**By** the Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security; and Senator Collins

	583-02616-24 20241666c1
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

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30	collaborate with specified state agencies and other
31	entities for specified purposes; conforming provisions
32	to changes made by the act; making technical changes;
33	creating s. 295.25, F.S.; prohibiting the Department
34	of State from charging veterans who reside in this
35	state fees for the filing of specified documents;
36	amending s. 379.353, F.S.; providing free hunting,
37	freshwater fishing, and saltwater fishing licenses to
38	certain disabled veterans; providing that specified
39	licenses issued to such veterans expire periodically
40	and must be reissued upon request after such time
41	period; amending s. 381.78, F.S.; revising the
42	membership, appointment, and meetings of the advisory
43	council on brain and spinal cord injuries; amending s.
44	1003.42, F.S.; requiring instruction on the history
45	and importance of Veterans' Day and Memorial Day;
46	requiring that certain instruction consist of two 45-
47	minute lessons that must occur within a certain
48	timeframe; amending s. 288.0001, F.S.; conforming a
49	cross-reference; reenacting ss. 379.3581(2)(b) and
50	379.401(2)(b) and (3)(b), F.S., relating to special
51	authorization hunting licenses and the suspension and
52	forfeiture of licenses and permits, respectively, to
53	incorporate the amendment made to s. 379.353, F.S., in
54	references thereto; providing an effective date.
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56	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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58	Section 1. Subsection (2), paragraph (a) of subsection (3),
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583-02616-24 20241666c1 59 and paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section 295.21, Florida 60 Statutes, are amended to read: 61 295.21 Florida Is For Veterans, Inc.-62 (2) PURPOSE.-The purpose of the corporation is to serve as 63 the state's initial point of military transition assistance 64 dedicated to promoting promote Florida as a veteran-friendly 65 state helping that seeks to provide veterans and their spouses 66 with employment opportunities and promoting that promotes the 67 hiring of veterans and their spouses by the business community. 68 The corporation shall encourage retired and recently separated 69 military personnel to remain in this the state or to make this 70 the state their permanent residence. The corporation shall 71 promote the value of military skill sets to businesses in this 72 the state, assist in tailoring the training of veterans and 73 their spouses to match the needs of the employment marketplace, 74 and enhance the entrepreneurial skills of veterans and their 75 spouses. 76 (3) DUTIES. - The corporation shall: 77 (a) Conduct marketing, awareness, and outreach activities 78 directed toward its target market. As used in this section, the 79 term "target market" means those members, and their spouses, of 80 the United States Armed Forces with 24 months or less until 81 discharge, veterans with 36 months or less since discharge, and 82 members of the Florida National Guard or reserves research to 83 identify the target market and the educational and employment needs of those in the target market. The corporation shall 84 85 contract with at least one entity pursuant to the competitive 86 bidding requirements in s. 287.057 and the provisions of s. 87 295.187 to perform the research. Such entity must have

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583-02616-2420241666c188experience conducting market research on the veteran89demographic. The corporation shall seek input from the Florida90Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation on the scope, process,91and focus of such research.

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(4) GOVERNANCE.-

93 (a) The corporation shall be governed by a nine-member 94 board of directors. The Governor, the President of the Senate, 95 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall each appoint three members to the board. In making appointments, the 96 97 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the 98 House of Representatives must consider representation by active 99 or retired military personnel and their spouses, representing a 100 range of ages and persons with expertise in business, education, marketing, and information management. The President of the 101 102 Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives may each 103 appoint only one member from the body over which he or she 104 presides.

