



# Journal of the Senate

Number 1—Special Session E

Tuesday, May 12, 2026

At a Special Session of the Florida Legislature convened under Article III, Section 3(c), of the Constitution of the State, as revised in 1968, and subsequently amended, at the Capitol, in the City of Tallahassee, on Tuesday, May 12, 2026, in the State of Florida.

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## CALL TO ORDER

The Senate was called to order by President Albritton at 10:00 a.m. A quorum present—32:

|               |          |            |
|---------------|----------|------------|
| Mr. President | Gaetz    | Passidomo  |
| Arrington     | Garcia   | Pizzo      |
| Avila         | Harrell  | Rodriguez  |
| Berman        | Hooper   | Rouson     |
| Bernard       | Jones    | Simon      |
| Boyd          | Leek     | Smith      |
| Bracy Davis   | Martin   | Truenow    |
| Brodeur       | Massullo | Trumbull   |
| Burgess       | Mayfield | Wright     |
| Calatayud     | McClain  | Yarborough |
| Davis         | Nathan   |            |

Excused: Senators Bradley, Burton, DiCeglie, Grall, Gruters, Osgood, Polsky, and Sharief

## PRAYER

The following prayer was offered by Senator Rouson:

Eternal God, we come before you this morning with thanksgiving. Thank you for the gift of life, for waking us up clothed in our right minds, and for the traveling mercies that allowed us to journey safely back to this capitol once again. Lord, as we gather in these chambers for budget conference, we do not take lightly the responsibility placed before us. We recognize that beyond every line item, every appropriation, every negotiation, there are real people depending on the decisions made: families hoping for relief, children hoping for opportunity, seniors hoping for security, and communities hoping to be included.

God, we ask for your wisdom where there are difficult decisions. Give clarity where there is confusion, give peace where tensions may rise, and give us discernment to prioritize not only what is politically expedient, but what is morally right and beneficial for the people we have been called to serve. God, remind us that you are still the same provider who made ways out of no way. The same God who fed the multitudes with a little and caused there to still be overflow. When resources appear limited and needs appear great, help us to trust that abundance can still emerge through unity, discipline, and compassion. Teach us to

work together across districts, across chambers, and across differences, understanding that service to people must always be greater than service to self. Grant grace for every meeting, patience for every conversation, and integrity in every decision that will be made through this process. And when this work is complete, let the outcome reflect fairness, stewardship, and a genuine commitment to the people of the State of Florida. All these things we pray. Amen.

## PLEDGE

Senator Wright led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

## MOMENT OF SILENCE

At the request of Senator Jones, the Senate observed a moment of silence in memory of Coral Springs Vice Mayor Nancy Metayer, who tragically passed away on April 1, 2026. Ms. Metayer was a first-generation American and the first Black Haitian American female commissioner elected to the Coral Springs Commission. She was re-elected in 2024 and appointed to serve as vice mayor by her fellow commissioners.

By direction of the President, the Secretary read the following proclamation:

## THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE JOINT PROCLAMATION

### TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE FLORIDA SENATE AND THE FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

We, Ben Albritton, President of the Florida Senate, and Daniel Perez, Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives, by virtue of the authority vested in us by Article III, Section 3(c), Florida Constitution, and Section 11.011, Florida Statutes, do hereby proclaim:

Section 1. That the Legislature of the State of Florida is convened in Special Session pursuant to Article III, Section 3(c), Florida Constitution, and Section 11.011, Florida Statutes, at the Capitol in Tallahassee, Florida, beginning at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, May 12, 2026, for a period of 18 days, ending at 11:59 p.m. on Friday, May 29, 2026.

Section 2. That the Legislature is convened for the sole and exclusive purpose of considering the following:

- A. Legislation identical to House Bill 5001 as passed by the House on February 19, 2026, or Senate Bill 2500, filed during the 2026 Regular Session, relating to the General Appropriations Act and any conference report resulting therefrom during the special session;
- B. Legislation identical to House Bill 5003 as passed by the House on February 19, 2026, or Senate Bill 2502, filed during the 2026 Regular Session, relating to implementing the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act and any con-

ference report resulting therefrom during the special session;

- C. Legislation identical to House Bill 5201 as passed by the House on February 19, 2026, or Senate Bill 2504, filed during the 2026 Regular Session, relating to collective bargaining and state employees, respectively, and any conference report resulting therefrom during the special session;
- D. Legislation identical to House Bill 5205 as passed by the House on February 19, 2026, or CS/Senate Bill 7028, filed during the 2026 Regular Session, relating to retirement and any conference report resulting therefrom during the special session;
- E. Legislation identical to House Bill 5207 as passed by the House on February 19, 2026, relating to the Department of Management Services and any conference report resulting therefrom during the special session;
- F. Legislation identical to Senate Bill 2508 as passed by the Senate on February 20, 2026, relating to the State Agency Law Enforcement Radio System and any conference report resulting therefrom during the special session;
- G. Legislation identical to House Bill 5301 as passed by the House on February 19, 2026, or Senate Bill 2518, filed during the 2026 Regular Session, relating to health care and health, respectively, and any conference report resulting therefrom during the special session;
- H. Legislation identical to House Bill 5601 as passed by the House on February 19, 2026, or Senate Bill 2516, filed during the 2026 Regular Session, relating to higher education and any conference report resulting therefrom during the special session;
- I. Legislation identical to Senate Bill 2514 as passed by the Senate on February 20, 2026, relating to Pre-K-12 education and any conference report resulting therefrom during the special session;
- J. Legislation identical to House Bill 5203 as passed by the House on February 19, 2026, relating to government administration and any conference report resulting therefrom during the special session;
- K. Legislation identical to House Bill 5403 as passed by the House on February 19, 2026, relating to correctional facilities financing and capital improvements and any conference report resulting therefrom during the special session;
- L. Legislation identical to Senate Bill 2512 as passed by the Senate on February 20, 2026, relating to judges and any conference report resulting therefrom during the special session;
- M. Legislation identical to House Bill 5501 as passed by the House on February 19, 2026, relating to documentary stamp tax distributions and any conference report resulting therefrom during the special session;
- N. Legislation identical to House Bill 5701 as passed by the House on February 19, 2026, relating to petroleum cleanup programs and any conference report resulting therefrom during the special session;
- O. Legislation identical to Senate Bill 2506 as passed by the Senate on February 20, 2026, relating to fuel taxes and any conference report resulting therefrom during the special session;
- P. Legislation identical to House Bill 7031 as passed by the House on March 5, 2026, or CS/Senate Bill 7046 filed during the 2026 Regular Session, relating to taxation and any

conference report resulting therefrom during the special session.

Section 3. That the committees and subcommittees of either house of the Legislature are authorized to consider legislation within the purview of this proclamation from this date forward.



*Ben Albritton*  
President  
The Florida Senate  
May 5, 2026



*Daniel Perez*  
Speaker  
The Florida House  
of Representatives  
May 5, 2026



Duly filed with and received by the Florida Department of State in Tallahassee this 5th day of May 2026.

*Cord Byrd*  
Secretary of State

## INTRODUCTION AND REFERENCE OF BILLS INSIDE THE CALL

### FIRST READING

By Senator Mayfield—

**SB 2-E**—A bill to be entitled An act relating to retirement; amending s. 121.053, F.S.; authorizing an elected officer, except while serving as a legislator, to remain in elective office and receive accumulated Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) proceeds after the officer attains a certain age; providing that, upon termination, the officer receives accumulated DROP proceeds including interest earned in accordance with a specified provision; amending s. 121.091, F.S.; requiring the Division of Retirement or the State Board of Administration, as appropriate, to take steps to recoup from the elected officer any DROP proceeds distributed in accordance with a specified provision, under specified circumstances; amending s. 121.101, F.S.; revising the cost-of-living adjustment for eligible Special Risk Class retirees; defining the term “eligible Special Risk Class retiree”; amending s. 121.71, F.S.; revising required employer retirement contribution rates for each membership class and subclass of the Florida Retirement System; amending s. 121.73, F.S.; revising required allocations from the Contributions Clearing Trust Fund to provide disability coverage to members of the investment plan of the Florida Retirement System; amending s. 121.735, F.S.; revising allocations from the Contributions Clearing Trust Fund to provide line-of-duty death benefits to members of the investment plan of the Florida Retirement System; providing a declaration of important state interest; providing an effective date.

—was referred to the Committees on Governmental Oversight and Accountability; and Appropriations.

By Senator Hooper—

**SB 2500-E**—A bill to be entitled An act making appropriations; providing moneys for the annual period beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, and supplemental appropriations for the period ending June 30, 2026, to pay salaries, and other expenses, capital outlay - buildings, and other improvements, and for other specified purposes of the various agencies of state government; providing effective dates.

—was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Senator Hooper—

**SB 2502-E**—A bill to be entitled An act implementing the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act; providing legislative intent; incorporating by reference certain calculations; amending s. 1001.451, F.S.; revising the services required to be provided by regional consortium service organizations under certain circumstances; revising the allocation that certain regional consortium service organizations are eligible to receive from the General Appropriations Act; requiring regional consortium service organizations to submit certain annual reports to the Department of Education; requiring certain unexpended funds to be carried forward; requiring each regional consortium service organization to provide quarterly financial reports to member districts; requiring member districts to designate fiscal agent districts for certain purposes; providing for compensation of fiscal agent districts; providing for certain personnel recommendations, policies, salary schedules, and job descriptions; authorizing the purchase or lease of property and facilities; providing for the distribution of certain revenues upon dissolution of a regional consortium service organization; revising authorized means of revenue generation; requiring the establishment of a fund balance for certain purposes; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; creating s. 1001.4511, F.S.; creating the Regional Consortia Service Organization Supplemental Services Program; authorizing the use of program funds for specified purposes; requiring each regional consortium service organization to annually report certain information to the Legislature; authorizing certain funds to be carried forward; creating s. 1009.635, F.S.; establishing the Rural Incentive for Professional Educators (RIPE) Program within the Department of Education for a specified purpose; providing eligibility requirements for the program; providing for student loan repayment assistance, up to a specified amount; requiring the department to verify certain participant information before disbursement of an award; specifying that the program is administered by the Office of Student Financial Assistance within the department; requiring the State Board of Education to adopt rules by a specified date; authorizing certain state university boards of trustees to accept a health care provider's procurement methods and construction contracts under certain circumstances; authorizing the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University board of trustees to expend available reserves or carry forward certain balances for a specified purpose; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment to realign Medicaid funding for specified purposes, subject to certain limitations; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment to realign funding within the Florida Kidcare program appropriation categories or to increase budget authority for certain purposes; specifying the time period within which such budget amendment must be submitted; amending s. 381.986, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the exemption of certain rules pertaining to the medical use of marijuana from certain rulemaking requirements; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement specified programs and payments; requiring institutions participating in a specified workforce expansion and education program to provide quarterly reports to the agency; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment for a specified purpose; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement the Low Income Pool component of the Florida Managed Medical Assistance Demonstration up to a certain amount; requiring that the amendment include a signed attestation and acknowledgment for entities relating to the Low Income Pool; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement certain payments and specified programs; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement a certified expenditure program for emergency medical transportation services; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement the Disproportionate Share Hospital Program; requiring such amendment to include specified information; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement fee-for-service inpatient and outpatient supplemental payments for specialty hospitals; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority to support the Florida School-Based Services program; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to create the Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Task Force for a certain purpose; re-

quiring the task force to evaluate certain information and develop recommendations; providing for membership of the task force; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to provide staff support; authorizing staff from specified agencies to provide additional expertise; providing for meetings of the task force; providing that members of the task force serve without compensation but are entitled to reimbursement of travel expenses; requiring the task force to provide a report to the Governor and the Legislature by a specified date; authorizing the Department of Children and Families to submit a budget amendment to realign funding within specified areas of the department based on implementation of the Guardianship Assistance Program; authorizing the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Health, and the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority to support certain refugee programs; requiring the Department of Children and Families to submit quarterly reports to the Executive Office of the Governor and the Legislature; authorizing the Department of Children and Families to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority to support specified federal grant programs; reenacting s. 393.066(2), F.S., relating to community services and treatment; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending s. 394.9082, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the authority of a managing entity to carry forward certain unexpended funds; specifying that nonqualified funds carried forward are not included in a cumulative cap on the percentage that may be carried forward; amending s. 409.9913, F.S.; requiring that core services funding be allocated as provided in the General Appropriations Act; requiring the Department of Children and Families to continue to collect certain data from community-based care lead agencies and to use a certain Tiered Funding Model; requiring community-based care lead agencies to submit certain data to the department; requiring the department to conduct certain ongoing performance monitoring; requiring the department to provide monthly status reports to the Governor and the Legislature; requiring the department to submit a final report to the Governor and the Legislature by a specified date; amending s. 409.990, F.S.; requiring that certain funds held by a community-based care lead agency and carried forward be returned to the Department of Children and Families; requiring the department to hold such funds in a separate account and report certain information to specified entities; providing for the reversion of such funds to the General Revenue Fund; authorizing the Department of Health to submit a budget amendment to increase budget authority for the Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and the Child Care Food Program if a certain condition is met; authorizing the Department of Health to submit a budget amendment to increase budget authority for the HIV/AIDS Prevention and Treatment Program if a certain condition is met; authorizing the Department of Health to submit a budget amendment to increase budget authority for the department if additional federal revenues specific to COVID-19 relief funds become available; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to replace the Florida Medicaid Management Information System (FMMIS) and fiscal agent operations with a specified new system; specifying items that may not be included in the new system; providing directives to the Agency for Health Care Administration related to the new Florida Health Care Connection (FX) system; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to meet certain requirements in replacing FMMIS and the current Medicaid fiscal agent; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to implement a specified program governance structure that includes an executive steering committee composed of specified members; providing the duties of the executive steering committee; requiring the establishment of specified working groups; providing the composition of such groups; providing requirements for such groups; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to contract for a certain assessment of the agency's Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS); providing requirements for the assessment; requiring submission of the assessment to specified entities by a certain date; requiring the agency to develop a new time-phased implementation roadmap for the MMIS replacement based on the assessment; requiring the agency to submit the roadmap to specified entities by a certain date; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration, in consultation with the Department of Health, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, the Department of Children and Families, and the Department of Corrections, to competitively procure a contract with a vendor to negotiate prices for certain prescribed drugs and biological products; providing specifications for such contract; authorizing the issuance or renewal of certain inactive or partially inactive licenses to skilled nursing providers and requiring the extension of certificate-of-need validity periods under certain circumstances; providing for subsequent renewal periods of such inactive licenses and validity periods under certain

circumstances; authorizing the Agency for Persons with Disabilities to submit budget amendments to transfer funding from the Salaries and Benefits appropriation categories for a specified purpose; authorizing the Agency for Persons with Disabilities to submit budget amendments to request funds from the Lump Sum-Home and Community-Based Waiver category for a specified purpose; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration and the Agency for Persons with Disabilities to submit budget amendments within a specified timeframe for a specified purpose; authorizing the Department of Veterans' Affairs to submit a budget amendment, subject to Legislative Budget Commission approval, requesting certain authority for certain purposes relating to veterans' nursing homes; amending s. 409.915, F.S.; extending for 1 year the expiration of an exception for certain funds used for the hospital directed payment program; authorizing the Department of Veterans' Affairs to expend certain funds and submit budget amendments, subject to certain approval, for the planning and construction of a new State Veterans' Nursing Home and Adult Day Health Center in a specified county; authorizing the department to apply for a specified federal grant for the Collier County State Veterans' Nursing Home; authorizing the Department of Elderly Affairs to submit a budget amendment requesting certain authority for an Adult Care Food Program or the Older Americans Act under certain circumstances; amending s. 216.262, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the authority of the Department of Corrections to submit a budget amendment for additional positions and appropriations under certain circumstances; amending s. 215.18, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the authority and related repayment requirements for temporary trust fund loans to the state court system which are sufficient to meet the system's appropriation; requiring the Department of Juvenile Justice to review county juvenile detention payments to determine whether a county has met specified financial responsibilities; requiring that amounts owed by a certain county for such financial responsibilities be deducted from certain county funds; requiring the Department of Revenue to transfer withheld funds to a specified trust fund; requiring the Department of Revenue to ensure that such reductions in amounts distributed do not reduce distributions below amounts necessary for certain payments due on bonds and to comply with bond covenants; requiring the Department of Revenue to notify the Department of Juvenile Justice if bond payment requirements mandate a reduction in deductions for amounts owed by a county; requiring the Department of Juvenile Justice to take certain actions; reenacting s. 27.40(1), (2)(a), (3)(a), (5), (6), and (7), F.S., relating to court-appointed counsel; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting and amending s. 27.5304, F.S., relating to the extension for 1 fiscal year of limitations on compensation for representation in criminal proceedings; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending s. 908.1033, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year provisions authorizing local law enforcement agencies to apply to the State Board of Immigration Enforcement to provide bonus payments for certain certified correctional officers; amending s. 934.50, F.S.; creating the Drone as First Responder Grant Program within the Department of Law Enforcement; providing the purpose of the program; providing eligibility requirements; requiring the department to develop an application process and allocate funds on a first-come, first-served basis; requiring that grants be matched by local funds in a specified percentage; authorizing the department to waive the matching funds requirement for certain agencies; defining the term "first responder agency"; authorizing the department to adopt rules; authorizing emergency rulemaking; requiring the Department of Management Services, with the cooperation of certain agencies, to use tenant broker services to renegotiate or reprocure certain private lease agreements for office or storage space; requiring the Department of Management Services to provide a report to the Governor and the Legislature by a specified date; prohibiting an agency from transferring funds from a data processing category to another category other than another data processing category; authorizing the Executive Office of the Governor to transfer funds appropriated in certain categories between departments for purposes of aligning amounts paid for risk management insurance and for human resources services purchased per statewide contract; authorizing the Department of Management Services to use certain facility disposition funds from the Architects Incidental Trust Fund to pay for certain relocation expenses; authorizing the Department of Management Services to submit budget amendments for an increase in appropriation under certain circumstances; requiring that such amendments include specified information; requiring the Department of Financial Services to replace specified components of the Florida Accounting Information Resource Subsystem (FLAIR) and the Cash Management Subsystem (CMS) with a specified integrated enterprise system; prohibiting the Department of

Financial Services from including certain components in the replacement of FLAIR and CMS; providing requirements for the Department of Financial Services related to replacing FLAIR and CMS; providing for the composition of an executive steering committee to oversee FLAIR and CMS replacement; providing requirements for the executive steering committee chair; providing duties and responsibilities of the executive steering committee; reenacting s. 282.709(3), F.S., relating to the state agency law enforcement radio system and interoperability network; providing for future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; authorizing state agencies and other eligible users of the Statewide Law Enforcement Radio System to use the Department of Management Services contract to purchase equipment and services; requiring that a specified transaction fee percentage for use of the on-line procurement system be collected for a specified fiscal year; amending s. 24.105, F.S.; specifying requirements for the adoption of rules of the Department of the Lottery, excluding certain rules for 1 fiscal year regarding the commission for lottery ticket sales; limiting additional retailer compensation in a specified manner; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending s. 627.351, F.S.; extending for 1 year the specified authority of Citizens Property Insurance Corporation; amending s. 215.5586, F.S.; extending for 1 year the homeowner eligibility criteria for a hurricane mitigation grant from the My Safe Florida Home Program; providing that certain funds appropriated to the Department of Financial Services may be carried forward through a specified fiscal year; authorizing the Executive Office of the Governor to transfer funds between departments to align the budget authority granted based on the estimated costs for data processing services for a specified fiscal year; limiting the auxiliary assessments that may be charged to state agencies related to contract management services provided to the Northwest Regional Data Center; reenacting and amending s. 284.51, F.S., relating to the electroencephalogram combined transcranial magnetic stimulation treatment (eTMS) pilot program; extending for 1 year the expiration of the program; requiring the Department of Financial Services to continue its existing contract for the establishment of the eTMS pilot program for veterans and first responders; amending s. 717.123, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Financial Services to retain specified funds, not to exceed a certain amount; requiring that the funds be held in a separate account; requiring the department to make prompt payment of certain claims from the separate account; amending s. 215.18, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year certain authority to transfer funds from certain trust funds in the State Treasury to other trust funds in certain circumstances; requiring the Department of Environmental Protection to transfer designated proportions of the revenues deposited in the Land Acquisition Trust Fund within the department to land acquisition trust funds in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of State, and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission according to specified parameters and calculations; defining the term "department"; requiring the Department of Environmental Protection to make transfers to land acquisition trust funds monthly; specifying the method of determining transfer amounts; authorizing the Department of Environmental Protection to advance funds from its land acquisition trust fund to the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's land acquisition trust fund for specified purposes; amending s. 259.105, F.S.; requiring that proceeds from a specified trust fund be distributed as provided in the General Appropriations Act for a specified fiscal year; amending s. 376.91, F.S.; extending for 1 year the date by which the Department of Environmental Protection shall adopt statewide cleanup target levels for PFAS under certain circumstances; providing for future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting s. 376.3071(15)(g), F.S., relating to the Inland Protection Trust Fund; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; requiring the Department of Citrus to enter into agreements for specified purposes by a certain date; requiring the Department of Citrus to file certain information with the department's Inspector General; reenacting s. 380.5105, F.S., relating to the Stan Mayfield Working Waterfronts; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; authorizing the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to use specified funds to provide grants for a specified purpose; amending s. 403.890, F.S.; authorizing the use of revenues deposited into or appropriated to the Water Protection and Sustainability Program Trust Fund as provided in the General Appropriations Act; amending s. 375.041, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the requirement that funds for the Land Acquisition Trust Fund be appropriated in a specified manner; authorizing the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to lease an existing facility and administer a specified program; authorizing the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to submit budget amendments to

increase budget authority for the National School Lunch Program; amending s. 288.80125, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year a requirement that the use of funds in the Triumph Gulf Coast Trust Fund be related to Hurricane Michael recovery; amending s. 339.135, F.S.; extending for 1 year the authority for the chair and vice chair of the Legislative Budget Commission to approve certain work program amendments under specified circumstances; authorizing the Department of Transportation to request a specified amount of budget authority to the extent necessary to advance or defer certain projects in the Work Program and align resources for a specified purpose; amending s. 288.0655, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year a requirement that certain appropriated funds relating to the Rural Infrastructure Fund be distributed in a specified manner; creating s. 288.013, F.S.; providing legislative findings; creating the Office of Rural Prosperity within the Department of Commerce; requiring the Governor to appoint a director, subject to Senate confirmation; providing that the director reports to and serves at the pleasure of the secretary of the department; providing duties of the office; requiring the office to establish and staff a certain number of regional rural community liaison centers for a specified purpose; providing the powers and duties of the liaison centers; requiring coordination between certain entities; requiring the liaison centers to engage with the Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI); requiring at least one staff member of a liaison center to attend the monthly REDI meetings in person or by means of electronic communication; requiring the director of the office to submit a report to the Administration Commission within the Executive Office of the Governor; specifying requirements for the report; requiring that the report also be submitted to the Legislature by a specified date and published on the office's website; requiring the director of the office to attend the next Administration Commission meeting to present detailed information from the annual report; amending s. 288.001, F.S.; requiring the Florida Small Business Development Center Network to use certain funds appropriated for a specified purpose; authorizing the network to dedicate funds to facilitate certain events; creating s. 288.014, F.S.; providing legislative findings; requiring the Office of Rural Prosperity to administer the Renaissance Grants Program to provide block grants to eligible communities; requiring the Office of Economic and Demographic Research to certify to the Office of Rural Prosperity certain information by a specified date; defining the term "growth-impeded"; requiring the Office of Economic and Demographic Research to certify annually that a county remains growth-impeded until certain conditions are met; providing that a county is eligible to participate in the program for 1 additional year under certain circumstances; requiring participating counties to enter into an agreement with the Office of Rural Prosperity to receive a block grant; giving such counties certain authority; prohibiting the Office of Rural Prosperity from determining how such counties implement the block grant; requiring regional rural community liaison center staff to provide certain assistance; requiring participating counties to report certain information to the Office of Rural Prosperity; providing that a participating county receives a specified amount from funds appropriated to the program, or an equal share of the funds appropriated under certain circumstances; requiring participating counties to limit certain expenses; authorizing participating counties to supplement the block grant with other funding sources; requiring participating counties to hire and retain a renaissance coordinator; providing the responsibilities of the renaissance coordinator; requiring the regional rural community liaison center staff to provide assistance and training to the renaissance coordinator, upon request; requiring participating counties to design a certain plan; specifying requirements for such plan; requiring participating counties to develop intergovernmental agreements with certain entities to implement the plan; requiring the Auditor General to conduct an operational audit of each county's grant activities; requiring the Office of Economic and Demographic Research to submit a certain report to the Legislature; specifying requirements for the report; providing that funds appropriated from the program are not subject to reversion; creating s. 288.0175, F.S.; creating the Public Infrastructure Smart Technology Grant Program within the Office of Rural Prosperity; defining terms; requiring the office to contract with one or more smart technology lead organizations to administer the grant program for a specified purpose; providing the criteria for such contracts; requiring that a summary of projects funded by the grant program be included in the office's annual report; amending s. 288.065, F.S.; establishing the Rural Community Development Revolving Loan Fund within the Office of Rural Prosperity, rather than the Department of Commerce; defining the term "unit of local government"; requiring the office to include in its annual report certain information about the Rural Community Development Revolving Loan Fund; providing for future expiration and re-

version of specified statutory text; authorizing the Division of Emergency Management to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority for certain expenditures under certain circumstances; amending s. 282.201, F.S.; extending for 1 year the Division of Emergency Management's exemption from the use of the state data center; amending s. 443.1113, F.S.; providing that certain improvements to the Reemployment Assistance Claims and Benefits Information System are subject to appropriation; revising the date a certain report from the Department of Commerce is required to be submitted; revising the report requirements; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting and amending s. 445.08, F.S., relating to the Florida Law Enforcement Recruitment Bonus Payment Program; extending the program for 1 year; authorizing the Department of Commerce to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority to support specified federal grant programs; requiring the Department of Management Services to assess an administrative health insurance assessment on each state agency; providing the rate of such assessment; defining the term "state agency"; requiring the Department of Management Services to take certain actions in case of delinquencies; requiring the Chief Financial Officer to transfer funds under specified circumstances; requiring state agencies to provide a list of positions that qualify for a certain exception by a specified date and to update the list monthly thereafter; requiring state agencies to include the administrative health insurance assessment in their indirect cost plan beginning for a specified fiscal year and annually thereafter; requiring agencies to notify the Department of Management Services, the Executive Office of the Governor, and the Legislature regarding the approval of their updated indirect cost plans; authorizing the Executive Office of the Governor to transfer budget authority between agencies in specified circumstances; providing that the annual salaries of the members of the Legislature be maintained at a specified level for a specified fiscal year; reenacting s. 215.32(2)(b), F.S., relating to the authorization for transferring unappropriated cash balances from selected trust funds to the Budget Stabilization Fund and General Revenue Fund; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; specifying the type of travel which may be used with state employee travel funds for a specified fiscal year; providing exceptions; providing applicability; providing a monetary cap on lodging costs for state employee travel to certain meetings organized or sponsored by a state agency or the judicial branch; authorizing employees to expend their own funds for lodging expenses that exceed the monetary caps; providing construction; amending s. 216.181, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the authority of the Legislative Budget Commission to approve budget amendments for certain fixed capital outlay projects; amending s. 216.292, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the requirements for certain transfers; authorizing state agencies to purchase vehicles from nonstate term contract vendors without prior approval from the Department of Management Services under certain circumstances; amending s. 11.52, F.S.; extending for 1 year certain state agency reporting requirements regarding implementation of legislation; amending s. 216.013, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year an exception from certain planning requirements; amending s. 216.023, F.S.; extending for 1 year a requirement that certain entities include a specified inventory in their legislative budget requests; requiring that a specified percentage of funds appropriated for information technology projects be held in reserve and that general revenue funds not held in reserve be released; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration, Department of Children and Families, Department of Corrections, Department of Financial Services, Florida Gaming Control Commission, Department of Health, and Department of Revenue to submit a budget amendment to request release of funds; limiting the amount that may be requested; providing that release is contingent upon certain submissions; requiring entities receiving such funds to submit monthly project status reports to certain entities; providing requirements for such status reports; providing conditions under which the veto of certain appropriations or proviso language in the General Appropriations Act voids language that implements such appropriation; providing for the continued operation of certain provisions notwithstanding a future repeal or expiration provided by the act; providing for construction of the act in pari materia with laws enacted during the 2026 Regular Session of the Legislature; providing for severability; providing for contingent retroactivity; providing effective dates.

—was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Senator Hooper—

**SB 2504-E**—A bill to be entitled An act relating to state employees; providing for the resolution of collective bargaining issues at impasse between the state and certified bargaining units for state employees; providing an effective date.

—was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

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By Senator Brodeur—

**SB 2506-E**—A bill to be entitled An act relating to fuel taxes; amending s. 206.606, F.S.; revising the distribution of the proceeds of the fuel sales tax; amending s. 206.9945, F.S.; revising the transfer of funds received and collected into the Fuel Tax Collection Trust Fund; providing an effective date.

—was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

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By Senator Brodeur—

**SB 2508-E**—A bill to be entitled An act relating to the state agency law enforcement radio system; amending ss. 318.18 and 318.21, F.S.; abrogating the scheduled expiration of provisions relating to the remission of surcharges for specified criminal offenses and noncriminal moving traffic violations to the Department of Revenue to fund the state agency law enforcement radio system and to provide technical assistance with respect to statewide systems of regional law enforcement communications; providing an effective date.

—was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

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By Senator Garcia—

**SB 2512-E**—A bill to be entitled An act relating to judges; amending s. 26.031, F.S.; increasing the number of circuit judges in certain judicial circuits; amending s. 34.022, F.S.; increasing the number of county court judges in certain counties; providing an effective date.

—was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

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By Senator Burgess—

**SB 2514-E**—A bill to be entitled An act relating to Pre-K-12 education; amending s. 1002.411, F.S.; revising conditions under which a specified scholarship account's funds revert to the state; amending s. 1011.62, F.S.; providing a supplement for districts that have a decline in enrollment; requiring that fiscally constrained districts receive a higher calculation than non-fiscally constrained districts; providing an effective date.

—was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

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By Senator Harrell—

**SB 2516-E**—A bill to be entitled An act relating to higher education; amending s. 464.0195, F.S.; establishing the Florida Center for Nursing within the University of South Florida; requiring the center to administer the Linking Industry to Nursing Education (LINE) Fund; requiring the center to promote certain funds and provide technical assistance during a specified timeframe; requiring the center to develop certain guidelines and make them publicly available on its website; providing requirements for the administration of LINE funds; amending s. 1009.26, F.S.; providing that a specified fee waiver applies to a student's out-of-pocket expenses for tuition and fees after other aid is applied; deleting a requirement for a state university to report and disburse certain waived fees; deleting a requirement for disbursement; amending s. 1009.8962, F.S.; providing that the LINE Fund was established for shortages in health science professions in addition to nursing; defining terms; requiring that the LINE Fund be administered by the Florida Center for Nursing within the University of South Florida, rather than the Board of Governors and the Department of Education; providing that funding is subject to approval of an application by the center; au-

thorizing the fund to match certain contributions if funds are available; revising how funds may be used; providing exceptions to certain prohibitions on the use of funds; revising requirements for a proposal for LINE funds submitted by an institution; providing that proposals for related health science programs may not be prioritized over nursing programs; revising requirements for the center to evaluate submitted proposals; authorizing the center to prioritize certain grant applications; requiring the center to notify each applicant of its determination; defining terms; requiring an institution with an approved proposal to certify the health care partner's contribution in a specified manner; authorizing the center to award funds for up to 3 academic years; requiring institutions awarded grant funds to submit an annual report by a certain date to the center instead of the Board of Governors or the Department of Education; providing that the Department of Education is the lead entity for identifying and maintaining which health science programs are eligible for LINE funds; 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; deleting a requirement for the Board of Governors to adopt regulations and the State Board of Education to adopt rules; providing an effective date.

—was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

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By Senator Trumbull—

**SB 2518-E**—A bill to be entitled An act relating to health; amending s. 216.136, F.S.; requiring the Social Services Estimating Conference to develop certain official information relating to the pilot program for individuals with developmental disabilities; amending s. 394.495, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Children and Families, as authorized by and consistent with appropriated funding, to contract with a specified organization to provide grief support services to help certain children and youth; requiring that the services be provided at no cost; authorizing the contracted organization to also provide grief awareness training and outreach to local schools and medical facilities under the contract; amending s. 409.145, F.S.; revising the monthly room and board rates the department is required to pay to certain foster parents and caregivers; amending s. 409.1455, F.S.; renaming the Step into Success Workforce Education and Internship Pilot Program as the Step into Success Workforce Education and Internship Program; deleting a provision limiting the duration of the program; requiring the Office of Continuing Care within the department to develop certain cohorts within specified regions, to collaborate with certain organizations to recruit mentors and organizations, and to provide eligible former foster youth with internship placement opportunities; deleting a provision requiring that the program be administered in a certain manner; deleting obsolete language; requiring the office to develop trauma-informed training for mentors of certain former foster youth; providing requirements for the training; authorizing the office to provide certain additional trainings on mentorship of special populations; revising the amount of monthly financial assistance that the office provides to participating former foster youth; requiring the office to assign experienced staff to serve as program liaisons for a specified purpose; revising qualifications to serve as a mentor; authorizing the department to offer certain training to mentors in subsequent years; authorizing an employee who serves as a mentor to participate in certain additional trainings; deleting a provision authorizing the offset of a reduction in or loss of certain benefits due to receipt of a Step into Success stipend by an additional stipend payment; creating s. 409.1475, F.S.; providing legislative findings and intent; creating the Foster and Family Support Grant Program within the department; requiring the department to award grants to not-for-profit, faith-based organizations for specified purposes; requiring that the program emphasize certain support; specifying authorized uses for awarded grant funds; requiring grant recipients to submit reports to the department in a format and at intervals prescribed by the department; authorizing the department to adopt rules; amending s. 409.908, F.S.; revising the parameters for the prospective payment methodology used for determining the Agency for Health Care Administration's long-term care reimbursement plan for nursing home care; requiring the agency to consider specified recommendations when revising its methodology for calculating Quality Incentive Program payments; requiring the agency to delay the effective date of any changes to its methodology for a specified timeframe; amending s. 409.9855, F.S.; requiring the agency to collect and analyze

certain data relating to the pilot program for individuals with developmental disabilities for a specified timeframe; requiring the agency to report specified information to the Social Services Estimating Conference; amending s. 409.990, F.S.; revising the cumulative amount of unexpended state funds that a community-based care lead agency may carry forward to the next fiscal year; amending s. 414.56, F.S.; conforming a provision to changes made by the act; reenacting ss. 39.5085(2)(d), 39.6225(5)(d), 393.065(5)(b), and 409.1451(2)(b), F.S., relating to the Relative Caregiver Program, the Guardianship Assistance Program, application and eligibility determinations, and the Road-to-Independence Program, respectively, to incorporate the amendment made to s. 409.145, F.S., in references thereto; providing an effective date.

—was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

CONSIDERATION OF FILED BILLS

MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Brodeur, by two-thirds vote, SB 2506-E was withdrawn from the Committee on Appropriations, and by unanimous consent, taken up instanter.

On motion by Senator Brodeur, by two-thirds vote—

SB 2506-E—A bill to be entitled An act relating to fuel taxes; amending s. 206.606, F.S.; revising the distribution of the proceeds of the fuel sales tax; amending s. 206.9945, F.S.; revising the transfer of funds received and collected into the Fuel Tax Collection Trust Fund; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title. On motion by Senator Brodeur, by two-thirds vote, SB 2506-E was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—32

Table with 3 columns: Mr. President, Gaetz, Passidomo, Arrington, Garcia, Pizzo, Avila, Harrell, Rodriguez, Berman, Hooper, Rouson, Bernard, Jones, Simon, Boyd, Leek, Smith, Bracy Davis, Martin, Truenow, Brodeur, Massullo, Trumbull, Burgess, Mayfield, Wright, Calatayud, McClain, Yarborough, Davis, Nathan

Nays—None

MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Brodeur, the House was requested to pass SB 2506-E as passed by the Senate, or agree to include the bill in the budget conference.

MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Brodeur, by two-thirds vote, SB 2508-E was withdrawn from the Committee on Appropriations, and by unanimous consent, taken up instanter.

On motion by Senator Brodeur, by two-thirds vote—

SB 2508-E—A bill to be entitled An act relating to the state agency law enforcement radio system; amending ss. 318.18 and 318.21, F.S.; abrogating the scheduled expiration of provisions relating to the remission of surcharges for specified criminal offenses and noncriminal moving traffic violations to the Department of Revenue to fund the state agency law enforcement radio system and to provide technical assistance with respect to statewide systems of regional law enforcement communications; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title. On motion by Senator Brodeur, by two-thirds vote, SB 2508-E was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—32

Table with 3 columns: Mr. President, Gaetz, Passidomo, Arrington, Garcia, Pizzo, Avila, Harrell, Rodriguez, Berman, Hooper, Rouson, Bernard, Jones, Simon, Boyd, Leek, Smith, Bracy Davis, Martin, Truenow, Brodeur, Massullo, Trumbull, Burgess, Mayfield, Wright, Calatayud, McClain, Yarborough, Davis, Nathan

Nays—None

MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Brodeur, the House was requested to pass SB 2508-E as passed by the Senate, or agree to include the bill in the budget conference.

MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Garcia, by two-thirds vote, SB 2512-E was withdrawn from the Committee on Appropriations, and by unanimous consent, taken up instanter.

On motion by Senator Garcia, by two-thirds vote—

SB 2512-E—A bill to be entitled An act relating to judges; amending s. 26.031, F.S.; increasing the number of circuit judges in certain judicial circuits; amending s. 34.022, F.S.; increasing the number of county court judges in certain counties; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title. On motion by Senator Garcia, by two-thirds vote, SB 2512-E was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—32

Table with 3 columns: Mr. President, Gaetz, Passidomo, Arrington, Garcia, Pizzo, Avila, Harrell, Rodriguez, Berman, Hooper, Rouson, Bernard, Jones, Simon, Boyd, Leek, Smith, Bracy Davis, Martin, Truenow, Brodeur, Massullo, Trumbull, Burgess, Mayfield, Wright, Calatayud, McClain, Yarborough, Davis, Nathan

Nays—None

MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Garcia, the House was requested to pass SB 2512-E as passed by the Senate, or agree to include the bill in the budget conference.

MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Burgess, by two-thirds vote, SB 2514-E was withdrawn from the Committee on Appropriations, and by unanimous consent, taken up instanter.

On motion by Senator Burgess, by two-thirds vote—

**SB 2514-E**—A bill to be entitled An act relating to Pre-K-12 education; amending s. 1002.411, F.S.; revising conditions under which a specified scholarship account's funds revert to the state; amending s. 1011.62, F.S.; providing a supplement for districts that have a decline in enrollment; requiring that fiscally constrained districts receive a higher calculation than non-fiscally constrained districts; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title. On motion by Senator Burgess, by two-thirds vote, **SB 2514-E** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—32

|               |          |            |
|---------------|----------|------------|
| Mr. President | Gaetz    | Passidomo  |
| Arrington     | Garcia   | Pizzo      |
| Avila         | Harrell  | Rodriguez  |
| Berman        | Hooper   | Rouson     |
| Bernard       | Jones    | Simon      |
| Boyd          | Leek     | Smith      |
| Bracy Davis   | Martin   | Truenow    |
| Brodeur       | Massullo | Trumbull   |
| Burgess       | Mayfield | Wright     |
| Calatayud     | McClain  | Yarborough |
| Davis         | Nathan   |            |

Nays—None

## MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Burgess, the House was requested to pass **SB 2514-E** as passed by the Senate, or agree to include the bill in the budget conference.

## MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Passidomo, the rules were waived and time of adjournment was extended until completion of today's business.

## MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

### FIRST READING

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed HB 7031E and requests that the Senate pass the bill as passed by the House or agree to include the bill in the budget conference.

*Jeff Takaacs, Clerk*

By Representative(s) Duggan—

**HB 7031-E**—A bill to be entitled An act relating to taxation; amending s. 163.387, F.S.; providing that certain special districts are exempt from specified appropriation requirements; amending s. 193.155, F.S.; conforming provisions to align with the State Constitution; providing applicability; creating s. 193.626, F.S.; defining the terms "mobile home park" and "mobile home lot"; requiring certain property be assessed in a specified manner; providing applicability; amending s. 196.011, F.S.; requiring a notice of disapproval to be served before a specified event in certain circumstances; amending s. 196.012, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "governmental purpose"; providing applicability; amending s. 196.061, F.S.; providing that the prohibition on rental of a homestead does not apply to specified individuals; requiring such individuals to provide certain documentation; providing applicability; amending ss. 196.151 and 196.193, F.S.; requiring a notice of disapproval to be served before a specified event in certain circumstances; providing applicability; amending s. 196.19781, F.S.; authorizing property to continue receiving a specified property tax exemption under certain circumstances; providing applicability; amending s. 200.065, F.S.; revising the circumstances under which a specified

millage rate may be adopted; providing applicability; amending s. 212.03, F.S.; defining the terms "advertising platform" and "vacation rental"; requiring advertising platforms to collect and remit specified taxes for certain vacation rental transactions; requiring certain entities to allow advertising platforms to register, collect, and remit such taxes; amending s. 212.08, F.S.; revising the types of portable gas cans eligible for a certain sales tax exemption; revising the exemption period for a specified sales tax holiday; providing definitions; providing a sales tax exemption for certain home hardening products; requiring such exemption be in the form of a specified refund; providing requirements for such refund; providing requirements for the Department of Revenue in issuing such refunds; authorizing the department to adopt emergency rules; specifying the timeframe such rules are effective; providing for future repeal; amending s. 212.1832, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "motor vehicle"; providing for future repeal; amending s. 220.02, F.S.; revising the order in which certain credits are intended to be applied to incorporate changes made by the act; amending s. 220.03, F.S.; amending the definition of "Internal Revenue Code"; amending s. 220.13, F.S.; providing for retroactive application; authorizing the Department of Revenue to adopt rules; authorizing the Department of Revenue to adopt emergency rules; amending s. 220.13, F.S.; requiring the addition of the amount taken for a specified credit to taxable income; creating s. 220.1856, F.S.; providing a credit against the corporate income tax for certain contributions beginning on a specified date; authorizing the credit on a consolidated return basis under certain circumstances; providing applicability; amending s. 220.1915, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "qualifying railroad"; amending s. 402.261, F.S.; revising fiscal years subject to a specified maximum tax credit; prohibiting tax credits for specified fiscal years from being approved; amending s. 402.62, F.S.; providing that a taxpayer may not apply for a Strong Families Tax Credit greater than a specified amount; providing the maximum tax credits authorized to be allocated to a single charity during a specified time period; providing a directive to the Division of Law Revision; creating part VII of ch. 420, F.S.; creating s. 420.951, F.S.; providing definitions; creating s. 420.952, F.S.; authorizing certain taxpayers to receive a tax credit for specified contributions; providing requirements for the use of such credit; requiring a taxpayer to submit a certain application beginning on a specified date; requiring the application include specified information and documentation; authorizing the tax credit to be used against certain taxes; requiring the Department of Revenue to approve applications in a specified manner; providing the maximum amount of credits authorized for specified fiscal years; authorizing unused credits to carryforward for a specified period of time in certain circumstances; prohibiting the sale or transfer of certain tax credits; authorizing the department to adopt rules; providing for future repeal; providing construction; amending s. 551.106, F.S.; providing that certain permitholders are exempt from a specified license fee; revising downward the tax rate on certain slot machine revenues; amending s. 563.01, F.S.; defining the terms "American brewery" and "foreign import malt beverage"; amending s. 563.05, F.S.; revising excise taxes paid on certain malt beverages; providing for future repeal; amending s. 624.509, F.S.; revising the order in which certain credits are intended to be applied to incorporate changes made by the act; creating s. 624.51065, F.S.; providing a credit against insurance premium taxes for certain contributions beginning on a specified date; providing construction; providing applicability; amending s. 626.932, F.S.; creating an exemption from a specified tax for certain insurance coverage; defining the term "flood"; providing for future repeal; amending s. 689.261, F.S.; defining the terms "listing platform" and "property"; requiring certain listings to include estimated ad valorem taxes; prohibiting the current owner's ad valorem taxes from being displayed or used for certain purposes; providing an exception; providing requirements for listing platforms, the Department of Revenue, and property appraisers; providing protection from liability for specified parties who take certain actions; prohibiting certain materials from including specified information; requiring, beginning on a specified date, the department to annually publish a formula, countywide aggregate millage rate, and certain information on its website; authorizing the department to adopt rules; amending s. 849.086, F.S.; revising downward a certain tax paid by cardroom operators on certain receipts; creating a sales tax exemption for sales of certain items during a specified time period; authorizing the Department of Revenue to adopt emergency rules for specified purposes; providing for future repeal; providing a sales tax exemption for certain property leased to private entities by Space Florida; providing emergency rulemaking authority; creating a sales tax exemption for certain firearm accessories; defining the term "firearm"; creating a sales tax exemption for specified hunting,

fishing, and camping products; providing definitions; authorizing the Department of Revenue to adopt emergency rules; specifying the timeframe such rules are effective; amending chapter 2024-159, Laws of Florida, extending by 3 years an exemption from excise taxes for certain notes and written obligations; providing effective dates.

—was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

**MOTIONS**

On motion by Senator Avila, by two-thirds vote, **HB 7031-E** was withdrawn from the Committee on Appropriations, and by unanimous consent, taken up *instanter*.

