Journal of the Senate

Number 21—Regular Session **Thursday, March 12, 2026**

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CALL TO ORDER

The Senate was called to order by President Albritton at 1:00 p.m. A quorum present—38:

Mr. President	Gaetz	Passidomo
Arrington	Garcia	Pizzo
Avila	Grall	Polsky
Berman	Gruters	Rodriguez
Bernard	Harrell	Rouson
Boyd	Hooper	Sharief
Bracy Davis	Jones	Simon
Bradley	Leek	Smith
Brodeur	Martin	Truenow
Burgess	Massullo	Trumbull
Burton	Mayfield	Wright
Calatayud	McClain	Yarborough
DiCeglie	Osgood	

PRAYER

The following prayer was offered by Father Lonnie Lacy, St. John's Episcopal Church, Tallahassee:

Almighty God, source of all wisdom, giver of every good gift, look with favor upon the members of this legislature and upon all who bear the responsibility of public service in the great State of Florida. Give them wisdom in their deliberations, discernment in their judgement, and grace toward one another in the work that they share. Where there is frustration, grant charity. Where there is division, reveal common ground. Where the burdens of governence grow heavy, renew their sense of peace and joy for the trust placed in them. Grant them continued vision for the good that is possible and the wisdom and skill to accomplish it. All this we pray in your holy name. Amen.

PLEDGE

Senate Pages, Miles Francis of Orange Park; Elizabeth Shalley of Tallahassee; and Hetart Vyas of Riverview, led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

DOCTOR OF THE DAY

The President recognized Dr. Diane Day of Gainesville, sponsored by Senator McClain, as the doctor of the day. Dr. Day specializes in family medicine.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS

At the request of Senator Burgess—

By Senator Burgess—

SR 1816—A resolution recognizing CyberBay as a designated cybersecurity and artificial intelligence innovation region within the Tampa Bay area, acknowledging Florida's national leadership in cybersecurity readiness and digital defense, and affirming the importance of coordinated public-private partnerships to protect this state's economic and digital security.

WHEREAS, Florida is nationally recognized as a leader in cybersecurity preparedness, resilience, and digital defense, committed to strengthening its ability to protect government, industry, and citizens from evolving cyber threats, and

WHEREAS, the Tampa Bay region is home to one of the nation's most significant concentrations of military, defense, intelligence, and security operations, anchored by MacDill Air Force Base, a cornerstone of United States digital and national defense, and

WHEREAS, this unique concentration of military assets, government institutions, research universities, and private sector technology companies has established Tampa Bay as a nationally recognized center of excellence for cybersecurity, technology innovation, and digital defense, and

WHEREAS, this convergence has given rise to CyberBay, a cybersecurity and artificial intelligence ecosystem centered in the Tampa Bay area and built upon collaboration among the military, government, academia, and the private sector, and

WHEREAS, CyberBay represents a coordinated regional initiative to advance cybersecurity readiness, artificial intelligence innovation, workforce development, and the defense of the United States' digital infrastructure, and

WHEREAS, the University of South Florida serves as a central anchor institution within CyberBay, including through the establishment of the Bellini College of Artificial Intelligence, Cybersecurity and Computing, one of the nation's first colleges dedicated to the integrated study of these disciplines, and

WHEREAS, the Bellini College of Artificial Intelligence, Cybersecurity and Computing plays a critical role in educating and preparing the next generation of cybersecurity and artificial intelligence professionals through degree programs, applied research, industry partnerships, internships, and experiential learning aligned with national and state workforce needs, and

WHEREAS, the University of South Florida has articulated a mission to support cybersecurity readiness across Florida, including the long-term objective of extending cybersecurity services, expertise, and workforce support to municipalities throughout this state, and

WHEREAS, CyberBay is further strengthened through strategic collaboration with Cyber Florida, this state's designated cybersecurity

planning and coordination organization, which advances statewide cyber resilience, workforce development, applied research, and public-private partnerships, and

WHEREAS, CyberBay serves as a convening platform for collaboration and innovation, including through the CyberBay Conference, which brings together leaders from the technology, academic, government, and military sectors to address emerging cyber threats, workforce challenges, and technological advancements, and

WHEREAS, public-private initiatives associated with CyberBay have supported cybersecurity improvements within regional municipalities, including the Cities of Tampa, St. Petersburg, and Clearwater, strengthening cyber readiness at the local level, and

WHEREAS, private individuals have played a catalytic role in establishing and advancing the CyberBay ecosystem, including Lauren and Arnie Bellini, who have contributed and pledged more than $55 million to the University of South Florida to support education, research, workforce development, and the completion of a fully integrated cybersecurity and artificial intelligence ecosystem, and

WHEREAS, such private investment was made with the stated objective of helping create and sustain up to 70,000 high-paying, high-technology jobs in the Tampa Bay region by leveraging Florida's existing strengths in national defense, cybersecurity, and innovation, and

WHEREAS, CyberBay supports Florida's economic competitiveness by attracting high-value employers, retaining talent within this state, strengthening workforce pipelines, and reinforcing this state's leadership in cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, and digital defense, and

WHEREAS, this state has a compelling interest in protecting its digital infrastructure, securing its economic future, and defending against rapidly evolving cyber threats that affect the government, industry, and citizens alike, NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

That the Florida Senate recognizes CyberBay as a cybersecurity and artificial intelligence innovation region within the Tampa Bay area.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature acknowledges Florida's national leadership in cybersecurity preparedness and recognizes CyberBay's role in advancing statewide cybersecurity readiness and digital defense.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature acknowledges the collaborative roles of the University of South Florida, the Bellini College of Artificial Intelligence, Cybersecurity and Computing, Cyber Florida, municipal partners, and private sector stakeholders in advancing workforce development, technological innovation, and cybersecurity resilience.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature affirms the importance of continued public-private collaboration to strengthen Florida's cyber readiness, economic resilience, and leadership in artificial intelligence and cybersecurity.

—was introduced, read, and adopted by publication.

INTRODUCTION OF FORMER SENATOR

Senator Brodeur recognized Jeff Atwater, former Senate President (2008-2010), and Chief Financial Officer (2011-2017), who was present in the chamber.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

At the direction of the President, the Senate proceeded to the recognition of Susan Miller on the occasion of her retirement, honoring her service to the Senate, the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, and the State of Florida.

Senator Brodeur recognized Susan's years of service to the Senate where she started in the 1970s and served until 2010. Susan served as the Executive Assistant to the President for 13 consecutive administrations before following President Atwater to the CFO's Office where she served as a Deputy Chief of Staff and later as Interim CFO.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

At the request of Senator Gaetz, the Senate observed a moment of silence in recognition of Hunter Girdner who was injured in Operation Epic Fury during a drone attack on February 28, 2026. Hunter immediately ran toward another blast to save the life of one of his engineers. Both were seriously injured but thanks to Hunter's heroic actions, both are expected to survive.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SENATOR BRODEUR PRESIDING

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed CS/CS/SB 118, with 1 amendment, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

CS for CS for SB 118—A bill to be entitled An act relating to assessments levied on recreational vehicle parks; amending ss. 125.0168, 166.223, and 189.052, F.S.; prohibiting counties, municipalities, and special districts, respectively, from levying certain special assessments against more than a specified square footage amount per recreational vehicle parking space or campsite; providing applicability; providing an effective date.

House Amendment 1 (652343) (with title amendment)—Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Section 125.0168, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

125.0168 Special assessments levied on recreational vehicle parks regulated under chapter 513.—When a county levies a non-ad valorem special assessment on a recreational vehicle park regulated under chapter 513, the non-ad valorem special assessment *may* ~~shall~~ not be based on the assertion that the recreational vehicle park is comprised of residential units. Instead, recreational vehicle parks regulated under chapter 513 shall be assessed as a commercial entity in the same manner as a hotel, motel, or other similar facility. *The non-ad valorem special assessment may not be levied against the portion of a recreational vehicle parking space or campsite which exceeds the maximum square footage of a recreational vehicle-type unit pursuant to s. 320.01(1)(b), regardless of the size of the recreational vehicle parking space or campsite. A county shall consider the recreational vehicle park's occupancy rates to ensure that any special assessment is fairly and reasonably apportioned among the recreational vehicle parks receiving the special benefit.*

Section 2. Section 166.223, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

166.223 Special assessments levied on recreational vehicle parks regulated under chapter 513.—When a municipality levies a non-ad valorem special assessment on a recreational vehicle park regulated under chapter 513, the non-ad valorem special assessment *may* ~~shall~~ not be based on the assertion that the recreational vehicle park is comprised of residential units. Instead, recreational vehicle parks regulated under chapter 513 shall be assessed as a commercial entity in the same manner as a hotel, motel, or other similar facility. *The non-ad valorem special assessment may not be levied against the portion of a recreational vehicle parking space or campsite which exceeds the maximum square footage of a recreational vehicle-type unit pursuant to s. 320.01(1)(b), regardless of the size of the recreational vehicle parking space or campsite. A municipality shall consider the recreational vehicle park's occupancy rates to ensure that any special assessment is fairly and reasonably apportioned among the recreational vehicle parks receiving the special benefit.*

Section 3. Section 189.052, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

189.052 Assessments levied on facilities regulated under chapter 513.—When an independent or dependent special district levies an assessment on a facility regulated under chapter 513, the assessment *may* ~~shall~~ not be based on the assertion that the facility is comprised of residential units. Instead, facilities regulated under chapter 513 shall be assessed in the same manner as a hotel, motel, or other similar facility. *The assessment may not be levied against the portion of a recreational vehicle parking space or campsite which exceeds the maximum square footage of a recreational vehicle-type unit pursuant to s. 320.01(1)(b), regardless of the size of the recreational vehicle parking space or campsite. A special district shall consider the recreational vehicle park's occupancy rates to ensure that any assessment is fairly and reasonably apportioned among the recreational vehicle parks receiving the special benefit.*

Section 4. *The amendments made by this act to ss. 125.0168, 166.223, and 189.052, Florida Statutes, first apply to the 2026 property tax roll.*

Section 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

And the title is amended as follows:

Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert: A bill to be entitled An act relating to assessments levied on recreational vehicle parks; amending ss. 125.0168, 166.223, and 189.052, F.S.; providing that certain special assessments on recreational vehicle parks levied by counties, municipalities, and special districts, respectively, may not be levied against a certain portion of a recreational vehicle parking space or campsite; requiring counties, municipalities, and special districts, respectively, to consider a recreational vehicle park's occupancy rates for a certain purpose; providing applicability; providing an effective date.

On motion by Senator Truenow, the Senate concurred in **House Amendment 1 (652343)**.

CS for CS for SB 118 passed, as amended, was ordered engrossed and then enrolled. The action of the Senate was certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—38

Mr. President	Gaetz	Passidomo
Arrington	Garcia	Pizzo
Avila	Grall	Polsky
Berman	Gruters	Rodriguez
Bernard	Harrell	Rouson
Boyd	Hooper	Sharief
Bracy Davis	Jones	Simon
Bradley	Leek	Smith
Brodeur	Martin	Truenow
Burgess	Massullo	Trumbull
Burton	Mayfield	Wright
Calatayud	McClain	Yarborough
DiCeglie	Osgood	

Nays—None

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed CS/SB 572, with 1 amendment, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

CS for SB 572—A bill to be entitled An act relating to ethics for public officers and employees; amending s. 112.312, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "relative" to include foster parents and foster children; amending s. 112.3135, F.S.; providing that specified provisions do not prohibit a board, council, commission, or collegial body from appointing, employing, promoting, or advancing elected public officials who are related to a leadership position on the same board, council, commission, or collegial body; reenacting ss. 106.07(4)(a), 106.0702(4)(a), 348.0305, and 1001.421, F.S., relating to a campaign treasurer's reports of campaign contributions; reports of campaign contributions to candidates for a position on a political party executive committee; ethical requirements for officers, employees, and consultants for the Greater Miami Expressway Agency; and gifts to district school board members, respectively, to incorporate the amendment made to s. 112.312, F.S., in references thereto; reenacting ss. 28.35(1)(b), 288.012(6)(d), 288.8014(4), 288.9604(3)(a), 295.21(4)(d), 627.311(5)(m), 1002.33(24), 1002.83(9), and 1012.23(2), F.S., relating to the executive council of the Florida Clerks of Court Operations Corporation; the senior managers and members of the board of directors of the direct-support organization of the State of Florida international offices; members of the board of directors of Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc.; the directors of the Florida Development Finance Corporation; the board of directors of Florida Is For Veterans, Inc.; senior managers and officers of joint underwriters and joint insurers; charter school personnel in schools operated by municipalities or other public entities; members of early learning coalitions; and prohibiting district school superintendents and district school board members from appointing or employing a relative, respectively, to incorporate the amendment made to s. 112.3135, F.S., in references thereto; providing an effective date.

House Amendment 1 (187567)—Remove lines 75-85 and insert:

(c) This subsection does not prohibit the board, council, commission, or collegial body on which an elected public official serves from appointing, employing, promoting, or advancing a relative who is an elected public official serving on the same board, council, commission, or collegial body to a leadership position thereof.

On motion by Senator Harrell, the Senate concurred in **House Amendment 1 (187567)**.

CS for SB 572 passed, as amended, was ordered engrossed and then enrolled. The action of the Senate was certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—38

Mr. President	Gaetz	Passidomo
Arrington	Garcia	Pizzo
Avila	Grall	Polsky
Berman	Gruters	Rodriguez
Bernard	Harrell	Rouson
Boyd	Hooper	Sharief
Bracy Davis	Jones	Simon
Bradley	Leek	Smith
Brodeur	Martin	Truenow
Burgess	Massullo	Trumbull
Burton	Mayfield	Wright
Calatayud	McClain	Yarborough
DiCeglie	Osgood	

Nays—None

BILLS ON THIRD READING

CS for CS for HB 991—A bill to be entitled An act relating to election integrity; amending s. 97.021, F.S.; revising definitions; amending s. 97.022, F.S.; revising the information the Department of State is required to include in a specified report; amending s. 97.051, F.S.; requiring persons to swear or affirm they have reviewed the voter registration instructions, are a United States citizen, and understand the penalties for providing false information; amending s. 97.052, F.S.; requiring the voter registration application to elicit documentation required by the United States Election Assistance Commission or federal law; amending s. 97.0525, F.S.; requiring that an applicant's citizenship status be verified by the records of the Department of Highway Safety

and Motor Vehicles; providing that an applicant will be registered as an unverified voter, and must vote with a provisional ballot that will not be counted if his or her legal status as a United States citizen cannot be verified through the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles; requiring the online voter registration system to transmit certain information to the supervisor of elections and generate certain notices; requiring the supervisor of elections to verify the legal status of certain applicants and provide certain notice; providing that, under specified circumstances, the online voter registration system may populate the applicant's information into a printable voter registration application; amending s. 97.053, F.S.; requiring an applicant's legal status to be verified for a voter registration application to be valid; providing that an applicant will be deemed an unverified voter if his or her application fails to meet specified requirements; requiring an applicant to provide certain evidence to the supervisor of elections to prove the applicant's legal status under specified circumstances; providing for retroactivity; providing certain applicants a provisional ballot and such ballot may only be counted if the applicant can verify his or her legal status within a specified timeframe; amending s. 97.057, F.S.; requiring the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to provide the Department of State documentary proof of an applicant's citizenship; amending s. 98.015, F.S.; authorizing the office of the supervisor of elections to close to observe certain holidays under a specified condition; amending s. 98.045, F.S.; requiring supervisors to make certain determinations relating to applicants who were previously registered to vote, but later removed for ineligibility, and to follow specified procedures to notify the applicant, if applicable; amending s. 98.075, F.S.; requiring the Department of State to verify the United States citizenship status of any registered voter after a specified date; requiring specified notices regarding an applicant's potential ineligibility to vote; requiring certain applicants to submit specified information to the supervisor of elections; requiring certain documentation be recorded in the statewide voter registration system; amending s. 98.093, F.S.; requiring the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to provide the Department of State with information identifying United States citizens who have been issued a new, renewed, or replacement Florida driver license or Florida identification card; requiring the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to provide the Department of State with changes in residence address and Florida driver license or identification card numbers of individuals who have declined to register or update their voter registration; creating s. 98.094, F.S.; requiring the Division of Elections to provide a list of registered voters to federal courts for a specified purpose; requiring the jury coordinator to prepare a specified list with certain information and send such list to the division; specifying the manner in which such list may be sent; requiring the division to provide such information to the appropriate supervisor of elections; amending s. 99.021, F.S.; specifying that a person seeking to qualify for office as a candidate must be a registered member of a political party, or registered without any party affiliation, for 365 consecutive days preceding the beginning of the qualifying before an election; authorizing qualified candidates or certain political parties to challenge compliance with specified provisions by filing an action for declaratory and injunctive relief in a specified circuit court; prohibiting a person from being qualified as a candidate for nomination or election and appearing on the ballot under specified circumstances; providing that compliance with specified requirements is mandatory; entitling certain candidates and political parties to specified expedited hearings and consideration; requiring the supervisor of elections to remove certain candidates from the ballot or provide certain notice that votes for certain disqualified candidates will not be counted; amending s. 101.043, F.S.; revising the forms of identification required to be provided at polls; amending ss. 101.048, 101.151, 101.5606, 101.5608, and 101.5612, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 101.56075, F.S.; requiring voting be completed on an official ballot using a pen or marker; amending s. 101.591, F.S.; removing provisions relating to the performance of a manual audit; requiring the county canvassing board or other local board responsible for certifying an election to conduct an automated, independent audit of voting systems used in all precincts; providing the process for conducting such automated, independent audit; requiring the canvassing board to publish a specified notice on the county's website, the supervisor's website, or in certain newspapers; requiring that the audit be completed and made public before the certification of the election; providing reporting requirements for county canvassing boards; requiring the results of the audit be included in a specified report submitted to the Governor and Legislature by a specified date each year; amending s. 101.5911, F.S.; requiring the Department of State to adopt certain rules; amending s. 101.595, F.S.; revising certain reporting requirements for the Department of State; amending ss. 101.68 and 101.6923, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 102.111, F.S.; revising the meeting time for the Elections Canvassing Commission; amending s. 102.141, F.S.; 102.141, F.S.; revising requirements for canvassing of ballots; revising provisions relating to reporting election results; requiring counties to conduct an automated independent audit for a specified purpose within a specified timeframe; requiring the specified parties take certain actions if the audit and vote tabulation procude difference results; requiring a manual ballot review under specified circumstances; providing procedures for such manual ballot reviews; removing provisions relating to automatic recounts and county canvassing board recount procedures; requiring the county canvassing board to publish certain notice containing manual review information through specified means; requiring manual review of ballots be open to the public; authorizing political parties to designate a certain expert to be allowed in the central counting room while reviews are being performed; prohibiting such person from interfering with the normal operation of the canvassing board; revising information required to be in a report to the Division of Elections; removing the requirement for the supervisor to file with the Department of State certain results and statistical information; amending s. 102.166, F.S.; revising requirements for recounts of overvotes and undervotes; authorizing political parties to designate a certain expert to be allowed in the central counting room while reviews are being performed; prohibiting such person from interfering with the normal operation of the canvassing board; revising requirements for rules prescribing voter intent; creating s. 104.042, F.S.; providing a statute of limitations period for election fraud; amending s. 106.08, F.S.; revising the contributions or expenditures that a foreign national is prohibited from making or offering to make; prohibiting certain persons from accepting specified contributions; prohibiting certain persons from making specified contributions or expenditures; providing an exception to such prohibition; providing penalties; creating s. 322.034, F.S.; requiring that Florida driver licenses and identification cards include certain information by a specified date; requiring the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to issue certain replacement or renewal cards at no charge; amending s. 895.02, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "racketeering activity"; amending ss. 98.065, 98.0755, 101.5614, 101.67, and 104.16, F.S.; conforming cross-references; providing effective dates.

—as amended March 11, was read the third time by title.

On motion by Senator Grall, **CS for CS for HB 991**, as amended, was passed and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—27

Mr. President	Garcia	McClain
Avila	Grall	Passidomo
Boyd	Gruters	Pizzo
Bradley	Harrell	Rodriguez
Brodeur	Hooper	Simon
Burgess	Leek	Truenow
Burton	Martin	Trumbull
DiCeglie	Massullo	Wright
Gaetz	Mayfield	Yarborough

Nays—12

Arrington	Calatayud	Polsky
Berman	Davis	Rouson
Bernard	Jones	Sharief
Bracy Davis	Osgood	Smith

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed CS/CS/SB 182, with 1 amendment, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

CS for CS for SB 182—A bill to be entitled An act relating to the School Teacher Training and Mentoring Program; creating s. 1012.988, F.S.; establishing the School Teacher Training and Mentoring Program within the Department of Education; providing the purpose of the program; authorizing school districts and charter schools to place certain classroom teachers as teacher mentors in specified schools for specified purposes; providing requirements for teacher mentors and mentees; authorizing teacher mentors to receive a stipend; providing the time period for each mentor and mentee relationship through the program; providing limitations on the number of mentees teacher mentors may work with; providing department and teacher mentor responsibilities; authorizing the State Board of Education to adopt rules; amending s. 1011.62, F.S.; authorizing specified funds to be used for the School Teacher Training and Mentoring Program; providing an effective date.

House Amendment 1 (696291) (with title amendment)—Between lines 23 and 24, insert:

Section 1. Paragraph (w) is added to subsection (2) of section 1003.42, Florida Statutes, to read:

1003.42 Required instruction.—

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

(w)1. For students in grades 2 through 5, the study of cursive writing and the development of the skills necessary for legible cursive writing, including:

a. Letter formation.

b. Proper spacing and alignment.

c. Practice in writing complete words and sentences in cursive.

2. By the end of grade 5, each student must demonstrate proficiency in cursive writing through an evaluation of written work. For purposes of this subparagraph, the term "proficiency in cursive writing" means all of the following:

a. The ability to write uppercase and lowercase letters of the alphabet in cursive writing.

b. Writing words and sentences in cursive legibly and maintaining proper spacing and alignment.

c. The ability to read and apply cursive writing in a manner that supports literacy development, including writing essays and assignments in cursive writing in accordance with state academic standards.

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

Section 2. Subsection (4) of section 1003.44, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.44 Patriotic programs; rules.—

(4) Each district school board shall adopt rules to require:~~, in all of the schools of the district and in each building used by the district school board,~~

(a) The display of the state motto, "In God We Trust," designated under s. 15.0301, in a conspicuous place *at each public school in the district and in each building used by the district school board*.

(b) Subject to legislative appropriation, the display of portraits of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln in a conspicuous place at each public school in the district. The Department of Education shall select the portraits and make them available to each school district.

And the title is amended as follows:

Remove lines 2-3 and insert: An act relating to education; amending s. 1003.42, F.S.; requiring students in specified grades to receive instruction in cursive writing; providing requirements for such instruction; requiring students to demonstrate proficiency in cursive writing by the end of a specified grade; defining the term "proficiency in cursive writing"; amending s. 1003.44, F.S.; requiring, subject to legislative appropriation, each district school board to adopt rules to require the display of portraits of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln at each public school in the district; requiring the Department of Education to select the portraits and make them available to each school district; creating s. 1012.988, F.S.;

Senator Jones moved the following amendment to **House Amendment 1 (696291)** which was adopted:

Senate Amendment 1 (899512) (with title amendment) to House Amendment 1 (696291)—Delete lines 5-33 and insert:

Section 1. Paragraph (e) of subsection (10) of section 1002.33, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.33 Charter schools.—

(10) ELIGIBLE STUDENTS.—

(e) A charter school may limit the enrollment process only to target the following student populations:

1. Students within specific age groups or grade levels.

2. Students considered at risk of dropping out of school or academic failure. Such students shall include exceptional education students.

3. Students enrolling in a charter school-in-the-workplace or charter school-in-a-municipality established pursuant to subsection (15).

4. Students residing within a reasonable distance of the charter school, as described in paragraph (20)(c). Such students shall be subject to a random lottery and to the racial/ethnic balance provisions described in subparagraph (7)(a)8. or any federal provisions that require a school to achieve a racial/ethnic balance reflective of the community it serves or within the racial/ethnic range of other nearby public schools.

5. Students who meet reasonable academic, artistic, or other eligibility standards established by the charter school and included in the charter school application and charter or, in the case of existing charter schools, standards that are consistent with the school's mission and purpose. Such standards shall be in accordance with current state law and practice in public schools and may not discriminate against otherwise qualified individuals. A school that limits enrollment for such purposes must place a student on a progress monitoring plan for at least one semester before dismissing such student from the school. *A student may not be dismissed based on academic performance while a school is implementing a school improvement plan pursuant to paragraph (9)(n) or corrective action plan pursuant to s. 1002.345.*

6. Students articulating from one charter school to another pursuant to an articulation agreement between the charter schools that has been approved by the sponsor.

7. Students living in a development, or students whose parent or legal guardian maintains a physical or permanent employment presence within the development, in which a developer, including any affiliated business entity or charitable foundation, contributes to the formation, acquisition, construction, or operation of one or more charter schools or charter school facilities and related property in an amount equal to or having a total appraised value of at least $5 million to be used as charter schools to mitigate the educational impact created by the development of new residential dwelling units. Students living in the development are entitled to 50 percent of the student stations in the charter schools. The students who are eligible for enrollment are subject to a random lottery, the racial/ethnic balance provisions, or any federal provisions, as described in subparagraph 4. The remainder of the student stations must be filled in accordance with subparagraph 4.

8. Students whose parent or legal guardian is employed within a reasonable distance of the charter school, as described in paragraph (20)(c). The students who are eligible for enrollment are subject to a random lottery.

Section 2. Paragraphs (g) and (h) of subsection (11) of section 1002.395, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1002.395 Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program.—

(11) SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT AND PAYMENT.—

(g) Reimbursements for program expenditures may continue until the account balance is expended or *the scholarship account is closed* ~~remaining funds have reverted to the state~~.

(h)*1.* A student's scholarship account must be closed and any remaining funds *must* ~~shall~~ revert to the *organization* ~~state~~ after:

a.~~1.~~ Denial or revocation of program eligibility by the commissioner for fraud or abuse, including, but not limited to, the student or student's parent accepting any payment, refund, or rebate, in any manner, from a provider of any services received pursuant to paragraph (6)(d);

b.~~2.~~ Two consecutive fiscal years in which an account has been inactive; or

c.~~3.~~ The student remains unenrolled in an eligible private school for 30 days while receiving a scholarship that requires full-time enrollment.

2. All funds that revert to the organization must be separately accounted for and used to fund scholarships in the fiscal year the reversion occurs. Any funds remaining at the end of the fiscal year may be carried forward to the following fiscal year and must be fully expended for annual or partial-year scholarships in the following fiscal year.

3. By July 1 of each year, an organization must report to the Department of Education the total number of scholarship accounts that were closed during the prior fiscal year and the amount of funds that reverted to the organization.

Section 3. Subsection (19) of section 1002.42, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.42 Private schools.—

(19) FACILITIES *AND LAND USE*.—

(a) A private school may use facilities on property owned or leased by a library, community service organization, museum, performing arts venue, theater, cinema, or church facility under s. 170.201, which is or was actively used as such within 5 years of any executed agreement with a private school to use the facilities; any facility or land owned by a Florida College System institution or university; any similar public institutional facilities; and any facility recently used to house a school or child care facility licensed under s. 402.305, under any such facility's preexisting zoning and land use designations without rezoning or obtaining a special exception or a land use change, and without complying with any mitigation requirements or conditions. The facility must be located on property used solely for purposes described in this paragraph, and must meet applicable state and local health, safety, and welfare laws, codes, and rules, including firesafety and building safety.

(b) A private school may use facilities on property purchased from a library, community service organization, museum, performing arts venue, theater, cinema, or church facility under s. 170.201, which is actively or was actively used as such within 5 years of any executed agreement with a private school to purchase the facilities; any facility or land owned by a Florida College System institution or university; any similar public institutional facilities; and any facility recently used to house a school or child care facility licensed under s. 402.305, under any such facility's preexisting zoning and land use designations without obtaining a special exception, rezoning, or a land use change, and without complying with any mitigation requirements or conditions. The facility must be located on property used solely for purposes described in this paragraph, and must meet applicable state and local health, safety, and welfare laws, codes, and rules, including firesafety and building safety.

(c) A private school located in a county with four incorporated municipalities may construct new facilities, which may be temporary or permanent, on property purchased from or owned or leased by a library, community service organization, museum, performing arts venue, theater, cinema, or church under s. 170.201, which is or was actively used as such within 5 years of any executed agreement with a private school; any land owned by a Florida College System institution or state university; and any land recently used to house a school or child care facility licensed under s. 402.305, under its preexisting zoning and land use designations without rezoning or obtaining a special exception or a land use change, and without complying with any mitigation requirements or conditions. Any new facility must be located on property used solely for purposes described in this paragraph, and must meet applicable state and local health, safety, and welfare laws, codes, and rules, including firesafety and building safety.

(d) A private school enrolling 150 or fewer students, or located within the unincorporated area of a county as defined in s. 125.011, shall be considered a permitted use and occupancy in a commercial or mixed-use zoning district within a county or municipality without rezoning or obtaining a special exception or a land use change, and without complying with any mitigation requirements, conditions, performance standards, ordinances, rules, codes, or policies, except that a county or municipality may require proportionate mitigation measures necessary to mitigate vehicular traffic and pedestrian safety.

1. The vehicular traffic and pedestrian safety mitigation measures required by a county or municipality pursuant to this subsection shall be limited to those impacts reasonably and directly attributable to the operation of the private school at the site and shall be no greater in cost or scope than what is required of all other uses, education or otherwise, within the same zoning district.

2. The private school subject to vehicular traffic and pedestrian safety mitigation measures may, in lieu of complying with such mitigation measures, provide a traffic study that demonstrates the school will not have disproportionate impact on vehicular traffic or pedestrian safety compared to other allowable uses within the same zoning district.

(e) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a private school enrolling 150 or fewer students may operate in a facility that is an existing assembly, day care, mercantile, or business occupancy, as defined in the Florida Fire Prevention Code. A private school operating in such a facility must meet the standards for existing educational occupancy requirements under the Florida Fire Prevention Code, adopted by the State Fire Marshal. Completion of the fire safety evaluation system for educational occupancies in the National Fire Protection Association, Life Safety Code, NFPA 101A: Guide on Alternative Approaches to Life Safety, adopted by the State Fire Marshal, by a registered design professional licensed under chapter 471 or chapter 481, with a determination of achieving at a minimum an "at least equivalent" conclusion, is considered evidence of compliance with the Florida Fire Prevention Code. The State Fire Marshal may adopt rules to implement this paragraph.

Section 4. Paragraph (w) is added to subsection (2) of section 1003.42, Florida Statutes, to read:

1003.42 Required instruction.—

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

(w)1. For students in grades 3 through 5, the study of cursive writing and the development of the skills necessary for legible cursive writing, including:

a. Letter formation.

b. Proper spacing and alignment.

c. Practice in writing complete words and sentences in cursive.

2. By the end of grade 5, each student must demonstrate proficiency in cursive writing. For purposes of this subparagraph, the term "proficiency in cursive writing" means all of the following:

a. The ability to write uppercase and lowercase letters of the alphabet in cursive writing.

b. Writing words and sentences in cursive legibly and maintaining proper spacing and alignment.

c. The ability to read and apply cursive writing in a manner that supports literacy development, including writing essays and assignments in cursive writing in accordance with state academic standards.

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete line 61 and insert: An act relating to education; amending s. 1002.33, F.S.; providing that students may not be dismissed from certain charter schools based on academic performance; amending s. 1002.395, F.S.; adding a condition for Florida Tax Credit (FTC) scholarship reimbursements; requiring that certain FTC scholarship funds revert to the organization; amending s. 1002.42, F.S.; providing that certain private schools are considered a permitted use in certain zoning districts; authorizing certain private schools to operate in facilities that meet specified requirements; providing exceptions; requiring certain private schools operating in such facilities to meet specified Florida Fire Prevention Code standards; providing that completion of a specified evaluation system with certain ratings by specified persons constitutes evidence of compliance with the Florida Fire Prevention Code for such private schools; authorizing the State Fire Marshal to adopt rules; amending s. 1003.42,

On motion by Senator Jones, the Senate concurred in **House Amendment 1 (696291)**, as amended, and requested the House to concur in **Senate Amendment 1 (899512) to House Amendment 1 (696291)**.

CS for CS for SB 182 passed, as amended, and the action of the Senate was certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—37

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Passidomo
Arrington	Gaetz	Polsky
Avila	Garcia	Rodriguez
Berman	Grall	Rouson
Bernard	Harrell	Sharief
Boyd	Hooper	Simon
Bracy Davis	Jones	Smith
Bradley	Leek	Truenow
Brodeur	Martin	Trumbull
Burgess	Massullo	Wright
Burton	Mayfield	Yarborough
Calatayud	McClain	
Davis	Osgood	

Nays—None

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed CS/SB 474, with 1 amendment, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

CS for SB 474—A bill to be entitled An act relating to military affairs; amending s. 115.01, F.S.; revising the authorization to be granted a leave of absence for military service to include the Coast Guard; deleting the condition that such service be during war between the United States and a foreign government; amending s. 115.07, F.S.; revising the authorization to be granted a leave of absence for reserve or guard training to include members of the Florida State Guard; revising legislative intent; amending s. 115.08, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "active military service"; amending s. 115.09, F.S.; specifying that an authorization for a leave of absence for public officials to perform active military service for a specified timeframe is based on a single order; making a technical change; amending s. 115.14, F.S.; clarifying the applicable employing agencies subject to military leave requirements; specifying that an authorization for a leave of absence for all employees of the state and the counties, municipalities, and political subdivisions of the state to perform active military service for a specified timeframe is based on a single order; amending s. 121.055, F.S.; revising the list of military positions required to participate in the Senior Management Service Class of the Florida Retirement System; amending s. 250.10, F.S.; deleting a requirement that the Adjutant General administer youth About Face programs and adult Forward March programs; deleting provisions governing the programs; amending s. 250.116, F.S.; revising eligibility for the Soldiers and Airmen Assistance Program to include traditional drilling guardsmen on state active duty or on Title 32 United States Code duty and their eligible beneficiaries experiencing valid financial need; defining the term "beneficiary"; revising the review process for requests for assistance to be reviewed, processed, and approved by the Florida National Guard Foundation's board of directors; revising the criteria to review and evaluate requests for assistance; requiring an annual external audit of the program; requiring the board of directors to review annually the bylaws that govern the program; requiring the board of directors to provide a report to the Department of Military Affairs to be approved by the Adjutant General; reenacting s. 115.06, F.S., relating to resumption of duties for officers returning from the service of the United States, to incorporate the amendment made to s. 115.01, F.S., in a reference thereto; providing an effective date.

House Amendment 1 (656697) (with title amendment)—Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Section 115.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

115.01 Leave of absence for military service.—Any county or state official of the state, subject to the provisions and conditions hereinafter set forth, may be granted leave of absence from his or her office, to serve in the volunteer forces of the United States, or in the National Guard of any state, or in the regular Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, *Coast Guard,* or Space Force of the United States, when the same shall be called into active service of the United States ~~during war between the United States and a foreign government~~.

Section 2. Subsections (3) and (4) of section 115.07, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (4) and (5), respectively, subsections (1) and (2) are amended, and a new subsection (3) is added to that section, to read:

115.07 Officers and employees' leaves of absence for reserve or guard training.—

(1) All officers or employees of the state, of the several counties of the state, and of the municipalities or political subdivisions of the state who are commissioned reserve officers or reserve enlisted personnel in the United States military or naval service or members of the National Guard are entitled to leaves of absence from their respective duties, without loss of vacation leave, pay, time, or efficiency rating, on all days during which they are engaged in training ordered under the provisions of the United States military or naval training regulations *or applicable general law* for such personnel when assigned to active or inactive duty.

(2) Leaves of absence granted as a matter of legal right under the provisions of this section may not exceed 240 working hours in any one annual period*, except as provided in subsection (3)*. Administrative leaves of absence for additional or longer periods of time for assignment to duty functions of a military character shall be without pay*, except as provided in subsection (3),* and shall be granted by the employing or appointing authority of any state, county, municipal, or political subdivision employee and when so granted shall be without loss of time or efficiency rating.

(3) A county, municipality, or other political subdivision of the state may adopt an ordinance or resolution providing that an employee who is a commissioned reserve officer or reserve enlisted personnel in the United States military or naval service or who is a member of the National Guard may receive more than 240 working hours of paid leave from his or her respective duties, without loss of vacation leave, pay, time, or efficiency rating, on all days during which he or she is engaged in

training ordered under the provisions of the United States military or naval training regulations or applicable general law for such personnel when assigned to active or inactive duty, provided that no state funds are used for such supplemental payments.

Section 3. Subsection (1) of section 115.08, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

115.08 Definitions.—

(1) The term "active military service" as used in this chapter *means* ~~shall signify~~ active duty ~~in the Florida defense force or federal service in training or on active duty~~ with any branch of the Armed Forces or Reservists of the Armed Forces, the Florida National Guard, the Coast Guard of the United States, and service of all officers of the United States Public Health Service detailed by proper authority for duty with the Armed Forces, and *includes* ~~shall include~~ the period during which a person in military service is absent from duty on account of sickness, wounds, leave, or other lawful cause.

Section 4. Section 115.09, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

115.09 Leave to public officials for military service.—All officials of the state, the several counties of the state, and the municipalities or political subdivisions of the state, including district school and *Florida* ~~community~~ College *System* officers, which officials are also servicemembers in the National Guard or a reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States, must be granted leave of absence from their respective offices and duties to perform active military service, with the first 30 days of any such leave of absence to be with full pay for active federal military service that is equal to or greater than 90 consecutive days *on a single order*.

Section 5. Section 115.14, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

115.14 Employees.—All employees of the state, the several counties of the state, and the municipalities or political subdivisions of the state must be granted leave of absence under the terms of this law; upon such leave of absence being granted, such employee must enjoy the same rights and privileges as are granted to officials under this law, including, without limitation, receiving full pay for the first 30 days for federal military service that is equal to or greater than 90 consecutive days *on a single order*. Notwithstanding s. 115.09, the employing authority may supplement the military pay of its officials and employees who are reservists called to active military service after the first 30 days in an amount necessary to bring their total salary, inclusive of their base military pay, to the level earned at the time they were called to active military duty. The employing authority shall continue to provide all health insurance and other existing benefits to such officials and employees as required by the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act, chapter 43 of Title 38 U.S.C.

Section 6. Paragraph (g) of subsection (1) of section 121.055, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

121.055 Senior Management Service Class.—There is hereby established a separate class of membership within the Florida Retirement System to be known as the "Senior Management Service Class," which shall become effective February 1, 1987.

(1)

(g) Effective July 1, 1996, participation in the Senior Management Service Class shall be compulsory for any member of the Florida Retirement System employed with the Department of Military Affairs in the *uniformed* positions of the Adjutant General, Assistant Adjutant General-Army, Assistant Adjutant General-Air, State Quartermaster~~, Director of Human Resources, Director of Legislative Affairs, Inspector General, Executive Officer~~, and additional directors as designated by the agency head, not to exceed *two Special Projects Officers of the Florida National Guard* ~~a total of 10 positions~~. In lieu of participation in the Senior Management Service Class, such members may participate in the Senior Management Service Optional Annuity Program as established in subsection (6).

Section 7. Paragraph (m) of subsection (2) of section 250.10, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

250.10 Appointment and duties of the Adjutant General.—

(2) The Adjutant General shall:

~~(m) Subject to annual appropriations, administer youth About Face programs and adult Forward March programs at sites to be selected by the Adjutant General. Both programs must provide schoolwork assistance, focusing on the skills needed to master basic high school competencies and functional life skills, including teaching students to work effectively in groups; providing basic instruction in computer skills; teaching basic problem-solving, decisionmaking, and reasoning skills; teaching how the business world and free enterprise work through computer simulations; and teaching home finance and budgeting and other daily living skills.~~

~~1. About Face is a summer and year-round after-school life preparation program for economically disadvantaged and at-risk youths from 13 through 17 years of age. The program must provide training in academic study skills, and the basic skills that businesses require for employment consideration.~~

~~2. Forward March is a job-readiness program for economically disadvantaged participants who are directed to Forward March by the local workforce development boards. The Forward March program shall provide training on topics that directly relate to the skills required for real-world success. The program shall emphasize functional life skills, computer literacy, interpersonal relationships, critical thinking skills, business skills, preemployment and work maturity skills, job search skills, exploring careers activities, how to be a successful and effective employee, and some job specific skills. The program also shall provide extensive opportunities for participants to practice generic job skills in a supervised work setting. Upon completion of the program, Forward March shall return participants to the local workforce development boards for placement in a job placement pool.~~

Section 8. Subsections (4), (5), and (6) of section 250.116, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection (7) is added to that section, to read:

250.116 Soldiers and Airmen Assistance Program.—

(4) ELIGIBILITY.—Persons eligible for assistance from the program include:

(a) Servicemembers who are members of the Florida National Guard who are~~:~~

~~1.~~ *traditional drilling guardsmen* on *state* active duty *or on Title 32 United States Code duty, who otherwise do not qualify for the assistance programs available to servicemembers serving under Title 10 United States Code, and who demonstrate valid financial need, and their eligible beneficiaries, are authorized to apply for and receive financial assistance from the program, as administered by the Florida National Guard Foundation's board of directors and its governing bylaws, contingent upon the availability of funds* ~~serving in the Global War on Terrorism or Overseas Contingency Operation or who request assistance within 120 days after the termination of orders for such service and return to their home of record~~.

~~2. Deployed by the Federal Government and participating in state operations for homeland defense or request assistance within 120 days after the termination of orders for such service and return to their home of record.~~

(b)~~1.~~ *As used in this subsection, the term "beneficiary" means the current spouse, dependent children, or other designated beneficiaries as designated in the servicemember's service component records* ~~Beneficiaries of an eligible servicemember designated on United States Department of Defense Form 93~~.

