

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

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1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to veterans; creating s. 265.8021,  
3       F.S.; defining the term "veteran"; creating the  
4       Florida Veterans' History Program within the Division  
5       of Arts and Culture of the Department of State as a  
6       Florida Folklife Program; providing the program's  
7       purpose; authorizing the division to request  
8       assistance from the Department of Veterans' Affairs;  
9       requiring the division's folklorists to seek out and  
10      identify certain veterans; authorizing the division or  
11      a folklorist to interview such veterans or invite them  
12      to submit written or electronic accounts of their  
13      experiences; authorizing the division to contract with  
14      a third-party vendor for a specified purpose;  
15      authorizing the division to adopt rules; amending s.  
16      295.21, F.S.; revising the purpose of Florida Is For  
17      Veterans, Inc.; revising the duties of the corporation  
18      to require that it conduct specified activities  
19      directed toward its target market; defining the term  
20      "target market"; deleting obsolete language; providing  
21      that the President of the Senate and the Speaker of  
22      the House of Representatives shall each appoint one  
23      member from his or her chamber to serve ex officio,  
24      nonvoting on the corporation's board of directors;  
25      making technical changes; amending s. 295.22, F.S.;  
26      defining terms; revising the purpose of the Veterans  
27      Employment and Training Services Program; revising the  
28      functions that Florida Is For Veterans, Inc., must  
29      perform in administering a specified program;

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30 authorizing the program to prioritize grant funds;  
31 revising the uses of specified grant funds;  
32 authorizing a business to receive certain other grant  
33 funds in addition to specified grant funds;  
34 authorizing the use of grant funds to provide for a  
35 specified educational stipend; requiring the  
36 corporation and the University of Florida to enter  
37 into a grant agreement before certain funds are  
38 expended; requiring the corporation to determine the  
39 amount of the stipend; providing that specified  
40 training must occur for a specified duration;  
41 authorizing the corporation to provide certain  
42 assistance to state agencies and entities, to provide  
43 a website that has relevant hyperlinks, and to  
44 collaborate with specified state agencies and other  
45 entities for specified purposes; conforming provisions  
46 to changes made by the act; making technical changes;  
47 creating s. 295.25, F.S.; prohibiting the Department  
48 of State from charging veterans who reside in this  
49 state fees for the filing of specified documents;  
50 amending s. 379.353, F.S.; providing free hunting,  
51 freshwater fishing, and saltwater fishing licenses to  
52 certain disabled veterans; providing that specified  
53 licenses issued to such veterans expire periodically  
54 and must be reissued upon request after such time  
55 period; amending s. 381.78, F.S.; revising the  
56 membership, appointment, and meetings of the advisory  
57 council on brain and spinal cord injuries; amending s.  
58 1003.42, F.S.; requiring instruction on the history

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59 and importance of Veterans' Day and Memorial Day;  
60 requiring that certain instruction consist of two 45-  
61 minute lessons that must occur within a certain  
62 timeframe; amending s. 288.0001, F.S.; conforming a  
63 cross-reference; reenacting ss. 379.3581(2)(b) and  
64 379.401(2)(b) and (3)(b), F.S., relating to special  
65 authorization hunting licenses and the suspension and  
66 forfeiture of licenses and permits, respectively, to  
67 incorporate the amendment made to s. 379.353, F.S., in  
68 references thereto; providing appropriations and  
69 authorizing a position; providing an effective date.

70  
71 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

72  
73 Section 1. Section 265.8021, Florida Statutes, is created  
74 to read:

75 265.8021 Florida Veterans' History Program.—

76 (1) As used in this section, the term "veteran" has the  
77 same meaning as in s. 1.01(14).