On motion by Senator Avila, by two-thirds vote—

**HB 7031-E**—A bill to be entitled An act relating to taxation; amending s. 163.387, F.S.; providing that certain special districts are exempt from specified appropriation requirements; amending s. 193.155, F.S.; conforming provisions to align with the State Constitution; providing applicability; creating s. 193.626, F.S.; defining the terms “mobile home park” and “mobile home lot”; requiring certain property be assessed in a specified manner; providing applicability; amending s. 196.011, F.S.; requiring a notice of disapproval to be served before a specified event in certain circumstances; amending s. 196.012, F.S.; revising the definition of the term “governmental purpose”; providing applicability; amending s. 196.061, F.S.; providing that the prohibition on rental of a homestead does not apply to specified individuals; requiring such individuals to provide certain documentation; providing applicability; amending ss. 196.151 and 196.193, F.S.; requiring a notice of disapproval to be served before a specified event in certain circumstances; providing applicability; amending s. 196.19781, F.S.; authorizing property to continue receiving a specified property tax exemption under certain circumstances; providing applicability; amending s. 200.065, F.S.; revising the circumstances under which a specified millage rate may be adopted; providing applicability; amending s. 212.03, F.S.; defining the terms “advertising platform” and “vacation rental”; requiring advertising platforms to collect and remit specified taxes for certain vacation rental transactions; requiring certain entities to allow advertising platforms to register, collect, and remit such taxes; amending s. 212.08, F.S.; revising the types of portable gas cans eligible for a certain sales tax exemption; revising the exemption period for a specified sales tax holiday; providing definitions; providing a sales tax exemption for certain home hardening products; requiring such exemption be in the form of a specified refund; providing requirements for such refund; providing requirements for the Department of Revenue in issuing such refunds; authorizing the department to adopt emergency rules; specifying the timeframe such rules are effective; providing for future repeal; amending s. 212.1832, F.S.; revising the definition of the term “motor vehicle”; providing for future repeal; amending s. 220.02, F.S.; revising the order in which certain credits are intended to be applied to incorporate changes made by the act; amending s. 220.03, F.S.; amending the definition of “Internal Revenue Code”; amending s. 220.13, F.S.; providing for retroactive application; authorizing the Department of Revenue to adopt rules; authorizing the Department of Revenue to adopt emergency rules; amending s. 220.13, F.S.; requiring the addition of the amount taken for a specified credit to taxable income; creating s. 220.1856, F.S.; providing a credit against the corporate income tax for certain contributions beginning on a specified date; authorizing the credit on a consolidated return basis under certain circumstances; providing applicability; amending s. 220.1915, F.S.; revising the definition of the term “qualifying railroad”; amending s. 402.261, F.S.; revising fiscal years subject to a specified maximum tax credit; prohibiting tax credits for specified fiscal years from being approved; amending s. 402.62, F.S.; providing that a taxpayer may not apply for a Strong Families Tax Credit greater than a specified amount; providing the maximum tax credits authorized to be allocated to a single charity during a specified time period; providing a directive to the Division of Law Revision; creating part VII of ch. 420, F.S.; creating s. 420.951, F.S.; providing definitions; creating s. 420.952, F.S., authorizing certain taxpayers to receive a tax credit for specified contributions; providing requirements for the use of such credit; requiring a taxpayer to submit a certain application beginning on a specified date; requiring the application include specified information and documentation; authorizing the tax credit to be used against certain taxes; requiring the Department of Revenue to approve applications in a specified manner; providing the maximum amount of credits authorized for specified fiscal years; authorizing unused credits to carryforward for a specified period

of time in certain circumstances; prohibiting the sale or transfer of certain tax credits; authorizing the department to adopt rules; providing for future repeal; providing construction; amending s. 551.106, F.S.; providing that certain permitholders are exempt from a specified license fee; revising downward the tax rate on certain slot machine revenues; amending s. 563.01, F.S.; defining the terms “American brewery” and “foreign import malt beverage”; amending s. 563.05, F.S.; revising excise taxes paid on certain malt beverages; providing for future repeal; amending s. 624.509, F.S.; revising the order in which certain credits are intended to be applied to incorporate changes made by the act; creating s. 624.51065, F.S.; providing a credit against insurance premium taxes for certain contributions beginning on a specified date; providing construction; providing applicability; amending s. 626.932, F.S.; creating an exemption from a specified tax for certain insurance coverage; defining the term “flood”; providing for future repeal; amending s. 689.261, F.S.; defining the terms “listing platform” and “property”; requiring certain listings to include estimated ad valorem taxes; prohibiting the current owner’s ad valorem taxes from being displayed or used for certain purposes; providing an exception; providing requirements for listing platforms, the Department of Revenue, and property appraisers; providing protection from liability for specified parties who take certain actions; prohibiting certain materials from including specified information; requiring, beginning on a specified date, the department to annually publish a formula, countywide aggregate millage rate, and certain information on its website; authorizing the department to adopt rules; amending s. 849.086, F.S.; revising downward a certain tax paid by cardroom operators on certain receipts; creating a sales tax exemption for sales of certain items during a specified time period; authorizing the Department of Revenue to adopt emergency rules for specified purposes; providing for future repeal; providing a sales tax exemption for certain property leased to private entities by Space Florida; providing emergency rulemaking authority; creating a sales tax exemption for certain firearm accessories; defining the term “firearm”; creating a sales tax exemption for specified hunting, fishing, and camping products; providing definitions; authorizing the Department of Revenue to adopt emergency rules; specifying the timeframe such rules are effective; amending chapter 2024-159, Laws of Florida, extending by 3 years an exemption from excise taxes for certain notes and written obligations; providing effective dates.

—was read the second time by title.

Senator Avila moved the following amendment which was adopted:

**Amendment 1 (629710) (with title amendment)**—Delete everything after the enacting clause.

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause.

On motion by Senator Avila, by two-thirds vote, **HB 7031-E**, as amended, was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—32

|               |          |            |
|---------------|----------|------------|
| Mr. President | Gaetz    | Passidomo  |
| Arrington     | Garcia   | Pizzo      |
| Avila         | Harrell  | Rodriguez  |
| Berman        | Hooper   | Rouson     |
| Bernard       | Jones    | Simon      |
| Boyd          | Leek     | Smith      |
| Bracy Davis   | Martin   | Truenow    |
| Brodeur       | Massullo | Trumbull   |
| Burgess       | Mayfield | Wright     |
| Calatayud     | McClain  | Yarborough |
| Davis         | Nathan   |            |

Nays—None

**MOTIONS**

On motion by Senator Avila, the Senate having refused to pass **HB 7031-E** as passed by the House, acceded to the request for a budget conference.

FIRST READING

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed HB 5701E and requests that the Senate pass the bill as passed by the House or agree to include the bill in the budget conference.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

By Representative(s) Snyder—

HB 5701-E—A bill to be entitled An act relating to petroleum cleanup programs; amending ss. 376.3071 and 376.3072 F.S.; removing the 2025-2026 fiscal year limitation on prohibiting certain deductibles and copays, prohibiting enforcement of certain monetary caps, requiring that certain costs be absorbed at the expense of the Inland Protection Trust Fund, and providing exceptions; providing an effective date.

—was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Brodeur, by two-thirds vote, HB 5701-E was withdrawn from the Committee on Appropriations, and by unanimous consent, taken up instanter.

On motion by Senator Brodeur, by two-thirds vote—

HB 5701-E—A bill to be entitled An act relating to petroleum cleanup programs; amending ss. 376.3071 and 376.3072 F.S.; removing the 2025-2026 fiscal year limitation on prohibiting certain deductibles and copays, prohibiting enforcement of certain monetary caps, requiring that certain costs be absorbed at the expense of the Inland Protection Trust Fund, and providing exceptions; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Senator Brodeur moved the following amendment which was adopted:

Amendment 1 (446536) (with title amendment)—Delete everything after the enacting clause.

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause.

On motion by Senator Brodeur, by two-thirds vote, HB 5701-E, as amended, was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—32

|               |          |            |
|---------------|----------|------------|
| Mr. President | Gaetz    | Passidomo  |
| Arrington     | Garcia   | Pizzo      |
| Avila         | Harrell  | Rodriguez  |
| Berman        | Hooper   | Rouson     |
| Bernard       | Jones    | Simon      |
| Boyd          | Leek     | Smith      |
| Bracy Davis   | Martin   | Truenow    |
| Brodeur       | Massullo | Trumbull   |
| Burgess       | Mayfield | Wright     |
| Calatayud     | McClain  | Yarborough |
| Davis         | Nathan   |            |

Nays—None

MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Brodeur, the Senate having refused to pass HB 5701-E as passed by the House, acceded to the request for a budget conference.

FIRST READING

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed HB 5203E and requests that the Senate pass the bill as passed by the House or agree to include the bill in the budget conference.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

By Representative(s) Miller—

HB 5203-E—A bill to be entitled An act relating to government administration; amending s. 11.26, F.S.; revising the employees required to have permission of the presiding officers of both houses before accepting certain employment; amending s. 11.40, F.S.; revising duties of the Legislative Auditing Committee, the Department of Revenue, and the Department of Financial Services relating to the failure of certain entities to comply with specified auditing and financial reporting requirements; revising procedures that the Department of Revenue and the Department of Financial Services may take upon receipt of certain advice; removing Legislative Auditing Committee procedures for conducting audits; creating s. 11.405, F.S.; creating the Florida Accountability Office within the Legislature for specified purposes; providing for the administration of such office in a specified manner; providing that the office shall consist of certain units; providing leadership selection and terms of office for certain such units; providing responsibilities and organization of certain units; providing requirements for actions between and among such units; providing the office location; requiring the Legislature to provide certain administrative support; providing requirements for spending decisions and budgeting; requiring the office to employ persons for a specified purpose; requiring the office to make certain employment-related decisions with the approval of specified persons; prohibiting certain officers and employees of the office from certain activities relating to political parties and candidates; requiring certain parties to resign before becoming a candidate for election; creating s. 11.406, F.S.; defining the terms "appropriations project" and "investigation"; providing procedures for submitting complaints; providing procedures to be taken by the Public Integrity Division upon receipt of a complaint; authorizing the division to inspect and investigate certain items and locations; authorizing the division to agree to retain the confidentiality of such information; authorizing specified entities to issue subpoenas in a certain manner; providing procedures for the enforcement of such subpoenas; requiring the division to receive certain reports; requiring the Auditor General and the division to randomly select and review, investigate, or audit certain projects and entities beginning in a specified fiscal year; providing requirements for such reviews, investigations, and audits; requiring the Auditor General to make certain determinations about recommended audits; requiring such determinations be reported to the Joint Legislative Auditing Committee; creating s. 11.407, F.S.; requiring the General Accountability Division of the office to conduct certain operational and compliance audits beginning on a specified date; authorizing the division to assist other units of the office in conducting certain audits and investigations; amending s. 11.42, F.S.; revising a requirement that the Auditor General possess certain requirements; requiring a deputy director of auditing who possesses certain qualifications be appointed in certain circumstances; requiring the Auditor General to consult with certain entities for a specified purpose; requiring the Auditor General to adopt certain rules; revising rulemaking authority of the Auditor General; amending s. 11.45, F.S.; defining the term "compliance audit"; revising the definition of the term "operational audit"; providing that duties of the office are independent of an audited entity; revising the entities authorized to direct the office to conduct an audit or engagement; revising the frequency with which audits and engagements may be conducted; specifying that certain provisions apply to examinations and investigations; authorizing a designated representative of the office to discuss an audit, examination, or investigation with certain officials; providing an alternate deadline for responses to findings; revising the circumstances under which the Legislative Auditing Committee is notified of the failure of certain school boards and institutions to take corrective action; amending ss. 11.47 and 11.51, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 14.32, F.S.; revising the entities with whom the Chief Inspector General is required to report and cooperate; amending s. 112.3187, F.S.; revising legislative intent; revising the types of disclosures that receive certain protections; amending s. 112.3188, F.S.; providing that the office is included in

certain confidentiality provisions; revising the types of disclosures that receive certain protections; revising the reports that receive certain confidential protection to include reports of certain suspected acts; revising the entities authorized to receive certain confidential information; amending s. 112.3189, F.S.; including the office in the list of entities required to conduct certain investigations in a specified manner; providing that specified persons may determine that an investigation is not required; requiring certain information from the whistle-blower's hotline be communicated to the office at least once per month; requiring such information be maintained in a certain manner; amending s. 112.31901, F.S.; authorizing the office to review certain records; amending s. 112.3215, F.S.; revising how certain documents and information may be accessed for audits and examinations; amending s. 112.324, F.S.; authorizing additional entities to refer matters to the Commission on Ethics; amending s. 216.011, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "fixed capital outlay"; amending s. 216.023, F.S.; revising the frequency with which a state agency must submit its legislative budget request; repealing s. 216.052, F.S., relating to community budget requests and appropriations; amending s. 216.137, F.S.; requiring certain workpapers be posted on a public website a certain time before a meeting or session; amending s. 216.177, F.S.; revising the circumstances under which a specified notification regarding spending authority may be made; amending s. 216.192, F.S.; providing that the approval of annual release plans is a budget action; amending s. 261.222, F.S.; revising conditions under which money may be provided for a state emergency; amending s. 216.262, F.S.; requiring the use of the most recent removing the expiration of a certain procedure; amending s. 216.292, F.S.; authorizing specified appropriations to be transferred between certain entities under certain circumstances; authorizing the Executive Office of the Governor to transfer certain funds for a specified purpose; providing that certain transfers and adjustments are subject to specified procedures; removing the expiration of a certain review of transfers; removing a requirement that the Legislature authorize certain transfers; amending ss. 409.8134 and 409.902, F.S.; authorizing specified entities to submit budget amendments in a certain manner; amending ss. 20.055 and 760.06, F.S.; requiring each state agency to review and report certain rules to the Joint Legislative Auditing Committee; requiring the Auditor General, the Joint Legislative Auditing Committee, and the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability to jointly review certain audit requirements and deliver a report to certain entities by a specified date; requiring the report to contain certain information; authorizing the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives to provide certain personnel and support for a specified purpose; authorizing the Administrative Procedures Committee and the Division of Law Revision to provide certain assistance for a specified purpose; providing effective dates.

—was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

## MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Brodeur, by two-thirds vote, **HB 5203-E** was withdrawn from the Committee on Appropriations, and by unanimous consent, taken up *instanter*.

On motion by Senator Brodeur, by two-thirds vote—

**HB 5203-E**—A bill to be entitled An act relating to government administration; amending s. 11.26, F.S.; revising the employees required to have permission of the presiding officers of both houses before accepting certain employment; amending s. 11.40, F.S.; revising duties of the Legislative Auditing Committee, the Department of Revenue, and the Department of Financial Services relating to the failure of certain entities to comply with specified auditing and financial reporting requirements; revising procedures that the Department of Revenue and the Department of Financial Services may take upon receipt of certain advice; removing Legislative Auditing Committee procedures for conducting audits; creating s. 11.405, F.S.; creating the Florida Accountability Office within the Legislature for specified purposes; providing for the administration of such office in a specified manner; providing that the office shall consist of certain units; providing leadership selection and terms of office for certain such units; providing responsibilities and organization of certain units; providing requirements for actions between and among such units; providing the office location; requiring the Legislature to provide certain administrative support; providing requirements for spending decisions and budgeting; requiring the office to

employ persons for a specified purpose; requiring the office to make certain employment-related decisions with the approval of specified persons; prohibiting certain officers and employees of the office from certain activities relating to political parties and candidates; requiring certain parties to resign before becoming a candidate for election; creating s. 11.406, F.S.; defining the terms "appropriations project" and "investigation"; providing procedures for submitting complaints; providing procedures to be taken by the Public Integrity Division upon receipt of a complaint; authorizing the division to inspect and investigate certain items and locations; authorizing the division to agree to retain the confidentiality of such information; authorizing specified entities to issue subpoenas in a certain manner; providing procedures for the enforcement of such subpoenas; requiring the division to receive certain reports; requiring the Auditor General and the division to randomly select and review, investigate, or audit certain projects and entities beginning in a specified fiscal year; providing requirements for such reviews, investigations, and audits; requiring the Auditor General to make certain determinations about recommended audits; requiring such determinations be reported to the Joint Legislative Auditing Committee; creating s. 11.407, F.S.; requiring the General Accountability Division of the office to conduct certain operational and compliance audits beginning on a specified date; authorizing the division to assist other units of the office in conducting certain audits and investigations; amending s. 11.42, F.S.; revising a requirement that the Auditor General possess certain requirements; requiring a deputy director of auditing who possesses certain qualifications be appointed in certain circumstances; requiring the Auditor General to consult with certain entities for a specified purpose; requiring the Auditor General to adopt certain rules; revising rulemaking authority of the Auditor General; amending s. 11.45, F.S.; defining the term "compliance audit"; revising the definition of the term "operational audit"; providing that duties of the office are independent of an audited entity; revising the entities authorized to direct the office to conduct an audit or engagement; revising the frequency with which audits and engagements may be conducted; specifying that certain provisions apply to examinations and investigations; authorizing a designated representative of the office to discuss an audit, examination, or investigation with certain officials; providing an alternate deadline for responses to findings; revising the circumstances under which the Legislative Auditing Committee is notified of the failure of certain school boards and institutions to take corrective action; amending ss. 11.47 and 11.51, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 14.32, F.S.; revising the entities with whom the Chief Inspector General is required to report and cooperate; amending s. 112.3187, F.S.; revising legislative intent; revising the types of disclosures that receive certain protections; amending s. 112.3188, F.S.; providing that the office is included in certain confidentiality provisions; revising the types of disclosures that receive certain protections; revising the reports that receive certain confidential protection to include reports of certain suspected acts; revising the entities authorized to receive certain confidential information; amending s. 112.3189, F.S.; including the office in the list of entities required to conduct certain investigations in a specified manner; providing that specified persons may determine that an investigation is not required; requiring certain information from the whistle-blower's hotline be communicated to the office at least once per month; requiring such information be maintained in a certain manner; amending s. 112.31901, F.S.; authorizing the office to review certain records; amending s. 112.3215, F.S.; revising how certain documents and information may be accessed for audits and examinations; amending s. 112.324, F.S.; authorizing additional entities to refer matters to the Commission on Ethics; amending s. 216.011, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "fixed capital outlay"; amending s. 216.023, F.S.; revising the frequency with which a state agency must submit its legislative budget request; repealing s. 216.052, F.S., relating to community budget requests and appropriations; amending s. 216.137, F.S.; requiring certain workpapers be posted on a public website a certain time before a meeting or session; amending s. 216.177, F.S.; revising the circumstances under which a specified notification regarding spending authority may be made; amending s. 216.192, F.S.; providing that the approval of annual release plans is a budget action; amending s. 261.222, F.S.; revising conditions under which money may be provided for a state emergency; amending s. 216.262, F.S.; requiring the use of the most recent removing the expiration of a certain procedure; amending s. 216.292, F.S.; authorizing specified appropriations to be transferred between certain entities under certain circumstances; authorizing the Executive Office of the Governor to transfer certain funds for a specified purpose; providing that certain transfers and adjust-

ments are subject to specified procedures; removing the expiration of a certain review of transfers; removing a requirement that the Legislature authorize certain transfers; amending ss. 409.8134 and 409.902, F.S.; authorizing specified entities to submit budget amendments in a certain manner; amending ss. 20.055 and 760.06, F.S.; requiring each state agency to review and report certain rules to the Joint Legislative Auditing Committee; requiring the Auditor General, the Joint Legislative Auditing Committee, and the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability to jointly review certain audit requirements and deliver a report to certain entities by a specified date; requiring the report to contain certain information; authorizing the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives to provide certain personnel and support for a specified purpose; authorizing the Administrative Procedures Committee and the Division of Law Revision to provide certain assistance for a specified purpose; providing effective dates.

—was read the second time by title.

Senator Brodeur moved the following amendment which was adopted:

**Amendment 1 (235832) (with title amendment)**—Delete everything after the enacting clause.

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause.

On motion by Senator Brodeur, by two-thirds vote, **HB 5203-E**, as amended, was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—32

|               |          |            |
|---------------|----------|------------|
| Mr. President | Gaetz    | Passidomo  |
| Arrington     | Garcia   | Pizzo      |
| Avila         | Harrell  | Rodriguez  |
| Berman        | Hooper   | Rouson     |
| Bernard       | Jones    | Simon      |
| Boyd          | Leek     | Smith      |
| Bracy Davis   | Martin   | Truenow    |
| Brodeur       | Massullo | Trumbull   |
| Burgess       | Mayfield | Wright     |
| Calatayud     | McClain  | Yarborough |
| Davis         | Nathan   |            |

Nays—None

**MOTIONS**

On motion by Senator Brodeur, the Senate having refused to pass **HB 5203-E** as passed by the House, acceded to the request for a budget conference.

**FIRST READING**

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed HB 5207E and requests that the Senate pass the bill as passed by the House or agree to include the bill in the budget conference.

*Jeff Takacs*, Clerk

By Representative(s) Abbott—

**HB 5207-E**—A bill to be entitled An act relating to the Department of Management Services; amending s. 110.12315, F.S.; revising the plan year for which the department must implement formulary management for prescription drugs and supplies under the state employees' prescription drug program; removing a requirement that certain prescription drugs be made available for inclusion in the program formulary; prohibiting coverage of certain prescription drugs and supplies under the program; revising the date by which the department must submit a list of prescription drugs and supplies excluded from coverage

under the program to the Governor and Legislature; creating s. 110.12316, F.S.; defining the term "state agency"; requiring the department to make a certain administrative health insurance assessment against each state agency; providing applicability of and requirements for such assessments; amending s. 110.605, F.S.; removing a requirement that the department develop a program to ensure positions for women and minorities in the Selected Exempt Service; amending s. 272.04, F.S.; specifying that the Governor, the Cabinet officers, and the Legislature are permanent tenants of the Capitol Complex; providing requirements for modifications of interior spaces allocated to such tenants and the use of vacant interior spaces within the complex; amending s. 272.09, F.S.; revising the definitions of the terms "Capitol Complex" and "Memorial Park"; requiring the department to manage, maintain, and upkeep the Mayo Building after the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services vacates the building; requiring the department to consult with and receive the approval of tenants for certain projects within the Capitol Center; requiring the department to consider certain factors for projects that impact legislative spaces; authorizing the Legislature to make modifications to allocated spaces; requiring the department to receive approval from the Legislature for certain projects before including such projects in a specified report; amending s. 272.121, F.S.; requiring the department to solicit feedback from specified entities in the development of long-range planning for the Capitol Center; amending s. 272.16, F.S.; providing requirements for the assignment or reduction of parking spaces allocated to the Legislature within the Capitol Center; amending s. 287.012, F.S.; removing the definition of the term "minority business enterprise"; amending s. 287.042, F.S.; removing provisions authorizing the Office of Supplier Diversity to monitor the state procurement system for the use of minority business enterprises and to consult with the department on procedures for such procurement; repealing s. 287.0943, F.S., relating to the certification of minority business enterprises; repealing s. 287.09431, F.S., relating to statewide and interlocal agreements on certification of business concerns for the status of minority business enterprises; amending s. 287.09451, F.S.; renaming the Office of Supplier Diversity as the Office of Supplier Development; removing legislative intent provisions relating to the participation of minority business enterprises in the state procurement system; providing powers, duties, and functions of the office relating to the participation of Florida-based small business enterprises in the state procurement system; removing provisions authorizing the Office of Supplier Diversity to adopt certain rules and take certain actions relating to compliance with the department's minority business enterprise procurement goals; repealing s. 287.0947, F.S., relating to the Florida Advisory Council on Small and Minority Business Development; amending s. 288.706, F.S.; removing provisions requiring the department to administer the Florida Minority Business Loan Mobilization Program, maintain a listing of certain financial institutions, and collaborate with the Department of Commerce in the development and enhancement of black business enterprises; amending ss. 318.18 and 318.21, F.S.; removing the expiration date for the disposition of specified proceeds used for law enforcement communication systems; amending ss. 17.11, 24.113, 212.096, 255.101, 255.102, 287.055, 287.057, 287.094, 288.1167, 288.703, 376.3072, 376.84, 473.3065, and 1001.706, F.S.; conforming cross-references and provisions to changes made by the act; providing an effective date.

—was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

**MOTIONS**

On motion by Senator Brodeur, by two-thirds vote, **HB 5207-E** was withdrawn from the Committee on Appropriations, and by unanimous consent, taken up instanter.

On motion by Senator Brodeur, by two-thirds vote—

**HB 5207-E**—A bill to be entitled An act relating to the Department of Management Services; amending s. 110.12315, F.S.; revising the plan year for which the department must implement formulary management for prescription drugs and supplies under the state employees' prescription drug program; removing a requirement that certain prescription drugs be made available for inclusion in the program formulary; prohibiting coverage of certain prescription drugs and supplies under the program; revising the date by which the department must submit a list of prescription drugs and supplies excluded from coverage under the program to the Governor and Legislature; creating s.

110.12316, F.S.; defining the term "state agency"; requiring the department to make a certain administrative health insurance assessment against each state agency; providing applicability of and requirements for such assessments; amending s. 110.605, F.S.; removing a requirement that the department develop a program to ensure positions for women and minorities in the Selected Exempt Service; amending s. 272.04, F.S.; specifying that the Governor, the Cabinet officers, and the Legislature are permanent tenants of the Capitol Complex; providing requirements for modifications of interior spaces allocated to such tenants and the use of vacant interior spaces within the complex; amending s. 272.09, F.S.; revising the definitions of the terms "Capitol Complex" and "Memorial Park"; requiring the department to manage, maintain, and upkeep the Mayo Building after the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services vacates the building; requiring the department to consult with and receive the approval of tenants for certain projects within the Capitol Center; requiring the department to consider certain factors for projects that impact legislative spaces; authorizing the Legislature to make modifications to allocated spaces; requiring the department to receive approval from the Legislature for certain projects before including such projects in a specified report; amending s. 272.121, F.S.; requiring the department to solicit feedback from specified entities in the development of long-range planning for the Capitol Center; amending s. 272.16, F.S.; providing requirements for the assignment or reduction of parking spaces allocated to the Legislature within the Capitol Center; amending s. 287.012, F.S.; removing the definition of the term "minority business enterprise"; amending s. 287.042, F.S.; removing provisions authorizing the Office of Supplier Diversity to monitor the state procurement system for the use of minority business enterprises and to consult with the department on procedures for such procurement; repealing s. 287.0943, F.S., relating to the certification of minority business enterprises; repealing s. 287.09431, F.S., relating to statewide and interlocal agreements on certification of business concerns for the status of minority business enterprises; amending s. 287.09451, F.S.; renaming the Office of Supplier Diversity as the Office of Supplier Development; removing legislative intent provisions relating to the participation of minority business enterprises in the state procurement system; providing powers, duties, and functions of the office relating to the participation of Florida-based small business enterprises in the state procurement system; removing provisions authorizing the Office of Supplier Diversity to adopt certain rules and take certain actions relating to compliance with the department's minority business enterprise procurement goals; repealing s. 287.0947, F.S., relating to the Florida Advisory Council on Small and Minority Business Development; amending s. 288.706, F.S.; removing provisions requiring the department to administer the Florida Minority Business Loan Mobilization Program, maintain a listing of certain financial institutions, and collaborate with the Department of Commerce in the development and enhancement of black business enterprises; amending ss. 318.18 and 318.21, F.S.; removing the expiration date for the disposition of specified proceeds used for law enforcement communication systems; amending ss. 17.11, 24.113, 212.096, 255.101, 255.102, 287.055, 287.057, 287.094, 288.1167, 288.703, 376.3072, 376.84, 473.3065, and 1001.706, F.S.; conforming cross-references and provisions to changes made by the act; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Senator Brodeur moved the following amendment which was adopted:

**Amendment 1 (342698) (with title amendment)**—Delete everything after the enacting clause.

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause.

On motion by Senator Brodeur, by two-thirds vote, **HB 5207-E**, as amended, was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—32

|               |             |           |
|---------------|-------------|-----------|
| Mr. President | Bernard     | Burgess   |
| Arrington     | Boyd        | Calatayud |
| Avila         | Bracy Davis | Davis     |
| Berman        | Brodeur     | Gaetz     |

|          |           |            |
|----------|-----------|------------|
| Garcia   | Mayfield  | Simon      |
| Harrell  | McClain   | Smith      |
| Hooper   | Nathan    | Truenow    |
| Jones    | Passidomo | Trumbull   |
| Leek     | Pizzo     | Wright     |
| Martin   | Rodriguez | Yarborough |
| Massullo | Rouson    |            |

Nays—None

**MOTIONS**

On motion by Senator Brodeur, the Senate having refused to pass **HB 5207-E** as passed by the House, acceded to the request for a budget conference.

**FIRST READING**

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed HB 5403E and requests that the Senate pass the bill as passed by the House or agree to include the bill in the budget conference.

*Jeff Takacs*, Clerk

By Representative(s) Maney—

**HB 5403-E**—A bill to be entitled An act relating to correctional facilities financing and capital improvements; creating s. 944.751, F.S.; providing legislative intent; providing an appropriation to the Department of Corrections; requiring appropriated funds to be used in a certain manner; requiring the department to begin the planning and design phase for the construction of certain facilities; requiring the department to make certain recommendations to the Legislature; requiring the department to contract with a construction management entity in certain circumstances; authorizing the Division of Bond Finance of the State Board of Administration to issue bonds for certain purposes; creating a financing oversight committee; providing membership and duties of the committee; providing an effective date.

—was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

**MOTIONS**

On motion by Senator Garcia, by two-thirds vote, **HB 5403-E** was withdrawn from the Committee on Appropriations, and by unanimous consent, taken up instanter.

On motion by Senator Garcia, by two-thirds vote—

**HB 5403-E**—A bill to be entitled An act relating to correctional facilities financing and capital improvements; creating s. 944.751, F.S.; providing legislative intent; providing an appropriation to the Department of Corrections; requiring appropriated funds to be used in a certain manner; requiring the department to begin the planning and design phase for the construction of certain facilities; requiring the department to make certain recommendations to the Legislature; requiring the department to contract with a construction management entity in certain circumstances; authorizing the Division of Bond Finance of the State Board of Administration to issue bonds for certain purposes; creating a financing oversight committee; providing membership and duties of the committee; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

**SENATOR BRODEUR PRESIDING**

Senator Garcia moved the following amendment which was adopted:

**Amendment 1 (589722) (with title amendment)**—Delete everything after the enacting clause.

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause.

On motion by Senator Garcia, by two-thirds vote, **HB 5403-E**, as amended, was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—31

|             |           |            |
|-------------|-----------|------------|
| Arrington   | Garcia    | Pizzo      |
| Avila       | Harrell   | Rodriguez  |
| Berman      | Hooper    | Rouson     |
| Bernard     | Jones     | Simon      |
| Boyd        | Leek      | Smith      |
| Bracy Davis | Martin    | Truenow    |
| Brodeur     | Massullo  | Trumbull   |
| Burgess     | Mayfield  | Wright     |
| Calatayud   | McClain   | Yarborough |
| Davis       | Nathan    |            |
| Gaetz       | Passidomo |            |

Nays—None

#### MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Garcia, the Senate having refused to pass **HB 5403-E** as passed by the House, acceded to the request for a budget conference.

#### FIRST READING

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed HB 5501E and requests that the Senate pass the bill as passed by the House or agree to include the bill in the budget conference.

*Jeff Takacs*, Clerk

By Representative(s) Shoaf—

**HB 5501-E**—A bill to be entitled An act relating to documentary stamp tax distributions; amending s. 201.15, F.S.; revising distribution of documentary stamp tax proceeds; amending s. 343.58, F.S.; prohibiting the transfer of specified funds to the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority; providing an effective date.

—was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

#### MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Hooper, by two-thirds vote, **HB 5501-E** was withdrawn from the Committee on Appropriations, and by unanimous consent, taken up instanter.

On motion by Senator Hooper, by two-thirds vote—

**HB 5501-E**—A bill to be entitled An act relating to documentary stamp tax distributions; amending s. 201.15, F.S.; revising distribution of documentary stamp tax proceeds; amending s. 343.58, F.S.; prohibiting the transfer of specified funds to the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Senator Hooper moved the following amendment which was adopted:

**Amendment 1 (665292) (with title amendment)**—Delete everything after the enacting clause.

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause.

On motion by Senator Hooper, by two-thirds vote, **HB 5501-E**, as amended, was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—32

|               |          |            |
|---------------|----------|------------|
| Mr. President | Gaetz    | Passidomo  |
| Arrington     | Garcia   | Pizzo      |
| Avila         | Harrell  | Rodriguez  |
| Berman        | Hooper   | Rouson     |
| Bernard       | Jones    | Simon      |
| Boyd          | Leek     | Smith      |
| Bracy Davis   | Martin   | Truenow    |
| Brodeur       | Massullo | Trumbull   |
| Burgess       | Mayfield | Wright     |
| Calatayud     | McClain  | Yarborough |
| Davis         | Nathan   |            |

Nays—None

#### MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Hooper, the Senate having refused to pass **HB 5501-E** as passed by the House, acceded to the request for a budget conference.

### CONSIDERATION OF FILED BILLS, continued

#### MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Hooper, by two-thirds vote, **SB 2500-E** was withdrawn from the Committee on Appropriations, and by unanimous consent, taken up instanter.

On motion by Senator Hooper, by two-thirds vote—

**SB 2500-E**—A bill to be entitled An act making appropriations; providing moneys for the annual period beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, and supplemental appropriations for the period ending June 30, 2026, to pay salaries, and other expenses, capital outlay - buildings, and other improvements, and for other specified purposes of the various agencies of state government; providing effective dates.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **SB 2500-E**—

### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

#### FIRST READING

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed HB 5001E and requests that the Senate pass the bill as passed by the House or agree to include the bill in the budget conference.

*Jeff Takacs*, Clerk

By Representative(s) McClure—

**HB 5001-E**—A bill to be entitled An act making appropriations; providing moneys for the annual period beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, and supplemental appropriations for the period ending June 30, 2026, to pay salaries and other expenses, capital outlay—buildings and other improvements, and for other specified purposes of the various agencies of state government; providing effective dates.

—was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

Pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **HB 5001-E** was withdrawn from the Committee on Appropriations.

On motion by Senator Hooper, by two-thirds vote—

**HB 5001-E**—A bill to be entitled An act making appropriations; providing moneys for the annual period beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, and supplemental appropriations for the period ending June 30, 2026, to pay salaries and other expenses, capital outlay—buildings and other improvements, and for other specified purposes of the various agencies of state government; providing effective dates.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **SB 2500-E** and by two-thirds vote, read the second time by title.

Senator Hooper moved the following amendment which was adopted:

**Amendment 1 (302688)**—Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Pursuant to Rule 7.6, **Amendment 1 (302688)** constituted an entirely new bill and was not published in the Journal.

On motion by Senator Hooper, by two-thirds vote, **HB 5001-E**, as amended, was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—32

|               |          |            |
|---------------|----------|------------|
| Mr. President | Gaetz    | Passidomo  |
| Arrington     | Garcia   | Pizzo      |
| Avila         | Harrell  | Rodriguez  |
| Berman        | Hooper   | Rouson     |
| Bernard       | Jones    | Simon      |
| Boyd          | Leek     | Smith      |
| Bracy Davis   | Martin   | Truenow    |
| Brodeur       | Massullo | Trumbull   |
| Burgess       | Mayfield | Wright     |
| Calatayud     | McClain  | Yarborough |
| Davis         | Nathan   |            |

Nays—None

**MOTIONS**

On motion by Senator Hooper, the Senate having refused to pass **HB 5001-E** as passed by the House, acceded to the request for a budget conference.

**MOTIONS**

On motion by Senator Hooper, by two-thirds vote, **SB 2502-E** was withdrawn from the Committee on Appropriations, and by unanimous consent, taken up instanter.

On motion by Senator Hooper, by two-thirds vote—

**SB 2502-E**—A bill to be entitled An act implementing the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act; providing legislative intent; incorporating by reference certain calculations; amending s. 1001.451, F.S.; revising the services required to be provided by regional consortium service organizations under certain circumstances; revising the allocation that certain regional consortium service organizations are eligible to receive from the General Appropriations Act; requiring regional consortium service organizations to submit certain annual reports to the Department of Education; requiring certain unexpended funds to be carried forward; requiring each regional consortium service organization to provide quarterly financial reports to member districts; requiring member districts to designate fiscal agent districts for certain purposes; providing for compensation of fiscal agent districts; providing for certain personnel recommendations, policies, salary schedules, and job descriptions; authorizing the purchase or lease of property and facilities; providing for the distribution of certain revenues upon dissolution of a regional consortium service organization; revising authorized means of revenue generation; requiring the establishment of a fund balance for certain purposes; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; creating s. 1001.4511, F.S.; creating the Regional Consortia Service Organization Supplemental Services Program; authorizing the use of program funds for specified purposes; requiring

each regional consortium service organization to annually report certain information to the Legislature; authorizing certain funds to be carried forward; creating s. 1009.635, F.S.; establishing the Rural Incentive for Professional Educators (RIPE) Program within the Department of Education for a specified purpose; providing eligibility requirements for the program; providing for student loan repayment assistance, up to a specified amount; requiring the department to verify certain participant information before disbursement of an award; specifying that the program is administered by the Office of Student Financial Assistance within the department; requiring the State Board of Education to adopt rules by a specified date; authorizing certain state university boards of trustees to accept a health care provider's procurement methods and construction contracts under certain circumstances; authorizing the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University board of trustees to expend available reserves or carry forward certain balances for a specified purpose; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment to realign Medicaid funding for specified purposes, subject to certain limitations; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment to realign funding within the Florida Kidcare program appropriation categories or to increase budget authority for certain purposes; specifying the time period within which such budget amendment must be submitted; amending s. 381.986, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the exemption of certain rules pertaining to the medical use of marijuana from certain rulemaking requirements; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement specified programs and payments; requiring institutions participating in a specified workforce expansion and education program to provide quarterly reports to the agency; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment for a specified purpose; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement the Low Income Pool component of the Florida Managed Medical Assistance Demonstration up to a certain amount; requiring that the amendment include a signed attestation and acknowledgment for entities relating to the Low Income Pool; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement certain payments and specified programs; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement a certified expenditure program for emergency medical transportation services; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement the Disproportionate Share Hospital Program; requiring such amendment to include specified information; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement fee-for-service inpatient and outpatient supplemental payments for specialty hospitals; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority to support the Florida School-Based Services program; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to create the Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Task Force for a certain purpose; requiring the task force to evaluate certain information and develop recommendations; providing for membership of the task force; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to provide staff support; authorizing staff from specified agencies to provide additional expertise; providing for meetings of the task force; providing that members of the task force serve without compensation but are entitled to reimbursement of travel expenses; requiring the task force to provide a report to the Governor and the Legislature by a specified date; authorizing the Department of Children and Families to submit a budget amendment to realign funding within specified areas of the department based on implementation of the Guardianship Assistance Program; authorizing the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Health, and the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority to support certain refugee programs; requiring the Department of Children and Families to submit quarterly reports to the Executive Office of the Governor and the Legislature; authorizing the Department of Children and Families to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority to support specified federal grant programs; reenacting s. 393.066(2), F.S., relating to community services and treatment; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending s. 394.9082, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the authority of a managing entity to carry forward certain unexpended funds; specifying that nonqualified funds carried

forward are not included in a cumulative cap on the percentage that may be carried forward; amending s. 409.9913, F.S.; requiring that core services funding be allocated as provided in the General Appropriations Act; requiring the Department of Children and Families to continue to collect certain data from community-based care lead agencies and to use a certain Tiered Funding Model; requiring community-based care lead agencies to submit certain data to the department; requiring the department to conduct certain ongoing performance monitoring; requiring the department to provide monthly status reports to the Governor and the Legislature; requiring the department to submit a final report to the Governor and the Legislature by a specified date; amending s. 409.990, F.S.; requiring that certain funds held by a community-based care lead agency and carried forward be returned to the Department of Children and Families; requiring the department to hold such funds in a separate account and report certain information to specified entities; providing for the reversion of such funds to the General Revenue Fund; authorizing the Department of Health to submit a budget amendment to increase budget authority for the Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and the Child Care Food Program if a certain condition is met; authorizing the Department of Health to submit a budget amendment to increase budget authority for the HIV/AIDS Prevention and Treatment Program if a certain condition is met; authorizing the Department of Health to submit a budget amendment to increase budget authority for the department if additional federal revenues specific to COVID-19 relief funds become available; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to replace the Florida Medicaid Management Information System (FMMIS) and fiscal agent operations with a specified new system; specifying items that may not be included in the new system; providing directives to the Agency for Health Care Administration related to the new Florida Health Care Connection (FX) system; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to meet certain requirements in replacing FMMIS and the current Medicaid fiscal agent; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to implement a specified program governance structure that includes an executive steering committee composed of specified members; providing the duties of the executive steering committee; requiring the establishment of specified working groups; providing the composition of such groups; providing requirements for such groups; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to contract for a certain assessment of the agency's Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS); providing requirements for the assessment; requiring submission of the assessment to specified entities by a certain date; requiring the agency to develop a new time-phased implementation roadmap for the MMIS replacement based on the assessment; requiring the agency to submit the roadmap to specified entities by a certain date; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration, in consultation with the Department of Health, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, the Department of Children and Families, and the Department of Corrections, to competitively procure a contract with a vendor to negotiate prices for certain prescribed drugs and biological products; providing specifications for such contract; authorizing the issuance or renewal of certain inactive or partially inactive licenses to skilled nursing providers and requiring the extension of certificate-of-need validity periods under certain circumstances; providing for subsequent renewal periods of such inactive licenses and validity periods under certain circumstances; authorizing the Agency for Persons with Disabilities to submit budget amendments to transfer funding from the Salaries and Benefits appropriation categories for a specified purpose; authorizing the Agency for Persons with Disabilities to submit budget amendments to request funds from the Lump Sum-Home and Community-Based Waiver category for a specified purpose; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration and the Agency for Persons with Disabilities to submit budget amendments within a specified timeframe for a specified purpose; authorizing the Department of Veterans' Affairs to submit a budget amendment, subject to Legislative Budget Commission approval, requesting certain authority for certain purposes relating to veterans' nursing homes; amending s. 409.915, F.S.; extending for 1 year the expiration of an exception for certain funds used for the hospital directed payment program; authorizing the Department of Veterans' Affairs to expend certain funds and submit budget amendments, subject to certain approval, for the planning and construction of a new State Veterans' Nursing Home and Adult Day Health Center in a specified county; authorizing the department to apply for a specified federal grant for the Collier County State Veterans' Nursing Home; authorizing the Department of Elderly Affairs to submit a budget amendment requesting certain authority for an Adult Care Food Program or the Older Americans Act under certain circumstances;

amending s. 216.262, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the authority of the Department of Corrections to submit a budget amendment for additional positions and appropriations under certain circumstances; amending s. 215.18, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the authority and related repayment requirements for temporary trust fund loans to the state court system which are sufficient to meet the system's appropriation; requiring the Department of Juvenile Justice to review county juvenile detention payments to determine whether a county has met specified financial responsibilities; requiring that amounts owed by a certain county for such financial responsibilities be deducted from certain county funds; requiring the Department of Revenue to transfer withheld funds to a specified trust fund; requiring the Department of Revenue to ensure that such reductions in amounts distributed do not reduce distributions below amounts necessary for certain payments due on bonds and to comply with bond covenants; requiring the Department of Revenue to notify the Department of Juvenile Justice if bond payment requirements mandate a reduction in deductions for amounts owed by a county; requiring the Department of Juvenile Justice to take certain actions; reenacting s. 27.40(1), (2)(a), (3)(a), (5), (6), and (7), F.S., relating to court-appointed counsel; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting and amending s. 27.5304, F.S., relating to the extension for 1 fiscal year of limitations on compensation for representation in criminal proceedings; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending s. 908.1033, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year provisions authorizing local law enforcement agencies to apply to the State Board of Immigration Enforcement to provide bonus payments for certain certified correctional officers; amending s. 934.50, F.S.; creating the Drone as First Responder Grant Program within the Department of Law Enforcement; providing the purpose of the program; providing eligibility requirements; requiring the department to develop an application process and allocate funds on a first-come, first-served basis; requiring that grants be matched by local funds in a specified percentage; authorizing the department to waive the matching funds requirement for certain agencies; defining the term "first responder agency"; authorizing the department to adopt rules; authorizing emergency rulemaking; requiring the Department of Management Services, with the cooperation of certain agencies, to use tenant broker services to renegotiate or reprocure certain private lease agreements for office or storage space; requiring the Department of Management Services to provide a report to the Governor and the Legislature by a specified date; prohibiting an agency from transferring funds from a data processing category to another category other than another data processing category; authorizing the Executive Office of the Governor to transfer funds appropriated in certain categories between departments for purposes of aligning amounts paid for risk management insurance and for human resources services purchased per statewide contract; authorizing the Department of Management Services to use certain facility disposition funds from the Architects Incidental Trust Fund to pay for certain relocation expenses; authorizing the Department of Management Services to submit budget amendments for an increase in appropriation under certain circumstances; requiring that such amendments include specified information; requiring the Department of Financial Services to replace specified components of the Florida Accounting Information Resource Subsystem (FLAIR) and the Cash Management Subsystem (CMS) with a specified integrated enterprise system; prohibiting the Department of Financial Services from including certain components in the replacement of FLAIR and CMS; providing requirements for the Department of Financial Services related to replacing FLAIR and CMS; providing for the composition of an executive steering committee to oversee FLAIR and CMS replacement; providing requirements for the executive steering committee chair; providing duties and responsibilities of the executive steering committee; reenacting s. 282.709(3), F.S., relating to the state agency law enforcement radio system and interoperability network; providing for future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; authorizing state agencies and other eligible users of the Statewide Law Enforcement Radio System to use the Department of Management Services contract to purchase equipment and services; requiring that a specified transaction fee percentage for use of the on-line procurement system be collected for a specified fiscal year; amending s. 24.105, F.S.; specifying requirements for the adoption of rules of the Department of the Lottery, excluding certain rules for 1 fiscal year regarding the commission for lottery ticket sales; limiting additional retailer compensation in a specified manner; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending s. 627.351, F.S.; extending for 1 year the specified authority of Citizens Property Insurance Corporation; amending s. 215.5586, F.S.;

extending for 1 year the homeowner eligibility criteria for a hurricane mitigation grant from the My Safe Florida Home Program; providing that certain funds appropriated to the Department of Financial Services may be carried forward through a specified fiscal year; authorizing the Executive Office of the Governor to transfer funds between departments to align the budget authority granted based on the estimated costs for data processing services for a specified fiscal year; limiting the auxiliary assessments that may be charged to state agencies related to contract management services provided to the Northwest Regional Data Center; reenacting and amending s. 284.51, F.S., relating to the electroencephalogram combined transcranial magnetic stimulation treatment (eTMS) pilot program; extending for 1 year the expiration of the program; requiring the Department of Financial Services to continue its existing contract for the establishment of the eTMS pilot program for veterans and first responders; amending s. 717.123, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Financial Services to retain specified funds, not to exceed a certain amount; requiring that the funds be held in a separate account; requiring the department to make prompt payment of certain claims from the separate account; amending s. 215.18, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year certain authority to transfer funds from certain trust funds in the State Treasury to other trust funds in certain circumstances; requiring the Department of Environmental Protection to transfer designated proportions of the revenues deposited in the Land Acquisition Trust Fund within the department to land acquisition trust funds in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of State, and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission according to specified parameters and calculations; defining the term "department"; requiring the Department of Environmental Protection to make transfers to land acquisition trust funds monthly; specifying the method of determining transfer amounts; authorizing the Department of Environmental Protection to advance funds from its land acquisition trust fund to the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's land acquisition trust fund for specified purposes; amending s. 259.105, F.S.; requiring that proceeds from a specified trust fund be distributed as provided in the General Appropriations Act for a specified fiscal year; amending s. 376.91, F.S.; extending for 1 year the date by which the Department of Environmental Protection shall adopt statewide cleanup target levels for PFAS under certain circumstances; providing for future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting s. 376.3071(15)(g), F.S., relating to the Inland Protection Trust Fund; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; requiring the Department of Citrus to enter into agreements for specified purposes by a certain date; requiring the Department of Citrus to file certain information with the department's Inspector General; reenacting s. 380.5105, F.S., relating to the Stan Mayfield Working Waterfronts; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; authorizing the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to use specified funds to provide grants for a specified purpose; amending s. 403.890, F.S.; authorizing the use of revenues deposited into or appropriated to the Water Protection and Sustainability Program Trust Fund as provided in the General Appropriations Act; amending s. 375.041, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the requirement that funds for the Land Acquisition Trust Fund be appropriated in a specified manner; authorizing the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to lease an existing facility and administer a specified program; authorizing the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority for the National School Lunch Program; amending s. 288.80125, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year a requirement that the use of funds in the Triumph Gulf Coast Trust Fund be related to Hurricane Michael recovery; amending s. 339.135, F.S.; extending for 1 year the authority for the chair and vice chair of the Legislative Budget Commission to approve certain work program amendments under specified circumstances; authorizing the Department of Transportation to request a specified amount of budget authority to the extent necessary to advance or defer certain projects in the Work Program and align resources for a specified purpose; amending s. 288.0655, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year a requirement that certain appropriated funds relating to the Rural Infrastructure Fund be distributed in a specified manner; creating s. 288.013, F.S.; providing legislative findings; creating the Office of Rural Prosperity within the Department of Commerce; requiring the Governor to appoint a director, subject to Senate confirmation; providing that the director reports to and serves at the pleasure of the secretary of the department; providing duties of the office; requiring the office to establish and staff a certain number of regional rural community liaison centers for a specified purpose; providing the powers and duties of the liaison centers; requiring co-

ordination between certain entities; requiring the liaison centers to engage with the Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI); requiring at least one staff member of a liaison center to attend the monthly REDI meetings in person or by means of electronic communication; requiring the director of the office to submit a report to the Administration Commission within the Executive Office of the Governor; specifying requirements for the report; requiring that the report also be submitted to the Legislature by a specified date and published on the office's website; requiring the director of the office to attend the next Administration Commission meeting to present detailed information from the annual report; amending s. 288.001, F.S.; requiring the Florida Small Business Development Center Network to use certain funds appropriated for a specified purpose; authorizing the network to dedicate funds to facilitate certain events; creating s. 288.014, F.S.; providing legislative findings; requiring the Office of Rural Prosperity to administer the Renaissance Grants Program to provide block grants to eligible communities; requiring the Office of Economic and Demographic Research to certify to the Office of Rural Prosperity certain information by a specified date; defining the term "growth-impeded"; requiring the Office of Economic and Demographic Research to certify annually that a county remains growth-impeded until certain conditions are met; providing that a county is eligible to participate in the program for 1 additional year under certain circumstances; requiring participating counties to enter into an agreement with the Office of Rural Prosperity to receive a block grant; giving such counties certain authority; prohibiting the Office of Rural Prosperity from determining how such counties implement the block grant; requiring regional rural community liaison center staff to provide certain assistance; requiring participating counties to report certain information to the Office of Rural Prosperity; providing that a participating county receives a specified amount from funds appropriated to the program, or an equal share of the funds appropriated under certain circumstances; requiring participating counties to limit certain expenses; authorizing participating counties to supplement the block grant with other funding sources; requiring participating counties to hire and retain a renaissance coordinator; providing the responsibilities of the renaissance coordinator; requiring the regional rural community liaison center staff to provide assistance and training to the renaissance coordinator, upon request; requiring participating counties to design a certain plan; specifying requirements for such plan; requiring participating counties to develop intergovernmental agreements with certain entities to implement the plan; requiring the Auditor General to conduct an operational audit of each county's grant activities; requiring the Office of Economic and Demographic Research to submit a certain report to the Legislature; specifying requirements for the report; providing that funds appropriated from the program are not subject to reversion; creating s. 288.0175, F.S.; creating the Public Infrastructure Smart Technology Grant Program within the Office of Rural Prosperity; defining terms; requiring the office to contract with one or more smart technology lead organizations to administer the grant program for a specified purpose; providing the criteria for such contracts; requiring that a summary of projects funded by the grant program be included in the office's annual report; amending s. 288.065, F.S.; establishing the Rural Community Development Revolving Loan Fund within the Office of Rural Prosperity, rather than the Department of Commerce; defining the term "unit of local government"; requiring the office to include in its annual report certain information about the Rural Community Development Revolving Loan Fund; providing for future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; authorizing the Division of Emergency Management to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority for certain expenditures under certain circumstances; amending s. 282.201, F.S.; extending for 1 year the Division of Emergency Management's exemption from the use of the state data center; amending s. 443.1113, F.S.; providing that certain improvements to the Reemployment Assistance Claims and Benefits Information System are subject to appropriation; revising the date a certain report from the Department of Commerce is required to be submitted; revising the report requirements; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting and amending s. 445.08, F.S., relating to the Florida Law Enforcement Recruitment Bonus Payment Program; extending the program for 1 year; authorizing the Department of Commerce to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority to support specified federal grant programs; requiring the Department of Management Services to assess an administrative health insurance assessment on each state agency; providing the rate of such assessment; defining the term "state agency"; requiring the Department of Management Services to take certain actions in case of

delinquencies; requiring the Chief Financial Officer to transfer funds under specified circumstances; requiring state agencies to provide a list of positions that qualify for a certain exception by a specified date and to update the list monthly thereafter; requiring state agencies to include the administrative health insurance assessment in their indirect cost plan beginning for a specified fiscal year and annually thereafter; requiring agencies to notify the Department of Management Services, the Executive Office of the Governor, and the Legislature regarding the approval of their updated indirect cost plans; authorizing the Executive Office of the Governor to transfer budget authority between agencies in specified circumstances; providing that the annual salaries of the members of the Legislature be maintained at a specified level for a specified fiscal year; reenacting s. 215.32(2)(b), F.S., relating to the authorization for transferring unappropriated cash balances from selected trust funds to the Budget Stabilization Fund and General Revenue Fund; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; specifying the type of travel which may be used with state employee travel funds for a specified fiscal year; providing exceptions; providing applicability; providing a monetary cap on lodging costs for state employee travel to certain meetings organized or sponsored by a state agency or the judicial branch; authorizing employees to expend their own funds for lodging expenses that exceed the monetary caps; providing construction; amending s. 216.181, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the authority of the Legislative Budget Commission to approve budget amendments for certain fixed capital outlay projects; amending s. 216.292, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the requirements for certain transfers; authorizing state agencies to purchase vehicles from nonstate term contract vendors without prior approval from the Department of Management Services under certain circumstances; amending s. 11.52, F.S.; extending for 1 year certain state agency reporting requirements regarding implementation of legislation; amending s. 216.013, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year an exception from certain planning requirements; amending s. 216.023, F.S.; extending for 1 year a requirement that certain entities include a specified inventory in their legislative budget requests; requiring that a specified percentage of funds appropriated for information technology projects be held in reserve and that general revenue funds not held in reserve be released; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration, Department of Children and Families, Department of Corrections, Department of Financial Services, Florida Gaming Control Commission, Department of Health, and Department of Revenue to submit a budget amendment to request release of funds; limiting the amount that may be requested; providing that release is contingent upon certain submissions; requiring entities receiving such funds to submit monthly project status reports to certain entities; providing requirements for such status reports; providing conditions under which the veto of certain appropriations or proviso language in the General Appropriations Act voids language that implements such appropriation; providing for the continued operation of certain provisions notwithstanding a future repeal or expiration provided by the act; providing for construction of the act in pari materia with laws enacted during the 2026 Regular Session of the Legislature; providing for severability; providing for contingent retroactivity; providing effective dates.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **SB 2502-E**—

## MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

### FIRST READING

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed HB 5003E and requests that the Senate pass the bill as passed by the House or agree to include the bill in the budget conference.