~~2. Individuals demonstrating a financial need for authorized assistance who are dependents or family members of an eligible servicemember.~~

(5) REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE; REVIEW; AWARDS.—

(a) A request for assistance *must* ~~shall~~ be reviewed, ~~and~~ processed, *and approved by the Florida National Guard Foundation's board of directors* ~~at the local level by an official designated by the Adjutant~~

~~General. During the initial review and processing of the request, the Department of Military Affairs may accept assistance from the direct-support organization. Final review and approval of requests for assistance shall be made by the Department of Military Affairs~~.

(b) Requests for assistance *must* ~~shall~~ be reviewed and evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. The impact of a servicemember's *financial situation* ~~absence~~ and inability to *provide quality of life and other qualifying life-impacting* ~~assist in home and vehicle repairs or meet other~~ family needs;

~~2. The economic impact of deployment;~~

~~3. The overall financial situation of the applicant;~~

2.~~4.~~ The assistance authorized under the program; and

3.~~5.~~ *Any other consideration dictated in the bylaws of the Florida National Guard Foundation* ~~Other relevant information~~.

(6) ~~QUARTERLY~~ FINANCIAL REVIEW.—The financial committee of the board of directors of the direct-support organization shall review financial transactions of the program each quarter. *The board of directors must also ensure an annual external audit is completed and published on the publicly available website of the direct-support organization.* This *audit must* ~~review shall~~ be provided to the Department of Military Affairs in order to determine whether the direct-support organization is being operated in a manner that is consistent with the purposes of the Soldiers and Airmen Assistance Fund, and in the best interests of the department. The financial committee may request the Office of Inspector General to conduct additional reviews.

(7) ANNUAL BYLAW REVIEW.—The Florida National Guard Foundation's board of directors shall annually review the bylaws that govern the program. This review shall be provided in a report to the Department of Military Affairs and subject to approval by the Adjutant General.

Section 9. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 115.01, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, section 115.06, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

115.06 Reassumption of duties.—Upon being mustered out of the service of the United States, such officer granted leave under s. 115.01 shall immediately enter into the duties of his or her office for the remainder of the term for which he or she was elected.

Section 10. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

And the title is amended as follows:

Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert: A bill to be entitled An act relating to military affairs; amending s. 115.01, F.S.; revising the authorization to be granted a leave of absence for military service to include the Coast Guard; removing the condition that such service be during war between the United States and a foreign government; amending s. 115.07, F.S.; clarifying a provision relating to leaves of absence for all officers and employees of the state and the counties, municipalities, and political subdivisions of the state for reserve or guard training; authorizing local governments to provide additional paid leave for officers and employees for reserve or guard training; amending s. 115.08, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "active military service"; amending s. 115.09, F.S.; specifying that an authorization for a leave of absence for public officials to perform active military service for a specified timeframe is based on a single order; amending s. 115.14, F.S.; specifying that an authorization for a leave of absence for all employees of the state and the counties, municipalities, and political subdivisions of the state to perform active military service for a specified timeframe is based on a single order; amending s. 121.055, F.S.; revising military positions required to participate in the Senior Management Service Class of the Florida Retirement System; amending s. 250.10, F.S.; removing a requirement that the Adjutant General administer youth About Face Programs and adult Forward March programs; removing provisions governing the programs; amending s. 250.116, F.S.; revising eligibility for the Soldiers and Airmen Assistance Program to include traditional drilling guardsmen on state active duty or on Title 32 United States Code duty and their eligible beneficiaries demonstrating valid financial need; defining the term "beneficiary"; requiring requests for assistance to be reviewed, processed, and approved by the Florida National Guard Foundation's board of directors; requiring requests for assistance to be reviewed and evaluated based on specified criteria; requiring an annual external audit of the program; requiring the board to annually review the bylaws that govern the program; requiring the board to provide a report to the Department of Military Affairs to be approved by the Adjutant General; reenacting s. 115.06, F.S., relating to reassumption of duties for officers returning from the service of the United States, to incorporate the amendment made to s. 115.01, F.S., in a reference thereto; providing an effective date.

SENATOR PASSIDOMO PRESIDING

Senator Wright moved the following amendment to **House Amendment 1 (656697)** which was adopted:

Senate Amendment 1 (419116) (with title amendment) to House Amendment 1 (656697)—Delete lines 114-183 and insert: General-Air, *and* State Quartermaster~~, Director of Human Resources, Director of Legislative Affairs, Inspector General, Executive Officer~~, and *two positions serving as a Special Projects Officer of the Florida National Guard* ~~additional directors~~ as designated by the agency head~~, not to exceed a total of 10 positions~~. In lieu of participation in the Senior Management Service Class, such members may participate in the Senior Management Service Optional Annuity Program as established in subsection (6).

Section 7. Paragraph (m) of subsection (2) of section 250.10, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

250.10 Appointment and duties of the Adjutant General.—

(2) The Adjutant General shall:

~~(m) Subject to annual appropriations, administer youth About Face programs and adult Forward March programs at sites to be selected by the Adjutant General. Both programs must provide schoolwork assistance, focusing on the skills needed to master basic high school competencies and functional life skills, including teaching students to work effectively in groups; providing basic instruction in computer skills; teaching basic problem-solving, decisionmaking, and reasoning skills; teaching how the business world and free enterprise work through computer simulations; and teaching home finance and budgeting and other daily living skills.~~

~~1. About Face is a summer and year-round after-school life preparation program for economically disadvantaged and at-risk youths from 13 through 17 years of age. The program must provide training in academic study skills, and the basic skills that businesses require for employment consideration.~~

~~2. Forward March is a job-readiness program for economically disadvantaged participants who are directed to Forward March by the local workforce development boards. The Forward March program shall provide training on topics that directly relate to the skills required for real-world success. The program shall emphasize functional life skills, computer literacy, interpersonal relationships, critical thinking skills, business skills, preemployment and work maturity skills, job-search skills, exploring careers activities, how to be a successful and effective employee, and some job-specific skills. The program also shall provide extensive opportunities for participants to practice generic job skills in a supervised work setting. Upon completion of the program, Forward March shall return participants to the local workforce development boards for placement in a job placement pool.~~

Section 8. Subsections (4), (5), and (6) of section 250.116, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection (7) is added to that section, to read:

250.116 Soldiers and Airmen Assistance Program.—

(4) ELIGIBILITY.— ~~Persons eligible for assistance from the program include:~~

(a) *Persons eligible for assistance from the program include* servicemembers who are members of the Florida National Guard who are~~:~~

~~1.~~ *traditional drilling guardsmen* on *state* active duty *or on Title 32 United States Code duty, who otherwise do not qualify for the assistance programs available to servicemembers serving under Title 10 United States Code, and who demonstrate valid financial need, and their eligible beneficiaries, and such persons are authorized to apply for and receive financial assistance from the program, as administered by the Florida National Guard Foundation's board of directors and its governing bylaws, contingent upon the availability of funds* ~~serving in the Global War on Terrorism or Overseas Contingency Operation or who request assistance within 120 days after the termination of orders for such service and return to their home of record~~.

~~2. Deployed by the Federal Government and participating in state operations for homeland defense or request assistance within 120 days after the termination of orders for such service and return to their home of record.~~

(b)~~1.~~ *As used in this subsection, the term "beneficiary" means the current spouse, dependent children, or other beneficiaries as designated in the servicemember's*

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete line 265 and insert: amending s. 121.055, F.S.; revising the list of military positions

On motion by Senator Wright, the Senate concurred in **House Amendment 1 (656697)**, as amended, and requested the House to concur in **Senate Amendment 1 (419116) to House Amendment 1 (656697)**.

CS for SB 474 passed, as amended, and the action of the Senate was certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—39

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Osgood
Arrington	Gaetz	Passidomo
Avila	Garcia	Pizzo
Berman	Grall	Polsky
Bernard	Gruters	Rodriguez
Boyd	Harrell	Rouson
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Sharief
Bradley	Jones	Simon
Brodeur	Leek	Smith
Burgess	Martin	Truenow
Burton	Massullo	Trumbull
Calatayud	Mayfield	Wright
Davis	McClain	Yarborough

Nays—None

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed CS/CS/CS/SB 1014, with 1 amendment, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

CS for CS for CS for SB 1014—A bill to be entitled An act relating to the provision of municipal utility service to owners outside the municipal limits; amending s. 180.19, F.S.; defining terms; prohibiting a municipal utility from declining to extend service to properties outside its corporate limits under certain circumstances; providing an exception; requiring a municipal utility to expand its service to an owner who makes such a request under certain circumstances, subject to the utility's service requirements; requiring the municipal utility to make a determination within a specified timeframe and provide such determination to the owner in writing; requiring the municipal utility to provide the owner with specified information and to connect properties in a timely manner; authorizing a municipal utility to establish minimum application filing requirements; authorizing owners to bring a civil action to enforce the act; authorizing a prevailing owner to collect certain fees and costs; requiring the court to order the utility to connect a prevailing owner's property; providing construction; providing an effective date.

House Amendment 1 (277705) (with title amendment)—Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Section 180.19, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

180.19 Use by other municipalities and by individuals outside corporate limits.—

(1)*(a)* A municipality *that operates utility services* ~~which constructs any works as are~~ authorized *under* ~~by~~ this chapter *shall allow a*~~, may permit any other~~ municipality *or property owner* ~~and the owners or association of owners of lots or lands~~ outside of its *municipal boundaries* ~~corporate limits or within the limits of any other municipality,~~ to connect with or use the *utility services if:*

1. The utility system has sufficient treatment, transmission, and distribution capacity to serve the requested connection without materially impairing service to existing utility customers;

2. The property is not within the service area of another water or wastewater utility, as applicable;

3. The property is within 1 mile of a main line of the utility system, measured by the closest property boundary line from the main line; and

4. The requesting municipality or property owner agrees to pay all applicable rates, fees, and charges authorized under s. 180.191.

(b) If the conditions in paragraph (a) are not met, connection with or use of the utility services is ~~utilities mentioned in this chapter~~ upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed between *the* ~~such~~ municipalities *or the municipality and the property owner*~~, and the owners or association of owners of such outside lots or lands~~.

(c) A municipality that operates utility services may not deny a request for connection with or use of utility services by a property owner outside of its municipal boundaries on the sole basis that the property owner refuses to assent or otherwise consent to the property being annexed by the municipality, unless, as of July 1, 2026, the property is subject to an annexation agreement or developer agreement or is located in an area subject to a joint planning agreement between the municipality and the applicable county under s. 163.3171.

(2)(a) A municipality that operates utility services must make a written capacity determination within 30 days after receipt of a completed application for connection from a municipality or property owner under subsection (1). The determination must be based on generally accepted engineering standards and current system data. A denial of connection with or use of utility services due to a lack of capacity must include specific engineering findings identifying the deficient components of the system.

(b) A requesting municipality or property owner denied connection with or use of utility services may appeal the capacity determination to the circuit court in the county in which the municipality or property is located. The court must review the determination de novo.

(c) If the court finds that the municipality refused to allow the connection in violation of this subsection, the court must order the connection and award the prevailing party reasonable attorney fees and court costs to be paid by the municipality operating the utility services.

(d) The municipality operating the utility services is not liable for attorney fees or court costs under paragraph (c) if the municipality demonstrates by clear and convincing evidence that the denial was based on a good faith, reasonable engineering determination of insufficient capacity.

(3)~~(2)~~ Any private company or corporation organized to accomplish the purposes *of* ~~set forth in~~ this chapter *that*~~, which~~ has been granted a privilege or franchise by a municipality *to operate utility services*~~,~~ may *allow a municipality or property owner* ~~permit the owners or association of owners of lots or lands~~ outside of the boundaries of *the granting* ~~said~~ municipality ~~granting said privilege or franchise, or other municipality,~~ to connect with and use the utility *services* ~~operated by the said private~~

~~company or corporation~~ upon such terms as may be agreed between the ~~said~~ private company or corporation and the ~~owners or association of owners of said lots or lands or the said~~ municipality *or property owner*.

(4)(a) A municipality that operates water or wastewater utility services outside of its municipal boundaries must enter into an interlocal agreement under s. 163.01 with the county in which the municipality provides such services if all of the following conditions are met:

1. The county has designated an area located outside such municipal boundaries but within the county as an economic development zone.

2. The economic development zone is located entirely or partially within the municipal utility's service area.

3. The economic development zone is geographically surrounded by unincorporated area of the county, except that a portion of the boundary of such zone may abut the municipal boundary of the municipality.

(b) The interlocal agreement must address the provision of water and wastewater services to the entire economic development zone to ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, the provision of safe, efficient, and sufficient services to meet current and forecasted needs of the economic development zone. The agreement must, at a minimum:

1. Define service and maintenance responsibilities for facilities and infrastructure required to provide such services, including all necessary supporting infrastructure.

2. Establish and define responsibilities for capacity planning, infrastructure expansion, and cost allocation for the investments needed to provide such services.

3. Provide timelines and permitting procedures to ensure the timely and reliable delivery of such services.

4. Include procedures for amending the agreement and for dispute resolution to prevent unreasonable delay in the provision of such services.

(c) The interlocal agreement must be executed by July 1, 2027, or within 12 months after the designation of the economic development zone, whichever occurs later.

(d) An extension of utility services made pursuant to an interlocal agreement under this subsection is not subject to any other provision of this section related to the establishment of a new agreement for the extension of services.

(5) This section does not prohibit a municipality from imposing reasonable impact fees, connection fees, or infrastructure contributions necessary to fund system expansion required for a new connection.

Section 2. Section 166.0487, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

166.0487 Limitation on municipal regulation of wastewater utility infrastructure on property owned by another political subdivision.—

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Wastewater utility infrastructure" includes wastewater treatment plants, lift stations, vacuum stations, pump stations, and appurtenances.

(b) "Wastewater utility upgrade project" means a project to improve the operation or efficiency or expand the capacity of existing wastewater utility infrastructure in a manner intended, in whole or in part, to prevent or reduce pollution.

(2) A municipality may not apply a comprehensive plan amendment or a land use regulation, including, but not limited to, a land development regulation, setback requirement, lot size requirement, or use restriction, to a wastewater utility upgrade project proposed by another political subdivision that owns the property on which the infrastructure is located if all of the following conditions are met:

(a) The existing wastewater utility infrastructure is located within the municipal boundaries of the municipality applying the land use regulation.

(b) The land use regulation is more burdensome or restrictive than the regulations that applied at the time the infrastructure was originally installed and would prevent, hinder, obstruct, or increase the cost of the proposed wastewater utility upgrade project.

(c) The wastewater utility infrastructure is owned or operated by:

1. The political subdivision that owns the property;

2. A private firm operating under a wastewater facility privatization contract as provided in part III of chapter 153; or

3. A private company operating under a franchise granted by a municipality as provided in chapter 180.

(3) The prohibition under subsection (2) does not apply to any property that:

(a) Does not have any wastewater utility infrastructure installed at the time the land use regulation is adopted by the municipality.

(b) Would be acquired or developed for wastewater utility purposes by another political subdivision as part of the proposed wastewater utility upgrade project.

Section 3. Subsections (6), (7), and (8) of section 425.09, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (7), (8), and (9), respectively, subsection (5) and present subsection (6) are amended, and a new subsection (6) is added to that section, to read:

425.09 Members.—

(5) Except as hereinafter otherwise provided, written or printed notice stating the time and place of each meeting of members, and in the case of a special meeting the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called, *must* ~~shall~~ be given to each member, ~~either~~ personally*,* ~~or~~ by mail, *or by e-mail,* not less than 10 days *or* ~~nor~~ more than 45 days before the date of the meeting. *For any meeting at which an election of trustees or successors to trustees will be held, the notice must be provided not less than 30 days or more than 45 days before the date of the meeting and must state the name or names of those nominated and certified for the election as provided in this chapter.*

(6) By January 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, the board of trustees shall prepare an updated, alphabetical list of the names of all members and, if applicable, the voting district established under s. 425.11 in which each member receives service. The board of trustees shall make the list available upon request of any member of the cooperative. At each meeting of members, any member or the member's proxy is entitled to inspect the list at any time during the meeting or any adjournment.

(7)~~(6)~~ One percent of all members, present in person, *constitutes* ~~shall constitute~~ a quorum for the transaction of business at all meetings of the members.~~, unless~~ The bylaws *may* prescribe the presence of a greater percentage of the members for a quorum. Notwithstanding the requirement that members be present in person in order to be counted in determining a quorum, the bylaws may permit voting by limited proxy*,* ~~or~~ by mail, *or electronically through an Internet-based online voting system* and members so voting shall be counted as present in person for determination of a quorum. A majority of a quorum is required to approve any motion or matter before a meeting of the members. Members voting by mail*,* ~~or~~ limited proxy*, or electronically through an Internet-based online voting system may* ~~shall~~ not be counted on any matter raised at a meeting *that* ~~which~~ was not specifically listed and identified on the mail ballot*,* ~~or~~ proxy*, or Internet-based online voting system*. If less than a quorum is present at any meeting, a majority of those present in person may adjourn the meeting from time to time without further notice.

Section 4. Subsections (4), (5), and (6) of subsection (1) of section 425.10, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (5), (6), and (7), respectively, subsection (1) is amended, and a new subsection (4) is added to that section, to read:

425.10 Board of trustees.—

(1) The business and affairs of a cooperative shall be managed by a board of not less than five trustees, each of whom shall be a member of the cooperative or of another cooperative which shall be a member thereof. The bylaws shall prescribe the number of trustees, their qualifications, other than those provided for in this chapter, the manner of holding meetings of the board of trustees and of the election of successors to trustees who shall resign, die, or otherwise be incapable of acting. *The bylaws must prescribe a process by which members may nominate one or more individuals for election as a trustee or a successor to a trustee, a process by which the board of trustees may certify that a nominee meets the qualifications for a trustee or a successor to a trustee as set forth in the bylaws and this chapter, and a process by which a nominee who is not certified by the board of trustees may challenge the noncertification decision.* The bylaws may also provide for the removal of trustees from office and for the election of their successors. Without approval of the members, trustees shall not receive any salaries for their services as trustees and, except in emergencies, shall not be employed by the cooperative in any capacity involving compensation. The bylaws may, however, provide that a fixed fee and expenses of attendance, if any, may be allowed to each trustee for attendance at each meeting of the board of trustees and that such may be allowed for the performance of other cooperative business, provided it has prior approval of the board of trustees.

(4)(a) For each meeting of members at which an election for trustees or successors to trustees is to be conducted, a cooperative must appoint one or more inspectors to carry out the duties under paragraph (b). Each inspector must faithfully execute the duties under paragraph (b) with strict impartiality and according to the best of his or her ability. An inspector may be an officer or employee of the cooperative.

(b) An inspector must:

1. Determine the number of votes represented at the meeting, whether in person, electronically, or by proxy.

2. Determine the validity of mail-in ballots and proxy appointments and ballots.

3. Count the votes.

4. Make a written report of the results.

Section 5. Section 425.31, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

425.31 Electronic voting.—

(1) A cooperative may conduct elections and other membership votes through an Internet-based online voting system if a member consents, electronically or in writing, to online voting and if all of the following requirements are met:

(a) The cooperative provides each member with:

1. A method to authenticate the member's identity to the online voting system.

2. A method to confirm, at least 14 days before the voting deadline, that the member's electronic device can successfully communicate with the online voting system.

3. A method that is consistent with the election and voting procedures provided in the cooperative's bylaws.

(b) The cooperative uses an online voting system that is:

1. Able to authenticate the member's identity.

2. Able to authenticate the validity of each electronic vote to ensure that the vote is not altered in transit.

3. Able to transmit a receipt from the online voting system to each member who casts an electronic vote.

4. Able to permanently separate any authentication or identifying information from the electronic election ballot, rendering it impossible to tie an election ballot to a specific member. This subparagraph only applies if the cooperative's bylaws provide for secret ballots for the election of trustees.

5. Able to store and keep electronic ballots accessible for recount, inspection, and review purposes.

(2) A member voting electronically pursuant to this section must be counted as being in attendance at the meeting for purposes of determining a quorum. A substantive vote of the members may not be taken on any issue other than the issues specifically identified in the electronic vote when a quorum is established based on members voting electronically pursuant to this section.

(3) This section applies to a cooperative that provides for and authorizes an online voting system pursuant to this section by a resolution of the board of trustees. The resolution must provide that members receive notice of the opportunity to vote through an online voting system; establish reasonable procedures and deadlines for members to consent, electronically or in writing, to online voting; and establish reasonable procedures and deadlines for members to opt out of online voting after giving consent. Written notice of a meeting at which the resolution regarding online voting will be considered must be given to each member in accordance with the notice requirements for member meetings under s. 425.09.

(4) A member's consent to online voting is valid until the member opts out of online voting pursuant to the procedures established by the board of trustees under subsection (3).

(5) This section may apply to any matter that requires a vote of the members.

(6) If at least 10 percent of the members of a cooperative petition the board of trustees to adopt a resolution for electronic voting for the next scheduled election, the board of trustees must hold a meeting within 21 days after receipt of the petition to adopt such resolution. The board of trustees must receive the petition within 180 days after the date of the last scheduled annual meeting.

Section 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

And the title is amended as follows:

Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert: A bill to be entitled An act relating to utilities; amending s. 180.19, F.S.; requiring municipalities that operate utility services to allow other municipalities and property owners outside its municipal boundaries to connect with and use the utility services under specified conditions; prohibiting municipalities that operate utility services from denying requests by property owners outside its municipal boundaries to connect with or use the utility services based on specified criteria; providing an exception; requiring municipalities to make certain determinations within a specified timeframe; providing for appeal of such determinations; providing for the award of attorney fees and court costs; providing that municipalities are not liable for such fees and costs under certain conditions; requiring municipalities that operate water and wastewater utility services to negotiate interlocal agreements with counties under specified conditions; providing minimum requirements for such agreements; establishing a deadline for executing such agreements; providing construction; creating s. 166.0487, F.S.; defining the terms "wastewater utility infrastructure" and "wastewater utility upgrade project"; prohibiting municipalities from applying certain comprehensive plan amendments or land use regulations to wastewater utility upgrade projects under specified conditions; providing applicability; amending s. 425.09, F.S.; authorizing notices for rural electrical cooperative board of trustees meetings to be delivered by e-mail; revising notice requirements for meetings during which elections will occur; requiring the board of trustees, beginning on a specified date, to annually prepare a list of cooperative members and to make the list available for certain inspection; authorizing electronic voting; amending s. 425.10, F.S.; requiring the bylaws of rural electrical cooperatives to include specified provisions relating to the nomination of members for election to the board of trustees; requiring the appointment of election inspectors; providing duties of election inspectors; creating s. 425.30, F.S.; authorizing rural electric cooperatives to conduct elections and membership votes through electronic voting under certain conditions; requiring members voting electronically to be counted for quorum purposes; prohibiting substantive votes when a quorum is based on the number of

members voting electronically; requiring electronic voting to be authorized by a resolution of the board of trustees; providing requirements for such resolutions; providing for members to consent to and opt out of electronic voting; providing applicability; providing for cooperative members to petition the board of trustees to adopt electronic voting; providing an effective date.

On motion by Senator Mayfield, the Senate refused to concur in **House Amendment 1 (277705)** to **CS for CS for CS for SB 1014** and the House was requested to recede. The action of the Senate was certified to the House.

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed CS/CS/SB 1062, with 1 amendment, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

CS for CS for SB 1062—A bill to be entitled An act relating to speech and debate education; creating s. 265.0042, F.S.; creating the Florida Speech and Debate Hall of Fame; requiring the Department of Management Services to set aside an area in the Capitol Building for the hall of fame; requiring the department to consult with the Florida Education Foundation and the Commissioner of Education; providing the duties for the hall of fame; requiring the hall of fame to convene a committee for specified purposes; creating s. 683.221, F.S.; designating Florida Speech and Debate Week annually in February; providing purposes for the annual observance; authorizing specified entities to observe Florida Speech and Debate Week; creating s. 1000.09, F.S.; providing legislative findings and intent; establishing the Florida Debate Initiative, Inc., (FDI) as a statewide speech and debate organization that performs certain functions in support of the Florida Civics and Debate Initiative (FCDI) in the Department of Education; providing the duties of FDI; providing construction; authorizing FDI to establish and maintain certain partnerships; specifying activities for FDI and FCDI; providing authorized uses of funds for FDI; requiring FDI to publish online and submit annually by a specified date to the department a specified report; specifying requirements for the report; authorizing a certified teacher to earn an endorsement in speech and debate; specifying requirements for the endorsement; requiring the department to collaborate with FDI to establish regional traveling debate teams; authorizing a school district to use school buses to transport students to speech and debate competitions; amending s. 1001.42, F.S.; requiring each district school board annually to publish online and submit to the department a report; specifying requirements for the report; creating s. 1004.0983, F.S.; requiring the Board of Governors of the State University System and the State Board of Education to develop specified undergraduate and graduate coursework, certificates, and micro-credentials; authorizing the Board of Governors and the State Board of Education to collaborate with FDI to develop coursework; requiring the department to approve specified dual enrollment courses; providing an appropriation; providing an effective date.

House Amendment 1 (240687) (with title amendment)—Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Section 683.221, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

683.221 Florida Speech and Debate Week.—

(1) February 1 through February 7 shall be annually designated as "Florida Speech and Debate Week."

(2) Florida Speech and Debate Week shall be observed for all of the following purposes:

(a) To recognize the academic, civic, and leadership value of competitive speech and debate.

(b) To honor educators, coaches, judges, and school districts that support debate programming.

(c) To inspire students statewide to participate in debate as a pathway to civic engagement.

(d) To promote Florida's role as the national leader in scholastic speech and debate.

(3) Public and charter schools, state agencies, and other entities may observe Florida Speech and Debate Week.

Section 2. Section 1000.09, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

1000.09 Competitive speech and debate.—

(1) CREATION, DESIGNATION, AND RESPONSIBILITIES.—Subject to legislative appropriation and in alignment with, and in support of, the Department of Education and the program it operates called the Florida Civics and Debate Initiative (FCDI), the Florida Debate Initiative, Inc., (FDI) is established as this state's nonprofit statewide speech and debate organization that manages, develops, and expands K–20 civics, speech, and debate programs.

(a)1. The FDI shall support and expand access to statewide civic literacy and speech and debate programs by undertaking the following, which list is not exhaustive:

a. Educating and training coaches and students.

b. Training judges and volunteers.

c. Promoting educational competition opportunities.

d. Leading training and leadership development experiences.

e. Establishing competition standards.

f. Maintaining statewide data reporting.

g. Assisting the FCDI, upon its request, in civics-focused education, training, and programming initiatives.

2. This paragraph may not be construed to prohibit schools, districts, or students from participating in civics, speech and debate activities, leagues, or competitions not operated or supervised by the FDI.

(b) The FDI may establish and maintain partnerships with school districts, charter schools, state agencies, postsecondary institutions, nonprofit organizations, private entities, and national or international organizations to achieve the purposes of this section, including collaborative efforts with the FCDI. In such collaboration:

1. The FCDI and FDI shall jointly host and operate the annual National Civics and Debate Championship known as The Great Debate, a nationally recognized synthesis of civics education and debate competition that challenges students' civic knowledge, debate skills, and endurance through multi-day, multi-event competition.

2. The FCDI shall lead specific civics immersion events, including FCDI Day at the Capitol and the Great American Civics Challenge, which includes the Ronald Reagan Presidential Debates and the We The People Civics Showdown.

3. The FDI shall provide logistical support, debate tournament operations support, and tournament coordination support for The Great Debate and other collaborative initiatives to advance statewide speech and debate opportunities.

(2) AUTHORIZED USES OF FUNDS.—The FDI may expend program funds on all of the following:

(a) Administrative operations, including staffing, insurance, compliance, reporting, and statewide infrastructure.

(b) Programmatic operations, including curriculum, training, summer programs, workshops, camps, and mentorship programs.

(c) Tournament operations, including logistics, staff, judge training, technology, awards, and regional team operations.

(d) Travel, lodging, training, and transportation for participants, including local, state, and national travel to competitions hosted by the FDI, FCDI, or other civics, speech, and debate organizations.

(e) Public-private partnership development, including sponsorship and philanthropic support.

(f) Memberships, affiliations, and participation fees related to civics education, speech, debate, leadership, and academic competition programs, provided such memberships, affiliations, and participation advance the purposes of this section.

(3) REPORTING.—The FDI shall make publicly available online and submit, no later than December 31 of each year, an annual report to the Department of Education which includes all of the following:

(a) Student participation in statewide FDI programs, by district and demographics.

(b) The number of active student teams in statewide FDI speech and debate programs.

(c) Competitive and educational outcomes of statewide FDI programs.

(d) A categorized summary of all expenditures.

No later than November 1 of each year, the FCDI shall provide the FDI with the FCDI's most current reporting and data regarding paragraphs (a)-(d) above in order for the FDI to accurately report on the outcomes and expenditures related to any joint programming.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

And the title is amended as follows:

Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert: A bill to be entitled An act relating to speech and debate education; creating s. 683.221, F.S.; designating Florida Speech and Debate Week annually in February; providing purposes for the annual observance; authorizing specified entities to observe Florida Speech and Debate Week; creating s. 1000.09, F.S.; subject to legislative appropriation, establishing the Florida Debate Initiative, Inc., (FDI) as a statewide speech and debate organization that performs certain functions in support of the Florida Civics and Debate Initiative (FCDI) in the Department of Education; providing the duties of the FDI; providing construction; authorizing the FDI to establish and maintain certain partnerships; specifying activities for the FDI and FCDI; providing authorized uses of funds for the FDI; requiring the FDI to publish a report online and submit the report to the department annually by a specified date; specifying requirements for the report; requiring the FCDI to annually provide certain data to the FDI by a specified date; providing an effective date.

Senator Brodeur moved the following amendment to **House Amendment 1 (240687)** which was adopted:

Senate Amendment 1 (483934) (with title amendment) to House Amendment 1 (240687)—Delete lines 5-107 and insert:

Section 1. Section 265.0042, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

265.0042 Florida Speech and Debate Hall of Fame.—

(1) There is created the Florida Speech and Debate Hall of Fame. The Department of Management Services shall set aside an area on the Plaza Level of the Capitol Building and shall consult with the Florida Education Foundation and the Commissioner of Education regarding the design and theme of the area.

(2) The hall of fame shall do all of the following:

(a) Honor distinguished students, coaches, educators, alumni, veterans, public servants, benefactors, and supporters who have elevated speech and debate in this state.

(b) Preserve the history, impact, and cultural significance of competitive debate.

(c) Inspire future generations of Florida students to pursue speech, debate, public leadership, and civic excellence.

(3) The hall of fame shall convene a committee to establish procedures to nominate and select individuals to be featured.

Section 2. Section 683.221, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

683.221 Florida Speech and Debate Week.—

(1) February 1 through February 7 shall be annually designated as "Florida Speech and Debate Week."

(2) Florida Speech and Debate Week shall be observed for all of the following purposes:

(a) To recognize the academic, civic, and leadership value of competitive speech and debate.

(b) To honor educators, coaches, judges, and school districts that support debate programming.

(c) To inspire students statewide to participate in debate as a pathway to civic engagement.

(d) To promote Florida's role as the national leader in scholastic speech and debate.

(3) Public and charter schools, state agencies, and other entities may observe Florida Speech and Debate Week.

Section 3. Section 1000.09, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

1000.09 Competitive speech and debate.—

(1) LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND INTENT.—

(a) The Legislature finds that speech and debate significantly improve literacy, critical thinking, research ability, civic knowledge, and leadership for students of this state.

(b) The Legislature also finds that this state's civics and debate expansion has become a national model, increasing access to this instruction in all regions. Sustaining and improving this success requires a permanent statewide organization with specialized expertise, program capacity, and year-round operational support.

(c) The Legislature further finds that the Florida Debate Initiative has demonstrated statewide effectiveness and is uniquely positioned to ensure continuity, equitable access, quality programming, tournament infrastructure, and instructional rigor.

(d) It is the intent of the Legislature to establish a comprehensive statewide infrastructure, under the Florida Debate Initiative's direction, which expands, supports, and elevates K–20 speech and debate education.

(2) CREATION, DESIGNATION, AND RESPONSIBILITIES.—In alignment with, and in support of, the Department of Education and the program it operates called the Florida Civics and Debate Initiative (FCDI), the Florida Debate Initiative, Inc., (FDI) is established as this state's nonprofit statewide speech and debate organization that manages, develops, and expands K–20 civics, speech, and debate programs.

(a)1. FDI shall support and expand access to statewide civic literacy and speech and debate programs by undertaking the following, which list is not exhaustive:

a. Educating and training coaches and students.

b. Training judges and volunteers.

c. Promoting educational competition opportunities.

d. Leading training and leadership development experiences.

e. Establishing competition standards.

f. Maintaining statewide data reporting.

g. Assisting the FCDI, upon request, in civics-focused education, training, and programming initiatives.

2. This paragraph may not be construed to prohibit schools, districts, or students from participating in civics, speech and debate activities, leagues, or competitions not operated or supervised by FDI.

(b) FDI may establish and maintain partnerships with school districts, charter schools, state agencies, postsecondary institutions, nonprofit organizations, private entities, and national or international organizations to achieve the purposes of this section, including collaborative efforts with FCDI. In such collaboration:

1. FCDI and FDI shall jointly host and operate the annual National Civics and Debate Championship known as The Great Debate, a nationally recognized synthesis of civics education and debate competition that challenges students' civic knowledge, debate skills, and endurance through multi-day, multi-event competition.

2. FCDI shall lead specific civics immersion events, including FCDI Day at the Capitol and the Great American Civics Challenge, which includes the Ronald Reagan Presidential Debates and the We The People Civics Showdown.

3. FDI shall provide logistical support, debate tournament operations support, and tournament coordination support for The Great Debate and other collaborative initiatives to advance statewide speech and debate opportunities.

(3) AUTHORIZED USES OF FUNDS.—FDI may expend program funds on all of the following:

(a) Administrative operations, including staffing, insurance, compliance, reporting, and statewide infrastructure.

(b) Programmatic operations, including curriculum, training, summer programs, workshops, camps, and mentorship programs.

(c) Tournament operations, including logistics, staff, judge training, technology, awards, and regional team operations.

(d) Travel, lodging, training, and transportation for participants, including local, state, and national travel to competitions hosted by FDI, FCDI, or other civics, speech, and debate organizations.

(e) Public-private partnership development, including sponsorship and philanthropic support.

(f) Memberships, affiliations, and participation fees related to civics education, speech, debate, leadership, and academic competition programs, provided such memberships, affiliations, and participation advance the purposes of this section.

(4) REPORTING.—FDI shall make publicly available online and submit, no later than December 31 of each year, an annual report to the Department of Education which includes all of the following:

(a) Student participation in statewide FDI programs, by district and demographics.

(b) The number of active student teams in statewide FDI speech and debate programs.

(c) Competitive and educational outcomes of statewide FDI programs.

(d) A categorized summary of all expenditures.

(5) ENDORSEMENT IN SPEECH AND DEBATE.—Pursuant to s. 1012.56 and State Board of Education rule, a certified teacher may earn an endorsement in speech and debate if he or she demonstrates all of the following:

(a) Completion of coursework approved by the board in argumentation, rhetoric, communication, or debate instruction.

(b) Completion of professional development offered by FDI or equivalent professional development offered by a Florida College System institution or state university.

(c) Competency, as determined by the board, in the rules, events, and competitive standards of scholastic debate.

(6) REGIONAL TRAVELING DEBATE TEAMS.—The department shall collaborate with FDI to establish regional traveling debate teams to represent Florida in national competitions. Teams must be accessible to students at Title I and rural schools. Teams must provide competitive training and coaching for speech and debate.

(a) All travel costs may be covered through legislative appropriation, public-private partnerships, and sponsorships.

(b) A school district may use school buses to transport students to and from speech and debate competitions.

Section 4. Present subsection (29) of section 1001.42, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (30), and a new subsection (29) is added to that section, to read:

1001.42 Powers and duties of district school board.—The district school board, acting as a board, shall exercise all powers and perform all duties listed below:

(29) SPEECH AND DEBATE COMPETITION REPORTING.—Each district school board shall annually make available online and submit to the Department of Education, by a date set by the department, a report that includes all of the following information:

(a) The number of active speech and debate teams.

(b) Student participation rates.

(c) Competitive performance and public service engagement.

(d) Transportation, facilities, and administrative support provided.

(e) Resources needed to expand the program.

Section 5. Section 1004.0983, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

1004.0983 Speech and debate training pathways.—The Board of Governors and the State Board of Education shall develop undergraduate and graduate coursework, certificates, and micro-credentials in speech and debate education, coaching, and tournament operations.

(1) Coursework may include all of the following:

(a) Rhetoric, argumentation, and communication theory.

(b) Coaching methods and competitive event instruction.

(c) Tournament management and adjudication.

(d) Public speaking pedagogy.

(2) The Board of Governors and the State Board of Education may collaborate with the Florida Debate Initiative, Inc., to develop coursework.

Section 6. *The Department of Education shall approve courses developed pursuant to s. 1004.0983, Florida Statutes, for inclusion in dual enrollment programs under s. 1007.271, Florida Statutes.*

Section 7. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete lines 114-133 and insert: creating s. 265.0042, F.S.; creating the Florida Speech and Debate Hall of Fame; requiring the Department of Management Services to set aside an area in the Capitol Building for the hall of fame; requiring the department to consult with the Florida Education Foundation and the Commissioner of Education; providing the duties for the hall of fame; requiring the hall of fame to convene a committee for specified purposes; creating s. 683.221, F.S.; designating Florida Speech and Debate Week annually in February; providing purposes of the annual observance; authorizing specified entities to observe Florida Speech and Debate Week; creating s. 1000.09, F.S.; providing legislative findings and intent; establishing the Florida Debate Initiative, Inc., (FDI) as a statewide speech and debate organization that performs certain functions in support of the Florida Civics and Debate Initiative (FCDI) in the Department of Education; providing the duties of FDI; providing construction; authorizing FDI to establish and maintain certain partnerships; specifying activities for FDI and FCDI; providing authorized uses of funds for FDI; requiring FDI to publish online and submit annually by a specified date to the department a specified report; specifying requirements for the report; authorizing a

certified teacher to earn an endorsement in speech and debate; specifying requirements for the endorsement; requiring the department to collaborate with FDI to establish regional traveling debate teams; authorizing a school district to use school buses to transport students to speech and debate competitions; amending s. 1001.42, F.S.; requiring each district school board annually to publish online and submit to the department a report; specifying requirements for the report; creating s. 1004.0983, F.S.; requiring the Board of Governors of the State University System and the State Board of Education to develop specified undergraduate and graduate coursework, certificates, and micro-credentials; authorizing the Board of Governors and the State Board of Education to collaborate with FDI to develop coursework; requiring the department to approve specified dual enrollment courses; providing an effective date.

On motion by Senator Brodeur, the Senate concurred in **House Amendment 1 (240687)**, as amended, and requested the House to concur in **Senate Amendment 1 (483934) to House Amendment 1 (240687)**.

CS for CS for SB 1062 passed, as amended, and the action of the Senate was certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—39

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Osgood
Arrington	Gaetz	Passidomo
Avila	Garcia	Pizzo
Berman	Grall	Polsky
Bernard	Gruters	Rodriguez
Boyd	Harrell	Rouson
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Sharief
Bradley	Jones	Simon
Brodeur	Leek	Smith
Burgess	Martin	Truenow
Burton	Massullo	Trumbull
Calatayud	Mayfield	Wright
Davis	McClain	Yarborough

Nays—None

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed CS/CS/SB 598, with 1 amendment, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

CS for CS for SB 598—A bill to be entitled An act relating to funeral, cemetery, and consumer services; amending s. 497.164, F.S.; prohibiting a licensee of funeral or cemetery services from entering into certain contracts, agreements, or arrangements; amending s. 497.263, F.S.; revising the procedures for applicants seeking a cemetery license; amending s. 497.270, F.S.; conforming a provision to changes made by the act; amending s. 497.369, F.S.; revising the requirements for an applicant seeking licensure by endorsement to be an embalmer; amending s. 497.374, F.S.; revising the requirements for an applicant seeking licensure by endorsement to be a funeral director; amending s. 497.375, F.S.; deleting an exception to the educational requirements for an applicant seeking licensure to be a funeral director; amending s. 497.376, F.S.; revising the requirements for an applicant seeking a license by endorsement as a combination funeral director and embalmer; amending s. 497.377, F.S.; revising the educational requirements for licensure to be a combination funeral director and embalmer intern; amending s. 497.386, F.S.; authorizing a licensee or a licensed facility to dispose of human remains in a specified manner if the legally authorized person of the decedent fails, neglects, or refuses to direct the disposition; amending s. 497.459, F.S.; revising the method in which a preneed licensee must send written notice to cancel a preneed contract; authorizing the Board of Funeral, Cemetery, and Consumer Services to adopt rules; amending s. 497.607, F.S.; revising the timeframe after which a funeral or direct disposal establishment may dispose of cremated remains if the remains have not been claimed; amending s. 627.404, F.S.; revising the exceptions to the prohibition relating to personal insurance; reenacting s. 497.260(5), F.S., relating to cemeteries, exemptions, investigations, and mediation, to incorporate the amendment made to s. 497.263, F.S., in a reference thereto; providing an effective date.