105 Section 2. Section 295.22, Florida Statutes, is amended to 106 read:

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295.22 Veterans Employment and Training Services Program.-

108 (1) LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND INTENT.-The Legislature finds 109 that the state has a compelling interest in ensuring that each 110 veteran or his or her spouse who is a resident of this the state 111 finds employment that meets his or her professional goals and 112 receives the training or education necessary to meet those 113 goals. The Legislature also finds that connecting dedicated, well-trained veterans with businesses that need a dedicated, 114 115 well-trained workforce is of paramount importance. The 116 Legislature recognizes that veterans or their spouses may not

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117	currently have the skills to meet the workforce needs of Florida
118	employers and may require assistance in obtaining additional
119	workforce training or in transitioning their skills to meet the
120	demands of the marketplace. It is the intent of the Legislature
121	that the Veterans Employment and Training Services Program
122	coordinate and meet the needs of veterans and their spouses and
123	the business community to enhance the economy of this state.
124	(2) DEFINITIONSFor the purposes of this section, the
125	term:
126	(a) "Secondary industry business" is a business that the
127	state has an additional interest in supporting and for which
128	veterans and their spouses may have directly transferrable
129	skills. These businesses are in the fields of health care,
130	agriculture, commercial construction, education, law
131	enforcement, and public service.
132	(b) "Servicemember" has the same meaning as in 250.01.
133	(c) "Spouse" means a person who is married to a veteran, or
134	an unremarried surviving spouse of a veteran.
135	(d) "Target industry business" is a business as defined in
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	<u>s. 288.005.</u>
137	<u>s. 288.005.</u> (e) "Target market" has the same meaning as in s.
137	(e) "Target market" has the same meaning as in s.
137 138	(e) "Target market" has the same meaning as in s. 295.21(3)(a).
137 138 139	(e) "Target market" has the same meaning as in s. 295.21(3)(a). (f) "Veteran" means, irrespective of discharge status, a
137 138 139 140	(e) "Target market" has the same meaning as in s. 295.21(3)(a). (f) "Veteran" means, irrespective of discharge status, a person who otherwise meets the definition of veteran in s.
137 138 139 140 141	(e) "Target market" has the same meaning as in s. 295.21(3)(a). (f) "Veteran" means, irrespective of discharge status, a person who otherwise meets the definition of veteran in s. 1.01(14) or who is a servicemember.
137 138 139 140 141 142	<pre>(e) "Target market" has the same meaning as in s. 295.21(3)(a). (f) "Veteran" means, irrespective of discharge status, a person who otherwise meets the definition of veteran in s. 1.01(14) or who is a servicemember. (3) CREATION.—The Veterans Employment and Training Services</pre>

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583-02616-24 20241666c1 146 trained workers and with opportunities for entrepreneurship 147 education, training, and resources. The purpose of the program 148 is to meet the workforce demands of businesses in this the state 149 by facilitating access to training and education in high-demand 150 fields for veterans or their spouses and to inspire the growth 151 and development of veteran-owned small businesses. 152 (4) (3) ADMINISTRATION.-Florida Is For Veterans, Inc., shall 153 administer the Veterans Employment and Training Services Program 154 and perform all of the following functions: (a) Conduct marketing and recruiting efforts directed at 155 156 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 target industry or secondary industry business. Such efforts may 160 161 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

Assessment may include skill match information, skill
 gap analysis, résumé creation, translation of military skills
 into civilian workforce skills, and translation of military

applying for and achieving gainful employment.

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583-02616-24 20241666c1 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

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 information about all available resources on one website that, 192 193 if possible, includes a hyperlink to each resource's website and 194 contact information, if available.

in the military under s. 1004.096.

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

(c) Assist Florida <u>target industry and secondary industry</u>
businesses in recruiting and hiring veterans and veterans'
spouses. The corporation shall provide services to Florida
businesses to meet their hiring needs by connecting businesses
with suitable veteran applicants for employment. Suitable
applicants include veterans or veterans' spouses who have

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583-02616-24 20241666c1 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 criteria for approval of requests for funding, and maximize the 212 213 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 <del>If</del> grant funds to be <del>are</del> used 218 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.  $\ensuremath{\mathtt{a}}$ 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 given to target industry businesses, as defined in s. 288.005, 228 229 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