*Jeff Takacs*, Clerk

By Representative(s) McClure—

**HB 5003-E**—A bill to be entitled An act implementing the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act; providing legislative intent; incorporating by reference certain calculations; providing an expiration date;

amending s. 1011.62, F.S.; revising the Florida Education Finance Program adjustment calculation; providing calculations to determine the safe school allocation; revising the name of the Educational Enrollment Stabilization Program; revising the purpose of such program; authorizing the Legislature to appropriate funds for a specified purpose; providing calculations to determine specified funding; authorizing recalculation in specified circumstances; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting s. 1011.45(3) and (5), F.S., relating to end of year balance of funds; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting s. 1009.26(18), F.S., relating to fee waivers; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting s. 1004.89, F.S., relating to the Institute for Freedom in the Americas; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; authorizing certain state university board of trustees to accept a health care provider's procurement methods and construction contracts under certain circumstances; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment to realign Medicaid funding for specified purposes, subject to certain limitations; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment to realign funding within the Florida Kidcare program appropriation categories or to increase budget authority for certain purposes; specifying the time period within which each budget amendment must be submitted; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement specified programs and payments; requiring institutions participating in a specified workforce expansion and education program to provide quarterly reports to the agency; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment for a specified purpose; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement the Low Income Pool component of the Florida Managed Medical Assistance Demonstration up to a certain amount; requiring that the amendment include a signed attestation and acknowledgment for entities relating to the Low Income Pool; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement certain payments and specified programs; requiring such amendment include specified approval; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement a certified expenditure program for emergency medical transportation services; requiring such amendment include specified approval; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement the Disproportionate Share Hospital Program; requiring such amendment to include specified information; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement fee-for-service inpatient and outpatient supplemental payments for specialty hospitals; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority to support the Florida School-Based Services program; authorizing the Department of Children and Families to submit a budget amendment to realign funding within specified areas of the department based on implementation of the Guardianship Assistance Program; authorizing the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Health, and the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority to support certain refugee programs; requiring the Department of Children and Families to submit quarterly reports to the Executive Office of the Governor and the Legislature; amending s. 409.909, F.S.; revising the calculation for the Slots for Doctors Program; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; authorizing the Department of Children and Families to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority to support specified federal grant programs; reenacting s. 393.066 (2), F.S., relating to community services and treatment; authorizing certain persons or entities to maintain an alternate data system that meets specified standards; prohibiting the Agency for Persons with Disabilities from requiring training on a specified system in certain circumstances; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending s. 394.9082, F.S.; authorizing unexpended funds for certain counties to be carried forward for a specified time period; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; authorizing the Department of Health to submit a budget amendment to increase budget authority for the Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and the Child Care Food Program if a certain condition is met; au-

thorizing the Department of Health to submit a budget amendment to increase budget authority for the HIV/AIDS Prevention and Treatment Program if a certain condition is met; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to suspend certain development activities related to the replacement of the Florida Medicaid Management Information System (FMMIS); authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration and the Agency for Persons with Disabilities to submit budget amendments within a specified timeframe for a specified purpose; authorizing the Department of Veterans' Affairs to submit a budget amendment, subject to Legislative Budget Commission approval, requesting certain authority for certain purposes relating to veterans' nursing homes; amending s. 409.915, F.S.; extending for 1 year the expiration of an exception for certain funds used for the hospital directed payment program; authorizing the Department of Veterans' Affairs to submit budget amendments, subject to certain approval, for the development and construction of a new State Veterans' Nursing Home and Adult Day Health Care Center in a specified county; authorizing the Department of Elderly Affairs to submit a budget amendment requesting certain authority for an Adult Care Food Program under certain circumstances; amending s. 766.314, F.S.; extending for 1 year the expiration of an exception that allows the Florida Birth-Related Neurological Injury Compensation Plan to accept certain new claims; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending s. 409.990, F.S.; authorizing a lead agency to carry forward up to 8 percent of the annual amount of the contract, rather than the total contract amount; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending s. 216.262, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the authority of the Department of Corrections to submit a budget amendment for additional positions and appropriations under certain circumstances; amending s. 215.18, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the authority and related repayment requirements for temporary trust fund loans to the state court system which are sufficient to meet the system's appropriation; requiring the Department of Juvenile Justice to review county juvenile detention payments to determine whether a county has met specified financial responsibilities; requiring that amounts owed by a certain county for such financial responsibilities be deducted from certain county funds; requiring the Department of Revenue to transfer withheld funds to a specified trust fund; requiring the Department of Revenue to ensure that such reductions in amounts distributed do not reduce distributions below amounts necessary for certain payments due on bonds and to comply with bond covenants; requiring the Department of Revenue to notify the Department of Juvenile Justice if bond payment requirements mandate a reduction in deductions for amounts owed by a county; requiring the Department of Juvenile Justice to take certain actions; reenacting s. 27.40(1), (2)(a), (3)(a), (5), (6), and (7), F.S., relating to court-appointed counsel; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting and amending s. 27.5304, F.S., relating to private court-appointed counsel; extending for 1 fiscal year limitations on compensation for representation in criminal proceedings; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending s. 908.1033, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the authority of local law enforcement agencies to apply to the State Board of Immigration Enforcement to provide bonus payments for certain certified correctional officers; authorizing the Department of Legal Services to submit a budget amendment, subject to certain approval, to increase budget authority for Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) assistance grants in specified circumstances; requiring the Department of Law Enforcement to conduct a study on payment scams; defining the term "payment"; providing requirements of such study; requiring such study and recommendations be submitted to specified individuals and made available online by a certain date; requiring the Department of Management Services, with the cooperation of certain agencies, to use tenant broker services to renegotiate or reprocure certain private lease agreements for office or storage space; requiring the Department of Management Services to provide a report to the Governor and the Legislature by a specified date; prohibiting an agency from transferring funds from a data processing category to another category other than another data processing category; authorizing the Executive Office of the Governor to transfer funds appropriated in certain categories between departments for purposes of aligning amounts paid for risk management insurance and for human resources services purchased per statewide contract; authorizing the Department of Management Services to use certain facility disposition funds from the Architects Incidental Trust Fund to pay for certain relocation expenses; authorizing the Department of Management Services to submit budget amendments for an increase in appropriation under certain circumstances; requiring that such

amendments include specified information; requiring the Department of Financial Services to replace specified components of the Florida Accounting Information Resource Subsystem (FLAIR) and the Cash Management Subsystem (CMS) with a specified integrated enterprise system; prohibiting the Department of Financial Services from including certain components in the replacement of FLAIR and CMS; providing requirements for the Department of Financial Services related to replacing FLAIR and CMS; providing for the composition of an executive steering committee to oversee FLAIR and CMS replacement; providing requirements for the executive steering committee chair; providing duties and responsibilities of the executive steering committee; reenacting s. 282.709(3), F.S., relating to the state agency law enforcement radio system and interoperability network; providing for future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; authorizing state agencies and other eligible users of the Statewide Law Enforcement Radio System to use the Department of Management Services contract to purchase equipment and services; requiring that a specified transaction fee percentage for use of the online procurement system be collected for a specified fiscal year; amending s. 24.105, F.S.; specifying requirements for the adoption of rules of the Department of the Lottery, excluding certain rules for 1 fiscal year regarding the commission for lottery ticket sales; limiting additional retailer compensation in a specified manner; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending s. 627.351, F.S.; extending for 1 year the authority of Citizens Property Insurance Corporation to contract with a the Division of Administrative Hearings to resolve certain disputes; amending s. 112.215, F.S.; authorizing a deferred compensation plan to offer a specified contribution program; amending s. 110.116, F.S.; providing legislative findings; directing the Department of Management Services to take specified actions relating to certain systems; requiring the department to submit certain estimates to specified persons by a specified date; removing provisions relating to specified contracted services; amending s. 215.5586, F.S.; extending for 1 year homeowner eligibility criteria for a hurricane mitigation grant from the My Safe Florida Home Program; providing that certain funds appropriated to the Department of Financial Services may be carried forward through a specified fiscal year; authorizing the Executive Office of the Governor to transfer funds between departments to align the budget authority granted based on the estimated costs for data processing services for a specified fiscal year; limiting the auxiliary assessments that may be charged to state agencies related to contract management services provided to the Northwest Regional Data Center; amending s. 284.51, F.S.; extending for 1 year the electroencephalogram combined Transactional Magnetic Stimulation (eTMS) treatment pilot program; requiring the Department of Financial Services to continue the eTMS pilot program for veterans and first responders; specifying that funds paid by the department do not constitute financial assistance; requiring the department to amend existing contracts to specify certain information; amending s. 717.123, F.S.; requiring the Department of Financial Services segregate a certain amount in a separate account to be used for a specified purpose; authorizing the department to retain certain funds for specified fiscal years; authorizing the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority for the National School Lunch Program; amending s. 215.18, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year certain authority to transfer funds from certain trust funds in the State Treasury to other trust funds in certain circumstances; requiring the Department of Environmental Protection to transfer designated proportions of the revenues deposited in the Land Acquisition Trust Fund within the department to land acquisition trust funds in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of State, and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission according to specified parameters and calculations; defining the term "department"; requiring the Department of Environmental Protection to make transfers to land acquisition trust funds monthly; specifying the method of determining transfer amounts; authorizing the Department of Environmental Protection to advance funds from its land acquisition trust fund to the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's land acquisition trust fund for specified purposes; amending s. 376.91, F.S.; extending for 1 year the date by which the Department of Environmental Protection shall adopt statewide cleanup target levels for PFAS under certain circumstances; providing for future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending ss. 376.3071 and 376.3072, F.S.; extending for 1 year the prohibition of certain deductibles, copays, and monetary caps; extending for 1 year the requirement that certain costs be absorbed at the expense of the Inland Protection Trust Fund; reenacting s. 376.3071(15)(g), F.S., relating to the Inland Protection Trust Fund; providing for the future

expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting s. 380.5105, F.S., relating to the Stan Mayfield Working Waterfronts; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; authorizing the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to use certain funds for a specified purpose; amending s. 403.0673, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the requirement that funds appropriated for the water quality improvement grant program be used in a specified manner; amending s. 288.80125, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year a requirement that the use of funds in the Triumph Gulf Coast Trust Fund be related to Hurricane Michael recovery; amending s. 339.135, F.S.; extending for 1 year the expiration of a specified program; authorizing the Department of Transportation to realign or increase certain budget authority; amending s. 288.0655, F.S.; extending for fiscal 1 year a requirement that certain appropriated funds relating to the Rural Infrastructure Fund be distributed in a specified manner; authorizing the Division of Emergency Management to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority for certain expenditures; reenacting s. 443.1113(4) and (5), F.S., relating to the Reemployment Assistance Claims and Benefits Information System; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting and amending s. 445.08, F.S.; revising the definition of the terms "employing agency" and "newly employed officer"; extending for 1 year the expiration of the Florida Law Enforcement Recruitment Bonus Payment Program; requiring the Department of Management Services to assess an administrative health insurance assessment on each state agency; providing the rate of such assessment; defining the term "state agency"; requiring the Department of Management Services to take certain actions in case of delinquencies; requiring the Chief Financial Officer to transfer funds under specified circumstances; requiring state agencies to provide a list of positions that qualify for a certain exception by a specified date and to update the list monthly thereafter; requiring state agencies to include the administrative health insurance assessment in their indirect cost plan beginning for a specified fiscal year and annually thereafter; requiring agencies to notify the Department of Management Services, the Executive Office of the Governor, and the Legislature regarding the approval of their updated indirect cost plans; authorizing the Executive Office of the Governor to transfer budget authority between agencies in specified circumstances; providing that the annual salaries of the members of the Legislature be maintained at a specified level for a specified fiscal year; reenacting s. 215.32(2)(b), F.S., relating to the authorization for transferring unappropriated cash balances from selected trust funds to the Budget Stabilization Fund and General Revenue Fund; providing for future expiration and reversion of specific statutory text; requiring per diem and subsistence allowance rates for state employee travel to be established by each state agency or the judicial branch; prohibiting such rates from exceeding a specified rate; requiring mileage allowance for state employee travel to be established by each state agency or the judicial branch; prohibiting such allowance from exceeding a specified rate; specifying the type of travel which may be used with state employee travel funds for a specified fiscal year; providing exceptions; requiring reporting in specified circumstances; providing applicability; amending s. 216.181, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the authority of the Legislative Budget Commission to approve budget amendments for certain fixed capital outlay projects; amending s. 216.292, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the requirements for certain transfers; amending s. 11.52, F.S.; extending for 1 year certain state agency reporting requirements regarding implementation of legislation; amending s. 216.013, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year an exception from certain planning requirements; amending s. 216.023, F.S.; extending for 1 year a requirement that certain entities include a specified inventory in their legislative budget requests; providing that the use of state funds must be consistent with specified principles of individual freedom; prohibiting a state agency from using state funds to contract with an advertising agency or other contractor who acts as or uses the services of media reliability and bias monitors; defining the term "media reliability and bias monitor"; amending s. 440.13, F.S.; extending for 1 year the expiration of certain reimbursement allowances; providing for future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting s. 373.0421(2), F.S., relating to establishment and implementation of minimum flow and minimum water levels; providing for future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; providing that the Governor, the Cabinet officers, and the Legislature are permanent tenants of the Capitol Complex; prohibiting the interior space allotted to each tenant as of a specified date from being reduced or moved without the tenant's express consent; requiring the Legislature to have the right of first refusal if certain space becomes available; requiring the department to coordinate with specified entities before planning or sche-

duling any projects in the Capitol Center; requiring the office to solicit specified feedback in carrying out the provisions of the Capitol Center long-range planning; prohibiting certain parking spaces from being reduced or reassigned without the express consent of the Legislature; providing conditions under which the veto of certain appropriations or proviso language in the General Appropriations Act voids language that implements such appropriation; providing for the continued operation of certain provisions notwithstanding a future repeal or expiration provided by the act; providing for severability; providing for contingent retroactivity; providing effective dates.

—was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

Pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **HB 5003-E** was withdrawn from the Committee on Appropriations.

On motion by Senator Hooper, the rules were waived and by two-thirds vote—

**HB 5003-E**—A bill to be entitled An act implementing the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act; providing legislative intent; incorporating by reference certain calculations; providing an expiration date; amending s. 1011.62, F.S.; revising the Florida Education Finance Program adjustment calculation; providing calculations to determine the safe school allocation; revising the name of the Educational Enrollment Stabilization Program; revising the purpose of such program; authorizing the Legislature to appropriate funds for a specified purpose; providing calculations to determine specified funding; authorizing recalculation in specified circumstances; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting s. 1011.45(3) and (5), F.S., relating to end of year balance of funds; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting s. 1009.26(18), F.S., relating to fee waivers; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting s. 1004.89, F.S., relating to the Institute for Freedom in the Americas; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; authorizing certain state university board of trustees to accept a health care provider's procurement methods and construction contracts under certain circumstances; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment to realign Medicaid funding for specified purposes, subject to certain limitations; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment to realign funding within the Florida Kidcare program appropriation categories or to increase budget authority for certain purposes; specifying the time period within which each budget amendment must be submitted; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement specified programs and payments; requiring institutions participating in a specified workforce expansion and education program to provide quarterly reports to the agency; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment for a specified purpose; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement the Low Income Pool component of the Florida Managed Medical Assistance Demonstration up to a certain amount; requiring that the amendment include a signed attestation and acknowledgment for entities relating to the Low Income Pool; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement certain payments and specified programs; requiring such amendment include specified approval; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement a certified expenditure program for emergency medical transportation services; requiring such amendment include specified approval; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement the Disproportionate Share Hospital Program; requiring such amendment to include specified information; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement fee-for-service inpatient and outpatient supplemental payments for specialty hospitals; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority to support the Florida School-Based Services program; authorizing the Department of Children and Families to submit a budget amendment to realign funding within specified areas of the department based on implementation of the Guardianship Assistance Program; authorizing the Department of Children and Families, the Department

of Health, and the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority to support certain refugee programs; requiring the Department of Children and Families to submit quarterly reports to the Executive Office of the Governor and the Legislature; amending s. 409.909, F.S.; revising the calculation for the Slots for Doctors Program; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; authorizing the Department of Children and Families to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority to support specified federal grant programs; reenacting s. 393.066 (2), F.S., relating to community services and treatment; authorizing certain persons or entities to maintain an alternate data system that meets specified standards; prohibiting the Agency for Persons with Disabilities from requiring training on a specified system in certain circumstances; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending s. 394.9082, F.S.; authorizing unexpended funds for certain counties to be carried forward for a specified time period; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; authorizing the Department of Health to submit a budget amendment to increase budget authority for the Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and the Child Care Food Program if a certain condition is met; authorizing the Department of Health to submit a budget amendment to increase budget authority for the HIV/AIDS Prevention and Treatment Program if a certain condition is met; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to suspend certain development activities related to the replacement of the Florida Medicaid Management Information System (FMMIS); authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration and the Agency for Persons with Disabilities to submit budget amendments within a specified timeframe for a specified purpose; authorizing the Department of Veterans' Affairs to submit a budget amendment, subject to Legislative Budget Commission approval, requesting certain authority for certain purposes relating to veterans' nursing homes; amending s. 409.915, F.S.; extending for 1 year the expiration of an exception for certain funds used for the hospital directed payment program; authorizing the Department of Veterans' Affairs to submit budget amendments, subject to certain approval, for the development and construction of a new State Veterans' Nursing Home and Adult Day Health Care Center in a specified county; authorizing the Department of Elderly Affairs to submit a budget amendment requesting certain authority for an Adult Care Food Program under certain circumstances; amending s. 766.314, F.S.; extending for 1 year the expiration of an exception that allows the Florida Birth-Related Neurological Injury Compensation Plan to accept certain new claims; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending s. 409.990, F.S.; authorizing a lead agency to carry forward up to 8 percent of the annual amount of the contract, rather than the total contract amount; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending s. 216.262, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the authority of the Department of Corrections to submit a budget amendment for additional positions and appropriations under certain circumstances; amending s. 215.18, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the authority and related repayment requirements for temporary trust fund loans to the state court system which are sufficient to meet the system's appropriation; requiring the Department of Juvenile Justice to review county juvenile detention payments to determine whether a county has met specified financial responsibilities; requiring that amounts owed by a certain county for such financial responsibilities be deducted from certain county funds; requiring the Department of Revenue to transfer withheld funds to a specified trust fund; requiring the Department of Revenue to ensure that such reductions in amounts distributed do not reduce distributions below amounts necessary for certain payments due on bonds and to comply with bond covenants; requiring the Department of Revenue to notify the Department of Juvenile Justice if bond payment requirements mandate a reduction in deductions for amounts owed by a county; requiring the Department of Juvenile Justice to take certain actions; reenacting s. 27.40(1), (2)(a), (3)(a), (5), (6), and (7), F.S., relating to court-appointed counsel; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting and amending s. 27.5304, F.S., relating to private court-appointed counsel; extending for 1 fiscal year limitations on compensation for representation in criminal proceedings; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending s. 908.1033, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the authority of local law enforcement agencies to apply to the State Board of Immigration Enforcement to provide bonus payments for certain certified correctional officers; authorizing the Department of Legal Services to submit a budget amendment, subject to certain approval, to increase budget

authority for Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) assistance grants in specified circumstances; requiring the Department of Law Enforcement to conduct a study on payment scams; defining the term "payment"; providing requirements of such study; requiring such study and recommendations be submitted to specified individuals and made available online by a certain date; requiring the Department of Management Services, with the cooperation of certain agencies, to use tenant broker services to renegotiate or reprocure certain private lease agreements for office or storage space; requiring the Department of Management Services to provide a report to the Governor and the Legislature by a specified date; prohibiting an agency from transferring funds from a data processing category to another category other than another data processing category; authorizing the Executive Office of the Governor to transfer funds appropriated in certain categories between departments for purposes of aligning amounts paid for risk management insurance and for human resources services purchased per statewide contract; authorizing the Department of Management Services to use certain facility disposition funds from the Architects Incidental Trust Fund to pay for certain relocation expenses; authorizing the Department of Management Services to submit budget amendments for an increase in appropriation under certain circumstances; requiring that such amendments include specified information; requiring the Department of Financial Services to replace specified components of the Florida Accounting Information Resource Subsystem (FLAIR) and the Cash Management Subsystem (CMS) with a specified integrated enterprise system; prohibiting the Department of Financial Services from including certain components in the replacement of FLAIR and CMS; providing requirements for the Department of Financial Services related to replacing FLAIR and CMS; providing for the composition of an executive steering committee to oversee FLAIR and CMS replacement; providing requirements for the executive steering committee chair; providing duties and responsibilities of the executive steering committee; reenacting s. 282.709(3), F.S., relating to the state agency law enforcement radio system and interoperability network; providing for future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; authorizing state agencies and other eligible users of the Statewide Law Enforcement Radio System to use the Department of Management Services contract to purchase equipment and services; requiring that a specified transaction fee percentage for use of the online procurement system be collected for a specified fiscal year; amending s. 24.105, F.S.; specifying requirements for the adoption of rules of the Department of the Lottery, excluding certain rules for 1 fiscal year regarding the commission for lottery ticket sales; limiting additional retailer compensation in a specified manner; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending s. 627.351, F.S.; extending for 1 year the authority of Citizens Property Insurance Corporation to contract with a the Division of Administrative Hearings to resolve certain disputes; amending s. 112.215, F.S.; authorizing a deferred compensation plan to offer a specified contribution program; amending s. 110.116, F.S.; providing legislative findings; directing the Department of Management Services to take specified actions relating to certain systems; requiring the department to submit certain estimates to specified persons by a specified date; removing provisions relating to specified contracted services; amending s. 215.5586, F.S.; extending for 1 year homeowner eligibility criteria for a hurricane mitigation grant from the My Safe Florida Home Program; providing that certain funds appropriated to the Department of Financial Services may be carried forward through a specified fiscal year; authorizing the Executive Office of the Governor to transfer funds between departments to align the budget authority granted based on the estimated costs for data processing services for a specified fiscal year; limiting the auxiliary assessments that may be charged to state agencies related to contract management services provided to the Northwest Regional Data Center; amending s. 284.51, F.S.; extending for 1 year the electroencephalogram combined Transactional Magnetic Stimulation (eTMS) treatment pilot program; requiring the Department of Financial Services to continue the eTMS pilot program for veterans and first responders; specifying that funds paid by the department do not constitute financial assistance; requiring the department to amend existing contracts to specify certain information; amending s. 717.123, F.S.; requiring the Department of Financial Services segregate a certain amount in a separate account to be used for a specified purpose; authorizing the department to retain certain funds for specified fiscal years; authorizing the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority for the National School Lunch Program; amending s. 215.18, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year certain authority to transfer funds from certain trust funds in the State Treasury to other

trust funds in certain circumstances; requiring the Department of Environmental Protection to transfer designated proportions of the revenues deposited in the Land Acquisition Trust Fund within the department to land acquisition trust funds in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of State, and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission according to specified parameters and calculations; defining the term “department”; requiring the Department of Environmental Protection to make transfers to land acquisition trust funds monthly; specifying the method of determining transfer amounts; authorizing the Department of Environmental Protection to advance funds from its land acquisition trust fund to the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission’s land acquisition trust fund for specified purposes; amending s. 376.91, F.S.; extending for 1 year the date by which the Department of Environmental Protection shall adopt statewide cleanup target levels for PFAS under certain circumstances; providing for future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending ss. 376.3071 and 376.3072, F.S.; extending for 1 year the prohibition of certain deductibles, copays, and monetary caps; extending for 1 year the requirement that certain costs be absorbed at the expense of the Inland Protection Trust Fund; reenacting s. 376.3071(15)(g), F.S., relating to the Inland Protection Trust Fund; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting s. 380.5105, F.S., relating to the Stan Mayfield Working Waterfronts; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; authorizing the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to use certain funds for a specified purpose; amending s. 403.0673, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the requirement that funds appropriated for the water quality improvement grant program be used in a specified manner; amending s. 288.80125, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year a requirement that the use of funds in the Triumph Gulf Coast Trust Fund be related to Hurricane Michael recovery; amending s. 339.135, F.S.; extending for 1 year the expiration of a specified program; authorizing the Department of Transportation to realign or increase certain budget authority; amending s. 288.0655, F.S.; extending for fiscal 1 year a requirement that certain appropriated funds relating to the Rural Infrastructure Fund be distributed in a specified manner; authorizing the Division of Emergency Management to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority for certain expenditures; reenacting s. 443.1113(4) and (5), F.S., relating to the Reemployment Assistance Claims and Benefits Information System; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting and amending s. 445.08, F.S.; revising the definition of the terms “employing agency” and “newly employed officer”; extending for 1 year the expiration of the Florida Law Enforcement Recruitment Bonus Payment Program; requiring the Department of Management Services to assess an administrative health insurance assessment on each state agency; providing the rate of such assessment; defining the term “state agency”; requiring the Department of Management Services to take certain actions in case of delinquencies; requiring the Chief Financial Officer to transfer funds under specified circumstances; requiring state agencies to provide a list of positions that qualify for a certain exception by a specified date and to update the list monthly thereafter; requiring state agencies to include the administrative health insurance assessment in their indirect cost plan beginning for a specified fiscal year and annually thereafter; requiring agencies to notify the Department of Management Services, the Executive Office of the Governor, and the Legislature regarding the approval of their updated indirect cost plans; authorizing the Executive Office of the Governor to transfer budget authority between agencies in specified circumstances; providing that the annual salaries of the members of the Legislature be maintained at a specified level for a specified fiscal year; reenacting s. 215.32(2)(b), F.S., relating to the authorization for transferring unappropriated cash balances from selected trust funds to the Budget Stabilization Fund and General Revenue Fund; providing for future expiration and reversion of specific statutory text; requiring per diem and subsistence allowance rates for state employee travel to be established by each state agency or the judicial branch; prohibiting such rates from exceeding a specified rate; requiring mileage allowance for state employee travel to be established by each state agency or the judicial branch; prohibiting such allowance from exceeding a specified rate; specifying the type of travel which may be used with state employee travel funds for a specified fiscal year; providing exceptions; requiring reporting in specified circumstances; providing applicability; amending s. 216.181, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the authority of the Legislative Budget Commission to approve budget amendments for certain fixed capital outlay projects; amending s. 216.292, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the requirements for certain transfers; amending s. 11.52, F.S.; extending for 1 year certain state

agency reporting requirements regarding implementation of legislation; amending s. 216.013, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year an exception from certain planning requirements; amending s. 216.023, F.S.; extending for 1 year a requirement that certain entities include a specified inventory in their legislative budget requests; providing that the use of state funds must be consistent with specified principles of individual freedom; prohibiting a state agency from using state funds to contract with an advertising agency or other contractor who acts as or uses the services of media reliability and bias monitors; defining the term “media reliability and bias monitor”; amending s. 440.13, F.S.; extending for 1 year the expiration of certain reimbursement allowances; providing for future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting s. 373.0421(2), F.S., relating to establishment and implementation of minimum flow and minimum water levels; providing for future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; providing that the Governor, the Cabinet officers, and the Legislature are permanent tenants of the Capitol Complex; prohibiting the interior space allotted to each tenant as of a specified date from being reduced or moved without the tenant’s express consent; requiring the Legislature to have the right of first refusal if certain space becomes available; requiring the department to coordinate with specified entities before planning or scheduling any projects in the Capitol Center; requiring the office to solicit specified feedback in carrying out the provisions of the Capitol Center long-range planning; prohibiting certain parking spaces from being reduced or reassigned without the express consent of the Legislature; providing conditions under which the veto of certain appropriations or proviso language in the General Appropriations Act voids language that implements such appropriation; providing for the continued operation of certain provisions notwithstanding a future repeal or expiration provided by the act; providing for severability; providing for contingent retroactivity; providing effective dates.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **SB 2502-E** and by two-thirds vote, read the second time by title.

Senator Hooper moved the following amendment which was adopted:

**Amendment 1 (905380) (with title amendment)**—Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. *It is the intent of the Legislature that the implementing and administering provisions of this act apply to the General Appropriations Act for the 2026-2027 fiscal year.*

Section 2. *In order to implement Specific Appropriations 5, 6, 88, and 89 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, the calculations of the Florida Education Finance Program for the 2026-2027 fiscal year included in the document titled “Public School Funding: The Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) Fiscal Year 2026-2027,” dated May 7, 2026, and filed with the Secretary of the Senate, are incorporated by reference for the purpose of displaying the calculations used by the Legislature, consistent with the requirements of state law, in making appropriations for the Florida Education Finance Program. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 3. *In order to implement Specific Appropriation 80 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, the school readiness reimbursement rates for the 2026-2027 fiscal year included in the document titled “School Readiness Program Reimbursement Rates Fiscal Year 2026-2027,” dated May 7, 2026, and filed with the Secretary of the Senate, are incorporated by reference, consistent with the requirements of state law, in making appropriations for the school readiness program allocation. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 4. *In order to implement Specific Appropriation 102 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsections (1), (2), and (5) of section 1001.451, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:*

1001.451 Regional consortium service organizations.—In order to provide a full range of programs to larger numbers of students, minimize duplication of services, and encourage the development of new programs and services:

(1) School districts with 20,000 or fewer unweighted full-time equivalent students, developmental research (laboratory) schools established pursuant to s. 1002.32, and the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind may enter into cooperative agreements to form a regional consortium service organization. Each regional consortium service or-

gанизation shall provide ~~any, at a minimum, three~~ of the following services ~~determined necessary and appropriate by the board of directors:~~

- (a) Exceptional student education;
- (b) ~~Safe schools support teacher education centers; environmental education;~~
- (c) State and federal grant procurement and coordination;
- (d) Data services ~~processing; health~~
- (e) Insurance services;
- (f) Risk management ~~insurance;~~
- (g) Professional learning;
- (h) College, career, and workforce development;
- (i) Business and operational services ~~staff development;~~
- (j) Purchasing; or
- (k) Planning and accountability.

(2)(a) Each regional consortium service organization ~~composed that consists~~ of four or more school districts is eligible to receive, through the Department of Education, subject to the funds provided in the General Appropriations Act, an ~~allocation incentive grant~~ of \$150,000 ~~\$50,000~~ per school district and eligible member to be used for the delivery of services within the participating school districts. The determination of services and use of such funds ~~must shall~~ be established by the board of directors of the regional consortium service organization. The funds ~~must shall~~ be distributed to each regional consortium service organization no later than 30 days following the release of the funds to the department. *Each regional consortium service organization shall submit an annual report to the department regarding the use of funds for consortia services. Unexpended amounts in any fund in a consortium's current year operating budget must be carried forward and included as the balance forward for that fund in the approved operating budget for the following year. Each regional consortium service organization shall provide quarterly financial reports to member districts.*

(b) Member districts shall designate a district to serve as a fiscal agent for contractual and reporting purposes. Such fiscal agent district is entitled to reasonable compensation for accounting and other services performed. The regional consortium service organization shall retain all funds received from grants or contracted services to cover indirect or administrative costs associated with the provision of such services. The regional consortium service organization board of directors shall determine the products and services to be provided by the consortium; however, in all contractual matters, the school board of the fiscal agent district shall act on proposed actions of the regional consortium service organization.

(c) The regional consortium service organization board of directors shall recommend establishment of positions and individuals for appointment to the fiscal agent district. Personnel must be employed under the personnel policies of the fiscal agent district and are deemed to be public employees of the fiscal agent district. The regional consortium service organization board of directors may recommend a salary schedule and job descriptions specific to its personnel.

(d) The regional consortium service organization may purchase or lease property and facilities essential for its operations and is responsible for their maintenance and associated overhead costs.

(e) If a regional consortium service organization is dissolved, any revenue from the sale of assets must be distributed among the member districts as determined by the board of directors. ~~Application for incentive grants shall be made to the Commissioner of Education by July 30 of each year for distribution to qualifying regional consortium service organizations by January 1 of the fiscal year.~~

(5) The board of directors of a regional consortium service organization may use various means to generate revenue in support of its activities, including, but not limited to, contracting for services to non-member districts. The board of directors may acquire, enjoy, use, and

dispose of patents, copyrights, and trademarks and any licenses and ~~associated other rights or interests thereunder or therein.~~ Ownership of all such patents, copyrights, trademarks, licenses, and associated rights or interests ~~thereunder or therein shall~~ vest in the state, with the board of directors having full right of use and full right to retain ~~associated the~~ revenues ~~derived therefrom.~~ Any funds realized from contracted services, patents, copyrights, trademarks, or licenses are ~~shall be~~ considered internal funds as provided in s. 1011.07. ~~A fund balance must be established for maintaining or expanding services, facilities maintenance, terminal pay, and other liabilities. Such funds shall be used to support the organization's marketing and research and development activities in order to improve and increase services to its member districts.~~

Section 5. *The amendments to s. 1001.451, Florida Statutes, made by this act expire July 1, 2027, and the text of that section shall revert to that in existence on June 30, 2026, except that any amendments to such text enacted other than by this act shall be preserved and continue to operate to the extent that such amendments are not dependent upon the portions of text which expire pursuant to this section.*

Section 6. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 102 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, section 1001.4511, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

*1001.4511 Regional Consortia Service Organization Supplemental Services Program.—*

(1) *There is created the Regional Consortia Service Organization Supplemental Services Program to increase the ability of regional consortium service organizations under s. 1001.451 to provide programs and services to consortia members through cooperative agreements. Program funds may be used to supplement member needs related to transportation; district finance personnel services; property insurance, including property insurance obtained from any source; cybersecurity support; school safety; college, career, and workforce development; academic support; and behavior support within exceptional student education services.*

(2) *Each regional consortium service organization shall annually report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives the distribution of funds, including members awarded and services provided.*

(3) *Notwithstanding s. 216.301 and pursuant to s. 216.351, funds allocated for this purpose which are not disbursed by June 30 of the fiscal year in which the funds are allocated may be carried forward for up to 5 years after the effective date of the original appropriation.*

(4) *This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 7. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 64A of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, section 1009.635, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

*1009.635 Rural Incentive for Professional Educators Program.—*

(1) *ESTABLISHMENT.—The Rural Incentive for Professional Educators (RIPE) Program is established within the Department of Education to support the recruitment and retention of qualified instructional personnel in rural communities. The program shall provide financial assistance for the repayment of student loans for eligible participants who establish permanent residency and employment in rural areas of opportunity.*

(2) *ELIGIBILITY.—An individual is eligible to participate in the RIPE Program if he or she does all of the following:*

(a) *Establishes permanent residency on or after July 1, 2026, in a rural area of opportunity as designated pursuant to s. 288.0656. The address on an individual's state-issued identification card or driver license is evidence of residence.*

(b) *Secures full-time employment as a teacher or administrator in a private school as defined in s. 1002.01, or as instructional or administrative personnel as those terms are defined in s. 1012.01(2) and (3), respectively, in the public school district located within the same rural area of opportunity as he or she resides.*

(c) Holds an associate degree, bachelor's degree, postgraduate degree, or certificate from an accredited institution earned before establishing residency.

(d) Has an active student loan balance incurred for the completion of the qualifying degree or certificate.

(3) **LOAN REPAYMENT.**—Eligible participants may receive up to \$15,000 in total student loan repayment assistance over 5 years, disbursed in annual payments not to exceed \$3,000 per year. Payments must be made directly to the lender servicing the participant's student loan.

(4) **AWARD DISTRIBUTION.**—Before disbursement of an award, the department shall verify that the participant:

(a) Has maintained continuous employment with the school district in an instructional or administrative position;

(b) Has received a rating of effective or highly effective pursuant to s. 1012.34; and

(c) Has not been placed on probation, had his or her certificate suspended or revoked, or been placed on the disqualification list, pursuant to s. 1012.796.

(5) **ADMINISTRATION.**—The program shall be administered by the Office of Student Financial Assistance within the Department of Education, which shall:

(a) Develop application procedures requiring documentation, including proof of residency, verification of employment, official academic transcripts, and details of outstanding student loans; and

(b) Monitor compliance with program requirements.

(6) **RULEMAKING.**—The State Board of Education shall adopt rules no later than January 31, 2027, to administer this section.

(7) **EXPIRATION.**—This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 8. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 17 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, a state university board of trustees that is beginning an approved capital outlay project with a health care provider may accept the health care provider's procurement methods and construction contracts entered thereunder and may reimburse the health care provider for its expenses using the proceeds from a bond issuance approved by the Board of Governors. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 9. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 152 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 1011.45 and 1012.975, Florida Statutes, the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University board of trustees may expend available reserves or carry forward balances from previous years' operational and programmatic appropriations, or other available reserves or balances from funds not appropriated from the General Revenue Fund, from state trust funds, or from tuition and fees, for the remuneration of the president of the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 10. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 209 through 237 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Agency for Health Care Administration may submit a budget amendment, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, to realign funding within the Medicaid program appropriation categories to address projected surpluses and deficits within the program and to maximize the use of state trust funds. A single budget amendment shall be submitted in the last quarter of the 2026-2027 fiscal year only. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 11. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 190 through 195 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Agency for Health Care Administration may submit a budget amendment, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, to realign funding within the Florida Kidcare program appropriation categories, or to increase budget authority in the Children's

Medical Services network category, to address projected surpluses and deficits within the program or to maximize the use of state trust funds. A single budget amendment must be submitted in the last quarter of the 2026-2027 fiscal year only. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 12. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 490 through 499 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsection (17) of section 381.986, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

381.986 Medical use of marijuana.—

(17) Rules adopted pursuant to this section before July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~, are not subject to ss. 120.54(3)(b) and 120.541. This subsection expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 13. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 217, 219, and 223 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, the Agency for Health Care Administration may submit a budget amendment pursuant to chapter 216, Florida Statutes, requesting additional spending authority to implement the federally approved directed payment program for hospitals statewide providing inpatient and outpatient services to Medicaid managed care enrollees, the Indirect Medical Education (IME) Program, and a nursing workforce expansion and education program for certain institutions participating in a graduate medical education or nursing education program. For institutions participating in the nursing workforce expansion and education program, the budget amendment must identify the educational institutions partnering with the teaching hospital. Institutions participating in the nursing workforce expansion and education program shall provide quarterly reports to the agency detailing the number of nurses participating in the program. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 14. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 217, 219, and 223 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, the Agency for Health Care Administration may submit a budget amendment pursuant to chapter 216, Florida Statutes, requesting additional spending authority to implement the federally approved Directed Payment Program and fee-for-service supplemental payments for cancer hospitals that meet the criteria in 42 U.S.C. s. 1395ww(d)(1)(B)(v). This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 15. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 209 through 237 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, the Agency for Health Care Administration may submit a budget amendment pursuant to chapter 216, Florida Statutes, requesting additional spending authority to implement the Low Income Pool component of the Florida Managed Medical Assistance Demonstration up to the total computable funds authorized by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The budget amendment must include the final terms and conditions of the Low Income Pool, a proposed distribution model by entity, and a listing of entities contributing intergovernmental transfers to support the state match required. In addition, for each entity included in the distribution model, a signed attestation must be provided which includes the charity care cost upon which the Low Income Pool payment is based and an acknowledgment that should the distribution result in an overpayment based on the Low Income Pool cost limit audit, the entity is responsible for returning that overpayment to the agency for return to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 16. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 222 and 223 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, the Agency for Health Care Administration may submit a budget amendment pursuant to chapter 216, Florida Statutes, requesting additional spending authority to implement fee-for-service supplemental payments and a directed payment program for physicians and subordinate licensed health care practitioners employed by or under contract with a Florida medical or dental school, or a public hospital. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 17. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 220, 223, and 235 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, the Agency for Health Care Administration may submit a budget amendment pursuant to chapter 216, Florida Statutes, requesting additional spending authority to implement a certified expenditure program for emergency medical transportation services. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 18. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 209 through 237 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and not-

withstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Agency for Health Care Administration may submit a budget amendment, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, requesting additional spending authority to implement the Disproportionate Share Hospital Program. The budget amendment must include a proposed distribution model by entity and a listing of entities contributing intergovernmental transfers and certified public expenditures to support the state match required. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 19. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 209 through 237 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, the Agency for Health Care Administration may submit a budget amendment pursuant to chapter 216, Florida Statutes, requesting additional spending authority to implement fee-for-service inpatient and outpatient supplemental payments for specialty hospitals as defined in s. 395.002(28), Florida Statutes, providing comprehensive acute care services to children with Medicaid inpatient utilization equal to or greater than 50 percent and located in a county with greater than 250,000 Medicaid enrollees in 2023. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 20. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 201 and 228 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Agency for Health Care Administration may submit budget amendments, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, to increase budget authority to support the Florida School-Based Services program. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 21. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 209 through 237 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act:

(1) the Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Task Force, a task force as defined in s. 20.03(5), Florida Statutes, is created within the Agency for Health Care Administration to evaluate the delivery of applied behavior analysis services in a manner that promotes high-quality, family-centered care while ensuring long-term financial sustainability of the Medicaid program and cost predictability without disrupting access for current enrollees and families.

(2) The task force shall evaluate:

(a) Clinical care models that lead to best practices for the provision of therapy at the appropriate ages;

(b) Appropriate transitions for enrollees receiving ABA services across developmental, educational, and community settings;

(c) Quality metrics for ABA therapy services;

(d) Limits and utilization controls related to the length of time ABA services may be authorized;

(e) Potential caps on the number of months an enrollee may receive ABA services; and

(f) Ways to enhance Medicaid provider enrollment and billing standards for ABA services to promote program integrity and fiscal accountability.

(3) The task force shall develop recommendations for revising the state's service delivery model to improve care experience and service continuity for enrollees and families receiving ABA services, while safeguarding long-term program sustainability.

(4) The task force shall consist of 10 members as provided in this subsection.

(a) The Secretary of Health Care Administration, or his or her designee, shall serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the task force and shall serve as the chair.

(b) The remainder of the task force membership shall be composed as follows:

1. Two members appointed by the Governor, three members appointed by the President of the Senate, and three members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, based upon the criteria of this subparagraph. The appointing officers must make their appoint-

ments prioritizing members who have the following experience or expertise:

a. Persons with academic credentials or scientific expertise relating to autism and applied behavior analysis;

b. Representatives of the applied behavior analysis provider community;

c. Representatives of Medicaid managed care plans with managerial experience and expertise relating to autism and applied behavior analysis; or

d. Physicians licensed under chapter 458, Florida Statutes, or chapter 459, Florida Statutes, with expertise relating to autism and applied behavior analysis.

2. One family member of a Medicaid managed care plan enrollee who receives applied behavior analysis services, appointed by the Governor.