House Amendment 1 (692383) (with title amendment)—Remove lines 44-52 and insert:

Section 1. Subsection (22) of section 497.005, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

497.005 Definitions.—As used in this chapter, the term:

(22) "Cremation" means any mechanical*,* ~~or~~ thermal*, or biological* process whereby *human remains are* ~~a dead human body is~~ reduced *through heat, chemical action, natural decomposition, or other means* to ashes*,* ~~and~~ bone fragments*, soil, or other reduced remains*. Cremation also includes any other mechanical or thermal process whereby human remains are pulverized, burned, recremated, or otherwise further reduced in size or quantity.

Section 2. Subsection (6) is added to section 497.164, Florida Statutes, to read:

497.164 Solicitation of goods or services.—

(6) A licensee may not enter into a contract, agreement, or other arrangement whereby the licensee or any licensee's affiliate becomes the exclusive or sole provider of funeral, burial, cremation, refrigeration, embalming, or removal services for an entity that provides medical, palliative, or other end-of-life care and services to the general public.

And the title is amended as follows:

Remove line 3 and insert: services; amending s. 497.005, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "cremation"; amending s. 497.164, F.S.; prohibiting a

SENATOR BRODEUR PRESIDING

On motion by Senator Truenow, the Senate refused to concur in **House Amendment 1 (692383)** to **CS for CS for SB 598** and the House was requested to recede. The action of the Senate was certified to the House.

By direction of the President, the Senate proceeded to—

SPECIAL ORDER CALENDAR

Consideration of **SB 1370** was deferred.

On motion by Senator Sharief, by unanimous consent—

CS for CS for HB 425—A bill to be entitled An act relating to the Historic Cemeteries Program; amending s. 267.21, F.S.; requiring local governments to approve applications from historic African-American cemeteries to change the land use category and zoning district of excess vacant land under certain conditions to allow development consistent and compatible with adjacent land uses; providing an effective date.

——was taken up out of order and read the second time by title. On motion by Senator Sharief, by two-thirds vote, **CS for CS for HB 425** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—39

Mr. President	Brodeur	Grall
Arrington	Burgess	Gruters
Avila	Burton	Harrell
Berman	Calatayud	Hooper
Bernard	Davis	Jones
Boyd	DiCeglie	Leek
Bracy Davis	Gaetz	Martin
Bradley	Garcia	Massullo

Mayfield	Polsky	Smith
McClain	Rodriguez	Truenow
Osgood	Rouson	Trumbull
Passidomo	Sharief	Wright
Pizzo	Simon	Yarborough

Nays—None

HB 929—A bill to be entitled An act relating to local government regulation of chickees; creating ss. 125.489 and 166.04845, F.S.; prohibiting counties and municipalities, respectively, from enacting an ordinance, regulation, or policy that prevents a chickee from being constructed by certain persons in specified locations; prohibiting counties and municipalities from enacting an ordinance, regulation, or policy concerning chickees that is more restrictive than certain federal regulations; amending s. 553.73, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "chickee"; providing a penalty for certain persons who construct chickees in an attempt to assert an exemption from the Florida Building Code; amending s. 633.202, F.S.; defining the term "chickee"; exempting certain chickees from the Florida Fire Prevention Code; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title. On motion by Senator Truenow, by two-thirds vote, **HB 929** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—39

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Osgood
Arrington	Gaetz	Passidomo
Avila	Garcia	Pizzo
Berman	Grall	Polsky
Bernard	Gruters	Rodriguez
Boyd	Harrell	Rouson
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Sharief
Bradley	Jones	Simon
Brodeur	Leek	Smith
Burgess	Martin	Truenow
Burton	Massullo	Trumbull
Calatayud	Mayfield	Wright
Davis	McClain	Yarborough

Nays—None

SB 1370—A bill to be entitled An act relating to habitual traffic offender designation; providing a short title; amending s. 322.264, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "habitual traffic offender"; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **SB 1370**, pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **CS for HB 35** was withdrawn from the Committee on Rules.

On motion by Senator Martin—

CS for HB 35—A bill to be entitled An act relating to habitual traffic offender designation; providing a short title; amending s. 322.264, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "habitual traffic offender"; providing an effective date.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **SB 1370** and read the second time by title.

On motion by Senator Martin, by two-thirds vote, **CS for HB 35** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—39

Mr. President	Berman	Bracy Davis
Arrington	Bernard	Bradley
Avila	Boyd	Brodeur
Burgess	Hooper	Polsky
Burton	Jones	Rodriguez
Calatayud	Leek	Rouson
Davis	Martin	Sharief
DiCeglie	Massullo	Simon
Gaetz	Mayfield	Smith
Garcia	McClain	Truenow
Grall	Osgood	Trumbull
Gruters	Passidomo	Wright
Harrell	Pizzo	Yarborough

Nays—None

Consideration of **CS for CS for SB 208**, **CS for CS for SB 7038**, **CS for CS for SB 7036**, **CS for CS for CS for SB 902**, **CS for CS for SB 1260**, and **SB 7034** was deferred.

RECESS

On motion by Senator Passidomo, the Senate recessed at 2:45 p.m. to reconvene at 3:45 p.m. or upon the call of the President.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The Senate was called to order by Senator Brodeur at 4:15 p.m. A quorum present—39:

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Osgood
Arrington	Gaetz	Passidomo
Avila	Garcia	Pizzo
Berman	Grall	Polsky
Bernard	Gruters	Rodriguez
Boyd	Harrell	Rouson
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Sharief
Bradley	Jones	Simon
Brodeur	Leek	Smith
Burgess	Martin	Truenow
Burton	Massullo	Trumbull
Calatayud	Mayfield	Wright
Davis	McClain	Yarborough

SPECIAL ORDER CALENDAR, continued

CS for CS for CS for SB 902—A bill to be entitled An act relating to the Department of Health; amending s. 381.986, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "low-THC cannabis"; revising requirements for department approval of qualified physicians and medical directors of medical marijuana treatment centers; deleting obsolete language; defining the term "park"; prohibiting medical marijuana treatment center cultivating, processing, or dispensing facilities from being located within a specified distance of parks, child care facilities, or facilities providing early learning services; authorizing counties and municipalities to approve a dispensing facility within such distance under certain circumstances; providing that the subsequent establishment of any park, child care facility, early learning facility, or school after the approval of a medical marijuana treatment center's cultivating, processing, or dispensing facility does not affect the continued operation or location of the approved cultivating, processing, or dispensing facility; exempting cultivating, processing, or dispensing facilities approved before a specified date from such distance requirements; creating s. 381.994, F.S.; creating the Neurofibromatosis Disease Grant Program within the department; providing the purpose of the program; requiring the program, subject to legislative appropriation, to award grants for certain purposes; specifying entities that are eligible to apply for grants under the program; allowing certain grant proposals to receive preference in the awarding of grants; requiring the department to award grants after consulting with the Rare Disease Advisory Council; specifying the types of applications that may be considered for grant funding; requiring the department to appoint peer review panels to review the scientific merit of grant applications and establish their priority scores; requiring the council to consider the priority scores in determining which proposals are recommended for grant funding under the pro-

gram; requiring the council and peer review panels to establish and follow certain guidelines when performing their duties under the program; prohibiting members of the council or peer review panels from participating in discussions or decisions if there are certain conflicts of interest; authorizing certain appropriated funds to be carried forward under certain circumstances; amending s. 383.14, F.S.; requiring the department to create an evidence-based educational pamphlet on the nutritional needs of preterm infants for a specified purpose; requiring the department to make the pamphlet available electronically to certain hospitals by a specified date; specifying requirements for the pamphlet; amending s. 391.308, F.S.; revising duties of the department in administering the Early Steps Program; revising provisions related to transitioning children from the Early Steps Program to school district programs; amending s. 391.3081, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the Early Steps Extended Option to conform to changes made by the act; amending s. 456.074, F.S.; requiring the department to issue an emergency order suspending the license of a health care practitioner arrested for committing or attempting, soliciting, or conspiring to commit murder in this state or another jurisdiction; amending s. 464.0156, F.S.; authorizing a registered nurse to delegate the administration of certain controlled substances to a home health aide for medically fragile children under certain circumstances; amending s. 491.005, F.S.; revising licensure requirements for marriage and family therapists; amending s. 1004.551, F.S.; revising requirements for the micro-credential component of specialized training provided by the University of Florida Center for Autism and Neurodevelopment; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **CS for CS for CS for SB 902**, pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **CS for HB 733** was withdrawn from the Committee on Rules.

On motion by Senator Garcia—

CS for HB 733—A bill to be entitled An act relating to the Department of Health; amending s. 381.4019, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "dental health professional shortage area"; defining the term "low-income"; deleting the definition of the term "medically underserved area"; revising eligibility requirements for dentists and dental hygienists participating in the Dental Student Loan Repayment Program; amending s. 381.986, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "low-THC cannabis"; revising requirements for department approval of qualified physicians and medical directors of medical marijuana treatment centers; deleting obsolete language; creating s. 381.994, F.S.; creating the Neurofibromatosis Disease Grant Program within the Department of Health; providing purpose of the program; requiring, subject to appropriation, the program to award certain grants; providing requirements for grant applications; requiring the Rare Disease Advisory Council and the peer review panels to establish and follow specified guidelines; prohibiting members of the council and panels from participating in certain discussions and decisions under certain circumstances; authorizing certain appropriation funds to be carried forward under certain circumstances; amending s. 383.14, F.S.; beginning on a specified date, subject to appropriation, requiring the department require newborns be screened for infantile Krabbe disease; requiring the Department of Health to create a pamphlet; providing instruction on the contents that must be included in the pamphlet; amending s. 391.308, F.S.; revising duties of the department in administering the Early Steps Program; revising provisions related to transitioning children from the Early Steps Program to school district programs; amending s. 391.3081, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the Early Steps Extended Option to conform to changes made by the act; amending s. 395.4025, F.S.; requiring the department to designate certain facilities as pediatric trauma centers; amending s. 456.074, F.S.; requiring the department to issue an emergency order suspending the license of a health care practitioner arrested for committing or attempting, soliciting, or conspiring to commit murder in this state or another jurisdiction; amending s. 464.0156, F.S.; authorizing a registered nurse to delegate the administration of certain controlled substances to a home health aide for medically fragile children under certain circumstances; amending s. 466.023, F.S.; allowing dental hygienists to use certain tools under the direct supervision of a dentist; amending s. 480.034, F.S.; exempting licensed cosmetologists from certain registration requirements; defining the term "aesthetic body contouring services"; amending s. 491.005, F.S.; revising the deadline for program accreditation; amending s. 741.21, F.S.; prohibiting marriage between certain related individuals; amending s. 766.1115, F.S.; revising the definition of "health care provider" or "provider" to include certain students; amending s. 1004.551, F.S.; revising requirements for the micro-credential component of specialized training provided by the University of Florida Center for Autism and Neurodevelopment; amending s. 381.986, F.S.; extending the exemption of certain rules pertaining to the medical use of marijuana from certain rulemaking requirements; amending ch. 2017-232, Laws of Florida; exempting certain rules pertaining to medical marijuana adopted to replace emergency rules from specified rulemaking requirements; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; providing an effective date.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **CS for CS for CS for SB 902** and read the second time by title.

Senator Garcia moved the following amendment:

Amendment 1 (476906) (with title amendment)—Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) and subsection (5) of section 381.4019, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

381.4019 Dental Student Loan Repayment Program.—The Dental Student Loan Repayment Program is established to support the state Medicaid program and promote access to dental care by supporting qualified dentists and dental hygienists who treat medically underserved populations in dental health professional shortage areas or medically underserved areas.

(1) As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Dental health professional shortage area" means a geographic area*, an area with a special population, or a facility* designated as such by the Health Resources and Services Administration of the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

(5) A *Florida-licensed dentist, Florida-licensed dental hygienist,* dental student*,* or dental hygiene student who demonstrates an offer of employment in a public health program or private practice as specified in paragraph (2)(a) may apply for the loan program before obtaining active employment but may not be awarded funds from the loan program until he or she meets the requirements of subsection (2).

Section 2. Paragraph (f) of subsection (1), paragraphs (a) and (c) of subsection (3), paragraph (h) of subsection (4), paragraph (a) of subsection (8), and subsection (11) of section 381.986, Florida Statutes, are amended, to read:

381.986 Medical use of marijuana.—

(1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

(f) "Low-THC cannabis" means a plant of the genus *Cannabis*, *whether growing or not* ~~the dried flowers of which contain 0.8 percent or less of tetrahydrocannabinol and more than 10 percent of cannabidiol weight for weight~~; the seeds thereof; the resin extracted from any part of such plant; *and every* ~~or any~~ compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of such plant or its seeds or resin*, excluding edibles; which contains 0.8 percent or less of tetrahydrocannabinol and more than 2 percent of cannabidiol, weight for weight, which* ~~that~~ is dispensed from a medical marijuana treatment center.

(3) QUALIFIED PHYSICIANS AND MEDICAL DIRECTORS.—

(a) Before being approved as a qualified physician ~~and before each license renewal~~, a physician must successfully complete a 2-hour course and subsequent examination offered by the Florida Medical Association or the Florida Osteopathic Medical Association which encompass the requirements of this section and any rules adopted hereunder. *Qualified physicians must renew the course certification biennially.* The course and examination must be administered at least annually and may be offered in a distance learning format, including an electronic, online format that is available upon request. The price of the course may not exceed $500.

(c) Before being employed as a medical director ~~and before each license renewal~~, a medical director must successfully complete a 2-hour course and subsequent examination offered by the Florida Medical Association or the Florida Osteopathic Medical Association which en-

compass the requirements of this section and any rules adopted hereunder. *Medical directors must renew the course certification biennially.* The course and examination must be administered at least annually and may be offered in a distance learning format, including an electronic, online format that is available upon request. The price of the course may not exceed $500.

(4) PHYSICIAN CERTIFICATION.—

~~(h) An active order for low-THC cannabis or medical cannabis issued pursuant to former s. 381.986, Florida Statutes 2016, and registered with the compassionate use registry before June 23, 2017, is deemed a physician certification, and all patients possessing such orders are deemed qualified patients until the department begins issuing medical marijuana use registry identification cards.~~

(8) MEDICAL MARIJUANA TREATMENT CENTERS.—

(a) The department shall license medical marijuana treatment centers to ensure reasonable statewide accessibility and availability as necessary for qualified patients registered in the medical marijuana use registry and who are issued a physician certification under this section.

1. As soon as practicable, but no later than July 3, 2017, the department shall license as a medical marijuana treatment center any entity that holds an active, unrestricted license to cultivate, process, transport, and dispense low-THC cannabis, medical cannabis, and cannabis delivery devices, under former s. 381.986, Florida Statutes 2016, before July 1, 2017, and which meets the requirements of this section. In addition to the authority granted under this section, these entities are authorized to dispense low-THC cannabis, medical cannabis, and cannabis delivery devices ordered pursuant to former s. 381.986, Florida Statutes 2016, ~~which were entered into the compassionate use registry before July 1, 2017,~~ and are authorized to begin dispensing marijuana under this section on July 3, 2017. The department may grant variances from the representations made in such an entity's original application for approval under former s. 381.986, Florida Statutes 2014, pursuant to paragraph (e).

2. The department shall license as medical marijuana treatment centers 10 applicants that meet the requirements of this section, under the following parameters:

a. As soon as practicable, but no later than August 1, 2017, the department shall license any applicant whose application was reviewed, evaluated, and scored by the department and which was denied a dispensing organization license by the department under former s. 381.986, Florida Statutes 2014; which had one or more administrative or judicial challenges pending as of January 1, 2017, or had a final ranking within one point of the highest final ranking in its region under former s. 381.986, Florida Statutes 2014; which meets the requirements of this section; and which provides documentation to the department that it has the existing infrastructure and technical and technological ability to begin cultivating marijuana within 30 days after registration as a medical marijuana treatment center.

b. As soon as practicable, the department shall license one applicant that is a recognized class member of *Pigford v. Glickman*, 185 F.R.D. 82 (D.D.C. 1999), or *In Re Black Farmers Litig.*, 856 F. Supp. 2d 1 (D.D.C. 2011). An applicant licensed under this sub-subparagraph is exempt from the requirement of subparagraph (b)2. An applicant that applies for licensure under this sub-subparagraph, pays its initial application fee, is determined by the department through the application process to qualify as a recognized class member, and is not awarded a license under this sub-subparagraph may transfer its initial application fee to one subsequent opportunity to apply for licensure under subparagraph 4.

c. As soon as practicable, but no later than October 3, 2017, the department shall license applicants that meet the requirements of this section in sufficient numbers to result in 10 total licenses issued under this subparagraph, while accounting for the number of licenses issued under sub-subparagraphs a. and b.

3. For up to two of the licenses issued under subparagraph 2., the department shall give preference to applicants that demonstrate in their applications that they own one or more facilities that are, or were, used for the canning, concentrating, or otherwise processing of citrus fruit or citrus molasses and will use or convert the facility or facilities for the processing of marijuana.

4. Within 6 months after the registration of 100,000 active qualified patients in the medical marijuana use registry, the department shall license four additional medical marijuana treatment centers that meet the requirements of this section. Thereafter, the department shall license four medical marijuana treatment centers within 6 months after the registration of each additional 100,000 active qualified patients in the medical marijuana use registry that meet the requirements of this section.

(11) PREEMPTION.—Regulation of cultivation, processing, and delivery of marijuana by medical marijuana treatment centers is preempted to the state except as provided in this subsection.

(a) As used in this subsection, the term "park" means any public or private property, excluding private residences, which has equipment specifically installed for children's athletic, recreational, or leisure activities, including, but not limited to, playgrounds and athletic playing fields. The term does not include conservation and recreation lands acquired in accordance with chapter 259 or conservation and recreation lands designated by a local government, unless such lands contain equipment installed for children's athletic, recreational, or leisure activities.

(b)~~(a)~~ A medical marijuana treatment center cultivating or processing facility may not be located within 500 feet of the real property that comprises *a park, a child care facility as defined in s. 402.302, a facility that provides early learning services as specified in s. 1000.04(1), or* a public or private elementary school, middle school, or secondary school. *The subsequent establishment of any such park, child care facility, early learning facility, or school after the approval of the medical marijuana treatment center cultivating or processing facility does not affect the continued operation or location of the approved cultivating or processing facility. A medical marijuana treatment center cultivating or processing facility that was approved by the department before July 1, 2026, is exempt from the distance restrictions relating to parks, child care facilities, and early learning facilities.*

(c)1.~~(b)1.~~ A county or municipality may, by ordinance, ban medical marijuana treatment center dispensing facilities from being located within the boundaries of that county or municipality. A county or municipality that does not ban dispensing facilities under this subparagraph may not place specific limits, by ordinance, on the number of dispensing facilities that may locate within that county or municipality.

2. A municipality may determine by ordinance the criteria for the location of, and other permitting requirements that do not conflict with state law or department rule for, medical marijuana treatment center dispensing facilities located within the boundaries of that municipality. A county may determine by ordinance the criteria for the location of, and other permitting requirements that do not conflict with state law or department rule for, all such dispensing facilities located within the unincorporated areas of that county. Except as provided in paragraph *(d)* ~~(c)~~, a county or municipality may not enact ordinances for permitting or for determining the location of dispensing facilities which are more restrictive than its ordinances permitting or determining the locations for pharmacies licensed under chapter 465. A municipality or county may not charge a medical marijuana treatment center a license or permit fee in an amount greater than the fee charged by such municipality or county to pharmacies. A dispensing facility location approved by a municipality or county pursuant to former s. 381.986(8)(b), Florida Statutes 2016, is not subject to the location requirements of this subsection.

(d)~~(c)~~ A medical marijuana treatment center dispensing facility may not be located within 500 feet of the real property that comprises *a park, a child care facility as defined in s. 402.302, a facility that provides early learning services as specified in s. 1000.04(1), or* a public or private elementary school, middle school, or secondary school unless the county or municipality approves the location through a formal proceeding open to the public at which the county or municipality determines that the location promotes the public health, safety, and general welfare of the community. *The subsequent establishment of any such park, child care facility, early learning facility, or school after the approval of the medical marijuana treatment center dispensing facility does not affect the continued operation or location of the approved dispensing facility. A*

medical marijuana treatment center dispensing facility that was approved by the department before July 1, 2026, is exempt from the distance restrictions relating to parks, child care facilities, and early learning facilities.

(e)~~(d)~~ This subsection does not prohibit any local jurisdiction from ensuring medical marijuana treatment center facilities comply with the Florida Building Code, the Florida Fire Prevention Code, or any local amendments to the Florida Building Code or the Florida Fire Prevention Code.

Section 3. Section 381.994, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

381.994 Neurofibromatosis Disease Grant Program.—

(1)(a) There is created within the Department of Health the Neurofibromatosis Disease Grant Program. The purpose of the program is to advance the progress of research and cures for neurofibromatosis by awarding grants through a competitive, peer-reviewed process.

(b) Subject to legislative appropriation, the program shall award grants for scientific and clinical research to further the search for new diagnostics, treatments, and cures for neurofibromatosis.

(2)(a) Applications for grants for neurofibromatosis disease research may be submitted by any university or established research institute in this state. All qualified investigators in this state, regardless of institutional affiliation, shall have equal access and opportunity to compete for the research funding. Preference may be given to grant proposals that foster collaboration among institutions, researchers, and community practitioners, as such proposals support the advancement of treatments and cures of neurofibromatosis through basic or applied research. Grants shall be awarded by the department, after consultation with the Rare Disease Advisory Council under s. 381.99, on the basis of scientific merit, as determined by the competitive, peer-reviewed process to ensure objectivity, consistency, and high quality. The following types of applications may be considered for funding:

1. Investigator-initiated research grants.

2. Institutional research grants.

3. Collaborative research grants, including those that advance the finding of treatments and cures through basic or applied research.

(b) To ensure appropriate and fair evaluation of grant applications based on scientific merit, the department shall appoint peer review panels of independent, scientifically qualified individuals to review the scientific merit of each proposal and establish its priority score. The priority scores must be forwarded to the council, and the council shall consider priority scores in determining which proposals are recommended for funding.

(3) For purposes of performing their duties under this section, the Rare Disease Advisory Council and the peer review panels shall establish and follow rigorous guidelines for ethical conduct and adhere to a strict policy with regard to conflicts of interest. A member of the council or panel may not participate in any discussion or decision of the council or panel with respect to a research proposal by any firm, entity, or agency with which the member is associated as a member of the governing body or as an employee or with which the member has entered into a contractual arrangement.

(4) Notwithstanding s. 216.301 and pursuant to s. 216.351, the balance of any appropriation from the General Revenue Fund for the Neurofibromatosis Disease Grant Program which is not disbursed but is obligated pursuant to contract or committed to be expended by June 30 of the fiscal year in which the funds are appropriated may be carried forward for up to 5 years after the effective date of the original appropriation.

Section 4. Paragraph (i) is added to subsection (3) of section 383.14, Florida Statutes, to read:

383.14 Screening for metabolic disorders, other hereditary and congenital disorders, and environmental risk factors.—

(3) DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH; POWERS AND DUTIES.—The department shall administer and provide certain services to implement the provisions of this section and shall:

(i) Create an evidence-based educational pamphlet on the nutritional needs of preterm infants to be provided to parents and guardians of infants receiving care in a neonatal intensive care unit. By January 1, 2027, the department shall make the pamphlet available electronically to hospitals licensed under chapter 395 to provide neonatal intensive care services. The pamphlet must include, but need not be limited to, information on preterm infants relating to all of the following:

1. The specific nutritional needs of preterm infants;

2. The health risks associated with nutritional deficits and the potential need for nutritional supplementation;

3. Different nutritional sources for infants, including maternal breast milk, pasteurized human donor milk, infant formula, human-milk-derived fortifiers, and bovine-milk-derived fortifiers, and the recommended uses for each type of nutritional source;

4. The importance of maternal breast milk for meeting the nutritional and developmental needs of infants, and the alternative of pasteurized human donor milk if maternal breast milk is not available;

5. The importance of having a physician discuss with family members the risks and benefits of all nutritional sources available, based on the preterm infant's individual situation; and

6. Necrotizing enterocolitis, the risk factors for necrotizing enterocolitis, and the potential for a human-milk-based diet, including maternal and pasteurized donor breast milk, to reduce the risk of necrotizing enterocolitis.

All provisions of this subsection must be coordinated with the provisions and plans established under this chapter, chapter 411, and Pub. L. No. 99-457.

Section 5. Present paragraph (g) of subsection (16) of section 395.4025, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph (h), and a new paragraph (g) is added to subsection (16) of that section, to read:

395.4025 Trauma centers; selection; quality assurance; records.—

(16)

(g) Notwithstanding the statutory capacity limits established in subsection (8), s. 395.402(1), or any other provision of this part, a specialty licensed children's hospital licensed by the agency which has maintained its specialty license as a children's hospital for at least 5 years must be deemed to be in compliance with trauma center standards and be designated by the department as a Level I or Level II pediatric trauma center, as applicable and pursuant to subsection (7), if the hospital demonstrates to the department that it holds a valid certificate of trauma center verification by the American College of Surgeons.

Section 6. Present paragraphs (d) through (hh) of subsection (5) of section 456.074, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as paragraphs (e) through (ii), respectively, and a new paragraph (d) is added to that subsection, to read:

456.074 Certain health care practitioners; immediate suspension of license.—

(5) The department shall issue an emergency order suspending the license of any health care practitioner who is arrested for committing or attempting, soliciting, or conspiring to commit any act that would constitute a violation of any of the following criminal offenses in this state or similar offenses in another jurisdiction:

(d) Section 782.04, relating to murder.

Section 7. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section 464.0156, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

464.0156 Delegation of duties.—

(2)

(c) A registered nurse may not delegate the administration of any controlled substance listed in Schedule II, Schedule III, or Schedule IV of s. 893.03 or 21 U.S.C. s. 812, except *that a registered nurse may delegate:*

1. ~~For~~ The administration of an insulin syringe that is prefilled with the proper dosage by a pharmacist or an insulin pen that is prefilled by the manufacturer*; and*

2. To a home health aide for medically fragile children as defined in s. 400.462(18), the administration of a Schedule IV controlled substance prescribed for the emergency treatment of an active seizure.

Section 8. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section 491.005, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

491.005 Licensure by examination.—

(3) MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY.—Upon verification of documentation and payment of a fee not to exceed $200, as set by board rule, the department shall issue a license as a marriage and family therapist to an applicant whom the board certifies has met all of the following criteria:

(c)1. Attained one of the following:

a. A minimum of a master's degree in marriage and family therapy from a program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education.

b. A minimum of a master's degree with a major emphasis in marriage and family therapy or a closely related field from a university program accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs and graduate courses approved by the board.

c. A minimum of a master's degree with an emphasis in marriage and family therapy or a closely related field, with a degree conferred before September 1, *2032* ~~2027~~, from an institutionally accredited college or university and graduate courses approved by the board.

2. If the course title that appears on the applicant's transcript does not clearly identify the content of the coursework, the applicant provided additional documentation, including, but not limited to, a syllabus or catalog description published for the course. The required master's degree must have been received in an institution of higher education that, at the time the applicant graduated, was fully accredited by an institutional accrediting body recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation or its successor organization or was a member in good standing with Universities Canada, or an institution of higher education located outside the United States and Canada which, at the time the applicant was enrolled and at the time the applicant graduated, maintained a standard of training substantially equivalent to the standards of training of those institutions in the United States which are accredited by an institutional accrediting body recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation or its successor organization. Such foreign education and training must have been received in an institution or program of higher education officially recognized by the government of the country in which it is located as an institution or program to train students to practice as professional marriage and family therapists or psychotherapists. The applicant has the burden of establishing that the requirements of this provision have been met, and the board shall require documentation, such as an evaluation by a foreign equivalency determination service, as evidence that the applicant's graduate degree program and education were equivalent to an accredited program in this country. An applicant with a master's degree from a program that did not emphasize marriage and family therapy may complete the coursework requirement in a training institution fully accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education recognized by the United States Department of Education.

For the purposes of dual licensure, the department shall license as a marriage and family therapist any person who meets the requirements of s. 491.0057. Fees for dual licensure may not exceed those stated in this subsection.

Section 9. Paragraph (f) of subsection (1) of section 1004.551, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1004.551 University of Florida Center for Autism and Neurodevelopment.—There is created at the University of Florida the Center for Autism and Neurodevelopment.

(1) The center shall:

(f) Develop an autism micro-credential to provide specialized training in supporting students with autism.

1. The micro-credential must be stackable with the autism endorsement and be available to:

a. Instructional personnel as defined in s. 1012.01(2);

b. Prekindergarten instructors as specified in ss. 1002.55, 1002.61, and 1002.63; ~~and~~

c. Child care personnel as defined in ss. 402.302(3) and 1002.88(1)(e)*; and*

d. Early intervention service providers credentialed through the Early Steps Program.

2. The micro-credential must require participants to demonstrate competency in:

a. Identifying behaviors associated with autism.

b. Supporting the learning environment in both general and specialized classroom settings.

c. Promoting the use of assistive technologies.

d. Applying evidence-based instructional practices.

3. The micro-credential must:

a. Be provided at no cost to eligible participants.

b. Be competency-based, allowing participants to complete the credentialing process either in person or online.

c. Permit participants to receive the micro-credential at any time during training once competency is demonstrated.

4. Individuals eligible under subparagraph 1. who complete the micro-credential are eligible for a one-time stipend, as determined in the General Appropriations Act. The center shall administer stipends for the micro-credential.

Section 10. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause and insert: A bill to be entitled An act relating to the Department of Health; amending s. 381.4019, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "dental health professional shortage area"; revising eligibility requirements for dentists and dental hygienists participating in the Dental Student Loan Repayment Program; amending s. 381.986, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "low-THC cannabis"; revising requirements for department approval of qualified physicians and medical directors of medical marijuana treatment centers; deleting obsolete language; defining the term "park"; prohibiting medical marijuana treatment centers' cultivating, processing, or dispensing facilities from being located within a specified distance of parks, child care facilities, or facilities providing early learning services; authorizing counties and municipalities to approve a dispensing facility within such distance under certain circumstances; providing that the subsequent establishment of any park, child care facility, early learning facility, or school after the approval of a medical marijuana treatment center's cultivating, processing, or dispensing facility does not affect the continued operation or location of the approved cultivating, processing, or dispensing facility; exempting cultivating, processing, or dispensing facilities approved before a specified date from such distance requirements; creating s. 381.994, F.S.; creating the Neurofibromatosis Disease Grant Program within the department; providing the purpose of the program; requiring the program, subject to legislative appropriation, to award grants for certain purposes; specifying entities that are eligible to apply for grants under the program; allowing certain grant proposals to receive preference in the awarding of grants; requiring the department to award grants after consulting

with the Rare Disease Advisory Council; specifying the types of applications that may be considered for grant funding; requiring the department to appoint peer review panels to review the scientific merit of grant applications and establish their priority scores; requiring the council to consider the priority scores in determining which proposals are recommended for grant funding under the program; requiring the council and peer review panels to establish and follow certain guidelines when performing their duties under the program; prohibiting members of the council or peer review panels from participating in discussions or decisions if there are certain conflicts of interest; authorizing certain appropriated funds to be carried forward under certain circumstances; amending s. 383.14, F.S.; requiring the department to create an evidence-based educational pamphlet on the nutritional needs of preterm infants for a specified purpose; requiring the department to make the pamphlet available electronically to certain hospitals by a specified date; specifying requirements for the pamphlet; amending s. 395.4025, F.S.; requiring that certain specialty licensed children's hospitals be deemed in compliance with specified standards and be designated as pediatric trauma centers if they meet specified criteria; amending s. 456.074, F.S.; requiring the department to issue an emergency order suspending the license of a health care practitioner arrested for committing or attempting, soliciting, or conspiring to commit murder in this state or another jurisdiction; amending s. 464.0156, F.S.; authorizing a registered nurse to delegate the administration of certain controlled substances to a home health aide for medically fragile children under certain circumstances; amending s. 491.005, F.S.; revising licensure requirements for marriage and family therapists; amending s. 1004.551, F.S.; revising requirements for the micro-credential component of specialized training provided by the University of Florida Center for Autism and Neurodevelopment; providing an effective date.

Senator Burton moved the following amendment to **Amendment 1 (476906)** which was adopted:

Amendment 1A (536252) (with title amendment)—Delete line 462 and insert:

Section 10. *Within 120 days after this act becomes a law, the Board of Pharmacy shall finalize and adopt an amendment to rule 64B16-27.4001, Florida Administrative Code, which specifically addresses the objectionable provisions in the Joint Administrative Procedures Committee Objection Report to that rule, as presented to the committee at its December 8, 2025, meeting. This section shall take effect upon this act becoming a law.*

Section 11. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon this act becoming a law, this act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete line 545 and insert: Neurodevelopment; requiring the Board of Pharmacy to finalize and adopt a certain amendment to a specified rule within a specified timeframe; providing effective dates.

Amendment 1 (476906), as amended, was adopted.

On motion by Senator Garcia, by two-thirds vote, **CS for HB 733**, as amended, was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—37

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Pizzo
Arrington	Gaetz	Polsky
Avila	Garcia	Rodriguez
Berman	Grall	Rouson
Bernard	Harrell	Sharief
Boyd	Hooper	Simon
Bracy Davis	Jones	Smith
Bradley	Leek	Truenow
Brodeur	Martin	Trumbull
Burgess	Mayfield	Wright
Burton	McClain	Yarborough
Calatayud	Osgood	
Davis	Passidomo	

Nays—None

Vote after roll call:

Yea—Massullo

MOTIONS RELATING TO COMMITTEE REFERENCE

On motion by Senator Passidomo, by two-thirds vote, **CS for CS for CS for HB 905** was withdrawn from the Committee on Rules and placed on the Special Order Calendar this day.

RECONSIDERATION OF MOTION

Senator Pizzo moved to reconsider the motion by which **CS for HB 1283** was removed from today's Special Order Calendar as adopted by two-thirds vote on March 11.

The President referred the motion to Senator Passidomo, Chair of the Committee on Rules.

CS for CS for CS for HB 905—A bill to be entitled An act relating to foreign influence; providing a short title; creating s. 106.031, F.S.; providing definitions; requiring agents of foreign countries of concern and foreign-supported political organizations to register with the Division of Elections; providing registration requirements; requiring periodic updates by such agents and organizations; requiring registrants and organizations to disclose certain payments; requiring foreign-supported political organizations to register with the division on a specified form created by the division within a specified timeframe; providing requirements for such forms; providing penalties; amending s. 112.313, F.S.; defining the terms "designated foreign terrorist organization" and "foreign country of concern"; prohibiting specified persons from soliciting or accepting anything of value from a designated foreign terrorist organization, a foreign country of concern, or persons or entities representing such organizations or countries; amending s. 112.3142, F.S.; requiring the Commission on Ethics to adopt certain rules by a specified date; amending s. 205.0532, F.S.; authorizing any appropriate tax collector to revoke or refuse to renew business tax receipts of specified individuals, businesses, or entities; authorizing such tax collector or a local governing authority to request a specified sworn affidavit or declaration from such individual, business, or entity; providing criminal penalties; amending s. 287.138, F.S.; providing and revising definitions; prohibiting a governmental entity from entering into certain contracts with foreign sources of concern; prohibiting governmental entities from extending and renewing certain contracts beginning on a specified date; prohibiting governmental entities from accepting a bid on, a proposal for, or a reply to, or entering into, contracts involving information technology or providing access to an individual's personal identifying information unless a certain affidavit signed by an officer or a representative is provided to the governmental entity; authorizing a governmental entity to enter into, extend, or renew certain contracts if the Department of Management Services makes specified written determinations; requiring the department to submit to the Governor and Legislature specified written reports beginning on a specified date; providing applicability; authorizing the department to create a specified list; amending s. 288.816, F.S.; prohibiting certain activities encouraging affiliations with foreign countries of concern; requiring the Department of Commerce to publish and update certain information on its website; amending s. 288.8175, F.S.; removing the Florida-China Institute from the list of linkage institutes; removing an exemption for linkage institutes; prohibiting a linkage institute from entering into an agreement or participating in an activity with a foreign country of concern; amending s. 288.854, F.S.; authorizing the Governor to suspend certain laws or rules relating to Cuba for a specified period under certain circumstances; prohibiting such suspension from being renewed or extended; prohibiting the Governor from suspending the same laws or rules without express authorization from the Legislature; requiring the Governor to submit to the Legislature certain written recommendations within a specified timeframe; providing for future legislative repeal of certain provisions; amending s. 288.860, F.S.; requiring certain agreements to be terminated by a specified date; amending 316.0078, F.S.; revising the definitions of the terms "controlling interest" and "foreign country of concern"; amending s. 496.404, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "foreign source of concern"; amending s. 692.201,

F.S.; revising the definition of the term "foreign country of concern"; creating s. 692.21, F.S.; providing definitions; prohibiting certain entities with access to critical infrastructure facilities from entering into certain contracts or agreements with foreign sources of concern; requiring certain entities to register with the Department of Commerce by a specified date; requiring the department to adopt registration forms; providing requirements for such forms; providing civil and criminal penalties; requiring certain entities to provide a signed affidavit to the department attesting that the buyer or transferee of a critical infrastructure facility is not a foreign source of concern; prohibiting information technology from a foreign source of concern from being used in critical infrastructure facilities; authorizing a governmental entity or business entity to enter into certain contracts or agreements if the department, in consultation with the Department of Management Services, makes specified written determinations; requiring the Department of Commerce to submit to the Governor and Legislature specified written reports beginning on a specified date; providing applicability; requiring the department to adopt rules; creating s. 775.08255, F.S.; providing definitions; providing for the reclassification of criminal penalties under certain circumstances; providing a minimum mandatory term of imprisonment; creating s. 775.36, F.S.; providing definitions; prohibiting enforcement of certain laws of a foreign government; providing criminal penalties; amending s. 282.802, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 63.213, F.S.; prohibiting preplanned adoption agreements if a party to such agreement is a citizen or resident of a foreign country of concern; amending s. 742.15, F.S.; prohibiting gestational surrogacy contracts if a party to such contract is a citizen or resident of a foreign country of concern; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Senator Grall moved the following amendment which was adopted:

Amendment 1 (930088) (with title amendment)—Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. *This act may be cited as the "Foreign Interference Restriction and Enforcement Act."*

Section 2. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 112.313, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

112.313 Standards of conduct for public officers, employees of agencies, and local government attorneys.—

(1) *DEFINITIONS* ~~DEFINITION~~.—As used in this section, unless the context otherwise requires, the term*:*

(a) "Designated foreign terrorist organization" has the same meaning as in s. 775.32.

(b) "Foreign country of concern" has the same meaning as in s. 286.101(1).

(c) "Public officer" includes any person elected or appointed to hold office in any agency, including any person serving on an advisory body.

(2) SOLICITATION OR ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS.—

(a) A ~~No~~ public officer, *an* employee of an agency, *a* local government attorney, or *a* candidate for nomination or election *may not* ~~shall~~ solicit or accept anything of value to the recipient, including a gift, loan, reward, promise of future employment, favor, or service, based upon any understanding that the vote, official action, or judgment of the public officer, employee, local government attorney, or candidate would be influenced thereby.

(b) A public officer, an employee of an agency, a local government attorney, or a candidate for nomination or election found to have violated this subsection by soliciting or accepting anything of value from a person or an entity representing or acting on behalf of a designated foreign terrorist organization or foreign country of concern or any of its subdivisions must, in addition to any criminal or civil penalty involved, repay double the value of any pecuniary benefit received as a result of the violation committed.

Section 3. Paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section 112.3142, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

112.3142 Ethics training for specified constitutional officers, elected municipal officers, commissioners of community redevelopment agencies, and elected local officers of independent special districts.—

(2)

(e) The commission shall adopt rules establishing minimum course content for the portion of an ethics training class which addresses s. 8, Art. II of the State Constitution and the Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees. *By November 1, 2026, the commission shall adopt revised rules to supplement the minimum course content, including all of the following:*

1. Known efforts by foreign countries of concern to target and influence subnational governments, including, but not limited to, the Chinese Communist Party's United Front strategy.

2. How to identify, recognize, and report suspected foreign influence campaigns.

3. Enhanced penalties for violations relating to gifts from foreign countries of concern as defined in s. 286.101(1) or designated foreign terrorist organizations as defined in s. 775.32(1) under s. 112.313(2)(b).

Section 4. Section 205.0532, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

205.0532 Revocation or refusal to renew; doing business with Cuba.—

(1) Any *appropriate tax collector or* local governing authority issuing a business tax receipt to any individual, business, or entity under this chapter may revoke or refuse to renew such receipt if the individual, business, or entity~~, or parent company of such individual, business, or entity,~~ is doing business with Cuba *in violation of federal law*.

(2) Any appropriate tax collector or local governing authority may request a sworn affidavit or declaration from any individual, business, or entity attesting to whether the individual, business, or entity is doing business with Cuba in violation of federal law.

(3) A person who knowingly makes a false declaration under subsection (2) commits the crime of perjury by false written declaration, a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

Section 5. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 288.816, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (7) is added to that section, to read:

288.816 Intergovernmental relations.—

(3) The state protocol officer may:

(a) Coordinate and carry out activities designed to encourage the state and its subdivisions to participate in sister city and sister state affiliations with foreign countries and their subdivisions. Such activities may include a State of Florida sister cities conference. *Such activities may not include encouragement of any affiliations with foreign countries of concern as defined in s. 288.860(1) or their subdivisions.*

(7) The department shall publish on its website, to be updated quarterly, the following information:

(a) A current and accurate list of all foreign consulate offices.

(b) A current and accurate list of all sister city and sister state affiliations, including a copy of all such agreements.

Section 6. Subsections (3), (4), and (5) of section 288.8175, Florida Statutes, are amended, and a new subsection (7) is added to that section, to read:

288.8175 Linkage institutes between postsecondary institutions in this state and foreign countries.—

(3) Each institute must be co-administered in this state by a university-community college partnership~~, as designated in subsection (5),~~ and must have a private sector and public sector advisory committee. The advisory committee must be representative of the international

education and commercial interests of the state and may have members who are native to the foreign country partner. Six members must be appointed by the Department of Education. The Department of Education must appoint at least one member who is an international educator. The presidents, or their designees, of the participating university and community college must also serve on the advisory committee.

