

By Senator Ingoglia

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to combatting illegal immigration;
3 amending s. 20.60, F.S.; establishing the Office of
4 Secure Florida within the Department of Commerce;
5 providing duties and responsibilities of the office;
6 providing an appropriation; providing for
7 severability; providing an effective date.

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

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11 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section
12 20.60, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

13 20.60 Department of Commerce; creation; powers and duties.-

14 (3) (a) The following divisions and offices of the
15 Department of Commerce are established:

- 16 1. The Division of Economic Development.
17 2. The Division of Community Development.
18 3. The Division of Workforce Services.
19 4. The Division of Finance and Administration.
20 5. The Division of Information Technology.
21 6. The Office of the Secretary.
22 7. The Office of Economic Accountability and Transparency,

23 which shall:

24 a. Oversee the department's critical objectives as
25 determined by the secretary and make sure that the department's
26 key objectives are clearly communicated to the public.

27 b. Organize department resources, expertise, data, and
28 research to focus on and solve the complex economic challenges
29 facing the state.

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30 c. Provide leadership for the department's priority issues
31 that require integration of policy, management, and critical
32 objectives from multiple programs and organizations internal and
33 external to the department; and organize and manage external
34 communication on such priority issues.

35 d. Promote and facilitate key department initiatives to
36 address priority economic issues and explore data and identify
37 opportunities for innovative approaches to address such economic
38 issues.

39 e. Promote strategic planning for the department.

40 8. The Office of Secure Florida, which shall be responsible
41 for administering and enforcing:

42 a. E-Verify and employment authorization compliance as set
43 forth in ss. 448.09 and 448.095.

44 b. The purchase and registration of real property in the
45 State of Florida by foreign principals as set forth in ss.
46 692.203 and 692.204.

47 Section 2. For the 2024-2025 fiscal year, the sum of
48 \$1,725,423 in recurring funds is appropriated from the General
49 Revenue Fund to the Department of Commerce, and 10 full-time
50 equivalent positions with the associated salary rate of 800,000
51 are authorized for the purpose of implementing this act. From
52 these funds, \$1.1 million is appropriated in the Salaries and
53 Benefits appropriation category, \$465,423 in the expense
54 category, and \$150,000 in contracted services. The funds must be
55 used for the department's duties in enforcing the provisions of
56 ss. 448.09, 448.095, 692.203, and 692.204, Florida Statutes.

57 Section 3. If any provision of this act or its application
58 to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity

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59 does not affect other provisions or applications of this act
60 which can be given effect without the invalid provision or
61 application, and to this end the provisions of this act are
62 severable.

63 Section 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.