

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Bill No. HB 483 (2026)

Amendment No.

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION

ADOPTED	<u>      </u> (Y/N)
ADOPTED AS AMENDED	<u>      </u> (Y/N)
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION	<u>      </u> (Y/N)
FAILED TO ADOPT	<u>      </u> (Y/N)
WITHDRAWN	<u>      </u> (Y/N)
OTHER	<u>      </u>

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1 Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Housing, Agriculture &  
2 Tourism Subcommittee

3 Representative Cobb offered the following:

4

5 **Amendment (with title amendment)**

6 Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:

7 **Section 1. Paragraph (m) is added to subsection (4) of**  
8 **section 20.60, Florida Statutes, to read:**

9 20.60 Department of Commerce; creation; powers and  
10 duties.—

11 (4) The purpose of the department is to assist the  
12 Governor in working with the Legislature, state agencies,  
13 business leaders, and economic development professionals to  
14 formulate and implement coherent and consistent policies and  
15 strategies designed to promote economic opportunities for all  
16 Floridians. The department is the state's chief agency for

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17 business recruitment and expansion and economic development. To  
18 accomplish such purposes, the department shall:

19 (m) Encourage and oversee manufacturing in this state in  
20 coordination with the Chief Manufacturing Officer.

21 **Section 2. Section 20.602, Florida Statutes, is created to**  
22 **read:**

23 20.602 Chief Manufacturing Officer.—

24 (1) There is designated among the senior leadership of the  
25 Department of Commerce a Chief Manufacturing Officer for the  
26 purpose of supporting the manufacturing ecosystem statewide. The  
27 Chief Manufacturing Officer is appointed by and serves at the  
28 pleasure of the Secretary of Commerce.

29 (2) The Chief Manufacturing Officer shall do all of the  
30 following:

31 (a) Serve as a subject-matter expert for the state on  
32 issues related to manufacturing.

33 (b) Promote and coordinate manufacturing efforts in this  
34 state and identify gaps across state-supported activities.

35 (c) Provide strategic direction for interagency and cross-  
36 disciplinary initiatives to promote and support manufacturing in  
37 this state.

38 (d) Work with federal, state, regional, and local  
39 governmental entities and nongovernmental entities to align  
40 manufacturing priorities.

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41        (e) Engage with state agencies and water management  
42        districts to create processes, programs, decision frameworks,  
43        and reporting mechanisms intended to support manufacturing in  
44        this state.

45        (f) Collaborate with the Department of Education, school  
46        districts, charter schools, technical colleges, state colleges,  
47        and regional workforce development boards to promote  
48        manufacturing as a career path. Such collaboration must include  
49        all of the following:

50        1. Supporting curriculum development and career awareness  
51        initiatives in elementary and middle schools, including  
52        classroom resources, career fairs, and outreach activities  
53        designed to inspire interest in manufacturing.

54        2. Establishing technology demonstration centers, work-  
55        based learning opportunities, and exposure to manufacturing  
56        careers through partnerships with guidance counselors and  
57        recognized career exploration programs.

58        3. Preserving and expanding manufacturing programs in high  
59        schools, promoting dual enrollment and industry certifications,  
60        and ensuring that course selection and grade point average  
61        weighting policies encourage students to pursue, rather than  
62        discourage them from pursuing, manufacturing tracks.

63        4. Supporting regional manufacturing training centers to  
64        provide multiple entry points for careers in manufacturing,

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65 including awareness initiatives for underrepresented populations  
66 and individuals reentering the workforce.

67 5. Reenergizing the marketing and promotion of  
68 manufacturing careers in coordination with the Florida  
69 Manufacturing Promotional Campaign created in s. 288.1031.

70 (3) All state and local governmental entities shall assist  
71 the Chief Manufacturing Officer to the extent such assistance is  
72 consistent with law and with budgetary constraints.

73 (4) The Chief Manufacturing Officer shall prepare a  
74 report, in consultation with the National Institute of Standards  
75 and Technology Manufacturing Extension Partnership organization  
76 in this state, regarding manufacturing efforts in this state.

77 The department shall submit the report to the Governor, the  
78 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of  
79 Representatives by December 15, 2027, and every 2 years  
80 thereafter. The report must include information regarding the  
81 strength and economic importance of the manufacturing industry  
82 in this state.