78 (2) There is created the Florida Veterans' History Program  
79 within the Division of Arts and Culture of the Department of  
80 State as a Florida Folklife Program to collect and preserve the  
81 stories and experiences of Florida's veterans and the State of  
82 Florida's military contributions throughout the nation's  
83 history. The division may request assistance with the program  
84 from the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

85 (3) In order to collect and preserve the stories and  
86 experiences of Florida's veterans and the State of Florida's  
87 military contributions throughout the nation's history, the

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88 division's folklorists shall seek out and identify those  
89 veterans who are willing to share their experiences. The  
90 division or a folklorist may interview veterans or invite  
91 veterans to submit written or electronic accounts of their  
92 experiences for inclusion in the program.

93 (4) As provided in s. 265.802, the division may contract  
94 with a third-party vendor to fulfill its responsibilities under  
95 subsection (3).

96 (5) The division may adopt rules to implement the program.

97 Section 2. Subsection (2), paragraph (a) of subsection (3),  
98 and paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section 295.21, Florida  
99 Statutes, are amended to read:

100 295.21 Florida Is For Veterans, Inc.—

101 (2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the corporation is to serve as  
102 the state's initial point of military transition assistance  
103 dedicated to promoting ~~promote~~ Florida as a veteran-friendly  
104 state helping that seeks to provide veterans and their spouses  
105 with employment opportunities and promoting that promotes the  
106 hiring of veterans and their spouses by the business community.  
107 The corporation shall encourage retired and recently separated  
108 military personnel to remain in this the state or to make this  
109 ~~the~~ state their permanent residence. The corporation shall  
110 promote the value of military skill sets to businesses in this  
111 ~~the~~ state, assist in tailoring the training of veterans and  
112 their spouses to match the needs of the employment marketplace,  
113 and enhance the entrepreneurial skills of veterans and their  
114 spouses.

115 (3) DUTIES.—The corporation shall:

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

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117 directed toward its target market. As used in this section, the  
118 term "target market" means those members, and their spouses, of  
119 the United States Armed Forces with 24 months or less until  
120 discharge, veterans with 36 months or less since discharge, and  
121 members of the Florida National Guard or reserves ~~research to~~  
122 ~~identify the target market and the educational and employment~~  
123 ~~needs of those in the target market. The corporation shall~~  
124 ~~contract with at least one entity pursuant to the competitive~~  
125 ~~bidding requirements in s. 287.057 and the provisions of s.~~  
126 ~~295.187 to perform the research. Such entity must have~~  
127 ~~experience conducting market research on the veteran~~  
128 ~~demographic. The corporation shall seek input from the Florida~~  
129 ~~Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation on the scope, process,~~  
130 ~~and focus of such research.~~

131 (4) GOVERNANCE.—

132 (a) The corporation shall be governed by a nine-member  
133 board of directors. The Governor, the President of the Senate,  
134 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall each  
135 appoint three members to the board. In making appointments, the  
136 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the  
137 House of Representatives must consider representation by active  
138 or retired military personnel and their spouses, representing a  
139 range of ages and persons with expertise in business, education,  
140 marketing, and information management. Additionally, the  
141 President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of  
142 Representatives shall each appoint one member from the body over  
143 which he or she presides to serve on the board as ex officio,  
144 nonvoting members.

145 Section 3. Section 295.22, Florida Statutes, is amended to

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146 read:

147 295.22 Veterans Employment and Training Services Program.—

148 (1) LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND INTENT.—The Legislature finds  
149 that the state has a compelling interest in ensuring that each  
150 veteran or his or her spouse who is a resident of this ~~the~~ state  
151 finds employment that meets his or her professional goals and  
152 receives the training or education necessary to meet those  
153 goals. The Legislature also finds that connecting dedicated,  
154 well-trained veterans with businesses that need a dedicated,  
155 well-trained workforce is of paramount importance. The  
156 Legislature recognizes that veterans or their spouses may not  
157 currently have the skills to meet the workforce needs of Florida  
158 employers and may require assistance in obtaining additional  
159 workforce training or in transitioning their skills to meet the  
160 demands of the marketplace. It is the intent of the Legislature  
161 that the Veterans Employment and Training Services Program  
162 coordinate and meet the needs of veterans and their spouses and  
163 the business community to enhance the economy of this state.

