SB 1734

By the Committee on Commerce and Tourism

577-03938-14 20141734 1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to the entertainment industry; 3 amending s. 288.125, F.S.; specifying the application 4 of the term "entertainment industry"; transferring, 5 renumbering, and amending s. 288.1251, F.S.; renaming 6 the Office of Film and Entertainment within the 7 Department of Economic Opportunity as the Division of 8 Film and Entertainment and housing the division within 9 Enterprise Florida, Inc.; requiring Enterprise 10 Florida, Inc., to conduct a national search for a film 11 commissioner; requiring the president of Enterprise 12 Florida, Inc., to hire the film commissioner; revising 13 the requirements of the division's 5-year plan; transferring, renumbering, and amending s. 288.1252, 14 15 F.S.; revising the powers and duties of the Florida Film and Entertainment Advisory Council; conforming 16 17 provisions to changes made by the act; transferring, 18 renumbering, and amending s. 288.1253, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; 19 20 amending s. 288.1254, F.S.; redefining and deleting 21 terms; requiring the department, rather than the 22 Office of Film and Entertainment, to be responsible 23 for applications for the entertainment industry 24 financial incentive program; revising provisions 25 relating to the application process, tax credit eligibility, election and distribution of tax credits, 2.6 27 annual allocation of tax credits, forfeiture of tax 28 credits, and annual report; extending the repeal date; 29 conforming provisions to changes made by the act;

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30	specifying a date on which the applications on file
31	with the department and not yet certified are deemed
32	denied; amending s. 288.1258, F.S.; conforming
33	provisions to changes made by the act; requiring the
34	department to develop a standardized application form
35	in cooperation with the division and other agencies;
36	amending s. 288.92, F.S.; requiring Enterprise
37	Florida, Inc., to have a division relating to film and
38	entertainment; amending ss. 212.08, 220.1899, and
39	477.0135, F.S.; conforming cross-references and
40	provisions to changes made by the act; providing an
41	effective date.
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43	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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45	Section 1. Section 288.125, Florida Statutes, is amended to
46	read:
47	288.125 Definition of "entertainment industry"For the
48	purposes of <u>ss. 288.1254, 288.1258, 288.924, and 288.9241</u> <del>ss.</del>
49	288.1251-288.1258, the term "entertainment industry" means those
50	persons or entities engaged in the operation of motion picture
51	or television studios or recording studios; those persons or
52	entities engaged in the preproduction, production, or
53	postproduction of motion pictures, made-for-television movies,
54	television programming, digital media projects, commercial
55	advertising, music videos, or sound recordings; and those
56	persons or entities providing products or services directly
57	related to the preproduction, production, or postproduction of
58	motion pictures, made-for-television movies, television
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59	programming, digital media projects, commercial advertising,
60	music videos, or sound recordings, including, but not limited
61	to, the broadcast industry.
62	Section 2. Section 288.1251, Florida Statutes, is
63	transferred, renumbered as section 288.924, Florida Statutes,
64	and amended to read:
65	288.924 288.1251 Promotion and development of entertainment
66	industry; <u>Division</u> <del>Office</del> of Film and Entertainment; creation;
67	purpose; powers and duties
68	(1) CREATION
69	<del>(a)</del> The Division of Film and Entertainment is <del>There is</del>
70	<del>hereby</del> created within <u>Enterprise Florida, Inc.,</u> <del>the department</del>
71	the Office of Film and Entertainment for the purpose of
72	developing, marketing, promoting, and providing services to the
73	state's entertainment industry. The division shall serve as a
74	liaison between the entertainment industry and other state and
75	local governmental agencies, local film commissions, and labor
76	organizations.
77	(2) <del>(b)</del> COMMISSIONER.—Enterprise Florida, Inc., <del>The</del>
78	department shall conduct a national search for a qualified
79	person to fill the position of Commissioner of Film and
80	Entertainment when the position is vacant. The <u>president of</u>
81	Enterprise Florida, Inc., executive director of the department
82	has the responsibility to hire the film commissioner.
83	Qualifications for the film commissioner include, but are not
84	limited to, the following:
85	<u>(a)</u> . A working knowledge of the equipment, personnel,
86	financial, and day-to-day production operations of the
87	industries to be served by the <u>division</u> <del>Office of Film and</del>

