

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
 14 duties.—

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

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

24 which shall:

- 25 a. Oversee the department's critical objectives as

26 | determined by the secretary and make sure that the department's
27 | key objectives are clearly communicated to the public.

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

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

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

40 | e. Promote strategic planning for the department.

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

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

45 | b. The purchase and registration of real property in the
46 | State of Florida by foreign principals as set forth in ss.
47 | 692.203 and 692.204.

48 | **Section 2.** For the 2024-2025 fiscal year, the sum of
49 | \$1,725,423 in recurring funds is appropriated from the General
50 | Revenue Fund to the Department of Commerce, and 10 full-time

51 equivalent positions with the associated salary rate of 800,000
52 are authorized for the purpose of implementing this act. From
53 these funds, \$1.1 million is appropriated in the Salaries and
54 Benefits appropriation category, \$465,423 in the expense
55 category, and \$150,000 in contracted services. The funds must be
56 used for the department's duties in enforcing the provisions of
57 ss. 448.09, 448.095, 692.203, and 692.204, Florida Statutes.

58 **Section 3.** If any provision of this act or its application
59 to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity
60 does not affect other provisions or applications of this act
61 which can be given effect without the invalid provision or
62 application, and to this end the provisions of this act are
63 severable.

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