83 **Section 3. Section 288.103, Florida Statutes, is created**  
84 **to read:**

85 288.103 Florida Manufacturers' Workforce Development Grant  
86 Program.—

87 (1) The Florida Manufacturers' Workforce Development Grant  
88 Program is created within the Department of Commerce, under the  
89 direction of the Chief Manufacturing Officer in consultation

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90 with the National Institute of Standards and Technology  
91 Manufacturing Extension Partnership organization in this state,  
92 to fund proposed projects, subject to appropriation by the  
93 Legislature, which support small manufacturers in this state  
94 with the deployment of new technologies or cybersecurity  
95 infrastructure and to strengthen the manufacturing workforce  
96 pipeline from elementary education through postsecondary  
97 training and workforce reentry.

98 (2) The department, in coordination with the National  
99 Institute of Standards and Technology Manufacturing Extension  
100 Partnership organization in this state, shall review submitted  
101 applications and select projects for awards which create  
102 strategic investments in workforce training and education  
103 partnerships to facilitate the deployment of new technologies or  
104 cybersecurity infrastructure and to expand career awareness and  
105 preparation for manufacturing occupations across the K-12,  
106 postsecondary, and workforce training systems. Final grant  
107 awards are made at the sole discretion of the department.

108 (3) The department, in coordination with the National  
109 Institute of Standards and Technology Manufacturing Extension  
110 Partnership organization in this state, shall establish and  
111 publish ranking metrics for reviewing grants and awarding them  
112 to applicants on a competitive basis. Metrics may include the  
113 number of employees, matching funds pledged by the applicant,  
114 and expected benefits from the grant award. Priority must be

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given to projects with innovative plans, advanced technologies, and development strategies that focus on workforce development for small manufacturers across this state and that include one or more of the following:

(a) Establishment or expansion of regional manufacturing training centers.

(b) Partnerships with the Department of Education, school districts, charter schools, technical colleges, and state colleges to support manufacturing curricula, dual enrollment, and industry certification programs.

(c) Development of elementary and middle school career awareness programs, including technology demonstration centers and guidance counselor resources.

(d) Outreach and training programs targeting underrepresented populations, including reentry populations.

(e) Marketing and promotion of manufacturing careers consistent with s. 288.1031.

(4) Applicants may seek funding for workforce development and operations; however, grant funding awarded under this section may not be used to pay salary and benefits or general business or office expenses. Grants awarded under the program shall be administered by the department from the Economic Development Trust Fund established in s. 288.095.

(5) The department shall annually publish on the department's website each project awarded a grant, the benefit

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140 of each project in meeting the goals and objectives of the  
141 program, and the current status of each project. The department  
142 shall include such information in the annual incentives report  
143 required under s. 288.0065.

144 (6) The department may adopt rules to implement this  
145 section.

146 **Section 4. Section 288.1031, Florida Statutes, is created**  
147 **to read:**

148 288.1031 Florida Manufacturing Promotional Campaign.—  
149 (1) The Legislature finds that there is a need for a  
150 campaign to increase consumer awareness of manufacturing  
151 activities in this state, to expand market exposure for  
152 manufactured products and goods in this state, and to inspire  
153 future generations of entrepreneurs, fabricators, and skilled  
154 workers to build and grow domestic businesses and manufacturing  
155 operations in this state. The Legislature further finds that a  
156 campaign that creates a partnership between the state and  
157 manufacturers in this state is necessary to promote and  
158 advertise manufactured products efficiently.

159 (2) As used in this section, the term:

160 (a) "Manufactured product" means any tangible personal  
161 property or consumer good, whether a durable or nondurable good,  
162 that has been processed, fabricated, or produced, often through  
163 industrial or mechanical processes. The term includes items sold  
164 or leased to consumers.

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165        (b) "Person" means an individual, a firm, a partnership, a  
166 corporation, an association, a business, a trust, a legal  
167 representative, or any other business unit.

168        (3) The Florida Manufacturing Promotional Campaign is  
169 created within the department. The Chief Manufacturing Officer  
170 shall administer the campaign in coordination with the National  
171 Institute of Standards and Technology Manufacturing Extension  
172 Partnership organization in this state. The purpose of the  
173 campaign is to serve as a voluntary marketing program to promote  
174 manufacturing products and businesses in this state.