164 (2) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of this section, the  
165 term:

166 (a) “Secondary industry business” is a business that the  
167 state has an additional interest in supporting and for which  
168 veterans and their spouses may have directly transferrable  
169 skills. These businesses are in the fields of health care,  
170 agriculture, commercial construction, education, law  
171 enforcement, and public service.

172 (b) “Servicemember” has the same meaning as in 250.01.

173 (c) “Spouse” means a person who is married to a veteran, or  
174 an unremarried surviving spouse of a veteran.

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175 (d) "Target industry business" is a business as defined in  
176 s. 288.005.

177 (e) "Target market" has the same meaning as in s.  
178 295.21(3)(a).

179 (f) "Veteran" means, irrespective of discharge status, a  
180 person who otherwise meets the definition of veteran in s.  
181 1.01(14) or who is a servicemember.

182 (3) CREATION.—The Veterans Employment and Training Services  
183 Program is created within the Department of Veterans' Affairs to  
184 assist in ~~connecting~~ linking veterans or their spouses ~~in search~~  
185 ~~of employment~~ with businesses seeking to hire dedicated, well-  
186 trained workers and with opportunities for entrepreneurship  
187 education, training, and resources. The purpose of the program  
188 is to meet the workforce demands of businesses in this ~~the~~ state  
189 by facilitating access to training and education in high-demand  
190 fields for veterans or their spouses and to inspire the growth  
191 and development of veteran-owned small businesses.

192 (4) ~~(3)~~ ADMINISTRATION.—Florida Is For Veterans, Inc., shall  
193 administer the Veterans Employment and Training Services Program  
194 and perform all of the following functions:

195 (a) Conduct marketing and recruiting efforts directed at  
196 veterans or their spouses within the target market who reside in  
197 or ~~who~~ have an interest in relocating to this state and who are  
198 seeking employment. Marketing must include information related  
199 to how a veteran's military experience can be valuable to a  
200 target industry or secondary industry business. Such efforts may  
201 include attending veteran job fairs and events, hosting events  
202 for veterans and their spouses or the business community, and  
203 using digital and social media and direct mail campaigns. The

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204 corporation shall also include such marketing as part of its  
205 main marketing campaign.

206 (b) Assist veterans or their spouses who reside in or  
207 relocate to this state and who are seeking employment with  
208 target industry or secondary industry businesses. The  
209 corporation shall offer skills assessments to veterans or their  
210 spouses and assist them in establishing employment goals and  
211 applying for and achieving gainful employment.

212 1. Assessment may include skill match information, skill  
213 gap analysis, résumé creation, translation of military skills  
214 into civilian workforce skills, and translation of military  
215 achievements and experience into generally understood civilian  
216 workforce skills.

217 2. Assistance may include providing the veteran or his or  
218 her spouse with information on current workforce demand by  
219 industry or geographic region, creating employment goals, and  
220 aiding or teaching general knowledge related to completing  
221 applications. ~~The corporation may provide information related to~~  
222 ~~industry certifications approved by the Department of Education~~  
223 ~~under s. 1008.44 as well as information related to earning~~  
224 ~~academic college credit at public postsecondary educational~~  
225 ~~institutions for college-level training and education acquired~~  
226 ~~in the military under s. 1004.096.~~

227 3. ~~The corporation shall encourage veterans or their~~  
228 ~~spouses to register with the state's job bank system and may~~  
229 ~~refer veterans to local one-stop career centers for further~~  
230 ~~services. The corporation shall provide each veteran with~~  
231 ~~information about state workforce programs and shall consolidate~~  
232 ~~information about all available resources on one website that,~~



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233 ~~if possible, includes a hyperlink to each resource's website and~~  
234 ~~contact information, if available.~~

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

238 (c) Assist Florida target industry and secondary industry  
239 businesses in recruiting and hiring veterans and veterans'  
240 spouses. The corporation shall provide services to Florida  
241 businesses to meet their hiring needs by connecting businesses  
242 with suitable veteran applicants for employment. Suitable  
243 applicants include veterans or veterans' spouses who have  
244 appropriate job skills or may need additional training to meet  
245 the specific needs of a business. The corporation shall also  
246 provide information about the state and federal benefits of  
247 hiring veterans.