(c) The Secretary of Health Care Administration shall coordinate with the appointing officers to ensure the task force's membership adequately represents the criteria provided under paragraph (b).

(d) Any vacancy occurring on the task force must be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

(5) The Agency for Health Care Administration must provide staff support for the work of the task force, and staff from the Department of Health, the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Education, and the Agency for Persons with Disabilities may provide additional expertise.

(6) Meetings of the task force may be held through teleconference or other electronic means. The task force shall convene for its initial meeting by August 15, 2026, and thereafter, upon the call of the chair. Notices for any task force meetings must be published in advance on the Agency for Health Care Administration's website.

(7) Members of the task force shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for travel expenses as provided in s. 112.061, Florida Statutes.

(8) The task force shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by December 31, 2026. The report must include advantages and disadvantages of each recommendation.

(9) This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 22. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 339, 339B, 368 through 369 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Department of Children and Families may submit a budget amendment, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, to realign funding within the department based on the implementation of the Guardianship Assistance Program, between the specific appropriations for guardianship assistance payments, foster care Level 1 room and board payments, relative caregiver payments, and nonrelative caregiver payments. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 23. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 209 through 212, 217, 219, 220, 222 through 224, 363, 372, 475, 479, 480, 486, 501, 502, 508, and 512 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Health, and the Agency for Health Care Administration may submit budget amendments, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, to increase budget authority to support refugee programs administered by the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement due to the ongoing instability of federal immigration policy and the resulting inability of the state to reasonably predict, with certainty, the budgetary needs of this state with respect to the number of refugees relocated to the state as part of those federal programs. The Department of Children and Families shall submit quarterly reports to the Executive Office of the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on the number of refugees entering the state, the nations of origin of such refugees, and current expenditure projections. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 24. *In order to implement Specific Appropriations 295 through 390A of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Department of Children and Families may submit budget amendments, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, to increase budget authority to support the following federal grant programs: the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Grant Program, the Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer, the American Rescue Plan Grant, the State Opioid Response Grant, the Substance Use Prevention and Treatment Block Grant, the Chafee Grant for Independent Living Services, the Education and Traditional Voucher Grant, Title IV-B Subparts 1 and 2 Grants, the Elder Justice Act, the STOP Violence Against Women Grant, the Rapid Unsheltered Survivor Housing Grant, and the Mental Health Block Grant. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 25. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 267 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding the expiration date in section 32 of chapter 2025-199, Laws of Florida, subsection (2) of section 393.066, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

393.066 Community services and treatment.—

(2) Necessary services shall be purchased, rather than provided directly by the agency, when the purchase of services is more cost-efficient than providing them directly. All purchased services must be approved by the agency. As a condition of payment and before billing, persons or entities under contract with the agency to provide services shall use agency data management systems to document service provision to clients or shall maintain such information in its own data management system and electronically transmit it to the agency data management system in an industry standard electronic format designated by the agency. The agency may not require training on the use of agency data management systems by persons or entities that choose to maintain data in their own data management system, provided that they electronically transmit required information in a format and frequency designated by the agency. Contracted persons and entities shall meet the minimum hardware and software technical requirements established by the agency for the use of such systems. Such persons or entities shall also meet any requirements established by the agency for training and professional development of staff providing direct services to clients.

Section 26. *The text of s. 393.066(2), Florida Statutes, as carried forward from chapter 2025-199, Laws of Florida, by this act expires July 1, 2027, and the text of that subsection shall revert to that in existence on June 30, 2025, except that any amendments to such text enacted other than by this act shall be preserved and continue to operate to the extent that such amendments are not dependent upon the portions of text which expire pursuant to this section.*

Section 27. Effective upon this act becoming a law, and in order to implement Specific Appropriation 382 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, paragraph (c) of subsection (9) of section 394.9082, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

394.9082 Behavioral health managing entities.—

(9) FUNDING FOR MANAGING ENTITIES.—

(c) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), for the 2026-2027 ~~2025-2026~~ fiscal year, a managing entity may carry forward documented unexpended funds appropriated from the State Opioid Settlement Trust Fund from 1 fiscal year to the next. *Nonqualified funds carried forward pursuant to this paragraph are not included in the 8 percent cumulative cap that may be carried forward. This paragraph expires July 1, 2027* ~~2026~~.

Section 28. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 324A, 339, 339B, and 384A of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsection (10) is added to section 409.9913, Florida Statutes, to read:

409.9913 Funding methodology to allocate funding to lead agencies.—

(10) *Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, core services funding shall be allocated as provided in the General Appropriations Act. The department shall use the Tiered Funding Model developed and submitted to the Legislature pursuant to section 34 of chapter 2025-199,*

*Laws of Florida, as the baseline framework for any updates, refinements, or enhancements to the model and shall continue to collect detailed cost, expenditure, and census data from community-based care lead agencies.*

(a) *Each lead agency shall submit any cost, expenditure, and census data requested by the department to support the continued development and refinement of the Tiered Funding Model. Lead agencies shall complete and validate a standardized expenditure report template in the form and manner prescribed by the department.*

(b) *The department shall conduct ongoing performance monitoring by comparing trends in individual metrics against broader indicators of system health and shall analyze emerging market trends that may impact organizational financial stability. The department's analysis and reporting shall include a comprehensive explanation of the methodology used to establish residential group home rates, a description of the current rate-setting processes employed by each community-based care lead agency, and recommendations to enhance the fiscal sustainability and transparency of those processes.*

(c) *Beginning in July 2026 and continuing through November 2026, the department shall provide monthly status reports to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives detailing activities and progress related to the development of the funding methodology, including preliminary recommendations for adjustments for the subsequent fiscal year.*

(d) *By December 1, 2026, the department shall submit a final report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives that includes recommendations for adjustments to the funding methodology for the next fiscal year. The recommendations shall continue the Tiered Funding Model approach while proposing enhancements intended to strengthen operational and financial outcomes.*

(e) *This subsection expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 29. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 324A, 339, 339B, and 384A and section 74 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsection (9) is added to section 409.990, Florida Statutes, to read:

409.990 Funding for lead agencies.—A contract established between the department and a lead agency must be funded by a grant of general revenue, other applicable state funds, or applicable federal funding sources.

(9) *Notwithstanding subsection (5), all funds held by a lead agency carried forward pursuant to subsection (5) as of July 1, 2026, must be returned to the department. The department must hold such funds in a separate account and, by August 1, 2026, report to the chair of the Senate Committee on Appropriations, the chair of the House of Representatives Budget Committee, and the Executive Office of the Governor's Office of Policy and Budget the amount of funds returned by each lead agency. As of September 30, 2026, all funds returned pursuant to this subsection shall revert to the General Revenue Fund. This subsection expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 30. *In order to implement Specific Appropriations 465 and 467 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Department of Health may submit a budget amendment, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, to increase budget authority for the Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and the Child Care Food Program if additional federal revenues will be expended in the 2026-2027 fiscal year. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 31. *In order to implement Specific Appropriations 476 and 526 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Department of Health may submit a budget amendment, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, to increase budget authority for the HIV/AIDS Prevention and Treatment Program if additional federal revenues specific to HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment become available in the 2026-2027 fiscal year. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 32. *In order to implement Specific Appropriations 432 through 593 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Department of Health may submit a budget amendment, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, to increase budget authority for the department if additional federal revenues specific to COVID-19 relief funds become available in the 2026-2027 fiscal year. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 33. *In order to implement Specific Appropriation 203 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act:*

(1) *The Agency for Health Care Administration shall replace the current Florida Medicaid Management Information System (FMMIS) and fiscal agent operations with a system that is modular, interoperable, and scalable for the Florida Medicaid program and that complies with all applicable federal and state laws and requirements. The agency may not include in the program to replace the current FMMIS and fiscal agent contract:*

(a) *Functionality that duplicates any of the information systems of the other health and human services state agencies;*

(b) *Procurement for agency requirements external to Medicaid programs with the intent to leverage the Medicaid technology infrastructure for other purposes without legislative appropriation or legislative authorization to procure these requirements. The new system, the Florida Health Care Connection (FX) system, must provide better integration with subsystems supporting Florida's Medicaid program; uniformity, consistency, and improved access to data; and compatibility with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' Medicaid Information Technology Architecture (MITA) as the system matures and expands its functionality; or*

(c) *Any contract executed after July 1, 2022, not including staff augmentation services purchased off the Department of Management Services Information Technology staff augmentation state term contract which are not deliverables based fixed price contracts.*

(2) *For purposes of replacing FMMIS and the current Medicaid fiscal agent, the Agency for Health Care Administration shall:*

(a) *Prioritize procurements for the replacement of the current functions of FMMIS and the responsibilities of the current Medicaid fiscal agent, to minimize the need to extend all or portions of the current fiscal agent contract.*

(b) *Comply with and not exceed the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services funding authorizations for the FX system.*

(c) *Develop and mature an enterprise architecture framework to align the requirements of the FX project phases and overarching program objectives, including completing and maintaining key components such as the Business Capability Model and Business Value Model.*

(d) *Apply value-based measures to support informed decisionmaking around release readiness and go-live criteria. These measures must be tracked and reported quarterly to the executive steering committee established in paragraph (k) post-implementation to support performance monitoring and continuous improvement.*

(e) *Through documented FX architecture governance practices, ensure that the Medicaid business needs and the business architecture are the primary drivers of information and technical architecture design decisions. All such decisions must be documented with traceable rationale to promote transparency and accountability across the program. The business, information, and technical architectures must align with the MITA framework where applicable. In areas where MITA guidance is not available, alignment will be maintained through adherence to The Open Group Architecture Framework (TOGAF).*

(f) *Ensure compliance and uniformity with the published MITA framework and guidelines. The agency shall:*

1. *Implement an Enterprise Architecture (EA) management tool that supports an integrated approach to FX program architecture. The EA tool must serve as a centralized repository for the FX Business Process Inventory and support the integrated management and oversight of the FX business, technical, and information architectures.*

2. *Establish governance structures and define user roles within the EA tool for the business, technical, and information architecture components.*

(g) *Ensure that all business requirements and technical specifications have been provided to all affected state agencies for their review and input and approved by the executive steering committee.*

(h) *Consult with the Executive Office of the Governor's working group for interagency information technology integration for the development of competitive solicitations that provide for data interoperability and shared information technology services across the state's health and human services agencies.*

(i) *Implement a data governance structure for the program to coordinate data sharing and interoperability across state health care entities.*

(j) *Establish a continuing oversight team for each contract pursuant to s. 287.057(26), Florida Statutes. The teams must provide quarterly reports to the executive steering committee, summarizing the status of the contract, the pace of deliverables, the quality of deliverables, contractor responsiveness, and contractor performance.*

(k) *Implement a program governance structure that includes an executive steering committee composed of:*

1. *The Secretary of Health Care Administration, or the executive sponsor of the program.*

2. *A representative of the Division of Health Care Finance and Data of the Agency for Health Care Administration, appointed by the Secretary of Health Care Administration.*

3. *Two representatives from the Division of Medicaid Policy, Quality, and Operations of the Agency for Health Care Administration, appointed by the Secretary of Health Care Administration.*

4. *A representative of the Division of Health Care Policy and Oversight of the Agency for Health Care Administration, appointed by the Secretary of Health Care Administration.*

5. *A representative of the Florida Center for Health Information and Transparency of the Agency for Health Care Administration, appointed by the Secretary of Health Care Administration.*

6. *The Chief Information Officer of the Agency for Health Care Administration, or his or her designee.*

(3)(a) *The Secretary of Health Care Administration or the executive sponsor of the program shall serve as chair of the executive steering committee, and the committee shall take action by a vote of at least 5 affirmative votes with the chair voting on the prevailing side. A quorum of the executive steering committee consists of at least 5 members.*

(b)1. *The chair shall establish a program finance and contracting working group composed of:*

a. *The FX program director.*

b. *A representative from the agency's Office of the General Counsel.*

c. *A representative from the agency's Division of Administration.*

d. *Representatives from each continuing oversight team.*

e. *The FX program strategic roadmap manager.*

f. *The FX program project managers.*

g. *The FX program risk manager.*

h. *Any other personnel deemed necessary by the chair.*

2. *The working group shall meet at least monthly to review the program status and all contract and program operations, policies, risks, and issues related to the budget, spending plans and contractual obligations, and shall develop recommendations to the executive steering committee for improvement. The working group shall review all change requests that impact the program's scope, schedule, or budget related to*

contract management and vendor payments and submit those recommended for adoption to the executive steering committee. The chair shall request input from the working group on agenda items for each scheduled meeting. The program shall make available program staff to the group, as needed, for the group to fulfill its duties.

(c)1. The chair shall establish a state agency stakeholder working group composed of:

- a. The executive sponsor of the FX program.
- b. A representative of the Department of Children and Families, appointed by the Secretary of Children and Families.
- c. A representative of the Department of Health, appointed by the State Surgeon General.
- d. A representative of the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, appointed by the director of the Agency for Persons with Disabilities.
- e. A representative from the Florida Healthy Kids Corporation.
- f. A representative from the Department of Elderly Affairs, appointed by the Secretary of Elderly Affairs.
- g. The state chief information officer, or his or her designee.
- h. A representative of the Department of Financial Services who has experience with the state's financial processes, including development of the PALM system, appointed by the Chief Financial Officer.

2. The working group shall meet at least quarterly to review the program status and all program operations, policies, risks, and issues that may impact the operations external to the Agency for Health Care Administration FX program, and shall develop recommendations to the executive steering committee for improvement. The chair shall request input from the working group on agenda items for each scheduled meeting. The program shall make available program staff to the group to provide system demonstrations and any program documentation, as needed, for the group to fulfill its duties.

(4) The executive steering committee has the overall responsibility for ensuring that the program to replace FMMIS and the Medicaid fiscal agent meets its primary business objectives and shall:

- (a) Identify and recommend to the Executive Office of the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives any statutory changes needed to implement the modular replacement to standardize, to the fullest extent possible, the state's health care data and business processes.
- (b) Review and approve any changes to the program's scope, schedule, and budget.
- (c) Review and approve any changes to the program's strategic roadmap.
- (d) Review and approve change requests that impact the program's scope, schedule, or budget recommended for adoption by the program finance and contracting working group.
- (e) Review recommendations provided by the program working groups.
- (f) Review vendor scorecards, reports, and notifications produced by the continuing oversight teams.
- (g) Ensure that adequate resources are provided throughout all phases of the program.
- (h) Approve all major program deliverables.
- (i) Review and verify that all procurement and contractual documents associated with the replacement of the current FMMIS and Medicaid fiscal agent align with the scope, schedule, and anticipated budget for the program.

(5) This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 34. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 203 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, the Agency for Health Care Administration shall contract for a comprehensive, independent technical architecture and feasibility assessment of the agency's Medicaid management information system (MMIS), including components completed under the FX project.

(1) The assessment must evaluate the agency's current technical architecture and technology standards related to its MMIS replacement activities and assess alignment with all applicable federal and state laws and requirements, including, but not limited to, the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Interoperability and Patient Access Rule (CMS-9115), the Medicaid Information Technology Architecture (MITA) frameworks and guidelines, and recognized industry and governmental best practices, including CMS modularity guidance and National Institute of Standards and Technology cybersecurity standards.

(2) The assessment must, at a minimum:

(a) Identify and document current deficiencies in the technical architecture, system design, and standards that may affect long-term sustainability, including issues related to maintainability, scalability, security, interoperability, technical debt, vendor dependency, and compliance with evolving federal and state requirements.

(b) Develop a future-state technical architecture that is driven by and aligned with the business architecture, Medicaid program needs, and CMS modularity and interoperability principles, including identification of core components, interfaces, data flows, and applicable standards.

(c) Evaluate the feasibility of transitioning from the current-state architecture to the future-state architecture, including phased or modular implementation options, associated risks, estimated costs, implementation timelines, operational impacts, and implications for federal funding eligibility.

(d) Prioritize replacement of the functionality provided under the current fiscal agent contract and recommend a sustainable path forward, including identification of any prerequisite governance, policy, or remediation actions required prior to implementation.

(e) Assess the agency's readiness to implement and operate the recommended solution, including evaluation of governance structures, staffing capacity, and resource sufficiency.

(3) The completed assessment must be submitted simultaneously to the Agency for Health Care Administration, the chair of the Senate Committee on Appropriations, the chair of the House of Representatives Budget Committee, and the Executive Office of the Governor's Office of Policy and Budget by January 8, 2027.

(4) Based on the results of the assessment, the Agency for Health Care Administration shall develop a new time-phased implementation roadmap with measurable success criteria for the MMIS replacement that aligns investments with the agency's Medicaid program goals and business strategy. The agency must submit the roadmap to chair of the Senate Committee on Appropriations, the chair of the House of Representatives Budget Committee, and the Executive Office of the Governor's Office of Policy and Budget by February 2, 2027.

(5) This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 35. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 223, 224, 279, 290, 349, 503, 526, and 751 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, the Agency for Health Care Administration, in consultation with the Department of Health, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, the Department of Children and Families, and the Department of Corrections, shall competitively procure a contract with a vendor to negotiate, for these agencies, prices for prescribed drugs and biological products excluded from the program established under s. 381.02035, Florida Statutes, and ineligible under 21 U.S.C. s. 384, including, but not limited to, insulin and epinephrine. The contract may allow the vendor to directly purchase these products for participating agencies when feasible and advantageous. The contracted vendor must be compensated on a contingency basis, paid from a portion of the savings

achieved by its price negotiation or purchase of the prescription drugs and products. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 36. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 238 through 245 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, notwithstanding ss. 408.040(2) and 408.808(3), Florida Statutes:

(1)(a) An inactive license or a partially inactive license with an expiration date on or after June 1, 2024, may be issued or renewed to a skilled nursing provider subject to the certificate-of-need provisions in part I of chapter 408, Florida Statutes, if the provider currently holds an active or inactive license, does not have a provisional license, and will be temporarily unable to provide services due to impacts from a natural disaster or state of emergency; or will be deactivating or has deactivated beds to improve and modernize the licensee's physical plant, but is reasonably expected to resume services within 48 months.

(b) Such issuance or renewal may be made for a period of 12 months and may be further renewed for up to 36 additional months upon demonstration by the licensee of the provider's progress toward reopening. During each 12-month renewal cycle, the applicant shall attest that good-faith progress towards commencement of the project is ongoing or that the project is delayed by litigation or by governmental action or inaction with respect to regulations or permitting that precludes commencement of the project.

(2)(a) The certificate-of-need validity period for a project shall be extended by the agency if the certificateholder demonstrates to the satisfaction of the agency that good-faith progress toward the commencement of the project is ongoing or that the project is delayed by litigation or by governmental action or inaction with respect to regulations or permitting that precludes commencement of the project.

(b) Such extension may be made for a period of 12 months and may be renewed for up to 36 additional months upon demonstration by the certificateholder of the progress towards opening. During each 12-month validity period renewal cycle, the certificateholder shall attest that good-faith progress towards commencement of the project is ongoing or that the project is being delayed by litigation or by governmental action or inaction.

(3) This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 37. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 272, 277, 278, 283, 288, and 289 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities may submit budget amendments, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, to transfer funding from the Salaries and Benefits appropriation categories to categories used for contractual services in order to support additional staff augmentation resources needed at the Developmental Disability Centers. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 38. In order to implement section 66 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities may submit budget amendments, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, to request the appropriation of funds from the Lump Sum-Home and Community-Based Services Waiver category to address any deficits or funding shortfalls. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 39. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 231 and 254 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Agency for Health Care Administration and the Agency for Persons with Disabilities may submit budget amendments, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, at least 3 days before the effective date of the action, to increase budget authority to support the implementation of the home and community-based services Medicaid waiver program of the Agency for Persons with Disabilities. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 40. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 594 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding chapter 216, Florida Statutes, the Department of Veterans' Affairs may submit a budget amendment, subject to Legislative Budget Commission approval, requesting the authority to establish positions in excess of the number

authorized by the Legislature, increase appropriations from the Operations and Maintenance Trust Fund, or provide a necessary salary rate sufficient to provide for essential staff for veterans' nursing homes, if the department projects that additional direct care staff are needed to meet its established staffing ratio. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 41. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 223 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsection (1) of section 409.915, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.915 County contributions to Medicaid.—Although the state is responsible for the full portion of the state share of the matching funds required for the Medicaid program, the state shall charge the counties an annual contribution in order to acquire a certain portion of these funds.

(1)(a) As used in this section, the term "state Medicaid expenditures" means those expenditures used as matching funds for the federal Medicaid program.

(b) The term does not include funds specially assessed by any local governmental entity and used as the nonfederal share for the hospital directed payment program after July 1, 2021. This paragraph expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 42. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 594 through 622A of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Department of Veterans' Affairs is authorized to:

(1) Expend funds pursuant to a Memorandum of Agreement between the department and the Collier County Board of County Commissioners, as well as funds appropriated in chapter 2023-239, Laws of Florida, for the planning and construction of a new State Veterans' Nursing Home and Adult Day Health Center in Collier County.

(2) Apply for a U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Construction Grant for the Collier County State Veterans' Nursing Home.

(3) Submit budget amendments subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures in s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, subject to federal approval, requesting additional spending authority to support the development and construction of a new State Veterans' Nursing Home and Adult Day Health Care Center in Collier County.

This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 43. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 404 and 406 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Department of Elderly Affairs may submit a budget amendment, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, to increase budget authority for the United States Department of Agriculture's Adult Care Food Program or the Older Americans Act if additional federal revenues will be expended in the 2026-2027 fiscal year. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 44. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 626 through 718 and 729 through 782 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsection (4) of section 216.262, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

216.262 Authorized positions.—

(4) Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter relating to increasing the number of authorized positions, and for the 2026-2027 ~~2025-2026~~ fiscal year only, if the actual inmate population of the Department of Corrections exceeds the inmate population projections of the December 23 ~~February 21~~, 2025, Criminal Justice Estimating Conference by 1 percent for 2 consecutive months or 2 percent for any month, the Executive Office of the Governor, with the approval of the Legislative Budget Commission, shall immediately notify the Criminal Justice Estimating Conference, which shall convene as soon as possible to revise the estimates. The Department of Corrections may then submit a budget amendment requesting the establishment of positions in excess of the number authorized by the Legislature and additional appropriations from unallocated general revenue sufficient to provide for essential staff, fixed capital improvements, and other resources to provide classification, security, food services, health services, and other

variable expenses within the institutions to accommodate the estimated increase in the inmate population. All actions taken pursuant to this subsection are subject to review and approval by the Legislative Budget Commission. This subsection expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 45. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 3340 through 3409 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsection (2) of section 215.18, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

215.18 Transfers between funds; limitation.—

(2) The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court may receive one or more trust fund loans to ensure that the state court system has funds sufficient to meet its appropriations in the 2026-2027 ~~2025-2026~~ General Appropriations Act. If the Chief Justice accesses the loan, he or she must notify the Governor and the chairs of the legislative appropriations committees in writing. The loan must come from other funds in the State Treasury which are for the time being or otherwise in excess of the amounts necessary to meet the just requirements of such last-mentioned funds. The Governor shall order the transfer of funds within 5 days after the written notification from the Chief Justice. If the Governor does not order the transfer, the Chief Financial Officer shall transfer the requested funds. The loan of funds from which any money is temporarily transferred must be repaid by the end of the 2026-2027 ~~2025-2026~~ fiscal year. This subsection expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 46. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 1183 through 1194 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act:

(1) *The Department of Juvenile Justice shall review county juvenile detention payments to ensure that counties fulfill their financial responsibilities required in s. 985.6865, Florida Statutes. If the Department of Juvenile Justice determines that a county has not met its obligations, the department shall direct the Department of Revenue to deduct the amount owed to the Department of Juvenile Justice from the funds provided to the county under s. 218.23, Florida Statutes. The Department of Revenue shall transfer the funds withheld to the Shared County/State Juvenile Detention Trust Fund.*

(2) *As an assurance to holders of bonds issued by counties before July 1, 2026, for which distributions made pursuant to s. 218.23, Florida Statutes, are pledged, or bonds issued to refund such bonds which mature no later than the bonds they refunded and which result in a reduction of debt service payable in each fiscal year, the amount available for distribution to a county shall remain as provided by law and continue to be subject to any lien or claim on behalf of the bondholders. The Department of Revenue must ensure, based on information provided by an affected county, that any reduction in amounts distributed pursuant to subsection (1) does not reduce the amount of distribution to a county below the amount necessary for the timely payment of principal and interest when due on the bonds and the amount necessary to comply with any covenant under the bond resolution or other documents relating to the issuance of the bonds. If a reduction to a county's monthly distribution must be decreased in order to comply with this section, the Department of Revenue must notify the Department of Juvenile Justice of the amount of the decrease, and the Department of Juvenile Justice must send a bill for payment of such amount to the affected county.*

(3) *This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 47. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 793 through 817A, 978 through 1125, and 1146 through 1182 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding the expiration date in section 52 of chapter 2025-199, Laws of Florida, subsection (1), paragraph (a) of subsection (2), paragraph (a) of subsection (3), and subsections (5), (6), and (7) of section 27.40, Florida Statutes, are re-enacted to read:

27.40 Court-appointed counsel; circuit registries; minimum requirements; appointment by court.—

(1) Counsel shall be appointed to represent any individual in a criminal or civil proceeding entitled to court-appointed counsel under the Federal or State Constitution or as authorized by general law. The court shall appoint a public defender to represent indigent persons as authorized in s. 27.51. The office of criminal conflict and civil regional counsel shall be appointed to represent persons in those cases in which provision is made for court-appointed counsel, but only after the public

defender has certified to the court in writing that the public defender is unable to provide representation due to a conflict of interest or is not authorized to provide representation. The public defender shall report, in the aggregate, the specific basis of all conflicts of interest certified to the court. On a quarterly basis, the public defender shall submit this information to the Justice Administrative Commission.

(2)(a) Private counsel shall be appointed to represent persons in those cases in which provision is made for court-appointed counsel but only after the office of criminal conflict and civil regional counsel has been appointed and has certified to the court in writing that the criminal conflict and civil regional counsel is unable to provide representation due to a conflict of interest. The criminal conflict and civil regional counsel shall report, in the aggregate, the specific basis of all conflicts of interest certified to the court. On a quarterly basis, the criminal conflict and civil regional counsel shall submit this information to the Justice Administrative Commission.

(3) In using a registry:

(a) The chief judge of the circuit shall compile a list of attorneys in private practice, by county and by category of cases, and provide the list to the clerk of court in each county. The chief judge of the circuit may restrict the number of attorneys on the general registry list. To be included on a registry, an attorney must certify that he or she:

1. Meets any minimum requirements established by the chief judge and by general law for court appointment;
2. Is available to represent indigent defendants in cases requiring court appointment of private counsel; and
3. Is willing to abide by the terms of the contract for services, s. 27.5304, and this section.

To be included on a registry, an attorney must enter into a contract for services with the Justice Administrative Commission. Failure to comply with the terms of the contract for services may result in termination of the contract and removal from the registry. Each attorney on the registry is responsible for notifying the clerk of the court and the Justice Administrative Commission of any change in his or her status. Failure to comply with this requirement is cause for termination of the contract for services and removal from the registry until the requirement is fulfilled.

(5) The Justice Administrative Commission shall approve uniform contract forms for use in procuring the services of private court-appointed counsel and uniform procedures and forms for use by a court-appointed attorney in support of billing for attorney's fees, costs, and related expenses to demonstrate the attorney's completion of specified duties. Such uniform contracts and forms for use in billing must be consistent with s. 27.5304, s. 216.311, and the General Appropriations Act and must contain the following statement: "The State of Florida's performance and obligation to pay under this contract is contingent upon an annual appropriation by the Legislature."

(6) After court appointment, the attorney must immediately file a notice of appearance with the court indicating acceptance of the appointment to represent the defendant and of the terms of the uniform contract as specified in subsection (5).

(7)(a) A private attorney appointed by the court from the registry to represent a client is entitled to payment as provided in s. 27.5304 so long as the requirements of subsection (1) and paragraph (2)(a) are met. An attorney appointed by the court who is not on the registry list may be compensated under s. 27.5304 only if the court finds in the order of appointment that there were no registry attorneys available for representation for that case and only if the requirements of subsection (1) and paragraph (2)(a) are met.

(b1). The flat fee established in s. 27.5304 and the General Appropriations Act shall be presumed by the court to be sufficient compensation. The attorney shall maintain appropriate documentation, including contemporaneous and detailed hourly accounting of time spent representing the client. If the attorney fails to maintain such contemporaneous and detailed hourly records, the attorney waives the right to seek compensation in excess of the flat fee established in s. 27.5304 and the General Appropriations Act. These records and docu-

ments are subject to review by the Justice Administrative Commission and audit by the Auditor General, subject to the attorney-client privilege and work-product privilege. The attorney shall maintain the records and documents in a manner that enables the attorney to redact any information subject to a privilege in order to facilitate the commission's review of the records and documents and not to impede such review. The attorney may redact information from the records and documents only to the extent necessary to comply with the privilege. The Justice Administrative Commission shall review such records and shall contemporaneously document such review before authorizing payment to an attorney. Objections by or on behalf of the Justice Administrative Commission to records or documents or to claims for payment by the attorney shall be presumed correct by the court unless the court determines, in writing, that competent and substantial evidence exists to justify overcoming the presumption.

2. If an attorney fails, refuses, or declines to permit the commission or the Auditor General to review documentation for a case as provided in this paragraph, the attorney waives the right to seek, and the commission may not pay, compensation in excess of the flat fee established in s. 27.5304 and the General Appropriations Act for that case.

3. A finding by the commission that an attorney has waived the right to seek compensation in excess of the flat fee established in s. 27.5304 and the General Appropriations Act, as provided in this paragraph, shall be presumed to be correct, unless the court determines, in writing, that competent and substantial evidence exists to justify overcoming the presumption.

Section 48. *The text of s. 27.40(1), (2)(a), (3)(a), (5), (6), and (7), Florida Statutes, as carried forward from chapter 2019-116, Laws of Florida, by this act expires July 1, 2027, and the text of those subsections and paragraphs, as applicable, shall revert to that in existence on June 30, 2019, except that any amendments to such text enacted other than by this act shall be preserved and continue to operate to the extent that such amendments are not dependent upon the portions of text which expire pursuant to this section.*

Section 49. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 793 through 817A, 978 through 1125, and 1146 through 1182 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding the expiration date in section 54 of chapter 2025-199, Laws of Florida, subsection (13) of section 27.5304, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsections (1), (3), (6), (7), and (11) and paragraphs (a) through (e) of subsection (12) of that section are reenacted, to read:

27.5304 Private court-appointed counsel; compensation; notice.—

(1) Private court-appointed counsel appointed in the manner prescribed in s. 27.40(1) and (2)(a) shall be compensated by the Justice Administrative Commission only as provided in this section and the General Appropriations Act. The flat fees prescribed in this section are limitations on compensation. The specific flat fee amounts for compensation shall be established annually in the General Appropriations Act. The attorney also shall be reimbursed for reasonable and necessary expenses in accordance with s. 29.007. If the attorney is representing a defendant charged with more than one offense in the same case, the attorney shall be compensated at the rate provided for the most serious offense for which he or she represented the defendant. This section does not allow stacking of the fee limits established by this section.

(3) The court retains primary authority and responsibility for determining the reasonableness of all billings for attorney fees, costs, and related expenses, subject to statutory limitations and the requirements of s. 27.40(7). Private court-appointed counsel is entitled to compensation upon final disposition of a case.

(6) For compensation for representation pursuant to a court appointment in a proceeding under chapter 39:

(a) At the trial level, compensation for representation for dependency proceedings shall not exceed \$1,450 for the first year following the date of appointment and shall not exceed \$700 each year thereafter. Compensation shall be paid based upon representation of a parent irrespective of the number of case numbers that may be assigned or the number of children involved, including any children born during the pendency of the proceeding. Any appeal, except for an appeal from an

adjudication of dependency, shall be completed by the trial attorney and is considered compensated by the flat fee for dependency proceedings.

1. Counsel may bill the flat fee not exceeding \$1,450 following disposition or upon dismissal of the petition.

2. Counsel may bill the annual flat fee not exceeding \$700 following the first judicial review in the second year following the date of appointment and each year thereafter as long as the case remains under protective supervision.

3. If the court grants a motion to reactivate protective supervision, the attorney shall receive the annual flat fee not exceeding \$700 following the first judicial review and up to an additional \$700 each year thereafter.

4. If, during the course of dependency proceedings, a proceeding to terminate parental rights is initiated, compensation shall be as set forth in paragraph (b). If counsel handling the dependency proceeding is not authorized to handle proceedings to terminate parental rights, the counsel must withdraw and new counsel must be appointed.

(b) At the trial level, compensation for representation in termination of parental rights proceedings shall not exceed \$1,800 for the first year following the date of appointment and shall not exceed \$700 each year thereafter. Compensation shall be paid based upon representation of a parent irrespective of the number of case numbers that may be assigned or the number of children involved, including any children born during the pendency of the proceeding. Any appeal, except for an appeal from an order granting or denying termination of parental rights, shall be completed by trial counsel and is considered compensated by the flat fee for termination of parental rights proceedings. If the individual has dependency proceedings ongoing as to other children, those proceedings are considered part of the termination of parental rights proceedings as long as that termination of parental rights proceeding is ongoing.

1. Counsel may bill the flat fee not exceeding \$1,800 30 days after rendition of the final order. Each request for payment submitted to the Justice Administrative Commission must include the trial counsel's certification that:

a. Counsel discussed grounds for appeal with the parent or that counsel attempted and was unable to contact the parent; and

b. No appeal will be filed or that a notice of appeal and a motion for appointment of appellate counsel, containing the signature of the parent, have been filed.

2. Counsel may bill the annual flat fee not exceeding \$700 following the first judicial review in the second year after the date of appointment and each year thereafter as long as the termination of parental rights proceedings are still ongoing.

(c) For appeals from an adjudication of dependency, compensation may not exceed \$1,800.

1. Counsel may bill a flat fee not exceeding \$1,200 upon filing the initial brief or the granting of a motion to withdraw.

2. If a brief is filed, counsel may bill an additional flat fee not exceeding \$600 upon rendition of the mandate.

(d) For an appeal from an adjudication of termination of parental rights, compensation may not exceed \$3,500.

1. Counsel may bill a flat fee not exceeding \$1,750 upon filing the initial brief or the granting of a motion to withdraw.

2. If a brief is filed, counsel may bill an additional flat fee not exceeding \$1,750 upon rendition of the mandate.

(7) Counsel eligible to receive compensation from the state for representation pursuant to court appointment made in accordance with the requirements of s. 27.40(1) and (2)(a) in a proceeding under chapter 384, chapter 390, chapter 392, chapter 393, chapter 394, chapter 397, chapter 415, chapter 743, chapter 744, or chapter 984 shall receive compensation not to exceed the limits prescribed in the General Ap-

ropriations Act. Any such compensation must be determined as provided in s. 27.40(7).

(11) It is the intent of the Legislature that the flat fees prescribed under this section and the General Appropriations Act comprise the full and complete compensation for private court-appointed counsel. It is further the intent of the Legislature that the fees in this section are prescribed for the purpose of providing counsel with notice of the limit on the amount of compensation for representation in particular proceedings and the sole procedure and requirements for obtaining payment for the same.

(a) If court-appointed counsel moves to withdraw prior to the full performance of his or her duties through the completion of the case, the court shall presume that the attorney is not entitled to the payment of the full flat fee established under this section and the General Appropriations Act.

(b) If court-appointed counsel is allowed to withdraw from representation prior to the full performance of his or her duties through the completion of the case and the court appoints a subsequent attorney, the total compensation for the initial and any and all subsequent attorneys may not exceed the flat fee established under this section and the General Appropriations Act, except as provided in subsection (12).

This subsection constitutes notice to any subsequently appointed attorney that he or she will not be compensated the full flat fee.

(12) The Legislature recognizes that on rare occasions an attorney may receive a case that requires extraordinary and unusual effort.

(a) If counsel seeks compensation that exceeds the limits prescribed by law, he or she must file a motion with the chief judge for an order approving payment of attorney fees in excess of these limits.

1. Before filing the motion, the counsel shall deliver a copy of the intended billing, together with supporting affidavits and all other necessary documentation, to the Justice Administrative Commission.

2. The Justice Administrative Commission shall review the billings, affidavit, and documentation for completeness and compliance with contractual and statutory requirements and shall contemporaneously document such review before authorizing payment to an attorney. If the Justice Administrative Commission objects to any portion of the proposed billing, the objection and supporting reasons must be communicated in writing to the private court-appointed counsel. The counsel may thereafter file his or her motion, which must specify whether the commission objects to any portion of the billing or the sufficiency of documentation, and shall attach the commission's letter stating its objection.

(b) Following receipt of the motion to exceed the fee limits, the chief judge or a single designee shall hold an evidentiary hearing. The chief judge may select only one judge per circuit to hear and determine motions pursuant to this subsection, except multicounty circuits and the eleventh circuit may have up to two designees.

1. At the hearing, the attorney seeking compensation must prove by competent and substantial evidence that the case required extraordinary and unusual efforts. The chief judge or single designee shall consider criteria such as the number of witnesses, the complexity of the factual and legal issues, and the length of trial. The fact that a trial was conducted in a case does not, by itself, constitute competent substantial evidence of an extraordinary and unusual effort. In a criminal case, relief under this section may not be granted if the number of work hours does not exceed 75 or the number of the state's witnesses deposed does not exceed 20.

2. Objections by or on behalf of the Justice Administrative Commission to records or documents or to claims for payment by the attorney shall be presumed correct by the court unless the court determines, in writing, that competent and substantial evidence exists to justify overcoming the presumption. The chief judge or single designee shall enter a written order detailing his or her findings and identifying the extraordinary nature of the time and efforts of the attorney in the case which warrant exceeding the flat fee established by this section and the General Appropriations Act.

(c) A copy of the motion and attachments shall be served on the Justice Administrative Commission at least 20 business days before the date of a hearing. The Justice Administrative Commission has standing to appear before the court, and may appear in person or telephonically, including at the hearing under paragraph (b), to contest any motion for an order approving payment of attorney fees, costs, or related expenses and may participate in a hearing on the motion by use of telephonic or other communication equipment. The Justice Administrative Commission may contract with other public or private entities or individuals to appear before the court for the purpose of contesting any motion for an order approving payment of attorney fees, costs, or related expenses. The fact that the Justice Administrative Commission has not objected to any portion of the billing or to the sufficiency of the documentation is not binding on the court.

(d) If the chief judge or a single designee finds that counsel has proved by competent and substantial evidence that the case required extraordinary and unusual efforts, the chief judge or single designee shall order the compensation to be paid to the attorney at a percentage above the flat fee rate, depending on the extent of the unusual and extraordinary effort required. The percentage must be only the rate necessary to ensure that the fees paid are not confiscatory under common law. The percentage may not exceed 200 percent of the established flat fee, absent a specific finding that 200 percent of the flat fee in the case would be confiscatory. If the chief judge or single designee determines that 200 percent of the flat fee would be confiscatory, he or she shall order the amount of compensation using an hourly rate not to exceed \$75 per hour for a noncapital case and \$100 per hour for a capital case. However, the compensation calculated by using the hourly rate shall be only that amount necessary to ensure that the total fees paid are not confiscatory, subject to the requirements of s. 27.40(7).

(e) Any order granting relief under this subsection must be attached to the final request for a payment submitted to the Justice Administrative Commission and must satisfy the requirements of subparagraph (b)2.

(13) Notwithstanding the limitation set forth in subsection (5) and for the 2026-2027 ~~2025-2026~~ fiscal year only, the compensation for representation in a criminal proceeding may not exceed the following:

(a) For misdemeanors and juveniles represented at the trial level: \$2,000.

(b) For noncapital, nonlife felonies represented at the trial level: \$15,000.

(c) For life felonies represented at the trial level: \$15,000.

(d) For capital cases represented at the trial level: \$25,000. For purposes of this paragraph, a "capital case" is any offense for which the potential sentence is death and the state has not waived seeking the death penalty.

(e) For representation on appeal: \$9,000.

(f) This subsection expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 50. *The text of s. 27.5304(1), (3), (7), (11), and (12)(a)-(e), Florida Statutes, as carried forward from chapter 2019-116, Laws of Florida, and the text of s. 27.5304(6), Florida Statutes, as carried forward from chapter 2023-240, Laws of Florida, by this act, expire July 1, 2027, and the text of those subsections and paragraphs, as applicable, shall revert to that in existence on June 30, 2019, except that any amendments to such text enacted other than by this act shall be preserved and continue to operate to the extent that such amendments are not dependent upon the portions of text which expire pursuant to this section.*

Section 51. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 1348 through 1353 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsection (3) of section 908.1033, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

908.1033 Local Law Enforcement Immigration Grant Program.—

(3)(a) A local law enforcement agency may apply to the State Board of Immigration Enforcement to provide bonus payments for the agency's local law enforcement officers who participate in United States Department of Homeland Security at-large task force operations. The local

law enforcement agency may apply for a bonus of up to \$1,000 for each local law enforcement officer employed within that agency. The local law enforcement agency must certify to the board that the local law enforcement officer participated in one or more operations and provide any information required by the board. Eligible participation does not include operations occurring solely at state correctional facilities or county detention facilities.

(b) The bonus payment shall be adjusted to include 7.65 percent for the officers' share of Federal Insurance Contribution Act tax on the bonus.

(c) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), and for the 2026-2027 ~~2025-2026~~ fiscal year, a local law enforcement agency may apply to the State Board of Immigration Enforcement to provide bonus payments for the agency's certified correctional officers under s. 943.10(2), who are a warrant service officer under s. 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. s. 1357 or an immigration officer under the jail enforcement model under s. 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. s. 1357. The local law enforcement agency may apply for a bonus of up to \$1,000 for each certified correctional officer employed with that county detention facility. The local law enforcement agency must certify to the board that the certified correctional officer acted in such capacity as a warrant service officer or an immigration officer under the jail enforcement model for at least 6 months preceding the application and provide any information required by the board. Eligible participation does not include operations occurring solely at state correctional facilities. This paragraph expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 52. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 1336A of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, paragraph (g) is added to subsection (7) of section 934.50, Florida Statutes, to read:

934.50 Searches and seizure using a drone.—

(7) SECURITY STANDARDS FOR GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY DRONE USE.—

(g) *Subject to appropriation, the Drone as First Responder Grant Program is created within the Department of Law Enforcement.*

1. *The grant program shall provide funds to law enforcement agencies, fire service providers, ambulance crews, or other first responders that apply for funding to acquire new drones that comply with this section. To be eligible, the applicant must provide the department with any information the department deems necessary. A law enforcement agency, fire service, ambulance service, or other first responder agency may apply directly to the department or a local governmental entity may submit an application on behalf of one or more of its agencies to purchase one or more new drones.*

2. *The department shall expeditiously develop an application process. Funds shall be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, determined by the date the department receives the application.*

3. *Grants must be matched by at least 50 percent local funds, but the department may waive this requirement for agencies solely serving within a fiscally constrained county as described in s. 218.67(1), Florida Statutes. Each grant is limited to a total of \$250,000 per agency and a maximum \$50,000 per drone.*

4. *For the purposes of this paragraph, the term "first responder agency" has the same meaning as in s. 365.179(1)(a).*

5. *The department may adopt rules to implement this paragraph. The department is authorized, and all conditions are deemed met, to adopt emergency rules under s. 120.54(4) for the purpose of implementing this paragraph. Notwithstanding any other law, emergency rules adopted under this section are effective for 12 months after adoption and may be renewed during the pendency of procedures to adopt permanent rules addressing the subject of the emergency rules.*

*This paragraph expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 53. *In order to implement appropriations used to pay existing lease contracts for private lease space in excess of 2,000 square feet in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, the Department of Management Services, with the cooperation of the agencies having the existing lease contracts for office or storage space, shall use tenant broker services*

*to renegotiate or reprocure all private lease agreements for office or storage space which are expiring between July 1, 2027, and June 30, 2029, in order to reduce costs in future years. The department shall incorporate this initiative into its 2026 master leasing report required under s. 255.249(7), Florida Statutes, and may use tenant broker services to explore the possibilities of colocating office or storage space, to review the space needs of each agency, and to review the length and terms of potential renewals or renegotiations. The department shall provide a report to the Executive Office of the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by November 1, 2026, which lists each lease contract for private office or storage space, the status of renegotiations, and the savings achieved. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 54. *In order to implement appropriations authorized in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act for data center services, and notwithstanding s. 216.292(2)(a), Florida Statutes, an agency may not transfer funds from a data processing category to a category other than another data processing category or a cloud computing category for information technology resources hosted outside an agency. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 55. *In order to implement the appropriation of funds in the appropriation category "Special Categories-Risk Management Insurance" in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and pursuant to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, the Executive Office of the Governor may transfer funds appropriated in that category between departments in order to align the budget authority granted with the premiums paid by each department for risk management insurance. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 56. *In order to implement the appropriation of funds in the appropriation category "Special Categories-Transfer to Department of Management Services-Human Resources Services Purchased per Statewide Contract" in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and pursuant to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, the Executive Office of the Governor may transfer funds appropriated in that category between departments in order to align the budget authority granted with the assessments that must be paid by each agency to the Department of Management Services for human resource management services. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 57. *In order to implement Specific Appropriation 2935 in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act in the Building Relocation appropriation category from the Architects Incidental Trust Fund of the Department of Management Services, and in accordance with s. 215.196, Florida Statutes:*

(1) *Upon the final disposition of a state-owned building, the Department of Management Services may use up to 5 percent of facility disposition funds from the Architects Incidental Trust Fund to defer, offset, or otherwise pay for all or a portion of relocation expenses, including furniture, fixtures, and equipment for state agencies impacted by the disposition of the department's managed facilities in the Florida Facilities Pool. The extent of the financial assistance provided to impacted state agencies shall be determined by the department.*

(2) *The Department of Management Services may submit budget amendments for an increase in appropriation if necessary for the implementation of this section pursuant to chapter 216, Florida Statutes. Budget amendments for an increase in appropriation shall include a detailed plan providing all estimated costs and relocation proposals.*

(3) *This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 58. *In order to implement Specific Appropriations 2513 through 2516 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act:*

(1) *The Department of Financial Services shall replace the four main components of the Florida Accounting Information Resource Subsystem (FLAIR), which include central FLAIR, departmental FLAIR, payroll, and information warehouse, and shall replace the cash management and accounting management components of the Cash Management Subsystem (CMS) with an integrated enterprise system that allows the state to organize, define, and standardize its financial management business processes and that complies with ss. 215.90-215.96, Florida Statutes. The department may not include in the replacement of FLAIR and CMS:*

(a) Functionality that duplicates any of the other information subsystems of the Florida Financial Management Information System; or

(b) Agency business processes related to any of the functions included in the Personnel Information System, the Purchasing Subsystem, or the Legislative Appropriations System/Planning and Budgeting Subsystem.

(2) For purposes of replacing FLAIR and CMS, the Department of Financial Services shall:

(a) Take into consideration the cost and implementation data identified for Option 3 as recommended in the March 31, 2014, Florida Department of Financial Services FLAIR Study, version 031.

(b) Ensure that all business requirements and technical specifications have been provided to all state agencies for their review and input and approved by the executive steering committee established in paragraph (c), including any updates to these documents.