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per veteran trainee. Qualified businesses must cover the entire

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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 the
245	instructional program, instructional program description, and
246	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

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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 the
278	commitment of resources, including financial resources, to such
279	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 <u>this</u> <del>the</del> 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,

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583-02616-24 20241666c1 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 certification 302 for the SkillBridge initiative program or any other similar 303 workforce training and transition programs established by the 304 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, internships, or fellowships; and 314 315 4. Match eligible veterans transitioning servicemembers who 316 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

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320employment in this state upon completion of their SkillBridge training.321(g) Assist veterans and their spouses in accessing training, education, and employment in health care professions.324(h) Coordinate with the Office of Veteran Licensure Services within the Department of Health to assist veterans and their spouses in obtaining licensure pursuant to s. 456.024.327(5) COLLABORATION.—The corporation may assist state agencies and entities with recruiting veteran talent into their workforce. The corporation is encouraged to, and may collaborate with state agencies and other entities in efforts to, maximize access to and provide information on one website that, if possible, includes hyperlinks to the websites of and contact information, if available, for state agencies and other entities that maintain benefits, services, training, education, and other resources that are available to veterans and their spouses.336(a) Outreach, information exchange, marketing, and treferrals between agencies, entities, and the corporation regarding programs and initiatives that may be conducted include, but are not limited to, the Veterans Employment and training Services Program and those within any of the following: 1. The Department of Commerce: a. Access to benefits and assistance programs.344b. Hope Navigators Program. 2. The Department of Commerce: a. The Disabled Veteran Outreach Program and Local Veteran345b. GareerSource Florida, Inc., and local workforce boards		
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<ul> <li>workforce. The corporation is encouraged to, and may collaborate</li> <li>with state agencies and other entities in efforts to, maximize</li> <li>access to and provide information on one website that, if</li> <li>possible, includes hyperlinks to the websites of and contact</li> <li>information, if available, for state agencies and other entities</li> <li>that maintain benefits, services, training, education, and other</li> <li>resources that are available to veterans and their spouses.</li> <li>(a) Outreach, information exchange, marketing, and</li> <li>referrals between agencies, entities, and the corporation</li> <li>regarding programs and initiatives that may be conducted</li> <li>include, but are not limited to, the Veterans Employment and</li> <li>Training Services Program and those within any of the following:</li> <li>1. The Department of Veterans' Affairs:</li> <li>a. Access to benefits and assistance programs.</li> <li>b. Hope Navigators Program.</li> <li>2. The Department of Commerce:</li> <li>a. The Disabled Veteran Outreach Program and Local Veteran</li> <li>Employment Representatives.</li> <li>b. CareerSource Florida, Inc., and local workforce boards</li> </ul>	327	(5) COLLABORATIONThe corporation may assist state
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331access to and provide information on one website that, if332possible, includes hyperlinks to the websites of and contact333information, if available, for state agencies and other entities334that maintain benefits, services, training, education, and other335resources that are available to veterans and their spouses.336(a) Outreach, information exchange, marketing, and337referrals between agencies, entities, and the corporation38regarding programs and initiatives that may be conducted39include, but are not limited to, the Veterans Employment and340Training Services Program and those within any of the following:3411. The Department of Veterans' Affairs:342a. Access to benefits and assistance programs.343b. Hope Navigators Program.3442. The Department of Commerce:345a. The Disabled Veteran Outreach Program and Local Veteran346Employment Representatives.347b. CareerSource Florida, Inc., and local workforce boards	329	workforce. The corporation is encouraged to, and may collaborate
<ul> <li>possible, includes hyperlinks to the websites of and contact</li> <li>information, if available, for state agencies and other entities</li> <li>that maintain benefits, services, training, education, and other</li> <li>resources that are available to veterans and their spouses.</li> <li>(a) Outreach, information exchange, marketing, and</li> <li>referrals between agencies, entities, and the corporation</li> <li>regarding programs and initiatives that may be conducted</li> <li>include, but are not limited to, the Veterans Employment and</li> <li>Training Services Program and those within any of the following:</li> <li>1. The Department of Veterans' Affairs:</li> <li>a. Access to benefits and assistance programs.</li> <li>b. Hope Navigators Program.</li> <li>2. The Department of Commerce:</li> <li>a. The Disabled Veteran Outreach Program and Local Veteran</li> <li>Employment Representatives.</li> <li>b. CareerSource Florida, Inc., and local workforce boards</li> </ul>	330	with state agencies and other entities in efforts to, maximize