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20141734 577-03938-14 88 Entertainment; 89 (b) 2. Marketing and promotion experience related to the 90 film and entertainment industries to be served; 91 (c) - Experience working with a variety of individuals 92 representing large and small entertainment-related businesses, industry associations, local community entertainment industry 93 94 liaisons, and labor organizations; and 95 (d) 4. Experience working with a variety of state and local 96 governmental agencies. 97 (3) (2) POWERS AND DUTIES.-(a) The Division Office of Film and Entertainment, in 98 performance of its duties, shall develop and: 99 1. In consultation with the Florida Film and Entertainment 100 Advisory Council, update a 5-year the strategic plan every 5 101 years to guide the activities of the division Office of Film and 102 103 Entertainment in the areas of entertainment industry 104 development, marketing, promotion, liaison services, field 105 office administration, and information. The plan shall+ 106 a. be annual in construction and ongoing in nature. 107 1. At a minimum, the plan must discuss the following: 108 a.b. Include recommendations relating to The organizational 109 structure of the division, including any field offices outside 110 the state. 111 b. The coordination of the division with local or regional 112 offices maintained by counties and regions of the state, local 113 film commissions, and labor organizations, and the coordination 114 of such entities with each other to facilitate a working 115 relationship office. c. Strategies to identify, solicit, and recruit 116

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117	entertainment production opportunities for the state, including
118	implementation of programs for rural and urban areas designed to
119	develop and promote the state's entertainment industry.
120	<u>d.</u> c. Include An annual budget projection for the <u>division</u>
121	office for each year of the plan.
122	d. Include an operational model for the office to use in
123	implementing programs for rural and urban areas designed to:
124	(I) develop and promote the state's entertainment industry.
125	(II) Have the office serve as a liaison between the
126	entertainment industry and other state and local governmental
127	agencies, local film commissions, and labor organizations.
128	(III) Gather statistical information related to the state's
129	entertainment industry.
130	<u>e.(IV)</u> Provision of Provide information and service to
131	businesses, communities, organizations, and individuals engaged
132	in entertainment industry activities.
133	(V) Administer field offices outside the state and
134	coordinate with regional offices maintained by counties and
135	regions of the state, as described in sub-sub-subparagraph (II),
136	as necessary.
137	<u>f.</u> e. <del>Include</del> Performance standards and measurable outcomes
138	for the programs to be implemented by the <u>division</u> <del>office</del> .
139	2. The plan shall be annually reviewed and approved by the
140	board of directors of Enterprise Florida, Inc.
141	f. Include an assessment of, and make recommendations on,
142	the feasibility of creating an alternative public-private
143	partnership for the purpose of contracting with such a
144	partnership for the administration of the state's entertainment
145	industry promotion, development, marketing, and service
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146	<del>programs.</del>
147	2. Develop, market, and facilitate a working relationship
148	between state agencies and local governments in cooperation with
149	local film commission offices for out-of-state and indigenous
150	entertainment industry production entities.
151	3. Implement a structured methodology prescribed for
152	coordinating activities of local offices with each other and the
153	commissioner's office.
154	(b) The division shall also:
155	1.4. Represent the state's indigenous entertainment
156	industry to key decisionmakers within the national and
157	international entertainment industry, and to state and local
158	officials.
159	2.5. Prepare an inventory and analysis of the state's
160	entertainment industry, including, but not limited to,
161	information on crew, related businesses, support services, job
162	creation, talent, and economic impact and coordinate with local
163	offices to develop an information tool for common use.
164	6. Identify, solicit, and recruit entertainment production
165	opportunities for the state.
166	3.7. Assist rural communities and other small communities
167	in the state in developing the expertise and capacity necessary
168	for such communities to develop, market, promote, and provide
169	services to the state's entertainment industry.
170	(c) (b) The division Office of Film and Entertainment, in
171	the performance of its duties, may:
172	1. Conduct or contract for specific promotion and marketing
173	functions, including, but not limited to, production of a
174	statewide directory, production and maintenance of an Internet

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577-03938-14 20141734 175 website, establishment and maintenance of a toll-free telephone 176 number, organization of trade show participation, and 177 appropriate cooperative marketing opportunities. 178 2. Conduct its affairs, carry on its operations, establish offices, and exercise the powers granted by this act in any 179 state, territory, district, or possession of the United States. 180 181 3. Carry out any program of information, special events, or 182 publicity designed to attract entertainment industry to Florida. 4. Develop relationships and leverage resources with other 183 184 public and private organizations or groups in their efforts to 185 publicize to the entertainment industry in this state, other 186 states, and other countries the depth of Florida's entertainment 187 industry talent, crew, production companies, production equipment resources, related businesses, and support services, 188 189 including the establishment of and expenditure for a program of 190 cooperative advertising with these public and private 191 organizations and groups in accordance with the provisions of 192 chapter 120. 193 5. Provide and arrange for reasonable and necessary 194 promotional items and services for such persons as the division 195 office deems proper in connection with the performance of the 196 promotional and other duties of the division office. 197 6. Prepare an annual economic impact analysis on 198 entertainment industry-related activities in the state. 7. Request or accept any grant, payment, or gift of funds 199 200 or property made by this state, the United States, or any 201 department or agency thereof, or by any individual, firm, 202 corporation, municipality, county, or organization, for any or all of the purposes of the Office of Film and Entertainment's 5-203