(c) Implement a project governance structure that includes an executive steering committee composed of:

1. The Chief Financial Officer or the executive sponsor of the project.
2. A representative of the Division of Treasury of the Department of Financial Services, appointed by the Chief Financial Officer.
3. The Chief Information Officers of the Department of Financial Services and the Department of Environmental Protection.
4. Two employees from the Division of Accounting and Auditing of the Department of Financial Services, appointed by the Chief Financial Officer. Each employee must have experience relating to at least one of the four main components that compose FLAIR.
5. Two employees from the Executive Office of the Governor, appointed by the Governor. One employee must have experience relating to the Legislative Appropriations System/Planning and Budgeting Subsystem.
6. One employee from the Department of Revenue, appointed by the executive director, who has experience using or maintaining the department's finance and accounting systems.
7. Two employees from the Department of Management Services, appointed by the Secretary of Management Services. One employee must have experience relating to the department's personnel information subsystem and one employee must have experience relating to the department's purchasing subsystem.
8. A state agency administrative services director, appointed by the Governor.
9. The executive sponsor of the Florida Health Care Connection (FX) System or his or her designee, appointed by the Secretary of Health Care Administration.
10. The state chief information officer, or his or her designee, as a nonvoting member. The state chief information officer, or his or her designee, shall provide monthly status reports to the executive steering committee pursuant to the oversight responsibilities in s. 282.0051, Florida Statutes.
11. One employee from the Department of Business and Professional Regulation who has experience in finance and accounting and FLAIR, appointed by the Secretary of Business and Professional Regulation.
12. One employee from the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission who has experience using or maintaining the commission's finance and accounting systems, appointed by the chair of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.
13. The budget director of the Department of Education, or his or her designee.

(3)(a) The Chief Financial Officer or the executive sponsor of the project shall serve as chair of the executive steering committee, and the committee shall take action by a vote of at least eight affirmative votes

with the Chief Financial Officer or the executive sponsor of the project voting on the prevailing side. A quorum of the executive steering committee consists of at least 10 members.

(b) No later than 14 days before a meeting of the executive steering committee, the chair shall request input from committee members on agenda items for the next scheduled meeting.

(c) The chair shall establish a working group composed of FLAIR users, state agency technical staff who maintain applications that integrate with FLAIR, and no less than four state agency finance and accounting or budget directors. The working group shall meet at least monthly to review PALM functionality, assess project impacts to state financial business processes and agency staff, and develop recommendations to the executive steering committee for improvements. The chair shall request input from the working group on agenda items for each scheduled meeting. The Florida PALM project team shall dedicate a staff member to the group and provide system demonstrations and any project documentation, as needed, for the group to fulfill its duties.

(d) The chair shall request all agency project sponsors to provide bimonthly status reports to the executive steering committee. The form and format of the bimonthly status reports shall be developed by the Florida PALM project and provided to the executive steering committee meeting for approval. Such agency status reports shall provide information to the executive steering committee on the activities and ongoing work within the agency to prepare its systems and impacted employees for the deployment of the Florida PALM System. The first bimonthly status report is due September 1, 2026, and bimonthly thereafter.

(4) The executive steering committee has the overall responsibility for ensuring that the project to replace FLAIR and CMS meets its primary business objectives and shall:

(a) Identify and recommend to the Executive Office of the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives any statutory changes needed to implement the replacement subsystem that will standardize, to the fullest extent possible, the state's financial management business processes.

(b) Review and approve any changes to the project's scope, schedule, and budget which do not conflict with the requirements of subsection (1).

(c) Ensure that adequate resources are provided throughout all phases of the project.

(d) Approve all major project deliverables and any cost changes to each deliverable over \$250,000.

(e) Approve contract amendments and changes to all contract-related documents associated with the replacement of FLAIR and CMS.

(f) Review, and approve as warranted, the format of the bimonthly agency status reports to include objective and quantifiable information on each agency's progress in planning for the Florida PALM Major Implementation, covering the agency's people, processes, technology, and data transformation activities.

(g) Ensure compliance with ss. 216.181(16), 216.311, 216.313, 282.318(4)(h), and 287.058, Florida Statutes.

(5) This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 59. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 3040 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding the expiration date in section 65 of chapter 2025-199, Laws of Florida, subsection (3) of section 282.709, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

282.709 State agency law enforcement radio system and interoperability network.—

(3) In recognition of the critical nature of the statewide law enforcement radio communications system, the Legislature finds that there is an immediate danger to the public health, safety, and welfare, and that it is in the best interest of the state to continue partnering with the system's current operator. The Legislature finds that continuity of coverage is critical to supporting law enforcement, first responders, and other public safety users. The potential for a loss in coverage or a lack of

interoperability between users requires emergency action and is a serious concern for officers' safety and their ability to communicate and respond to various disasters and events.

(a) The department, pursuant to s. 287.057(11), shall enter into a 15-year contract with the entity that was operating the statewide radio communications system on January 1, 2021. The contract must include:

1. The purchase of radios;
2. The upgrade to the Project 25 communications standard;
3. Increased system capacity and enhanced coverage for system users;
4. Operations, maintenance, and support at a fixed annual rate;
5. The conveyance of communications towers to the department; and
6. The assignment of communications tower leases to the department.

(b) The State Agency Law Enforcement Radio System Trust Fund is established in the department and funded from surcharges collected under ss. 318.18, 320.0802, and 328.72. Upon appropriation, moneys in the trust fund may be used by the department to acquire the equipment, software, and engineering, administrative, and maintenance services it needs to construct, operate, and maintain the statewide radio system. Moneys in the trust fund from surcharges shall be used to help fund the costs of the system. Upon completion of the system, moneys in the trust fund may also be used by the department for payment of the recurring maintenance costs of the system.

Section 60. *The text of s. 282.709(3), Florida Statutes, as carried forward from chapter 2021-37, Laws of Florida, by this act expires July 1, 2027, and the text of that subsection shall revert to that in existence on June 1, 2021, except that any amendments to such text enacted other than by this act shall be preserved and continue to operate to the extent that such amendments are not dependent upon the portions of text which expire pursuant to this section.*

Section 61. *In order to implement appropriations relating to the purchase of equipment and services related to the Statewide Law Enforcement Radio System (SLERS) as authorized in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding s. 287.057, Florida Statutes, state agencies and other eligible users of the SLERS network may use the Department of Management Services SLERS contract for purchase of equipment and services. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 62. *In order to implement Specific Appropriations 2954 through 2965 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding rule 60A-1.031, Florida Administrative Code, the transaction fee as identified in s. 287.057(24)(c), Florida Statutes, shall be collected for use of the online procurement system and is 0.7 percent for the 2026-2027 fiscal year only. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 63. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 2866 through 2892 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and upon the expiration and reversion of the amendments made by section 69 of chapter 2025-199, Laws of Florida, paragraph (i) of subsection (9) of section 24.105, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

24.105 Powers and duties of department.—The department shall:

(9) Adopt rules governing the establishment and operation of the state lottery, including:

(i) The manner and amount of compensation of retailers, *except for the 2026-2027 fiscal year only, effective July 1, 2026, the commission for lottery ticket sales shall be 6 percent of the purchase price of each ticket sold or issued as a prize by a retailer. Any additional retailer compensation is limited to the Florida Lottery Retailer Bonus Commission program appropriated in Specific Appropriation 2892 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act.*

Section 64. *The amendment to s. 24.105(9)(i), Florida Statutes, made by this act expires July 1, 2027, and the text of that paragraph shall revert to that in existence on June 30, 2022, except that any amendments to such text enacted other than by this act shall be preserved and con-*

*tinue to operate to the extent that such amendments are not dependent upon the portions of text which expire pursuant to this section.*

Section 65. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 3084 through 3092 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, paragraph (1l) of subsection (6) of section 627.351, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

627.351 Insurance risk apportionment plans.—

(6) CITIZENS PROPERTY INSURANCE CORPORATION.—

(1l)1. In addition to any other method of alternative dispute resolution authorized by state law, the corporation may adopt policy forms that provide for the resolution of disputes regarding its claim determinations, including disputes regarding coverage for, or the scope and value of, a claim, in a proceeding before the Division of Administrative Hearings. Any such policies are not subject to s. 627.70154. All proceedings in the Division of Administrative Hearings pursuant to such policies are subject to ss. 57.105 and 768.79 as if filed in the courts of this state and are not considered chapter 120 administrative proceedings. Rule 1.442, Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, applies to any offer served pursuant to s. 768.79, except that, notwithstanding any provision in Rule 1.442, Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, to the contrary, an offer shall not be served earlier than 10 days after filing the request for hearing with the Division of Administrative Hearings and shall not be served later than 10 days before the date set for the final hearing. The administrative law judge in such proceedings shall award attorney fees and other relief pursuant to ss. 57.105 and 768.79. The corporation may not seek, and the office may not approve, a maximum hourly rate for attorney fees.

2. The corporation may contract with the division to conduct proceedings to resolve disputes regarding its claim determinations as may be provided for in the applicable policies of insurance. This subparagraph expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 66. In order to implement section 125 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 215.5586, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

215.5586 My Safe Florida Home Program.—There is established within the Department of Financial Services the My Safe Florida Home Program. The department shall provide fiscal accountability, contract management, and strategic leadership for the program, consistent with this section. This section does not create an entitlement for property owners or obligate the state in any way to fund the inspection or retrofitting of residential property in this state. Implementation of this program is subject to annual legislative appropriations. It is the intent of the Legislature that, subject to the availability of funds, the My Safe Florida Home Program provide licensed inspectors to perform hurricane mitigation inspections of eligible homes and grants to fund hurricane mitigation projects on those homes. The department shall implement the program in such a manner that the total amount of funding requested by accepted applications, whether for inspections, grants, or other services or assistance, does not exceed the total amount of available funds. If, after applications are processed and approved, funds remain available, the department may accept applications up to the available amount. The program shall develop and implement a comprehensive and coordinated approach for hurricane damage mitigation pursuant to the requirements provided in this section.

(2) HURRICANE MITIGATION GRANTS.—Financial grants shall be used by homeowners to make improvements recommended by an inspection which increase resistance to hurricane damage.

(a) A homeowner is eligible for a hurricane mitigation grant if all of the following criteria are met:

1. The home must be eligible for an inspection under subsection (1).
2. The home must be a dwelling with an insured value of \$700,000 or less. Homeowners who are low-income persons, as defined in s. 420.0004(11), are exempt from this requirement.
3. The home must undergo an acceptable hurricane mitigation inspection as provided in subsection (1).

4. The building permit application for initial construction of the home must have been made before January 1, 2008.

5. The homeowner must agree to make his or her home available for inspection once a mitigation project is completed.

6. The homeowner must agree to provide to the department information received from the homeowner's insurer identifying the discounts realized by the homeowner because of the mitigation improvements funded through the program.

7.a. The homeowner must be a low-income person or moderate-income person as defined in s. 420.0004.

b. The hurricane mitigation inspection must have occurred within the previous 24 months from the date of application.

c. Notwithstanding subparagraph 2., homeowners who are low-income persons, as defined in s. 420.0004(11), are not exempt from the requirement that the home must be a dwelling with an insured value of \$700,000 or less.

d. This subparagraph expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 67. *Effective upon this act becoming a law, in order to implement Specific Appropriation 2544A of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding s. 216.301, Florida Statutes, the funds appropriated to the Department of Financial Services in Specific Appropriation 2245A and section 74 of the 2025-2026 General Appropriations Act will not revert and may be carried forward through the 2026-2027 fiscal year. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 68. *In order to implement the appropriation of funds in the appropriation category "Northwest Regional Data Center" in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and pursuant to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, the Executive Office of the Governor may transfer funds appropriated in that category between departments in order to align the budget authority granted based on the estimated costs for data processing services for the 2026-2027 fiscal year. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 69. *In order to implement appropriations authorized in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act for state data center services, auxiliary assessments charged to state agencies related to contract management services provided to Northwest Regional Data Center may not exceed 3 percent. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 70. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 2563A of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, section 284.51, Florida Statutes, is reenacted and amended to read:

284.51 Electroencephalogram combined transcranial magnetic stimulation treatment pilot program.—

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

(a) "Division" means the Division of Risk Management of the Department of Financial Services.

(b) "Electroencephalogram combined Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation" or "eTMS" means treatment in which transcranial magnetic stimulation frequency pulses are tuned to the patient's physiology and biometric data.

(c) "First responder" means a law enforcement officer, a part-time law enforcement officer, or an auxiliary law enforcement officer as defined in s. 943.10; a firefighter as defined in s. 633.102; a 911 public safety telecommunicator as defined in s. 401.465; or an emergency medical technician or paramedic as defined in s. 401.23 employed by state or local government. The term also includes a volunteer or retired law enforcement officer, firefighter, or emergency medical technician or paramedic engaged, or previously engaged, by the state or a local government.

(d) "Veteran" means:

1. A veteran as defined in 38 U.S.C. s. 101(2);

2. A person who served in a reserve component as defined in 38 U.S.C. s. 101(27); or

3. A person who served in the National Guard of any state.

(2) The division shall select a provider to establish a statewide pilot program to make eTMS available for veterans, first responders, and immediate family members of veterans and first responders with:

(a) Substance use disorders.

(b) Mental illness.

(c) Sleep disorders.

(d) Traumatic brain injuries.

(e) Sexual trauma.

(f) Posttraumatic stress disorder and accompanying comorbidities.

(g) Concussions.

(h) Other brain trauma.

(i) Quality of life issues affecting human performance, including issues related to or resulting from problems with cognition and problems maintaining attention, concentration, or focus.

(3) The provider must display a history of serving veteran and first responder populations at a statewide level. The provider shall establish a network for in-person and offsite care with the goal of providing statewide access. Consideration shall be provided to locations with a large population of first responders and veterans. In addition to traditional eTMS devices, the provider may utilize nonmedical Portable Magnetic Stimulation devices to improve access to underserved populations in remote areas or to be used to serve as a pre-post treatment or a stand-alone device. The provider shall be required to establish and operate a clinical practice and to evaluate outcomes of such clinical practice.

(4) The pilot program shall include:

(a) The establishment of a peer-to-peer support network by the provider made available to all individuals receiving treatment under the program.

(b) The requirement that each individual who receives treatment under the program also must receive neurophysiological monitoring, monitoring for symptoms of substance use and other mental health disorders, and access to counseling and wellness programming. Each individual who receives treatment must also participate in the peer-to-peer support network established by the provider.

(c) The establishment of protocols which include the use of adopted stimulation frequency and intensity modulation based on EEGs done on days 0, 10, and 20 and motor threshold testing, as well as clinical symptoms, signs, and biometrics.

(d) The requirement that protocols and outcomes of any treatment provided by the clinical practice shall be collected and reported by the provider quarterly to the division, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Such report shall include the biodata metrics and all expenditures and accounting of the use of funds received from the department.

(e) The requirement that protocols and outcomes of any treatment provided by the clinical practice shall be collected and reported to the University of South Florida and may be provided by the provider to any relevant Food and Drug Administration studies or trials.

(5) The division may adopt rules to implement this section.

(6) This section expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 71. *In order to implement Specific Appropriation 2563A of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, the Department of Financial Services shall continue its existing contract for the establishment of the Electroencephalogram Combined Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation Treatment pilot program for veterans and first responders. The depart-*

ment's existing contract, and all funds paid by the department pursuant to that contract, do not constitute state financial assistance as provided in s. 215.97, Florida Statutes. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 72. Effective upon this act becoming a law, and in order to implement Specific Appropriations 2505 through 2512 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsection (3) is added to section 717.123, Florida Statutes, to read:

717.123 Deposit of funds.—

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (1), and for the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 fiscal years, the department shall retain, from the funds received under this chapter, an amount not to exceed the amount estimated to be received as atypical receipts for the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 fiscal years by the Revenue Estimating Conference resulting from the implementation of chapter 2024-140, Laws of Florida. This amount must be held in a separate account and is in addition to the \$15 million the department is authorized to retain pursuant to subsection (1). From the separate account the department shall make prompt payment of claims relating to the atypical receipts allowed by the department. This subsection expires July 1, 2027.

Section 73. In order to implement specific appropriations from the land acquisition trust funds within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of State, and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, which are contained in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsection (3) of section 215.18, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

215.18 Transfers between funds; limitation.—

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (1) and only with respect to a land acquisition trust fund in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of State, or the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, whenever there is a deficiency in a land acquisition trust fund which would render that trust fund temporarily insufficient to meet its just requirements, including the timely payment of appropriations from that trust fund, and other trust funds in the State Treasury have moneys that are for the time being or otherwise in excess of the amounts necessary to meet the just requirements, including appropriated obligations, of those other trust funds, the Governor may order a temporary transfer of moneys from one or more of the other trust funds to a land acquisition trust fund in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of State, or the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. Any action proposed pursuant to this subsection is subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, and the Governor shall provide notice of such action at least 7 days before the effective date of the transfer of trust funds, except that during July 2026 ~~2025~~, notice of such action shall be provided at least 3 days before the effective date of a transfer unless such 3-day notice is waived by the chair and vice chair of the Legislative Budget Commission. Any transfer of trust funds to a land acquisition trust fund in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of State, or the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission must be repaid to the trust funds from which the moneys were loaned by the end of the 2026-2027 ~~2025-2026~~ fiscal year. The Legislature has determined that the repayment of the other trust fund moneys temporarily loaned to a land acquisition trust fund in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of State, or the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission pursuant to this subsection is an allowable use of the moneys in a land acquisition trust fund because the moneys from other trust funds temporarily loaned to a land acquisition trust fund shall be expended solely and exclusively in accordance with s. 28, Art. X of the State Constitution. This subsection expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 74. (1) In order to implement specific appropriations from the land acquisition trust funds within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of State, and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission which are contained in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, the Department of Environmental Protection shall transfer revenues from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund within the department to the land acquisition trust funds within the Department of Agriculture and Con-

sumer Services, the Department of State, and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission as provided in this section. As used in this section, the term "department" means the Department of Environmental Protection.

(2) After subtracting any required debt service payments, the proportionate share of revenues to be transferred to each land acquisition trust fund shall be calculated by dividing the appropriations from each of the land acquisition trust funds for the fiscal year by the total appropriations from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund within the department and the land acquisition trust funds within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of State, and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission for the fiscal year. The department shall transfer the proportionate share of the revenues in the Land Acquisition Trust Fund within the department on a monthly basis to the appropriate land acquisition trust funds within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of State, and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and shall retain its proportionate share of the revenues in the Land Acquisition Trust Fund within the department. Total distributions to a land acquisition trust fund within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of State, and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission may not exceed the total appropriations from such trust fund for the fiscal year.

(3) In addition, the department shall transfer from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund to land acquisition trust funds within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of State, and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission amounts equal to the difference between the amounts appropriated in chapter 2025-198, Laws of Florida, to the department's Land Acquisition Trust Fund and the other land acquisition trust funds, and the amounts actually transferred between those trust funds during the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

(4) The department may advance funds from the beginning unobligated fund balance in the Land Acquisition Trust Fund to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund within the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission needed for cash flow purposes based on a detailed expenditure plan. The department shall prorate amounts transferred quarterly to the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to recoup the amount of funds advanced by June 30, 2027.

(5) This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 75. In order to implement specific appropriations from the Florida Forever Trust Fund within the Department of Environmental Protection, which are contained in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, paragraph (m) of subsection (3) of section 259.105, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

259.105 The Florida Forever Act.—

(3) Less the costs of issuing and the costs of funding reserve accounts and other costs associated with bonds, the proceeds of cash payments or bonds issued pursuant to this section shall be deposited into the Florida Forever Trust Fund created by s. 259.1051. The proceeds shall be distributed by the Department of Environmental Protection in the following manner:

(m) Notwithstanding paragraphs (a)-(j) and for the 2026-2027 ~~2025-2026~~ fiscal year, the proceeds shall be distributed as provided in the General Appropriations Act. This paragraph expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 76. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 1776 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding the expiration date in section 85 of chapter 2025-199, Laws of Florida, paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 376.91, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

376.91 Statewide cleanup of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances.—

(2) STATEWIDE CLEANUP TARGET LEVELS.—

(a) If the United States Environmental Protection Agency has not finalized its standards for PFAS in drinking water, groundwater, and soil by January 1, 2027 ~~2026~~, the department shall adopt by rule statewide cleanup target levels for PFAS in drinking water, ground-

water, and soil using criteria set forth in s. 376.30701, with priority given to PFOA and PFOS. The rules for statewide cleanup target levels may not take effect until ratified by the Legislature.

Section 77. *The amendment to s. 376.91(2)(a), Florida Statutes, made by this act expires July 1, 2027, and the text of that paragraph shall revert to that in existence on June 30, 2025, except that any amendments to such text enacted other than by this act shall be preserved and continue to operate to the extent that such amendments are not dependent upon the portions of text which expire pursuant to this section.*

Section 78. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 1831A of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding the expiration date in section 89 of chapter 2025-199, Laws of Florida, paragraph (g) of subsection (15) of section 376.3071, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

376.3071 Inland Protection Trust Fund; creation; purposes; funding.—

(15) ETHANOL OR BIODIESEL DAMAGE; PREVENTIVE MEASURES.—The department shall pay, pursuant to this subsection, up to \$10 million each fiscal year from the fund for the costs of labor and equipment to repair or replace petroleum storage systems that may have been damaged due to the storage of fuels blended with ethanol or biodiesel, or for preventive measures to reduce the potential for such damage.

(g) Payments may not be made for the following:

1. Proposal costs or costs related to preparation of the application and required documentation;
2. Certified public accountant costs;
3. Except as provided in paragraph (j), any costs in excess of the amount approved by the department under paragraph (b) or which are not in substantial compliance with the purchase order;
4. Costs associated with storage tanks, piping, or ancillary equipment that has previously been repaired or replaced for which costs have been paid under this section;
5. Facilities that are not in compliance with department storage tank rules, until the noncompliance issues have been resolved; or
6. Costs associated with damage to petroleum storage systems caused in whole or in part by causes other than the storage of fuels blended with ethanol or biodiesel.

Section 79. *The text of s. 376.3071(15)(g), Florida Statutes, as carried forward from chapter 2020-114, Laws of Florida, by this act expires July 1, 2027, and the text of that paragraph shall revert to that in existence on July 1, 2020, but not including any amendments made by this act or chapter 2020-114, Laws of Florida, and any amendments to such text enacted other than by this act shall be preserved and continue to operate to the extent that such amendments are not dependent upon the portion of text which expires pursuant to this section.*

Section 80. *In order to implement Specific Appropriation 2320 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding chapter 287, Florida Statutes, the Department of Citrus shall enter into agreements for the purpose of increasing production of trees that show tolerance or resistance to citrus greening and to commercialize technologies that produce tolerance or resistance to citrus greening in trees. The department shall enter into these agreements no later than January 1, 2027, and shall file with the department's Inspector General a certification of conditions and circumstances justifying each agreement entered into without competitive solicitation. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 81. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 1715 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding the expiration date in section 92 of chapter 2025-199, Laws of Florida, section 380.5105, Florida Statutes, as amended by chapters 2024-228 and 2025-199, Laws of Florida, is reenacted to read:

380.5105 The Stan Mayfield Working Waterfronts; Florida Forever program.—

(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, it is the intent of the Legislature that the trust shall administer the working waterfronts land acquisition program as set forth in this section.

(a) The trust and the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall jointly develop rules specifically establishing an application process and a process for the evaluation, scoring and ranking of working waterfront projects. The proposed rules jointly developed pursuant to this paragraph shall be promulgated by the trust. Such rules shall establish a system of weighted criteria to give increased priority to projects:

1. Within a municipality with a population less than 30,000;
2. Within a municipality or area under intense growth and development pressures, as evidenced by a number of factors, including a determination that the municipality's growth rate exceeds the average growth rate for the state;
3. Within the boundary of a community redevelopment agency established pursuant to s. 163.356;
4. Adjacent to state-owned submerged lands designated as an aquatic preserve identified in s. 258.39; or
5. That provide a demonstrable benefit to the local economy.

(b) For projects that will require more than the grant amount awarded for completion, the applicant must identify in their project application funding sources that will provide the difference between the grant award and the estimated project completion cost. Such rules may be incorporated into those developed pursuant to s. 380.507(11).

(c) The trust shall develop a ranking list based on criteria identified in paragraph (a) for proposed fee simple and less-than-fee simple acquisition projects developed pursuant to this section. The trust shall, by the first Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund meeting in February, present the ranking list pursuant to this section to the board of trustees for final approval of projects for funding. The board of trustees may remove projects from the ranking list but may not add projects.

(d) Grant awards, acquisition approvals, and terms of less-than-fee acquisitions shall be approved by the trust. Waterfront communities that receive grant awards must submit annual progress reports to the trust identifying project activities which are complete, and the progress achieved in meeting the goals outlined in the project application. The trust must implement a process to monitor and evaluate the performance of grant recipients in completing projects that are funded through the working waterfronts program.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, it is the intent of the Legislature that the Department of Environmental Protection shall administer the working waterfronts capital outlay grant program as set forth in this section to support the commercial fishing and marine aquaculture industries, including the infrastructure for receiving or unloading seafood for the purpose of supporting the seafood economy.

(a) The working waterfronts capital outlay grant program is created to provide funding to assist commercial saltwater products or commercial saltwater wholesale dealer or retailer license holders and seafood houses in maintaining their operations.

(b) Eligible costs and expenditures include fixed capital outlay and operating capital outlay, including, but not limited to, the repair and maintenance or replacement of equipment, the repair and maintenance or replacement of water-adjacent facilities or infrastructure, and the construction or renovation of shoreside facilities.

(c) The applicant must demonstrate a benefit to the local economy.

(d) Grant recipients must submit annual progress reports to the department identifying project activities that are complete and the progress achieved in meeting the goals outlined in the project application.

(e) The department shall implement a process to monitor and evaluate the performance of grant recipients in completing projects funded through the program.

Section 82. *The text of s. 380.5105, Florida Statutes, as carried forward from chapters 2024-228 and 2025-199, Laws of Florida, by this act expires July 1, 2027, and the text of that section shall revert to that in existence on June 30, 2024, except that any amendments to such text enacted other than by this act shall be preserved and continue to operate to the extent that such amendments are not dependent upon the portions of text which expire pursuant to this section.*

Section 83. *In order to implement Specific Appropriation 1951 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act and notwithstanding s. 823.11(4)(c), Florida Statutes, the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission may use funds appropriated for the derelict vessel removal program for grants to local governments or to remove, store, destroy, and dispose of, or to pay private contractors to remove, store, destroy, and dispose of, derelict vessels or vessels declared a public nuisance pursuant to s. 327.73(1)(aa), Florida Statutes. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 84. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 1744A of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsection (4) is added to section 403.890, Florida Statutes, to read:

403.890 Water Protection and Sustainability Program.—

(4) *Notwithstanding subsections (1) and (2), revenues deposited into or appropriated to the Water Protection and Sustainability Program Trust Fund may be used as provided in the General Appropriations Act. This subsection expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 85. In order to implement appropriations from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund within the Department of Environmental Protection in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 375.041, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

375.041 Land Acquisition Trust Fund.—

(3) Funds distributed into the Land Acquisition Trust Fund pursuant to s. 201.15 shall be applied:

(b) Of the funds remaining after the payments required under paragraph (a), but before funds may be appropriated, pledged, or dedicated for other uses:

1. A minimum of the lesser of 25 percent or \$200 million shall be appropriated annually for Everglades projects that implement the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan as set forth in s. 373.470, including the Central Everglades Planning Project subject to congressional authorization; the Long-Term Plan as defined in s. 373.4592(2); and the Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program as set forth in s. 373.4595. From these funds, \$32 million shall be distributed each fiscal year through the 2023-2024 fiscal year to the South Florida Water Management District for the Long-Term Plan as defined in s. 373.4592(2). After deducting the \$32 million distributed under this subparagraph, from the funds remaining, a minimum of the lesser of 76.5 percent or \$100 million shall be appropriated each fiscal year through the 2025-2026 fiscal year for the planning, design, engineering, and construction of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan as set forth in s. 373.470, including the Central Everglades Planning Project, the Everglades Agricultural Area Storage Reservoir Project, the Lake Okeechobee Watershed Project, the C-43 West Basin Storage Reservoir Project, the Indian River Lagoon-South Project, the Western Everglades Restoration Project, and the Picayune Strand Restoration Project. The Department of Environmental Protection and the South Florida Water Management District shall give preference to those Everglades restoration projects that reduce harmful discharges of water from Lake Okeechobee to the St. Lucie or Caloosahatchee estuaries in a timely manner. For the purpose of performing the calculation provided in this subparagraph, the amount of debt service paid pursuant to paragraph (a) for bonds issued after July 1, 2016, for the purposes set forth under this paragraph shall be added to the amount remaining after the payments required under paragraph (a). The amount of the distribution calculated shall then be reduced by an amount equal to the debt service paid pursuant to paragraph (a) on bonds issued after July 1, 2016, for the purposes set forth under this subparagraph.

2. A minimum of the lesser of 7.6 percent or \$50 million shall be appropriated annually for spring restoration, protection, and management projects. For the purpose of performing the calculation provided in this subparagraph, the amount of debt service paid pursuant to paragraph (a) for bonds issued after July 1, 2016, for the purposes set forth under this paragraph shall be added to the amount remaining after the payments required under paragraph (a). The amount of the distribution calculated shall then be reduced by an amount equal to the debt service paid pursuant to paragraph (a) on bonds issued after July 1, 2016, for the purposes set forth under this subparagraph.

3. The sum of \$5 million shall be appropriated annually each fiscal year through the 2025-2026 fiscal year to the St. Johns River Water Management District for projects dedicated to the restoration of Lake Apopka. This distribution shall be reduced by an amount equal to the debt service paid pursuant to paragraph (a) on bonds issued after July 1, 2016, for the purposes set forth in this subparagraph.

4. The sum of \$64 million is appropriated and shall be transferred to the Everglades Trust Fund for the 2018-2019 fiscal year, and each fiscal year thereafter, for the EAA reservoir project pursuant to s. 373.4598. Any funds remaining in any fiscal year shall be made available only for Phase II of the C-51 reservoir project or projects identified in subparagraph 1. and must be used in accordance with laws relating to such projects. Any funds made available for such purposes in a fiscal year are in addition to the amount appropriated under subparagraph 1. This distribution shall be reduced by an amount equal to the debt service paid pursuant to paragraph (a) on bonds issued after July 1, 2017, for the purposes set forth in this subparagraph.

5. The sum of \$50 million shall be appropriated annually to the South Florida Water Management District for the Lake Okeechobee Watershed Restoration Project in accordance with s. 373.4599. This distribution must be reduced by an amount equal to the debt service paid pursuant to paragraph (a) on bonds issued after July 1, 2021, for the purposes set forth in this subparagraph.

6. The sum of \$100 million shall be appropriated annually to the Department of Environmental Protection for the acquisition of land pursuant to s. 259.105.

7. ~~Notwithstanding subparagraph 6. subparagraphs 3. and 6., for the 2026-2027 2025-2026 fiscal year, funds shall be appropriated as provided in the General Appropriations Act. This subparagraph expires July 1, 2027 2026.~~

Section 86. *In order to implement Specific Appropriation 1650 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding chapter 255, Florida Statutes, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services may lease an existing facility that meets the requirements of s. 581.1843(6), Florida Statutes, and may administer a program to expedite the expansion of the propagation of Citrus sinensis or Citrus sinensis-like budwood trees and seedlings that show tolerance or resistance to citrus greening, and to commercialize technologies that produce tolerance or resistance to citrus greening in trees. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 87. *In order to implement Specific Appropriation 1660 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services may submit budget amendments, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, to increase budget authority to support the National School Lunch Program. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 88. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 2331 through 2338 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsection (3) of section 288.80125, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

288.80125 Triumph Gulf Coast Trust Fund.—

(3) For the 2026-2027 ~~2025-2026~~ fiscal year, funds shall be used for the Rebuild Florida Revolving Loan Fund program to provide assistance to businesses impacted by Hurricane Michael as provided in the General Appropriations Act. This subsection expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 89. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 2055 through 2068, 2069D through 2069E, 2080 through 2090, 2092 through

2100, and 2138 through 2151 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, paragraph (h) of subsection (7) of section 339.135, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

339.135 Work program; legislative budget request; definitions; preparation, adoption, execution, and amendment.—

(7) AMENDMENT OF THE ADOPTED WORK PROGRAM.—

(h)1. Any work program amendment that also adds a new project, or phase thereof, to the adopted work program in excess of \$3 million is subject to approval by the Legislative Budget Commission. Any work program amendment submitted under this paragraph must include, as supplemental information, a list of projects, or phases thereof, in the current 5-year adopted work program which are eligible for the funds within the appropriation category being used for the proposed amendment. The department shall provide a narrative with the rationale for not advancing an existing project, or phase thereof, in lieu of the proposed amendment.

2. If the department submits an amendment to the Legislative Budget Commission and the commission does not meet or consider the amendment within 30 days after its submittal, the chair and vice chair of the commission may authorize the amendment to be approved pursuant to s. 216.177. This subparagraph expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 90. *In order to implement Specific Appropriations 2055 through 2068, 2069D, 2069E, 2080 through 2082, 2092 through 2100 and 2138 through 2151 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding s. 339.135(7)(b), Florida Statutes, the Department of Transportation is authorized to request up to \$100 million of budget authority to the extent necessary to advance or defer projects programmed in the Work Program and realign resources to safeguard district allocations and ensure projects programmed in the Work Program are balanced to the finance plan. The department may submit budget amendments to realign budget authority consistent with this section and pursuant to s. 339.135(7), Florida Statutes. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 91. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 2396 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsection (6) of section 288.0655, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

288.0655 Rural Infrastructure Fund.—

(6) For the 2026-2027 ~~2025-2026~~ fiscal year, the funds appropriated for the grant program for Florida Panhandle counties shall be distributed pursuant to and for the purposes described in the proviso language associated with Specific Appropriation 2396 ~~2113~~ of the 2026-2027 ~~2025-2026~~ General Appropriations Act. This subsection expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 92. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 2396A through 2396J of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, section 288.013, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

288.013 Office of Rural Prosperity.—

(1) *The Legislature finds that the unique characteristics of the rural communities in this state are integral to making Florida an attractive place to visit, work, and live. The Legislature further finds that fostering a prosperous rural economy and vibrant rural communities serves the best interests of this state. Rural prosperity supports this state's infrastructure, housing, agricultural, and food-processing needs and advances the overall health of Florida's economy. It is essential that rural areas be able to grow and thrive, whether independently or through regional partnerships. To better serve rural communities, and in recognition of the unique challenges and opportunities they face, the Office of Rural Prosperity is established to ensure that state efforts to support rural Florida are coordinated, focused, and effective.*

(2) *Notwithstanding s. 20.60, the Office of Rural Prosperity is created within the Department of Commerce to support rural communities by helping rural stakeholders navigate available programs and resources and by representing rural interests across state government.*

(3) *The Governor shall appoint a director to lead the office, subject to confirmation by the Senate. The director shall report to the secretary of the department and shall serve at the pleasure of the secretary.*

(4) *The office shall do all of the following:*

(a) *Serve as the state's point of contact for rural local governments.*

(b) *Provide administrative support to the Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) pursuant to s. 288.0656.*

(c) *Provide training and technical assistance to rural local governments on a broad range of community and economic development activities. The training and technical assistance may be offered using communications technology or in person. In addition, the office shall post a recorded training and technical assistance video to the office's website which covers all of the required topics. The training and technical assistance must include, at a minimum, the following topics:*

1. *How to access state and federal resources, including training on the online rural resource directory required under paragraph (d).*

2. *Best practices for comprehensive planning, economic development, and land development in rural communities.*

3. *Strategies to address staffing shortages and strengthen management functions in rural local governments.*

4. *Requirements of, and updates on recent changes to, the Community Planning Act under s. 163.3161.*

5. *Updates on other recent state and federal laws affecting rural local governments.*

(d) *Create and maintain an online rural resource directory to serve as an interactive tool for users to navigate state and federal resources, tools, and services available to rural local governments. The office shall ensure the directory is regularly updated and, to the greatest extent possible, includes current information on programs, resources, and services that address the needs of rural communities in all areas of governance. Each state agency shall routinely provide information and updates to the office to support maintenance of the directory. The directory must allow users to search by indicators, such as agency name, resource type, or topic, and include a notification feature that alerts users when new or updated resources are available. To the greatest extent possible, the directory must identify any financial match requirements associated with listed programs.*

(5)(a) *By October 1, 2026, the office shall establish and provide staff for seven regional rural community liaison centers across this state to provide specialized in-person state support to rural local governments located in rural areas of opportunity as defined in s. 288.0656. The department shall, by rule, divide the state into seven regions and assign a liaison center to each region. Each liaison center shall serve the local governments within its geographic area and shall be staffed with at least two full-time department employees. At a minimum, each liaison center has the following powers and duties:*

1. *Assist local governments in planning and achieving goals related to local or regional growth, economic development, and rural prosperity.*

2. *Facilitate access to state and federal resources, including grants, loans, and other available assistance.*

3. *Advise local governments on available program waivers, including financial match waivers or reductions for projects using state or federal funds through REDI under s. 288.0656.*

4. *Coordinate technical assistance needs with the department and other state or federal agencies.*

5. *Promote model ordinances, policies, and strategies related to economic development.*

6. *Assist local governments with regulatory and reporting compliance requirements.*

(b) *To the greatest extent possible, each regional rural community liaison center shall coordinate with local and regional governmental entities, regional economic development organizations as defined in s. 288.018, and other appropriate entities to establish a network that fosters community-driven solutions promoting viable and sustainable rural communities.*

(c) Each regional rural community liaison center shall regularly engage with REDI established in s. 288.0656, and at least one staff member from each liaison center shall attend the monthly REDI meeting, either in person or by means of electronic communication.

(6) By December 1, 2026, the director of the office shall submit to the Administration Commission within the Executive Office of the Governor a written report describing the office's operations and accomplishments for the preceding year. In consultation with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the office shall also include in the report recommendations for policies, programs, and funding initiatives to further support the needs of rural communities in this state. The office shall also submit the report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by December 1 of each year and publish it on the office's website. At the next scheduled meeting of the Administration Commission following submission of the report, the director shall, in person, present detailed information from the report required under this subsection.

(7) This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 93. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 2396E of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, paragraph (f) is added to subsection (7) of section 288.001, Florida Statutes, to read:

288.001 The Florida Small Business Development Center Network.—

(7) ADDITIONAL STATE FUNDS; USES; PAY-PER-PERFORMANCE INCENTIVES; STATEWIDE SERVICE; SERVICE ENHANCEMENTS; BEST PRACTICES; ELIGIBILITY.—

(f) Notwithstanding paragraphs (a), (b), and (c), the network shall use funds directly appropriated for the specific purpose of expanding service in rural communities as defined in s. 288.0656, in addition to any funds allocated by the network from other sources. The network shall use the funds to develop an activity plan focused on network consultants and resources in rural communities. In collaboration with regional economic development organizations as defined in s. 288.018, the plan must provide for either full- or part-time consultants to be available for at least 20 hours per week in rural areas or to be permanently stationed in rural areas. This may include establishing a circuit in specific rural locations to ensure the consultants' availability on a regular basis. By using the funds to create a regular presence in rural areas, the network will strengthen community collaboration, raise awareness of available resources to provide opportunities for new business development or existing business growth, and make professional experience, education, and business information available in these essential communities. The network may dedicate funds to facilitate local or regional events that focus on small business topics, provide consulting services, and leverage partner organizations, such as the regional economic development organizations, local workforce development boards as described in s. 445.007, and Florida College System institutions. This paragraph expires July 1, 2027.

Section 94. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 2396F of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, section 288.014, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

288.014 Renaissance Grants Program.—

(1) The Legislature finds that it has historically provided programs to assist rural communities with economic development and to enhance their ability to attract businesses and that, by providing that extra component of economic viability, rural communities are able to attract new businesses and grow existing ones. However, the Legislature further finds that a subset of rural communities has decreased in population over the past decade, contributing to a decline in local business activity and economic development. The Legislature therefore determines that state assistance must evolve to support these communities in achieving the foundation necessary for economic viability. The intent of the Renaissance Grants Program is to reverse economic deterioration in such rural communities by retaining and attracting residents by giving them a reason to stay, which will stimulate natural economic growth, business opportunities, and improved quality of life.

(2) The Office of Rural Prosperity within the department shall administer the Renaissance Grants Program to provide block grants to

eligible counties. By August 1, 2026, the Office of Economic and Demographic Research shall certify to the Office of Rural Prosperity which counties are growth-impeded. For the purposes of this section, the term "growth-impeded" means a county that, as of the most recent population estimate, has experienced a declining population over the previous 10 years. After the initial certification, the Office of Economic and Demographic Research shall annually certify whether the county remains growth-impeded, until the office certifies the county has had 3 consecutive years of population growth. Upon such certification of population growth, the county remains eligible for the program for 1 additional year to prepare for the end of block grant funding.

(3)(a) Each participating county shall enter into an agreement with the Office of Rural Prosperity to receive block grant funds. Counties have broad authority to design their specific plan to achieve population growth consistent with this section. The Office of Rural Prosperity may not determine the manner in which a county implements its plan. However, regional rural community liaison center staff shall provide assistance in developing the county's plan, upon the county's request.

(b) Each participating county shall submit a report to the Office of Rural Prosperity detailing program activities, intergovernmental agreements, and other information as required by the office.

(c) Each participating county shall receive \$1 million from the funds appropriated to the program, or an equal share of the funds appropriated if insufficient to provide that amount. Counties shall make all attempts to limit expenses for administrative costs, consistent with the need for prudent management and accountability in the use of public funds. Counties may supplement the block grant with other funding sources, including local, state, or federal grants, and may seek public or private contributions or in-kind support to advance program activities.

(4)(a) Each participating county shall hire and retain a renaissance coordinator, who may be funded from block grant proceeds. The renaissance coordinator is responsible for:

1. Ensuring that block grant funds are used as provided in this section;
2. Coordinating with other local governments, school boards, Florida College System institutions, and other partners; and
3. Reporting as necessary to the state, including information necessary pursuant to subsection (7).

(b) The Office of Rural Prosperity regional rural community liaison center staff shall, upon request, provide assistance and training to the renaissance coordinator to support successful implementation of the block grant.

(5) Each participating county shall design a plan for targeted community investments designed to achieve population growth and increase economic vitality. The plan must include the following key features for use of the state support:

(a) Technology centers located within schools or on school premises, administered by the local school board, providing extended hours and access for students.

(b) Facilities that colocate adult day care with child care facilities. The site-sharing facilities must be managed to also encourage interaction between generations and increase the health and well-being of younger and older participants, reduce social isolation, and create cost and time efficiencies for working families. The regional rural community liaison center staff of the Office of Rural Prosperity shall, upon request, assist the county with bringing recommendations to the Rural Economic Development Initiative or the appropriate state agency to streamline all required state permits, licenses, regulations, or other requirements.

(c) Technology labs operated in partnership with the nearest Florida College System institution or a career center under s. 1001.44. Repurposed vacant industrial sites or existing office space must be given priority in the selection of lab locations. Each local technology lab must be staffed and open for extended hours with the capacity to provide:

1. Access to trainers and equipment necessary for earning certificates or online degrees in technology;

2. Hands-on assistance in securing remote work opportunities; and
3. Studio space equipped for remote technology-based work available for graduates and other qualifying residents. Participating counties may determine which residents receive priority access. Collaboration with community partners, including the local workforce development board as described in s. 445.007, to provide training opportunities, in-kind support such as transportation to and from the lab, financing of equipment for in-home use, or basic maintenance of such equipment is required.
- (6) In addition to hiring a renaissance coordinator, each participating county shall develop intergovernmental agreements for shared responsibilities with its municipalities, school board, and Florida College System institution or career center and enter into necessary contracts with providers and community partners in order to implement the plan.
- (7)(a) Beginning in 2027, the Auditor General shall conduct an operational audit as defined in s. 11.45 of each county's grant activities.

(b) By July 1, 2027, the Office of Economic and Demographic Research shall submit a report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives summarizing renaissance block grant recipients by county. The report must provide key economic indicators that measure progress in reversing long-term trends in the county. The Office of Rural Prosperity shall, upon request, provide any data necessary to complete the report.

- (8) Notwithstanding s. 216.301, funds appropriated for the purposes of this section are not subject to reversion.
- (9) This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 95. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 2396G of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, section 288.0175, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

288.0175 Public Infrastructure Smart Technology Grant Program.—

(1) The Public Infrastructure Smart Technology Grant Program is established within the Office of Rural Prosperity within the department to fund and support public infrastructure smart technology projects in communities located in rural areas of opportunity, subject to legislative appropriation.

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

(a) "Public infrastructure smart technology" means systems or applications that use connectivity, data analytics, or automation to improve public infrastructure by increasing efficiency, enhancing public services, and promoting sustainable development.

(b) "Rural area of opportunity" has the same meaning as in s. 288.0656.

(c) "Smart region" means a geographic area that uses technology and innovative ideas to improve the quality of life for its citizens by addressing regional challenges through collaboration among government, businesses, and communities.

(d) "Smart technology lead organization" means a not-for-profit corporation organized under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code which has been in existence for at least 3 years and specializes in smart region planning.

(3)(a) By October 1, 2026, the Office of Rural Prosperity shall contract with one or more smart technology lead organizations to administer the grant program for the purpose of deploying public infrastructure smart technology in rural communities. Under such contracts, the smart technology lead organization shall award grants to counties and municipalities located within a rural area of opportunity for eligible public infrastructure smart technology projects.

(b) Each contract must specify deliverables, reporting requirements, timeframes, and any other term the office deems necessary. At a minimum, the contract must require the smart technology lead organization to:

1. Collaborate with counties and municipalities in rural areas of opportunity to identify cost-effective smart technology solutions for improving public services and infrastructure.
2. Provide technical assistance to counties and municipalities located in rural areas of opportunity in developing public infrastructure smart technology project plans.
3. Facilitate connections between rural communities and other entities, including companies and regional partners to maximize the impact of funded projects.
- (4) The Office of Rural Prosperity shall include a summary of projects funded under this section in its report required by s. 288.013(6).
- (5) This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 96. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 2396J of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, section 288.065, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

288.065 Rural Community Development Revolving Loan Fund.—

(1) The Rural Community Development Revolving Loan Fund Program is established within the Office of Rural Prosperity department to facilitate the use of existing federal, state, and local financial resources by providing local governments with financial assistance to further promote the economic viability of rural communities. These funds may be used to finance initiatives directed toward maintaining or developing the economic base of rural communities, especially initiatives addressing employment opportunities for residents of these communities.

(2)(a) The program shall provide for long-term loans, loan guarantees, and loan loss reserves to units of local governments, or economic development organizations substantially underwritten by a unit of local government.

(b) For purposes of this section, the term "unit of local government" means any of the following:

1. A county ~~within counties~~ with a population ~~populations~~ of 75,000 or less. ~~fewer, or within any~~
2. A county with a population of 125,000 or less ~~fewer~~ which is contiguous to a county with a population of 75,000 or less. ~~fewer~~
3. A municipality within a county described in subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2.
4. A county or municipality within a rural area of opportunity designated under s. 288.0656.

For purposes of this paragraph, population is determined in accordance with the most recent official estimates pursuant to s. 186.901 and must include those residing in incorporated and unincorporated areas of a county, ~~based on the most recent official population estimate as determined under s. 186.901, including those residing in incorporated areas and those residing in unincorporated areas of the county, or to units of local government, or economic development organizations substantially underwritten by a unit of local government, within a rural area of opportunity.~~

(c)(b) Requests for loans ~~must shall~~ be made by application to the office ~~department~~. Loans ~~must shall~~ be made pursuant to agreements specifying the terms and conditions agreed to between the applicant and the office ~~department~~. The loans ~~are shall~~ be the legal obligations of the applicant.

(d)(e) All repayments of principal and interest ~~must shall~~ be returned to the loan fund and made available for loans to other applicants. However, in a rural area of opportunity designated ~~under s. 288.0656 by the Governor~~, and upon approval by the office ~~department~~, repayments of principal and interest may be retained by the applicant if such repayments are dedicated and matched to fund regionally based economic development organizations representing the rural area of opportunity.

(3) The office ~~department~~ shall manage the fund, establishing loan practices that must include, but are not limited to, procedures for establishing loan interest rates, uses of funding, application procedures,

and application review procedures. The office has ~~department shall have~~ final approval authority for any loan under this section.

(4) Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 216.301, funds appropriated for this loan fund may ~~purpose shall~~ not be subject to reversion.

(5) The office shall include in its report required under s. 288.013 detailed information about the fund, including loans made during the previous fiscal year, loans active, loans terminated or repaid, and the amount of funds not obligated as of 14 days before the date the report is due.