<ul> <li>information, if available, for state agencies and other entities</li> <li>information, if available, for state agencies and other entities</li> <li>that maintain benefits, services, training, education, and other</li> <li>resources that are available to veterans and their spouses.         <ul> <li>(a) Outreach, information exchange, marketing, and</li> <li>referrals between agencies, entities, and the corporation</li> <li>regarding programs and initiatives that may be conducted</li> <li>include, but are not limited to, the Veterans Employment and</li> <li>Training Services Program and those within any of the following:</li> <li>1. The Department of Veterans' Affairs:</li> <li>a. Access to benefits and assistance programs.</li> <li>b. Hope Navigators Program.</li> <li>2. The Department of Commerce:</li> <li>a. The Disabled Veteran Outreach Program and Local Veteran</li> <li>Employment Representatives.</li> <li>b. CareerSource Florida, Inc., and local workforce boards</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	331	access to and provide information on one website that, if
<ul> <li>that maintain benefits, services, training, education, and other</li> <li>resources that are available to veterans and their spouses.</li> <li>(a) Outreach, information exchange, marketing, and</li> <li>referrals between agencies, entities, and the corporation</li> <li>regarding programs and initiatives that may be conducted</li> <li>include, but are not limited to, the Veterans Employment and</li> <li>Training Services Program and those within any of the following:</li> <li>1. The Department of Veterans' Affairs:</li> <li>a. Access to benefits and assistance programs.</li> <li>b. Hope Navigators Program.</li> <li>2. The Department of Commerce:</li> <li>a. The Disabled Veteran Outreach Program and Local Veteran</li> <li>Employment Representatives.</li> <li>b. CareerSource Florida, Inc., and local workforce boards</li> </ul>	332	possible, includes hyperlinks to the websites of and contact
335resources that are available to veterans and their spouses.336(a) Outreach, information exchange, marketing, and337referrals between agencies, entities, and the corporation338regarding programs and initiatives that may be conducted339include, but are not limited to, the Veterans Employment and340Training Services Program and those within any of the following:3411. The Department of Veterans' Affairs:342a. Access to benefits and assistance programs.343b. Hope Navigators Program.3442. The Department of Commerce:345a. The Disabled Veteran Outreach Program and Local Veteran346Employment Representatives.347b. CareerSource Florida, Inc., and local workforce boards	333	information, if available, for state agencies and other entities
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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 <u>1. The Department of Veterans' Affairs:</u> 342 <u>a. Access to benefits and assistance programs.</u> 343 <u>b. Hope Navigators Program.</u> 344 <u>2. The Department of Commerce:</u> 345 <u>a. The Disabled Veteran Outreach Program and Local Veteran</u> 346 <u>Employment Representatives.</u> 347 <u>b. CareerSource Florida, Inc., and local workforce boards</u>	335	resources that are available to veterans and their spouses.
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	336	(a) Outreach, information exchange, marketing, and
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340Training Services Program and those within any of the following:3411. The Department of Veterans' Affairs:342a. Access to benefits and assistance programs.343b. Hope Navigators Program.3442. The Department of Commerce:345a. The Disabled Veteran Outreach Program and Local Veteran346Employment Representatives.347b. CareerSource Florida, Inc., and local workforce boards	338	regarding programs and initiatives that may be conducted
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<ul> <li>342</li> <li>a. Access to benefits and assistance programs.</li> <li>343</li> <li>b. Hope Navigators Program.</li> <li>344</li> <li>2. The Department of Commerce: <ul> <li>a. The Disabled Veteran Outreach Program and Local Veteran</li> </ul> </li> <li>346 Employment Representatives. <ul> <li>b. CareerSource Florida, Inc., and local workforce boards</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	340	Training Services Program and those within any of the following:
<ul> <li>343</li> <li>343</li> <li>344</li> <li>344</li> <li>2. The Department of Commerce: <ul> <li>a. The Disabled Veteran Outreach Program and Local Veteran</li> </ul> </li> <li>345</li> <li>346 Employment Representatives. <ul> <li>b. CareerSource Florida, Inc., and local workforce boards</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	341	1. The Department of Veterans' Affairs:
<ul> <li>344</li> <li>2. The Department of Commerce:         <ul> <li>a. The Disabled Veteran Outreach Program and Local Veteran</li> <li>346</li> <li><u>Employment Representatives.</u></li> <li>b. CareerSource Florida, Inc., and local workforce boards</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	342	a. Access to benefits and assistance programs.
345a. The Disabled Veteran Outreach Program and Local Veteran346Employment Representatives.347b. CareerSource Florida, Inc., and local workforce boards	343	b. Hope Navigators Program.
346 <u>Employment Representatives.</u> 347 <u>b. CareerSource Florida, Inc., and local workforce boards</u>	344	2. The Department of Commerce:
347 <u>b. CareerSource Florida, Inc., and local workforce boards</u>	345	a. The Disabled Veteran Outreach Program and Local Veteran
	346	Employment Representatives.
348 employment and recruitment services.	347	b. CareerSource Florida, Inc., and local workforce boards
	348	employment and recruitment services.