248 (d) Create a grant program to provide funding to assist  
249 veterans in meeting the workforce-skill needs of target industry  
250 and secondary industry businesses seeking to hire, promote, or  
251 generally improve specialized skills of veterans, establish  
252 criteria for approval of requests for funding, and maximize the  
253 use of funding for this program. Grant funds may be used only in  
254 the absence of available veteran-specific federally funded  
255 programs. Grants may fund specialized training specific to a  
256 particular business.

257 1. The program may prioritize ~~If~~ grant funds to be ~~are~~ used  
258 to provide a ~~technical~~ certificate, a license ~~licensure~~, or  
259 nondegree training from the Master Credentials List pursuant to  
260 s. 445.004(4) (h); any federally created certifications or  
261 licenses; and any skills-based industry certifications or

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262 licenses deemed relevant or necessary by the corporation. a  
263 ~~degree,~~ Funds may be allocated only upon a review that includes,  
264 but is not limited to, documentation of accreditation and  
265 licensure. ~~Instruction funded through the program terminates~~  
266 ~~when participants demonstrate competence at the level specified~~  
267 ~~in the request but may not exceed 12 months. Preference shall be~~  
268 ~~given to target industry businesses, as defined in s. 288.005,~~  
269 ~~and to businesses in the defense supply, cloud virtualization,~~  
270 ~~health care, or commercial aviation manufacturing industries.~~

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

- 277 a. Tuition and fees.  
278 b. Books and classroom materials.  
279 c. Rental fees for facilities.

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

284 a. Identification of the personnel necessary to conduct the  
285 instructional program, instructional program description, and  
286 any vendors used to conduct the instructional program.

287 b. Identification of the estimated duration of the  
288 instructional program.

289 c. Identification of all direct, training-related costs.

290 d. Identification of special program requirements that are

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291 not otherwise addressed in the agreement.

292 e. Permission to access aggregate information specific to  
293 the wages and performance of participants upon the completion of  
294 instruction for evaluation purposes. The agreement must specify  
295 that any evaluation published subsequent to the instruction may  
296 not identify the employer or any individual participant.

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

300 5. A portion of grant funds, as determined by the  
301 corporation, may be used for veterans who are not active members  
302 of the United States Armed Forces for educational stipends while  
303 training at any location of the University of Florida's  
304 Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences within this state.  
305 The corporation and the University of Florida shall enter into a  
306 grant agreement before funds are expended. The corporation must  
307 determine the amount of the stipend. The training for any  
308 individual may not be less than 4 months and not more than 6  
309 months.

310 (e) Contract with one or more entities to administer an  
311 entrepreneur initiative program for veterans in this state which  
312 connects business leaders in the state with veterans seeking to  
313 become entrepreneurs.

314 1. The corporation shall award each contract in accordance  
315 with the competitive bidding requirements in s. 287.057 to one  
316 or more public or private entities that:

317 a. Demonstrate the ability to implement the program and the  
318 commitment of resources, including financial resources, to such  
319 programs.

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320 b. Have a demonstrated experience working with veteran  
321 entrepreneurs.

322 c. As determined by the corporation, have been recognized  
323 for their performance in assisting entrepreneurs to launch  
324 successful businesses in this ~~the~~ state.

325 2. Each contract must include performance metrics,  
326 including a focus on employment and business creation. The  
327 entity may also work with a university or college offering  
328 related programs to refer veterans or to provide services. The  
329 entrepreneur initiative program may include activities and  
330 assistance such as peer-to-peer learning sessions, mentoring,  
331 technical assistance, business roundtables, networking  
332 opportunities, support of student organizations, speaker series,  
333 or other tools within a virtual environment.

