expires after 5 years and must be
 399 reissued, upon request, every 5 years thereafter.

400 (b) ~~To be~~ Disabled by the United States Social Security

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401 Administration, upon proof of such certification or
402 determination ~~same~~. Any license issued under this paragraph
403 after October 1, 1999, expires after 2 years and must be
404 reissued, upon proof of certification of disability, every 2
405 years thereafter.

406 (c) A disabled veteran of the United States Armed Forces
407 who was honorably discharged upon separation from service and
408 who is certified by the United States Department of Veterans
409 Affairs or its predecessor or by any branch of the United States
410 Armed Forces as having a service-connected disability percentage
411 rating of 50 percent or greater, upon proof of such
412 certification or determination.

413
414 A disability license issued after July 1, 1997, and before July
415 1, 2000, retains the rights vested thereunder until the license
416 has expired.

417 Section 5. Subsections (1), (2), and (3) of section
418 381.78, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

419 381.78 Advisory council on brain and spinal cord
420 injuries.—

421 (1) There is created within the department a 16-member
422 advisory council on brain and spinal cord injuries. The council
423 shall be composed of a minimum of:

424 (a) Two ~~four~~ individuals who have brain injuries or are
425 family members of individuals who have brain injuries. ~~—a~~

426 ~~minimum of four~~

427 (b) Two individuals who have spinal cord injuries or are
 428 family members of individuals who have spinal cord injuries. ~~7~~
 429 ~~and a minimum of~~

430 (c) Two individuals who represent the special needs of
 431 children who have brain or spinal cord injuries.

432 (d) Two individuals who have, or who are family members of
 433 individuals who have or had, a traumatic brain injury, chronic
 434 traumatic encephalopathy, or subconcussive impacts due to
 435 sports.

436 (e) Two veterans as defined in s. 1.01(14) who have or
 437 have had a traumatic brain injury, chronic traumatic
 438 encephalopathy, or subconcussive impacts due to military
 439 service, or family members of such veterans.

440 (f) Six individuals who are ~~The balance of the council~~
 441 ~~members shall be~~ physicians, other allied health professionals,
 442 administrators of brain and spinal cord injury programs, or ~~and~~
 443 representatives from support groups who ~~that~~ have expertise in
 444 areas related to the rehabilitation of individuals who have
 445 brain or spinal cord injuries.

446 (2) Members of the council specified in paragraphs (1) (a) -
 447 (e) shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of
 448 Representatives. Members of the council specified in paragraph
 449 (1) (f) shall be appointed to serve by the State Surgeon General.
 450 All members' terms shall be staggered terms of ~~for~~ 4 years. An

451 individual may not serve more than two terms. Any council member
452 who is unwilling or unable to properly fulfill the duties of the
453 office shall be succeeded by an individual chosen by the State
454 Surgeon General to serve out the unexpired balance of the
455 replaced council member's term. If the unexpired balance of the
456 replaced council member's term is less than 18 months, ~~then,~~
457 notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, the
458 succeeding council member may be reappointed by the State
459 Surgeon General twice.

460 (3) The council shall meet at least quarterly and may
461 adjourn a meeting only by unanimous consent ~~two times annually.~~

462 Section 6. Paragraph (u) of subsection (2) of section
463 1003.42, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

464 1003.42 Required instruction.—

465 (2) Members of the instructional staff of the public
466 schools, subject to the rules of the State Board of Education
467 and the district school board, shall teach efficiently and
468 faithfully, using the books and materials required that meet the
469 highest standards for professionalism and historical accuracy,
470 following the prescribed courses of study, and employing
471 approved methods of instruction, the following:

472 (u)1. In order to encourage patriotism, the sacrifices
473 that ~~veterans and~~ Medal of Honor recipients have made in serving
474 our country and protecting democratic values worldwide. Such
475 instruction must occur on or before Medal of Honor Day~~7~~

476 ~~Veterans' Day, and Memorial Day.~~ Members of the instructional
477 staff are encouraged to use the assistance of local veterans and
478 Medal of Honor recipients when practicable.

479 2. The history and importance of Veterans' Day and
480 Memorial Day. Such instruction must include two 45-minute
481 lessons that occur on or before the respective holidays.

482
483 The State Board of Education is encouraged to adopt standards
484 and pursue assessment of the requirements of this subsection.
485 Instructional programming that incorporates the values of the
486 recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor and that is
487 offered as part of a social studies, English Language Arts, or
488 other schoolwide character building and veteran awareness
489 initiative meets the requirements of paragraph (u).

490 Section 7. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section
491 288.0001, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

492 288.0001 Economic Development Programs Evaluation.—The
493 Office of Economic and Demographic Research and the Office of
494 Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA)
495 shall develop and present to the Governor, the President of the
496 Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the
497 chairs of the legislative appropriations committees the Economic
498 Development Programs Evaluation.