(4) The institutes are:

(a) Florida-Brazil Institute (University of Florida and Miami Dade College).

(b) Florida-Costa Rica Institute (Florida State University and Valencia College).

(c) Florida Caribbean Institute (Florida International University and Daytona State College).

(d) Florida-Canada Institute (University of Central Florida and Palm Beach State College).

~~(e) Florida-China Institute (University of West Florida, University of South Florida, and Eastern Florida State College).~~

(e)~~(f)~~ Florida-Japan Institute (University of South Florida, University of West Florida, and St. Petersburg College).

(f)~~(g)~~ Florida-France Institute (New College of the University of South Florida, Miami Dade College, and Florida State University).

(g)~~(h)~~ Florida-Israel Institute (Florida Atlantic University and Broward College).

(h)~~(i)~~ Florida-West Africa Institute (Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, University of North Florida, and Florida State College at Jacksonville).

(i)~~(j)~~ Florida-Eastern Europe Institute (University of Central Florida and Lake-Sumter State College).

(j)~~(k)~~ Florida-Mexico Institute (Florida International University and Polk State College).

~~(5) Each institute is allowed to exempt from s. 1009.21 up to 25 full-time equivalent students per year from the respective host countries to study in any of the state universities or community colleges in this state as resident students for tuition purposes. The institute directors shall develop criteria, to be approved by the Department of Education, for the selection of these students. Students must return home within 3 years after their tenure of graduate or undergraduate study for a length of time equal to their exemption period.~~

(7) A linkage institute may not enter into any agreement or participate in any activities with a foreign country of concern as defined in s. 288.860(1) or any organization in a foreign country of concern.

Section 7. Present subsection (4) of section 288.854, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (5), and a new subsection (4) is added to that section, to read:

288.854 Support for a free and independent Cuba.—

(4)(a) If the Federal Government changes the diplomatic status of Cuba, the Governor may, by executive order, suspend the provisions of any statute or rule restricting interactions with Cuba for a period not to exceed adjournment sine die of the regular session of the Legislature after such suspension. A suspension expires upon adjournment sine die of such regular session of the Legislature. A suspension may not be renewed or extended.

(b) If the Governor suspends a statute or rule under paragraph (a), he or she may not subsequently suspend the same statute or rule relating to Cuba unless expressly authorized by the Legislature.

(c) At least 30 days before the next regular session of the Legislature following a change in Cuba's diplomatic status by the Federal Government, the Governor shall submit to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives written recommendations for policy changes, if any, that should be considered by the Legislature concerning Cuba. However, if the change in Cuba's diplomatic status occurs within 30 days before the convening of the next regular session of the Legislature or during the regular session of the Legislature, the Governor must submit such recommendations as soon as practicable.

(d) This subsection is repealed October 2, 2028, unless saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

Section 8. Subsection (2) of section 288.860, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

288.860 International cultural agreements.—

(2)*(a)* A state agency, political subdivision, or public school authorized to expend state-appropriated funds or levy ad valorem taxes may not participate in any agreement with or accept any grant from a foreign country of concern *or its subdivisions*, or any entity controlled by a foreign country of concern.

(b) All agreements under paragraph (a), including, but not limited to, sister city agreements, are terminated as of July 1, 2026~~, which:~~

~~(a) Constrains the freedom of contract of such public entity;~~

~~(b) Allows the curriculum or values of a program in the state to be directed or controlled by the foreign country of concern; or~~

~~(c) Promotes an agenda detrimental to the safety or security of the United States or its residents. Before the execution of any cultural exchange agreement with a foreign country of concern, the substance of the agreement must be shared with federal agencies concerned with protecting national security or enforcing trade sanctions, embargoes, or other restrictions under federal law. If such federal agency provides information suggesting that such agreement promotes an agenda detrimental to the safety or security of the United States or its residents, the public entity may not enter into the agreement~~.

Section 9. Subsection (1) of section 316.0078, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.0078 Prohibition on contracting for camera systems of vendors of foreign countries of concern.—

(1) As used in this section, the *term:* ~~terms~~

(a) "Controlling interest" *means possession of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management or policies of a company, whether through ownership of securities, by contract, or otherwise. A person or an entity that directly or indirectly has 25 percent or more of the voting interests of a company or is entitled to 25 percent or more of its profits is presumed to possess a controlling interest.* ~~and~~

(b) "Foreign country of concern" *means the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Republic of Cuba, the Venezuelan regime of Nicolás Maduro, or the Syrian Arab Republic, including any agency of or any other entity of significant control of such foreign country of concern* ~~have the same meanings as in s. 287.138(1)~~.

Section 10. Subsection (14) of section 496.404, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

496.404 Definitions.—As used in ss. 496.401-496.424, the term:

(14) "Foreign source of concern" means any of the following:

(a) The government or any official of the government of a foreign country of concern;

(b) A political party or member of a political party or any subdivision of a political party in a foreign country of concern;

(c) A partnership, an association, a corporation, an organization, or other combination of persons organized under the laws of or having its principal place of business in a foreign country of concern, or a subsidiary of such entity;

(d) Any person who is domiciled in a foreign country of concern and is not a citizen or lawful permanent citizen of the United States;

(e) An agent, including a subsidiary or an affiliate of a foreign legal entity, acting on behalf of a foreign source of concern; ~~or~~

(f) An entity in which a person, entity, or collection of persons or entities described in paragraphs (a)-(e) has a controlling interest. As used in this paragraph, the term "controlling interest" means the possession of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management or policies of an entity, whether through ownership of securities, by contract, or otherwise. A person or an entity that directly or indirectly has the right to vote 25 percent or more of the voting interest of the company or is entitled to 25 percent or more of its profits is presumed to possess a controlling interest*; or*

(g) A designated foreign terrorist organization as defined in s. 775.32 or an agent acting on behalf of a designated foreign terrorist organization.

Section 11. Subsection (3) of section 692.201, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

692.201 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:

(3) "Foreign country of concern" means the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Republic of Cuba, the Venezuelan regime of Nicolás Maduro, or the Syrian Arab Republic, including any agency of or any other entity *under* ~~of~~ significant control of such foreign country of concern.

Section 12. Section 775.08255, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

775.08255 Offenses by foreign agents; reclassification.—

(1) As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Agent of a foreign government or designated foreign terrorist organization" means a person acting on behalf of or otherwise employed or controlled by a foreign government or a designated foreign terrorist organization.

(b) "Designated foreign terrorist organization" has the same meaning as provided in s. 775.32.

(c) "Foreign government" has the same meaning as provided in s. 286.101(1).

(2) The penalty for any misdemeanor or felony may be reclassified if the commission of such misdemeanor or felony was for the purpose of benefiting, promoting, or furthering the interests of a foreign government, a designated foreign terrorist organization, or an agent of a foreign government or designated foreign terrorist organization. The reclassification is as follows:

(a) A misdemeanor of the second degree is reclassified to a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(b) A misdemeanor of the first degree is reclassified to a felony of the third degree.

(c) A felony of the third degree is reclassified to a felony of the second degree.

(d) A felony of the second degree is reclassified to a felony of the first degree.

(e) A felony of the first degree is reclassified to a life felony.

(3) In addition to any other penalties prescribed by law, a person convicted of a felony of the first degree or a life felony under this section must be sentenced to a minimum term of imprisonment of 15 years.

Section 13. Paragraph (a) of subsection (7) of section 282.802, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

282.802 Government Technology Modernization Council.—

(7)(a) The council shall meet at least quarterly to:

1. Recommend legislative and administrative actions that the Legislature and state agencies as defined in s. 282.318(2) may take to promote the development of data modernization in this state.

2. Assess and provide guidance on necessary legislative reforms and the creation of a state code of ethics for artificial intelligence systems in state government.

3. Assess the effect of automated decision systems or identity management on constitutional and other legal rights, duties, and privileges of residents of this state.

4. Evaluate common standards for artificial intelligence safety and security measures, including the benefits of requiring disclosure of the digital provenance for all images and audio created using generative artificial intelligence as a means of revealing the origin and edit of the image or audio, as well as the best methods for such disclosure.

5. Assess the manner in which governmental entities and the private sector are using artificial intelligence with a focus on opportunity areas for deployments in systems across this state.

6. Determine the manner in which artificial intelligence is being exploited by bad actors, including foreign countries of concern as defined in *s. 286.101(1)* ~~s. 287.138(1)~~.

7. Evaluate the need for curriculum to prepare school-age audiences with the digital media and visual literacy skills needed to navigate the digital information landscape.

Section 14. Subsection (2) of section 63.213, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

63.213 Preplanned adoption agreement.—

(2)*(a) A preplanned adoption agreement is prohibited if:*

1. The volunteer mother is a citizen or resident of a foreign country of concern as defined in s. 286.101(1).

2. Either the intended father or intended mother is a citizen or resident of a foreign country of concern as defined in s. 286.101(1).

(b) A preplanned adoption agreement must include, but need not be limited to, the following terms:

1.~~(a)~~ That the volunteer mother agrees to become pregnant by the fertility technique specified in the agreement, to bear the child, and to terminate any parental rights and responsibilities to the child she might have through a written consent executed at the same time as the preplanned adoption agreement, subject to a right of rescission by the volunteer mother any time within 48 hours after the birth of the child, if the volunteer mother is genetically related to the child.

2.~~(b)~~ That the volunteer mother agrees to submit to reasonable medical evaluation and treatment and to adhere to reasonable medical instructions about her prenatal health.

3.~~(c)~~ That the volunteer mother acknowledges that she is aware that she will assume parental rights and responsibilities for the child born to her as otherwise provided by law for a mother if the intended father and intended mother terminate the agreement before final transfer of custody is completed, if a court determines that a parent clearly specified by the preplanned adoption agreement to be the biological parent is not the biological parent, or if the preplanned adoption is not approved by the court pursuant to the Florida Adoption Act.

4.~~(d)~~ That an intended father who is also the biological father acknowledges that he is aware that he will assume parental rights and responsibilities for the child as otherwise provided by law for a father if the agreement is terminated for any reason by any party before final transfer of custody is completed or if the planned adoption is not approved by the court pursuant to the Florida Adoption Act.

5.~~(e)~~ That the intended father and intended mother acknowledge that they may not receive custody or the parental rights under the agreement if the volunteer mother terminates the agreement or if the volunteer mother rescinds her consent to place her child for adoption

within 48 hours after the birth of the child, if the volunteer mother is genetically related to the child.

6.~~(f)~~ That the intended father and intended mother may agree to pay all reasonable legal, medical, psychological, or psychiatric expenses of the volunteer mother related to the preplanned adoption arrangement and may agree to pay the reasonable living expenses and wages lost due to the pregnancy and birth of the volunteer mother and reasonable compensation for inconvenience, discomfort, and medical risk. No other compensation, whether in cash or in kind, shall be made pursuant to a preplanned adoption arrangement.

7.~~(g)~~ That the intended father and intended mother agree to accept custody of and to assert full parental rights and responsibilities for the child immediately upon the child's birth, regardless of any impairment to the child.

8.~~(h)~~ That the intended father and intended mother shall have the right to specify the blood and tissue typing tests to be performed if the agreement specifies that at least one of them is intended to be the biological parent of the child.

9.~~(i)~~ That the agreement may be terminated at any time by any of the parties.

Section 15. Subsection (1) of section 742.15, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

742.15 Gestational surrogacy contract.—

(1)*(a) Before* ~~Prior to~~ engaging in gestational surrogacy, a binding and enforceable gestational surrogacy contract shall be made between the commissioning couple and the gestational surrogate. A contract for gestational surrogacy *is* ~~shall~~ not ~~be~~ binding and enforceable unless the gestational surrogate is 18 years of age or older and the commissioning couple are legally married and are both 18 years of age or older.

(b)1. A gestational surrogacy contract may not be entered into in this state if any party to the contract is a citizen or resident of a foreign country of concern as defined in s. 286.101(1).

2. A gestational surrogacy contract executed in violation of this paragraph is void and unenforceable as against the public policy of the state.

Section 16. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause and insert: A bill to be entitled An act relating to foreign influence; providing a short title; amending s. 112.313, F.S.; defining the terms "designated foreign terrorist organization" and "foreign country of concern"; providing penalties for specified persons who solicit or accept anything of value from persons or entities representing a designated foreign terrorist organization or a foreign country of concern; amending s. 112.3142, F.S.; requiring the Commission on Ethics to adopt certain rules by a specified date; amending s. 205.0532, F.S.; authorizing any appropriate tax collector to revoke or refuse to renew business tax receipts of specified individuals, businesses, or entities; authorizing such tax collector or a local governing authority to request a specified sworn affidavit or declaration from such individual, business, or entity; providing criminal penalties; amending s. 288.816, F.S.; prohibiting certain activities encouraging affiliations with foreign countries of concern; requiring the Department of Commerce to publish and update certain information on its website; amending s. 288.8175, F.S.; deleting the Florida-China Institute from the list of linkage institutes; deleting an exemption for linkage institutes; prohibiting a linkage institute from entering into an agreement or participating in an activity with a foreign country of concern; amending s. 288.854, F.S.; authorizing the Governor to suspend certain laws or rules relating to Cuba for a specified period under certain circumstances; prohibiting such suspension from being renewed or extended; prohibiting the Governor from suspending the same laws or rules without express authorization from the Legislature; requiring the Governor to submit to the Legislature certain written recommendations within a specified timeframe; providing for future legislative repeal of certain provisions; amending s. 288.860, F.S.; requiring that certain agreements be terminated by a specified date; amending s. 316.0078, F.S.; revising the definitions of the terms "controlling interest" and "foreign country of concern"; amending s. 496.404, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "foreign source of concern"; amending s. 692.201, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "foreign country of concern"; creating s. 775.08255, F.S.; defining terms; prohibiting enforcement of certain laws of a foreign government; providing enhanced criminal penalties; amending s. 282.802, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 63.213, F.S.; prohibiting preplanned adoption agreements unless certain conditions are met; amending s. 742.15, F.S.; prohibiting contracts for gestational surrogacy unless certain conditions are met; declaring that certain contracts are void and unenforceable; providing an effective date.

On motion by Senator Grall, by two-thirds vote, **CS for CS for CS for HB 905**, as amended, was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—28

Mr. President	Garcia	Passidomo
Avila	Grall	Pizzo
Boyd	Gruters	Rodriguez
Bradley	Harrell	Simon
Brodeur	Hooper	Truenow
Burgess	Leek	Trumbull
Burton	Martin	Wright
Calatayud	Massullo	Yarborough
DiCeglie	Mayfield	
Gaetz	McClain	

Nays—11

Arrington	Davis	Rouson
Berman	Jones	Sharief
Bernard	Osgood	Smith
Bracy Davis	Polsky	

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed CS/SB 1246, with 1 amendment, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

CS for SB 1246—A bill to be entitled An act relating to the Linking Industry to Nursing Education Fund; amending s. 1009.8962, F.S.; providing that the Linking Industry to Nursing Education Fund was established for shortages in health science professions in addition to nursing; defining the term "health science"; revising the definition of the term "student"; authorizing the fund to match certain contributions if funds are available; revising how funds may be used; designating the Department of Education as the lead entity for identifying programs eligible for LINE funding; requiring the department to use the State Board of Education's Career and Technical Education Health Science curriculum framework to determine eligibility; requiring the department to compile and publish a list of eligible programs by a specified date; requiring the department to review and update the list annually; requiring the Office of Reimagining Education and Career Help to provide specified data to the department; prohibiting the Office of Reimagining Education and Career Help from determining eligibility; providing an effective date.

House Amendment 1 (271703) (with title amendment)—Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Section 1009.8962, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1009.8962 Linking Industry to Nursing Education (LINE) Fund.—

(1) This section shall be known and may be cited as the "Linking Industry to Nursing Education (LINE) Fund Act."

(2) Recognizing that the state has a persistent and growing nursing shortage, it is the intent of the Legislature to address this critical workforce need by incentivizing collaboration between nursing education programs and health care partners *that contribute monetary or nonmonetary contributions* through the establishment of the LINE Fund. This fund is intended to meet local, regional, and state workforce demand by recruiting faculty and clinical preceptors, increasing the capacity of high-quality nursing education programs, and increasing the number of nursing education program graduates who are prepared *and licensed* to enter the workforce.

(3) As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Health care partner" means a health care provider as defined in s. 768.38(2) *which is licensed to operate in this state*.

(b) "Institution" means a school district career center under s. 1001.44; a charter technical career center under s. 1002.34; a Florida College System institution; a state university; an independent nonprofit college or university located and chartered in this state and accredited by an agency or association that is recognized by the database created and maintained by the United States Department of Education to grant baccalaureate degrees; or an independent school, college, or university with an accredited program as defined in s. 464.003 which is located in this state and licensed by the Commission for Independent Education pursuant to s. 1005.31, or an institution authorized under s. 1009.521, which has a nursing education program that meets or exceeds the following:

1. For a certified nursing assistant program, a completion rate of at least 70 percent for the prior year.

2. For a licensed practical nurse, associate of science in nursing, and bachelor of science in nursing program, a first-time passage rate on the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Licensing Examination of at least 75 percent for the prior year based on a minimum of 10 testing participants.

(c) "Student" means a person who is a resident for tuition purposes pursuant to s. 1009.21 and enrolled in a nursing education program at an institution.

(4) The LINE Fund shall be administered by the Board of Governors for state universities and the Department of Education for all other institutions.

(5) Subject to available funds, for every *monetary or nonmonetary contribution* ~~dollar contributed~~ to an institution by a health care partner *or other person or entity*, the fund shall provide a dollar-to-dollar match to the participating institution *to implement the activities outlined in the institution's approved proposal. Monetary contributions from health care partners shall receive priority when awarding matching funds to institutions*.

(6)(a) Funds may be used for student scholarships*;* ~~,~~ recruitment of additional faculty *and preceptors; increasing program enrollment, program completion, and licensure examination passage rates;* ~~,~~ equipment*;* ~~, and~~ simulation centers*; and internships* to advance high-quality nursing education programs throughout the state.

(b) Funds may not be used for the construction of new buildings*, but may be used to expand, retrofit, or upgrade existing facilities if the proposal will result in increased program enrollments or improved or modernized educational or simulation space for an institution's nursing education program students*.

(7)(a) To participate, an *institution's president, chief administrative officer, or designee* ~~institution~~ must submit a timely and completed proposal to the Board of Governors or Department of Education, in a format prescribed by the Board of Governors or Department of Education, as applicable.

(b) The proposal must identify a health care partner located and licensed to operate in the state whose ~~monetary~~ contributions will be matched by the fund on a dollar-to-dollar basis.

(c) Allowable nonmonetary contributions are limited to the following:

1. The value of the donated use of health care partner employees as nursing education program instructors or preceptors.

2. The value of the donated use of a health care partner's space or equipment by a nursing education program.

3. The value of donated educational or simulation equipment.

4. Other similar quantifiable donated goods and services deemed by the Board of Governors or Department of Education, as applicable, to be good faith contributions that support the goals of the LINE Fund.

(d) To accept nonmonetary contributions as health care matching funds, the applicant and Board of Governors or Department of Education, as applicable, must quantify the fair market value of the contribution in dollars and certify that the proposed contribution directly supports the goals of the LINE Fund outlined in subsection (2).

(e) A proposal may not be comprised solely of nonmonetary contributions.

(8) The Board of Governors or Department of Education, as applicable, must review and evaluate each completed and timely submitted proposal according to the following minimum criteria*, where applicable*:

(a) Whether *monetary and nonmonetary contributions* ~~funds~~ committed by the health care partner will contribute to an eligible purpose.

(b) How the institution plans to use the funds *or nonmonetary contribution*, including how such funds *or nonmonetary contribution* will be utilized to increase student enrollment and program completion.

(c) How the health care partner will onboard and retain graduates *or otherwise improve the likelihood that graduates will successfully join the state or local workforce*.

(d) How the funds *or nonmonetary contribution* will *be used to* expand the institution's nursing education programs to meet local, regional, or state workforce demands. If applicable, this shall include advanced education nursing programs and how the funds *or nonmonetary contribution* will increase the number of faculty and clinical preceptors and planned efforts to utilize the clinical placement process established in s. 14.36.

(9)(a) Each institution with an approved proposal shall notify the Board of Governors or Department of Education, as applicable, upon receipt of the health care partner provided funds *or nonmonetary contribution* identified in the proposal. The Board of Governors or Department of Education, as applicable, shall release grant funds, on a dollar-for-dollar basis, up to the amount of funds *or the fair market value of the nonmonetary contribution* received by the institution*, including notifications made on a rolling or periodic basis*.

(b) If deemed to meet the long-term goals of the LINE Fund, the Board of Governors or Department of Education, as applicable, may, but are not required to, award funds for an approved proposal for up to 2 academic years immediately following the academic year within which the initial approval is granted. If the Board of Governors or Department of Education, as applicable, approves a multiyear award to an institution, it must notify the recipient that the award amount in subsequent years is subject to a LINE Fund appropriation and the continued notification of the health care partner's contribution to match the multiyear award of state funds.

(c) ~~(b)~~ Annually, by February 1, each institution awarded grant funds in the previous fiscal year shall submit a report to the Board of Governors or Department of Education, as applicable, that demonstrates the expansion as outlined in the proposal and the use of funds. At minimum, the report must include, by program level, the number of additional nursing education students enrolled; if scholarships were awarded using grant funds, the number of students who received scholarships and the average award amount; and the outcomes of students as reported by the Office of Reimagining Education and Career Help pursuant to s. 14.36(3)(l).

(10) The Board of Governors shall adopt regulations and the State Board of Education shall adopt rules to administer the fund, establish dates for the submission and review of proposals, award funds, and other regulations and rules necessary to implement this section.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

And the title is amended as follows:

Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert: A bill to be entitled An act relating to the Linking Industry to Nursing Education Fund; amending s. 1009.8962, F.S.; revising the Legislative intent for the Linking Industry to Nursing Education (LINE) Fund; revising the definition of the term "health care partner"; authorizing the inclusion of nonmonetary contributions to institutions for purposes of proposals for LINE Fund matching funds; requiring monetary contributions to receive priority in the award of matching funds; revising the authorized uses of awarded funds; requiring proposals for participation in the fund to be submitted by specified persons; providing allowable nonmonetary contributions; providing requirements for the acceptance of nonmonetary contributions as health care matching funds; prohibiting a proposal to participate in the fund from being comprised solely of nonmonetary contributions; revising the criteria the Board of Governors and the Department of Education must use to review proposals; requiring grant funds awarded based on nonmonetary contributions to be based on such contribution's fair market value; authorizing the Board of Governors and the Department of Education to provide multiyear awards under certain circumstances; providing notification requirements for such awards; providing an effective date.

On motion by Senator Davis, the Senate concurred in **House Amendment 1 (271703)**.

CS for SB 1246 passed, as amended, was ordered engrossed and then enrolled. The action of the Senate was certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—39

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Osgood
Arrington	Gaetz	Passidomo
Avila	Garcia	Pizzo
Berman	Grall	Polsky
Bernard	Gruters	Rodriguez
Boyd	Harrell	Rouson
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Sharief
Bradley	Jones	Simon
Brodeur	Leek	Smith
Burgess	Martin	Truenow
Burton	Massullo	Trumbull
Calatayud	Mayfield	Wright
Davis	McClain	Yarborough

Nays—None

RULING ON RECONSIDERATION OF MOTION

Senator Passidomo: Senator Pizzo has moved to reconsider the motion to remove CS for HB 1283 from Special Order that occurred yesterday. According to Rule 6.7, reconsideration of a procedural motion shall be considered on the same day and at the same time it is made. Therefore, Senator Pizzo's motion is out of order.

However, since the particular bill is currently on Second Reading, Senator Pizzo has the right to move that it be added to the end of today's Special Order Calendar pursuant to Rule 4.17(2)(c). This motion requires a two-thirds vote of the members present.

MOTIONS

Senator Pizzo moved **CS for HB 1283** be placed on today's Special Order Calendar. The motion failed to receive the required two-thirds vote of the members present.

The vote was:

Yeas—12

Bernard	Calatayud	Grall
Bradley	Gaetz	Gruters
Hooper	Osgood	Rouson
Jones	Pizzo	Sharief

Nays—25

Mr. President	Davis	Rodriguez
Arrington	DiCeglie	Simon
Avila	Harrell	Smith
Berman	Leek	Truenow
Boyd	Massullo	Trumbull
Bracy Davis	Mayfield	Wright
Brodeur	McClain	Yarborough
Burgess	Passidomo	
Burton	Polsky	

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed SB 1594, with 1 amendment, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

SB 1594—A bill to be entitled An act relating to veteran benefit payments to minor clients; amending s. 402.33, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Health, or the Agency for Persons with Disabilities to access certain benefit payments for specified purposes; prohibiting the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Health, or the Agency for Persons with Disabilities from supplanting certain financial assistance; providing an effective date.

House Amendment 1 (769955) (with title amendment)—Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Subsections (3) through (9) of section 402.33, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (4) through (10), respectively, and a new subsection (3) is added to that section to read:

402.33 Department authority to charge fees for services provided.—

(3) The Department of Children and Families must receive, deposit, and conserve all survivor benefit payments provided by the United States Department of Veterans' Affairs on behalf of a minor client in out-of-home care. The accumulated funds must be disbursed in their entirety to the minor client upon attaining 18 years of age. The Department of Children and Families may not use such funds to reimburse the state for the cost of care.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

And the title is amended as follows:

Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert: A bill to be entitled An act relating to veteran benefit payments to minor clients; amending s. 402.33, F.S.; requiring the Department of Children and Families to receive, deposit, and conserve certain benefit payments for certain minor clients; providing requirements for such funds; prohibiting the Department of Children and Families from using such funds for certain purposes; providing an effective date.

On motion by Senator Gaetz, the Senate refused to concur in **House Amendment 1 (769955)** to **SB 1594** and the House was requested to recede. The action of the Senate was certified to the House.

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has refused to concur in Senate Amendment 1 (571886) to CS/HB 351 and requests the Senate to recede.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

CS for HB 351—A bill to be entitled An act relating to concurrent legislative jurisdiction over United States military installations; creating s. 250.031, F.S.; providing that this state may accept the relinquishment of exclusive legislative jurisdiction from the United States over United States military installations located within the boundaries of this state; providing that this state has concurrent legislative jurisdiction with the UnitedStates over those United States military installations; providing procedures and requirements therefor; providing an effective date.

On motion by Senator Wright, the Senate refused to recede from **Senate Amendment 1 (571886)** to **CS for HB 351** and again requested that the House concur. The action of the Senate was certified to the House.

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has refused to concur in Senate Amendment 1 (389764) to CS/CS/CS/HB 543 and requests the Senate to recede.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

CS for CS for CS for HB 543—A bill to be entitled An act relating to transportation; requiring the Department of Transportation and any impacted local government to increase the minimum perception-reaction time for steady yellow signals at certain intersections by a specified amount of time; transferring, renumbering, and amending s. 311.10(4), F.S.; defining the terms "cargo purposes" and "commercial space launch industry"; requiring certain seaports to submit an annual report describing measures taken to support the commercial space launch industry to the chair of the Space Florida board of directors beginning on a specified date; requiring the seaport to post such report on its website; prohibiting certain seaports from converting planned or existing land, facilities, or infrastructure that supports cargo purposes unless specified conditions are met; requiring legislative approval for the use of state funds for specified projects; amending s. 316.003, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "local hearing officer"; amending s. 316.008, F.S.; revising powers of local authorities; amending s. 316.0776, F.S.; revising provisions relating to speed detection systems in school zones; amending s. 316.0777, F.S.; authorizing a private entity to install an automated license plate recognition system for use on certain property for a specified purpose and providing requirements therefor; providing a penalty; amending s. 316.173, F.S.; defining the term "school district"; prohibiting a private school bus contractor from charging a certain fee; authorizing review of school bus infraction detection system information by certain persons; providing and revising procedures for an administrative hearing; requiring a certain report to be due annually instead of quarterly; providing a rebuttable presumption regarding certain specifications; requiring the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to publish certain reports on its website; authorizing charter schools and private schools to enter into contracts under specified circumstances; amending s. 316.183, F.S.; authorizing a county or municipality to set a lower maximum speed limit under certain conditions; amending s. 316.189, F.S.; authorizing a county to set a lower maximum speed limit under certain conditions; amending s. 316.1895, F.S.; requiring the use of flashing beacons in certain circumstances; amending s. 316.1896, F.S.; requiring flashing beacons to be activated during specified times to enforce the restricted school zone speed limit through a school zone speed detection system; providing applicability; revising provisions relating to roadways maintained as school zones; amending s. 316.1906, F.S.; specifying that certain radar and LiDAR units are not required to be on certain lists; amending s. 316.1955, F.S.; authorizing vehicles displaying disabled parking permits to occupy more than one parking space under specified conditions; prohibiting such vehicles from being cited, penalized, or towed under specified circumstances; providing requirements for property owners and towing operators; providing construction; amending s. 316.20655, F.S.; clarifying a provision; amending s. 316.212, F.S.; authorizing operation of a golf cart for the purpose of crossing certain streets and highways under certain conditions; providing penalties; repealing ss. 316.272 and 316.293, F.S., relating to the prevention of noise from exhaust systems and motor vehicle noise, respectively; amending s. 316.3045, F.S.; requiring certain motor vehicles to be equipped with and maintain an exhaust system to prevent excessive or unusual noise; prohibiting certain excessive or unusual noises; providing applicability; amending s. 316.650, F.S.; revising provisions relating to traffic citations; amending s. 318.15, F.S.; revising provisions relating to penalties for certain failures to comply; amending s. 318.18, F.S.; revising provisions relating to penalties; amending s. 319.1401, F.S.; authorizing certain golf carts to be titled and registered for operation on certain roads without an inspection by the Department of Transportation and providing requirements therefor; amending s. 320.02, F.S.; revising provisions relating to withholding motor vehicle registration; amending s. 320.262, F.S.; providing that the use of a license plate frame or decorative border device is not prohibited under specified conditions; amending s. 322.032, F.S.; providing and revising definitions; providing requirements for digital driver licenses and an electronic credentialing system; providing exceptions to certain prohibitions; providing for enforcement and penalties; amending s. 322.142, F.S.; authorizing digital imaged licenses to be used for a specified purpose with the licensee's consent; authorizing identity verification service providers to use Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles data under certain conditions; prohibiting such providers from selling, sharing, or retaining certain information; prohibiting the department from allowing the use of digital imaged licenses for a private entity's business purposes; amending s. 337.11, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Transportation to make direct payments to certain subcontractors under specified conditions; requiring the department to adopt rules; amending s. 337.18, F.S.; providing requirements for a takeover agreement; amending s. 339.175, F.S.; requiring metropolitan planning organizations serving specified counties to submit a certain feasibility report to the Governor and Legislature by a specified date, with certain goals; amending s. 775.15, F.S.; providing time limits for certain traffic violations; amending ss. 316.1995, 316.2125, 316.2126, 316.2128, 316.455, 322.059, 322.15, 403.061, and 403.415, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; reenacting s. 318.121, F.S., relating to preemption of additional fees, fines, surcharges, and costs, to incorporate the amendments made to s. 318.18, F.S., in a reference thereto; providing effective dates.

On motion by Senator DiCeglie, the Senate refused to recede from **Senate Amendment 1 (389764)** to **CS for CS for CS for HB 543** and again requested that the House concur. The action of the Senate was certified to the House.

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has refused to concur in Senate Amendment 1 (354086) to CS/HB 851 and requests the Senate to recede.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

CS for HB 851—A bill to be entitled An act relating to professional learning for instructional and school administrative personnel; amending s. 1012.98, F.S.; requiring certain professional learning systems to provide at least one autism-specific professional learning opportunity; providing requirements for the professional learning; providing an effective date.

On motion by Senator Harrell, the Senate receded from **Senate Amendment 1 (354086)**.

CS for HB 851 passed and the action of the Senate was certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—38

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Passidomo
Arrington	Gaetz	Pizzo
Avila	Grall	Polsky
Berman	Gruters	Rodriguez
Bernard	Harrell	Rouson
Boyd	Hooper	Sharief
Bracy Davis	Jones	Simon
Bradley	Leek	Smith
Brodeur	Martin	Truenow
Burgess	Massullo	Trumbull
Burton	Mayfield	Wright
Calatayud	McClain	Yarborough
Davis	Osgood	

Nays—None

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed CS/CS/SB 1668, with 1 amendment, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

CS for CS for SB 1668—A bill to be entitled An act relating to the Florida Birth-Related Neurological Injury Compensation Association; amending s. 409.910, F.S.; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to recover from the Florida Birth-Related Neurological Injury Compensation Association specified costs incurred by Medicaid; reordering and amending s. 766.302, F.S.; defining terms; revising definitions; amending s. 766.303, F.S.; revising the exclusiveness of rights and remedies of the Florida Birth-Related Neurological Injury Compensation Plan; making technical and conforming changes; amending s. 766.305, F.S.; making technical and conforming changes; amending s. 766.309, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 766.31, F.S.; revising the expenses covered by an award for compensation under the plan; revising services eligible for compensation under certain annual benefits under the plan; providing an additional benefit for psychotherapeutic services for family members upon the death of a participant; revising eligibility criteria for transportation and housing assistance benefits under the plan; providing coverage of certain legal costs under the plan; requiring the plan to reimburse certain claims and payments for plan participants also enrolled in the state Medicaid program; requiring that such funds be credited to the agency's Medical Care Trust Fund; requiring the plan to reimburse certain participants by a specified date; prohibiting compensation under the plan for family residential or custodial care under certain circumstances; authorizing the association to file a petition with the Division of Administrative Hearings if there is a dispute regarding overpayment of an expense reimbursement under the plan; deleting obsolete language; requiring family members of plan participants to continuously maintain certain health insurance coverage for the participant; requiring family members of plan participants to obtain such coverage or apply for Medicaid coverage within a specified timeframe after entry of a final order for an award for compensation under the plan; requiring family members of current plan participants to obtain the requisite health insurance coverage by a specified date; amending s. 766.314, F.S.; requiring the directors of the association to submit a plan of operation, and any amendments thereto, to the Office of Insurance Regulation for approval; revising requirements for such plan; revising the schedule of assessments participating hospitals and physicians are required to pay to the association; deleting obsolete language; making technical and conforming changes; requiring the association to submit revised quarterly claim estimates to the office within a specified timeframe; extending the timeframe in which the association is authorized to accept new claims notwithstanding certain other provisions; requiring the association to notify the Governor, the Legislature, the office, the agency, and the Department of Health within a specified timeframe if certain plan estimates exceed specified limits; postponing the future repeal of a specified provision; amending s. 766.315, F.S.; revising membership of the association's board of directors; prohibiting the board of directors from creating new benefits or expanding existing benefits under the plan under certain circumstances; providing construction; revising requirements for certain reports of the association; providing an effective date.

House Amendment 1 (690561) (with title amendment)—Remove lines 467-833 and insert:

Section 7. Section 766.314, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

766.314 Assessments; plan of operation.—

(1) The assessments established *under* ~~pursuant to~~ this section shall be used to finance the Florida Birth-Related Neurological Injury Compensation Plan.

(2) The assessments and appropriations dedicated to the plan shall be administered by the Florida Birth-Related Neurological Injury Compensation Association established in s. 766.315, in accordance with the following requirements:

(a) ~~On or before July 1, 1988,~~ The directors of the association shall submit to the *office* ~~Department of Insurance~~ for review *and approval* a plan of operation *and any amendment thereto* which shall provide for the efficient administration of the plan and for prompt processing of claims against and awards made on behalf of the plan.

(b) The plan of operation *must* ~~shall~~ include provision for:

1. Establishment of necessary facilities;

2. Management of the funds collected on behalf of the plan;

3. Processing of claims against the plan;

4. Assessment of the persons and entities listed in subsections (4) and *(7)* ~~(5)~~ to pay awards and expenses~~, which assessments shall be on an actuarially sound basis subject to the limits set forth in subsections (4) and (5)~~;

5. A fraud and overpayment prevention and detection program; and

6. ~~5.~~ Any other matters necessary for the efficient operation of the *Florida* Birth-Related Neurological Injury Compensation Plan.

~~(b) Amendments to the plan of operation may be made by the directors of the plan, subject to the approval of the office of Insurance Regulation of the Financial Services Commission.~~

(3) All assessments shall be deposited with the ~~Florida Birth-Related Neurological Injury Compensation~~ association. The funds collected by the association and any income therefrom shall be disbursed only for the payment of awards under ss. 766.301-766.316 and for the payment of the reasonable expenses of administering the plan.

(4) The following persons and entities shall pay into the association *assessments as follows* ~~an initial assessment in accordance with the plan of operation~~:

(a)*1.* ~~On or before October 1, 1988,~~ Each hospital licensed under chapter 395 shall pay an ~~initial~~ assessment of $50 per infant delivered in *that* ~~the~~ hospital ~~during the prior calendar year~~, as reported to the Agency for Health Care Administration; provided, however, that a hospital owned or operated by the state or a county, special taxing district, or other political subdivision of the state shall not be required to pay ~~the initial assessment or~~ any assessment required by *this subsection or* subsection *(7)* ~~(5)~~. The term "infant delivered" includes live births and not stillbirths, but the term does not include infants delivered by employees or agents of the board of trustees of a state university, those born in a teaching hospital as defined in s. 408.07, or those born in a teaching hospital as defined in s. 395.806 that have been deemed by the association as being exempt from assessments since fiscal year 1997 to fiscal year 2001. The ~~initial~~ assessment and any assessment imposed pursuant to subsection *(7)* ~~(5)~~ may not include any infant born to a charity patient (as defined by rule of the Agency for Health Care Administration) or born to a patient for whom the hospital receives Medicaid reimbursement, if the sum of the annual charges for charity patients plus the annual Medicaid contractuals of the hospital exceeds 10 percent of the total annual gross operating revenues of the hospital. The hospital is responsible for documenting, to the satisfaction of the association, the exclusion of any birth from the computation of the assessment. Upon demonstration of financial need by a hospital, the association may provide for installment payments of assessments.

2. Assessments are due, and hospitals shall pay all assessments required under this section, by December 31 of the calendar year immediately subsequent to the birth year.

(b)1.*a.* ~~On or before October 15, 1988,~~ All physicians licensed pursuant to chapter 458 or chapter 459 ~~as of October 1, 1988~~, other than participating physicians, shall be assessed an *annual* ~~initial~~ assessment of $250.~~,~~

b. Payment for all assessments required under this paragraph is due on or before December 31 of each year ~~which must be paid no later than December 1, 1988~~.

~~2. Any such physician who becomes licensed after September 30, 1988, and before January 1, 1989, shall pay into the association an initial assessment of $250 upon licensure.~~

~~3. Any such physician who becomes licensed on or after January 1, 1989, shall pay an initial assessment equal to the most recent assessment made pursuant to this paragraph, paragraph (5)(a), or paragraph (7)(b).~~

2.~~4.~~ However, if the physician is a physician specified in this subparagraph, the assessment is not applicable:

a. A resident physician, assistant resident physician, or intern in an approved postgraduate training program, as defined by the Board of Medicine or the Board of Osteopathic Medicine by rule;

b. A retired physician who has withdrawn from the practice of medicine but who maintains an active license as evidenced by an affidavit filed with the Department of Health. Prior to reentering the practice of medicine in this state, a retired physician as herein defined must notify the Board of Medicine or the Board of Osteopathic Medicine and pay the appropriate assessments pursuant to this section;

c. A physician who holds a limited license pursuant to s. 458.317 and who is not being compensated for medical services;

d. A physician who is employed full time by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and whose practice is confined to United States Department of Veterans Affairs hospitals; or

e. A physician who is a member of the Armed Forces of the United States and who meets the requirements of s. 456.024.

f. A physician who is employed full time by the State of Florida and whose practice is confined to state-owned correctional institutions, a county health department, or state-owned mental health or developmental services facilities, or who is employed full time by the Department of Health.

(c)*1.* ~~On or before December 1, 1988,~~ Each physician licensed pursuant to chapter 458 or chapter 459 who wishes to participate in the Florida Birth-Related Neurological Injury Compensation Plan and who otherwise qualifies as a participating physician under ss. 766.301-766.316 shall pay an *annual* ~~initial~~ assessment of $5,000 *and any assessment required under paragraph (7)(c), if assessed*. However, if the physician is either a resident physician, assistant resident physician, or intern in an approved postgraduate training program, as defined by the Board of Medicine or the Board of Osteopathic Medicine by rule, and is supervised in accordance with program requirements established by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education or the American Osteopathic Association by a physician who is participating in the plan, such resident physician, assistant resident physician, or intern is deemed to be a participating physician without the payment of the assessment. Participating physicians also include any employee of the board of trustees of a state university who has paid the assessment required by this paragraph and*, if assessed,* paragraph *(7)(c),* ~~(5)(a)~~ and any certified nurse midwife supervised by such employee. Participating physicians include any certified nurse midwife who has paid 50 percent of the physician assessment required by this paragraph and*, if assessed,* paragraph *(7)(c),* ~~(5)(a)~~ and who is supervised by a participating physician who has paid the assessment required by this paragraph and*, if assessed,* paragraph *(7)(c)* ~~(5)(a)~~. Supervision for nurse midwives shall require that the supervising physician will be easily available and have a prearranged plan of treatment for specified patient problems which the supervised certified nurse midwife may carry out in the absence of any complicating features. ~~Any physician who elects to participate in such plan on or after January 1, 1989, who was not a participating physician at the time of such election to participate and who otherwise qualifies as a participating physician under ss. 766.301-766.316 shall pay an additional initial assessment equal to the most recent assessment made pursuant to this paragraph, paragraph (5)(a), or paragraph (7)(b).~~

2. Payment of assessments required by this paragraph is due on or before December 31 of each year for qualification as a participating physician during the next calendar year. If payment of the assessments is received by the association on or before January 31 of any calendar year, the physician shall qualify as a participating physician for that entire calendar year. If the payment is received after January 31, the physician shall qualify as a participating physician for that calendar year only from the date the payment was received by the association.