334 (f) Administer a ~~As the state's principal assistance~~  
335 ~~organization under the United States Department of Defense's~~  
336 SkillBridge initiative program for target industry and secondary  
337 industry ~~qualified~~ businesses in this state and for eligible  
338 veterans ~~transitioning servicemembers~~ who reside in, or who wish  
339 to reside in, this state. In administering the initiative, the  
340 corporation shall:

341 1. Establish and maintain, as applicable, its certification  
342 for the SkillBridge initiative program or any other similar  
343 workforce training and transition programs established by the  
344 United States Department of Defense;

345 2. Educate businesses, business associations, and eligible  
346 veterans ~~transitioning servicemembers~~ on the SkillBridge  
347 initiative program and its benefits, and educate military  
348 command and personnel within the state on the opportunities

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349 available to eligible veterans ~~transitioning servicemembers~~  
350 ~~through the SkillBridge program;~~

351 3. Assist businesses in obtaining approval for skilled  
352 workforce training curricula under the SkillBridge initiative  
353 ~~program~~, including, but not limited to, apprenticeships,  
354 internships, or fellowships; and

355 4. Match eligible veterans ~~transitioning servicemembers who~~  
356 ~~are deemed eligible for SkillBridge participation by their~~  
357 ~~military command~~ with training opportunities offered by the  
358 corporation or participating businesses, with the intent of  
359 having them ~~transitioning servicemembers~~ achieve gainful  
360 employment in this state upon completion of their SkillBridge  
361 training.

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

364 ~~(h) Coordinate with the Office of Veteran Licensure~~  
365 ~~Services within the Department of Health to assist veterans and~~  
366 ~~their spouses in obtaining licensure pursuant to s. 456.024.~~

367 (5) COLLABORATION.—The corporation may assist state  
368 agencies and entities with recruiting veteran talent into their  
369 workforce. The corporation is encouraged to, and may collaborate  
370 with state agencies and other entities in efforts to, maximize  
371 access to and provide information on one website that, if  
372 possible, includes hyperlinks to the websites of and contact  
373 information, if available, for state agencies and other entities  
374 that maintain benefits, services, training, education, and other  
375 resources that are available to veterans and their spouses.

376 (a) Outreach, information exchange, marketing, and  
377 referrals between agencies, entities, and the corporation

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378 regarding programs and initiatives that may be conducted  
379 include, but are not limited to, the Veterans Employment and  
380 Training Services Program and those within any of the following:

381 1. The Department of Veterans' Affairs:  
382 a. Access to benefits and assistance programs.  
383 b. Hope Navigators Program.

384 2. The Department of Commerce:  
385 a. The Disabled Veteran Outreach Program and Local Veteran  
386 Employment Representatives.  
387 b. CareerSource Florida, Inc., and local workforce boards  
388 employment and recruitment services.  
389 c. The Quick-Response Training Program.  
390 d. The direct support organization established in s.  
391 288.012(6).

392 3. The Department of Business and Professional Regulation,  
393 reciprocity and the availability of certain license and fee  
394 waivers.

395 4. The Department of Education:  
396 a. CAPE industry certifications under s. 1008.44.  
397 b. Information related to earning postsecondary credit at  
398 public postsecondary educational institutions for college-level  
399 training and education acquired in the military under s.  
400 1004.096.

401 5. The Department of Health:  
402 a. The Office of Veteran Licensure Services.  
403 b. The Florida Veterans Application for Licensure Online  
404 Response expedited licensing.

405 (b) The corporation may coordinate and collaborate with the  
406 Office of Reimagining Education and Career Help, the State

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407 University System, the Florida College System, the Florida  
408 Defense Support Task Force, the Florida Small Business  
409 Development Center Network, and the Florida Talent Development  
410 Council, as necessary.