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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 the
365	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	<u>Council, as necessary.</u>
370	Section 3. Section 295.25, Florida Statutes, is created to
371	read:
372	295.25 Veterans exempt from certain filing feesThe
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.

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583-02616-24 20241666c1 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 401 Administration, upon proof of such certification or

401 Administration, upon proof of <u>such certification of</u> 402 <u>determination</u> 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

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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. Any license issued under this
413	paragraph after July 1, 2024, expires after 5 years and must be
414	reissued, upon request, every 5 years thereafter.
415	
416	A disability license issued after July 1, 1997, and before July
417	1, 2000, retains the rights vested thereunder until the license
418	has expired.
419	Section 5. Subsections (1), (2), and (3) of section 381.78,
420	Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
421	381.78 Advisory council on brain and spinal cord injuries
422	(1) There is created within the department a 16-member
423	advisory council on brain and spinal cord injuries. The council
424	shall be composed of a minimum of <u>:</u>
425	<u>(a) Two</u> <del>four</del> individuals who have brain injuries or are
426	family members of individuals who have brain injuries, with one
427	individual appointed by the President of the Senate and the
428	other individual appointed by the Speaker of the House of
429	Representatives., a minimum of four
430	(b) Two individuals who have spinal cord injuries or are
431	family members of individuals who have spinal cord injuries $_{{\color{red} {\prime}}}$
432	with one individual appointed by the President of the Senate and
433	the other individual appointed by the Speaker of the House of
434	Representatives., and a minimum of
435	(c) Two individuals who represent the special needs of

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583-02616-24 20241666c1 436 children who have brain or spinal cord injuries, with one individual appointed by the President of the Senate and the 437 438 other individual appointed by the Speaker of the House of 439 Representatives. 440 (d) Two individuals who have, or who are family members of 441 individuals who have or had, a traumatic brain injury, chronic 442 traumatic encephalopathy, or subconcussive impacts due to 443 sports, with one individual appointed the President of the 444 Senate and the other individual appointed by the Speaker of the 445 House of Representatives. 446 (e) Two veterans as defined in s. 1.01(14) who have or have 447 had a traumatic brain injury, chronic traumatic encephalopathy, 448 or subconcussive impacts due to military service, or family 449 members of such veterans, with one veteran or family member 450 appointed by the President of the Senate and the other veteran 451 or family member appointed by the Speaker of the House of 452 Representatives. 453 (f) Six individuals, appointed by the State Surgeon 454 General, who are The balance of the council members shall be 455 physicians, other allied health professionals, administrators of 456 brain and spinal cord injury programs, or and representatives 457 from support groups who that have expertise in areas related to 458 the rehabilitation of individuals who have brain or spinal cord 459 injuries.