(d) Any hospital located in a county with a population in excess of 1.1 million as of January 1, 2003, as determined by the Agency for Health Care Administration under the Health Care Responsibility Act, may elect to pay the *assessments required by paragraph (c)* ~~fee~~ for the participating physician and the certified nurse midwife if the hospital first determines that the primary motivating purpose for making such payment is to ensure coverage for the hospital's patients under the provisions of ss. 766.301-766.316; however, no hospital may restrict any participating physician or nurse midwife, directly or indirectly, from being on the staff of hospitals other than the staff of the hospital making the payment. ~~Each hospital shall file with the association an affidavit setting forth specifically the reasons why the hospital elected to make the payment on behalf of each participating physician and certified nurse midwife. The payments authorized under this paragraph shall be in addition to the assessment set forth in paragraph (5)(a).~~

~~(5)(a) Beginning January 1, 1990, the persons and entities listed in paragraphs (4)(b) and (c), except those persons or entities who are specifically excluded from said provisions, as of the date determined in accordance with the plan of operation, taking into account persons licensed subsequent to the payment of the initial assessment, shall pay an annual assessment in the amount equal to the initial assessments provided in paragraphs (4)(b) and (c). If payment of the annual assessment by a physician is received by the association by January 31 of any calendar year, the physician shall qualify as a participating physician for that entire calendar year. If the payment is received after January 31 of any calendar year, the physician shall qualify as a participating physician for that calendar year only from the date the payment was received by the association. On January 1, 1991, and on each January 1 thereafter, the association shall determine the amount of additional assessments necessary pursuant to subsection (7), in the manner required by the plan of operation, subject to any increase determined to be necessary by the Office of Insurance Regulation pursuant to paragraph (7)(b). On July 1, 1991, and on each July 1 thereafter, the persons and entities listed in paragraphs (4)(b) and (c), except those persons or entities who are specifically excluded from said provisions, shall pay the additional assessments which were determined on January 1. Beginning January 1, 1990, the entities listed in paragraph (4)(a), including those licensed on or after October 1, 1988, shall pay an annual assessment of $50 per infant delivered during the prior calendar year. The additional assessments which were determined on January 1, 1991, pursuant to the provisions of subsection (7) shall not be due and payable by the entities listed in paragraph (4)(a) until July 1.~~

~~(b) If the assessments collected pursuant to subsection (4) and the appropriation of funds provided by s. 76, chapter 88-1, Laws of Florida, as amended by s. 41, chapter 88-277, Laws of Florida, to the plan from the Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund are insufficient to maintain the plan on an actuarially sound basis, there is hereby appropriated for transfer to the association from the Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund an additional amount of up to $20 million.~~

~~(c)1. Taking into account the assessments collected pursuant to subsection (4) and appropriations from the Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund, if required to maintain the plan on an actuarially sound basis, the Office of Insurance Regulation shall require each entity licensed to issue casualty insurance as defined in s. 624.605(1)(b), (k), and (q) to pay into the association an annual assessment in an amount determined by the office pursuant to paragraph (7)(a), in the manner required by the plan of operation.~~

~~2. All annual assessments shall be made on the basis of net direct premiums written for the business activity which forms the basis for each such entity's inclusion as a funding source for the plan in the state during the prior year ending December 31, as reported to the Office of Insurance Regulation, and shall be in the proportion that the net direct premiums written by each carrier on account of the business activity forming the basis for its inclusion in the plan bears to the aggregate net direct premiums for all such business activity written in this state by all such entities.~~

~~3. No entity listed in this paragraph shall be individually liable for an annual assessment in excess of 0.25 percent of that entity's net direct premiums written.~~

~~4. Casualty insurance carriers shall be entitled to recover their initial and annual assessments through a surcharge on future policies, a rate increase applicable prospectively, or a combination of the two.~~

(5)~~(6)~~(a) The association shall make all assessments required by this section, except initial assessments of physicians *newly* licensed by the Department of Health, *which assessments will be made by the Department of Health,* and except assessments of casualty insurers pursuant to *paragraph (7)(c)* ~~subparagraph (5)(c)1.~~, which assessments will be made by the office ~~of Insurance Regulation~~. The Department of Health shall provide the association, in an electronic format, with a monthly report of the names and license numbers of all physicians licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459.

(b)1. The association may enforce collection of assessments required to be paid pursuant to ss. 766.301-766.316 by suit filed in county court, or in circuit court if the amount due could exceed the jurisdictional limits of county court. The association is entitled to an award of attorney fees, costs, and interest upon the entry of a judgment against a physician for failure to pay such assessment, with such interest accruing until paid. Notwithstanding chapters 47 and 48, the association may file such suit in either Leon County or the county of the residence of the defendant. The association shall notify the Department of Health and the applicable board of any unpaid final judgment against a physician within 7 days after the entry of final judgment.

2. The Department of Health, upon notification by the association that an assessment has not been paid and that there is an unsatisfied judgment against a physician, shall refuse to renew any license issued to such physician under chapter 458 or chapter 459 until the association notifies the Department of Health that the judgment is satisfied in full.

(c) The Agency for Health Care Administration shall, upon notification by the association that an assessment has not been timely paid, enforce collection of such assessments required to be paid by hospitals pursuant to ss. 766.301-766.316. Failure of a hospital to pay such assessment is grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to s. 395.1065 notwithstanding any law to the contrary.

(6)~~(9)~~(a) Within 60 days after a claim is filed, the association shall estimate the present value of the total cost of the claim, including the estimated amount to be paid to the claimant, the claimant's attorney, the attorney's fees of the association incident to the claim, and any other expenses that are reasonably anticipated to be incurred by the association in connection with the adjudication and payment of the claim. For purposes of this estimate, the association should include the maximum benefits for noneconomic damages.

(b) The association shall revise these estimates quarterly based upon the actual costs incurred and any additional information that becomes available to the association since the last review of this estimate. The estimate shall be reduced by any amounts paid by the association that were included in the current estimate. *The association must submit such quarterly estimates to the office within 15 business days after completion.*

(c) *After the revisions of estimates required under paragraph (b), each quarter, the association shall calculate whether the plan is actuarially sound. If the association's calculation indicates that the plan is not actuarially sound, the association shall immediately notify the office as described in subsection (7). The office must review the association's calculations and, within 60 days after the association's notification, determine whether to initiate an actuarial valuation as described in subsection (7), and notify the association of its determination. At a minimum, the office shall make its determination based on the degree to which the association's calculations indicate that the plan is not actuarially sound, the direction and consistency of recent trends in the calculations of the plan's actuarial soundness, and the length of time since the most recent actuarial valuation conducted by the office and until the next biennial valuation. The office shall initiate such actuarial valuation within 30 days after its determination that there is a need for a valuation.*

~~1. If the total of all current estimates equals or exceeds 100 percent of the funds on hand and the funds that will become available to the association within the next 12 months from all sources described in subsection (4) and paragraph (5)(a), the association may not accept any new claims without express authority from the Legislature. This section does not preclude the association from accepting any claim if the injury occurred 18 months or more before the effective date of this suspension. Within 30 days after the effective date of this suspension, the association shall notify the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President of the Senate, the Office of Insurance Regulation, the Agency for Health Care Administration, and the Department of Health of this suspension.~~

~~2. Notwithstanding this paragraph, the association is authorized to accept new claims during the 2025-2026 fiscal year if the total of all current estimates exceeds the limits described in subparagraph 1. during that fiscal year. This subparagraph expires July 1, 2026.~~

~~(d) If any person is precluded from asserting a claim against the association because of paragraph (c), the plan shall not constitute the exclusive remedy for such person, his or her personal representative, parents, dependents, or next of kin.~~

(7)(a) The office ~~of Insurance Regulation shall undertake an actuarial investigation of the requirements of the plan based on the plan's experience in the first year of operation and any additional relevant information, including without limitation the assets and liabilities of the plan. Pursuant to such investigation, the Office of Insurance Regulation shall establish the rate of contribution of the entities listed in paragraph (5)(c) for the tax year beginning January 1, 1990. Following the initial valuation, the Office of Insurance Regulation~~ shall cause an actuarial valuation to be made of the assets and liabilities of the plan *at a minimum* ~~no less frequently than~~ biennially *on or before December 31 of even-numbered years and as provided in subsection (6). Such valuation shall be based on the assets and liabilities of the plan for the calendar year before the year in which the actuarial valuation is due. The office shall also determine whether the plan has adequate estimated cash flow for the following fiscal year, whether, based on the actuarial valuation, the plan is actuarially sound, and if not, whether the plan is likely to return to actuarial soundness before the next biennial review.* ~~Pursuant to the results of such valuations, the Office of Insurance Regulation shall prepare a statement as to the contribution rate applicable to the entities listed in paragraph (5)(c). However, at no time shall the rate be greater than 0.25 percent of net direct premiums written.~~

(b) If the office determines that the plan lacks adequate cash flow for the following fiscal year pursuant to the review in paragraph (a), the office shall authorize a transfer of up to $20 million from the Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund to the association within 30 calendar days.

(c)~~(b)~~ If the office ~~of Insurance Regulation~~ finds that the plan *is not likely to return to actuarial soundness before the next biennial review pursuant to the review in paragraph (a), the office shall, within 60 calendar days after this finding, order one or more of the following actions:*

1. Require each entity licensed to issue casualty insurance as defined in s. 624.605(1)(b), (k), and (q) to pay into the association an annual assessment that is calculated to generate a total amount no greater than the amount required to achieve actuarial soundness of the plan within 5 years after the date of the order, subject to the limitations of this subparagraph.

a. Such assessments shall be made on the basis of net direct premiums written for the business activity which forms the basis for each such entity's inclusion as a funding source for the plan in the state during the prior year ending December 31, as reported to the office, and shall be in the proportion that the net direct premiums written by each carrier on account of the business activity forming the basis for its inclusion in the plan bears to the aggregate net direct premiums for all such business activity written in this state by all such entities.

b. No entity shall be individually liable for an annual assessment in excess of 0.25 percent of that entity's net direct premiums written.

c. Casualty insurance carriers shall be entitled to recover their assessments through a surcharge on future policies, a rate increase applicable prospectively, or a combination of the two.

d. An assessment under this paragraph must not extend 5 years after the date of the order.

2. If actuarial soundness cannot be achieved after using the remedy in subparagraph 1., increase the assessments specified in subsection (4) on a proportional basis that is calculated to generate a total amount no greater than the amount required to maintain the plan on an actuarially sound basis.

(d) If the office finds that the plan is not actuarially sound pursuant to the review in paragraph (a), the plan shall provide the office with quarterly reports projecting the plan's financial condition and, if assessments were ordered by the office under this paragraph, projected revenues for such assessments.

(e) If the office finds that the plan is not actuarially sound and the remedies provided under subsection (7) are insufficient to reestablish the actuarial soundness of the plan, the association shall, within 5 days after such finding, notify the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the office. If the notice is issued, the association may not accept any new claims without express authority from the Legislature. This paragraph does not preclude the association from accepting any claim if the injury occurred 18 months or more before the effective date of this suspension.

(f) If any person is precluded from asserting a claim against the association because of paragraph (e), the plan shall not constitute the exclusive remedy for such person, his or her personal representative, parents, dependents, or next of kin ~~cannot be maintained on an actuarially sound basis based on the assessments and appropriations listed in subsections (4) and (5), the office shall increase the assessments specified in subsection (4) on a proportional basis as needed~~.

~~(8) The association shall report to the Legislature its determination as to the annual cost of maintaining the fund on an actuarially sound basis. In making its determination, the association shall consider the recommendations of all hospitals, physicians, casualty insurers, attorneys, consumers, and any associations representing any such person or entity. Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 395.3025, all hospitals, casualty insurers, departments, boards, commissions, and legislative committees shall provide the association with all relevant records and information upon request to assist the association in making its determination. All hospitals shall, upon request by the association, provide the association with information from their records regarding any live birth. Such information shall not include the name of any physician, the name of any hospital employee or agent, the name of the patient, or any other information which will identify the infant involved in the birth. Such information thereby obtained shall be utilized solely for the purpose of assisting the association and shall not subject the hospital to any civil or criminal liability for the release thereof. Such information shall otherwise be confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.~~

And the title is amended as follows:

Remove lines 45-62 and insert: date; amending s. 766.314, F.S.; revising requirements for the administration of assessments and appropriations dedicated to the Florida Birth-Related Neurological Injury Compensation Plan; revising the schedule of assessments participating hospitals and physicians are required to pay to the association; requiring the association to submit revised quarterly claim estimates to the office within a specified timeframe; requiring the association to assess its financial condition and issue a specified notice to the Office of Insurance Regulation in certain circumstances; requiring the Office of Insurance Regulation to review the association's financial condition upon receipt of such report; providing criteria for review; providing the timeframe and criteria for the Office of Insurance Regulation's biennial review of the association's financial condition; requiring a determination regarding the plan's short term cash flow; authorizing the office to provide a cash transfer under certain conditions; providing the office with specified responsibilities; providing limitations on time and value of potential assessments; deleting reporting requirements; repealing a public records exemption;

Senator Burton moved the following amendment to **House Amendment 1 (690561)** which was adopted:

Senate Amendment 1 (771754) (with title amendment) to House Amendment 1 (690561)—Delete lines 370-415 and insert:
in paragraph (a), the office shall authorize transfers from the Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund to the association within 30 calendar days. Cumulative transfers authorized under this paragraph may not exceed $20 million over the life of the plan.

(c)~~(b)~~ If the office ~~of Insurance Regulation~~ finds that the plan *is not likely to return to actuarial soundness before the next biennial review pursuant to the review in paragraph (a), the office shall, within 60 calendar days after this finding, order one or more of the following actions:*

1. Require each entity licensed to issue casualty insurance as defined in s. 624.605(1)(b), (k), and (q) to pay into the association an annual assessment that is calculated to generate a total amount no greater than the amount required to achieve actuarial soundness of the plan within 5 years after the date of the order, subject to the limitations of this subparagraph.

a. Such assessments shall be made on the basis of net direct premiums written for the business activity which forms the basis for each such entity's inclusion as a funding source for the plan in the state during the prior year ending December 31, as reported to the office, and shall be in the proportion that the net direct premiums written by each carrier on account of the business activity forming the basis for its inclusion in the plan bears to the aggregate net direct premiums for all such business activity written in this state by all such entities.

b. No entity shall be individually liable for an annual assessment in excess of 0.25 percent of that entity's net direct premiums written.

c. Casualty insurance carriers shall be entitled to recover their assessments through a surcharge on future policies, a rate increase applicable prospectively, or a combination of the two.

d. An assessment under this subparagraph must not extend 5 years after the date of the order.

2. If actuarial soundness cannot be achieved after using the remedy in subparagraph 1., increase the assessments specified in subsection (4) on a proportional basis that is calculated to generate a total amount no greater than the amount required to maintain the plan on an actuarially sound basis.

(d) If the office finds that the plan is not actuarially sound pursuant to the review in paragraph (a), the plan shall provide the office with quarterly reports projecting the plan's financial condition and, if assessments were ordered by the office under this subsection, projected revenues for such assessments.

(e) If the office finds that the plan is not actuarially sound and the remedies provided under this subsection are

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete lines 477-478 and insert: plan's short term cash flow; requiring the office to authorize transfers of funds to the association within a specified timeframe under certain circumstances; providing that the cumulative amount of such transfers may not exceed a specified amount over the life of the plan;

On motion by Senator Burton, the Senate concurred in **House Amendment 1 (690561)**, as amended, and requested the House to concur in **Senate Amendment 1 (771754) to House Amendment 1 (690561)**.

CS for CS for SB 1668 passed, as amended, and the action of the Senate was certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—39

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Osgood
Arrington	Gaetz	Passidomo
Avila	Garcia	Pizzo
Berman	Grall	Polsky
Bernard	Gruters	Rodriguez
Boyd	Harrell	Rouson
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Sharief
Bradley	Jones	Simon
Brodeur	Leek	Smith
Burgess	Martin	Truenow
Burton	Massullo	Trumbull
Calatayud	Mayfield	Wright
Davis	McClain	Yarborough

Nays—None

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has refused to concur in Senate Amendment 1 (300312) to HB 6011 and requests the Senate to recede.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

HB 6011—A bill to be entitled An act relating to reporting the receipt of gifts or honoraria; amending s. 112.3148, F.S.; providing that all annual reports shall be filed with the Commission on Ethics by a specified date; amending s. 112.3149, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; providing an effective date.

On motion by Senator Wright, the Senate refused to recede from **Senate Amendment 1 (300312)** to **HB 6011** and again requested that the House concur. The action of the Senate was certified to the House.

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed CS/CS/CS/SB 1220, with 1 amendment, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

CS for CS for CS for SB 1220—A bill to be entitled An act relating to transportation; amending s. 20.23, F.S.; revising the membership composition of the Florida Transportation Research Institute; amending s. 260.0142, F.S.; requiring the Florida Greenways and Trails Council to meet within a certain timeframe for a certain purpose; amending s. 311.14, F.S.; providing requirements for an infrastructure development and improvement component included in a port's strategic plan; defining the term "critical infrastructure resources"; creating s. 311.26, F.S.; requiring the Department of Transportation to coordinate with the Department of Commerce, specified ports, and the Federal Government for a certain purpose; requiring ports to support certain projects; requiring that such projects be evaluated in a certain manner; amending s. 316.003, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "personal delivery device"; amending s. 316.008, F.S.; authorizing the operation of a personal delivery device on certain sidewalks, crosswalks, bicycle lanes, and bicycle paths and on the shoulders of certain streets, roadways, and highways; revising construction; prohibiting the operation of a personal delivery device or mobile carrier within certain areas and facilities; prohibiting counties and municipalities from enacting, imposing, levying, collecting, or enforcing certain operating fees and advertising regulations; amending s. 316.126, F.S.; revising the visible signals given by an approaching emergency vehicle upon which a driver must yield the right-of-way; providing that the use of cruise lights is not such a visible signal; defining the term "cruise lights"; revising the means by which an emergency vehicle may signal that such vehicle is en route to an emergency; amending s. 316.2071, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; prohibiting a personal delivery device from operating as otherwise authorized unless the personal delivery device meets certain criteria and a human operator is capable of controlling and monitoring its navigation and operation; prohibiting a personal delivery device from operating on a limited access facility; prohibiting a personal delivery device or mobile carrier from operating within certain facilities and areas; authorizing rulemaking; amending s. 318.14, F.S.; revising a limitation on the number of times a person may elect to attend a basic driver improvement course under certain circumstances; amending s. 320.06, F.S.; authorizing certain rental trucks to elect a permanent registration period; repealing s. 322.032, F.S., relating to digital proof of driver license or identification card; amending ss. 322.059 and 322.15, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; repealing s. 324.252, F.S., relating to electronic insurance verification; amending s. 330.41, F.S.; prohibiting a political subdivision from withholding issuance of a business tax receipt, development permit, or other land use approval to certain drone delivery services and from enacting or enforcing ordinances or resolutions that prohibit drone delivery service operation; revising construction; defining the term "major theme park or entertainment complex"; prohibiting a drone delivery service from operating over or delivering to a major theme park or entertainment complex without certain approval; providing that the addition of a drone delivery service within a certain parking area does not reduce the number of parking spaces in the parking area for a certain purpose; amending s. 332.001, F.S.; revising duties of the Department of Transportation relating to airport systems in this state; amending s. 332.006, F.S.; requiring the department to coordinate with commercial service airports to review and evaluate certain federal policies and programs; amending s. 332.0075, F.S.; requiring commercial service airports to develop a plan for obtaining and maintaining critical infrastructure resources; providing requirements for such plans; defining the term "critical infrastructure resources"; amending s. 334.03, F.S.; defining the term "advanced air mobility corridor connection point"; revising the definition of the term "transportation corridor"; amending s. 334.044, F.S.; authorizing the department to purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire property and materials for the promotion of transportation-related economic development opportunities and advanced air mobility; deleting the authority of the department to purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire property and materials for the promotion of electric vehicle use and charging stations; authorizing the department to operate and maintain certain research facilities, enter into certain contracts and agreements, require local governments to submit certain applications for federal funding to the department for review and approval before submission to the Federal Government, and acquire, own, construct, or operate airports for a specified purpose; requiring that certain airport acquisitions be approved by the governing body of the airport; authorizing the department to adopt rules; creating s. 334.64, F.S.; providing that the department serves as the primary point of contact for statewide topographic aerial LiDAR procurement and certain cost sharing; authorizing the department to provide certain services to other governmental entities through interagency agreements; authorizing rulemaking; amending s. 337.401, F.S.; prohibiting municipalities and counties from requiring that providers locate or perform surveys of certain facilities; requiring a provider to use certain means to avoid damaging certain facilities under specified circumstances; prohibiting municipalities and counties from taking certain actions relating to certain facility permits; authorizing municipalities and counties to require a bond or other financial instrument; prohibiting municipalities and counties from imposing or collecting a tax, fee, cost, charge, or exaction for the placement of certain communications facilities; revising applicability; revising the definition of the term "application"; prohibiting an authority from requiring compliance with an authority's provisions regarding placement of communications facilities in certain locations; providing exceptions; requiring that certain authority ordinances apply to all providers of communications services; providing bond requirements; providing requirements for certain financial obligations required by an authority; prohibiting an authority from requiring a deposit or escrow of cash or agreement with certain terms; prohibiting an authority from requiring a communications service provider to indemnify it for certain liabilities; prohibiting an authority from imposing certain landscaping and vegetation management requirements; amending s. 338.231, F.S.; revising the period through which the department, to the extent possible, is required to program sufficient funds in the tentative work program for a specified purpose; requiring the department, to the extent possible, to program sufficient funds in the tentative work program for a specified purpose beginning in a specified fiscal year; amending s. 339.81, F.S.; revising construction materials that may be used for certain multiuse trails or shared-use paths; authorizing the department to consider certain sponsorship agreements; amending s. 341.041, F.S.; revising the entities whose specified grants and agreements the department is required to ensure include certain provisions; revising such provisions; amending s. 479.25, F.S.; revising provisions authorizing the owners of certain signs to increase the height above ground level of such signs under certain circumstances to include in such circumstances the permitting or erection of certain ramps and braided bridges; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 790.19, F.S.; providing criminal penalties for shooting at, within, or into, or throwing, hurling, or projecting certain objects at, within, or in, an autonomous vehicle; amending s. 806.13, F.S.; providing criminal penalties for defacing, injuring, or damaging an autonomous vehicle if the value of the damage is in excess of a specified amount; amending chapter 2006-316, Laws of Florida; revising a specified interchange designation; requiring the department to conduct a study to evaluate certain impacts of alternative fuel vehicles and identify certain policy options; requiring that the study identify, evaluate, and analyze certain information; requiring the department to submit a certain report to the Governor and the Legislature by a specified date; providing an appropriation; amending ss. 311.07, 316.0777, 316.515, 336.01, 338.222, 341.8225, 376.3071, 403.7211, 479.261, 715.07, and 1006.23, F.S.; conforming cross-references; reenacting ss. 320.02(21), 324.021(1), and 324.022(2)(a), F.S., relating to registration requirements, the definition of the term "motor vehicle,"

and financial responsibility for property damage, respectively, to incorporate the amendment made to s. 316.003, F.S., in references thereto; providing an effective date.

House Amendment 1 (135551) (with title amendment)—Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section 20.23, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

20.23 Department of Transportation.—There is created a Department of Transportation which shall be a decentralized agency.

(3) The Legislature finds that the transportation industry is critical to the economic future of this state and that the competitiveness of the industry in this state depends upon the development and maintenance of a qualified workforce and cutting-edge research and innovation. The Legislature further finds that the transportation industry in this state has varied and complex workforce needs ranging from technical and mechanical training to continuing education opportunities for workers with advanced degrees and certifications. The timely need also exists for coordinated research and innovation efforts to promote emerging technologies and innovative construction methods and tools and to address alternative funding mechanisms. It is the intent of the Legislature to support programs designed to address the workforce development needs of the state's transportation industry.

(c) The institute shall report to the department and shall be composed of members from the University of Florida, *the Florida State University* ~~Indian River State College~~, the University of Central Florida, the University of South Florida, and Florida International University. The department shall select a member to serve as the administrative lead of the institute. The department shall assess the performance of the administrative lead periodically to ensure accountability and assess the attainment of performance goals.

Section 2. Paragraph (h) of subsection (4) of section 260.0142, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

260.0142 Florida Greenways and Trails Council; composition; powers and duties.—

(4) The duties of the council include the following:

(h) Make recommendations for updating and revising the implementation plan for the Florida Greenways and Trails System, including, but not limited to, recommendations for prioritization of regionally significant trails within the Florida Shared-Use Nonmotorized Trail Network. *The council shall meet within 90 days after the Department of Transportation submits its report pursuant to s. 339.81(8) to update its recommendations for prioritization of regionally significant trails within the network.*

Section 3. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 311.14, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (4) is added to that section, to read:

311.14 Seaport planning.—

(2) Each port shall develop a strategic plan with a 10-year horizon. Each plan must include the following:

(b) An infrastructure development and improvement component that identifies all projected infrastructure improvements within the plan area which require improvement, expansion, or development in order for a port to attain a strategic advantage for competition with national and international competitors. *This component must provide strategies for obtaining and maintaining critical infrastructure resources for the port and its tenants. Such strategies must include long-term contracts, rights of first refusal regarding the sale or lease of property storing such resources, and contingency plans for obtaining such resources. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "critical infrastructure resources" includes, but is not limited to, access to electricity, fuel, and water resources.*

To the extent feasible, the port strategic plan must be consistent with the local government comprehensive plans of the units of local government in which the port is located. Upon approval of a plan by the port's board, the plan shall be submitted to the Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Council.

(4)(a) For purposes of this subsection, the term "strategic spaceport hub" means spaceport territory located within 5 miles of a seaport listed in s. 311.09(1) that is used for deepwater commercial navigation.

(b) Before making any change to its strategic plan, the governing board of a seaport located within 5 miles of a strategic spaceport hub must coordinate with Space Florida to ensure that the change does not conflict with Space Florida's business plan created pursuant to s. 331.3051.

Section 4. Section 311.26, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

311.26 Florida Seaport Maritime Industrial Base.—The Department of Transportation shall coordinate with the Department of Commerce and the ports listed in s. 311.09, the United States Department of Commerce, and the United States Department of War to identify and prioritize key maritime components in the supply chain which are essential to strengthening and expanding this state's maritime industrial base. The ports listed in s. 311.09 shall support projects evaluated by the Department of Transportation, which shall directly support the construction, maintenance, and modernization of both commercial vessels, including cargo vessels, and vessels designed for national defense. Projects shall be evaluated based on the return on invested capital, job creation, and contribution to the economic competitiveness of this state and based on support for the national security interests of the United States. Additional considerations shall include the anticipated enhancement of this state's commercial maritime capabilities.

Section 5. Subsections (66) through (112) of section 316.003, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (67) through (113), respectively, subsections (59) and (65) are amended, and a new subsection (66) is added to that section, to read:

316.003 Definitions.—The following words and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this section, except where the context otherwise requires:

(59) PERSONAL DELIVERY DEVICE.—An electrically powered device that:

(a) Is operated on sidewalks, ~~and~~ crosswalks*, bicycle lanes, bicycle paths, or shoulders on streets, roadways, or highways, excluding limited access facilities,* and intended primarily for transporting property;

(b) Has a weight that does not exceed the maximum weight established by Department of Transportation rule;

(c) *Operates at* ~~Has~~ a maximum speed of 10 miles per hour *on sidewalks and crosswalks and 20 miles per hour on bicycle lanes, bicycle paths, or shoulders on streets, roadways, or highways, excluding limited access facilities*; and

(d) Is equipped with technology to allow for operation of the device with or without the active control or monitoring of a natural person.

A personal delivery device is not considered a vehicle unless expressly defined by law as a vehicle. A mobile carrier is not considered a personal delivery device. The Department of Transportation may adopt rules to implement this subsection.

(65) PRIVATE ROAD OR DRIVEWAY.—Except as otherwise provided in *paragraph (91)(b)* ~~paragraph (90)(b)~~, any privately owned way or place used for vehicular travel by the owner and those having express or implied permission from the owner, but not by other persons.

(66) PROHIBITED ZONE OF OPERATION.—

(a) The Florida Shared-use Nonmotorized Trail Network created in s. 339.81.

(b) A theme park or entertainment complex as defined in s. 509.013(9).

(c) A state correctional institution as defined in s. 944.02.

(d) A county detention facility, county residential probation center, municipal detention facility, or reduced custody housing area as defined on s. 951.23(1).

(e) A detention center or facility as defined in s. 985.03.

Section 6. Section 316.0076, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.0076 Regulation and use of cameras*; prohibited uses*.—

(1) Regulation of the use of cameras for enforcing the provisions of this chapter is expressly preempted to the state. The regulation of the use of cameras for enforcing the provisions of this chapter is not required to comply with provisions of chapter 493.

(2)(a) A state agency, county, municipality, special district, or other political subdivision of the state may not use cameras mounted on vehicles or other mobile platforms in conjunction with artificial intelligence systems, automated image analysis, or similar technologies to detect, identify, or issue notices of code enforcement violations or permitting violations. Evidence derived from such systems may not be used for issuing a citation, notice of violation, or enforcement action under any local ordinance or state law relating to building codes, land use, zoning, or permitting requirements.

(b) This subsection does not prohibit the use of vehicle- or other mobile platform-mounted cameras in conjunction with artificial intelligence for infrastructure inspection, public safety, or internal government assessments, provided that such technology is not used for automated enforcement or the issuance of a citation, notice of violation, or enforcement action to a real property owner or occupant.

Section 7. Paragraph (b) of subsection (7) of section 316.008, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (c) is added to that subsection, to read:

316.008 Powers of local authorities.—

(7)

(b)1. Except as provided in subparagraph 2., a personal delivery device *may be operated on sidewalks, crosswalks, bicycle lanes, bicycle paths, or shoulders on streets, roadways, or highways, excluding limited access facilities,* and a mobile carrier may be operated on sidewalks and crosswalks within a county or municipality when such use is permissible under federal law. This *subparagraph* ~~paragraph~~ does not restrict a county or municipality from otherwise adopting regulations for the safe operation of personal delivery devices and mobile carriers *in a manner consistent with this chapter*.

2. A personal delivery device may not be operated on the Florida Shared-Use Nonmotorized Trail Network created under s. 339.81 or components of the Florida Greenways and Trails System created under chapter 260 *or in state forests, state parks, or wildlife management areas, or in any prohibited zone of operation*.

(c) A county or municipality may not enact, impose, levy, collect, or enforce:

1. An operating fee for personal delivery devices, except as expressly authorized by general law; or

2. An advertising regulation that restricts, prohibits, conditions, or otherwise limits commercial advertising on personal delivery devices.

Section 8. Effective October 1, 2026, subsections (3), (4), and (5) of section 316.0777, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (4), (5), and (6), respectively, and a new subsection (3) and subsection (7) are added to that section to read:

316.0777 Automated license plate recognition systems; installation within rights-of-way of State Highway System *and on and within property owned or controlled by private entity*; public records exemption.—

(3) A private property owner may install an automated license plate recognition system solely for use on and within the property owned or controlled by the property owner. A private property owner that installs or directs the installation of such a system:

(a) May not access vehicle registration or title data for vehicles identified by the system, unless the private property owner is acting to the extent permitted by the Driver's Privacy Protection Act, 18 U.S.C. ss. 2721-2725, or for the limited purpose of providing notice to a vehicle owner that he or she failed to pay for parking and that such failure has resulted in a parking charge pursuant to s. 715.075.

(b) May not share or sell images, personal identifying information, vehicle identification numbers or license plate numbers, or any data that could be reasonably connected to an individual which is collected or generated by the system, except:

1. To the extent required to respond to a lawful request from a criminal justice agency;

2. To the extent required to control or enforce access to the property or for parking enforcement;

3. To the extent sharing such information is necessary to report suspicious activity or suspected criminal activity to a criminal justice agency; or

4. To the extent permitted by the Driver's Privacy Protection Act, 18 U.S.C. ss. 2721-2725.

(c) Must contractually obligate any third party that installs, maintains, or operates the system or receives information pursuant to subparagraph (b)2. to protect the images or data collected or generated by the system from disclosure, including a prohibition on sharing or selling such images or data, except to the extent authorized under paragraph (b).

(d) Must implement, and must contractually obligate any third party that installs, maintains, or operates the system or receives information pursuant to subparagraph (b)2. to implement:

1. Industry-recognized encryption protocols to ensure that images and associated data collected or generated by the system are encrypted in transmission and at rest.

2. An auditable access control system that records access to images and associated data.

3. A data retention schedule that provides for deletion of images and data no later than 30 days after the images or data is collected or generated by the system, except to the extent needed to comply with a court order, subpoena, or the appeal process detailed in s. 715.075(1)(c) and (d) or to collect an unpaid invoice for parking enforcement. Records detailing disclosure logs or transaction information may be retained longer in accordance with federal law.

(e) May not offer or provide as payment or other consideration any portion of the proceeds derived from a fine or charge imposed based on images or data collected or generated by the system to any third party that installs, maintains, or operates the system, except to the extent the fine or violation is issued in connection with controlling or enforcing access to such property or for parking enforcement.

(7) A person who uses or releases information in violation of this section commits a noncriminal infraction, punishable by a fine not exceeding $2,000.

Section 9. Subsection (2) of section 316.187, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.187 Establishment of state speed zones.—

(2)(a) The maximum allowable speed limit on limited access highways is *80* ~~70~~ miles per hour.

(b) The maximum allowable speed limit on any other highway *that* ~~which~~ is outside an urban area of 5,000 or more persons and *that* ~~which~~ has at least four lanes divided by a median strip is *70* ~~65~~ miles per hour.

(c) The Department of Transportation is authorized to set such maximum and minimum speed limits for travel over other roadways

under its authority as it deems safe and advisable, not to exceed as a maximum limit *70* ~~60~~ miles per hour.

Section 10. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 316.2071, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection (5) is added to that section, to read:

316.2071 Personal delivery devices and mobile carriers.—

(1) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, a personal delivery device *may operate on sidewalks, crosswalks, bicycle lanes, bicycle paths, or shoulders on streets, roadways, or highways, excluding limited access facilities, and a* ~~or~~ mobile carrier may operate on sidewalks and crosswalks, subject to s. 316.008(7)(b). *Such* ~~A~~ personal delivery device or mobile carrier ~~operating on a sidewalk or crosswalk~~ has all the rights and duties applicable to a pedestrian under the same circumstances. *A*~~, except that the~~ personal delivery device or mobile carrier *may* ~~must~~ not unreasonably interfere with pedestrians*, bicyclists, and motor vehicles* ~~or traffic~~ and must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians ~~on the sidewalk or crosswalk~~.

(3) A personal delivery device and a mobile carrier may not:

(a) Operate on a *sidewalk, crosswalk, bicycle lane, or shoulder on a street, roadway, or highway, excluding a limited access facility, unless the personal delivery device or mobile carrier meets minimum criteria established by the Department of Transportation* ~~public highway except to the extent necessary to cross a crosswalk~~.

(b) Operate on a sidewalk*,* ~~or~~ crosswalk*, bicycle lane, bicycle path, or shoulder on a street, roadway, or highway, excluding a limited access facility,* unless *a human who is an agent of* the personal delivery device operator is *capable of* ~~actively~~ controlling *and* ~~or~~ monitoring the navigation and operation of the personal delivery device or a mobile carrier owner remains within 25 feet of the mobile carrier.

(c) Transport hazardous materials as defined in s. 316.003.

(d) For mobile carriers, transport persons or animals.

(e) Operate in a prohibited zone of operation.

(5) The Department of Transportation may adopt rules to implement this section.

Section 11. Subsections (5) through (9) of section 316.212, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (6) through (10), respectively, paragraph (b) of present subsection (8) and present subsection (9) are amended, and a new subsection (5) is added to that section, to read:

316.212 Operation of golf carts on certain roadways.—The operation of a golf cart upon the public roads or streets of this state is prohibited except as provided herein:

(5) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, a golf cart may be operated for the purpose of crossing a street or highway at a signalized intersection, provided that:

(a) The intersection is located wholly within the boundaries of a single local governmental entity.

(b) The local governmental entity has designated, for the operation of golf carts, the street or road located on both sides of the intersection with the street or highway.

(c) The local governmental entity has approved the operation of golf carts for the purpose of crossing at the intersection and has posted appropriate signs at the intersection to indicate that such operation is authorized.

(9)~~(8)~~ A local governmental entity may enact an ordinance relating to:

(b) Golf cart operation on sidewalks adjacent to specific segments of municipal streets, county roads, or state highways within the jurisdictional territory of the local governmental entity if:

1. The local governmental entity determines, after considering the condition and current use of the sidewalks, the character of the surrounding community, and the locations of authorized golf cart crossings, that golf carts, bicycles, and pedestrians may safely share the sidewalk;

2. The local governmental entity consults with the Department of Transportation before adopting the ordinance;

3. The ordinance restricts golf carts to a maximum speed of 15 miles per hour and permits such use on sidewalks adjacent to state highways only if the sidewalks are at least 8 feet wide;

4. The ordinance requires the golf carts to meet the equipment requirements in subsection *(7)* ~~(6)~~. However, the ordinance may require additional equipment, including horns or other warning devices required by s. 316.271; and

5. The local governmental entity posts appropriate signs or otherwise informs residents that the ordinance exists and applies to such sidewalks.

(10)~~(9)~~ A violation of this section is a noncriminal traffic infraction, punishable pursuant to chapter 318 as a moving violation for infractions of subsections *(1)-(6)* ~~(1)-(5)~~ or a local ordinance corresponding thereto and enacted pursuant to subsection *(9)* ~~(8)~~, or punishable pursuant to chapter 318 as a nonmoving violation for infractions of subsection *(7)* ~~(6)~~, subsection *(8)* ~~(7)~~, or a local ordinance corresponding thereto and enacted pursuant to subsection *(9)* ~~(8)~~.

Section 12. Subsections (2) through (5) of section 316.3045, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (3) through (6), respectively, and a new subsection (2) is added to that section to read:

316.3045 Operation of radios or other mechanical or electronic soundmaking devices or instruments in vehicles; *prevention of noise;* exemptions.—

(2) A person operating a motor vehicle on a street or highway may not intentionally increase the revolutions per minute or unreasonably accelerate in a manner that would produce excessive or unusual noise.

Section 13. Subsection (9) of section 318.14, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

318.14 Noncriminal traffic infractions; exception; procedures.—

(9) Any person who does not hold a commercial driver license or commercial learner's permit and who is cited while driving a noncommercial motor vehicle for an infraction under this section other than a violation of s. 316.183(2), s. 316.187, or s. 316.189 when the driver exceeds the posted limit by 30 miles per hour or more, s. 320.0605, s. 320.07(3)(a) or (b), s. 322.065, s. 322.15(1), s. 322.61, or s. 322.62 may, in lieu of a court appearance, elect to attend in the location of his or her choice within this state a basic driver improvement course approved by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. In such a case, adjudication must be withheld, any civil penalty that is imposed by s. 318.18(3) must be reduced by 18 percent, and points, as provided by s. 322.27, may not be assessed. However, a person may not make an election under this subsection if the person has made an election under this subsection in the preceding 12 months *or has made more than eight elections under this subsection in the preceding 20 years*. ~~A person may not make more than eight elections within his or her lifetime under this subsection.~~ The requirement for community service under s. 318.18(8) is not waived by a plea of nolo contendere or by the withholding of adjudication of guilt by a court.

Section 14. Section 319.1401, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

319.1401 Titling and registering golf carts converted to low-speed vehicles.—A golf cart converted to a low-speed vehicle may be titled and registered for operation on certain roads. A motor vehicle dealer, a motor vehicle repair shop, or the department shall affirm in writing that the low-speed vehicle complies with the requirements of chapter 316, and the vehicle shall be assigned an identification number by the department. The identification number shall be unique to the low-speed vehicle and used for the issuance of a title and registration for the vehicle.

Section 15. Section 320.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.06 Registration certificates *and*~~,~~ license plates*;*~~, and~~ validation stickers generally.—

(1)(a) Upon the receipt of an initial application for registration and payment of the appropriate license tax and other fees required by law, the department shall assign to the motor vehicle a registration license number consisting of letters and numerals or numerals and issue to the owner or lessee a certificate of registration and one registration license plate, unless two plates are required for display by s. 320.0706, for each vehicle so registered.

(b)1. Registration license plates bearing a graphic symbol and the alphanumeric system of identification shall be issued for a 10-year period. At the end of the 10-year period, upon renewal, the plate shall be replaced. The department shall extend the scheduled license plate replacement date from a 6-year period to a 10-year period. The fee for such replacement is $28, $2.80 of which shall be paid each year before the plate is replaced, to be credited toward the next $28 replacement fee. The fees shall be deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund. A credit or refund may not be given for any prior years' payments of the prorated replacement fee if the plate is replaced or surrendered before the end of the 10-year period, except that a credit may be given if a registrant is required by the department to replace a license plate under s. 320.08056(8)(a). ~~With each license plate, a validation sticker shall be issued showing the owner's birth month, license plate number, and the year of expiration or the appropriate renewal period if the owner is not a natural person. The validation sticker shall be placed on the upper right corner of the license plate. The license plate and validation sticker shall be issued based on the applicant's appropriate renewal period.~~ The registration period is 12 months, the extended registration period is 24 months, and all expirations occur based on the applicant's appropriate registration period. Rental vehicles taxed pursuant to s. 320.08(6)(a) and rental trucks taxed pursuant to s. 320.08(3)(a)-(c) and *(4)(a)-(f)* ~~(4)(a)-(d)~~ may elect a permanent registration period, provided payment of the appropriate license taxes and fees occurs annually.