411 Section 4. Section 295.25, Florida Statutes, is created to  
412 read:

413 295.25 Veterans exempt from certain filing fees.—The  
414 Department of State may not charge veterans who reside in this  
415 state the applicable fees for filing articles of organization,  
416 articles of incorporation, a certificate of limited partnership,  
417 or a partnership registration statement, or for the designation  
418 of a registered agent, if applicable, as provided in s.  
419 605.0213, s. 607.0122, s. 617.0122, s. 620.1109, or s.  
420 620.81055.

421 Section 5. Subsection (1) of section 379.353, Florida  
422 Statutes, is amended to read:

423 379.353 Recreational licenses and permits; exemptions from  
424 fees and requirements.—

425 (1) The commission shall issue without fee hunting,  
426 freshwater fishing, and saltwater fishing licenses and permits  
427 ~~shall be issued without fee~~ to any resident who is certified or  
428 determined to be:

429 (a) ~~To be~~ Totally and permanently disabled for purposes of  
430 workers' compensation under chapter 440 as verified by an order  
431 of a judge of compensation claims or written confirmation by the  
432 carrier providing workers' compensation benefits, or to be  
433 totally and permanently disabled by the Railroad Retirement  
434 Board, by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or  
435 its predecessor, or by any branch of the United States Armed

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436 Forces, or who holds a valid identification card issued under  
437 ~~the provisions of s. 295.17, upon proof of such certification or~~  
438 ~~determination same.~~ Any license issued under this paragraph  
439 after January 1, 1997, expires after 5 years and must be  
440 reissued, upon request, every 5 years thereafter.

441 (b) ~~To be~~ Disabled by the United States Social Security  
442 Administration, upon proof of such certification or  
443 ~~determination same.~~ Any license issued under this paragraph  
444 after October 1, 1999, expires after 2 years and must be  
445 reissued, upon proof of certification of disability, every 2  
446 years thereafter.

447 (c) A disabled veteran of the United States Armed Forces  
448 who was honorably discharged upon separation from service and  
449 who is certified by the United States Department of Veterans  
450 Affairs or its predecessor or by any branch of the United States  
451 Armed Forces as having a service-connected disability percentage  
452 rating of 50 percent or greater, upon proof of such  
453 certification or determination. Any license issued under this  
454 paragraph after July 1, 2024, expires after 5 years and must be  
455 reissued, upon request, every 5 years thereafter.

456  
457 A disability license issued after July 1, 1997, and before July  
458 1, 2000, retains the rights vested thereunder until the license  
459 has expired.

460 Section 6. Subsections (1), (2), and (3) of section 381.78,  
461 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

462 381.78 Advisory council on brain and spinal cord injuries.-

463 (1) There is created within the department a 16-member  
464 advisory council on brain and spinal cord injuries. The council



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465 shall be composed of a minimum of:

466 (a) Two ~~four~~ individuals who have brain injuries or are  
467 family members of individuals who have brain injuries, with one  
468 individual appointed by the President of the Senate and the  
469 other individual appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
470 Representatives. ~~, a minimum of four~~

471 (b) Two individuals who have spinal cord injuries or are  
472 family members of individuals who have spinal cord injuries,  
473 with one individual appointed by the President of the Senate and  
474 the other individual appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
475 Representatives. ~~, and a minimum of~~

476 (c) Two individuals who represent the special needs of  
477 children who have brain or spinal cord injuries, with one  
478 individual appointed by the President of the Senate and the  
479 other individual appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
480 Representatives.

481 (d) Two individuals who have, or who are family members of  
482 individuals who have or had, a traumatic brain injury, chronic  
483 traumatic encephalopathy, or subconcussive impacts due to  
484 sports, with one individual appointed the President of the  
485 Senate and the other individual appointed by the Speaker of the  
486 House of Representatives.