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577-03938-14 20141734 204 year strategic plan or those permitted activities enumerated in 205 this paragraph. Such funds shall be deposited in the Grants and 206 Donations Trust Fund of the Executive Office of the Covernor for 207 use by the Office of Film and Entertainment in carrying out its 208 responsibilities and duties as delineated in law. The division 209 office may expend such funds in accordance with the terms and 210 conditions of any such grant, payment, or gift in the pursuit of 211 its administration or in support of fulfilling its duties and 212 responsibilities. The division office shall separately account 213 for the public funds and the private funds deposited into the 214 trust fund. 215 Section 3. Section 288.1252, Florida Statutes, is 216 transferred, renumbered as section 288.9242, Florida Statutes, 217 and amended to read: 218 288.9242 288.1252 Florida Film and Entertainment Advisory 219 Council; creation; purpose; membership; powers and duties.-220 (1) CREATION. There is created within the department, for 221 administrative purposes only, the Florida Film and Entertainment 222 Advisory Council. 223 (1) (2) PURPOSE. - The purpose of the Florida Film and 224 Entertainment Advisory Council is to serve as an advisory body 225 to the Division of Film and Entertainment department and to the 226 Office of Film and Entertainment to provide these offices with 227 industry insight and expertise related to developing, marketing, 228 and promoting, and providing service to the state's 229 entertainment industry. 230 (2) (3) MEMBERSHIP.-(a) The council shall consist of 17 members, 7 to be 231

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appointed by the Governor, 5 to be appointed by the President of

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577-03938-1420141734\_233the Senate, and 5 to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of234Representatives.

235 (b) When making appointments to the council, the Governor, 236 the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of 237 Representatives shall appoint persons who are residents of the 238 state and who are highly knowledgeable of, active in, and 239 recognized leaders in Florida's motion picture, television, 240 video, sound recording, or other entertainment industries. These persons shall include, but not be limited to, representatives of 241 242 local film commissions, representatives of entertainment 243 associations, a representative of the broadcast industry, 244 representatives of labor organizations in the entertainment 245 industry, and board chairs, presidents, chief executive 246 officers, chief operating officers, or persons of comparable 247 executive position or stature of leading or otherwise important 248 entertainment industry businesses and offices. Council members 249 shall be appointed in such a manner as to equitably represent 250 the broadest spectrum of the entertainment industry and 251 geographic areas of the state.

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(c) Council members shall serve for 4-year terms.

(d) Subsequent appointments shall be made by the official who appointed the council member whose expired term is to be filled.

(e) A representative of Enterprise Florida, Inc., A representative of Workforce Florida, Inc., and a representative of VISIT Florida shall serve as ex officio, nonvoting members of the council, and shall be in addition to the 17 appointed members of the council.

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(f) Absence from three consecutive meetings shall result in

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20141734 577-03938-14 262 automatic removal from the council. 263 (q) A vacancy on the council shall be filled for the 264 remainder of the unexpired term by the official who appointed 265 the vacating member. 266 (h) No more than one member of the council may be an 267 employee of any one company, organization, or association. 268 (i) Any member shall be eligible for reappointment but may 269 not serve more than two consecutive terms. 270 (3) (4) MEETINGS; ORGANIZATION.-271 (a) The council shall meet no less frequently than once 272 each quarter of the calendar year, but may meet more often as 273 set by the council. 274 (b) The council shall annually elect from its appointed 275 membership one member to serve as chair of the council and one 276 member to serve as vice chair. The Division of Film and 277 Entertainment Office of Film and Entertainment shall provide 278 staff assistance to the council, which shall include, but not be 279 limited to, keeping records of the proceedings of the council, 280 and serving as custodian of all books, documents, and papers 281 filed with the council. 282 (c) A majority of the members of the council shall 283 constitute a quorum. 284 (d) Members of the council shall serve without 285 compensation, but shall be entitled to reimbursement for per 286 diem and travel expenses in accordance with s. 112.061 while in 287 performance of their duties. 288 (4) (5) POWERS AND DUTIES. - The Florida Film and 289 Entertainment Advisory Council shall have all the powers 290 necessary or convenient to carry out and effectuate the purposes