Section 97. The amendments to s. 288.065, Florida Statutes, made by this act expire July 1, 2027, and the text of that section shall revert to that in existence on June 30, 2026, except that any amendments to such text enacted other than by this act shall be preserved and continue to operate to the extent that such amendments are not dependent upon the portions of text which expire pursuant to this section.

Section 98. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 2759 through 2764 and sections 157 and 158 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Division of Emergency Management may submit budget amendments, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, to increase budget authority for projected expenditures due to reimbursements from federally declared disasters if additional federal revenues specific to such programs become available in the 2026-2027 fiscal year. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 99. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 2750 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsection (2) of section 282.201, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

282.201 State data center.—The state data center is established within the department. The provision of data center services must comply with applicable state and federal laws, regulations, and policies, including all applicable security, privacy, and auditing requirements. The department shall appoint a director of the state data center who has experience in leading data center facilities and has expertise in cloud-computing management.

(2) USE OF THE STATE DATA CENTER.—

(a) The following are exempt from the use of the state data center: the Department of Law Enforcement, the Department of the Lottery's Gaming System, Systems Design and Development in the Office of Policy and Budget, the regional traffic management centers as described in s. 335.14(2) and the Office of Toll Operations of the Department of Transportation, the State Board of Administration, state attorneys, public defenders, criminal conflict and civil regional counsel, capital collateral regional counsel, and the Florida Housing Finance Corporation.

(b) The Division of Emergency Management is exempt from the use of the state data center. This paragraph expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 100. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 2367 of the 2025-2026 General Appropriations Act, and upon the expiration and reversion of the amendments to s. 443.1113, Florida Statutes, pursuant to section 105 of chapter 2025-199, Laws of Florida, subsections (4) and (5) of section 443.1113, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

443.1113 Reemployment Assistance Claims and Benefits Information System.—

(4)(a) The Department of Commerce shall perform an annual review of the system and identify enhancements or modernization efforts that improve the delivery of services to claimants and employers and reporting to state and federal entities. These improvements are subject to appropriation, and must include, but need not be limited to:

1. Infrastructure upgrades through cloud services.
2. Software improvements.
3. Enhanced data analytics and reporting.
4. Increased cybersecurity pursuant to s. 282.318.

(b) The department shall seek input on recommended enhancements from, at a minimum, the following entities:

1. The Florida Digital Service within the Department of Management Services.

2. The General Tax Administration Program Office within the Department of Revenue.

3. The Division of Accounting and Auditing within the Department of Financial Services.

(5) By September 1, 2026 ~~October 1, 2023~~, and each year thereafter, the Department of Commerce shall submit a Reemployment Assistance Claims and Benefits Information System report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The report must, at a minimum, include:

(a) A summary of clearly defined deliverables and measurable outcomes of maintenance, enhancement, and modernization efforts over the last fiscal year.

(b) A plan for the next 2 fiscal years ~~3-year outlook~~ of recommended enhancements or modernization efforts that includes projected non-recurring project costs, clear deliverables, and timeframes for completion of each enhancement or modernization effort in priority order, and the projected recurring operations and maintenance costs after the completion of each enhancement or modernization effort.

Section 101. The amendments to s. 443.1113(4) and (5), Florida Statutes, made by this act expire July 1, 2027, and the text of those subsections shall revert to that in existence on June 30, 2025, except that any amendments to such text enacted other than by this act shall be preserved and continue to operate to the extent that such amendments are not dependent upon the portions of text which expire pursuant to this section.

Section 102. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 2359 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsection (9) of section 445.08, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsections (2) and (4) of that section are reenacted, to read:

445.08 Florida Law Enforcement Recruitment Bonus Payment Program.—

(2)(a) There is created within the department the Florida Law Enforcement Recruitment Bonus Payment Program to aid in the recruitment of law enforcement officers within the state. The purpose of the program is to administer one-time bonus payments of up to \$5,000 to each newly employed officer within the state.

(b) Bonus payments provided to eligible newly employed officers are contingent upon legislative appropriations and shall be prorated subject to the amount appropriated for the program.

(4) The department shall develop an annual plan for the administration of the program and distribution of bonus payments. Applicable employing agencies shall assist the department with the collection of any data necessary to determine bonus payment amounts and to distribute the bonus payments, and shall otherwise provide the department with any information or assistance needed to fulfill the requirements of this section. At a minimum, the plan must include:

(a) The method for determining the estimated number of newly employed officers to gain or be appointed to full-time employment during the applicable fiscal year.

(b) The minimum eligibility requirements a newly employed officer must meet to receive and retain a bonus payment, which must include:

1. Obtaining certification for employment or appointment as a law enforcement officer pursuant to s. 943.1395.
2. Gaining full-time employment with a Florida criminal justice agency.
3. Maintaining full-time employment as a law enforcement officer with a Florida criminal justice agency for at least 2 years from the date on which the officer obtained certification. The required 2-year em-

ployment period may be satisfied by maintaining full-time employment at one or more employing agencies, but such period must not contain any break in service longer than 180 calendar days.

(c) The standards by which the department will determine under what circumstances a break in service is acceptable. A law enforcement officer must provide documentation to the department justifying a break in service. For purposes of this section, the term “break in service” means a period of time during which the person is employed with a Florida criminal justice agency but is not employed as a full-time law enforcement officer or a period of time during which the person is in between employment as a full-time law enforcement officer for no longer than 15 days. The time period for any break in service does not count toward satisfying the 2-year full-time employment requirement of this section.

(d) The method that will be used to determine the bonus payment amount to be distributed to each newly employed officer.

(e) The method that will be used to distribute bonus payments to applicable employing agencies for distribution to eligible officers. Such method should prioritize distributing bonus payments to eligible officers in the most efficient and quickest manner possible.

(f) The estimated cost to the department associated with developing and administering the program and distributing bonus payment funds.

(g) The method by which an officer must reimburse the state if he or she received a bonus payment under the program, but failed to maintain continuous employment for the required 2-year period. Reimbursement shall not be required if an officer is discharged by his or her employing agency for a reason other than misconduct as designated on the affidavit of separation completed by the employing agency and maintained by the commission.

The department may establish other criteria deemed necessary to determine bonus payment eligibility and distribution.

(9) This section expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 103. *In order to implement Specific Appropriations 2384 through 2386 and sections 146, 147, 148, 152, and 155 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Department of Commerce may submit budget amendments, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, to increase budget authority to support the following federal grant programs: the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program (BEAD), Capital Projects Fund Program, Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery Program (CDBG-DR), Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP), Home Energy Assistance Programs – Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), and Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund, Pub. L. No. 117-2. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 104. (1) *In order to implement section 8 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, beginning July 1, 2026, and on the first day of each month thereafter, the Department of Management Services shall assess an administrative health insurance assessment on each state agency equal to the employer’s cost of individual employee health care coverage for each vacant position within such agency eligible for coverage through the Division of State Group Insurance. As used in this section, the term “state agency” means an agency within the State Personnel System, the Department of the Lottery, the Justice Administrative Commission and all entities administratively housed in the Justice Administrative Commission, and the state courts system.*

(2) *Each state agency shall remit the assessed administrative health insurance assessment under subsection (1) to the State Employees Health Insurance Trust Fund, for the State Group Insurance Program, as provided in ss. 110.123 and 110.1239, Florida Statutes, from currently allocated moneys for salaries and benefits within 30 days after receipt of the assessment from the Department of Management Services. Should any state agency become more than 60 days delinquent in payment of this obligation, the Department of Management Services shall certify to the Chief Financial Officer the amount due and the Chief Financial Officer shall transfer the amount due to the Department of Management Services.*

(3) *The administrative health insurance assessment shall apply to all vacant positions funded with state funds whether fully or partially funded with state funds. Vacant positions partially funded with state funds shall pay a percentage of the assessment imposed in subsection (1) equal to the percentage share of state funds provided for such vacant positions. No assessment shall apply to vacant positions fully funded with federal funds. Each state agency shall provide the Department of Management Services with a complete list of position numbers that are funded, or partially funded, with federal funding, and include the percentage of federal funding for each position no later than July 31, 2026, and shall update the list on the last day of each month thereafter. For federally funded vacant positions, or partially funded vacant positions, each state agency shall immediately take steps to include the administrative health insurance assessment in its indirect cost plan for the 2027-2028 fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter. A state agency shall notify the Department of Management Services, the Executive Office of the Governor, the chair of the Senate Committee on Appropriations, and the chair of the House of Representatives Budget Committee upon approval of the updated indirect cost plan. If the state agency is not able to obtain approval from its federal awarding agency, the state agency must notify the Department of Management Services, the Executive Office of the Governor, and the appropriation and budget chairs no later than January 15, 2027.*

(4) *Pursuant to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, the Executive Office of the Governor may transfer budget authority appropriated in the Salaries and Benefits appropriation category between agencies in order to align the appropriations granted with the assessments that must be paid by each agency to the Department of Management Services for the administrative health insurance assessment.*

(5) *This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 105. *In order to implement Specific Appropriations 2852 and 2855 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding s. 11.13(1), Florida Statutes, the authorized salaries for members of the Legislature for the 2026-2027 fiscal year shall be set at the same level in effect on July 1, 2010. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 106. *In order to implement the transfer of funds from the General Revenue Fund from trust funds for the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding the expiration date in section 111 of chapter 2025-199, Laws of Florida, paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 215.32, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:*

215.32 State funds; segregation.—

(2) The source and use of each of these funds shall be as follows:

(b)1. The trust funds shall consist of moneys received by the state which under law or under trust agreement are segregated for a purpose authorized by law. The state agency or branch of state government receiving or collecting such moneys is responsible for their proper expenditure as provided by law. Upon the request of the state agency or branch of state government responsible for the administration of the trust fund, the Chief Financial Officer may establish accounts within the trust fund at a level considered necessary for proper accountability. Once an account is established, the Chief Financial Officer may authorize payment from that account only upon determining that there is sufficient cash and releases at the level of the account.

2. In addition to other trust funds created by law, to the extent possible, each agency shall use the following trust funds as described in this subparagraph for day-to-day operations:

a. Operations or operating trust fund, for use as a depository for funds to be used for program operations funded by program revenues, with the exception of administrative activities when the operations or operating trust fund is a proprietary fund.

b. Operations and maintenance trust fund, for use as a depository for client services funded by third-party payors.

c. Administrative trust fund, for use as a depository for funds to be used for management activities that are departmental in nature and funded by indirect cost earnings and assessments against trust funds.

Proprietary funds are excluded from the requirement of using an administrative trust fund.

d. Grants and donations trust fund, for use as a depository for funds to be used for allowable grant or donor agreement activities funded by restricted contractual revenue from private and public nonfederal sources.

e. Agency working capital trust fund, for use as a depository for funds to be used pursuant to s. 216.272.

f. Clearing funds trust fund, for use as a depository for funds to account for collections pending distribution to lawful recipients.

g. Federal grant trust fund, for use as a depository for funds to be used for allowable grant activities funded by restricted program revenues from federal sources.

To the extent possible, each agency must adjust its internal accounting to use existing trust funds consistent with the requirements of this subparagraph. If an agency does not have trust funds listed in this subparagraph and cannot make such adjustment, the agency must recommend the creation of the necessary trust funds to the Legislature no later than the next scheduled review of the agency's trust funds pursuant to s. 215.3206.

3. All such moneys are hereby appropriated to be expended in accordance with the law or trust agreement under which they were received, subject always to the provisions of chapter 216 relating to the appropriation of funds and to the applicable laws relating to the deposit or expenditure of moneys in the State Treasury.

4.a. Notwithstanding any provision of law restricting the use of trust funds to specific purposes, unappropriated cash balances from selected trust funds may be authorized by the Legislature for transfer to the Budget Stabilization Fund and General Revenue Fund in the General Appropriations Act.

b. This subparagraph does not apply to trust funds required by federal programs or mandates; trust funds established for bond covenants, indentures, or resolutions whose revenues are legally pledged by the state or public body to meet debt service or other financial requirements of any debt obligations of the state or any public body; the Division of Licensing Trust Fund in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; the State Transportation Trust Fund; the trust fund containing the net annual proceeds from the Florida Education Lotteries; the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund; trust funds under the management of the State Board of Education or the Board of Governors of the State University System, where such trust funds are for auxiliary enterprises, self-insurance, and contracts, grants, and donations, as those terms are defined by general law; trust funds that serve as clearing funds or accounts for the Chief Financial Officer or state agencies; trust funds that account for assets held by the state in a trustee capacity as an agent or fiduciary for individuals, private organizations, or other governmental units; and other trust funds authorized by the State Constitution.

Section 107. *The text of s. 215.32(2)(b), Florida Statutes, as carried forward from chapter 2011-47, Laws of Florida, by this act expires July 1, 2027, and the text of that paragraph shall revert to that in existence on June 30, 2011, except that any amendments to such text enacted other than by this act shall be preserved and continue to operate to the extent that such amendments are not dependent upon the portions of text which expire pursuant to this section.*

Section 108. *In order to implement appropriations in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act for state employee travel, the funds appropriated to each state agency which may be used for travel by state employees are limited during the 2026-2027 fiscal year to travel for activities that are critical to each state agency's mission. Funds may not be used for travel by state employees to foreign countries, other states, conferences, staff training activities, or other administrative functions unless the agency head has approved, in writing, that such activities are critical to the agency's mission. The agency head shall consider using teleconferencing and other forms of electronic communication to meet the needs of the proposed activity before approving mission-critical travel. This section does not apply to travel for law enforcement purposes,*

*military purposes, emergency management activities, or public health activities. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 109. *In order to implement appropriations in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act for state employee travel and notwithstanding s. 112.061, Florida Statutes, costs for lodging associated with a meeting, conference, or convention organized or sponsored in whole or in part by a state agency or the judicial branch may not exceed \$225 per day. An employee may expend his or her own funds for any lodging expenses in excess of \$225 per day. For purposes of this section, a meeting does not include travel activities for conducting an audit, examination, inspection, or investigation or travel activities related to a litigation or emergency response. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 110. In order to implement the appropriations and re-appropriations authorized in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, paragraph (d) of subsection (11) of section 216.181, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

216.181 Approved budgets for operations and fixed capital outlay.—

(11)

(d) Notwithstanding paragraph (b) and paragraph (2)(b), and for the 2026-2027 ~~2025-2026~~ fiscal year only, the Legislative Budget Commission may approve budget amendments for new fixed capital outlay projects or increase the amounts appropriated to state agencies for fixed capital outlay projects. This paragraph expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

The provisions of this subsection are subject to the notice and objection procedures set forth in s. 216.177.

Section 111. In order to implement the salaries and benefits, expenses, other personal services, contracted services, special categories, and operating capital outlay categories of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 216.292, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

216.292 Appropriations nontransferable; exceptions.—

(2) The following transfers are authorized to be made by the head of each department or the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court whenever it is deemed necessary by reason of changed conditions:

(a) The transfer of appropriations funded from identical funding sources, except appropriations for fixed capital outlay, and the transfer of amounts included within the total original approved budget and plans of releases of appropriations as furnished pursuant to ss. 216.181 and 216.192, as follows:

1. Between categories of appropriations within a budget entity, if no category of appropriation is increased or decreased by more than 5 percent of the original approved budget or \$250,000, whichever is greater, by all action taken under this subsection.

2. Between budget entities within identical categories of appropriations, if no category of appropriation is increased or decreased by more than 5 percent of the original approved budget or \$250,000, whichever is greater, by all action taken under this subsection.

3. Any agency exceeding salary rate established pursuant to s. 216.181(8) on June 30th of any fiscal year shall not be authorized to make transfers pursuant to subparagraphs 1. and 2. in the subsequent fiscal year.

4. Notice of proposed transfers under subparagraphs 1. and 2. shall be provided to the Executive Office of the Governor and the chairs of the legislative appropriations committees at least 3 days prior to agency implementation in order to provide an opportunity for review. The review shall be limited to ensuring that the transfer is in compliance with the requirements of this paragraph.

5. For the 2026-2027 ~~2025-2026~~ fiscal year, the review shall ensure that transfers proposed pursuant to this paragraph comply with this chapter, maximize the use of available and appropriate trust funds, and are not contrary to legislative policy and intent. This subparagraph expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 112. *In order to implement appropriations in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act for the acquisitions of motor vehicles, and notwithstanding chapter 287, Florida Statutes, relating to the purchase of motor vehicles from a state term contract, state agencies may purchase vehicles from nonstate term contract vendors without prior approval from the Department of Management Services, provided the cost of the motor vehicle is equal to or less than the cost of a similar class of vehicle found on a state term contract and provided the funds for the purchase have been specifically appropriated. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 113. In order to implement appropriations for state agencies in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, section 11.52, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

11.52 Implementation of enacted legislation.—Each state agency shall provide the Legislature and the Executive Office of the Governor with information about the status of implementation of recently enacted legislation. The implementation status must be provided 90 days following the effective date of the legislation and updated each August 1 thereafter until all provisions of the legislation have been fully implemented. The implementation status report must include, at a minimum, for each enacted legislation, the actions or steps taken to implement the legislation and planned actions or steps for implementation, such as any rules proposed for implementation, any procurements required, any contract executed to assist the agency in the implementation, any contracts executed to implement or administer the legislation, programs started, offices established, or other organization administrative changes made including personnel changes, or federal waivers requested; any expenditures made directly related to the implementation; and any impediments or delays in implementation, including, but not limited to, challenges of administrative rules. No later than 14 days prior to the next regular legislative session, the state agency shall provide an update of any changes to the implementation status, notify the Legislature of any protests of rulemaking or other communications regarding the implementation of the legislation and the status of any litigation related to the legislation, and identify any policy issues that need to be resolved by the Legislature to ensure timely and effective implementation of the legislation. This section expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 114. In order to implement appropriations for state agencies and the judicial branch in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsection (7) of section 216.013, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

216.013 Long-range program plan.—State agencies and the judicial branch shall develop long-range program plans to achieve state goals using an interagency planning process that includes the development of integrated agency program service outcomes. The plans shall be policy based, priority driven, accountable, and developed through careful examination and justification of all agency and judicial branch programs.

(7) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, each state executive agency and the judicial branch are not required to develop or post a long-range program plan by September 30, 2026 ~~2025~~, for the 2027-2028 ~~2026-2027~~ fiscal year, except in circumstances outlined in any updated written instructions prepared by the Executive Office of the Governor in consultation with the chairs of the legislative appropriations committees. This subsection expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 115. In order to implement appropriations for state agencies and the judicial branch in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsection (7) of section 216.023, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

216.023 Legislative budget requests to be furnished to Legislature by agencies.—

(7) As part of the legislative budget request, each state agency and the judicial branch shall include an inventory of all ongoing technology-related projects that have a cumulative estimated or realized cost of more than \$1 million. The inventory must, at a minimum, contain all of the following information:

- (a) The name of the technology system.
- (b) A brief description of the purpose and function of the system.
- (c) A brief description of the goals of the project.
- (d) The initiation date of the project.

- (e) The key performance indicators for the project.
- (f) Any other metrics for the project evaluating the health and status of the project.
- (g) The original and current baseline estimated end dates of the project.
- (h) The original and current estimated costs of the project.
- (i) Total funds appropriated or allocated to the project and the current realized cost for the project by fiscal year.

For purposes of this subsection, an ongoing technology-related project is one which has been funded or has had or is expected to have expenditures in more than one fiscal year. An ongoing technology-related project does not include the continuance of existing hardware and software maintenance agreements, the renewal of existing software licensing agreements, or the replacement of desktop units with new technology that is substantially similar to the technology being replaced. This subsection expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 116. *In order to implement Specific Appropriations 203, 583, 642, 1455A, 2514, and 3235, and sections 72 and 94 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act:*

(1) *Of the funds appropriated for information technology projects, 75 percent shall be held in reserve. All general revenue funds not held in reserve shall be fully released. The Agency for Health Care Administration, Department of Children and Families, Department of Corrections, Department of Financial Services, Florida Gaming Control Commission, Department of Health, and Department of Revenue are authorized to submit a budget amendment to request release of funds pursuant to chapter 216, Florida Statutes. The amount requested to be released in each budget amendment may not exceed the agency's projected quarterly expenditures, reduced by any unexpended funds from prior releases. Release is contingent upon submission of the following:*

- (a) *An updated and comprehensive operational work plan;*
- (b) *A detailed monthly spend plan with expenditures broken down by deliverable which identifies all planned and actual project work and costs specified in the current project schedule; and*
- (c) *A copy of the project status report from the most recently completed month at the time of submission which provides justification for any variance from the most recently submitted project schedule and spend plan.*

(2) *The agencies receiving funds pursuant to this section must submit monthly project status reports to the Executive Office of the Governor's Office of Policy and Budget, the chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, the chair of the House Budget Committee, and any other designated project oversight entity no later than 30 days after the close of the previous month. Each status report must include copies of any new or updated relevant task order, contract, or purchase order. The status report must also describe progress made to date for each project milestone and deliverable, planned and actual completion dates, planned and actual costs incurred, and any current project issues or risks.*

(3) *This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 117. *Any section of this act which implements a specific appropriation or specifically identified proviso language in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act is void if the specific appropriation or specifically identified proviso language is vetoed. Any section of this act which implements more than one specific appropriation or more than one portion of specifically identified proviso language in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act is void if all the specific appropriations or portions of specifically identified proviso language are vetoed.*

Section 118. *If any other act passed during the 2026 Special Session E of the Legislature contains a provision that is substantively the same as a provision in this act, but that removes or is otherwise not subject to the future repeal applied to such provision by this act, the Legislature intends that the provision in the other act takes precedence and continues to operate, notwithstanding the future repeal provided by this act.*

Section 119. *If any law amended by this act was also amended by a law enacted during the 2026 Regular Session of the Legislature, such laws shall be construed as if they had been enacted during the same session of the Legislature and full effect shall be given to each if possible.*

Section 120. *If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are severable.*

Section 121. 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, or, if this act fails to become a law until after that date, it shall take effect upon becoming a law and shall operate retroactively to 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 implementing the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act; providing legislative intent; incorporating by reference certain calculations; amending s. 1001.451, F.S.; revising the services required to be provided by regional consortium service organizations under certain circumstances; revising the allocation that certain regional consortium service organizations are eligible to receive from the General Appropriations Act; requiring regional consortium service organizations to submit certain annual reports to the Department of Education; requiring certain unexpended funds to be carried forward; requiring each regional consortium service organization to provide quarterly financial reports to member districts; requiring member districts to designate fiscal agent districts for certain purposes; providing for compensation of fiscal agent districts; providing for certain personnel recommendations, policies, salary schedules, and job descriptions; authorizing the purchase or lease of property and facilities; providing for the distribution of certain revenues upon dissolution of a regional consortium service organization; revising authorized means of revenue generation; requiring the establishment of a fund balance for certain purposes; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; creating s. 1001.4511, F.S.; creating the Regional Consortia Service Organization Supplemental Services Program; authorizing the use of program funds for specified purposes; requiring each regional consortium service organization to annually report certain information to the Legislature; authorizing certain funds to be carried forward; creating s. 1009.635, F.S.; establishing the Rural Incentive for Professional Educators (RIPE) Program within the Department of Education for a specified purpose; providing eligibility requirements for the program; providing for student loan repayment assistance, up to a specified amount; requiring the department to verify certain participant information before disbursement of an award; specifying that the program is administered by the Office of Student Financial Assistance within the department; requiring the State Board of Education to adopt rules by a specified date; authorizing certain state university boards of trustees to accept a health care provider's procurement methods and construction contracts under certain circumstances; authorizing the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University board of trustees to expend available reserves or carry forward certain balances for a specified purpose; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment to realign Medicaid funding for specified purposes, subject to certain limitations; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment to realign funding within the Florida Kidcare program appropriation categories or to increase budget authority for certain purposes; specifying the time period within which such budget amendment must be submitted; amending s. 381.986, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the exemption of certain rules pertaining to the medical use of marijuana from certain rulemaking requirements; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement specified programs and payments; requiring institutions participating in a specified workforce expansion and education program to provide quarterly reports to the agency; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment for a specified purpose; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement the Low Income Pool component of the Florida Managed Medical Assistance Demonstration up to a certain amount; requiring that the amendment include a signed attestation and acknowledgment for entities relating to the Low Income Pool; authorizing

the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement certain payments and specified programs; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement a certified expenditure program for emergency medical transportation services; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement the Disproportionate Share Hospital Program; requiring such amendment to include specified information; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement fee-for-service inpatient and outpatient supplemental payments for specialty hospitals; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority to support the Florida School-Based Services program; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to create the Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Task Force for a certain purpose; requiring the task force to evaluate certain information and develop recommendations; providing for membership of the task force; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to provide staff support; authorizing staff from specified agencies to provide additional expertise; providing for meetings of the task force; providing that members of the task force serve without compensation but are entitled to reimbursement of travel expenses; requiring the task force to provide a report to the Governor and the Legislature by a specified date; authorizing the Department of Children and Families to submit a budget amendment to realign funding within specified areas of the department based on implementation of the Guardianship Assistance Program; authorizing the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Health, and the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority to support certain refugee programs; requiring the Department of Children and Families to submit quarterly reports to the Executive Office of the Governor and the Legislature; authorizing the Department of Children and Families to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority to support specified federal grant programs; reenacting s. 393.066(2), F.S., relating to community services and treatment; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending s. 394.9082, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the authority of a managing entity to carry forward certain unexpended funds; specifying that nonqualified funds carried forward are not included in a cumulative cap on the percentage that may be carried forward; amending s. 409.9913, F.S.; requiring that core services funding be allocated as provided in the General Appropriations Act; requiring the Department of Children and Families to continue to collect certain data from community-based care lead agencies and to use a certain Tiered Funding Model; requiring community-based care lead agencies to submit certain data to the department; requiring the department to conduct certain ongoing performance monitoring; requiring the department to provide monthly status reports to the Governor and the Legislature; requiring the department to submit a final report to the Governor and the Legislature by a specified date; amending s. 409.990, F.S.; requiring that certain funds held by a community-based care lead agency and carried forward be returned to the Department of Children and Families; requiring the department to hold such funds in a separate account and report certain information to specified entities; providing for the reversion of such funds to the General Revenue Fund; authorizing the Department of Health to submit a budget amendment to increase budget authority for the Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and the Child Care Food Program if a certain condition is met; authorizing the Department of Health to submit a budget amendment to increase budget authority for the HIV/AIDS Prevention and Treatment Program if a certain condition is met; authorizing the Department of Health to submit a budget amendment to increase budget authority for the department if additional federal revenues specific to COVID-19 relief funds become available; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to replace the Florida Medicaid Management Information System (FMMIS) and fiscal agent operations with a specified new system; specifying items that may not be included in the new system; providing directives to the Agency for Health Care Administration related to the new Florida Health Care Connection (FX) system; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to meet certain requirements in replacing FMMIS and the current Medicaid fiscal agent; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to implement a specified program governance structure that includes an executive steering committee composed of specified members; providing the duties of the executive steering committee; requiring the establishment of specified working groups; providing the

composition of such groups; providing requirements for such groups; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to contract for a certain assessment of the agency's Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS); providing requirements for the assessment; requiring submission of the assessment to specified entities by a certain date; requiring the agency to develop a new time-phased implementation roadmap for the MMIS replacement based on the assessment; requiring the agency to submit the roadmap to specified entities by a certain date; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration, in consultation with the Department of Health, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, the Department of Children and Families, and the Department of Corrections, to competitively procure a contract with a vendor to negotiate prices for certain prescribed drugs and biological products; providing specifications for such contract; authorizing the issuance or renewal of certain inactive or partially inactive licenses to skilled nursing providers and requiring the extension of certificate-of-need validity periods under certain circumstances; providing for subsequent renewal periods of such inactive licenses and validity periods under certain circumstances; authorizing the Agency for Persons with Disabilities to submit budget amendments to transfer funding from the Salaries and Benefits appropriation categories for a specified purpose; authorizing the Agency for Persons with Disabilities to submit budget amendments to request funds from the Lump Sum-Home and Community-Based Waiver category for a specified purpose; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration and the Agency for Persons with Disabilities to submit budget amendments within a specified timeframe for a specified purpose; authorizing the Department of Veterans' Affairs to submit a budget amendment, subject to Legislative Budget Commission approval, requesting certain authority for certain purposes relating to veterans' nursing homes; amending s. 409.915, F.S.; extending for 1 year the expiration of an exception for certain funds used for the hospital directed payment program; authorizing the Department of Veterans' Affairs to expend certain funds and submit budget amendments, subject to certain approval, for the planning and construction of a new State Veterans' Nursing Home and Adult Day Health Center in a specified county; authorizing the department to apply for a specified federal grant for the Collier County State Veterans' Nursing Home; authorizing the Department of Elderly Affairs to submit a budget amendment requesting certain authority for an Adult Care Food Program or the Older Americans Act under certain circumstances; amending s. 216.262, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the authority of the Department of Corrections to submit a budget amendment for additional positions and appropriations under certain circumstances; amending s. 215.18, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the authority and related repayment requirements for temporary trust fund loans to the state court system which are sufficient to meet the system's appropriation; requiring the Department of Juvenile Justice to review county juvenile detention payments to determine whether a county has met specified financial responsibilities; requiring that amounts owed by a certain county for such financial responsibilities be deducted from certain county funds; requiring the Department of Revenue to transfer withheld funds to a specified trust fund; requiring the Department of Revenue to ensure that such reductions in amounts distributed do not reduce distributions below amounts necessary for certain payments due on bonds and to comply with bond covenants; requiring the Department of Revenue to notify the Department of Juvenile Justice if bond payment requirements mandate a reduction in deductions for amounts owed by a county; requiring the Department of Juvenile Justice to take certain actions; reenacting s. 27.40(1), (2)(a), (3)(a), (5), (6), and (7), F.S., relating to court-appointed counsel; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting and amending s. 27.5304, F.S., relating to the extension for 1 fiscal year of limitations on compensation for representation in criminal proceedings; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending s. 908.1033, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year provisions authorizing local law enforcement agencies to apply to the State Board of Immigration Enforcement to provide bonus payments for certain certified correctional officers; amending s. 934.50, F.S.; creating the Drone as First Responder Grant Program within the Department of Law Enforcement; providing the purpose of the program; providing eligibility requirements; requiring the department to develop an application process and allocate funds on a first-come, first-served basis; requiring that grants be matched by local funds in a specified percentage; authorizing the department to waive the matching funds requirement for certain agencies; defining the term "first responder agency"; authorizing the department to adopt rules; authorizing emergency rulemaking; requiring the Department of Management Services, with the cooperation

of certain agencies, to use tenant broker services to renegotiate or reprocure certain private lease agreements for office or storage space; requiring the Department of Management Services to provide a report to the Governor and the Legislature by a specified date; prohibiting an agency from transferring funds from a data processing category to another category other than another data processing category; authorizing the Executive Office of the Governor to transfer funds appropriated in certain categories between departments for purposes of aligning amounts paid for risk management insurance and for human resources services purchased per statewide contract; authorizing the Department of Management Services to use certain facility disposition funds from the Architects Incidental Trust Fund to pay for certain relocation expenses; authorizing the Department of Management Services to submit budget amendments for an increase in appropriation under certain circumstances; requiring that such amendments include specified information; requiring the Department of Financial Services to replace specified components of the Florida Accounting Information Resource Subsystem (FLAIR) and the Cash Management Subsystem (CMS) with a specified integrated enterprise system; prohibiting the Department of Financial Services from including certain components in the replacement of FLAIR and CMS; providing requirements for the Department of Financial Services related to replacing FLAIR and CMS; providing for the composition of an executive steering committee to oversee FLAIR and CMS replacement; providing requirements for the executive steering committee chair; providing duties and responsibilities of the executive steering committee; reenacting s. 282.709(3), F.S., relating to the state agency law enforcement radio system and interoperability network; providing for future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; authorizing state agencies and other eligible users of the Statewide Law Enforcement Radio System to use the Department of Management Services contract to purchase equipment and services; requiring that a specified transaction fee percentage for use of the on-line procurement system be collected for a specified fiscal year; amending s. 24.105, F.S.; specifying requirements for the adoption of rules of the Department of the Lottery, excluding certain rules for 1 fiscal year regarding the commission for lottery ticket sales; limiting additional retailer compensation in a specified manner; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending s. 627.351, F.S.; extending for 1 year the specified authority of Citizens Property Insurance Corporation; amending s. 215.5586, F.S.; extending for 1 year the homeowner eligibility criteria for a hurricane mitigation grant from the My Safe Florida Home Program; providing that certain funds appropriated to the Department of Financial Services may be carried forward through a specified fiscal year; authorizing the Executive Office of the Governor to transfer funds between departments to align the budget authority granted based on the estimated costs for data processing services for a specified fiscal year; limiting the auxiliary assessments that may be charged to state agencies related to contract management services provided to the Northwest Regional Data Center; reenacting and amending s. 284.51, F.S., relating to the electroencephalogram combined transcranial magnetic stimulation treatment (eTMS) pilot program; extending for 1 year the expiration of the program; requiring the Department of Financial Services to continue its existing contract for the establishment of the eTMS pilot program for veterans and first responders; amending s. 717.123, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Financial Services to retain specified funds, not to exceed a certain amount; requiring that the funds be held in a separate account; requiring the department to make prompt payment of certain claims from the separate account; amending s. 215.18, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year certain authority to transfer funds from certain trust funds in the State Treasury to other trust funds in certain circumstances; requiring the Department of Environmental Protection to transfer designated proportions of the revenues deposited in the Land Acquisition Trust Fund within the department to land acquisition trust funds in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of State, and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission according to specified parameters and calculations; defining the term "department"; requiring the Department of Environmental Protection to make transfers to land acquisition trust funds monthly; specifying the method of determining transfer amounts; authorizing the Department of Environmental Protection to advance funds from its land acquisition trust fund to the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's land acquisition trust fund for specified purposes; amending s. 259.105, F.S.; requiring that proceeds from a specified trust fund be distributed as provided in the General Appropriations Act for a specified fiscal year; amending s. 376.91, F.S.; extending for 1 year the date by which the Department of Environmental Protection shall adopt state-

wide cleanup target levels for PFAS under certain circumstances; providing for future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting s. 376.3071(15)(g), F.S., relating to the Inland Protection Trust Fund; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; requiring the Department of Citrus to enter into agreements for specified purposes by a certain date; requiring the Department of Citrus to file certain information with the department's Inspector General; reenacting s. 380.5105, F.S., relating to the Stan Mayfield Working Waterfronts; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; authorizing the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to use specified funds to provide grants for a specified purpose; amending s. 403.890, F.S.; authorizing the use of revenues deposited into or appropriated to the Water Protection and Sustainability Program Trust Fund as provided in the General Appropriations Act; amending s. 375.041, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the requirement that funds for the Land Acquisition Trust Fund be appropriated in a specified manner; authorizing the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to lease an existing facility and administer a specified program; authorizing the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority for the National School Lunch Program; amending s. 288.80125, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year a requirement that the use of funds in the Triumph Gulf Coast Trust Fund be related to Hurricane Michael recovery; amending s. 339.135, F.S.; extending for 1 year the authority for the chair and vice chair of the Legislative Budget Commission to approve certain work program amendments under specified circumstances; authorizing the Department of Transportation to request a specified amount of budget authority to the extent necessary to advance or defer certain projects in the Work Program and align resources for a specified purpose; amending s. 288.0655, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year a requirement that certain appropriated funds relating to the Rural Infrastructure Fund be distributed in a specified manner; creating s. 288.013, F.S.; providing legislative findings; creating the Office of Rural Prosperity within the Department of Commerce; requiring the Governor to appoint a director, subject to Senate confirmation; providing that the director reports to and serves at the pleasure of the secretary of the department; providing duties of the office; requiring the office to establish and staff a certain number of regional rural community liaison centers for a specified purpose; providing the powers and duties of the liaison centers; requiring coordination between certain entities; requiring the liaison centers to engage with the Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI); requiring at least one staff member of a liaison center to attend the monthly REDI meetings in person or by means of electronic communication; requiring the director of the office to submit a report to the Administration Commission within the Executive Office of the Governor; specifying requirements for the report; requiring that the report also be submitted to the Legislature by a specified date and published on the office's website; requiring the director of the office to attend the next Administration Commission meeting to present detailed information from the annual report; amending s. 288.001, F.S.; requiring the Florida Small Business Development Center Network to use certain funds appropriated for a specified purpose; authorizing the network to dedicate funds to facilitate certain events; creating s. 288.014, F.S.; providing legislative findings; requiring the Office of Rural Prosperity to administer the Renaissance Grants Program to provide block grants to eligible communities; requiring the Office of Economic and Demographic Research to certify to the Office of Rural Prosperity certain information by a specified date; defining the term "growth-impeded"; requiring the Office of Economic and Demographic Research to certify annually that a county remains growth-impeded until certain conditions are met; providing that a county is eligible to participate in the program for 1 additional year under certain circumstances; requiring participating counties to enter into an agreement with the Office of Rural Prosperity to receive a block grant; giving such counties certain authority; prohibiting the Office of Rural Prosperity from determining how such counties implement the block grant; requiring regional rural community liaison center staff to provide certain assistance; requiring participating counties to report certain information to the Office of Rural Prosperity; providing that a participating county receives a specified amount from funds appropriated to the program, or an equal share of the funds appropriated under certain circumstances; requiring participating counties to limit certain expenses; authorizing participating counties to supplement the block grant with other funding sources; requiring participating counties to hire and retain a renaissance coordinator; providing the responsibilities of the renaissance coordinator; requiring the regional rural community liaison center staff

to provide assistance and training to the renaissance coordinator, upon request; requiring participating counties to design a certain plan; specifying requirements for such plan; requiring participating counties to develop intergovernmental agreements with certain entities to implement the plan; requiring the Auditor General to conduct an operational audit of each county's grant activities; requiring the Office of Economic and Demographic Research to submit a certain report to the Legislature; specifying requirements for the report; providing that funds appropriated from the program are not subject to reversion; creating s. 288.0175, F.S.; creating the Public Infrastructure Smart Technology Grant Program within the Office of Rural Prosperity; defining terms; requiring the office to contract with one or more smart technology lead organizations to administer the grant program for a specified purpose; providing the criteria for such contracts; requiring that a summary of projects funded by the grant program be included in the office's annual report; amending s. 288.065, F.S.; establishing the Rural Community Development Revolving Loan Fund within the Office of Rural Prosperity, rather than the Department of Commerce; defining the term "unit of local government"; requiring the office to include in its annual report certain information about the Rural Community Development Revolving Loan Fund; providing for future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; authorizing the Division of Emergency Management to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority for certain expenditures under certain circumstances; amending s. 282.201, F.S.; extending for 1 year the Division of Emergency Management's exemption from the use of the state data center; amending s. 443.1113, F.S.; providing that certain improvements to the Reemployment Assistance Claims and Benefits Information System are subject to appropriation; revising the date a certain report from the Department of Commerce is required to be submitted; revising the report requirements; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting and amending s. 445.08, F.S., relating to the Florida Law Enforcement Recruitment Bonus Payment Program; extending the program for 1 year; authorizing the Department of Commerce to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority to support specified federal grant programs; requiring the Department of Management Services to assess an administrative health insurance assessment on each state agency; providing the rate of such assessment; defining the term "state agency"; requiring the Department of Management Services to take certain actions in case of delinquencies; requiring the Chief Financial Officer to transfer funds under specified circumstances; requiring state agencies to provide a list of positions that qualify for a certain exception by a specified date and to update the list monthly thereafter; requiring state agencies to include the administrative health insurance assessment in their indirect cost plan beginning for a specified fiscal year and annually thereafter; requiring agencies to notify the Department of Management Services, the Executive Office of the Governor, and the Legislature regarding the approval of their updated indirect cost plans; authorizing the Executive Office of the Governor to transfer budget authority between agencies in specified circumstances; providing that the annual salaries of the members of the Legislature be maintained at a specified level for a specified fiscal year; reenacting s. 215.32(2)(b), F.S., relating to the authorization for transferring unappropriated cash balances from selected trust funds to the Budget Stabilization Fund and General Revenue Fund; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; specifying the type of travel which may be used with state employee travel funds for a specified fiscal year; providing exceptions; providing applicability; providing a monetary cap on lodging costs for state employee travel to certain meetings organized or sponsored by a state agency or the judicial branch; authorizing employees to expend their own funds for lodging expenses that exceed the monetary caps; providing construction; amending s. 216.181, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the authority of the Legislative Budget Commission to approve budget amendments for certain fixed capital outlay projects; amending s. 216.292, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the requirements for certain transfers; authorizing state agencies to purchase vehicles from nonstate term contract vendors without prior approval from the Department of Management Services under certain circumstances; amending s. 11.52, F.S.; extending for 1 year certain state agency reporting requirements regarding implementation of legislation; amending s. 216.013, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year an exception from certain planning requirements; amending s. 216.023, F.S.; extending for 1 year a requirement that certain entities include a specified inventory in their legislative budget requests; requiring that a specified percentage of funds appropriated for information technology projects be held in reserve and that general revenue funds not held in reserve be released;

authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration, Department of Children and Families, Department of Corrections, Department of Financial Services, Florida Gaming Control Commission, Department of Health, and Department of Revenue to submit a budget amendment to request release of funds; limiting the amount that may be requested; providing that release is contingent upon certain submissions; requiring entities receiving such funds to submit monthly project status reports to certain entities; providing requirements for such status reports; providing conditions under which the veto of certain appropriations or proviso language in the General Appropriations Act voids language that implements such appropriation; providing for the continued operation of certain provisions notwithstanding a future repeal or expiration provided by the act; providing for construction of the act in pari materia with laws enacted during the 2026 Regular Session of the Legislature; providing for severability; providing for contingent retroactivity; providing effective dates.

On motion by Senator Hooper, by two-thirds vote, **HB 5003-E**, as amended, was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—32

|               |          |            |
|---------------|----------|------------|
| Mr. President | Gaetz    | Passidomo  |
| Arrington     | Garcia   | Pizzo      |
| Avila         | Harrell  | Rodriguez  |
| Berman        | Hooper   | Rouson     |
| Bernard       | Jones    | Simon      |
| Boyd          | Leek     | Smith      |
| Bracy Davis   | Martin   | Truenow    |
| Brodeur       | Massullo | Trumbull   |
| Burgess       | Mayfield | Wright     |
| Calatayud     | McClain  | Yarborough |
| Davis         | Nathan   |            |

Nays—None

**MOTIONS**

On motion by Senator Hooper, the Senate having refused to pass **HB 5003-E** as passed by the House, acceded to the request for a budget conference.

**MOTIONS**

On motion by Senator Hooper, by two-thirds vote, **SB 2504-E** was withdrawn from the Committee on Appropriations, and by unanimous consent, taken up instanter.

On motion by Senator Hooper, by two-thirds vote—

**SB 2504-E**—A bill to be entitled An act relating to state employees; providing for the resolution of collective bargaining issues at impasse between the state and certified bargaining units for state employees; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **SB 2504-E**—

**MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**FIRST READING**

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed **HB 5201E** and requests that the Senate pass the bill as passed by the House or agree to include the bill in the budget conference.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

By Representative(s) Maggard—

**HB 5201-E**—A bill to be entitled An act relating to collective bargaining; providing for resolution pursuant to specified instructions of collective bargaining issues at impasse between the state and certified representatives of the bargaining units for state employees; providing an effective date.

—was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

Pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **HB 5201-E** was withdrawn from the Committee on Appropriations.

On motion by Senator Hooper, by two-thirds vote—

**HB 5201-E**—A bill to be entitled An act relating to collective bargaining; providing for resolution pursuant to specified instructions of collective bargaining issues at impasse between the state and certified representatives of the bargaining units for state employees; providing an effective date.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **SB 2504-E** and by two-thirds vote, read the second time by title.

Senator Hooper moved the following amendment which was adopted:

**Amendment 1 (878406) (with title amendment)**—Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. *All collective bargaining issues for which negotiations have reached an impasse for the 2026-2027 fiscal year between the state and the legal representatives of the certified bargaining units for state employees shall be resolved pursuant to the instructions provided in the General Appropriations Act and the relevant provisions of any legislation enacted to implement the General Appropriations Act for the 2026-2027 fiscal year.*

Section 2. 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 state employees; providing for the resolution of collective bargaining issues at impasse between the state and certified bargaining units for state employees; providing an effective date.

On motion by Senator Hooper, by two-thirds vote, **HB 5201-E**, as amended, was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—32

|               |          |            |
|---------------|----------|------------|
| Mr. President | Gaetz    | Passidomo  |
| Arrington     | Garcia   | Pizzo      |
| Avila         | Harrell  | Rodriguez  |
| Berman        | Hooper   | Rouson     |
| Bernard       | Jones    | Simon      |
| Boyd          | Leek     | Smith      |
| Bracy Davis   | Martin   | Truenow    |
| Brodeur       | Massullo | Trumbull   |
| Burgess       | Mayfield | Wright     |
| Calatayud     | McClain  | Yarborough |
| Davis         | Nathan   |            |

Nays—None

**MOTIONS**

On motion by Senator Hooper, the Senate having refused to pass **HB 5201-E** as passed by the House, acceded to the request for a budget conference.

## MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Mayfield, by two-thirds vote, **SB 2-E** was withdrawn from the committees of reference, and by unanimous consent, taken up *instanter*.

On motion by Senator Mayfield, by two-thirds vote—

**SB 2-E**—A bill to be entitled An act relating to retirement; amending s. 121.053, F.S.; authorizing an elected officer, except while serving as a legislator, to remain in elective office and receive accumulated Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) proceeds after the officer attains a certain age; providing that, upon termination, the officer receives accumulated DROP proceeds including interest earned in accordance with a specified provision; amending s. 121.091, F.S.; requiring the Division of Retirement or the State Board of Administration, as appropriate, to take steps to recoup from the elected officer any DROP proceeds distributed in accordance with a specified provision, under specified circumstances; amending s. 121.101, F.S.; revising the cost-of-living adjustment for eligible Special Risk Class retirees; defining the term “eligible Special Risk Class retiree”; amending s. 121.71, F.S.; revising required employer retirement contribution rates for each membership class and subclass of the Florida Retirement System; amending s. 121.73, F.S.; revising required allocations from the Contributions Clearing Trust Fund to provide disability coverage to members of the investment plan of the Florida Retirement System; amending s. 121.735, F.S.; revising allocations from the Contributions Clearing Trust Fund to provide line-of-duty death benefits to members of the investment plan of the Florida Retirement System; providing a declaration of important state interest; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **SB 2-E**—

## MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

### FIRST READING

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed HB 5205E and requests that the Senate pass the bill as passed by the House or agree to include the bill in the budget conference.

*Jeff Takacs*, Clerk

By Representative(s) Maggard—

**HB 5205-E**—A bill to be entitled An act relating to retirement; amending s. 121.71, F.S.; revising required employer retirement contribution rates for each membership class and subclass of the Florida Retirement System; providing a declaration of important state interest; providing an effective date.

—was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

Pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **HB 5205-E** was withdrawn from the Committee on Appropriations.

On motion by Senator Mayfield, the rules were waived and by two-thirds vote—

**HB 5205-E**—A bill to be entitled An act relating to retirement; amending s. 121.71, F.S.; revising required employer retirement contribution rates for each membership class and subclass of the Florida Retirement System; providing a declaration of important state interest; providing an effective date.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **SB 2-E** and by two-thirds vote, read the second time by title.

Senator Mayfield moved the following amendment which was adopted:

**Amendment 1 (123090) (with title amendment)**—Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Subsection (7) of section 121.053, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

121.053 Participation in the Elected Officers’ Class for retired members.—

(7) A member who is elected or appointed to an elective office and who is participating in the Deferred Retirement Option Program is not subject to termination as defined in s. 121.021, or reemployment limitations as provided in s. 121.091(9), until the end of his or her current term of office or, if the officer is consecutively elected or reelected to an elective office eligible for coverage under the Florida Retirement System, until he or she no longer holds an elective office, as follows:

(a) At the end of the member’s DROP period:

1. The officer’s DROP account may not accrue additional monthly benefits, but does continue to earn interest as provided in s. 121.091(13). However, an officer whose DROP participation begins on or after July 1, 2010, may not continue to earn such interest.