499 (2) The Office of Economic and Demographic Research and
500 OPPAGA shall provide a detailed analysis of economic development

501 programs as provided in the following schedule:

502 (c) By January 1, 2016, and every 3 years thereafter, an
503 analysis of the following:

504 1. The tax exemption for semiconductor, defense, or space
505 technology sales established under s. 212.08(5)(j).

506 2. The Military Base Protection Program established under
507 s. 288.980.

508 3. The Quick Response Training Program established under
509 s. 288.047.

510 4. The Incumbent Worker Training Program established under
511 s. 445.003.

512 5. The direct-support organization and international trade
513 and business development programs established or funded under s.
514 288.012 or s. 288.826.

515 6. The program established under s. 295.22(3) ~~s.~~
516 ~~295.22(2)~~.

517 Section 8. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment
518 made by this act to section 379.353, Florida Statutes, in a
519 reference thereto, paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section
520 379.3581, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

521 379.3581 Hunter safety course; requirements; penalty.—

522 (2)

523 (b) A person born on or after June 1, 1975, who has not
524 successfully completed a hunter safety course may apply to the
525 commission for a special authorization to hunt under

526 supervision. The special authorization for supervised hunting
527 shall be designated on any license or permit required under this
528 chapter for a person to take game or fur-bearing animals. A
529 person issued a license with a special authorization to hunt
530 under supervision must hunt under the supervision of, and in the
531 presence of, a person 21 years of age or older who is licensed
532 to hunt pursuant to s. 379.354 or who is exempt from licensing
533 requirements or eligible for a free license pursuant to s.
534 379.353.

535 Section 9. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment
536 made by this act to section 379.353, Florida Statutes, in
537 references thereto, paragraph (b) of subsection (2) and
538 paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 379.401, Florida
539 Statutes, are reenacted to read:

540 379.401 Penalties and violations; civil penalties for
541 noncriminal infractions; criminal penalties; suspension and
542 forfeiture of licenses and permits.—

543 (2) LEVEL TWO VIOLATIONS.—

544 (b)1. A person who commits a Level Two violation but who
545 has not been convicted of a Level Two or higher violation within
546 the past 3 years commits a misdemeanor of the second degree,
547 punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

548 2. Unless the stricter penalties in subparagraph 3. or
549 subparagraph 4. apply, a person who commits a Level Two
550 violation within 3 years after a previous conviction for a Level

551 Two or higher violation commits a misdemeanor of the first
552 degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, with
553 a minimum mandatory fine of \$250.

554 3. Unless the stricter penalties in subparagraph 4. apply,
555 a person who commits a Level Two violation within 5 years after
556 two previous convictions for a Level Two or higher violation,
557 commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as
558 provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, with a minimum mandatory
559 fine of \$500 and a suspension of any recreational license or
560 permit issued under s. 379.354 for 1 year. Such suspension shall
561 include the suspension of the privilege to obtain such license
562 or permit and the suspension of the ability to exercise any
563 privilege granted under any exemption in s. 379.353.

564 4. A person who commits a Level Two violation within 10
565 years after three previous convictions for a Level Two or higher
566 violation commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable
567 as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, with a minimum
568 mandatory fine of \$750 and a suspension of any recreational
569 license or permit issued under s. 379.354 for 3 years. Such
570 suspension shall include the suspension of the privilege to
571 obtain such license or permit and the suspension of the ability
572 to exercise any privilege granted under s. 379.353. If the
573 recreational license or permit being suspended was an annual
574 license or permit, any privileges under ss. 379.353 and 379.354
575 may not be acquired for a 3-year period following the date of

576 | the violation.

577 | (3) LEVEL THREE VIOLATIONS.—

578 | (b)1. A person who commits a Level Three violation but who
579 | has not been convicted of a Level Three or higher violation
580 | within the past 10 years commits a misdemeanor of the first
581 | degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

582 | 2. A person who commits a Level Three violation within 10
583 | years after a previous conviction for a Level Three or higher
584 | violation commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable
585 | as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, with a minimum
586 | mandatory fine of \$750 and a suspension of any recreational
587 | license or permit issued under s. 379.354 for the remainder of
588 | the period for which the license or permit was issued up to 3
589 | years. Such suspension shall include the suspension of the
590 | privilege to obtain such license or permit and the ability to
591 | exercise any privilege granted under s. 379.353. If the
592 | recreational license or permit being suspended was an annual
593 | license or permit, any privileges under ss. 379.353 and 379.354
594 | may not be acquired for a 3-year period following the date of
595 | the violation.

596 | 3. A person who commits a violation of s. 379.354(17)
597 | shall receive a mandatory fine of \$1,000. Any privileges under
598 | ss. 379.353 and 379.354 may not be acquired for a 5-year period
599 | following the date of the violation.

600 | Section 10. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.