2. ~~Beginning July 1, 2024,~~ A vehicle registered in accordance with the International Registration Plan must be issued a license plate for a 3-year period. At the end of the 3-year period, upon renewal, the license plate must be replaced. ~~Each license plate must include a validation sticker showing the month of expiration.~~ A cab card denoting the declared gross vehicle weight for each apportioned jurisdiction must be issued annually. The fee for an original or a renewal cab card is $28, which must be deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund. If the license plate is damaged or worn, it may be replaced at no charge by applying to the department and surrendering the current license plate.

3. In order to retain the efficient administration of the taxes and fees imposed by this chapter, the 80-cent fee increase in the replacement fee imposed by chapter 2009-71, Laws of Florida, is negated as provided in s. 320.0804.

(c) Registration license plates ~~equipped with validation stickers~~ subject to the registration period are valid for not more than 12 months and expire at midnight on the last day of the registration period. A registration license plate ~~equipped with a validation sticker~~ subject to the extended registration period is valid for not more than 24 months and expires at midnight on the last day of the extended registration period. A registration license plate ~~equipped with a validation sticker~~ subject to a permanent registration period is permanently valid but shall become void if appropriate license taxes and fees are not paid annually. For each registration period after the one in which the metal registration license plate is issued, and until the license plate is required to be replaced, *the renewal shall be recorded electronically* ~~a validation sticker showing the month and year of expiration shall be issued~~ upon payment of the proper license tax amount and fees and is valid for not more than 12 months. For each extended registration period occurring after the one in which the metal registration license plate is issued and until the license plate is required to be replaced, *the renewal shall be recorded electronically* ~~a validation sticker showing the year of expiration shall be issued~~ upon payment of the proper license tax amount and fees and is valid for not more than 24 months. For each permanent registration period occurring after the one in which the metal registration license plate is issued and until the license plate is required to be replaced, *the renewal shall be recorded electronically* ~~a validation sticker showing a permanent registration period shall be issued~~ upon payment of the proper license tax amount and fees and is permanently valid but shall become void if the proper license taxes and fees are not paid annually. When license plates ~~equipped with validation stickers~~ are issued in any month other than the owner's birth month or the designated registration period for any other motor vehicle, the effective date shall reflect the birth month or month and the year of renewal. However, when a license plate ~~or validation sticker~~ is issued for a period of less than 12 months, the applicant shall pay the appropriate amount of license tax and the applicable fee under s. 320.14 in addition to all other fees. Validation stickers issued for vehicles taxed under s. 320.08(6)(a), for any company that owns 250 vehicles or more, or for semitrailers taxed under ~~the provisions of~~ s. 320.08(5)(a), for any company that owns 50 vehicles or more, may be placed on any vehicle in the fleet so long as the vehicle receiving the validation sticker has the same owner's name and address as the vehicle to which the validation sticker was originally assigned.

~~(2) The department shall provide the several tax collectors and license plate agents with the necessary number of validation stickers.~~

(2)~~(3)~~(a) Registration license plates must be made of metal specially treated with a retroreflection material, as specified by the department. The registration license plate is designed to increase nighttime visibility and legibility and must be at least 6 inches wide and not less than 12 inches in length, unless a plate with reduced dimensions is deemed necessary by the department to accommodate motorcycles, mopeds, similar smaller vehicles, or trailers. ~~Validation stickers must also be treated with a retroreflection material, must be of such size as specified by the department, and must adhere to the license plate.~~ The registration license plate must be imprinted with a combination of bold letters and numerals or numerals, not to exceed seven digits, to identify the registration license plate number. The license plate must be imprinted with the word "Florida" at the top and the name of the county in which it is sold, the state motto, or the words "Sunshine State" at the bottom. Apportioned license plates must have the word "Apportioned" at the bottom, and license plates issued for vehicles taxed under s. 320.08(3)(d), (4)(m) or (n), (5)(b) or (c), or (14) must have the word "Restricted" at the bottom. License plates issued for vehicles taxed under s. 320.08(12) must be imprinted with the word "Florida" at the top and the word "Dealer" at the bottom unless the license plate is a specialty license plate as authorized in s. 320.08056. Manufacturer license plates issued for vehicles taxed under s. 320.08(12) must be imprinted with the word "Florida" at the top and the word "Manufacturer" at the bottom. License plates issued for vehicles taxed under s. 320.08(5)(d) or (e) must be imprinted with the word "Wrecker" at the bottom. Any county may, upon majority vote of the county commission, elect to have the county name removed from the license plates sold in that county. The state motto or the words "Sunshine State" shall be printed in lieu thereof. A license plate issued for a vehicle taxed under s. 320.08(6) may not be assigned a registration license number, or be issued with any other distinctive character or designation, that distinguishes the motor vehicle as a for-hire motor vehicle.

(b) An additional fee of 50 cents shall be collected on each motor vehicle registration or motor vehicle renewal registration issued in this state in order for all license plates ~~and validation stickers~~ to be fully treated with retroreflection material. The fee shall be deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund.

(3)~~(4)~~ The corporation organized under chapter 946 may manufacture license plates~~, validation stickers,~~ and decals, as well as temporary tags, disabled hang tags, vessel decals, and fuel use decals, for the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles as provided in this chapter and chapter 327. The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles is not required to obtain competitive bids in order to contract with the corporation.

(4)~~(5)~~ The department may conduct a pilot program to evaluate the designs, concepts, and technologies for alternative license plates. For purposes of the pilot program, the department shall investigate the feasibility and use of alternative license plate technologies and the long-term cost impact to the consumer. The pilot program shall be limited to license plates that are used on government-owned motor vehicles as described in s. 320.0655. Such license plates are exempt from the requirements in paragraph *(2)(a)* ~~(3)(a)~~.

(5)~~(6)~~ All license plates issued pursuant to this chapter are the property of *this* ~~the~~ state.

Section 16. Subsection (16) and paragraph (a) of subsection (36) of section 320.64, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection (44) is added to that section, to read:

320.64 Denial, suspension, or revocation of license; grounds.—A license of a licensee under s. 320.61 may be denied, suspended, or revoked within the entire state or at any specific location or locations within the state at which the applicant or licensee engages or proposes to engage in business, upon proof that the section was violated with sufficient frequency to establish a pattern of wrongdoing, and a licensee or applicant shall be liable for claims and remedies provided in ss. 320.695 and 320.697 for any violation of any of the following provisions. A licensee is prohibited from committing the following acts:

(16)*(a)* Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise agreement, the applicant or licensee prevents or refuses to accept the succession to any interest in a franchise agreement by any legal heir or devisee under the will of a motor vehicle dealer or under the laws of descent and distribution of this state; provided, the applicant or licensee is not required to accept a succession*:*

1. When ~~where~~ such heir or devisee does not meet licensee's written, reasonable, and uniformly applied minimal standard qualifications for dealer applicants*;*

2. ~~or~~ Which, after notice and administrative hearing pursuant to chapter 120, is demonstrated to be detrimental to the public interest or to the representation of the applicant or licensee*; or*

3. When the direct result of such succession will cause the applicant or licensee to be in violation of subsection (44).

(b) This subsection does not ~~Nothing contained herein, however, shall~~ prevent a motor vehicle dealer, during his or her lifetime, from designating any person as his or her successor in interest by written instrument filed with and accepted by the applicant or licensee. A licensee who rejects the successor transferee under this subsection shall have the burden of establishing in any proceeding where such rejection is in issue that the rejection of the successor transferee complies with this subsection.

(36)(a) Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise agreement, in addition to any other statutory or contractual rights of recovery after the voluntary or involuntary termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of a franchise, failing to pay the motor vehicle dealer, as provided in paragraph (d), the following amounts:

1. The net cost paid by the dealer for each new *motor vehicle other than motorcycles* ~~car or truck~~ in the dealer's inventory with mileage of 2,000 miles or less, or *each new* ~~a~~ motorcycle *in the dealer's inventory* with mileage of 100 miles or less, exclusive of mileage placed on the *motor* vehicle before it was delivered to the dealer.

2. The current price charged for each new, unused, undamaged, or unsold part or accessory that:

a. Is in the current parts catalog and is still in the original, resalable merchandising package and in an unbroken lot, except that sheet metal may be in a comparable substitute for the original package; and

b. Was purchased by the dealer directly from the manufacturer or distributor or from an outgoing authorized dealer as a part of the dealer's initial inventory.

3. The fair market value of each undamaged sign owned by the dealer which bears a trademark or trade name used or claimed by the applicant or licensee or its representative which was purchased from or at the request of the applicant or licensee or its representative.

4. The fair market value of all special tools, data processing equipment, and automotive service equipment owned by the dealer which:

a. Were recommended in writing by the applicant or licensee or its representative and designated as special tools and equipment;

b. Were purchased from or at the request of the applicant or licensee or its representative; and

c. Are in usable and good condition except for reasonable wear and tear.

5. The cost of transporting, handling, packing, storing, and loading any property subject to repurchase under this section.

(44)(a) The applicant or licensee has directly or indirectly distributed 1,000 or more motor vehicles of a particular line-make to motor vehicle dealers in this state during any 12-month period and has directly or indirectly distributed more than 33.33 percent of those same line-make motor vehicles during that 12-month period to one motor vehicle dealer or to multiple motor vehicle dealers that share common ownership or control. For purposes of this subsection, a motor vehicle dealer shares common ownership or control with another motor vehicle dealer if:

1. It is directly or indirectly controlled by or has more than 30 percent of its equity interest directly or indirectly owned by another motor vehicle dealer; or

2. It has more than 30 percent of its equity interest directly or indirectly controlled or owned by one or more persons who also directly or indirectly control or own more than 30 percent of the equity interests of another motor vehicle dealer.

(b) This subsection does not apply to any line-make of motor vehicle for which there exists a licensed franchised dealer in this state as of January 1, 2026, or to an applicant or licensee who is not prohibited by s. 320.645 from owning or operating a motor vehicle dealership.

A motor vehicle dealer who can demonstrate that a violation of, or failure to comply with, any of the preceding provisions by an applicant or licensee will or may adversely and pecuniarily affect the complaining dealer, shall be entitled to pursue all of the remedies, procedures, and rights of recovery available under ss. 320.695 and 320.697.

Section 17. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 320.643, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

320.643 Transfer, assignment, or sale of franchise agreements.—

(1)(a) Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise agreement, a licensee *may* ~~shall~~ not, by contract or otherwise, fail or refuse to give effect to, prevent, prohibit, or penalize or attempt to refuse to give effect to, prohibit, or penalize any motor vehicle dealer from selling, assigning, transferring, alienating, or otherwise disposing of its franchise agreement to any other person or persons, including a corporation established or existing for the purpose of owning or holding a franchise agreement, unless the licensee proves at a hearing pursuant to a complaint filed by a motor vehicle dealer under this section that the sale, transfer, alienation, or other disposition*:*

1. Is to a person who is not, or whose controlling executive management is not, of good moral character*;*

2. Is to a person who ~~or~~ does not meet the written, reasonable, and uniformly applied standards or qualifications of the licensee relating to financial qualifications of the transferee and business experience of the transferee or the transferee's executive management*; or*

3. Would directly cause the licensee to be in violation of s. 320.64(44).

(b) A motor vehicle dealer who desires to sell, assign, transfer, alienate, or otherwise dispose of a franchise shall notify, or cause the proposed transferee to notify, the licensee, in writing, setting forth the prospective transferee's name, address, financial qualifications, and business experience during the previous 5 years. A licensee who receives such notice may, within 60 days following such receipt, notify the motor vehicle dealer, in writing, that the proposed transferee is not a person qualified to be a transferee under this section and setting forth the material reasons for such rejection. Failure of the licensee to notify the motor vehicle dealer within the 60-day period of such rejection shall be deemed an approval of the transfer. No such transfer, assignment, or sale shall be valid unless the transferee agrees in writing to comply with all requirements of the franchise then in effect, but with the ownership changed to the transferee.

(c)~~(b)~~ A motor vehicle dealer whose proposed sale is rejected may, within 60 days following such receipt of such rejection, file with the department a complaint for a determination that the proposed transferee has been rejected in violation of this section. The licensee has the burden of proof with respect to all issues raised by the complaint. The department shall determine, and enter an order providing, that the proposed transferee is either qualified or is not and cannot be qualified for specified reasons, or the order may provide the conditions under which a proposed transferee would be qualified. If the licensee fails to file such a response to the motor vehicle dealer's complaint within 30 days after receipt of the complaint, unless the parties agree in writing to an extension, or if the department, after a hearing, renders a decision other than one disqualifying the proposed transferee, the franchise agreement between the motor vehicle dealer and the licensee is deemed amended to incorporate such transfer or amended in accordance with the determination and order rendered, effective upon compliance by the proposed transferee with any conditions set forth in the determination or order.

(2)(a) Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise agreement, a licensee *may* ~~shall~~ not, by contract or otherwise, fail or refuse to give effect to, prevent, prohibit, or penalize, or attempt to refuse to give effect to, prevent, prohibit, or penalize, any motor vehicle dealer or any proprietor, partner, stockholder, owner, or other person who holds or otherwise owns an interest therein from selling, assigning, transferring, alienating, or otherwise disposing of, in whole or in part, the equity interest of any of them in such motor vehicle dealer to any other person or persons, including a corporation established or existing for the purpose of owning or holding the stock or ownership interests of other entities, unless the licensee proves at a hearing pursuant to a complaint filed by a motor vehicle dealer under this section that the sale, transfer, alienation, or other disposition*:*

1. Is to a person who is not, or whose controlling executive management is not, of good moral character*; or*

2. Would directly cause the licensee to be in violation of s. 320.64(44).

(b) A motor vehicle dealer, or any proprietor, partner, stockholder, owner, or other person who holds or otherwise owns an interest in the motor vehicle dealer, who desires to sell, assign, transfer, alienate, or otherwise dispose of any interest in such motor vehicle dealer shall notify, or cause the proposed transferee to so notify, the licensee, in writing, of the identity and address of the proposed transferee. A licensee who receives such notice may, within 60 days following such receipt, notify the motor vehicle dealer in writing that the proposed transferee is not a person qualified to be a transferee under this section and setting forth the material reasons for such rejection. Failure of the licensee to notify the motor vehicle dealer within the 60-day period of such rejection shall be deemed an approval of the transfer. Any person whose proposed sale of stock is rejected may file within 60 days of receipt of such rejection a complaint with the department alleging that the rejection was in violation of the law or the franchise agreement. The licensee has the burden of proof with respect to all issues raised by such complaint. The department shall determine, and enter an order providing, that the proposed transferee either is qualified or is not and cannot be qualified for specified reasons; or the order may provide the conditions under which a proposed transferee would be qualified. If the licensee fails to file a response to the motor vehicle dealer's complaint within 30 days of receipt of the complaint, unless the parties agree in writing to an extension, or if the department, after a hearing, renders a decision on the complaint other than one disqualifying the proposed transferee, the transfer shall be deemed approved in accordance with the determination and order rendered, effective upon compliance by the proposed transferee with any conditions set forth in the determination or order.

(c)~~(b)~~ Notwithstanding paragraph (a), a licensee may not reject a proposed transfer of a legal, equitable, or beneficial interest in a motor vehicle dealer to a trust or other entity, or to any beneficiary thereof, which is established by an owner of any interest in a motor vehicle dealer for purposes of estate planning, if the controlling person of the trust or entity, or the beneficiary, is of good moral character.

Section 18. Present paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of section 330.41, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph (f), a new paragraph (d) and paragraph (e) are added to that subsection, and paragraph (c) of that subsection is amended, to read:

330.41 Unmanned Aircraft Systems Act.—

(3) REGULATION.—

(c) Except as otherwise expressly provided, a political subdivision may not withhold issuance of a business tax receipt, development permit, or other *land* use approval to a drone delivery service *on a commercial property* or enact or enforce an ordinance or *a* resolution that prohibits a drone delivery service's operation ~~based on the location of its drone port~~, notwithstanding part II of chapter 163 and chapter 205. A political subdivision may enforce minimum setback and landscaping regulations that are generally applicable to permitted uses in the *applicable* ~~drone port site's~~ zoning district. This paragraph may not be construed to authorize a political subdivision to require additional landscaping as a condition of approval of a drone *delivery service on a commercial property* ~~port~~.

(d)1. For the purpose of this paragraph, the term "major theme park or entertainment complex" means a complex comprised of at least 75 acres of land with permanent exhibitions and a variety of recreational activities, which has at least 1 million visitors annually who pay admission fees thereto, together with any lodging, dining, and recreational facilities located adjacent to, contiguous to, or in close proximity to the complex, as long as the owner and operator of the complex, or a parent or related company or subsidiary thereof, has an equity interest in the lodging, dining, or recreational facilities or is in privity therewith.

2. A drone delivery service is prohibited from operating over or delivering to a major theme park or entertainment complex without express written approval provided by the owner of the major theme park or entertainment complex to the owner or operator of the drone delivery device.

(e) The addition of a drone delivery service within the parking area of a commercial property does not reduce the number of parking spaces for the purpose of meeting applicable minimum parking requirements.

Section 19. Subsection (4) of section 331.302, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

331.302 Space Florida; creation; purpose.—

(4)*(a)* Space Florida is not an agency as defined in ss. 216.011 and 287.012.

(b) Space Florida is not an agency as defined in s. 287.055(2)(b) and is not subject to s. 255.20 when it purchases professional services or construction services, or both, using nonappropriated state funds. Space Florida must attest in writing that such funds are nonappropriated.

Section 20. Section 331.3051, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

331.3051 Duties of Space Florida.—Space Florida *must* ~~shall~~:

(1)*(a)* Create a business plan to foster the growth and development of the aerospace industry. The business plan must address business development, finance, spaceport operations, research and development, workforce development, and education. The business plan must be revised when determined as necessary by the board.

(b) Employ a full-time business development director for the spaceport territories identified in s. 331.304(2), (3), (6), and (7), whose primary focus must be to foster the growth and development of spaceport activities, including, but not limited to, horizontal launch capability, advanced air mobility, and unmanned aerial vehicles.

(2) Enter into agreement with the Department of Education, the Department of Transportation, the Department of Commerce, and CareerSource Florida, Inc., for the purpose of implementing this act.

(3) In cooperation with the Department of Commerce, develop a plan to retain, expand, attract, and create aerospace industry entities, public or private, which results in the creation of high-value-added businesses and jobs in this state.

(4) Create a marketing campaign to help attract, develop, and retain aerospace businesses, aerospace research and technology, and other related activities in this state. Space Florida shall attempt to coordinate the campaign with existing economic development promotion efforts in

this state and may use private resources. Marketing strategies may include developing promotional materials, Internet and print advertising, public relations and media placement, trade show attendance, and other activities.

(5) Consult with the Florida Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation in developing a space tourism marketing plan. Space Florida and the Florida Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation may enter into a mutually beneficial agreement that provides funding to the corporation for its services to implement this subsection.

(6) Develop, in cooperation with the Department of Commerce, a plan to provide financing assistance to aerospace businesses. The plan may include the following activities:

(a) Assembling, publishing, and disseminating information concerning financing opportunities and techniques for aerospace projects, programs, and activities; sources of public and private aerospace financing assistance; and sources of aerospace-related financing.

(b) Organizing, hosting, and participating in seminars and other forums designed to disseminate information and technical assistance regarding aerospace-related financing.

(c) Coordinating with programs and goals of the Department of Defense, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Export-Import Bank of the United States, the International Trade Administration of the United States Department of Commerce, the Foreign Credit Insurance Association, and other private and public programs and organizations, domestic and foreign.

(d) Establishing a network of contacts among those domestic and foreign public and private organizations that provide information, technical assistance, and financial support to the aerospace industry.

(e) Financing aerospace business development projects or initiatives using funds provided by the Legislature.

(7) Carry out its responsibilities for spaceport operations by:

(a) Seeking federal support and developing partnerships to renew and upgrade the infrastructure and technologies at the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, the John F. Kennedy Space Center, and the Eastern Range that will enhance space and military programs of the Federal Government, and improve access for commercial launch activities.

(b) Supporting federal efforts to clarify roles and responsibilities of federal agencies and eliminate duplicative federal rules and policies, in an effort to streamline access for commercial launch users.

(c) Pursuing the development of commercial spaceports in the state, in addition to those defined in s. 331.304, through a competitive request for proposals in partnership with counties or municipalities, the Federal Government, or private entities.

(d) Promoting and facilitating launch activity within the state by supporting and assisting commercial launch operators in completing and submitting required documentation and gaining approvals and authorization from the required federal agencies for launching from Florida.

(e) Consulting regularly with the appropriate federal, state, and local authorities, including the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Federal Aviation Administration, the Department of Defense, the Department of Transportation, the Florida National Guard, and industry on all aspects of establishing and operating spaceport infrastructure and related aerospace facilities within the state.

(8) Carry out its responsibility for research and development by:

(a) Contracting for the operations of the state's Space Life Sciences Laboratory.

(b) Working in collaboration with one or more public or private universities and other public or private entities to foster and promote the research necessary to develop commercially promising, advanced, and innovative science and technology and transfer those discoveries to the commercial sector. This may include developing a proposal to establish a Center of Excellence for Aerospace.

(c) Supporting universities in this state that are members of the Federal Aviation Administration's Center of Excellence for Commercial Space Transportation to assure a safe, environmentally compatible, and efficient commercial space transportation system in this state.

(9) Carry out its responsibility for workforce development by coordinating with CareerSource Florida, Inc., community colleges, colleges, public and private universities, and other public and private partners to develop a plan to retain, train, and retrain workers, from entry-level skills training through to technician-level, and 4-year degrees and higher, with the skills most relevant to aerospace employers.

(10) Carry out its responsibility for creating innovative education programs by funding programs developed in conjunction with the Department of Education that target grades K-20 in an effort to promote mathematics and science education programs, which may include the Florida-NASA Matching Grant Program, aerospace-focused education programs for teachers, education-oriented microgravity flight programs for teachers and students, and Internet-based aerospace education. Funds appropriated and any in-kind or private sector contributions may be used to carry out innovative education programs. Funding levels shall be determined by the Space Florida board of directors. In its annual report, Space Florida shall include, at a minimum, a description of programs funded, the number of students served, and private sector support.

(11) Regularly solicit input on Space Florida plans and activities from the aerospace industry, private sector spaceport territory stakeholders, each entity that owns or has ownership interest in a facility within spaceport territory, and other political subdivisions within spaceport territory.

(12) Partner with the Board of Governors to foster technological advancement and economic development for spaceport activities by strengthening higher education programs and supporting aerospace activities.

(13) Partner with the Division of Workforce Services of the Department of Commerce, CareerSource Florida, Inc., and local workforce development boards to support initiatives that address the high technology skills and staff resources needed to better promote the state's efforts in becoming the nation's leader in aerospace and space exploration.

(14) Partner with the Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council to coordinate and specify how aerospace planning and programming will be part of the state's cooperative transportation planning process.

(15) Administer the International Aerospace Innovation Fund established under s. 331.372.

(16) By October 1, 2023, and each year thereafter, submit to the Department of Commerce for inclusion in the annual report required under s. 20.60 a complete and detailed written report setting forth:

(a) Its operations and accomplishments during the fiscal year.

(b) Accomplishments and progress concerning the implementation of the spaceport master plan and other measurable goals, and any updates to such plan and measurable goals.

(c) Any other information required by the Department of Commerce.

(17)(a) In addition to the reporting requirements in chapter 189, annually report on its performance with respect to its business plan, to include finance, spaceport operations, research and development, workforce development, and education.

(b) Space Florida shall submit the report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by November 30 for the previous fiscal year.

(c) The annual report must include operations information as required under s. 331.310(2)(e) and data on the economic impact of the aerospace industry in the state during the previous year, including, but

not limited to, the amount and sources of capital investment, the number of jobs created and retained, and annualized average wages, listed by geographic areas within the state as specified by the board.

Section 21. Paragraph (e) of subsection (1) of section 331.3081, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph (f) and amended, and a new paragraph (e) is added to that section, to read:

331.3081 Board of directors.—

(1) Space Florida shall be governed by an independent board of directors that consists of the Governor, who shall serve ex officio, or who may appoint a designee to serve, as the chair and a voting member of the board, and the following appointed members:

(e) A representative of the Jacksonville Aviation Authority, appointed by the Governor.

(f)~~(e)~~ A representative of each of the following entities, who shall serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the board, appointed by the Governor:

~~1. The Jacksonville Aviation Authority.~~

1.~~2.~~ The Titusville-Cocoa Airport Authority.

2.~~3.~~ An employee or official of a port district or port authority as defined in s. 315.02(2).

Section 22. Subsection (1) of section 332.001, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

332.001 Aviation; powers and duties of the Department of Transportation.—

(1) It shall be the duty, function, and responsibility of the Department of Transportation to plan *and direct investments in* airport systems in this state *to facilitate the efficient movement of passengers and cargo and to continuously improve the experience for the flying public and the supply chain of this state's businesses*. In carrying out this duty and responsibility, the department may assist and advise, cooperate, and coordinate with the federal, state, local, or private organizations and individuals in planning such systems of airports.

Section 23. Subsection (10) is added to section 332.006, Florida Statutes, to read:

332.006 Duties and responsibilities of the Department of Transportation.—The Department of Transportation shall, within the resources provided to the department:

(10) Coordinate with commercial service airports in this state to review policies and programs of the United States Transportation Security Administration, including programs for veterans and active duty members of the United States Armed Forces and their families, to increase the efficiency of passenger screening and the overall customer service experience of the flying public.

Section 24. Subsections (4), (5), and (6) of section 332.0075, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (5), (6), and (7), respectively, and a new subsection (4) is added to that section to read:

332.0075 Commercial service airports; transparency and accountability; penalty.—

(4) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, commercial service airports must provide methods for obtaining and maintaining critical infrastructure resources for the airport, its tenants, and the traveling public. Such strategies must include long-term contracts and rights of first refusal regarding the sale of and contingency plans for such resources. For purposes of this subsection, the term "critical infrastructure resources" includes, but is not limited to, access to electricity, fuel, and water resources.

Section 25. Subsections (1) through (37) of section 334.03, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (2) through (38), respectively, present subsection (29) is amended, and a new subsection (1) is added to that section, to read:

334.03 Definitions.—When used in the Florida Transportation Code, the term:

(1) "Advanced air mobility corridor connection point" means any land area or transportation facility, including any airspace, designated by the department as suitable to support the efficient movement of people and goods by use as a connection point for advanced air mobility.

(30)~~(29)~~ "Transportation corridor" means any *advanced air mobility corridor connection point or any* land area designated by the state, a county, or a municipality which is between two geographic points and which area is used or suitable for the movement of people and goods by one or more modes of transportation, including areas necessary for management of access and securing applicable approvals and permits. Transportation corridors*, other than advanced air mobility corridor connection points,* shall contain, but are not limited to, the following:

(a) Existing publicly owned rights-of-way;

(b) All property or property interests necessary for future transportation facilities, including rights of access, air, view, and light, whether public or private, for the purpose of securing and utilizing future transportation rights-of-way, including, but not limited to, any lands reasonably necessary now or in the future for securing applicable approvals and permits, borrow pits, drainage ditches, water retention areas, rest areas, replacement access for landowners whose access could be impaired due to the construction of a future facility, and replacement rights-of-way for relocation of rail and utility facilities.

Section 26. Subsections (5), (20), and (21) of section 334.044, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsections (40), (41), and (42) are added to that section, to read:

334.044 Powers and duties of the department.—The department shall have the following general powers and duties:

(5) To purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire property and materials, including the purchase of promotional items as part of public information and education campaigns for the promotion of environmental management, scenic highways, traffic and train safety awareness, commercial motor vehicle safety, workforce development, *transportation economic development opportunities* ~~electric vehicle use and charging stations~~, autonomous vehicles, *advanced air mobility,* and context classification for electric vehicles and autonomous vehicles; to purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire equipment and supplies; and to sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of any property that is no longer needed by the department.

(20) To *operate and maintain research facilities designated by the department, to* conduct *and enter into contracts and agreements for compensation for conducting* research *by the department and private entities* ~~studies~~, and to collect data necessary for the improvement of the state transportation system.

(21) To conduct *and enter into contracts and agreements for* research and demonstration projects relative to innovative transportation technologies.

(40) To coordinate with local governmental entities to review grant applications for federal funding for transportation projects that impact or may impact state-owned rights-of-way, roads, bridges, or limited access facilities.

(41) To coordinate with and provide assistance to local governmental entities in the development and review of applications for federal transportation funding.

(42) Notwithstanding s. 20.255(9), to serve as the point of contact for statewide topographic aerial light detection and ranging (LiDAR) procurement and cost sharing related to statewide geographic information systems and geospatial data sharing. The department may provide these services to other state and local agencies by entering into an interagency agreement consistent with chapter 216. Notwithstanding any other law, including any charter provision, ordinance, statute, or special law, all state and local agencies conducting programs or exercising powers relating to topographic aerial LiDAR may enter into interagency agree-

ments consistent with chapter 216 with the department for the provision by the department of topographic aerial LiDAR procurement and cost-sharing services, and to delegate such authority to conduct programs or exercise powers relating to topographic aerial LiDAR procurement and cost-sharing services to the department pursuant to such interagency agreements. The department may adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement this subsection.

Section 27. Paragraphs (a) and (i) of subsection (3) and paragraphs (b), (d), and (r) of subsection (7) of section 337.401, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

337.401 Use of right-of-way for utilities subject to regulation; permit; fees.—

(3)(a) Because of the unique circumstances applicable to providers of communications services, including, but not limited to, the circumstances described in paragraph (e) and the fact that federal and state law require the nondiscriminatory treatment of providers of telecommunications services, and because of the desire to promote competition among providers of communications services, it is the intent of the Legislature that municipalities and counties treat providers of communications services in a nondiscriminatory and competitively neutral manner when imposing rules or regulations governing the placement or maintenance of communications facilities in the public roads or rights-of-way. Rules or regulations imposed by a municipality or county relating to providers of communications services placing or maintaining communications facilities in its roads or rights-of-way must be generally applicable to all providers of communications services, taking into account the distinct engineering, construction, operation, maintenance, public works, and safety requirements of the provider's facilities, and, notwithstanding any other law, may not require a provider of communications services to apply for or enter into an individual license, franchise, or other agreement with the municipality or county as a condition of placing or maintaining communications facilities in its roads or rights-of-way. In addition to other reasonable rules or regulations that a municipality or county may adopt relating to the placement or maintenance of communications facilities in its roads or rights-of-way under this subsection or subsection (7), a municipality or county may require a provider of communications services that places or seeks to place facilities in its roads or rights-of-way to register with the municipality or county. To register, a provider of communications services may be required only to provide its name; the name, address, and telephone number of a contact person for the registrant; the number of the registrant's current certificate of authorization issued by the Florida Public Service Commission, the Federal Communications Commission, or the Department of State; a statement of whether the registrant is a pass-through provider as defined in subparagraph (6)(a)1.; the registrant's federal employer identification number; and any required proof of insurance or self-insuring status adequate to defend and cover claims. A municipality or county may not require a registrant to renew a registration more frequently than every 5 years but may require during this period that a registrant update the registration information provided under this subsection within 90 days after a change in such information. A municipality or county may not require the registrant to provide an inventory of communications facilities, maps, locations of such facilities, or other information by a registrant as a condition of registration, renewal, or for any other purpose; provided, however, that a municipality or county may require as part of a permit application that the applicant identify at-grade communications facilities within 50 feet of the proposed installation location for the placement of at-grade communications facilities. A municipality or county may not require a provider to pay any fee, cost, or other charge for registration or renewal thereof. *A municipality or county may not require a provider to locate or perform a survey of any facilities other than those of the provider or to perform a survey of any right-of-way boundary as a condition of a permit. If the owner of a facility fails to locate its facilities as required by chapter 556, a provider must use reasonable care and detection equipment or other acceptable means to avoid damaging existing underground facilities. A municipality or county may not in any way limit the number of permits issued to a provider, including by project size or by limiting the number of open permits or applications, provided that the permit is closed within 45 days after the provider completes the work. A municipality or county may require the submission or maintenance of a bond or other financial instrument as provided in this section but may not require a cash deposit or other escrow, payment, or exaction as a condition of issuing a permit.* It is the intent of the Legislature that the placement, operation, maintenance, upgrading, and extension of communications facilities not be unreasonably interrupted or delayed through the permitting or other local regulatory process. Except as provided in this chapter or otherwise expressly authorized by chapter 202, chapter 364, or chapter 610, a municipality or county may not adopt or enforce any ordinance, regulation, or requirement as to the placement or operation of communications facilities in a right-of-way by a communications services provider authorized by state or local law to operate in a right-of-way; regulate any communications services; or impose or collect any tax, fee, cost, charge, or exaction for *the placement of communications facilities or* the provision of communications services over the communications services provider's communications facilities in a right-of-way.

(i) Except as expressly provided in this section, this section does not modify the authority of municipalities and counties to levy the tax authorized in chapter 202 or the duties of providers of communications services under ss. 337.402-337.404. This section does not apply to ~~building permits,~~ pole attachments, ~~or~~ private roads, private easements, ~~and~~ private rights-of-way*, or building permits unrelated to the placement of communications facilities*.

(7)

(b) As used in *subsections (3)-(9)* ~~this subsection~~, the term:

1. "Antenna" means communications equipment that transmits or receives electromagnetic radio frequency signals used in providing wireless services.

2. "Applicable codes" means uniform building, fire, electrical, plumbing, or mechanical codes adopted by a recognized national code organization or local amendments to those codes enacted solely to address threats of destruction of property or injury to persons, and includes the National Electric Safety Code and the 2017 edition of the Florida Department of Transportation Utility Accommodation Manual.

3. "Applicant" means a person who submits an application and is a wireless provider.

4. "Application" means a request submitted by an applicant to an authority for a permit to collocate small wireless facilities*,* ~~or to~~ place a new utility pole used to support a small wireless facility*, or place other communications facilities. An authority's permit application form or process must include all required permissions, however designated, required by the authority to grant a permit to place communications facilities, including, but not limited to, right-of-way occupancy, building permits, electrical permits, and historic review*.

5. "Authority" means a county or municipality having jurisdiction and control of the rights-of-way of any public road. The term does not include the Department of Transportation. Rights-of-way under the jurisdiction and control of the department are excluded from this subsection.

6. "Authority utility pole" means a utility pole owned by an authority in the right-of-way. The term does not include a utility pole owned by a municipal electric utility, a utility pole used to support municipally owned or operated electric distribution facilities, or a utility pole located in the right-of-way within:

a. A retirement community that:

(I) Is deed restricted as housing for older persons as defined in s. 760.29(4)(b);

(II) Has more than 5,000 residents; and

(III) Has underground utilities for electric transmission or distribution.

b. A municipality that:

(I) Is located on a coastal barrier island as defined in s. 161.053(1)(b)3.;

(II) Has a land area of less than 5 square miles;

(III) Has less than 10,000 residents; and

(IV) Has, before July 1, 2017, received referendum approval to issue debt to finance municipal-wide undergrounding of its utilities for electric transmission or distribution.

7. "Collocate" or "collocation" means to install, mount, maintain, modify, operate, or replace one or more wireless facilities on, under, within, or adjacent to a wireless support structure or utility pole. The term does not include the installation of a new utility pole or wireless support structure in the public rights-of-way.

8. "FCC" means the Federal Communications Commission.

9. "Micro wireless facility" means a small wireless facility having dimensions no larger than 24 inches in length, 15 inches in width, and 12 inches in height and an exterior antenna, if any, no longer than 11 inches.

10. "Small wireless facility" means a wireless facility that meets the following qualifications:

a. Each antenna associated with the facility is located inside an enclosure of no more than 6 cubic feet in volume or, in the case of antennas that have exposed elements, each antenna and all of its exposed elements could fit within an enclosure of no more than 6 cubic feet in volume; and

b. All other wireless equipment associated with the facility is cumulatively no more than 28 cubic feet in volume. The following types of associated ancillary equipment are not included in the calculation of equipment volume: electric meters, concealment elements, telecommunications demarcation boxes, ground-based enclosures, grounding equipment, power transfer switches, cutoff switches, vertical cable runs for the connection of power and other services, and utility poles or other support structures.

11. "Utility pole" means a pole or similar structure that is used in whole or in part to provide communications services or for electric distribution, lighting, traffic control, signage, or a similar function. The term includes the vertical support structure for traffic lights but does not include a horizontal structure to which signal lights or other traffic control devices are attached and does not include a pole or similar structure 15 feet in height or less unless an authority grants a waiver for such pole.

12. "Wireless facility" means equipment at a fixed location which enables wireless communications between user equipment and a communications network, including radio transceivers, antennas, wires, coaxial or fiber-optic cable or other cables, regular and backup power supplies, and comparable equipment, regardless of technological configuration, and equipment associated with wireless communications. The term includes small wireless facilities. The term does not include:

a. The structure or improvements on, under, within, or adjacent to the structure on which the equipment is collocated;

b. Wireline backhaul facilities; or

c. Coaxial or fiber-optic cable that is between wireless structures or utility poles or that is otherwise not immediately adjacent to or directly associated with a particular antenna.

13. "Wireless infrastructure provider" means a person who has been certificated under chapter 364 to provide telecommunications service or under chapter 610 to provide cable or video services in this state, or that person's affiliate, and who builds or installs wireless communication transmission equipment, wireless facilities, or wireless support structures but is not a wireless services provider.

14. "Wireless provider" means a wireless infrastructure provider or a wireless services provider.

15. "Wireless services" means any services provided using licensed or unlicensed spectrum, whether at a fixed location or mobile, using wireless facilities.

16. "Wireless services provider" means a person who provides wireless services.

17. "Wireless support structure" means a freestanding structure, such as a monopole, a guyed or self-supporting tower, or another existing or proposed structure designed to support or capable of supporting wireless facilities. The term does not include a utility pole, pedestal, or other support structure for ground-based equipment not mounted on a utility pole and less than 5 feet in height.

(d) An authority may require a registration process and permit fees in accordance with subsection (3). An authority shall accept applications for permits and shall process and issue permits subject to the following requirements:

1. An authority may not directly or indirectly require an applicant to perform services unrelated to the collocation for which approval is sought, such as in-kind contributions to the authority, including reserving fiber, conduit, or pole space for the authority.

2. An applicant may not be required to provide more information to obtain a permit than is necessary to demonstrate the applicant's compliance with applicable codes for the placement of small wireless facilities in the locations identified in the application. An applicant may not be required to provide inventories, maps, or locations of communications facilities in the right-of-way other than as necessary to avoid interference with other at-grade or aerial facilities located at the specific location proposed for a small wireless facility or within 50 feet of such location.

3. An authority may not:

a. Require the placement of small wireless facilities on any specific utility pole or category of poles;

b. Require the placement of multiple antenna systems on a single utility pole;

c. Require a demonstration that collocation of a small wireless facility on an existing structure is not legally or technically possible as a condition for granting a permit for the collocation of a small wireless facility on a new utility pole except as provided in paragraph (i);

d. Require compliance with an authority's provisions regarding placement of *communications facilities, including* small wireless facilities or a new utility pole used to support a small wireless facility, in rights-of-way under the control of the department unless the authority has received a delegation from the department for the location of the small wireless facility or utility pole, or require such compliance as a condition to receive a permit that is ancillary to the permit for collocation of a small wireless facility, including an electrical permit;

e. Require a meeting before filing an application;

f. Require direct or indirect public notification or a public meeting for the placement of communication facilities in the right-of-way;

g. Limit the size or configuration of a small wireless facility or any of its components, if the small wireless facility complies with the size limits in this subsection;

h. Prohibit the installation of a new utility pole used to support the collocation of a small wireless facility if the installation otherwise meets the requirements of this subsection; ~~or~~

i. Require that any component of a small wireless facility be placed underground except as provided in paragraph (i)*; or*

j. Require compliance with an authority's provisions regarding the placement of communications facilities, including small wireless facilities or a new utility pole used to support a small wireless facility, in rights-of-way not owned and controlled by the authority or public utility easements that are not within an area owned and controlled by the authority unless a permit delegation agreement exists between the authority and the owner of the rights-of-way or easement.

4. Subject to paragraph (r), an authority may not limit the placement, by minimum separation distances, of small wireless facilities, utility poles on which small wireless facilities are or will be collocated, or other at-grade communications facilities. However, within 14 days after the date of filing the application, an authority may request that the proposed location of a small wireless facility be moved to another

location in the right-of-way and placed on an alternative authority utility pole or support structure or placed on a new utility pole. The authority and the applicant may negotiate the alternative location, including any objective design standards and reasonable spacing requirements for ground-based equipment, for 30 days after the date of the request. At the conclusion of the negotiation period, if the alternative location is accepted by the applicant, the applicant must notify the authority of such acceptance and the application shall be deemed granted for any new location for which there is agreement and all other locations in the application. If an agreement is not reached, the applicant must notify the authority of such nonagreement and the authority must grant or deny the original application within 90 days after the date the application was filed. A request for an alternative location, an acceptance of an alternative location, or a rejection of an alternative location must be in writing and provided by electronic mail.

5. An authority shall limit the height of a small wireless facility to 10 feet above the utility pole or structure upon which the small wireless facility is to be collocated. Unless waived by an authority, the height for a new utility pole is limited to the tallest existing utility pole as of July 1, 2017, located in the same right-of-way, other than a utility pole for which a waiver has previously been granted, measured from grade in place within 500 feet of the proposed location of the small wireless facility. If there is no utility pole within 500 feet, the authority shall limit the height of the utility pole to 50 feet.