460 (2) Members of the council shall be appointed to serve by
461 the State Surgeon General. All members' terms shall be staggered
462 terms of for 4 years. An individual may not serve more than two
463 terms. Any council member who is unwilling or unable to properly
464 fulfill the duties of the office shall be succeeded by an

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465	individual chosen by the State Surgeon General to serve out the
466	unexpired balance of the replaced council member's term. If the
467	unexpired balance of the replaced council member's term is less
468	than 18 months, <del>then,</del> notwithstanding the provisions of this
469	subsection, the succeeding council member may be reappointed by
470	the State Surgeon General twice.
471	(3) The council shall meet at least <u>quarterly and may</u>
472	adjourn a meeting only by unanimous consent two times annually.
473	Section 6. Paragraph (u) of subsection (2) of section
474	1003.42, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
475	1003.42 Required instruction
476	(2) Members of the instructional staff of the public
477	schools, subject to the rules of the State Board of Education
478	and the district school board, shall teach efficiently and
479	faithfully, using the books and materials required that meet the
480	highest standards for professionalism and historical accuracy,
481	following the prescribed courses of study, and employing
482	approved methods of instruction, the following:
483	(u) $\underline{1.}$ In order to encourage patriotism, the sacrifices that
484	<del>veterans and</del> Medal of Honor recipients have made in serving our
485	country and protecting democratic values worldwide. Such
486	instruction must occur on or before Medal of Honor Day $_{oldsymbol{ au}}$
487	Veterans' Day, and Memorial Day. Members of the instructional
488	staff are encouraged to use the assistance of local veterans and
489	Medal of Honor recipients when practicable.
490	2. The history and importance of Veterans' Day and Memorial
491	Day. Such instruction must include two 45-minute lessons that
492	occur on or before the respective holidays.
493	

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494	The State Board of Education is encouraged to adopt standards
495	and pursue assessment of the requirements of this subsection.
496	Instructional programming that incorporates the values of the
497	recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor and that is
498	offered as part of a social studies, English Language Arts, or
499	other schoolwide character building and veteran awareness
500	initiative meets the requirements of paragraph (u).
501	Section 7. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section
502	288.0001, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
503	288.0001 Economic Development Programs EvaluationThe
504	Office of Economic and Demographic Research and the Office of
505	Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA)
506	shall develop and present to the Governor, the President of the
507	Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the
508	chairs of the legislative appropriations committees the Economic
509	Development Programs Evaluation.
510	(2) The Office of Economic and Demographic Research and
511	OPPAGA shall provide a detailed analysis of economic development
512	programs as provided in the following schedule:
513	(c) By January 1, 2016, and every 3 years thereafter, an
514	analysis of the following:
515	1. The tax exemption for semiconductor, defense, or space
516	technology sales established under s. 212.08(5)(j).
517	2. The Military Base Protection Program established under
518	s. 288.980.
519	3. The Quick Response Training Program established under s.
520	288.047.
521	4. The Incumbent Worker Training Program established under
522	s. 445.003.