2. Retirement contributions, except for unfunded actuarial liability and health insurance subsidy contributions required in ss. 121.71(5) and 121.76, are not required of the employer of the elected officer, and additional retirement credit may not be earned under the Florida Retirement System.

3. *The officer, except while serving as a legislator, may remain in elective office and receive his or her accumulated DROP proceeds, including interest earned in accordance with subparagraph 1., after attaining the age of 59 1/2 years.*

(b) An elected officer may voluntarily terminate his or her elective office at any time and receive his or her DROP proceeds. However, until termination occurs, an elected officer whose termination limitations are extended by this section is ineligible for renewed membership in the system and may not receive pension payments, ~~DROP lump sum payments~~, or any other state payment other than the statutorily determined salary, travel, and per diem for the elective office.

(c) Upon termination, the officer shall receive his or her accumulated DROP account, *including plus interest earned in accordance with subparagraph (a)1.*, and shall accrue and commence receiving monthly retirement benefits, which must be paid on a prospective basis only.

Section 2. Subsection (5) of section 121.091, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

121.091 Benefits payable under the system.—Benefits may not be paid under this section unless the member has terminated employment as provided in s. 121.021(39)(a) or begun participation in the Deferred Retirement Option Program as provided in subsection (13), and a proper application has been filed in the manner prescribed by the department. The department may cancel an application for retirement benefits when the member or beneficiary fails to timely provide the information and documents required by this chapter and the department’s rules. The department shall adopt rules establishing procedures for application for retirement benefits and for the cancellation of such application when the required information or documents are not received.

(5) **TERMINATION BENEFITS.**—A member whose employment is terminated prior to retirement retains membership rights to previously earned member-noncontributory service credit, and to member-contributory service credit, if the member leaves the member contributions on deposit in his or her retirement account. If a terminated member receives a refund of member contributions, such member may reinstate membership rights to the previously earned service credit represented by the refund by completing 1 year of creditable service and repaying the refunded member contributions, plus interest.

(a) A member whose employment is terminated for any reason other than death or retirement before becoming vested is entitled to the re-

turn of his or her accumulated contributions as of the date of termination. Effective July 1, 2011, upon termination of employment from all participating employers for 3 calendar months as defined in s. 121.021(39)(c) for any reason other than retirement, a member may receive a refund of all contributions he or she has made to the pension plan, subject to the restrictions otherwise provided in this chapter. The refund may be received as a lump-sum payment, a rollover to a qualified plan, or a combination of these methods. Partial refunds are not permitted. The refund may not include any interest earnings on the contributions for a member of the pension plan. Employer contributions made on behalf of the member are not refundable. A member may not receive a refund of employee contributions if a pending or an approved qualified domestic relations order is filed against his or her retirement account. By obtaining a refund of contributions, a member waives all rights under the Florida Retirement System and the health insurance subsidy to the service credit represented by the refunded contributions, except the right to purchase his or her prior service credit in accordance with s. 121.081(2).

(b) A member whose employment is terminated for any reason other than death or retirement after becoming vested may elect to receive a deferred monthly benefit which shall begin to accrue on the first day of the month of normal or early retirement and shall be payable on the last day of that month and each month thereafter during his or her lifetime. The amount of monthly benefit shall be computed in the same manner as for a normal retirement benefit in accordance with subsection (1) or early retirement benefit in accordance with s. 121.021(30), but based on average monthly compensation and creditable service as of the date of termination.

(c) In lieu of the deferred monthly benefit provided in paragraph (b), the terminated member may elect to receive a lump-sum amount equal to his or her accumulated contributions as of the date of termination. Effective July 1, 2011, upon termination of employment from all participating employers for 3 calendar months as defined in s. 121.021(39)(c) for any reason other than retirement, a member may receive a refund of all contributions he or she has made to the pension plan, subject to the restrictions otherwise provided in this chapter. Partial refunds are not permitted. The refund may not include any interest earnings on the contributions for a member of the pension plan. Employer contributions made on behalf of the member are not refundable. A member may not receive a refund of employee contributions if a pending or an approved qualified domestic relations order is filed against his or her retirement account. By obtaining a refund of contributions, a member waives all rights under the Florida Retirement System and the health insurance subsidy to the service credit represented by the refunded contributions, except the right to purchase his or her prior service credit in accordance with s. 121.081(2).

(d) If any retired member dies without having received in benefit payments an amount equal to his or her accumulated contributions, there shall be payable to his or her designated beneficiary an amount equal to the excess, if any, of the member's accumulated contributions over the total monthly payments made to the member prior to the date of death.

(e) A member shall be deemed a terminated member when termination of employment has occurred as provided in s. 121.021(39).

(f) Any member who has been found guilty by a verdict of a jury, or by the court trying the case without a jury, of committing, aiding, or abetting any embezzlement or theft from his or her employer, bribery in connection with the employment, or other felony specified in chapter 838, except ss. 838.15 and 838.16, committed prior to retirement, or who has entered a plea of guilty or of nolo contendere to such crime, or any member whose employment is terminated by reason of the member's admitted commitment, aiding, or abetting of an embezzlement or theft from his or her employer, bribery, or other felony specified in chapter 838, except ss. 838.15 and 838.16, shall forfeit all rights and benefits under this chapter, except the return of his or her accumulated contributions as of the date of termination.

(g) Any elected official who is convicted by the Senate of an impeachable offense shall forfeit all rights and benefits under this chapter,

except the return of his or her accumulated contributions as of the date of the conviction.

(h) Any member who, prior to retirement, is adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to have violated any state law against strikes by public employees, or who has been found guilty by such court of violating any state law prohibiting strikes by public employees, shall forfeit all rights and benefits under this chapter, except the return of his or her accumulated contributions as of the date of the conviction.

(i) The division or the state board may not pay benefits to any member convicted of a felony committed on or after October 1, 2008, defined in s. 800.04 against a victim younger than 16 years of age, or defined in chapter 794 against a victim younger than 18 years of age, through the use or attempted use of power, rights, privileges, duties, or position of the member's public office or employment position. However, the division or the state board shall return the member's accumulated contributions, if any, that the member accumulated as of the date of conviction.

(j) Any beneficiary who by a verdict of a jury or by the court trying the case without a jury is found guilty, or who has entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, of unlawfully and intentionally killing or procuring the death of the member forfeits all rights to the deceased member's benefits under this chapter, and the benefits will be paid as if such beneficiary had predeceased the decedent.

(k) Benefits may not be paid by the division or the state board pending final resolution of such charges against a member or beneficiary if the resolution of such charges could require the forfeiture of benefits as provided in paragraph (f), paragraph (g), paragraph (h), paragraph (i), paragraph (j), or chapter 112.

(l) *The division and the state board, as appropriate, must take steps to recoup from the elected officer any DROP proceeds distributed pursuant to s. 121.053(7)(a)3. if:*

1. *Such DROP proceeds were distributed before the elected officer's termination; and*

2. *The division or state board would be prohibited pursuant to paragraph (k) from making a distribution to the elected officer, absent the distribution to the elected officer pursuant to s. 121.053(7)(a)3.*

Section 3. Present subsections (5) through (9) of section 121.101, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (6) through (10), respectively, and a new subsection (5) is added to that section, to read:

121.101 Cost-of-living adjustment of benefits.—

(5)(a) *Commencing July 1, 2026, and in lieu of any annual adjustment authorized in paragraph (4)(b) occurring after the fifth anniversary of retirement of an eligible Special Risk Class member whose effective retirement date is on or after July 1, 2011, the adjusted monthly benefit of each eligible Special Risk Class retiree and annuitant shall be the amount of the monthly benefit being received on June 30 immediately preceding the adjustment date plus the greater of the amount determined by multiplying the benefit by the factor calculated pursuant to paragraph (4)(c) or the amount equal to 1.5 percent of this benefit.*

(b) *For purposes of this subsection, the term "eligible Special Risk Class retiree" means a retiree:*

1. *Initially enrolled in the Florida Retirement System prior to July 1, 2011, who has completed at least 72 calendar months of creditable service as a Special Risk Class member; or*

2. *Initially enrolled in the Florida Retirement System on or after July 1, 2011, who has completed at least 96 calendar months of creditable service as a Special Risk Class member.*

Section 4. Subsections (4) and (5) of section 121.71, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

121.71 Uniform rates; process; calculations; levy.—

(4) Required employer retirement contribution rates for each membership class and subclass of the Florida Retirement System for both retirement plans are as follows:

| Membership Class   | Percentage of Gross Compensation, Effective July 1, 2026 <del>2025</del> |
|--|--|
| Regular Class  | 7.11% <del>7.10%</del>   |
| Special Risk Class   | 21.58% <del>20.10%</del>   |
| Special Risk Administrative Support Class  | 11.45% <del>10.88%</del>   |
| Elected Officers' Class—Legislators, Governor, Lt. Governor, Cabinet Officers, State Attorneys, Public Defenders | 10.30% <del>10.04%</del>   |
| Elected Officers' Class—Justices, Judges   | 15.54% <del>15.62%</del>   |
| Elected Officers' Class—County Elected Officers  | 11.45% <del>11.79%</del>   |
| Senior Management Service Class  | 8.68% <del>8.73%</del>   |
| DROP   | 9.86% <del>9.37%</del>   |

(5) In order to address unfunded actuarial liabilities of the system, the required employer retirement contribution rates for each membership class and subclass of the Florida Retirement System for both retirement plans are as follows:

| Membership Class   | Percentage of Gross Compensation, Effective July 1, 2026 <del>2025</del> |
|--|--|
| Regular Class  | 4.42% <del>4.87%</del>   |
| Special Risk Class   | 14.10% <del>13.03%</del>   |
| Special Risk Administrative Support Class  | 28.28% <del>26.54%</del>   |
| Elected Officers' Class—Legislators, Governor, Lt. Governor, Cabinet Officers, State Attorneys, Public Defenders | 51.43% <del>50.56%</del>   |
| Elected Officers' Class—Justices, Judges   | 28.40% <del>28.46%</del>   |
| Elected Officers' Class—County Elected Officers  | 41.49% <del>40.72%</del>   |
| Senior Management Service Class  | 21.86% <del>22.45%</del>   |
| DROP   | 10.26% <del>10.65%</del>   |

Section 5. Subsection (3) of section 121.73, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

121.73 Allocations for member disability coverage; percentage amounts.—

(3) Effective July 1, 2026 ~~2002~~, allocations from the Florida Retirement System Contributions Clearing Trust Fund to provide disability coverage for members in the investment plan, and to offset the costs of administering said coverage, are as follows:

| Membership Class   | Percentage of Gross Compensation |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Regular Class  | 0.25%                            |
| Special Risk Class   | 1.91% <del>1.85%</del>           |
| Special Risk Administrative Support Class  | 0.46% <del>0.45%</del>           |
| Elected Officers' Class—Legislators, Governor, Lt. Governor, Cabinet Officers, State Attorneys, Public Defenders | 0.41%                            |
| Elected Officers' Class—Justices, Judges   | 0.73%                            |
| Elected Officers' Class—County Elected Officers  | 0.41%                            |
| Senior Management Service Class  | 0.26%                            |

Section 6. Subsection (3) of section 121.735, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

121.735 Allocations for member line-of-duty death benefits; percentage amounts.—

(3) Allocations from the Florida Retirement System Contributions Clearing Trust Fund to provide line-of-duty death benefits for members in the investment plan and to offset the costs of administering said coverage, are as follows:

| Membership Class   | Percentage of Gross Compensation |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Regular Class  | 0.05%                            |
| Special Risk Class   | 1.28% <del>1.26%</del>           |
| Special Risk Administrative Support Class  | 0.03%                            |
| Elected Officers' Class—Legislators, Governor, Lt. Governor, Cabinet Officers, State Attorneys, Public Defenders | 0.15%                            |
| Elected Officers' Class—Justices, Judges   | 0.09%                            |
| Elected Officers' Class—County Elected Officers  | 0.20%                            |
| Senior Management Service Class  | 0.05%                            |

Section 7. *The Legislature finds that a proper and legitimate state purpose is served when employees, officers, and retirees of the state and its political subdivisions, and the dependents, survivors, and beneficiaries of such employees, officers, and retirees, are extended the basic protections afforded by governmental retirement systems. These persons must be provided benefits that are fair and adequate and that are managed, administered, and funded in an actuarially sound manner as required by s. 14, Article X of the State Constitution and part VII of chapter 112, Florida Statutes. Therefore, the Legislature determines and declares that this act fulfills an important state interest.*

Section 8. 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 retirement; amending s. 121.053, F.S.; authorizing an elected officer, except while serving as a legislator, to remain in elective office and receive accumulated Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) proceeds after the officer attains a certain age; providing that, upon termination, the officer receives accumulated DROP proceeds including interest earned in accordance with a specified provision; amending s. 121.091, F.S.; requiring the Division of Retirement or the State Board of Administration, as appropriate, to take steps to recoup from the elected officer any DROP proceeds distributed in accordance with a specified provision, under specified circumstances; amending s. 121.101, F.S.; revising the cost-of-living adjustment for eligible Special Risk Class retirees; defining the term "eligible Special Risk Class retiree"; amending s. 121.71, F.S.; revising required employer retirement contribution rates for each membership class and subclass of the Florida Retirement System; amending s. 121.73, F.S.; revising required allocations from the Contributions Clearing Trust Fund to provide disability coverage to members of the investment plan of the Florida Retirement System; amending s. 121.735, F.S.; revising allocations from the Contributions Clearing Trust Fund to provide line-of-duty death benefits to members of the investment plan of the Florida Retirement System; providing a declaration of important state interest; providing an effective date.

On motion by Senator Mayfield, by two-thirds vote, **HB 5205-E**, as amended, was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—32

|               |          |            |
|---------------|----------|------------|
| Mr. President | Gaetz    | Passidomo  |
| Arrington     | Garcia   | Pizzo      |
| Avila         | Harrell  | Rodriguez  |
| Berman        | Hooper   | Rouson     |
| Bernard       | Jones    | Simon      |
| Boyd          | Leek     | Smith      |
| Bracy Davis   | Martin   | Truenow    |
| Brodeur       | Massullo | Trumbull   |
| Burgess       | Mayfield | Wright     |
| Calatayud     | McClain  | Yarborough |
| Davis         | Nathan   |            |

Nays—None

**MOTIONS**

On motion by Senator Mayfield, the Senate having refused to pass **HB 5205-E** as passed by the House, acceded to the request for a budget conference.

**MOTIONS**

On motion by Senator Harrell, by two-thirds vote, **SB 2516-E** was withdrawn from the Committee on Appropriations, and by unanimous consent, taken up instanter.

On motion by Senator Harrell, by two-thirds vote—

**SB 2516-E**—A bill to be entitled An act relating to higher education; amending s. 464.0195, F.S.; establishing the Florida Center for Nursing within the University of South Florida; requiring the center to administer the Linking Industry to Nursing Education (LINE) Fund; requiring the center to promote certain funds and provide technical assistance during a specified timeframe; requiring the center to develop certain guidelines and make them publicly available on its website; providing requirements for the administration of LINE funds; amending s. 1009.26, F.S.; providing that a specified fee waiver applies to a student's out-of-pocket expenses for tuition and fees after other aid is applied; deleting a requirement for a state university to report and disburse certain waived fees; deleting a requirement for disbursement; amending s. 1009.8962, F.S.; providing that the LINE Fund was established for shortages in health science professions in addition to nursing; defining terms; requiring that the LINE Fund be administered by the Florida Center for Nursing within the University of South Florida, rather than the Board of Governors and the Department of Education; providing

that funding is subject to approval of an application by the center; authorizing the fund to match certain contributions if funds are available; revising how funds may be used; providing exceptions to certain prohibitions on the use of funds; revising requirements for a proposal for LINE funds submitted by an institution; providing that proposals for related health science programs may not be prioritized over nursing programs; revising requirements for the center to evaluate submitted proposals; authorizing the center to prioritize certain grant applications; requiring the center to notify each applicant of its determination; defining terms; requiring an institution with an approved proposal to certify the health care partner's contribution in a specified manner; authorizing the center to award funds for up to 3 academic years; requiring institutions awarded grant funds to submit an annual report by a certain date to the center instead of the Board of Governors or the Department of Education; providing that the Department of Education is the lead entity for identifying and maintaining which health science programs are eligible for LINE funds; 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; deleting a requirement for the Board of Governors to adopt regulations and the State Board of Education to adopt rules; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **SB 2516-E**—

**MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**FIRST READING**

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed HB 5601E and requests that the Senate pass the bill as passed by the House or agree to include the bill in the budget conference.

*Jeff Takacs*, Clerk

By Representative(s) Busatta—

**HB 5601-E**—A bill to be entitled An act relating to higher education; amending s. 1001.706, F.S.; revising requirements for certain funds held in an escrow account relating to certain capital outlay projects; creating s. 1004.342, F.S.; providing definitions; transferring specified assets and liabilities from the University of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee to New College of Florida by specified dates; requiring New College of Florida to provide a specified monthly payment to the University of South Florida until such transfer is complete; requiring such transfer to be in a written joint transfer agreement; providing requirements for such agreement and the transfer of such assets and liabilities; requiring a facility use agreement between the University of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee and New College of Florida; providing requirements for such agreement; providing construction; providing applicability; providing specified immunity from liability; providing for future repeal; amending s. 1004.344, F.S.; removing the requirement for the Florida Center for the Partnerships for Arts Integrated Teaching to be physically housed at the University of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee; amending s. 1009.24, F.S.; revising programs for which the Board of Governors may establish tuition; authorizing state university boards of trustees to establish out-of-state fees for nonresident students; removing a provision requiring that adjustments to certain out-of-state fees not exceed a certain amount; removing a provision requiring certain actions to be taken by a state university in accordance with Board of Governors regulations; removing a requirement for a block tuition policy for nonresident undergraduate students; repealing sections 5, 7, and 9 of chapter 2025-199, Laws of Florida, relating to the future repeal of amendments to ss. 1011.45, 1009.26, and 1004.89, F.S.; amending s. 1011.45, F.S.; removing an obsolete date; amending s. 1011.90, F.S.; authorizing state funds to be used to support specified requirements in state and federal law; amending s. 1013.01, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "educational facilities"; providing an effective date.

—was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

Pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **HB 5601-E** was withdrawn from the Committee on Appropriations.

On motion by Senator Harrell, the rules were waived and by two-thirds vote—

**HB 5601-E**—A bill to be entitled An act relating to higher education; amending s. 1001.706, F.S.; revising requirements for certain funds held in an escrow account relating to certain capital outlay projects; creating s. 1004.342, F.S.; providing definitions; transferring specified assets and liabilities from the University of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee to New College of Florida by specified dates; requiring New College of Florida to provide a specified monthly payment to the University of South Florida until such transfer is complete; requiring such transfer to be in a written joint transfer agreement; providing requirements for such agreement and the transfer of such assets and liabilities; requiring a facility use agreement between the University of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee and New College of Florida; providing requirements for such agreement; providing construction; providing applicability; providing specified immunity from liability; providing for future repeal; amending s. 1004.344, F.S.; removing the requirement for the Florida Center for the Partnerships for Arts Integrated Teaching to be physically housed at the University of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee; amending s. 1009.24, F.S.; revising programs for which the Board of Governors may establish tuition; authorizing state university boards of trustees to establish out-of-state fees for nonresident students; removing a provision requiring that adjustments to certain out-of-state fees not exceed a certain amount; removing a provision requiring certain actions to be taken by a state university in accordance with Board of Governors regulations; removing a requirement for a block tuition policy for nonresident undergraduate students; repealing sections 5, 7, and 9 of chapter 2025-199, Laws of Florida, relating to the future repeal of amendments to ss. 1011.45, 1009.26, and 1004.89, F.S.; amending s. 1011.45, F.S.; removing an obsolete date; amending s. 1011.90, F.S.; authorizing state funds to be used to support specified requirements in state and federal law; amending s. 1013.01, F.S.; revising the definition of the term “educational facilities”; providing an effective date.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **SB 2516-E** and by two-thirds vote, read the second time by title.

Senator Harrell moved the following amendment which was adopted:

**Amendment 1 (926488) (with title amendment)**—Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Section 464.0195, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

464.0195 Florida Center for Nursing; ~~goals.~~—

(1) There is established *within the University of South Florida* the Florida Center for Nursing to address issues of supply and demand for nursing, including issues of recruitment, retention, and utilization of *resources that support the state’s nursing* ~~nurse~~ workforce ~~resources~~. The Legislature finds that the center will repay the state’s investment by providing an ongoing strategy for the allocation of the state’s resources directed towards nursing.

(2) The primary goals for the center shall be to:

(a) Develop a strategic statewide plan for nursing manpower in this state by:

1. Conducting a statistically valid biennial data-driven gap analysis of the supply and demand of the health care workforce. The center shall:

a. Establish and maintain a database on nursing supply and demand in the state, to include current supply and demand.

b. Analyze the current and future supply and demand in the state and the impact of this state’s participation in the Nurse Licensure Compact under s. 464.0095.

2. Developing recommendations to increase nurse faculty and clinical preceptors, support nurse faculty development, and promote advanced nurse education.

3. Developing best practices in the academic preparation and continuing education needs of qualified nurse educators, nurse faculty, and clinical preceptors.

4. Collecting data on nurse faculty, employment, distribution, and retention.

5. Piloting innovative projects to support the recruitment, development, and retention of qualified nurse faculty and clinical preceptors.

6. Encouraging and coordinating the development of academic-practice partnerships, including partnerships with hospitals which provide opportunities for nursing students to obtain clinical experience, to support nurse faculty employment and advancement.

7. Developing distance learning infrastructure for nursing education and advancing faculty competencies in the pedagogy of teaching and the evidence-based use of technology, simulation, and distance learning techniques.

(b) Enhance and promote recognition, reward, and renewal activities for nurses in the state by:

1. Promoting nursing excellence programs such as magnet recognition by the American Nurses Credentialing Center;

2. Proposing and creating additional reward, recognition, and renewal activities for nurses; and

3. Promoting media and positive image-building efforts for nursing.

(c) Convene various groups representative of nurses, other health care providers, business and industry, consumers, lawmakers, and educators to:

1. Review and comment on data analysis prepared for the center;

2. Recommend systemic changes, including strategies for implementation of recommended changes; and

3. Evaluate and report the results of these efforts to the Legislature and other entities.

(3) The Board of Nursing shall include on its initial and renewal application forms a question asking each nurse to voluntarily contribute to funding the Florida Center for Nursing in addition to paying the fees imposed at the time of licensure and licensure renewal. Revenues collected from nurses over and above the required fees shall be transferred from the Medical Quality Assurance Trust Fund to the Grants and Donations Trust Fund within the Department of Health and shall be used solely to support and maintain the goals and functions of the center. Before giving a nurse the opportunity to contribute to funding the center at the time of licensure renewal, the Board of Nursing shall provide the nurse with a summary of the center’s work, a link to the center’s Internet website, and the following statement: “The Florida Center for Nursing’s operating revenues are derived in part from your donation. In order for the Florida Center for Nursing to continue its work on behalf of nurses, please donate.”

(4) The center may request from the board, and the board must provide to the center upon its request, any information held by the board regarding nurses licensed in this state or holding a multistate license pursuant to s. 464.0095 or information reported to the board by employers of such nurses, other than personal identifying information.

(5) *The center shall administer the Linking Industry to Nursing Education (LINE) Fund pursuant to s. 1009.8962.*

(a) *The center shall proactively promote to eligible institutions the availability of matching funds through the LINE Fund before the opening of the annual application period.*

(b) *The center shall provide technical assistance to eligible institutions before, during, and after the award process to maximize the success of the program statewide.*

(c) *To administer the application, evaluation, and distribution of LINE Fund grants under s. 1009.8962, the center shall develop and*

make publicly available on its website the guidelines for the LINE Fund administration, including:

1. Any application procedures and deadlines.
2. The criteria for program eligibility and funding priorities.
3. A preapproval process to assist applicants with planning for the annual application process.
4. A process to ensure the fair evaluation of all submitted proposals and determination of award recipients.
5. The process that each type of eligible institution must follow to certify the receipt of the pledged contributions from any partner organizations before receiving any matching state funds.
6. Reporting and accountability standards for grant recipients that apply for or receive LINE funds, including actions the center may consider when an institution materially fails to comply with any program requirements or standards.

(6)(~~5~~) No later than each January 10, the center shall submit a report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives providing details of its activities during the preceding calendar year in pursuit of its goals and in the execution of its duties under subsection (2), including a nursing education program report. The center shall annually update the report no later than February 10, to include data related to the NCLEX examination.

Section 2. Paragraphs (a) and (c) of subsection (18) of section 1009.26, Florida Statutes, as amended by section 7 of chapter 2025-199, Laws of Florida, are amended to read:

#### 1009.26 Fee waivers.—

(18)(a) For every course in a Program of Strategic Emphasis, or in a state-approved teacher preparation program identified by the Board of Governors, as identified in subparagraph 3., in which a student is enrolled and has out-of-pocket expenses for tuition and fees after all other federal, state, and institutional gift aid is applied, a state university shall waive 100 percent of the tuition and fees of the student's out-of-pocket expenses for an equivalent course in such program for a student who:

1. Is a resident for tuition purposes under s. 1009.21.
2. Has earned at least 60 semester credit hours towards a baccalaureate degree within 2 academic years after initial enrollment at a Florida public postsecondary institution.
3. Enrolls in one of 10 Programs of Strategic Emphasis as adopted by the Board of Governors or a state-approved teacher preparation program. The Board of Governors shall adopt eight Programs of Strategic Emphasis in science, technology, engineering, or math; beginning with the 2022-2023 academic year, two Programs of Strategic Emphasis in the critical workforce gap analysis category; and beginning with the 2023-2024 academic year, two state-approved teacher preparation programs for which a student may be eligible to receive the tuition and fee waiver authorized by this subsection. The programs identified by the board must reflect the priorities of the state and be offered at a majority of state universities at the time the Board of Governors approves the list.

~~(c) Upon enrollment in a Program of Strategic Emphasis or a state-approved teacher preparation program, the tuition and fees waived under this subsection must be reported for state funding purposes under ss. 1009.534 and 1009.535 and must be disbursed to the student. The amount disbursed to the student must be equal to the award amount the student has received under s. 1009.534(3) or s. 1009.535(2).~~

Section 3. Subsections (2) through (10) of section 1009.8962, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

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

(2) Recognizing that the state has a persistent and growing nursing shortage and shortages in other related health science professions, it is the intent of the Legislature to address this critical workforce need by

incentivizing collaboration between nursing education and related health science programs and health care partners 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 and related health science programs, and increasing the number of nursing education and related health science program graduates who are prepared and licensed to enter the workforce.

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

(a) "Center" means the Florida Center for Nursing within the University of South Florida, established by s. 464.0195.

(b)(~~a~~) "Health care partner" means a health care provider as defined in s. 768.38(2) that is licensed to operate in this state. The center may also consider any of the following types of organizations that are connected to nursing education or the nursing workforce as a "health care partner" for the purpose of evaluating an institution's proposal and a pledged contribution for matching LINE funds:

1. An organization that manufactures or sells durable medical equipment or simulation equipment that demonstrably enhances or supplements a nursing student's education.
2. An organization that provides educational materials or instruction related to preparation to pass a nationally recognized nursing licensure examination.
3. A health care organization active in this state which employs or uses licensed nurses to deliver direct patient care.
4. A nonprofit organization or fund with a 501(c)(3) designation registered in this state for at least 2 years before the date of the initial LINE grant application which is organized primarily, or which makes other reportable charitable contributions, to support the health care workforce of this state through training or the continuing education of health care professionals.
5. A direct-support organization of an eligible applicant whose match contribution supports an eligible purpose of the grant.

(c)(~~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 no more than 10 percent below the current national average 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 no more than 10 percent below the current national average, of at least 75 percent for the prior year based on a minimum of 10 testing participants.

(d) "Related health science" means a program that prepares graduates to provide direct patient care or diagnostic services that advance patient care in a health care setting, as defined in s. 408.802, which are outlined in the State Board of Education's Career and Technical Education Health Science curriculum framework, and which are identified by the Department of Education pursuant to subsection (10).

(e)(~~e~~) "Student" means a person who is a resident for tuition purposes pursuant to s. 1009.21 and enrolled in a nursing education or a related health science education degree or certificate program at an institution that is part of the State Board of Education's Career and Technical Education Health Science curriculum framework.

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

(5) Subject to available funds *and the approval of an application by the center*, for every dollar contributed to an institution by a health care partner, the fund shall provide a dollar-to-dollar match to the participating institution *to implement the activities outlined in the institution's approved proposal. Subject to available funds, the fund may also provide a dollar-to-dollar match to the participating institution for every dollar contributed to an institution or its direct-support organization by an individual or entity that does not meet the definition of a health care partner, provided the contribution supports an eligible purpose of the LINE Fund. Contributions from health care partners shall receive priority awarding matching.*

(6)(a) Funds may be used for student scholarships;<sup>7</sup> recruitment of additional faculty and clinical preceptors; increasing program enrollment, program completion, and licensure exam passage rates;<sup>7</sup> equipment;~~and~~ simulation centers, internships, and clinical preceptorships; and other related activities determined by the center to advance high-quality nursing education programs and to expand the qualified nursing workforce and related health science professions 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 nursing education or related health science students.*

(7)(a) To participate, an institution must submit a timely and completed proposal to the ~~center Board of Governors or Department of Education~~, in a standardized format developed under s. s. 464.0195(5) ~~prescribed by the Board of Governors or Department of Education, as applicable.~~

(b) The proposal must identify *the specific a health care partner located and licensed to operate in the state whose monetary or non-monetary contributions will be matched by the fund on a dollar-to-dollar basis if the proposal is approved by the center.*

1. *Examples of allowable nonmonetary LINE Fund contributions from health care partners include, but are not limited to, the value of the donated use of health care partner employees as nursing program instructors or clinical preceptors; the value of the donated use of a health care partner's space or equipment by a nursing education program; or the value of donated goods and services, such as educational or simulation equipment, licensure exam preparation materials and instruction, or other similar quantifiable donated goods and services deemed by the center to be good faith contributions that support the goals of the LINE Fund.*

2. *To accept nonmonetary contributions as health care partner matching funds, the applicant and the center must quantify the value of the contribution in dollars and certify that the proposed contribution directly supports the goals of the LINE Fund outlined in subsection (1).*

(c) *Proposals for related health science programs other than nursing may be considered, but may not be prioritized over nursing programs. The proposal for such programs must be part of the State Board of Education's Career and Technical Education Health Science curriculum framework and include evidence that a material regional workforce demand exists for that related health science program.*

(8)(a) The ~~center 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*:

1.~~(a)~~ Whether funds committed by the health care partner will contribute to an eligible purpose.

2.~~(b)~~ How the institution plans to use the funds, including how such funds will be utilized to increase student enrollment,~~and~~ program completion, or licensure exam test-takers or passage rates.

3.~~(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.

4.~~(d)~~ How the funds will expand the institution's nursing education and related health science programs to meet local, regional, or state workforce demands. ~~If applicable, this shall include~~

5. *How the proposal will enhance opportunities to pursue and complete advanced ~~education~~ nursing education programs.*

6. ~~and~~ How the funds will increase the number of faculty and clinical preceptors and planned efforts to utilize the clinical placement process established in s. 14.36.

(b) *The center may assign priority consideration for grant applications that will improve services in underserved geographic areas or for programs and partnerships that address the greatest workforce needs or gaps identified under s. 464.0195.*

(c) *After reviewing and evaluating each timely submitted proposal, the center must notify each applicant regarding which of the following categories each of the institution's proposals has been classified into, and provide a brief explanation for the center's principal reason or reasons for reaching its determination:*

1. *Approved;*
2. *Provisionally Approved;*
3. *Approved, Pending Available Funding; or*
4. *Denied for Funding.*

(d) *As used in this subsection, the term:*

1. *"Approved" means that the center agrees that the institution's proposal meets the criteria and intent of this section, and the proposal will receive matching LINE funding upon certification of the receipt of the health care partner's contribution.*

2. *"Provisionally Approved" means that the center agrees that the institution's proposal makes a good faith effort to meet the criteria and intent of this section, but the center determined that additional information or amendments to the proposal are necessary to bring the proposal into full compliance with the requirements of this section.*

a. *The center may offer technical assistance to the applying institution to ensure its resubmitted application meets the full program requirements for funding.*

b. *A Provisionally Approved proposal, if timely resubmitted, may immediately move to an Approved proposal if the center determines that the resubmitted proposal meets the full requirements of this section, that sufficient LINE funds are available to match the proposal, and that the proposal addresses a high priority need for the state, such as serving underserved geographic areas or closing identified workforce gaps.*

3. *"Approved, Pending Available Funding" means that the center agrees that the institution's proposal, or resubmitted proposal, meets the criteria and intent of this section, but the proposal will not receive matching LINE funds unless additional LINE funding becomes available later in the fiscal year. The availability of LINE Fund dollars to match proposals classified as Approved, Pending Available Funding may result from:*

a. *The failure of another approved awardee to timely certify the actual receipt of a health care partner's pledged contributions.*

b. *Additional savings identified by the center from previously appropriated LINE funds.*

c. *A balance in the LINE Fund due to a lack of approved proposals from a type of nursing education program, health science program, or institution for which a specified amount of LINE funds was identified in the General Appropriations Act for a particular fiscal year. The center may set a date on or after February 1 of each year when the center determines that an insufficient number of approved or provisionally approved proposals exist from the institutions provided priority consideration by the Legislature in that fiscal year. After the noticed date, the center may redistribute any remaining LINE funds to highly ranked Approved, Pending Available Funding proposals from any type of pro-*

gram or institution that can certify, before June 30, the receipt of its health care partner's contribution.

4. "Denied for Funding" means that the institution's proposal does not meet the full criteria or intent of this section or that the institution has not timely certified the receipt of an allowable health care partner's contribution.

(9)(a) Each institution with an approved proposal must certify to the center in a manner prescribed under s. 464.0195(5) the ~~shall notify the Board of Governors or Department of Education, as applicable, upon receipt of the health care partner's contribution~~ partner-provided funds identified in the approved proposal. The center may ~~Board of Governors or Department of Education, as applicable, shall~~ release grant funds, on a dollar-for-dollar basis, up to the amount of the contribution certified as funds received by the institution, including certifications made on a rolling or periodic basis.

(b) If deemed to meet the long-term goals of the LINE Fund, the center may award funds for an approved proposal for up to 3 academic years immediately following the academic year within which the initial approval is granted. If the center 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 certification 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 center which ~~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 and related health science 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)(a) The Department of Education shall serve as the lead entity for identifying and maintaining related health science programs eligible for participation in the LINE Fund.

(b) In carrying out this subsection, the department shall apply the State Board of Education's Career and Technical Education Health Science framework as the basis for determining program eligibility.

(c) No later than October 1, 2026, the department shall compile and publish an initial list of LINE-eligible related health science programs. In developing the list, the department shall:

1. Compile the current Career and Technical Education Health Science pathways and programs;
2. Identify aligned health science programs offered through:
  - a. District technical colleges and career centers; and
  - b. Florida College System institutions offering Career and Technical Education-aligned health science certificates and degrees;
3. Establish and apply alignment criteria, including credential type and applicable licensure or certification outcomes; and
4. Publish and maintain an approved list of LINE-eligible health science programs for use in administering the LINE Fund.

(d) The department shall review and update the list annually to reflect updates to the Career and Technical Education Health Science framework and changes to eligible program offerings.

(e) The Office of Reimagining Education and Career Help shall provide workforce and labor market demand data, including information on statewide and regional health care workforce shortages, projected job growth, and occupational demand, to the department to support data-informed prioritization of LINE funding. The office may not determine program eligibility ~~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 4. 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 higher education; amending s. 464.0195, F.S.; establishing the Florida Center for Nursing within the University of South Florida; requiring the center to administer the Linking Industry to Nursing Education (LINE) Fund; requiring the center to promote certain funds and provide technical assistance during a specified timeframe; requiring the center to develop certain guidelines and make them publicly available on its website; providing requirements for the administration of LINE funds; amending s. 1009.26, F.S.; providing that a specified fee waiver applies to a student's out-of-pocket expenses for tuition and fees after other aid is applied; deleting a requirement for a state university to report and disburse certain waived fees; deleting a requirement for disbursement; amending s. 1009.8962, F.S.; providing that the LINE Fund was established for shortages in health science professions in addition to nursing; defining terms; requiring that the LINE Fund be administered by the Florida Center for Nursing within the University of South Florida, rather than the Board of Governors and the Department of Education; providing that funding is subject to approval of an application by the center; authorizing the fund to match certain contributions if funds are available; revising how funds may be used; providing exceptions to certain prohibitions on the use of funds; revising requirements for a proposal for LINE funds submitted by an institution; providing that proposals for related health science programs may not be prioritized over nursing programs; revising requirements for the center to evaluate submitted proposals; authorizing the center to prioritize certain grant applications; requiring the center to notify each applicant of its determination; defining terms; requiring an institution with an approved proposal to certify the health care partner's contribution in a specified manner; authorizing the center to award funds for up to 3 academic years; requiring institutions awarded grant funds to submit an annual report by a certain date to the center instead of the Board of Governors or the Department of Education; providing that the Department of Education is the lead entity for identifying and maintaining which health science programs are eligible for LINE funds; 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; deleting a requirement for the Board of Governors to adopt regulations and the State Board of Education to adopt rules; providing an effective date.

On motion by Senator Harrell, by two-thirds vote, **HB 5601-E**, as amended, was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—32

|               |          |            |
|---------------|----------|------------|
| Mr. President | Gaetz    | Passidomo  |
| Arrington     | Garcia   | Pizzo      |
| Avila         | Harrell  | Rodriguez  |
| Berman        | Hooper   | Rouson     |
| Bernard       | Jones    | Simon      |
| Boyd          | Leek     | Smith      |
| Bracy Davis   | Martin   | Truenow    |
| Brodeur       | Massullo | Trumbull   |
| Burgess       | Mayfield | Wright     |
| Calatayud     | McClain  | Yarborough |
| Davis         | Nathan   |            |

Nays—None

**MOTIONS**

On motion by Senator Harrell, the Senate having refused to pass **HB 5601-E** as passed by the House, acceded to the request for a budget conference.

## MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Trumbull, by two-thirds vote, **SB 2518-E** was withdrawn from the Committee on Appropriations, and by unanimous consent, taken up *instanter*.

On motion by Senator Trumbull, by two-thirds vote—

**SB 2518-E**—A bill to be entitled An act relating to health; amending s. 216.136, F.S.; requiring the Social Services Estimating Conference to develop certain official information relating to the pilot program for individuals with developmental disabilities; amending s. 394.495, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Children and Families, as authorized by and consistent with appropriated funding, to contract with a specified organization to provide grief support services to help certain children and youth; requiring that the services be provided at no cost; authorizing the contracted organization to also provide grief awareness training and outreach to local schools and medical facilities under the contract; amending s. 409.145, F.S.; revising the monthly room and board rates the department is required to pay to certain foster parents and caregivers; amending s. 409.1455, F.S.; renaming the Step into Success Workforce Education and Internship Pilot Program as the Step into Success Workforce Education and Internship Program; deleting a provision limiting the duration of the program; requiring the Office of Continuing Care within the department to develop certain cohorts within specified regions, to collaborate with certain organizations to recruit mentors and organizations, and to provide eligible former foster youth with internship placement opportunities; deleting a provision requiring that the program be administered in a certain manner; deleting obsolete language; requiring the office to develop trauma-informed training for mentors of certain former foster youth; providing requirements for the training; authorizing the office to provide certain additional trainings on mentorship of special populations; revising the amount of monthly financial assistance that the office provides to participating former foster youth; requiring the office to assign experienced staff to serve as program liaisons for a specified purpose; revising qualifications to serve as a mentor; authorizing the department to offer certain training to mentors in subsequent years; authorizing an employee who serves as a mentor to participate in certain additional trainings; deleting a provision authorizing the offset of a reduction in or loss of certain benefits due to receipt of a Step into Success stipend by an additional stipend payment; creating s. 409.1475, F.S.; providing legislative findings and intent; creating the Foster and Family Support Grant Program within the department; requiring the department to award grants to not-for-profit, faith-based organizations for specified purposes; requiring that the program emphasize certain support; specifying authorized uses for awarded grant funds; requiring grant recipients to submit reports to the department in a format and at intervals prescribed by the department; authorizing the department to adopt rules; amending s. 409.908, F.S.; revising the parameters for the prospective payment methodology used for determining the Agency for Health Care Administration's long-term care reimbursement plan for nursing home care; requiring the agency to consider specified recommendations when revising its methodology for calculating Quality Incentive Program payments; requiring the agency to delay the effective date of any changes to its methodology for a specified timeframe; amending s. 409.9855, F.S.; requiring the agency to collect and analyze certain data relating to the pilot program for individuals with developmental disabilities for a specified timeframe; requiring the agency to report specified information to the Social Services Estimating Conference; amending s. 409.990, F.S.; revising the cumulative amount of unexpended state funds that a community-based care lead agency may carry forward to the next fiscal year; amending s. 414.56, F.S.; conforming a provision to changes made by the act; reenacting ss. 39.5085(2)(d), 39.6225(5)(d), 393.065(5)(b), and 409.1451(2)(b), F.S., relating to the Relative Caregiver Program, the Guardianship Assistance Program, application and eligibility determinations, and the Road-to-Independence Program, respectively, to incorporate the amendment made to s. 409.145, F.S., in references thereto; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **SB 2518-E**—

## MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## FIRST READING

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed HB 5301E and requests that the Senate pass the bill as passed by the House or agree to include the bill in the budget conference.

*Jeff Takacs*, Clerk

By Representative(s) Andrade—

**HB 5301-E**—A bill to be entitled An act relating to health care; repealing s. 381.4015, F.S., relating to Florida health care innovation; amending s. 409.908, F.S.; revising the payment methodology for reimbursement of Medicaid providers; amending s. 409.912, F.S.; revising Medicaid preferred drug coverage guidelines; creating s. 409.9207, F.S.; providing legislative intent; providing definitions; creating the Eligibility Assistance Program within the Department of Children and Families; providing program requirements; requiring the department to be operated by an independent contractor that shall be selected based on specified criteria; amending s. 409.967, F.S.; revising the maximum term for Medicaid managed care contracts; requiring the agency to establish by contract a quality withhold incentive for certain purposes; providing requirements for such incentive; removing obsolete provisions; amending s. 409.9855, F.S.; providing Medicaid waiver funding requirements for certain individuals; requiring the Agency for Persons with Disabilities and the Agency for Health Care Administration to reconcile funding amounts in a specified manner; amending s. 409.91196, F.S.; conforming a provision to changes made by the act; providing an effective date.

—was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

Pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **HB 5301-E** was withdrawn from the Committee on Appropriations.

On motion by Senator Trumbull, the rules were waived and by two-thirds vote—

**HB 5301-E**—A bill to be entitled An act relating to health care; repealing s. 381.4015, F.S., relating to Florida health care innovation; amending s. 409.908, F.S.; revising the payment methodology for reimbursement of Medicaid providers; amending s. 409.912, F.S.; revising Medicaid preferred drug coverage guidelines; creating s. 409.9207, F.S.; providing legislative intent; providing definitions; creating the Eligibility Assistance Program within the Department of Children and Families; providing program requirements; requiring the department to be operated by an independent contractor that shall be selected based on specified criteria; amending s. 409.967, F.S.; revising the maximum term for Medicaid managed care contracts; requiring the agency to establish by contract a quality withhold incentive for certain purposes; providing requirements for such incentive; removing obsolete provisions; amending s. 409.9855, F.S.; providing Medicaid waiver funding requirements for certain individuals; requiring the Agency for Persons with Disabilities and the Agency for Health Care Administration to reconcile funding amounts in a specified manner; amending s. 409.91196, F.S.; conforming a provision to changes made by the act; providing an effective date.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **SB 2518-E** and by two-thirds vote, read the second time by title.

Senator Trumbull moved the following amendment which was adopted:

**Amendment 1 (953056) (with title amendment)**—Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Paragraph (c) is added to subsection (6) of section 216.136, Florida Statutes, to read:

216.136 Consensus estimating conferences; duties and principals.—

(6) SOCIAL SERVICES ESTIMATING CONFERENCE.—

(c) The Social Services Estimating Conference shall develop official information relating to the pilot program for individuals with developmental disabilities implemented pursuant to s. 409.9855, including, but not limited to, data related to enrollment, caseloads, utilization of services, program expenditures, and any other information that the conference determines necessary for the state planning and budgeting system and to project future budgets and drawdown of federal matching funds.

Section 2. Subsection (8) is added to section 394.495, Florida Statutes, to read:

394.495 Child and adolescent mental health system of care; programs and services.—

(8) As authorized by and consistent with funding appropriated in the General Appropriations Act, the department may contract with Valerie's House, Inc., a nonprofit organization exempt from taxation pursuant to s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, to provide grief support services to help children and youth ages 4 to 19 who have experienced the death of a parent or sibling. The services provided must be at no cost to the bereaved child or his or her caregiver and may include, but need not be limited to, grief support groups, mentoring, individual grief counseling, financial crisis support, and in-school support services. Valerie's House, Inc., may also provide grief awareness training and outreach to local schools and medical facilities under the contract.

Section 3. Subsection (3) of section 409.145, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.145 Care of children; "reasonable and prudent parent" standard.—The child welfare system of the department shall operate as a coordinated community-based system of care which empowers all caregivers for children in foster care to provide quality parenting, including approving or disapproving a child's participation in activities based on the caregiver's assessment using the "reasonable and prudent parent" standard.

(3) ROOM AND BOARD RATES.—

(a) Effective July 1, 2026 ~~2022~~, room and board rates shall be paid to foster parents, including relative and nonrelative caregivers who are licensed as a level I child-specific foster placement, and to relative and nonrelative caregivers who are participating in the Relative Caregiver Program and receiving payments pursuant to s. 39.5085(2)(d)1. or 2., as follows:

| 0-5 Years Age               | 6-12 Years Age      | 13-21 Years Age     |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Monthly Room and Board Rate |                     |                     |
| \$663.03                    | <del>\$517.04</del> | \$680.01            |
|                             | <del>\$531.21</del> | \$795.94            |
|                             |                     | <del>\$621.77</del> |

(b) Each January, foster parents, including relative and nonrelative caregivers who are licensed as a level I child-specific foster placement and relative and nonrelative caregivers who are participating in the Relative Caregiver Program and receiving payments pursuant to s. 39.5085(2)(d)1. or 2., shall receive an annual cost of living increase. The department shall calculate the new room and board rate increase equal to the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, U.S. City Average, All Items, not seasonally adjusted, or successor reports, for the preceding December compared to the prior December as initially reported by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. The department shall make available the adjusted room and board rates annually.

(c) The amount of the monthly room and board rate may be increased upon agreement among the department, the community-based care lead agency, and the foster parent.

(d) Effective July 1, 2022, community-based care lead agencies providing care under contract with the department shall pay a supplemental room and board payment to foster parents, including relative and nonrelative caregivers who are licensed as a level I child-specific foster placement and relative and nonrelative caregivers who are participating in the Relative Caregiver Program and receiving payments pursuant to s. 39.5085(2)(d)1. or 2., on a per-child basis, for providing

independent life skills and normalcy supports to children who are 13 through 17 years of age placed in their care. The supplemental payment must be paid monthly in addition to the current monthly room and board rate payment. The supplemental monthly payment shall be based on 10 percent of the monthly room and board rate for children 13 through 21 years of age as provided under this section and adjusted annually.

Section 4. Section 409.1455, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.1455 Step into Success Workforce Education and Internship ~~Pilot~~ Program for foster youth and former foster youth.—

(1) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the "Step into Success Act."