6. The installation by a communications services provider of a utility pole in the public rights-of-way, other than a utility pole used to support a small wireless facility, is subject to authority rules or regulations governing the placement of utility poles in the public rights-of-way.

7. Within 14 days after receiving an application, an authority must determine and notify the applicant by electronic mail as to whether the application is complete. If an application is deemed incomplete, the authority must specifically identify the missing information. An application is deemed complete if the authority fails to provide notification to the applicant within 14 days.

8. An application must be processed on a nondiscriminatory basis. A complete application is deemed approved if an authority fails to approve or deny the application within 60 days after receipt of the application. If an authority does not use the 30-day negotiation period provided in subparagraph 4., the parties may mutually agree to extend the 60-day application review period. The authority shall grant or deny the application at the end of the extended period. A permit issued pursuant to an approved application shall remain effective for 1 year unless extended by the authority.

9. An authority must notify the applicant of approval or denial by electronic mail. An authority shall approve a complete application unless it does not meet the authority's applicable codes. If the application is denied, the authority must specify in writing the basis for denial, including the specific code provisions on which the denial was based, and send the documentation to the applicant by electronic mail on the day the authority denies the application. The applicant may cure the deficiencies identified by the authority and resubmit the application within 30 days after notice of the denial is sent to the applicant. The authority shall approve or deny the revised application within 30 days after receipt or the application is deemed approved. The review of a revised application is limited to the deficiencies cited in the denial. If an authority provides for administrative review of the denial of an application, the review must be complete and a written decision issued within 45 days after a written request for review is made. A denial must identify the specific code provisions on which the denial is based. If the administrative review is not complete within 45 days, the authority waives any claim regarding failure to exhaust administrative remedies in any judicial review of the denial of an application.

10. An applicant seeking to collocate small wireless facilities within the jurisdiction of a single authority may, at the applicant's discretion, file a consolidated application and receive a single permit for the collocation of up to 30 small wireless facilities. If the application includes multiple small wireless facilities, an authority may separately address small wireless facility collocations for which incomplete information has been received or which are denied.

11. An authority may deny an application to collocate a small wireless facility or place a utility pole used to support a small wireless facility in the public rights-of-way if the proposed small wireless facility or utility pole used to support a small wireless facility:

a. Materially interferes with the safe operation of traffic control equipment.

b. Materially interferes with sight lines or clear zones for transportation, pedestrians, or public safety purposes.

c. Materially interferes with compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act or similar federal or state standards regarding pedestrian access or movement.

d. Materially fails to comply with the 2017 edition of the Florida Department of Transportation Utility Accommodation Manual.

e. Fails to comply with applicable codes.

f. Fails to comply with objective design standards authorized under paragraph (r).

12. An authority may adopt by ordinance provisions for insurance coverage, indemnification, force majeure, abandonment, authority liability, or authority warranties. Such provisions must be reasonable and nondiscriminatory *and apply to all providers of communications services, including, if applicable, any local government or nonprofit providers*. An authority may require a construction bond to secure restoration of the postconstruction rights-of-way to the preconstruction condition. However, such bond must be time-limited to not more than 18 months after the construction to which the bond applies is completed *and must be reasonably related to the cost to secure restoration of the rights-of-way. An authority may not limit the number of permits allowed under this same bond*. For any financial obligation required by an authority allowed under this section, the authority *may not in any way limit the number of permits issued to a provider, including by project size or by limiting the number of open permits or applications, provided that the permit is closed within 45 days after the provider completes the work, or by imposing additional requirements based on the scope or linear feet of a project. For any financial obligation required by an authority allowed under this section, the authority* shall accept*, at the option of the applicant, a bond or* a letter of credit or similar financial instrument issued by any financial institution that is authorized to do business within the United States, provided that a claim against the financial instrument may be made by electronic means~~, including by facsimile~~. *An authority may not require a deposit or escrow of cash as a condition of issuing a permit or compel the applicant to agree to any additional terms or agreements not specifically authorized by this section nor directly related to the work specified in the application.* A provider of communications services may add an authority to any existing bond, insurance policy, or other relevant financial instrument, and the authority must accept such proof of coverage without any conditions other than consent to venue for purposes of any litigation to which the authority is a party. An authority may not require a communications services provider to indemnify it for liabilities not caused by the provider *or the provider's agents or employees*, including liabilities arising from the authority's negligence, gross negligence, or willful conduct *or liabilities caused by an unaffiliated third party*.

13. Collocation of a small wireless facility on an authority utility pole does not provide the basis for the imposition of an ad valorem tax on the authority utility pole.

14. An authority may reserve space on authority utility poles for future public safety uses. However, a reservation of space may not preclude collocation of a small wireless facility. If replacement of the authority utility pole is necessary to accommodate the collocation of the small wireless facility and the future public safety use, the pole replacement is subject to make-ready provisions and the replaced pole shall accommodate the future public safety use.

15. A structure granted a permit and installed pursuant to this subsection shall comply with chapter 333 and federal regulations pertaining to airport airspace protections.

(r) An authority may require wireless providers to comply with objective design standards adopted by ordinance. The ordinance may only require:

1. A new utility pole that replaces an existing utility pole to be of substantially similar design, material, and color;

2. Reasonable spacing requirements concerning the location of a ground-mounted component of a small wireless facility which does not exceed 15 feet from the associated support structure; or

3. A small wireless facility to meet reasonable location context, color, camouflage, and concealment requirements, subject to the limitations in this subsection; and

4. A new utility pole used to support a small wireless facility to meet reasonable location context, color, and material of the predominant utility pole type at the proposed location of the new utility pole.

Such design standards under this paragraph may be waived by the authority upon a showing that the design standards are not reasonably compatible for the particular location of a small wireless facility or utility pole or are technically infeasible or that the design standards impose an excessive expense. The waiver must be granted or denied within 45 days after the date of the request. *An authority may not require landscaping, landscaping maintenance, or vegetation management other than that necessary for right-of-way restoration.*

Section 28. Present paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (3) of section 338.231, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as paragraphs (c) and (d), respectively, a new paragraph (b) is added to that subsection, and paragraph (a) of that subsection is amended, to read:

338.231 Turnpike tolls, fixing; pledge of tolls and other revenues.—The department shall at all times fix, adjust, charge, and collect such tolls and amounts for the use of the turnpike system as are required in order to provide a fund sufficient with other revenues of the turnpike system to pay the cost of maintaining, improving, repairing, and operating such turnpike system; to pay the principal of and interest on all bonds issued to finance or refinance any portion of the turnpike system as the same become due and payable; and to create reserves for all such purposes.

(3)(a)*1.* For the period July 1, 1998, through June 30, *2029* ~~2027~~, the department shall, to the maximum extent feasible, program sufficient funds in the tentative work program such that the percentage of turnpike toll and bond financed commitments in Miami-Dade County, Broward County, and Palm Beach County as compared to total turnpike toll and bond financed commitments shall be at least 90 percent of the share of net toll collections attributable to users of the turnpike system in Miami-Dade County, Broward County, and Palm Beach County as compared to total net toll collections attributable to users of the turnpike system.

2. Beginning in the 2029-2030 fiscal year, the department shall, to the maximum extent feasible, program sufficient funds in the tentative work program such that 100 percent of the share of net toll collections attributable to users of the turnpike system in Miami-Dade County, Broward County, and Palm Beach County is used for turnpike toll and bond financed commitments in those counties.

This *paragraph* ~~subsection~~ does not apply when the application of such requirements would violate any covenant established in a resolution or trust indenture relating to the issuance of turnpike bonds.

(b) The department may at any time for economic considerations establish lower temporary toll rates for a new or existing toll facility for a period not to exceed 1 year, after which the toll rates adopted pursuant to s. 120.54 shall become effective.

Section 29. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) and paragraph (d) of subsection (5) of section 339.81, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

339.81 Florida Shared-Use Nonmotorized Trail Network.—

(2)

(b) The multiuse trails or shared-use paths of the statewide network must be physically separated from motor vehicle traffic and constructed with asphalt, concrete, or another *improved* hard surface *approved by the department*.

(5)

(d) To the greatest extent practicable, the department shall program projects in the work program to plan for development of the entire trail and to minimize the creation of gaps between trail segments. The department shall, at a minimum, ensure that local support exists for projects and trail segments, including the availability or dedication of local funding sources and of contributions by private landowners who agree to make their land, or property interests in such land, available for public use as a trail. *The department may also consider any sponsorship agreement entered into pursuant to subsection (7).*

Section 30. Subsection (16) of section 341.041, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

341.041 Transit responsibilities of the department.—The department shall, within the resources provided pursuant to chapter 216:

(16) Unless otherwise provided by state or federal law, ensure that all grants and agreements between the department and entities providing paratransit services *to persons with disabilities* include, at a minimum, the following provisions:

(a) Performance requirements for the delivery of services, including clear penalties for repeated or continuing violations;

(b) Minimum liability insurance requirements for all transportation services purchased, provided, or coordinated for the transportation disadvantaged, as defined in s. 427.011(1), through the contracted vendor or subcontractor thereof;

(c) Complaint and grievance processes for *users of* paratransit *services for persons with disabilities* ~~users~~, including a requirement that all reported complaints, grievances, and resolutions be reported to the department on a quarterly basis; and

(d) A requirement that the provisions of paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) must be included in any agreement between an entity receiving a grant or an agreement from the department and such entity's contractors or subcontractors that provide paratransit services *for persons with disabilities*.

Section 31. Subsections (1), (2), and (3) of section 479.25, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

479.25 Erection of noise-attenuation barrier*, ramp, or braided bridge* blocking view of sign; procedures; application.—

(1) The owner of a lawfully erected sign that is governed by and conforms to state and federal requirements for land use, size, height, and spacing may increase the height above ground level of such sign at its permitted location if a noise-attenuation barrier*, ramp, or braided bridge* is permitted by or erected by any governmental entity in such a way as to screen or block visibility of the sign. Any increase in height permitted under this section may only be the increase in height which is required to achieve the same degree of visibility from the right-of-way which the sign had before the construction of the noise-attenuation barrier*, ramp, or braided bridge*, notwithstanding the restrictions contained in s. 479.07(9)(b). A sign reconstructed under this section must comply with the building standards and wind load requirements provided in the Florida Building Code. If construction of a proposed noise-attenuation barrier*, ramp, or braided bridge* will screen a sign lawfully permitted under this chapter, the department shall provide notice to the local government or local jurisdiction within which the sign is located before construction. Upon a determination that an increase in the height of a sign as permitted under this section will violate an ordinance or a land development regulation of the local government or local jurisdiction, the local government or local jurisdiction shall, before construction:

(a) Provide a variance or waiver to the local ordinance or land development regulations to allow an increase in the height of the sign;

(b) Allow the sign to be relocated or reconstructed at another location if the sign owner agrees; or

(c) Pay the fair market value of the sign and its associated interest in the real property.

(2) The department shall hold a public hearing within the boundaries of the affected local governments or local jurisdictions to receive input on the proposed noise-attenuation barrier*, ramp, or braided bridge* and its conflict with the local ordinance or land development regulation and to suggest or consider alternatives or modifications to alleviate or minimize the conflict with the local ordinance or land development regulation or minimize any costs that may be associated with relocating, reconstructing, or paying for the affected sign. The public hearing may be held concurrently with other public hearings scheduled for the project. The department shall provide a written notification to the local government or local jurisdiction of the date and time of the public hearing and shall provide general notice of the public hearing in accordance with the notice provisions of s. 335.02(1). The notice may not be placed in that portion of a newspaper in which legal notices or classified advertisements appear. The notice must specifically state that:

(a) Erection of the proposed noise-attenuation barrier*, ramp, or braided bridge* may block the visibility of an existing outdoor advertising sign;

(b) The local government or local jurisdiction may restrict or prohibit increasing the height of the existing outdoor advertising sign; and

(c) Upon construction of the noise-attenuation barrier, *ramp, or braided bridge,* the local government or local jurisdiction shall:

1. Allow an increase in the height of the sign through a waiver or variance to a local ordinance or land development regulation;

2. Allow the sign to be relocated or reconstructed at another location if the sign owner agrees; or

3. Pay the fair market value of the sign and its associated interest in the real property.

(3) The department may not permit erection of the noise-attenuation barrier*, ramp, or braided bridge* to the extent the barrier*, ramp, or bridge* screens or blocks visibility of the sign until after the public hearing is held.

Section 32. Section 790.19, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

790.19 Shooting into or throwing deadly missiles into *occupied or unoccupied* ~~dwellings,~~ public or private buildings,~~ occupied or not occupied;~~ vessels, aircraft, *public or private* buses, railroad cars, streetcars, or other vehicles.—*Any person who* ~~Whoever,~~ wantonly or maliciously~~,~~ shoots at, within, or into, or throws any missile or hurls or projects a stone or other hard substance which would produce death or great bodily harm~~,~~ at, within, or *into,* ~~in~~ any *occupied or unoccupied* public or private building*; any*~~, occupied or unoccupied, or~~ public or private bus*;* ~~or~~ any train, locomotive, railway car, caboose, cable railway car, street railway car, monorail car, or vehicle of any kind which is being used or occupied by any person*; any occupied or unoccupied autonomous vehicle;*~~, or~~ any boat, vessel, ship, or barge lying in or plying the waters of this state*;*~~,~~ or *any* aircraft flying through the airspace of this state *commits* ~~shall be guilty of~~ a felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

Section 33. Subsections (2) through (12) of section 806.13, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (3) through (13), respectively, present subsection (11) is amended, and a new subsection (2) is added to that section, to read:

806.13 Criminal mischief; penalties; penalty for minor.—

(2) Any person who willfully or maliciously defaces, injures, or damages by any means any autonomous vehicle, as defined in s. 316.003(3), commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, if the damage to the autonomous vehicle is greater than $1,000.

(12)~~(11)~~ A minor whose driver license or driving privilege is revoked, suspended, or withheld under subsection *(11)* ~~(10)~~ may elect to reduce the period of revocation, suspension, or withholding by performing community service at the rate of 1 day for each hour of community service performed. In addition, if the court determines that due to a family hardship, the minor's driver license or driving privilege is necessary for employment or medical purposes of the minor or a member of the minor's family, the court shall order the minor to perform community service and reduce the period of revocation, suspension, or withholding at the rate of 1 day for each hour of community service performed. As used in this subsection, the term "community service" means cleaning graffiti from public property.

Section 34. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 311.07, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

311.07 Florida seaport transportation and economic development funding.—

(3)

(b) Projects eligible for funding by grants under the program are limited to the following port facilities or port transportation projects:

1. Transportation facilities within the jurisdiction of the port.

2. The dredging or deepening of channels, turning basins, or harbors.

3. The construction or rehabilitation of wharves, docks, structures, jetties, piers, storage facilities, cruise terminals, automated people mover systems, or any facilities necessary or useful in connection with any of the foregoing.

4. The acquisition of vessel tracking systems, container cranes, or other mechanized equipment used in the movement of cargo or passengers in international commerce.

5. The acquisition of land to be used for port purposes.

6. The acquisition, improvement, enlargement, or extension of existing port facilities.

7. Environmental protection projects which are necessary because of requirements imposed by a state agency as a condition of a permit or other form of state approval; which are necessary for environmental mitigation required as a condition of a state, federal, or local environmental permit; which are necessary for the acquisition of spoil disposal sites and improvements to existing and future spoil sites; or which result from the funding of eligible projects listed in this paragraph.

8. Transportation facilities as defined in *s. 334.03(31)* ~~s. 334.03(30)~~ which are not otherwise part of the Department of Transportation's adopted work program.

9. Intermodal access projects.

10. Construction or rehabilitation of port facilities as defined in s. 315.02, excluding any park or recreational facilities, in ports listed in s. 311.09(1) with operating revenues of $5 million or less, provided that such projects create economic development opportunities, capital improvements, and positive financial returns to such ports.

11. Seaport master plan or strategic plan development or updates, including the purchase of data to support such plans.

12. Spaceport or space industry-related planning or construction of facilities on seaport property which are necessary or useful for advancing the space industry in this state and provide an economic benefit to this state.

13. Commercial shipbuilding and manufacturing facilities on seaport property, if such projects provide an economic benefit to the community in which the seaport is located.

Section 35. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 316.0777, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.0777 Automated license plate recognition systems; installation within rights-of-way of State Highway System; public records exemption.—

(2)

(b) At the discretion of the Department of Transportation, an automated license plate recognition system may be installed within the right-of-way, as defined in *s. 334.03(22)* ~~s. 334.03(21)~~, of a road on the State Highway System when installed at the request of a law enforcement agency for the purpose of collecting active criminal intelligence information or active criminal investigative information as defined in s. 119.011(3). An automated license plate recognition system may not be used to issue a notice of violation for a traffic infraction or a uniform traffic citation. Such installation must be in accordance with placement and installation guidelines developed by the Department of Transportation. An automated license plate recognition system must be removed within 30 days after the Department of Transportation notifies the requesting law enforcement agency that such removal must occur.

Section 36. Subsection (1) of section 316.1995, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.1995 Driving upon sidewalk or bicycle path.—

(1) Except as provided in s. 316.008, s. 316.20655, s. *s. 316.212(9)* ~~316.212(8)~~, or s. 316.2128, a person may not drive any vehicle other than by human power upon a bicycle path, sidewalk, or sidewalk area, except upon a permanent or duly authorized temporary driveway.

Section 37. Subsection (1) of section 316.2125, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.2125 Operation of golf carts within a retirement community.—

(1) Notwithstanding ~~the provisions of~~ s. 316.212, the reasonable operation of a golf cart, equipped and operated as provided in *s. 316.212(6), (7), and (8)* ~~s. 316.212 (5), (6), and (7)~~, within any self-contained retirement community is *authorized* ~~permitted~~ unless prohibited under subsection (2).

Section 38. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (1) and paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section 316.2126, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

316.2126 Authorized use of golf carts, low-speed vehicles, and utility vehicles.—

(1) In addition to the powers granted by ss. 316.212 and 316.2125, municipalities are authorized to use golf carts and utility vehicles, as defined in s. 320.01, upon any state, county, or municipal roads located within the corporate limits of such municipalities, subject to the following conditions:

(a) Golf carts and utility vehicles must comply with the operational and safety requirements in ss. 316.212 and 316.2125, and with any more restrictive ordinances enacted by the local governmental entity pursuant to *s. 316.212(9)* ~~s. 316.212(8)~~, and shall be operated only by municipal employees for municipal purposes, including, but not limited to, police patrol, traffic enforcement, and inspection of public facilities.

(b) In addition to the safety equipment required in *s. 316.212(7)* ~~s. 316.212(6)~~ and any more restrictive safety equipment required by the local governmental entity pursuant to *s. 316.212(9)* ~~s. 316.212(8)~~, such golf carts and utility vehicles must be equipped with sufficient lighting and turn signal equipment.

(3)

(c) All vehicles specified in this subsection must be:

1. Marked in a conspicuous manner with the name of the delivery service.

2. Equipped with, at a minimum, the equipment required under *s. 316.212(7)* ~~s. 316.212(6)~~.

3. Equipped with head lamps and tail lamps, in addition to the safety requirements in *s. 316.212(7)* ~~s. 316.212(6)~~, if operated after sunset.

Section 39. Subsection (5) of section 316.2128, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.2128 Micromobility devices, motorized scooters, and miniature motorcycles; requirements.—

(5) A person who engages in the business of, serves in the capacity of, or acts as a commercial seller of miniature motorcycles in this state must prominently display at his or her place of business a notice that such vehicles are not legal to operate on public roads, may not be registered as motor vehicles, and may not be operated on sidewalks unless authorized by an ordinance enacted pursuant to s. 316.008(7)(a) or *s. 316.212(9)* ~~s. 316.212(8)~~. The required notice must also appear in all forms of advertising offering miniature motorcycles for sale. The notice and a copy of this section must also be provided to a consumer *before* ~~prior to~~ the consumer's purchasing or becoming obligated to purchase a miniature motorcycle.

Section 40. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 316.306, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.306 School and work zones; prohibition on the use of a wireless communications device in a handheld manner.—

(3)(a)1. A person may not operate a motor vehicle while using a wireless communications device in a handheld manner in a designated school crossing, school zone, or work zone area as defined in *s. 316.003(113)* ~~s. 316.003(112)~~. This subparagraph shall only be applicable to work zone areas if construction personnel are present or are operating equipment on the road or immediately adjacent to the work zone area. For the purposes of this paragraph, a motor vehicle that is stationary is not being operated and is not subject to the prohibition in this paragraph.

2. Effective January 1, 2020, a law enforcement officer may stop motor vehicles and issue citations to persons who are driving while using a wireless communications device in a handheld manner in violation of subparagraph 1.

Section 41. Paragraph (c) of subsection (5) of section 316.515, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.515 Maximum width, height, length.—

(5) IMPLEMENTS OF HUSBANDRY AND FARM EQUIPMENT; AGRICULTURAL TRAILERS; FORESTRY EQUIPMENT; SAFETY REQUIREMENTS.—

(c) The width and height limitations of this section do not apply to farming or agricultural equipment, whether self-propelled, pulled, or hauled, when temporarily operated during daylight hours upon a public road that is not a limited access facility as defined in *s. 334.03(13)* ~~s. 334.03(12)~~, and the width and height limitations may be exceeded by such equipment without a permit. To be eligible for this exemption, the equipment shall be operated within a radius of 50 miles of the real property owned, rented, managed, harvested, or leased by the equipment owner. However, equipment being delivered by a dealer to a purchaser is not subject to the 50-mile limitation. Farming or agricultural equipment greater than 174 inches in width must have one warning lamp mounted on each side of the equipment to denote the width and must have a slow-moving vehicle sign. Warning lamps required by this paragraph must be visible from the front and rear of the vehicle and must be visible from a distance of at least 1,000 feet.

Section 42. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (1) of section 320.04, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

320.04 Registration service charge.—

(1)(a) A service charge of $2.50 shall be imposed on each application that is handled in connection with original issuance, duplicate issuance, or transfer of a license plate *or*~~,~~ mobile home sticker~~, or validation sticker~~ or with transfer or duplicate issuance of a registration certificate. This service charge shall be retained by the department or by the tax collector, as the case may be, as other fees accruing to those offices.

(b) A service charge of $1 shall also be imposed for the issuance of each ~~license plate validation sticker,~~ vessel decal~~,~~ and mobile home sticker issued from an automated vending facility or printer dispenser machine. This service charge is payable to the department and shall be used to provide for automated vending facilities or printer dispenser machines that are used to dispense such stickers and decals by each tax collector's or license tag agent's employee.

Section 43.. Section 320.08035, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.08035 Persons who have disabilities; reduced dimension license plate.—The owner or lessee of a motorcycle, moped, or motorized disability access vehicle who resides in this state and qualifies for a parking permit for a person who has a disability under s. 320.0848, upon application and payment of the appropriate license tax and fees under s. 320.08(1), must be issued a license plate that has reduced dimensions as provided under *s. 320.06(2)(a)* ~~s. 320.06(3)(a)~~. The plate must be stamped with the international symbol of accessibility after the numeric and alpha serial number of the license plate. The plate entitles the person to all privileges afforded by a disabled parking permit issued under s. 320.0848.

Section 44. Subsection (4) of section 320.0807, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.0807 Special license plates for Governor and federal and state legislators.—

(4) License plates purchased under subsection (1), subsection (2), or subsection (3) shall be replaced by the department at no cost, other than the fees required under ss. 320.04 and *320.06(2)(b)* ~~320.06(3)(b)~~, when the person to whom the plates have been issued leaves the elective office with respect to which the license plates were issued. Within 30 days after leaving office, the person to whom the license plates have been issued must apply to the department for a replacement license plate. The person may return the prestige license plates to the department or retain the plates as souvenirs. Upon receipt of the replacement license plate, the person may not display on any vehicle the prestige license plate or plates issued with respect to his or her former office.

Section 45. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section 320.084, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.084 Free motor vehicle license plate to certain disabled veterans.—

(4)

(b) There shall be a service charge in accordance with ~~the provisions of~~ s. 320.04 for each initial application or renewal of registration and an additional sum of 50 cents on each license plate ~~and validation sticker~~ as provided in *s. 320.06(2)(b)* ~~s. 320.06(3)(b)~~.

Section 46. Section 320.102, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.102 Marine boat trailers owned by nonprofit organizations; exemptions.—The registration or renewal of a registration of any marine boat trailer owned and operated by a nonprofit organization that is exempt from federal income tax under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and which is used exclusively in carrying out its customary nonprofit activities is exempt from paying the fees, taxes, surcharges, and charges in ss. 320.03(5), (6), and (9), 320.031(2), 320.04(1), 320.06(1)(b) and *(2)(b)* ~~(3)(b)~~, 320.0801, 320.0802, 320.0804, and 320.08046.

Section 47. Section 336.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

336.01 Designation of county road system.—The county road system shall be as defined in *s. 334.03(9)* ~~s. 334.03(8)~~.

Section 48. Subsection (2) of section 338.222, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

338.222 Department of Transportation sole governmental entity to acquire, construct, or operate turnpike projects; exception.—

(2) The department may, but is not required to, contract with any local governmental entity as defined in *s. 334.03(14)* ~~s. 334.03(13)~~ for the design, right-of-way acquisition, transfer, purchase, sale, acquisition, or other conveyance of the ownership, operation, maintenance, or construction of any turnpike project which the Legislature has approved. Local governmental entities may negotiate and contract with the department for the design, right-of-way acquisition, transfer, purchase, sale, acquisition, or other conveyance of the ownership, operation, maintenance, or construction of any section of the turnpike project within areas of their respective jurisdictions or within counties with which they have interlocal agreements.

Section 49. Subsection (2) of section 341.8225, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

341.8225 Department of Transportation sole governmental entity to acquire, construct, or operate high-speed rail projects; exception.—

(2) Local governmental entities, as defined in *s. 334.03(14)* ~~s. 334.03(13)~~, may negotiate with the department for the design, right-of-way acquisition, and construction of any component of the high-speed rail system within areas of their respective jurisdictions or within counties with which they have interlocal agreements.

Section 50. Paragraph (b) of subsection (12) of section 376.3071, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

376.3071 Inland Protection Trust Fund; creation; purposes; funding.—

(12) SITE CLEANUP.—

(b) Low-scored site initiative.—Notwithstanding subsections (5) and (6), a site with a priority ranking score of 29 points or less may voluntarily participate in the low-scored site initiative regardless of whether the site is eligible for state restoration funding.

1. To participate in the low-scored site initiative, the property owner, or a responsible party who provides evidence of authorization from the property owner, must submit a "No Further Action" proposal and affirmatively demonstrate that the conditions imposed under subparagraph 4. are met.

2. Upon affirmative demonstration that the conditions imposed under subparagraph 4. are met, the department shall issue a site rehabilitation completion order incorporating the "No Further Action" proposal submitted by the property owner or the responsible party, who must provide evidence of authorization from the property owner. If no contamination is detected, the department may issue a site rehabilitation completion order.

3. Sites that are eligible for state restoration funding may receive payment of costs for the low-scored site initiative as follows:

a. A property owner, or a responsible party who provides evidence of authorization from the property owner, may submit an assessment and limited remediation plan designed to affirmatively demonstrate that the site meets the conditions imposed under subparagraph 4. Notwithstanding the priority ranking score of the site, the department may approve the cost of the assessment and limited remediation, including up to 12 months of groundwater monitoring and 12 months of limited remediation activities in one or more task assignments or modifications thereof, not to exceed the threshold amount provided in s. 287.017 for CATEGORY TWO, for each site where the department has determined that the assessment and limited remediation, if applicable, will likely result in a determination of "No Further Action." The department may not pay the costs associated with the establishment of institutional or engineering controls other than the costs associated with a professional land survey or a specific purpose survey, if such is needed, and the costs associated with obtaining a title report and paying recording fees.

b. After the approval of initial site assessment results provided pursuant to state funding under sub-subparagraph a., the department may approve an additional amount not to exceed the threshold amount provided in s. 287.017 for CATEGORY TWO for limited remediation needed to achieve a determination of "No Further Action."

c. The assessment and limited remediation work shall be completed no later than 15 months after the department authorizes the start of a

state-funded, low-score site initiative task. If groundwater monitoring is required after the assessment and limited remediation in order to satisfy the conditions under subparagraph 4., the department may authorize an additional 12 months to complete the monitoring.

d. No more than $15 million for the low-scored site initiative may be encumbered from the fund in any fiscal year. Funds shall be made available on a first-come, first-served basis and shall be limited to 10 sites in each fiscal year for each property owner or each responsible party who provides evidence of authorization from the property owner.

e. Program deductibles, copayments, and the limited contamination assessment report requirements under paragraph (13)(d) do not apply to expenditures under this paragraph.

4. The department shall issue an order incorporating the "No Further Action" proposal submitted by a property owner or a responsible party who provides evidence of authorization from the property owner upon affirmative demonstration that all of the following conditions are met:

a. Soil saturated with petroleum or petroleum products, or soil that causes a total corrected hydrocarbon measurement of 500 parts per million or higher for the Gasoline Analytical Group or 50 parts per million or higher for the Kerosene Analytical Group, as defined by department rule, does not exist onsite as a result of a release of petroleum products.

b. A minimum of 12 months of groundwater monitoring indicates that the plume is shrinking or stable.

c. The release of petroleum products at the site does not adversely affect adjacent surface waters, including their effects on human health and the environment.

d. The area containing the petroleum products' chemicals of concern:

(I) Is confined to the source property boundaries of the real property on which the discharge originated, unless the property owner has requested or authorized a more limited area in the "No Further Action" proposal submitted under this subsection; or

(II) Has migrated from the source property onto or beneath a transportation facility as defined in *s. 334.03(31)* ~~s. 334.03(30)~~ for which the department has approved, and the governmental entity owning the transportation facility has agreed to institutional controls as defined in s. 376.301(21). This sub-sub-subparagraph does not, however, impose any legal liability on the transportation facility owner, obligate such owner to engage in remediation, or waive such owner's right to recover costs for damages.

e. The groundwater contamination containing the petroleum products' chemicals of concern is not a threat to any permitted potable water supply well.

f. Soils onsite found between land surface and 2 feet below land surface which are subject to human exposure meet the soil cleanup target levels established in subparagraph (5)(b)9., or human exposure is limited by appropriate institutional or engineering controls.

Issuance of a site rehabilitation completion order under this paragraph acknowledges that minimal contamination exists onsite and that such contamination is not a threat to the public health, safety, or welfare; water resources; or the environment. Pursuant to subsection (4), the issuance of the site rehabilitation completion order, with or without conditions, does not alter eligibility for state-funded rehabilitation that would otherwise be applicable under this section.

Section 51. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 403.7211, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

403.7211 Hazardous waste facilities managing hazardous wastes generated offsite; federal facilities managing hazardous waste.—

(2) The department may not issue any permit under s. 403.722 for the construction, initial operation, or substantial modification of a facility for the disposal, storage, or treatment of hazardous waste generated offsite which is proposed to be located in any of the following locations:

(a) Any area where life-threatening concentrations of hazardous substances could accumulate at any residence or residential subdivision as the result of a catastrophic event at the proposed facility, unless each such residence or residential subdivision is served by at least one arterial road or urban minor arterial road, as determined under the procedures referenced in *s. 334.03(11)* ~~s. 334.03(10)~~, which provides safe and direct egress by land to an area where such life-threatening concentrations of hazardous substances could not accumulate in a catastrophic event. Egress by any road leading from any residence or residential subdivision to any point located within 1,000 yards of the proposed facility is unsafe for the purposes of this paragraph. In determining whether egress proposed by the applicant is safe and direct, the department shall also consider, at a minimum, the following factors:

1. Natural barriers such as water bodies, and whether any road in the proposed evacuation route is impaired by a natural barrier such as a water body.

2. Potential exposure during egress and potential increases in the duration of exposure.

3. Whether any road in a proposed evacuation route passes in close proximity to the facility.

4. Whether any portion of the evacuation route is inherently directed toward the facility.

For the purposes of this subsection, all distances shall be measured from the outer limit of the active hazardous waste management area. "Substantial modification" includes: any physical change in, change in the operations of, or addition to a facility which could increase the potential offsite impact, or risk of impact, from a release at that facility; and any change in permit conditions which is reasonably expected to lead to greater potential impacts or risks of impacts, from a release at that facility. "Substantial modification" does not include a change in operations, structures, or permit conditions which does not substantially increase either the potential impact from, or the risk of, a release. Physical or operational changes to a facility related solely to the management of nonhazardous waste at the facility is not considered a substantial modification. The department shall, by rule, adopt criteria to determine whether a facility has been substantially modified. "Initial operation" means the initial commencement of operations at the facility.

Section 52. Subsection (5) of section 479.261, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

479.261 Logo sign program.—

(5) At a minimum, permit fees for businesses that participate in the program must be established in an amount sufficient to offset the total cost to the department for the program, including contract costs. The department shall provide the services in the most efficient and cost-effective manner through department staff or by contracting for some or all of the services. The department shall adopt rules that set reasonable rates based upon factors such as population, traffic volume, market demand, and costs for annual permit fees. However, annual permit fees for sign locations inside an urban area, as defined in *s. 334.03(32)* ~~s. 334.03(31)~~, may not exceed $3,500, and annual permit fees for sign locations outside an urban area, as defined in *s. 334.03(32)* ~~s. 334.03(31)~~, may not exceed $2,000. After recovering program costs, the proceeds from the annual permit fees shall be deposited into the State Transportation Trust Fund and used for transportation purposes.

Section 53. Subsection (1) of section 655.960, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

655.960 Definitions; ss. 655.960-655.965.—As used in this section and ss. 655.961-655.965, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) "Access area" means any paved walkway or sidewalk which is within 50 feet of any automated teller machine. The term does not include any street or highway open to the use of the public, as defined in *s. 316.003(91)(a) or (b)* ~~s. 316.003(90)(a) or (b)~~, including any adjacent sidewalk, as defined in s. 316.003.

Section 54. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 715.07, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

715.07 Vehicles or vessels parked on private property; towing.—

(2) The owner or lessee of real property, or any person authorized by the owner or lessee, which person may be the designated representative of the condominium association if the real property is a condominium, may cause any vehicle or vessel parked on such property without her or his permission to be removed by a person regularly engaged in the business of towing vehicles or vessels, without liability for the costs of removal, transportation, or storage or damages caused by such removal, transportation, or storage, under any of the following circumstances:

(a) The towing or removal of any vehicle or vessel from private property without the consent of the registered owner or other legally authorized person in control of that vehicle or vessel is subject to substantial compliance with the following conditions and restrictions:

1.a. Any towed or removed vehicle or vessel must be stored at a site within a 10-mile radius of the point of removal in any county of 500,000 population or more, and within a 15-mile radius of the point of removal in any county of fewer than 500,000 population. That site must be open for the purpose of redemption of vehicles on any day that the person or firm towing such vehicle or vessel is open for towing purposes, from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and, when closed, shall have prominently posted a sign indicating a telephone number where the operator of the site can be reached at all times. Upon receipt of a telephoned request to open the site to redeem a vehicle or vessel, the operator shall return to the site within 1 hour or she or he will be in violation of this section.

b. If no towing business providing such service is located within the area of towing limitations set forth in sub-subparagraph a., the following limitations apply: any towed or removed vehicle or vessel must be stored at a site within a 20-mile radius of the point of removal in any county of 500,000 population or more, and within a 30-mile radius of the point of removal in any county of fewer than 500,000 population.

2. The person or firm towing or removing the vehicle or vessel shall, within 30 minutes after completion of such towing or removal, notify the municipal police department or, in an unincorporated area, the sheriff, of such towing or removal, the storage site, the time the vehicle or vessel was towed or removed, and the make, model, color, and license plate number of the vehicle or description and registration number of the vessel and shall obtain the name of the person at that department to whom such information was reported and note that name on the trip record.

3. A person in the process of towing or removing a vehicle or vessel from the premises or parking lot in which the vehicle or vessel is not lawfully parked must stop when a person seeks the return of the vehicle or vessel. The vehicle or vessel must be returned upon the payment of a reasonable service fee of not more than one-half of the posted rate for the towing or removal service as provided in subparagraph 6. The vehicle or vessel may be towed or removed if, after a reasonable opportunity, the owner or legally authorized person in control of the vehicle or vessel is unable to pay the service fee. If the vehicle or vessel is redeemed, a detailed signed receipt must be given to the person redeeming the vehicle or vessel.

4. A person may not pay or accept money or other valuable consideration for the privilege of towing or removing vehicles or vessels from a particular location.

5. Except for property appurtenant to and obviously a part of a single-family residence, and except for instances when notice is personally given to the owner or other legally authorized person in control of the vehicle or vessel that the area in which that vehicle or vessel is parked is reserved or otherwise unavailable for unauthorized vehicles or vessels and that the vehicle or vessel is subject to being removed at the owner's or operator's expense, any property owner or lessee, or person authorized by the property owner or lessee, before towing or removing any vehicle or vessel from private property without the consent of the owner or other legally authorized person in control of that vehicle or vessel, must post a notice meeting the following requirements:

a. The notice must be prominently placed at each driveway access or curb cut allowing vehicular access to the property within 10 feet from the road, as defined in *s. 334.03(23)* ~~s. 334.03(22)~~. If there are no curbs or access barriers, the signs must be posted not fewer than one sign for each 25 feet of lot frontage.

b. The notice must clearly indicate, in not fewer than 2-inch high, light-reflective letters on a contrasting background, that unauthorized vehicles will be towed away at the owner's expense. The words "tow-away zone" must be included on the sign in not fewer than 4-inch high letters.

c. The notice must also provide the name and current telephone number of the person or firm towing or removing the vehicles or vessels.

d. The sign structure containing the required notices must be permanently installed with the words "tow-away zone" not fewer than 3 feet and not more than 6 feet above ground level and must be continuously maintained on the property for not fewer than 24 hours before the towing or removal of any vehicles or vessels.

e. The local government may require permitting and inspection of these signs before any towing or removal of vehicles or vessels being authorized.

f. A business with 20 or fewer parking spaces satisfies the notice requirements of this subparagraph by prominently displaying a sign stating "Reserved Parking for Customers Only Unauthorized Vehicles or Vessels Will be Towed Away At the Owner's Expense" in not fewer than 4-inch high, light-reflective letters on a contrasting background.

g. A property owner towing or removing vessels from real property must post notice, consistent with the requirements in sub-subparagraphs a.-f., which apply to vehicles, that unauthorized vehicles or vessels will be towed away at the owner's expense.

A business owner or lessee may authorize the removal of a vehicle or vessel by a towing company when the vehicle or vessel is parked in such a manner that restricts the normal operation of business; and if a vehicle or vessel parked on a public right-of-way obstructs access to a private driveway the owner, lessee, or agent may have the vehicle or vessel removed by a towing company upon signing an order that the vehicle or vessel be removed without a posted tow-away zone sign.

6. Any person or firm that tows or removes vehicles or vessels and proposes to require an owner, operator, or person in control or custody of a vehicle or vessel to pay the costs of towing and storage before redemption of the vehicle or vessel must file and keep on record with the local law enforcement agency a complete copy of the current rates to be charged for such services and post at the storage site an identical rate schedule and any written contracts with property owners, lessees, or persons in control of property which authorize such person or firm to remove vehicles or vessels as provided in this section.

7. Any person or firm towing or removing any vehicles or vessels from private property without the consent of the owner or other legally authorized person in control or custody of the vehicles or vessels shall, on any trucks, wreckers as defined in s. 713.78(1), or other vehicles used in the towing or removal, have the name, address, and telephone number of the company performing such service clearly printed in contrasting colors on the driver and passenger sides of the vehicle. The name shall be in at least 3-inch permanently affixed letters, and the address and telephone number shall be in at least 1-inch permanently affixed letters.

8. Vehicle entry for the purpose of removing the vehicle or vessel shall be allowed with reasonable care on the part of the person or firm towing the vehicle or vessel. Such person or firm shall be liable for any damage occasioned to the vehicle or vessel if such entry is not in accordance with the standard of reasonable care.

9. When a vehicle or vessel has been towed or removed pursuant to this section, it must be released to its owner or person in control or

custody within 1 hour after requested. Any vehicle or vessel owner or person in control or custody has the right to inspect the vehicle or vessel before accepting its return, and no release or waiver of any kind which would release the person or firm towing the vehicle or vessel from liability for damages noted by the owner or person in control or custody at the time of the redemption may be required from any vehicle or vessel owner or person in control or custody as a condition of release of the vehicle or vessel to its owner or person in control or custody. A detailed receipt showing the legal name of the company or person towing or removing the vehicle or vessel must be given to the person paying towing or storage charges at the time of payment, whether requested or not.