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523	5. The direct-support organization and international trade
524	and business development programs established or funded under s.
525	288.012 or s. 288.826.
526	6. The program established under <u>s. 295.22(3)</u> <del>s. 295.22(2)</del> .
527	Section 8. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment
528	made by this act to section 379.353, Florida Statutes, in a
529	reference thereto, paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section
530	379.3581, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:
531	379.3581 Hunter safety course; requirements; penalty
532	(2)
533	(b) A person born on or after June 1, 1975, who has not
534	successfully completed a hunter safety course may apply to the
535	commission for a special authorization to hunt under
536	supervision. The special authorization for supervised hunting
537	shall be designated on any license or permit required under this
538	chapter for a person to take game or fur-bearing animals. A
539	person issued a license with a special authorization to hunt
540	under supervision must hunt under the supervision of, and in the
541	presence of, a person 21 years of age or older who is licensed
542	to hunt pursuant to s. 379.354 or who is exempt from licensing
543	requirements or eligible for a free license pursuant to s.
544	379.353.
545	Section 9. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment
546	made by this act to section 379.353, Florida Statutes, in
547	references thereto, paragraph (b) of subsection (2) and
548	paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 379.401, Florida
549	Statutes, are reenacted to read:
550	379 401 Penalties and violations, civil penalties for

550 379.401 Penalties and violations; civil penalties for 551 noncriminal infractions; criminal penalties; suspension and

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583-02616-24 20241666c1 552 forfeiture of licenses and permits.-553 (2) LEVEL TWO VIOLATIONS.-554 (b)1. A person who commits a Level Two violation but who 555 has not been convicted of a Level Two or higher violation within 556 the past 3 years commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, 557 punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. 558 2. Unless the stricter penalties in subparagraph 3. or 559 subparagraph 4. apply, a person who commits a Level Two 560 violation within 3 years after a previous conviction for a Level 561 Two or higher violation commits a misdemeanor of the first 562 degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, with 563 a minimum mandatory fine of \$250. 564 3. Unless the stricter penalties in subparagraph 4. apply, 565 a person who commits a Level Two violation within 5 years after two previous convictions for a Level Two or higher violation, 566 567 commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as 568 provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, with a minimum mandatory 569 fine of \$500 and a suspension of any recreational license or 570 permit issued under s. 379.354 for 1 year. Such suspension shall 571 include the suspension of the privilege to obtain such license 572 or permit and the suspension of the ability to exercise any 573 privilege granted under any exemption in s. 379.353. 574 4. A person who commits a Level Two violation within 10 575 years after three previous convictions for a Level Two or higher 576 violation commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable

577 as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, with a minimum 578 mandatory fine of \$750 and a suspension of any recreational 579 license or permit issued under s. 379.354 for 3 years. Such 580 suspension shall include the suspension of the privilege to

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583-02616-24 20241666c1 581 obtain such license or permit and the suspension of the ability 582 to exercise any privilege granted under s. 379.353. If the 583 recreational license or permit being suspended was an annual 584 license or permit, any privileges under ss. 379.353 and 379.354 585 may not be acquired for a 3-year period following the date of 586 the violation. 587 (3) LEVEL THREE VIOLATIONS.-588 (b)1. A person who commits a Level Three violation but who 589 has not been convicted of a Level Three or higher violation 590 within the past 10 years commits a misdemeanor of the first 591 degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. 592 2. A person who commits a Level Three violation within 10 593 years after a previous conviction for a Level Three or higher 594 violation commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, with a minimum 595 596 mandatory fine of \$750 and a suspension of any recreational 597 license or permit issued under s. 379.354 for the remainder of 598 the period for which the license or permit was issued up to 3 599 years. Such suspension shall include the suspension of the 600 privilege to obtain such license or permit and the ability to 601 exercise any privilege granted under s. 379.353. If the 602 recreational license or permit being suspended was an annual 603 license or permit, any privileges under ss. 379.353 and 379.354 604 may not be acquired for a 3-year period following the date of the violation. 605 606 3. A person who commits a violation of s. 379.354(17) shall 607 receive a mandatory fine of \$1,000. Any privileges under ss.

# 608 379.353 and 379.354 may not be acquired for a 5-year period 609 following the date of the violation.

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610
          Section 10. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.
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