487 (e) Two veterans as defined in s. 1.01(14) who have or have  
488 had a traumatic brain injury, chronic traumatic encephalopathy,  
489 or subconcussive impacts due to military service, or family  
490 members of such veterans, with one veteran or family member  
491 appointed by the President of the Senate and the other veteran  
492 or family member appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
493 Representatives.

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494 (f) Six individuals, appointed by the State Surgeon  
495 General, who are ~~The balance of the council members shall be~~  
496 physicians, other allied health professionals, administrators of  
497 brain and spinal cord injury programs, or ~~and~~ representatives  
498 from support groups who ~~that~~ have expertise in areas related to  
499 the rehabilitation of individuals who have brain or spinal cord  
500 injuries.

501 ~~(2) Members of the council shall be appointed to serve by~~  
502 ~~the State Surgeon General.~~ All members' terms shall be staggered  
503 terms of ~~for~~ 4 years. An individual may not serve more than two  
504 terms. Any council member who is unwilling or unable to properly  
505 fulfill the duties of the office shall be succeeded by an  
506 individual chosen by the State Surgeon General to serve out the  
507 unexpired balance of the replaced council member's term. If the  
508 unexpired balance of the replaced council member's term is less  
509 than 18 months, ~~then,~~ notwithstanding the provisions of this  
510 subsection, the succeeding council member may be reappointed by  
511 the State Surgeon General twice.

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

514 Section 7. Paragraph (u) of subsection (2) of section  
515 1003.42, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

516 1003.42 Required instruction.—

517 (2) Members of the instructional staff of the public  
518 schools, subject to the rules of the State Board of Education  
519 and the district school board, shall teach efficiently and  
520 faithfully, using the books and materials required that meet the  
521 highest standards for professionalism and historical accuracy,  
522 following the prescribed courses of study, and employing

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523 approved methods of instruction, the following:

524 (u)1. In order to encourage patriotism, the sacrifices that  
525 ~~veterans and~~ Medal of Honor recipients have made in serving our  
526 country and protecting democratic values worldwide. Such  
527 instruction must occur on or before Medal of Honor Day~~7~~  
528 ~~Veterans' Day, and Memorial Day.~~ Members of the instructional  
529 staff are encouraged to use the assistance of local veterans and  
530 Medal of Honor recipients when practicable.

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

534

535 The State Board of Education is encouraged to adopt standards  
536 and pursue assessment of the requirements of this subsection.  
537 Instructional programming that incorporates the values of the  
538 recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor and that is  
539 offered as part of a social studies, English Language Arts, or  
540 other schoolwide character building and veteran awareness  
541 initiative meets the requirements of paragraph (u).

542 Section 8. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section  
543 288.0001, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

544 288.0001 Economic Development Programs Evaluation.—The  
545 Office of Economic and Demographic Research and the Office of  
546 Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA)  
547 shall develop and present to the Governor, the President of the  
548 Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the  
549 chairs of the legislative appropriations committees the Economic  
550 Development Programs Evaluation.

551 (2) The Office of Economic and Demographic Research and

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552 OPPAGA shall provide a detailed analysis of economic development  
553 programs as provided in the following schedule:

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

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

558 2. The Military Base Protection Program established under  
559 s. 288.980.

560 3. The Quick Response Training Program established under s.  
561 288.047.

562 4. The Incumbent Worker Training Program established under  
563 s. 445.003.

564 5. The direct-support organization and international trade  
565 and business development programs established or funded under s.  
566 288.012 or s. 288.826.

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

568 Section 9. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment  
569 made by this act to section 379.353, Florida Statutes, in a  
570 reference thereto, paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section  
571 379.3581, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

572 379.3581 Hunter safety course; requirements; penalty.-

573 (2)

574 (b) A person born on or after June 1, 1975, who has not  
575 successfully completed a hunter safety course may apply to the  
576 commission for a special authorization to hunt under  
577 supervision. The special authorization for supervised hunting  
578 shall be designated on any license or permit required under this  
579 chapter for a person to take game or fur-bearing animals. A  
580 person issued a license with a special authorization to hunt

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581 under supervision must hunt under the supervision of, and in the  
582 presence of, a person 21 years of age or older who is licensed  
583 to hunt pursuant to s. 379.354 or who is exempt from licensing  
584 requirements or eligible for a free license pursuant to s.  
585 379.353.