175        (4) The department shall do all of the following:

176        (a) Develop logos for the campaign and authorize the use  
177 of such logos by rule.

178        (b) Create promotional materials for the campaign.

179        (c) Register campaign participants.

180        (d) Develop in-kind advertising programs.

181        (e) Contract with media representatives for the purpose of  
182 dispersing promotional materials.

183        (5) A person who produces manufactured products may  
184 participate in the campaign only by registering annually with  
185 the department. The department shall establish by rule the form  
186 and manner of registration.

187        (6) The department shall adopt rules to implement and  
188 administer the campaign. By rule, the department shall establish  
189 the logos or product identifiers to be depicted for use in the

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190 campaign for advertising, publicizing, and promoting the sale of  
191 manufactured products in this state. The department shall also  
192 adopt rules necessary to ensure compliance with the campaign and  
193 to govern participant registration.

194 (7) The department shall annually create a report on the  
195 success of the campaign, including detailed performance measures  
196 and outcomes, sources of in-kind advertising, contracts related  
197 to disbursement of promotional materials, the names of persons  
198 participating in the campaign, and other information for the  
199 campaign. The department shall submit the report as part of the  
200 annual report required in s. 20.602(4).

201 **Section 5.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

202  
203 -----  
204 **T I T L E A M E N D M E N T**

205 Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert:  
206 An act relating to manufacturing; amending s. 20.60,  
207 F.S.; revising the duties of the Department of  
208 Commerce; creating s. 20.602, F.S.; establishing the  
209 Chief Manufacturing Officer among the senior  
210 leadership of the department for a specified purpose;  
211 providing that the Chief Manufacturing Officer is  
212 appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the  
213 Secretary of Commerce; providing the duties of the  
214 Chief Manufacturing Officer; requiring all state and

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215 local governmental entities to assist the Chief  
216 Manufacturing Officer within certain constraints;  
217 requiring the Chief Manufacturing Officer to prepare a  
218 specified report and submit it to the Governor and the  
219 Legislature by a specified date, and every 2 years  
220 thereafter; creating s. 288.103, F.S.; creating the  
221 Florida Manufacturers' Workforce Development Grant  
222 Program within the department; providing that the  
223 grant program is under the direction of the Chief  
224 Manufacturing Officer in consultation with the  
225 National Institute of Standards and Technology  
226 Manufacturing Extension Partnership organization in  
227 this state; providing a purpose for the grant program;  
228 requiring the department, in coordination with the  
229 National Institute of Standards and Technology  
230 Manufacturing Extension Partnership organization in  
231 this state, to review submitted applications and to  
232 select specified projects; providing that the  
233 department has sole discretion in final grant awards;  
234 requiring the department, in coordination with the  
235 National Institute of Standards and Technology  
236 Manufacturing Extension Partnership organization in  
237 this state to establish and publish ranking metrics  
238 for reviewing and awarding grants; providing  
239 guidelines for such metrics; requiring that priority

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240       be given to projects that meet certain criteria;  
241       authorizing applicants to seek funding for a specified  
242       purpose; prohibiting such funding from being used for  
243       certain expenses; requiring the department to  
244       administer the grant awards from the Economic  
245       Development Trust Fund; requiring the department to  
246       annually publish on the department's website the  
247       public of specific information regarding the grant  
248       program; requiring the department to include certain  
249       information in its annual incentives report;  
250       authorizing the department to adopt rules; creating s.  
251       288.1031, F.S.; providing legislative findings;  
252       defining terms; creating the Florida Manufacturing  
253       Promotional Campaign within the department; requiring  
254       the Chief Manufacturing Officer to administer the  
255       campaign in coordination with the National Institute  
256       of Standards and Technology Manufacturing Extension  
257       Partnership organization in this state; providing the  
258       purpose of the campaign; requiring the department to  
259       take certain actions to promote the campaign;  
260       requiring persons who participate in the campaign to  
261       register annually with the department; requiring the  
262       department to establish by rule the form and manner of  
263       registration; requiring the department to adopt rules  
264       to implement and administer the campaign; requiring

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265        the department annually to create a specified report  
266        and submit it to the Governor and the Legislature as  
267        part of its annual report; providing an effective  
268        date.