Section 55. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 921.0022, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

921.0022 Criminal Punishment Code; offense severity ranking chart.—

(3) OFFENSE SEVERITY RANKING CHART

(b) LEVEL 2

Florida Statute	Felony Degree	Description
365.172(14)(b)1.	3rd	Misuse of emergency communications system causing great bodily harm, permanent disfigurement, or permanent disability.
379.2431(1)(e)3.	3rd	Possession of 11 or fewer marine turtle eggs in violation of the Marine Turtle Protection Act.
379.2431(1)(e)4.	3rd	Possession of more than 11 marine turtle eggs in violation of the Marine Turtle Protection Act.
403.413(6)(c)	3rd	Dumps waste litter exceeding 500 lbs. in weight or 100 cubic feet in volume or any quantity for commercial purposes, or hazardous waste.
517.07(2)	3rd	Failure to furnish a prospectus meeting requirements.
590.28(1)	3rd	Intentional burning of lands.
784.03(3)	3rd	Battery during a riot or an aggravated riot.
784.05(3)	3rd	Storing or leaving a loaded firearm within reach of minor who uses it to inflict injury or death.
787.04(1)	3rd	In violation of court order, take, entice, etc., minor beyond state limits.
806.13(1)(b)3.	3rd	Criminal mischief; damage $1,000 or more to public communication or any other public service.
806.13(4) ~~806.13(3)~~	3rd	Criminal mischief; damage of $200 or more to a memorial or historic property.
810.061(2)	3rd	Impairing or impeding telephone or power to a dwelling; facilitating or furthering burglary.
810.09(2)(d)	3rd	Trespassing on posted commercial horticulture property.
812.014(2)(c)1.	3rd	Grand theft, 3rd degree; $750 or more but less than $5,000.
812.014(2)(d)1.	3rd	Grand theft, 3rd degree; $40 or more but less than $750, taken from dwelling or its unenclosed curtilage.
812.014(2)(e)2.	3rd	Petit theft, 1st degree; less than $40 taken from dwelling or its unenclosed curtilage with one prior theft conviction.
812.015(7)	3rd	Possession, use, or attempted use of an antishoplifting or inventory control device countermeasure.
817.234(1)(a)2.	3rd	False statement in support of insurance claim.
817.481(3)(a)	3rd	Obtain credit or purchase with false, expired, counterfeit, etc., credit card, value over $300.
817.52(3)	3rd	Failure to redeliver hired vehicle.
817.54	3rd	With intent to defraud, obtain mortgage note, etc., by false representation.
817.60(5)	3rd	Dealing in credit cards of another.
817.60(6)(a)	3rd	Forgery; purchase goods, services with false card.
817.61	3rd	Fraudulent use of credit cards over $100 or more within 6 months.
826.04	3rd	Knowingly marries or has sexual intercourse with person to whom related.
831.01	3rd	Forgery.
831.02	3rd	Uttering forged instrument; utters or publishes alteration with intent to defraud.
831.07	3rd	Forging bank bills, checks, drafts, or promissory notes.
831.08	3rd	Possessing 10 or more forged notes, bills, checks, or drafts.
831.09	3rd	Uttering forged notes, bills, checks, drafts, or promissory notes.
831.11	3rd	Bringing into the state forged bank bills, checks, drafts, or notes.
832.05(3)(a)	3rd	Cashing or depositing item with intent to defraud.
836.13(3)	3rd	Soliciting an altered sexual depiction of an identifiable person without consent.
843.01(2)	3rd	Resist police canine or police horse with violence; under certain circumstances.
843.08	3rd	False personation.
843.19(3)	3rd	Touch or strike police, fire, SAR canine or police horse.
893.13(2)(a)2.	3rd	Purchase of any s. 893.03(1)(c), (2)(c)1., (2)(c)2., (2)(c)3., (2)(c)6., (2)(c)7., (2)(c)8., (2)(c)9., (2)(c)10., (3), or (4) drugs other than cannabis.
893.147(2)	3rd	Manufacture or delivery of drug paraphernalia.

Section 56. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 1006.23, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1006.23 Hazardous walking conditions.—

(2) HAZARDOUS WALKING CONDITIONS.—

(a) Walkways parallel to the road.—

1. It shall be considered a hazardous walking condition with respect to any road along which students must walk in order to walk to and from school if there is not an area at least 4 feet wide adjacent to the road, not including drainage ditches, sluiceways, swales, or channels, having a surface upon which students may walk without being required to walk on the road surface or if the walkway is along a limited access facility as defined in *s. 334.03(13)* ~~s. 334.03(12)~~. In addition, whenever the road along which students must walk is uncurbed and has a posted speed limit of 50 miles per hour or greater, the area as described above for students to walk upon shall be set off the road by no less than 3 feet from the edge of the road.

2. Subparagraph 1. does not apply when the road along which students must walk:

a. Is a road on which the volume of traffic is less than 180 vehicles per hour, per direction, during the time students walk to and from school; or

b. Is located in a residential area and has a posted speed limit of 30 miles per hour or less.

Section 57. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act, this act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

And the title is amended as follows:

Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert: A bill to be entitled An act relating to transportation; amending s. 20.23, F.S.; revising the membership composition of the Florida Transportation Research Institute; amending s. 260.0142, F.S.; requiring the Florida Greenways and Trails Council to meet within a specified timeframe to update specified recommendations; amending s. 311.14, F.S.; requiring each seaport to include specified strategies for obtaining and maintaining critical infrastructure resources as part of a 10-year strategic plan; defining the terms "critical infrastructure resources" and "strategic spaceport hub"; requiring the governing board of certain seaports to coordinate with Space Florida for specified purposes; creating s. 311.26, F.S.; requiring the Department of Transportation to coordinate with certain entities for a specified purpose; amending s. 316.003, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "personal delivery device"; defining the term "prohibited zone of operation"; amending s. 316.0076; prohibiting the use of certain technologies for specified purposes; amending s. 316.008, F.S.; authorizing a personal delivery device to be operated in specified areas; providing an exception; prohibiting counties and municipalities from enacting, imposing, levying, collecting, or enforcing certain fees or advertising regulations; amending s. 316.0777, F.S.; authorizing a private entity to install an automated license plate recognition system for use on certain property for a specified purpose and providing requirements therefor; providing a penalty; amending s. 316.187, F.S.; increasing certain speed limits; amending s. 316.2071, F.S.; authorizing a personal delivery device to operate in specified areas; providing an exception; prohibiting a personal delivery device or mobile carrier from interfering with bicyclists and motor vehicles; prohibiting a personal delivery device or mobile carrier from operating in specified areas unless certain conditions are met; prohibiting a personal delivery device or mobile carrier from operating in a prohibited zone of operation; authorizing the department to adopt rules; amending s. 316.212, F.S.; authorizing operation of a golf cart for the purpose of crossing certain streets and highways under certain conditions; providing penalties; amending s. 316.3045, F.S.; prohibiting certain excessive or unusual noises; amending s. 318.14, F.S.; modifying terms for elections to attend a basic driver improvement course; creating s. 319.1401, F.S.; authorizing certain golf carts to be titled and registered for operation on certain roads without an inspection by the Department of Transportation and providing requirements therefor; amending s. 320.06, F.S.; authorizing certain rental trucks to elect a permanent registration period; requiring a motor vehicle registration renewal to be recorded electronically; removing provisions relating to validation stickers; amending s. 320.64, F.S.; authorizing licensees to reject the succession to interest in a franchise agreement of a motor vehicle dealer under certain circumstances; clarifying the motor vehicles for which a licensee must pay certain costs to a motor vehicle dealer under certain circumstances; prohibiting a licensee from distributing more than a specified percentage of a specified number of motor vehicles of a particular line-make during a certain period to one motor vehicle dealer or dealers that share common ownership or control; providing applicability; amending s. 320.643, F.S.; authorizing a licensee to reject a sale, transfer, alienation, or other disposition of a franchise agreement or an equity interest in a motor vehicle dealer under certain circumstances; amending s. 330.41, F.S.; prohibiting a political subdivision from taking certain actions against a drone delivery service on a commercial property; removing a limitation relating to drone ports; prohibiting a drone delivery service from operating in a prohibited zone of operation; providing that the addition of a drone delivery service within the parking area of a commercial property does not reduce the number of parking spaces for a specified purpose; amending s. 331.302, F.S.; providing that Space Florida is not an agency and is not subject to certain bidding and contract procedures under certain conditions; amending s. 331.3051, F.S.; requiring Space Florida to employ a full-time business development director for specified purposes; amending s. 331.3081, F.S.; revising membership of the Space Florida board of directors; amending s. 332.001, F.S.; revising powers and duties of the department with respect to airport systems in this state; amending s. 332.006, F.S.; requiring the department to coordinate with certain airports for a specified purpose; amending s. 332.0075, F.S.; requiring commercial service airports to provide methods for obtaining and maintaining critical infrastructure resources; defining the term "critical infrastructure resources"; amending s. 334.03, F.S.; defining the term "advanced air mobility corridor connection point"; revising the definition of the term "transportation corridor"; amending s. 334.044, F.S.; providing and revising powers and duties of the department; amending s. 337.401, F.S.; prohibiting municipalities and counties from requiring that providers locate or perform surveys of certain facilities; requiring a provider to use certain means to avoid damaging certain facilities under specified circumstances; prohibiting municipalities and counties from taking certain actions relating to certain facility permits; authorizing municipalities and counties to require a bond or other financial instrument; prohibiting municipalities and counties from imposing or collecting a tax, fee, cost, charge, or exaction for the placement of certain communications facilities; revising applicability; revising the definition of the term "application"; prohibiting an authority from requiring compliance with provisions regarding placement of communications facilities in certain locations; providing exceptions; requiring that certain authority ordinances apply to all providers of communications services; providing bond requirements; providing requirements for certain financial obligations required by an authority; prohibiting an authority from requiring a deposit or escrow of cash or agreement with certain terms; prohibiting an authority from requiring a communications service provider to indemnify the authority for certain liabilities; prohibiting an authority from imposing certain landscaping and vegetation management requirements; amending s. 338.231, F.S.; revising the period through which the department, to the extent possible, is required to program sufficient funds in the tentative work program for a specified purpose; requiring the department, to the extent possible, to program sufficient funds in the tentative work program for a specified purpose beginning in a specified fiscal year; amending s. 339.81, F.S.; revising construction materials that may be used for certain multiuse trails or shared-use paths; authorizing the department to consider certain sponsorship agreements; amending s. 341.041, F.S.; providing that certain provisions relating to paratransit services apply only to persons with disabilities; amending s. 479.25, F.S.; revising provisions authorizing certain sign owners to increase sign height under certain circumstances; amending s. 790.19, F.S.; providing penalties for shooting into or throwing deadly missiles into an occupied or unoccupied autonomous vehicle; amending s. 806.13, F.S.; providing penalties for defacing, injuring, or damaging an autonomous vehicle; amending ss. 311.07, 316.0777, 316.1995, 316.2125, 316.2126, 316.2128, 316.306, 316.515, 320.04, 320.08035, 320.0807, 320.084, 320.102, 336.01, 338.222, 341.8225, 376.3071, 403.7211, 479.261, 655.960, 715.07, 921.0022, and 1006.23, F.S.; conforming cross-references and provisions to changes made by the act; providing effective dates.

On motion by Senator Massullo, the Senate refused to concur in **House Amendment 1 (135551)** to **CS for CS for CS for SB 1220** and the House was requested to recede. The action of the Senate was certified to the House.

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has amended Senate Amendment 1 (593280) with House Amendment 1 (898007), concurred in the same as amended, and passed CS/CS/HB 1503 as further amended, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

By Education & Employment Committee, Careers & Workforce Subcommittee and Representative(s) Giallombardo, Valdés—

CS for CS for HB 1503—A bill to be entitled An act relating to computer science education and certification; amending s. 1007.25, F.S.; providing requirements for general education core courses with a technology component; amending s. 1007.2616, F.S.; requiring high school computer science courses to include instruction on artificial intelligence; requiring the State Board of Education to establish separate computer science subject area coverages for specified grades and to continue the comprehensive K–12 coverage; requiring the Department of Education to present recommended competencies for certain subject area coverages to the state board by a specified date; requiring the department to coordinate examinations for such subject area coverages by a specified date; providing an effective date.

House Amendment 1 (898007) (with title amendment) to Senate Amendment 1 (593280)—Remove lines 5-22 of the amendment and insert:

Section 2. Subsection (8) of section 1007.2616, Florida Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (9), subsection (6) is amended, and a new subsection (8) is added to that section, to read:

1007.2616 Computer science and technology instruction.—

(6) High school students must be provided opportunities to take computer science courses *that include instruction on artificial intelligence* and earn technology-related industry certifications to satisfy high school graduation requirements as provided in s. 1003.4282(3). Computer science courses and technology-related industry certifications that are identified as eligible for meeting mathematics or science requirements for high school graduation must be included in the Course Code Directory. *Computer science courses that include instruction in artificial intelligence should provide students with a foundational understanding of artificial intelligence to critically evaluate how artificial intelligence systems use data to present information; recognize the benefits, limitations, and potential risks of artificial intelligence; and apply ethical reasoning to the responsible use of artificial intelligence in academic and personal contexts.*

(8)(a) To align educator credentials with instructional practice across grade levels, the State Board of Education shall establish by rule or maintain, as appropriate, the following computer science subject area coverages:

1. Computer science (grades K–5).

2. Computer science (grades 6–12).

3. Computer science (K–12).

(b) The State Board of Education shall adopt competencies and skills and designate corresponding examinations by rule for the subject area coverages listed in paragraph (a). The comprehensive computer science (K–12) coverage and its examination shall remain available unless amended by rule of the state board.

(c)1. The Department of Education shall present recommended competencies and skills for the computer science (grades K–5) and computer science (grades 6–12) subject area coverages to the State Board of Education for approval by September 1, 2027.

2. Following approval by the State Board of Education under subparagraph 1., the department shall coordinate the development, piloting, and standard-setting for the examinations for such subject area coverages. The examinations for both grade-band coverages must be available for administration no later than January 2, 2029.

And the title is amended as follows:

Remove lines 28-34 of the amendment and insert: An act relating to computer science education and certification; amending s. 1007.25, F.S.; providing requirements for general education core courses with a technology component; amending s. 1007.2616, F.S.; requiring high school students to be provided opportunities to take computer science courses that include instruction on artificial intelligence; providing that high school computer science courses that include instruction on artificial intelligence should contain certain content; requiring the State Board of Education to establish separate computer science subject area coverages for specified grades and to continue the comprehensive K–12 coverage; requiring the Department of Education to present recommended competencies for certain subject area coverages to the state board by a specified date; requiring the department to coordinate examinations for such subject area coverages by a specified date;

On motion by Senator Avila, the Senate refused to concur in **House Amendment 1 (898007) to Senate Amendment 1 (593280)** to **CS for CS for HB 1503** and the House was requested to recede. The action of the Senate was certified to the House.

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed SB 288, with 1 amendment, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

SB 288—A bill to be entitled An act relating to rural electric cooperatives; amending s. 425.041, F.S.; prohibiting a cooperative that sells electricity at retail from adopting, enacting, or enforcing a fee meeting specified criteria; revising the applicability of such prohibition on the types or fuel sources of energy production which may be used, delivered, converted, or supplied by specified entities; providing an effective date.

House Amendment 1 (815655) (with title amendment)—Remove lines 14-33 and insert:

Section 1. Section 425.041, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

425.041 Prohibited *fees,* bylaws, tariffs, and policies.—A cooperative *which sells electricity at retail* may not adopt, enact, or enforce *any fee, including a lot fee, developer fee, or surcharge, or* any bylaw, tariff, or policy, ~~or take any other action,~~ that restricts or prohibits or has the effect of restricting or prohibiting:

(1) The types or fuel sources of energy production which may be used, delivered, converted, or supplied by the entities listed in s. 366.032(1) to serve customers that such entities are authorized to serve.

(2) The use of an appliance, including a stove or grill, which uses the types or fuel sources of energy production which may be used, delivered, converted, or supplied by the entities listed in s. 366.032(1). As used in this subsection, the term "appliance" means a device or apparatus manufactured and designed to use energy and for which the Florida Building Code or the Florida Fire Prevention Code provides specific requirements.

And the title is amended as follows:

Remove lines 6-9 and insert: criteria; providing an effective

On motion by Senator Rodriguez, the Senate concurred in **House Amendment 1 (815655)**.

SB 288 passed, as amended, was ordered engrossed and then enrolled. The action of the Senate was certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—39

Mr. President	Bernard	Brodeur
Arrington	Boyd	Burgess
Avila	Bracy Davis	Burton
Berman	Bradley	Calatayud

Davis	Leek	Rodriguez
DiCeglie	Martin	Rouson
Gaetz	Massullo	Sharief
Garcia	Mayfield	Simon
Grall	McClain	Smith
Gruters	Osgood	Truenow
Harrell	Passidomo	Trumbull
Hooper	Pizzo	Wright
Jones	Polsky	Yarborough

Nays—None

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has amended Senate Amendment 1 (606354) with House Amendment 1 (137421), concurred in the same as amended, and passed CS/CS/HB 1085 as further amended, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

By State Affairs Committee, Information Technology Budget & Policy Subcommittee and Representative(s) Miller—

CS for CS for HB 1085—A bill to be entitled An act relating to local government cyber security; creating s. 282.31855, F.S.; creating the Local Government Cybersecurity Protection Program within the University of South Florida, to be administered by the Florida Center for Cybersecurity; providing the purpose of the grant program; requiring the Florida Center for Cybersecurity to enter into certain data-sharing agreements with local governments and the Florida Digital Service for a specified purpose; requiring the Florida Center for Cybersecurity to administer the grant program based on specified criteria to provide information technology commodities and services to local governments for a specified purpose; requiring the Florida Center for Cybersecurity to contract for information technology commodities and services and award such commodities and services to local governments; establishing preference for certain counties under the grant program; requiring grants to be annually awarded by a certain date; prohibiting grants from being awarded to local governments for more than two consecutive fiscal years; authorizing local governments to purchase information technology commodities and services under specified criteria; providing local governments are responsible for all costs associated with such purchases; requiring the Florida Center for Cybersecurity to prepare and submit a specified report to the Governor's Office of Policy and Budget and the chairs of the legislative appropriations committees; authorizing the Florida Center for Cybersecurity to apply for and accept certain funds or grants; prohibiting the total administrative expenses to support the grant program from exceeding a certain percentage of the total funds appropriated to the program; providing for future repeal unless saved by the Legislature through reenactment; providing an effective date.

House Amendment 1 (137421) (with title amendment) to Senate Amendment 1 (606354)—Remove lines 36-39 of the amendment and insert:

(e) A local government may purchase information technology commodities and services from the contracts managed by the Florida Digital Service to administer this section even if it does not apply for or receive a grant award. The local government shall be solely responsible for all costs associated with such purchases.

(f) Beginning December 15, 2027, and each year thereafter, the Florida Digital Service shall prepare and submit to the Governor's Office of Policy and Budget and the chairs of the legislative appropriations committees a report on the implementation and outcomes of the grant program for the preceding fiscal year. The report must include:

1. The total number of grant applications received and number and dollar amount of grants awarded, as well as the number of applications denied, withdrawn, or deemed ineligible.

2. A list of the local governments awarded a grant, identifying the cybersecurity commodities or services funded by each grant and their purpose.

3. A description of federal and other funds received and used in furtherance of the grant program.

(4) The Florida Digital Service may apply for and accept any funds or grants made available to it by any agency or department of the Federal Government to further the grant program.

(5) This section shall stand repealed on July 1, 2031, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

And the title is amended as follows:

Remove lines 47-66 of the amendment and insert: An act relating to local government cyber security; creating s. 282.31855, F.S.; creating the Local Government Cybersecurity Protection Program within the Florida Digital Service, to be administered by the Florida Digital Service; providing the purpose of the grant program; requiring the Florida Digital Service to enter into certain data-sharing agreements with local governments for a specified purpose; requiring the Florida Digital Service to administer the grant program based on specified criteria to provide information technology commodities and services to local governments for a specified purpose; requiring the Florida Digital Service to contract for information technology commodities and services and award such commodities and services to local governments; establishing preference for certain counties under the grant program; requiring grants to be annually awarded by a certain date; authorizing local governments to purchase information technology commodities and services under specified criteria; providing local governments are responsible for all costs associated with such purchases; requiring the Florida Digital Service to prepare and submit a specified report to the Governor's Office of Policy and Budget and the chairs of the legislative appropriations committees; authorizing the Florida Digital Service to apply for and accept certain funds or grants; providing for future repeal unless saved by the Legislature through reenactment;

On motion by Senator Harrell, the Senate concurred in **House Amendment 1 (137421) to Senate Amendment 1 (606354)**.

CS for CS for HB 1085 passed, as amended, and the action of the Senate was certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—39

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Osgood
Arrington	Gaetz	Passidomo
Avila	Garcia	Pizzo
Berman	Grall	Polsky
Bernard	Gruters	Rodriguez
Boyd	Harrell	Rouson
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Sharief
Bradley	Jones	Simon
Brodeur	Leek	Smith
Burgess	Martin	Truenow
Burton	Massullo	Trumbull
Calatayud	Mayfield	Wright
Davis	McClain	Yarborough

Nays—None

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed CS/CS/CS/SB 1452, with 1 amendment, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

CS for CS for CS for SB 1452—A bill to be entitled An act relating to the Department of Financial Services; amending s. 17.11, F.S.; revising the subsystem used for a certain report of disbursements made; amending s. 17.13, F.S.; requiring the replacement, rather than the duplication, of lost or destroyed warrants; amending s. 110.113, F.S.; deleting the Department of Financial Services' authority to make semimonthly salary payments; amending s. 112.3135, F.S.; authorizing a public official to take specified actions regarding the employment of a relative as a firefighter; amending s. 215.5586, F.S.; defining terms;

revising eligibility requirements for a hurricane mitigation inspection under the My Safe Florida Home Program; revising the circumstances under which applicants may submit a subsequent hurricane mitigation inspection application; deleting the requirement that licensed inspectors determine mitigation measures during initial inspections of eligible homes; deleting inspectors' authorization to inspect townhouses; revising the criteria for eligibility for a hurricane mitigation grant; deleting an expiration date; revising the list of improvements for which grants may be used; requiring that improvements be identified in the final hurricane mitigation inspection to receive grant funds; deleting a provision related to grants for townhouses; authorizing the program to accept a specified certification directly from applicants; requiring applicants who receive grants to finalize construction and request a final inspection within a specified timeframe; specifying that an application is deemed abandoned, rather than withdrawn, under certain circumstances; requiring the department to notify applicants within a specified timeframe before an application is deemed abandoned; authorizing applicants to submit a subsequent application under certain circumstances; authorizing the department to determine that an application is not abandoned under certain circumstances; amending s. 215.55871, F.S.; defining the term "area median income"; deleting the definition of the term "service area"; revising eligibility requirements for the My Safe Florida Condominium Pilot Program; requiring the department to adopt rules to verify household income; authorizing the department to require periodic recertification of income eligibility for a specified purpose; authorizing condominiums with mixed-income occupancies to participate in the pilot program if a certain condition is met; requiring that an application for a mitigation grant include documentation to verify household income; limiting the award of grant funds to specified mitigation improvements; requiring an association to complete a certain percentage of opening protection improvements; providing applicability; amending s. 215.89, F.S.; deleting provisions regarding the reporting structure for charts of accounts relating to the use of public funds by governmental entities; amending s. 215.93, F.S.; revising the subsystems of the Florida Financial Management Information System; amending s. 215.94, F.S.; providing that the department is the functional owner of the Financial Management Subsystem rather than the Florida Accounting Information Resource Subsystem; revising the functions of such subsystem; amending s. 215.96, F.S.; revising the composition of the coordinating council; deleting a requirement for the design and coordination staff; requiring that minutes of meetings be available to interested persons; revising the composition of ex officio members of the council; revising the duties, powers, and responsibilities of the council to include reviewing and coordinating annual workplans for a specified purpose; amending ss. 215.985, 216.102, and 216.141, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 440.13, F.S.; revising the timeframe in which health care providers must petition the department to resolve utilization and reimbursement disputes; revising petition service requirements; revising the timeframe in which carriers must submit certain documentation to the department; revising the timeframe in which the panel determining the statewide schedule of maximum reimbursement allowances must submit certain recommendations to the Legislature; creating s. 497.1411, F.S.; defining the term "applicant"; specifying that certain applicants are permanently barred from licensure; specifying that certain applicants are subject to specified disqualifying periods; requiring the Board of Funeral, Cemetery, and Consumer Services to adopt rules; specifying requirements, authorizations, and prohibitions for such rules; specifying when a disqualifying period begins; prohibiting the board from issuing approval for a license until an applicant provides proof that certain fines, costs, fees, and restitution have been paid; specifying that the applicant has certain burdens to demonstrate that he or she is qualified for licensure; specifying that certain applicants who have been granted a pardon or restoration of civil rights are not barred or disqualified from licensure; specifying that such pardon or restoration does not require the board to award a license; authorizing the board to grant an exemption from disqualification under certain circumstances; specifying requirements for the applicant in order for the board to grant an exemption; specifying that the board has discretion to grant or deny an exemption; specifying that certain decisions are subject to ch. 120, F.S.; providing applicability and construction; amending s. 497.142, F.S.; prohibiting an application from being deemed complete under certain circumstances; revising the list of crimes to be disclosed on a license application; amending s. 553.80, F.S.; specifying that certain dwellings do not have a change of occupancy under certain circumstances; amending s. 560.309, F.S.; revising the provisions that a licensee must comply with in seeking collection of worthless payment instruments; amending s. 560.405, F.S.; providing that redemption in cash or through a debit card transaction shall be treated the same; prohibiting payment through a credit card transaction; amending s. 560.406, F.S.; requiring deferred presentment providers to comply with the Fair Debt Collections Practices Act only if such deferred presentment providers meet certain criteria; amending s. 626.0428, F.S.; conforming a provision to changes made by the act; amending s. 626.171, F.S.; deleting reinsurance intermediaries from certain application requirements; revising the list of persons from whom the department is required to accept uniform applications; making clarifying changes regarding the voluntary submission of cellular telephone numbers; revising the exemption from the application filing fee for members of the United States Armed Forces; amending s. 626.292, F.S.; revising applicant requirements for a license transfer; amending s. 626.611, F.S.; requiring the department to require license reexamination of certain persons and to suspend or revoke the eligibility of such persons to hold a license or appointment under certain circumstances; amending the grounds for suspension or revocation; amending s. 626.621, F.S.; authorizing the department to require a license reexamination for certain persons; amending s. 626.731, F.S.; revising the qualifications for a general lines agent's license; amending s. 626.785, F.S.; revising the qualifications for a life agent's license; amending s. 626.831, F.S.; revising the qualifications for a health agent's license; amending s. 626.8417, F.S.; revising the list of persons who are exempt from certain provisions relating to title insurance licensing and appointment requirements; amending s. 626.854, F.S.; requiring a public adjuster, public adjuster apprentice, or public adjusting firm to respond to certain claims status requests with specific information within a specified timeframe and document in the file the response or information provided; repealing s. 627.797, F.S., relating to agents exempt from title insurance licensing; amending s. 633.208, F.S.; prohibiting certain dwellings from being reclassified for certain purposes; amending s. 648.34, F.S.; revising requirements for bail bond agent applicants; amending s. 648.382, F.S.; requiring officers or officials of the appointing insurer to obtain, rather than submit, certain information; amending s. 717.001, F.S.; revising a short title; amending s. 717.101, F.S.; revising definitions and defining terms; amending s. 717.102, F.S.; providing that certain intangible property is presumed abandoned; deleting a provision relating to the presumption that certain intangible property is presumed unclaimed; specifying the dormancy period for property presumed abandoned; requiring that property be considered payable or distributable under certain circumstances; deleting a provision relating to when property is payable or distributable; revising a presumption; requiring that property be presumed abandoned under certain circumstances; providing an exception; amending s. 717.103, F.S.; requiring that intangible property be subject to the custody of the department under certain circumstances; revising criteria for when intangible property is subject to the custody of the department; repealing s. 717.1035, F.S., relating to property originated or issued by this state, any political subdivision of this state, or any entity incorporated, organized, created, or otherwise located in the state; amending ss. 717.104, 717.1045, 717.105, and 717.106, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 717.1065, F.S.; revising the timeframe for communication with certain entities by the owner of virtual currency so that the virtual currency is not presumed unclaimed; amending ss. 717.107, 717.1071, 717.108, and 717.109, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 717.1101, F.S.; revising the timelines and conditions under which stock, other equity interests, or debt of a business association is considered abandoned; requiring the holder to attempt to confirm the apparent owner's interest in the equity interest by sending an e-mail communication within a specified timeframe under certain circumstances; requiring the holder to attempt to contact the apparent owner by first-class United States mail under certain circumstances; specifying that equity interest is presumed abandoned under certain circumstances; revising the timeframe in which unmatured, unredeemed, matured, or redeemed debt is presumed abandoned; specifying that the applicable dormancy period ceases under certain circumstances; revising the timeframe in which a sum held for or owing by a business association is presumed abandoned; specifying that certain equity interests are not presumed abandoned under certain circumstances; requiring a holder to perform annual data matching of certain records for a specified purpose; specifying that the holder is deemed to know the location of the apparent owner under certain circumstances; prohibiting certain transactions from constituting indication of apparent owner interest; specifying that certain accounts may be presumed abandoned under certain circumstances; providing applicability;

amending ss. 717.111, 717.112, 717.1125, 717.113, 717.115, and 717.116, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 717.117, F.S.; specifying that property is presumed abandoned upon the expiration of the applicable dormancy period; specifying that property is not deemed abandoned for certain purposes until the holder meets certain requirements; requiring holders of property presumed abandoned which has a specified value to use due diligence to locate and notify the apparent owner; requiring, before a specified timeframe, a holder in possession of presumed abandoned property to send a specified written notice to the apparent owner; specifying the method of delivery of such notice; requiring, before a specified timeframe, the holder to send a second written notice under certain circumstances; authorizing that the reasonable costs for the notice be deducted from the property; specifying that a signed return receipt constitutes an affirmative demonstration of continued interest; specifying requirements of the written notice; requiring holders of abandoned property to submit a specified report to the department; prohibiting certain balances, overpayments, deposits, and refunds from being reported as abandoned property; prohibiting certain securities from being included in the report; requiring the holder to report and deliver such securities under certain circumstances; requiring that the report be signed and verified and contain a specified statement; deleting certain provisions relating to the due diligence and notices to apparent owners; amending s. 717.118, F.S.; revising the state's obligation to notify apparent owners that their abandoned property has been reported and remitted to the department; requiring the department to use a cost-effective means to make an attempt to notify certain apparent owners; specifying requirements for the notice; requiring the department to maintain a specified website; revising applicability; amending s. 717.119, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; revising requirements for firearms or ammunition found in an abandoned safe-deposit box or safekeeping repository; revising required actions the department must take if a will or trust instrument is included among the contents of an abandoned safe-deposit box or safekeeping repository; amending ss. 717.1201, 717.122, 717.123, and 717.1235, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 717.124, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; deleting provisions related to requirements of claimants' representatives; specifying that a claim is withdrawn under certain circumstances; specifying that the department is authorized to make a distribution of property or money in accordance with a specified agreement under certain circumstances; requiring that shares of securities be delivered directly to the claimant under certain circumstances; revising a provision authorizing the department to develop a process by which a claimant representative may electronically submit certain images and documents; deleting provisions relating to a buyer of unclaimed property's filing of a claim; amending s. 717.12403, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 717.12404, F.S.; requiring that claims on behalf of an active corporation include a specified driver license; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending ss. 717.12405 and 717.12406, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 717.1241, F.S.; defining the term "conflicting claim"; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; revising requirements for remitting property when conflicting claims have been received by the department; amending ss. 717.1242, 717.1243, 717.1244, 717.1245, 717.125, 717.126, 717.1261, 717.1262, 717.129, 717.1301, 717.1315, and 717.132, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 717.1322, F.S.; revising the list of acts that constitute grounds for administrative enforcement action by the department; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending ss. 717.133, 717.1333, and 717.1341, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 717.135, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; deleting applicability; creating s. 717.1356, F.S.; specifying that agreements for the purchase of abandoned property reported to the department are valid only under certain circumstances; authorizing the seller to cancel a purchase agreement without penalty or obligation within a specified timeframe; requiring that such agreement contain certain language; requiring that a copy of an executed Florida Abandoned Property Purchase Agreement be filed with the purchaser's claim; prohibiting the department from approving the claim under certain circumstances; specifying that certain purchase agreements are enforceable only by the seller; defining the terms "asset purchaser" and "large business association"; requiring that claims filed by asset purchasers include certain information; authorizing the asset purchaser to provide a copy of a specified form in lieu of certain requirements if the seller is a publicly traded entity; providing applicability and construction; authorizing the department to adopt rules; amending s. 717.138, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 717.1382, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 717.139, F.S.; providing legislative findings; revising a statement of public policy; deleting a legislative declaration; providing legislative intent; prohibiting title to abandoned property from transferring to the state except under certain circumstances; amending s. 717.1400, F.S.; requiring an individual to meet certain requirements in order to file claims as a claimant representative; revising application requirements for registering as a claimant representative; requiring claimant representatives to file and obtain payment on a specified number of claims within a specified timeframe to maintain active registration; requiring the department to notify the claimant representative in writing and provide a certain timeframe to demonstrate compliance or good cause for noncompliance under certain circumstances; requiring the department to revoke a registration under certain circumstances; prohibiting a claimant representative from reapplying under certain circumstances; amending ss. 1001.281 and 1001.282, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending ss. 197.582 and 626.9541, F.S.; conforming cross-references; reenacting s. 772.13(6)(a), F.S., relating to postjudgment execution proceedings to enforce a judgment entered against a terrorist party, to incorporate the amendment made to s. 717.101, F.S., in a reference thereto; ratifying specified rules relating to legal tender for the sole and exclusive purpose of satisfying conditions on effectiveness pursuant to chapter 2025-100, Laws of Florida; repealing s. 18 of chapter 2025-100, Laws of Florida, which repeals specified provisions relating to legal tender; providing a directive to the Division of Law Revision; providing an effective date.

House Amendment 1 (573943) (with title amendment)—Remove lines 736-898

And the title is amended as follows:

Remove lines 40-56 and insert: certain circumstances; amending s. 215.89, F.S.; deleting

On motion by Senator Truenow, the Senate concurred in **House Amendment 1 (573943)**.

CS for CS for CS for SB 1452 passed, as amended, was ordered engrossed and then enrolled. The action of the Senate was certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—39

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Osgood
Arrington	Gaetz	Passidomo
Avila	Garcia	Pizzo
Berman	Grall	Polsky
Bernard	Gruters	Rodriguez
Boyd	Harrell	Rouson
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Sharief
Bradley	Jones	Simon
Brodeur	Leek	Smith
Burgess	Martin	Truenow
Burton	Massullo	Trumbull
Calatayud	Mayfield	Wright
Davis	McClain	Yarborough

Nays—None

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed CS/SB 524, with 1 amendment, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

CS for SB 524—A bill to be entitled An act relating to the Department of Law Enforcement; amending s. 112.195, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Law Enforcement to adopt rules relating to the Florida Medal of Valor and the Florida Blue/Red Heart Medal; amending s. 406.02, F.S.; specifying the circumstances under which an appointment or reappointment to the Medical Examiners Commission is considered

in force; requiring the commission to approve the appointment of district medical examiners by a majority vote to fill vacancies; amending s. 406.06, F.S.; requiring the commission, rather than the Governor, to appoint district medical examiners for each medical examiner district; specifying that upon approval by the commission, rather than by the Governor, a physician member of the commission is eligible to serve as a district medical examiner; amending s. 624.34, F.S.; defining terms; requiring the Department of Law Enforcement to accept and process fingerprints taken of natural persons who are control persons of a licensee or are applicants for licensure; deleting provisions authorizing the department to accept fingerprints of specified persons or entities; requiring that a full set of fingerprints of a certain natural person be submitted to the Department of Financial Services or specified authorized vendors, entities, or agencies; requiring the forwarding of the fingerprints to specified entities; authorizing the Department of Law Enforcement to exchange criminal history records with the Department of Financial Services for a specified purpose; requiring that the full set of fingerprints be submitted in accordance with rules adopted by the Department of Financial Services; providing duties and responsibilities regarding the fingerprints and fingerprinting; requiring the Department of Financial Services to use certain criminal history records for specified purposes; creating s. 624.341, F.S.; defining terms; requiring the Department of Law Enforcement to accept and process fingerprints taken of natural persons who are control persons of a licensee or are applicants for licensure; requiring that a full set of fingerprints of a certain natural person be submitted to the Office of Insurance Regulation of the Financial Services Commission or specified authorized vendors, entities, or agencies; requiring the forwarding of the fingerprints to specified entities; authorizing the department to exchange criminal history records with the office for a specified purpose; requiring that the full set of fingerprints be submitted in accordance with rules adopted by the Financial Services Commission; providing duties and responsibilities regarding the fingerprints and fingerprinting; requiring the office to use certain criminal history records for specified purposes; creating s. 943.0417, F.S.; requiring the Florida Deputy Sheriffs Association, Inc., to continue the statewide law enforcement grant program certified by the Department of Education for certain purposes; creating s. 943.0536, F.S.; defining the terms "immigration detainer" and "law enforcement agency"; requiring the Department of Law Enforcement's Criminal Justice Information Program to collect, process, store, maintain, and disseminate immigration detainer information; requiring each law enforcement agency to capture and electronically submit to the department the fingerprints of certain qualifying offenders; requiring the department to create certain records; amending s. 943.0581, F.S.; authorizing the department to adopt rules; requiring law enforcement agencies to apply to the department for the administrative expunction of specified nonjudicial records containing immigration detainer information of minors and adults made contrary to law or by mistake; authorizing individuals to apply to the department for the administrative expunction of such records; specifying application requirements; amending s. 943.11, F.S.; requiring the Criminal Justice Professionalism Program to provide staff support to the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission; requiring the commission to act independently of any criminal justice agency; amending s. 943.1395, F.S.; requiring commission staff to provide service by certified mail to certain certified officer's or instructor's last known address of record and, if possible, by e-mail; requiring commission staff to take specified action if the person providing service does not provide commission staff with proof of service; amending ss. 943.1726, 943.17261, 943.1727, and 943.17299, F.S.; requiring the commission, rather than the Department of Law Enforcement, to establish or develop specified training components or courses; providing effective dates.

House Amendment 1 (222029) (with title amendment)—Between lines 96 and 97, insert:

Section 1. Section 99.122, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

99.122 Protective security detail for nominees and officers-elect.—The Department of Law Enforcement must provide a protective security detail to all nominees of a political party, other than the nominees of a minor political party, to the offices of Governor and Lieutenant Governor. The protective security detail must be provided immediately upon the adjournment of the meeting of the Elections Canvassing Commission certifying the results of the primary election under s. 102.111 until the relevant nominee concedes the general election or upon adjournment of the meeting of the Elections Canvassing Commission certifying the results of the general election under s. 102.111, whichever is earlier. The Department of Law Enforcement must continue to provide a protective security detail to the officers-elect until the officers-elect assume office.

And the title is amended as follows:

Between lines 2 and 3, insert: creating s. 99.122, F.S.; requiring the Department of Law Enforcement to provide certain nominees and officers-elect with a protective security detail for a specified time period;

On motion by Senator Simon, the Senate refused to concur in **House Amendment 1 (222029)** to **CS for SB 524** and the House was requested to recede. The action of the Senate was certified to the House.

MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Passidomo, the rules were waived and all bills temporarily postponed on the Special Order Calendar this day were retained on the Special Order Calendar.

On motion by Senator Passidomo, the rules were waived and a deadline of one hour after adjournment was set for filing amendments to Bills on Third Reading to be considered Friday, March 13, 2026.

BILLS ON SPECIAL ORDERS

Pursuant to Rule 4.17(1), the Rules Chair, Majority Leader, and Minority Leader submit the following bill to be placed on the Special Order Calendar for Thursday, March 12, 2026: SB 1370.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Passidomo, Rules Chair
Jim Boyd, Majority Leader
Lori Berman, Minority Leader

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

RETURNING MESSAGES — FINAL ACTION

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate Amendment 1 (401768) and passed HB 145, as amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate Amendment 1 (963706) and passed CS/HB 245, as amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate Amendment 1 (625206) and passed CS/HB 273, as amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate Amendment 1 (614588) and passed HB 327, as amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate Amendment 1 (518110) and passed CS/HB 505, as amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate Amendment 1 (596626) and passed CS/CS/CS/HB 589, as amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate Amendment (154926) and passed CS/CS/HB 625, as amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate Amendment 1 (664532) and passed CS/HB 697, as amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate Amendment 1 (408242) and passed CS/HB 755, as amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate Amendment 1 (263022) and passed CS/CS/HB 757, as amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate Amendment 1 (140962) and passed CS/CS/HB 803, as amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate Amendment 1 (878376) and passed CS/HB 925, as amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate Amendment 1 (719556) and passed CS/CS/HB 1019, as amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate Amendment 1 (460890) and passed HB 1031, as amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate Amendment 1 (192994) and passed CS/HB 1073, as amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate Amendment 1 (736548) and passed CS/CS/HB 1087, as amended, by the required constitutional two-thirds vote of the membership.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate Amendment 1 (399106) and passed CS/CS/HB 1329, as amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate Amendment 1 (215232) and passed CS/CS/CS/HB 1417, as amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate Amendment 1 (376440) and passed CS/CS/CS/HB 1443, as amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate Amendment 1 (173774) and passed CS/CS/HB 1471, as amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate Amendment 1 (113196) and passed CS/CS/HB 1473, as amended, by the required constitutional two-thirds vote of the members voting.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate Amendment 1 (546492) and passed HB 1515, as amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate Amendment 1 (611560) and passed HB 7031, as amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

The Journal of March 11 was corrected and approved.

CO-INTRODUCERS

Senators Bernard—SB 1598; Burton—CS for CS for CS for SB 902; Davis—SB 1598

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Senator Passidomo, the Senate adjourned at 5:40 p.m. for the purpose of holding committee meetings and conducting other Senate business to reconvene at 10:00 a.m., Friday, March 13 or upon call of the President.

Daily Numeric Index for
March 12, 2026

BA — Bill Action
BF — Bill Failed
BP — Bill Passed
CO — Co-Introducers
CR — Committee Report
CS — Committee Substitute, First Reading
FR — First Reading
MO — Motion
RC — Reference Change
SM — Special Master Reports
SO — Bills on Special Orders