586 Section 10. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment  
587 made by this act to section 379.353, Florida Statutes, in  
588 references thereto, paragraph (b) of subsection (2) and  
589 paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 379.401, Florida  
590 Statutes, are reenacted to read:

591 379.401 Penalties and violations; civil penalties for  
592 noncriminal infractions; criminal penalties; suspension and  
593 forfeiture of licenses and permits.—

594 (2) LEVEL TWO VIOLATIONS.—

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

599 2. Unless the stricter penalties in subparagraph 3. or  
600 subparagraph 4. apply, a person who commits a Level Two  
601 violation within 3 years after a previous conviction for a Level  
602 Two or higher violation commits a misdemeanor of the first  
603 degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, with  
604 a minimum mandatory fine of \$250.

605 3. Unless the stricter penalties in subparagraph 4. apply,  
606 a person who commits a Level Two violation within 5 years after  
607 two previous convictions for a Level Two or higher violation,  
608 commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as  
609 provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, with a minimum mandatory

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610 fine of \$500 and a suspension of any recreational license or  
611 permit issued under s. 379.354 for 1 year. Such suspension shall  
612 include the suspension of the privilege to obtain such license  
613 or permit and the suspension of the ability to exercise any  
614 privilege granted under any exemption in s. 379.353.

615 4. A person who commits a Level Two violation within 10  
616 years after three previous convictions for a Level Two or higher  
617 violation commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable  
618 as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, with a minimum  
619 mandatory fine of \$750 and a suspension of any recreational  
620 license or permit issued under s. 379.354 for 3 years. Such  
621 suspension shall include the suspension of the privilege to  
622 obtain such license or permit and the suspension of the ability  
623 to exercise any privilege granted under s. 379.353. If the  
624 recreational license or permit being suspended was an annual  
625 license or permit, any privileges under ss. 379.353 and 379.354  
626 may not be acquired for a 3-year period following the date of  
627 the violation.

628 (3) LEVEL THREE VIOLATIONS.—

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

633 2. A person who commits a Level Three violation within 10  
634 years after a previous conviction for a Level Three or higher  
635 violation commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable  
636 as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, with a minimum  
637 mandatory fine of \$750 and a suspension of any recreational  
638 license or permit issued under s. 379.354 for the remainder of

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639 the period for which the license or permit was issued up to 3  
640 years. Such suspension shall include the suspension of the  
641 privilege to obtain such license or permit and the ability to  
642 exercise any privilege granted under s. 379.353. If the  
643 recreational license or permit being suspended was an annual  
644 license or permit, any privileges under ss. 379.353 and 379.354  
645 may not be acquired for a 3-year period following the date of  
646 the violation.

647 3. A person who commits a violation of s. 379.354(17) shall  
648 receive a mandatory fine of \$1,000. Any privileges under ss.  
649 379.353 and 379.354 may not be acquired for a 5-year period  
650 following the date of the violation.

651 Section 11. For the 2024-2025 fiscal year, the sum of  
652 \$91,207 in recurring funds from the General Revenue Fund is  
653 appropriated to the Division of Arts and Culture of the  
654 Department of State, and one full-time equivalent position with  
655 associated salary rate of 68,771 is authorized, to implement and  
656 administer the Florida Veterans' History Program as created by  
657 this act.

658 Section 12. For the 2024-2025 fiscal year, the sum of  
659 \$528,514 in nonrecurring funds is appropriated from the General  
660 Revenue Fund to the University of Florida for the purpose of  
661 conducting a longitudinal study on the efficacy of ketamine in  
662 treating depression in the veteran population of this state.

663 Section 13. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.