(2) CREATION.—The department shall establish the ~~3-year~~ Step into Success Workforce Education and Internship ~~Pilot~~ Program to give eligible foster youth and former foster youth an opportunity to learn and develop essential workforce and professional skills, to transition from the custody of the department to independent living, and to become better prepared for an independent and successful future. The ~~pilot~~ program must consist of an independent living professionalism and workforce education component and, for youth who complete that component, an onsite workforce training internship component. In consultation with subject-matter experts and the community-based care lead agencies, the office shall develop and administer the ~~pilot~~ program for interested foster youth and former foster youth; however, the department may contract with entities that have demonstrable subject-matter expertise in the transition to adulthood for foster youth, workforce training and preparedness, professional skills, and related subjects to collaborate with the office in the development and administration of the ~~pilot~~ program. The independent living professionalism and workforce education component of the program must culminate in a certificate that allows a former foster youth to participate in the onsite workforce training internship.

(3) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section, the term:

(a) "Community-based care lead agency" has the same meaning as in s. 409.986(3).

(b) "Former foster youth" means an individual 18 years of age or older but younger than 26 years of age who is currently or was previously placed in licensed care, excluding Level I licensed placements pursuant to s. 409.175(5)(a)1., for at least 60 days within this state.

(c) "Foster youth" means an individual older than 16 years of age but younger than 18 years of age who is currently in licensed care, excluding Level I licensed placements pursuant to s. 409.175(5)(a)1.

(d) "Office" means the department's Office of Continuing Care.

(e) "Participating organization" means a state agency, a corporation under chapter 607 or chapter 617, or another relevant entity that has agreed to collaborate with the office in the development and implementation of a trauma-informed onsite workforce training internship program pursuant to subsections (6) and (7).

(4) REQUIREMENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT AND OFFICE.—The department shall establish and the office shall develop and administer the ~~pilot~~ program for eligible foster youth and former foster youth. *The office shall do all of the following:*

(a) *Develop eligible foster youth and former foster youth cohorts within the department's regions.*

(b) *Collaborate with local chambers of commerce and recruit mentors and organizations within the department's regions, emphasizing recruitment of mentors and organizations in the following counties:*

1. Duval.
2. Escambia.
3. Hillsborough.
4. Palm Beach.

## 5. Polk.

(c) Provide eligible former foster youth with a variety of internship placement opportunities, including by connecting existing third-party mentorship organizations that focus on former foster youth with eligible former foster youth who have an interest in such organizations' programs. ~~The pilot program must be administered as part of an eligible foster youth's regular transition planning under s. 39.6035 or as a post-transition service for eligible former foster youth. The office must begin the professionalism and workforce education component of the program on or before January 1, 2024, and the onsite workforce training internship component of the program on or before July 1, 2024.~~

(5) INDEPENDENT LIVING PROFESSIONALISM AND WORKFORCE EDUCATION COMPONENT REQUIREMENTS.—The office shall do all of the following in connection with the independent living professionalism and workforce education component for eligible foster youth and former foster youth:

(a) Designate and ensure that the number of qualified staff is sufficient to implement and administer the component, which may be part of a larger independent living or life skills training program if the larger program meets the requirements of this subsection.

(b) Develop all workshops, presentations, and curricula for the component, including, but not limited to, all written educational and training materials for foster youth and former foster youth. Resources may include, but are not limited to, workshops and materials to assist with preparing résumés, mock interviews, experiential training, and assistance with securing an internship or employment. The office must review and update these materials as necessary. The training materials must address, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Interview skills;
2. Professionalism;
3. Teamwork;
4. Leadership;
5. Problem solving; and
6. Conflict resolution in the workplace.

(c) Require that the training provided be in addition to any other life skills or employment training required by law. The training may be developed or administered by the department, community-based care lead agencies, or the lead agencies' subcontracted providers, or in collaboration with colleges or universities or other nonprofit organizations in the community with workforce education and training resources.

(d) Provide relevant written materials from the component and any relevant tools developed to ensure participants' successful transition to internships to all participating organizations that offer workforce training internship opportunities.

(e) Provide materials to inform eligible foster youth and former foster youth of the program, the requirements for participation, and contact information for enrollment. The community-based care lead agencies shall ensure that any subcontracted providers that directly serve youth receive this information.

(f) Advertise and promote the availability of the education and internship program to engage as many eligible foster youth and former foster youth as possible.

(g) Assess the career interests of each eligible foster youth and former foster youth who expresses interest in participating in the program and determine the most appropriate internship and post-internship opportunities for that youth based on his or her expressed interests.

(6) ONSITE WORKFORCE TRAINING INTERNSHIP COMPONENT REQUIREMENTS.—The office shall do all of the following in connection with the onsite workforce training internship program for eligible former foster youth:

(a) Develop processes and procedures to implement a trauma-informed onsite workforce training internship component. The processes

and procedures of the internship component must be designed so that they can be replicated and scaled to meet various organizational structures and sizes. The component must include:

1. Recruitment of agencies, corporations, and other entities to host interns as participating organizations;
2. Assisting participating organizations with mentor recruitment, training, and matching;
3. Mentor-led performance reviews, including a review of the intern's work product, professionalism, time management, communication style, and stress-management strategies;
4. Daily mentorship and coaching on topics such as:
  - a. Professionalism;
  - b. Teamwork;
  - c. Leadership;
  - d. Problem solving; and
  - e. Conflict resolution in the workplace;
5. Development of opportunities for interns to become employees of the participating organization; and
6. Reporting requirements specified in subsection (11).

(b) Develop ~~a minimum of 1 hour of~~ required trauma-informed training for mentors to satisfy the requirements of sub-subparagraph (7)(b)1.e. Such training must include interactive or experiential components, such as role-playing, scenario discussion, or case studies. The office may provide at least four additional 1-hour trainings on mentorship of special populations as optional training opportunities, which must be asynchronous and accessible to mentors online at their convenience, and must inform participating organizations of these optional training opportunities ~~teach the skills necessary to engage with participating eligible former foster youth.~~

(c) Provide assistance to eligible foster youth and former foster youth interested in participating in the internship component, including, but not limited to, identifying and monitoring internship opportunities, being knowledgeable of the training and skills needed to match eligible foster youth and former foster youth with appropriate internships, and assisting eligible foster youth and former foster youth with applying for post-internship employment opportunities.

(d) Publicize specific internship positions in an easily accessible manner and inform eligible foster youth and former foster youth of where to locate such information.

(e) Provide a participating former foster youth with financial assistance in the amount of \$1,717 ~~\$1,517~~ monthly and develop a process and schedule for the distribution of payments to former foster youth participating in the component, subject to the availability of funds.

(f) Distribute funds appropriated for the compensation of mentors who are participating in the component as provided in paragraph (7)(b).

(g) By May 1, 2024, provide to the Board of Governors and the State Board of Education all relevant internship information necessary to support the award of postsecondary credit or career education clock hours for internship positions held by former foster youth participating in the onsite workforce training internship component.

(h) Develop and conduct follow-up surveys with:

1. Former foster youth within 3 months after their internship start date to ensure successful transition into the work environment and to gather feedback on how to improve the experience for future participants.
2. Mentors assigned to participating former foster youth. Such data must be collected by October 1, 2024, and by October 1 annually thereafter, for inclusion in the independent living services annual report.

3. Any other persons the office deems relevant for purposes of continued improvement of the internship component.

(i) *Assign experienced staff to serve as program liaisons who are available for mentors to contact whenever the mentors need to debrief or have questions concerning a former foster youth.*

(7) REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS.—Each organization participating in the onsite workforce training internship component shall:

(a) Collaborate with the office to implement a trauma-informed approach to mentoring and training former foster youth.

(b) Recruit employees to serve as mentors for former foster youth interning with such organizations.

1. To serve as a mentor, an employee must:

a. Have worked *in his or her career field or area* ~~for the participating organization~~ for at least 1 year;

b. Have experience relevant to the job and task responsibilities of the intern;

c. Sign a monthly hour statement for the intern;

d. Allocate at least 1 hour per month to conduct mentor-led performance reviews, to include a review of the intern's work product, professionalism, time management, communication style, and stress-management strategies; and

e. Complete ~~a minimum of 1 hour of~~ trauma-informed training to gain and maintain skills critical for successfully engaging former foster youth. *Before being matched with a former foster youth, the employee must complete a 1-hour training that covers core topics, including, but not limited to:*

(I) *Understanding trauma and its impacts.*

(II) *Recognizing and responding to trauma-related behaviors.*

(III) *De-escalation strategies and crisis response.*

(IV) *Boundaries and mentor self-care.*

(V) *Communication skills.*

*The department may offer a 1-hour training to review topics covered by the training required under this sub-subparagraph every subsequent year that the employee chooses to serve as a mentor.*

2. Subject to available funding, an employee who serves as a mentor and receives the required trauma-informed training is eligible for a maximum payment of \$1,200 per intern per fiscal year, to be issued as a \$100 monthly payment for every month of service as a mentor.

3. An employee may serve as a mentor for a maximum of three interns at one time and may not receive more than \$3,600 in compensation per fiscal year for serving as a mentor. Any time spent serving as a mentor to an intern under this section counts toward the minimum service required for eligibility for payments pursuant to subparagraph 2. and this subparagraph.

4. *An employee who serves as a mentor may participate in additional trainings on the mentorship of special populations as made available by the office.*

(c) When necessary, have a discussion with an intern's assigned mentor, the participating organization's internship program liaison, and the office about the creation of a corrective action plan to address issues related to the intern's professionalism, work product, or performance and, if applicable, after giving the intern a reasonable opportunity to comply with the corrective action plan, document the intern's failure to do so before discharging him or her.

(d) Provide relevant feedback to the office at least annually for the office to comply with paragraph (6)(h).

(e) Collaborate with the department to provide any requested information necessary to prepare the annual report required under subsection (11).

(8) TIME LIMITATIONS FOR PARTICIPATION.—A former foster youth who obtains an internship with a participating organization may participate in the internship component for no more than 1 year, calculated as 12 monthly stipend periods. The year begins on his or her start date with a participating organization. A former foster youth may intern under the internship program with more than one participating organization, but may not intern with more than one participating organization at the same time. A participating organization may hire the intern as an employee, but the hiring of a former foster youth may not be for an internship under this section.

(9) AWARD OF POSTSECONDARY CREDIT.—The Board of Governors and the State Board of Education shall adopt regulations and rules, respectively, to award postsecondary credit or career education clock hours for eligible former foster youth participating in the internship component pursuant to subsection (4). The regulations and rules must include procedures for the award of postsecondary credit or career education clock hours, including, but not limited to, equivalency and alignment of the internship component with appropriate postsecondary courses and course descriptions.

(10) CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION IN THE INTERNSHIP COMPONENT.—

(a) To become a participant in the internship component of the program, the applicant must be a foster youth or a former foster youth as those terms are defined in subsection (3) at the time such youth applies for an internship position with a participating organization. A foster youth or former foster youth who has completed the training component with the department may apply for a position with a participating organization but may not begin an internship until attaining the age of 18 years.

(b) If offered an internship, a former foster youth must be classified as an intern and must work 80 hours per month to be eligible for the stipend payment.

(c) A former foster youth must spend any stipend funds specified for clothing on clothing that is in compliance with the dress code requirements of the participating organization with which the former foster youth is interning. Notwithstanding any limitation on funds provided to purchase clothing, the former foster youth must comply with any dress code requirements of the participating organization with which he or she is interning.

(d) Stipend money earned pursuant to the internship component may not be considered earned income for purposes of computing eligibility for federal or state benefits, including, but not limited to, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, a housing choice assistance voucher program, the Temporary Cash Assistance Program, the Medicaid program, or the school readiness program. ~~Notwithstanding this paragraph, any reduction in the amount of benefits or loss of benefits due to receipt of the Step into Success stipend may be offset by an additional stipend payment equal to the value of the maximum benefit amount for a single person allowed under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.~~

(e) A former foster youth may, at the discretion of a postsecondary educational institution within this state in which such youth is enrolled, earn postsecondary credit or career education clock hours for work performed as an intern under the internship component. Postsecondary credit and career education clock hours earned for work performed under the internship component may be in addition to any compensation earned for the same work performed under the internship component and may be awarded for completion of all or any part of the internship component. Participating organizations shall cooperate with postsecondary educational institutions to provide any information about internship positions which is necessary to enable the institutions to determine whether to grant the participating former foster youth postsecondary credit or career education clock hours toward his or her degree.

(f) A former foster youth who accepts an internship with a participating organization pursuant to this section may only be discharged

from the internship component after the participating organization engages the intern's assigned mentor and the participating organization's internship program staff to assist the intern in performing the duties of the internship. Before discharging the former foster youth, the participating organization must also document the intern's failure to comply with a corrective action plan after being given a reasonable opportunity to do so.

(11) REPORT.—The department shall include a section on the Step into Success Workforce Education and Internship ~~Pilot~~ Program in the independent living annual report prepared pursuant to s. 409.1451(6) which includes, but is not limited to, all of the following:

(a) Whether the ~~pilot~~ program is in compliance with this section, and if not, barriers to compliance.

(b) A list of participating organizations and the number of interns.

(c) A summary of recruitment efforts to increase the number of participating organizations.

(d) A summary of the feedback and surveys received pursuant to paragraph (6)(h) from participating former foster youth, mentors, and others who have participated in the ~~pilot~~ program.

(e) Recommendations, if any, for actions necessary to improve the quality, effectiveness, and outcomes of the ~~pilot~~ program.

(f) Employment outcomes of former foster youth who participated in the ~~pilot~~ program, including employment status after completion of the program, whether he or she is employed by the participating organization in which he or she interned or by another entity, and job description and salary information, if available.

(12) RULEMAKING.—The department shall adopt rules to implement this section.

Section 5. Section 409.1475, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

*409.1475 Foster and Family Support Grant Program.—*

(1) *The Legislature recognizes that children and families thrive when caregivers are engaged, supported, and equipped to meet their responsibilities. It is the intent of the Legislature to strengthen community-based support that promotes stable caregiving relationships, responsible parenting, and improved outcomes for vulnerable children. Therefore, the Foster and Family Support Grant Program is created within the department.*

(2) *The department shall award grants to not-for-profit, faith-based organizations to support their efforts in the recruitment of foster and adoptive families through faith-based organizations and strengthening local capacity to support foster, adoptive, and kinship families and families caring for vulnerable children in underserved and rural communities. The program shall emphasize sustained, community-based support beyond initial licensure or training in order to improve caregiver retention and outcomes for children.*

(3) *Awarded grant funds must be used to provide education, resources, training, and technical assistance to eligible faith-based organizations involved in foster care, adoption, and family preservation activities and to support the development of trauma-informed, community-based support systems for families throughout the caregiving continuum. Allowable uses of funds include, but are not limited to:*

(a) *Outreach and recruitment activities to increase the number of licensed foster and adoptive families;*

(b) *Training and support for organizations and volunteers assisting foster, adoptive, and kinship families and families;*

(c) *Trauma-informed training, coaching, and counseling services for caregivers, families, and individuals involved in supporting children in out-of-home care or at risk of entry into care;*

(d) *Program support and other activities to strengthen local capacities to support foster, adoptive, and kinship families and families;*

(e) *Expansion of foster parent training initiatives designed to improve caregiver engagement, retention, and placement stability;*

(f) *Development of volunteer-based wraparound support services for foster and adoptive families, including kinship caregivers;*

(g) *Assistance with essential family needs for families actively fostering, adopting, or pursuing licensure, consistent with federal and state law; and*

(h) *Ongoing family mentoring and peer support to promote placement stability, permanency, and family well-being.*

(4) *Grant recipients must submit reports to the department in a format and at intervals, at least annually, as prescribed by the department.*

(5) *The department may adopt rules to implement this section.*

Section 6. Upon the expiration and reversion of the amendments made to s. 409.908, Florida Statutes, pursuant to section 26 of chapter 2025-199, Laws of Florida, paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 409.908, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.908 Reimbursement of Medicaid providers.—Subject to specific appropriations, the agency shall reimburse Medicaid providers, in accordance with state and federal law, according to methodologies set forth in the rules of the agency and in policy manuals and handbooks incorporated by reference therein. These methodologies may include fee schedules, reimbursement methods based on cost reporting, negotiated fees, competitive bidding pursuant to s. 287.057, and other mechanisms the agency considers efficient and effective for purchasing services or goods on behalf of recipients. If a provider is reimbursed based on cost reporting and submits a cost report late and that cost report would have been used to set a lower reimbursement rate for a rate semester, then the provider's rate for that semester shall be retroactively calculated using the new cost report, and full payment at the recalculated rate shall be effected retroactively. Medicare-granted extensions for filing cost reports, if applicable, shall also apply to Medicaid cost reports. Payment for Medicaid compensable services made on behalf of Medicaid-eligible persons is subject to the availability of moneys and any limitations or directions provided for in the General Appropriations Act or chapter 216. Further, nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent or limit the agency from adjusting fees, reimbursement rates, lengths of stay, number of visits, or number of services, or making any other adjustments necessary to comply with the availability of moneys and any limitations or directions provided for in the General Appropriations Act, provided the adjustment is consistent with legislative intent.

(2)

(b) Subject to any limitations or directions in the General Appropriations Act, the agency shall establish and implement a state Title XIX Long-Term Care Reimbursement Plan for nursing home care in order to provide care and services in conformance with the applicable state and federal laws, rules, regulations, and quality and safety standards and to ensure that individuals eligible for medical assistance have reasonable geographic access to such care.

1. The agency shall amend the long-term care reimbursement plan and cost reporting system to create direct care and indirect care sub-components of the patient care component of the per diem rate. These two sub-components together shall equal the patient care component of the per diem rate. Separate prices shall be calculated for each patient care subcomponent, initially based on the September 2016 rate setting cost reports and subsequently based on the most recently audited cost report used during a rebasing year. The direct care subcomponent of the per diem rate for any providers still being reimbursed on a cost basis shall be limited by the cost-based class ceiling, and the indirect care subcomponent may be limited by the lower of the cost-based class ceiling, the target rate class ceiling, or the individual provider target. The ceilings and targets apply only to providers being reimbursed on a cost-based system. Effective October 1, 2018, a prospective payment methodology shall be implemented for rate setting purposes with the following parameters:

a. Peer Groups, including:

(I) North-SMMC Regions 1-9, less Palm Beach and Okeechobee Counties; and

(II) South-SMMC Regions 10-11, plus Palm Beach and Okeechobee Counties.

b. Percentage of Median Costs based on the cost reports used for September 2016 rate setting:

- (I) Direct Care Costs . . . . . 100 percent.
- (II) Indirect Care Costs . . . . . 92 percent.
- (III) Operating Costs . . . . . 86 percent.

c. Floors:

- (I) Direct Care Component . . . . . 95 percent.
- (II) Indirect Care Component . . . . . 92.5 percent.
- (III) Operating Component . . . . . None.

d. Pass-through Payments. . . . . Real Estate and Personal Property Taxes and Property Insurance.

e. Quality Incentive Program Payment Pool . . . . 14.77 ~~10~~ percent of September 2016 non-property related payments of included facilities.

f. Quality Score Threshold to Qualify for Quality Incentive Payment . . . 33 percent of all available points in the Medicaid Quality Incentive Program ~~20th percentile of included facilities.~~

g. Fair Rental Value System Payment Parameters:

- (I) Building Value per Square Foot based on 2018 RS Means.
- (II) Land Valuation . . . . . 10 percent of Gross Building value.
- (III) Facility Square Footage . . . . . Actual Square Footage.
- (IV) Movable Equipment Allowance . . . . . \$8,000 per bed.
- (V) Obsolescence Factor . . . . . 1.5 percent.
- (VI) Fair Rental Rate of Return . . . . . 8 percent.
- (VII) Minimum Occupancy . . . . . 90 percent.
- (VIII) Maximum Facility Age . . . . . 40 years.
- (IX) Minimum Square Footage per Bed . . . . . 350.
- (X) Maximum Square Footage for Bed . . . . . 500.
- (XI) Minimum Cost of a renovation/replacements . . . \$500 per bed.

h. Ventilator Supplemental payment of \$200 per Medicaid day of 40,000 ventilator Medicaid days per fiscal year.

2. The agency shall revise its methodology for calculating Quality Incentive Program payments to:

a. Include the results of consumer satisfaction surveys conducted pursuant to s. 400.0225 as a measure of nursing home quality. The agency shall so revise the methodology after the surveys have been in effect for an amount of time the agency deems sufficient for statistical and scientific validity as a meaningful quality measure that may be incorporated into the methodology.

b. *During the next rebasing for the Quality Incentive Program, consider implementing the recommendations proposed in sections 3.1.2-3.1.5 of the Study of Nursing Home Quality Incentive Programs Final Report that was prepared by Guidehouse, Inc., and presented to the agency on December 22, 2025.*

c. *Delay the effective date of any change made to its methodology or scoring due to rebasing for 1 year after any recalculations have been completed and the scores have been made available to the public.*

3. The direct care subcomponent shall include salaries and benefits of direct care staff providing nursing services including registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, and certified nursing assistants who deliver care directly to residents in the nursing home facility, allowable therapy costs, and dietary costs. This excludes nursing administration, staff development, the staffing coordinator, and the administrative portion of the minimum data set and care plan coordinators. The direct care subcomponent also includes medically necessary dental care, vision care, hearing care, and podiatric care.

4. All other patient care costs shall be included in the indirect care cost subcomponent of the patient care per diem rate, including complex medical equipment, medical supplies, and other allowable ancillary costs. Costs may not be allocated directly or indirectly to the direct care subcomponent from a home office or management company.

5. On July 1 of each year, the agency shall report to the Legislature direct and indirect care costs, including average direct and indirect care costs per resident per facility and direct care and indirect care salaries and benefits per category of staff member per facility.

6. Every fourth year, the agency shall rebase nursing home prospective payment rates to reflect changes in cost based on the most recently audited cost report for each participating provider.

7. A direct care supplemental payment may be made to providers whose direct care hours per patient day are above the 80th percentile and who provide Medicaid services to a larger percentage of Medicaid patients than the state average.

8. Pediatric, Florida Department of Veterans Affairs, and government-owned facilities are exempt from the pricing model established in this subsection and shall remain on a cost-based prospective payment system. Effective October 1, 2018, the agency shall set rates for all facilities remaining on a cost-based prospective payment system using each facility's most recently audited cost report, eliminating retroactive settlements.

9. By October 1, 2025, and each year thereafter, the agency shall submit to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a report on each Quality Incentive Program payment made pursuant to sub-subparagraph 1.e. The report must, at a minimum, include all of the following information:

a. The name of each facility that received a Quality Incentive Program payment and the dollar amount of such payment each facility received.

b. The total number of quality incentive metric points awarded by the agency to each facility and the number of points awarded by the agency for each individual quality metric measured.

c. An examination of any trends in the improvement of the quality of care provided to nursing home residents which may be attributable to incentive payments received under the Quality Incentive Program. The agency shall include examination of trends both for the program as a whole as well as for each individual quality metric used by the agency to award program payments.

It is the intent of the Legislature that the reimbursement plan achieve the goal of providing access to health care for nursing home residents who require large amounts of care while encouraging diversion services as an alternative to nursing home care for residents who can be served within the community. The agency shall base the establishment of any maximum rate of payment, whether overall or component, on the available moneys as provided for in the General Appropriations Act. The agency may base the maximum rate of payment on the results of scientifically valid analysis and conclusions derived from objective statistical data pertinent to the particular maximum rate of payment. The agency shall base the rates of payments in accordance with the minimum wage requirements as provided in the General Appropriations Act.

Section 7. Paragraph (d) is added to subsection (6) of section 409.9855, Florida Statutes, to read:

409.9855 Pilot program for individuals with developmental disabilities.—

(6) PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION.—

(d) *The agency shall collect and analyze data needed to project program enrollment costs, current and projected caseloads, utilization, and current and projected expenditures for the next 3 years. The agency shall report caseload and expenditure data and trends and any other information requested by the Social Services Estimating Conference in accordance with chapter 216.*

Section 8. Subsection (5) of section 409.990, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.990 Funding for lead agencies.—A contract established between the department and a lead agency must be funded by a grant of general revenue, other applicable state funds, or applicable federal funding sources.

(5) A lead agency may carry forward documented unexpended state funds from one fiscal year to the next; however, the cumulative amount carried forward may not exceed 8 percent of the *annual amount of the total* contract. Any unexpended state funds in excess of that percentage must be returned to the department.

(a) The funds carried forward may not be used in any way that would create increased recurring future obligations, and such funds may not be used for any type of program or service that is not currently authorized by the existing contract with the department.

(b) Expenditures of funds carried forward must be separately reported to the department.

(c) Any unexpended funds that remain at the end of the contract period shall be returned to the department.

(d) Funds carried forward may be retained through any contract renewals and any new procurements as long as the same lead agency is retained by the department.

Section 9. Subsection (5) of section 414.56, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

414.56 Office of Continuing Care.—The department shall establish an Office of Continuing Care to ensure young adults who age out of the foster care system between 18 and 21 years of age, or 22 years of age with a documented disability, have a point of contact until the young adult reaches the age of 26 in order to receive ongoing support and care coordination needed to achieve self-sufficiency. Duties of the office include, but are not limited to:

(5) Developing and administering the Step into Success Workforce Education and Internship ~~Pilot~~ Program for foster youth and former foster youth as required under s. 409.1455.

Section 10. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 409.145, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, paragraph (d) of subsection (2) of section 39.5085, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

39.5085 Relative Caregiver Program.—

(2)

(d)1. Relatives or nonrelatives who have a child placed with them in out-of-home care and who have obtained licensure as a child-specific level I foster placement, regardless of whether a court has found the child to be dependent, shall receive a monthly payment in accordance with s. 409.145(3) from the date the child is placed in out-of-home care with his or her relatives or with nonrelatives until the child achieves permanency as determined by the court pursuant to s. 39.621.

2. Relatives or nonrelatives who have a child who has been found to be dependent placed with them in out-of-home care shall receive a monthly payment at a rate equal to the rate established in s. 409.145(3) for licensed foster parents, regardless of whether the relatives or nonrelatives have obtained a child-specific level I foster license, from the date the child is found to be dependent or from the date the child is placed with them in out-of-home care, whichever is later, for a period of no more than 6 months or until the child achieves permanency as determined by the court pursuant to s. 39.621, whichever occurs first.

3. Relatives or nonrelatives who have a child who has been found to be dependent placed with them in out-of-home care and who have not obtained a child-specific level I foster license within 6 months from the date of such placement shall receive a monthly payment in an amount determined by department rule from 6 months after the date the child is found to be dependent or from 6 months after the child is placed with them in out-of-home care, whichever is later, until the relatives or nonrelatives obtain a child-specific level I foster license or until the child achieves permanency as determined by the court pursuant to s. 39.621, whichever occurs first. The monthly payment amount paid to relatives or nonrelatives pursuant to this subparagraph must be less than the monthly payment amount provided to a participant enrolled in the Guardianship Assistance Program pursuant to s. 39.6225.

4. Relatives or nonrelatives who have a child placed in their care by permanent guardianship pursuant to s. 39.6221, in a permanent placement with a fit and willing relative pursuant to s. 39.6231, or under former s. 39.622 if the placement was made before July 1, 2006, and who are not enrolled in the Guardianship Assistance Program pursuant to s. 39.6225 shall receive a monthly payment in an amount determined by department rule which must be less than the monthly payment amount provided to a participant enrolled in the Guardianship Assistance Program under s. 39.6225.

Section 11. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 409.145, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, paragraph (d) of subsection (5) of section 39.6225, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

39.6225 Guardianship Assistance Program.—

(5) A guardian with an application approved pursuant to subsection (2) who is caring for a child placed with the guardian by the court pursuant to this part may receive guardianship assistance payments based on the following criteria:

(d) The department shall provide guardianship assistance payments in the amount of \$4,000 annually, paid on a monthly basis, or in an amount other than \$4,000 annually as determined by the guardian and the department and memorialized in a written agreement between the guardian and the department. The agreement shall take into consideration the circumstances of the guardian and the needs of the child. Changes may not be made without the concurrence of the guardian. However, the amount of the monthly payment may not exceed the foster care maintenance payment that would have been paid during the same period if the child had been in licensed care at his or her designated level of care at the rate established in s. 409.145(3).

Section 12. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 409.145, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section 393.065, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

393.065 Application and eligibility determination.—

(5) Except as provided in subsections (6) and (7), if a client seeking enrollment in the developmental disabilities home and community-based services Medicaid waiver program meets the level of care requirement for an intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities pursuant to 42 C.F.R. ss. 435.217(b)(1) and 440.150, the agency must assign the client to an appropriate pre-enrollment category pursuant to this subsection and must provide priority to clients waiting for waiver services in the following order:

(b) Category 2, which includes clients in the pre-enrollment categories who are:

1. From the child welfare system with an open case in the Department of Children and Families' statewide automated child welfare information system and who are either:

- a. Transitioning out of the child welfare system into permanency; or
- b. At least 18 years but not yet 22 years of age and who need both waiver services and extended foster care services; or

2. At least 18 years but not yet 22 years of age and who withdrew consent pursuant to s. 39.6251(5)(c) to remain in the extended foster care system.

For individuals who are at least 18 years but not yet 22 years of age and who are eligible under sub-subparagraph 1.b., the agency must provide waiver services, including residential habilitation, and must actively participate in transition planning activities, including, but not limited to, individualized service coordination, case management support, and ensuring continuity of care pursuant to s. 39.6035. The community-based care lead agency must fund room and board at the rate established in s. 409.145(3) and provide case management and related services as defined in s. 409.986(3)(e). Individuals may receive both waiver services and services under s. 39.6251. Services may not duplicate services available through the Medicaid state plan.

Within preenrollment categories 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7, the agency shall prioritize clients in the order of the date that the client is determined eligible for waiver services.

Section 13. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 409.145, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 409.1451, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

409.1451 The Road-to-Independence Program.—

(2) POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION SERVICES AND SUPPORT.—

(b) The amount of the financial assistance shall be as follows:

1. For a young adult who does not remain in foster care and is attending a postsecondary school as provided in s. 1009.533, the amount is \$1,720 monthly.

2. For a young adult who remains in foster care, is attending a postsecondary school, as provided in s. 1009.533, and continues to reside in a licensed foster home, the amount is the established room and board rate for foster parents. This takes the place of the payment provided for in s. 409.145(3).

3. For a young adult who remains in foster care, but temporarily resides away from a licensed foster home for purposes of attending a postsecondary school as provided in s. 1009.533, the amount is \$1,720 monthly. This takes the place of the payment provided for in s. 409.145(3).

4. For a young adult who remains in foster care, is attending a postsecondary school as provided in s. 1009.533, and continues to reside in a licensed group home, the amount is negotiated between the community-based care lead agency and the licensed group home provider.

5. For a young adult who remains in foster care, but temporarily resides away from a licensed group home for purposes of attending a postsecondary school as provided in s. 1009.533, the amount is \$1,720 monthly. This takes the place of a negotiated room and board rate.

6. A young adult is eligible to receive financial assistance during the months when he or she is enrolled in a postsecondary educational institution.

Section 14. 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 health; amending s. 216.136, F.S.; requiring the Social Services Estimating Conference to develop certain official information relating to the pilot program for individuals with developmental disabilities; amending s. 394.495, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Children and Families, as authorized by and consistent with appropriated funding, to contract with a specified organization to provide grief support services to help certain children and youth; requiring that the services be provided at no cost; authorizing the contracted organization to also provide grief awareness training and outreach to local schools and medical facilities under the contract; amending s. 409.145, F.S.; revising the monthly room and board rates the department is required to pay to certain foster parents and caregivers; amending s. 409.1455, F.S.; renaming the Step into Success Workforce Education and Internship Pilot Program as the Step into Success Workforce Education and Internship Program; deleting a provision limiting the duration of the program; requiring the Office of

Continuing Care within the department to develop certain cohorts within specified regions, to collaborate with certain organizations to recruit mentors and organizations, and to provide eligible former foster youth with internship placement opportunities; deleting a provision requiring that the program be administered in a certain manner; deleting obsolete language; requiring the office to develop trauma-informed training for mentors of certain former foster youth; providing requirements for the training; authorizing the office to provide certain additional trainings on mentorship of special populations; revising the amount of monthly financial assistance that the office provides to participating former foster youth; requiring the office to assign experienced staff to serve as program liaisons for a specified purpose; revising qualifications to serve as a mentor; authorizing the department to offer certain training to mentors in subsequent years; authorizing an employee who serves as a mentor to participate in certain additional trainings; deleting a provision authorizing the offset of a reduction in or loss of certain benefits due to receipt of a Step into Success stipend by an additional stipend payment; creating s. 409.1475, F.S.; providing legislative findings and intent; creating the Foster and Family Support Grant Program within the department; requiring the department to award grants to not-for-profit, faith-based organizations for specified purposes; requiring that the program emphasize certain support; specifying authorized uses for awarded grant funds; requiring grant recipients to submit reports to the department in a format and at intervals prescribed by the department; authorizing the department to adopt rules; amending s. 409.908, F.S.; revising the parameters for the prospective payment methodology used for determining the Agency for Health Care Administration’s long-term care reimbursement plan for nursing home care; requiring the agency to consider specified recommendations when revising its methodology for calculating Quality Incentive Program payments; requiring the agency to delay the effective date of any changes to its methodology for a specified timeframe; amending s. 409.9855, F.S.; requiring the agency to collect and analyze certain data relating to the pilot program for individuals with developmental disabilities for a specified timeframe; requiring the agency to report specified information to the Social Services Estimating Conference; amending s. 409.990, F.S.; revising the cumulative amount of unexpended state funds that a community-based care lead agency may carry forward to the next fiscal year; amending s. 414.56, F.S.; conforming a provision to changes made by the act; reenacting ss. 39.5085(2)(d), 39.6225(5)(d), 393.065(5)(b), and 409.1451(2)(b), F.S., relating to the Relative Caregiver Program, the Guardianship Assistance Program, application and eligibility determinations, and the Road-to-Independence Program, respectively, to incorporate the amendment made to s. 409.145, F.S., in references thereto; providing an effective date.

On motion by Senator Trumbull, by two-thirds vote, **HB 5301-E**, as amended, was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—32

|               |          |            |
|---------------|----------|------------|
| Mr. President | Gaetz    | Passidomo  |
| Arrington     | Garcia   | Pizzo      |
| Avila         | Harrell  | Rodriguez  |
| Berman        | Hooper   | Rouson     |
| Bernard       | Jones    | Simon      |
| Boyd          | Leek     | Smith      |
| Bracy Davis   | Martin   | Truenow    |
| Brodeur       | Massullo | Trumbull   |
| Burgess       | Mayfield | Wright     |
| Calatayud     | McClain  | Yarborough |
| Davis         | Nathan   |            |

Nays—None

**MOTIONS**

On motion by Senator Trumbull, the Senate having refused to pass **HB 5301-E** as passed by the House, acceded to the request for a budget conference.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

At the request of Senator Gaetz, the Senate observed a moment of silence in memory of former Senator Bill Posey, who passed away May 9, 2026. During his time in the Senate, Senator Posey represented Senate District 15 from 2000-2002, Senate District 24 from 2002-2008, and served in the House of Representatives from 1992-2000. Senator Posey also served in the U.S. House of Representatives from 2009-2025.

**MOTIONS**

On motion by Senator Passidomo, the rules were waived to allow for the establishment of a Special Order Calendar during the remainder of the special session by publication in the Senate Calendar, on the Senate website, and by announcement from the Secretary.

**SENATE CONFEREES APPOINTED**

The President appointed the following conferees on HB 5001, HB 5003, HB 5201, HB 5203, HB 5205, HB 5207, HB 5301, HB 5403, HB 5501, HB 5601, HB 5701, HB 7031, SB 2506, SB 2508, SB 2512, and SB 2514 on the part of the Senate: Appropriations Conference Committee/Budget: Senator Hooper, Chair; Senators Berman, Boyd, Brodeur, Gruters, Passidomo, and Rouson, At Large; Appropriations Conference Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government/Agriculture & Natural Resources: Senator Brodeur, Chair; Senators Arrington, Berman, DiCeglie, Grall, Massullo, McClain, Nathan, Pizzo, Rodriguez, Sharief, and Truenow; Appropriations Conference Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government/State Administration: Senator Brodeur, Chair; Senators Arrington, Berman, DiCeglie, Grall, Massullo, McClain, Nathan, Pizzo, Rodriguez, Sharief, and Truenow; Appropriations Conference Committee on Criminal and Civil Justice/Justice: Senator Garcia, Chair; Senators Martin, Osgood, Polsky, Simon, Smith, Wright, and Yarborough; Appropriations Conference Committee on Health and Human Services/Health Care: Senator Trumbull, Chair; Senators Brodeur, Burton, Davis, Garcia, Harrell, Rodriguez, Rouson, and Sharief; Appropriations Conference Committee on Higher Education/Higher Education: Senator Harrell, Chair; Senators Bracy Davis, Bradley, Burgess, Calatayud, Davis, and Leek; Appropriations Conference Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education/Pre-K - 12: Senator Burgess, Chair; Senators Bradley, Calatayud, Gaetz, Jones, Massullo, Nathan, Osgood, Pizzo, Simon, and Yarborough; Appropriations Conference Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development/Transportation & Economic Development: Senator DiCeglie, Chair; Senators Arrington, Avila, Bernard, Bracy Davis, Grall, Leek, Martin, Mayfield, McClain, Polsky, Smith, Truenow, and Wright.

**HOUSE CONFEREES APPOINTED**

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the Speaker of the House of Representatives has appointed the following Representatives to the Conference Committee on HB 5001E to serve with Rep. McClure, Chair; Managers At-Large: Reps. Brannan, Buchanan, Canady, Chambliss, Driskell, Duggan, Eskamani, Franklin, Garrison, Hunschofsky, Koster, Melo, Mooney, Overdorf, Rayner, F. Robinson, W. Robinson, Salzman, Sirois, Tant, Tuck, Valdés, and Woodson; House Agriculture & Natural Resources/Senate Agriculture, Environment, and General Government—Rep. Snyder, Chair; Reps. Albert, J. Alvarez, Barnaby, Bartleman, Benarroch, Black, Botana, Borrero, Boyles, Dunkley, Hinson, Holley, and Weinberger; House Health Care/Senate Health and Human Services—Rep. Andrade, Chair; Reps. McFarland (Co-chair for IT Budget), Anderson, Berfield, Cassel, Gonzalez Pittman, Kincart Jonsson, Nixon, Redondo, Rosenwald, Tendrich, Trabulsy, and Tramont; House Higher Education/Senate Higher Education—Rep. Busatta, Chair; Reps. Aristide, Blanco, Booth, Campbell, Giallombardo, Gossett-Seidman, Gregory, Holcomb, Jacques, Kendall, Rizo, Sapp, Smith, and Young; House Justice/Senate Criminal and Civil Justice—Rep. Maney, Chair; Reps. McFarland (Co-chair for IT Budget), D. Alvarez, Baker, Borrero, Chamberlin, Cobb, Daniels, Gottlieb, Jacques, Johnson, Joseph, Porras, Skidmore, and Smith; House PreK-12/Senate PreK - 12 Education—Rep. Persons-Mulicka, Chair; Reps. Basabe,

Brackett, Daniels, Edmonds, Esposito, Gantt, Gerwig, J. López, Michael, Nix, Scott, Steele, Trabulsy, and Yeager; House State Administration/Senate Agriculture, Environment, and General Government—Rep. Maggard, Chair; Reps. Abbott, Antone, Bankson, Chaney, Edmonds, Grow, Harris, Hodgers, Long, Miller, Partington, Plakon, Plasencia, and Yarkosky; House Transportation & Economic Development/Senate Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development—Rep. Shoaf, Chair; Reps. McFarland (Co-chair for IT Budget), D. Alvarez, Conerly, Cross, Daley, Fabricio, Gentry, Greco, Griffiths, Hart-Lowman, LaMarca, Oliver, Owen, Spencer, and Stark.

*Jeff Takacs, Clerk*

**COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE**

(With Revisions)

**Agriculture**

Senator Truenow, Chair; Senator Grall, Vice Chair; Senators Bernard, Burton, and Rouson

**Appropriations**

Senator Hooper, Chair; Senator Rouson, Vice Chair; Senators Berman, Brodeur, Burgess, DiCeglie, Garcia, Grall, Harrell, Martin, Massullo, McClain, Pizzo, Polsky, Sharief, Smith, Trumbull, and Wright

**Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government**

Senator Brodeur, Chair; Senator Berman, Vice Chair; Senators Arrington, DiCeglie, Grall, Massullo, McClain, Pizzo, Rodriguez, Sharief, and Truenow

**Appropriations Committee on Criminal and Civil Justice**

Senator Garcia, Chair; Senator Martin, Vice Chair; Senators Osgood, Polsky, Simon, Smith, Wright, and Yarborough

**Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services**

Senator Trumbull, Chair; Senator Davis, Vice Chair; Senators Brodeur, Burton, Garcia, Harrell, Rodriguez, Rouson, and Sharief

**Appropriations Committee on Higher Education**

Senator Harrell, Chair; Senator Bradley, Vice Chair; Senators Bracy Davis, Burgess, Calatayud, Davis, and Leek

**Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education**

Senator Burgess, Chair; Senator Pizzo, Vice Chair; Senators Bradley, Calatayud, Gaetz, Jones, Massullo, Osgood, Simon, and Yarborough

**Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development**

Senator DiCeglie, Chair; Senator Polsky, Vice Chair; Senators Arrington, Avila, Bernard, Bracy Davis, Grall, Leek, Martin, Mayfield, McClain, Smith, Truenow, and Wright

**Banking and Insurance**

Senator Gruters, Chair; Senator Sharief, Vice Chair; Senators Boyd, Burton, Hooper, Martin, Osgood, Passidomo, Pizzo, and Truenow

**Children, Families, and Elder Affairs**

Senator Grall, Chair; Senator Garcia, Vice Chair; Senators Harrell, Rouson, Sharief, and Simon

**Commerce and Tourism**

Senator Leek, Chair; Senator Arrington, Vice Chair; Senators Bracy Davis, Davis, DiCeglie, Mayfield, McClain, Smith, Wright, and Yarborough

**Community Affairs**

Senator McClain, Chair; Senator Massullo, Vice Chair; Senators Jones, Leek, Passidomo, Pizzo, Sharief, and Trumbull

**Criminal Justice**

Senator Martin, Chair; Senator Smith, Vice Chair; Senators Bernard, Bradley, Garcia, Pizzo, Simon, and Yarborough

**Education Postsecondary**

Senator Calatayud, Chair; Senator Simon, Vice Chair; Senators Berman, Harrell, Jones, and Rodriguez

**Education Pre-K - 12**

Senator Simon, Chair; Senator Calatayud, Vice Chair; Senators Berman, Burgess, Davis, Gaetz, Osgood, and Yarborough

**Environment and Natural Resources**

Senator Rodriguez, Chair; Senator Mayfield, Vice Chair; Senators Arrington, Avila, DiCeglie, Harrell, Polsky, and Smith

**Ethics and Elections**

Senator Gaetz, Chair; Senator Bernard, Vice Chair; Senators Avila, Bradley, Garcia, Grall, Polsky, and Rouson

**Finance and Tax**

Senator Avila, Chair; Senator Gaetz, Vice Chair; Senators Bernard, Hooper, Jones, Mayfield, Passidomo, and Rouson

**Fiscal Policy**

Senator Gruters, Chair; Senator Osgood, Vice Chair; Senators Arrington, Avila, Bernard, Boyd, Bracy Davis, Bradley, Burton, Calatayud, Davis, Gaetz, Jones, Leek, Mayfield, Passidomo, Rodriguez, Simon, Truenow, and Yarborough

**Governmental Oversight and Accountability**

Senator Mayfield, Chair; Senator DiCeglie, Vice Chair; Senators Arrington, Bracy Davis, Brodeur, Grall, McClain, Polsky, and Rodriguez

**Health Policy**

Senator Burton, Chair; Senator Harrell, Vice Chair; Senators Berman, Calatayud, Davis, Gaetz, Leek, Massullo, Osgood, Passidomo, and Trumbull

**Judiciary**

Senator Yarborough, Chair; Senator Burton, Vice Chair; Senators Berman, DiCeglie, Gaetz, Hooper, Leek, Osgood, Passidomo, Polsky, and Trumbull

**Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security**

Senator Wright, Chair; Senator Truenow, Vice Chair; Senators Burgess, Jones, and Sharief

**Regulated Industries**

Senator Bradley, Chair; Senator Pizzo, Vice Chair; Senators Bernard, Boyd, Bracy Davis, Brodeur, Burgess, Calatayud, and Mayfield

**Rules**

Senator Passidomo, Chair; Senator Jones, Vice Chair; Senators Avila, Berman, Boyd, Bradley, Brodeur, Burgess, Burton, Davis, DiCeglie, Gaetz, Garcia, Grall, Harrell, Hooper, Martin, Osgood, Pizzo, Rodriguez, Rouson, Simon, Trumbull, and Wright

**Transportation**

Senator Massullo, Chair; Senator Avila, Vice Chair; Senators Arrington, Davis, Jones, Martin, McClain, Truenow, and Wright

**Joint Legislative Committees:****Joint Administrative Procedures Committee**

Senator Grall, Alternating Chair; Senators Bernard, Bracy Davis, Gaetz, Leek, Smith, and Yarborough

**Joint Committee on Public Counsel Oversight**

Senator Bradley, Alternating Chair; Senators Arrington, Burgess, Calatayud, Mayfield, Osgood, and Rodriguez

**Joint Legislative Auditing Committee**

Senator Brodeur, Alternating Chair; Senators Davis, McClain, Pizzo, Simon, Truenow, and Wright

**Joint Select Committee on Collective Bargaining**

Senator Mayfield, Alternating Chair; Senators Arrington, Bernard, Brodeur, DiCeglie, Grall, McClain, Polsky, and Rodriguez

**Other Legislative Entity:****Joint Legislative Budget Commission**

Senator Hooper, Alternating Chair; Senators Berman, Boyd, Brodeur, Harrell, Passidomo, and Rouson

**CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF JOURNAL**

The Journal of April 29, Special Session D, was corrected and approved.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On motion by Senator Passidomo, the Senate adjourned at 11:17 a.m. for the purpose of holding committee meetings and conducting other Senate business to reconvene upon call of the President.

**JOURNAL OF THE SENATE**

**Daily Numeric Index for**

**May 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

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| <b>SB 2500-E</b> ..... | (FR) 2, (MO) 14, (BA) 14, (BA) 15          | <b>HB 5201-E</b> ..... | (BA) 50, (BP) 50, (MO) 50          |
| <b>SB 2502-E</b> ..... | (FR) 3, (MO) 15, (BA) 15, (BA) 18, (BA) 22 | <b>HB 5203-E</b> ..... | (MO) 11, (BA) 11, (BP) 12, (MO) 12 |
| <b>SB 2504-E</b> ..... | (FR) 6, (MO) 50, (BA) 50                   | <b>HB 5205-E</b> ..... | (BA) 51, (BA) 54, (MO) 54          |
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| <b>SB 2508-E</b> ..... | (FR) 6, (MO) 7, (BA) 7, (BP) 7, (MO) 7     | <b>HB 5301-E</b> ..... | (BA) 59, (BA) 66, (MO) 66          |
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| <b>SB 2514-E</b> ..... | (FR) 6, (MO) 7, (BA) 8, (BP) 8, (MO) 8     | <b>HB 5501-E</b> ..... | (MO) 14, (BA) 14, (BP) 14, (MO) 14 |
| <b>SB 2516-E</b> ..... | (FR) 6, (MO) 54, (BA) 54, (BA) 55          | <b>HB 5601-E</b> ..... | (BA) 55, (BA) 58, (MO) 58          |
| <b>SB 2518-E</b> ..... | (FR) 6, (MO) 59, (BA) 59                   | <b>HB 5701-E</b> ..... | (MO) 10, (BA) 10, (BP) 10, (MO) 10 |
| <b>HB 5001-E</b> ..... | (BA) 14, (BA) 15, (BP) 15, (MO) 15         | <b>HB 7031-E</b> ..... | (MO) 9, (BA) 9, (BP) 9, (MO) 9     |