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577-03938-14 20141734 291 and provisions of this act, including, but not limited to, the 292 power to: (a) Adopt bylaws for the governance of its affairs and the 293 294 conduct of its business. 295 (b) Advise the Division of Film and Entertainment and 296 consult with the Office of Film and Entertainment on the 297 content, development, and implementation of the 5-year strategic 298 plan to guide the activities of the office. 299 (c) Review the Commissioner of Film and Entertainment's 300 administration of the programs related to the strategic plan, 301 and Advise the Division of Film and Entertainment commissioner 302 on its the programs and any changes that might be made to better 303 meet the strategic plan. 304 (d) Consider and study the needs of the entertainment 305 industry for the purpose of advising the Division of Film and 306 Entertainment film commissioner and the department. 307 (e) Identify and make recommendations on state agency and 308 local government actions that may have an impact on the 309 entertainment industry or that may appear to industry 310 representatives as an official state or local action affecting 311 production in the state, and advise the Division of Film and 312 Entertainment of such actions. 313 (f) Consider all matters submitted to it by the Division of 314 Film and Entertainment film commissioner and the department. 315 (g) Advise and consult with the film commissioner and the 316 department, at their request or upon its own initiative, 317 regarding the promulgation, administration, and enforcement of all laws and rules relating to the entertainment industry. 318 319 (g) (h) Suggest policies and practices for the conduct of

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320	business by the Office of Film and Entertainment or by the
321	department that will improve interaction with internal
322	operations affecting the entertainment industry and will enhance
323	the economic development in initiatives of the state for the
324	industry.
325	(i) Appear on its own behalf before boards, commissions,
326	departments, or other agencies of municipal, county, or state
327	government, or the Federal Government.
328	Section 4. Section 288.1253, Florida Statutes, is
329	transferred, renumbered as section 288.9241, Florida Statutes,
330	and amended to read:
331	288.9241 288.1253 Travel and entertainment expenses
332	(1) As used in this section, the term "travel expenses"
333	means the actual, necessary, and reasonable costs of
334	transportation, meals, lodging, and incidental expenses normally
335	incurred by an employee of the <u>Division</u> <del>Office</del> of Film and
336	Entertainment, which costs are defined and prescribed by rules
337	adopted by the department, subject to approval by the Chief
338	Financial Officer.
339	(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 112.061, the
340	department shall adopt rules by which the Division of Film and
341	Entertainment it may make expenditures by reimbursement to: the
342	Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, security staff of the
343	Governor or Lieutenant Governor, the Commissioner of Film and
344	Entertainment, or staff of the <u>Division</u> <del>Office</del> of Film and
345	Entertainment for travel expenses or entertainment expenses
346	incurred by such individuals solely and exclusively in
347	connection with the performance of the statutory duties of the
348	division Office of Film and Entertainment. The rules are subject

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577-03938-14 20141734 349 to approval by the Chief Financial Officer before adoption. The 350 rules shall require the submission of paid receipts, or other 351 proof of expenditure prescribed by the Chief Financial Officer, 352 with any claim for reimbursement. 353 (3) The Division Office of Film and Entertainment shall 354 include in the annual report for the entertainment industry 355 financial incentive program required under s. 288.1254(10) a 356 report of the division's office's expenditures for the previous 357 fiscal year. The report must consist of a summary of all travel, 358 entertainment, and incidental expenses incurred within the 359 United States and all travel, entertainment, and incidental 360 expenses incurred outside the United States, as well as a 361 summary of all successful projects that developed from such 362 travel. 363 (4) The Division Office of Film and Entertainment and its 364 employees and representatives, when authorized, may accept and 365 use complimentary travel, accommodations, meeting space, meals, 366 equipment, transportation, and any other goods or services 367 necessary for or beneficial to the performance of the division's 368 office's duties and purposes, so long as such acceptance or use

is not in conflict with part III of chapter 112. The department shall, by rule, develop internal controls to ensure that such goods or services accepted or used pursuant to this subsection are limited to those that will assist solely and exclusively in the furtherance of the <u>division's</u> office's goals and are in compliance with part III of chapter 112.

375 (5) Any claim submitted under this section is not required
376 to be sworn to before a notary public or other officer
377 authorized to administer oaths, but any claim authorized or

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577-03938-14 20141734 378 required to be made under any provision of this section shall 379 contain a statement that the expenses were actually incurred as 380 necessary travel or entertainment expenses in the performance of 381 official duties of the Division Office of Film and Entertainment 382 and shall be verified by written declaration that it is true and 383 correct as to every material matter. Any person who willfully 384 makes and subscribes to any claim which he or she does not 385 believe to be true and correct as to every material matter or 386 who willfully aids or assists in, procures, or counsels or 387 advises with respect to, the preparation or presentation of a 388 claim pursuant to this section that is fraudulent or false as to 389 any material matter, whether such falsity or fraud is with the 390 knowledge or consent of the person authorized or required to 391 present the claim, commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, 392 punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. Whoever 393 receives a reimbursement by means of a false claim is civilly 394 liable, in the amount of the overpayment, for the reimbursement 395 of the public fund from which the claim was paid.

396 Section 5. Section 288.1254, Florida Statutes, is amended 397 to read:

398 288.1254 Entertainment industry financial incentive 399 program.-

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

(a) "Certified production" means a qualified production that has tax credits allocated to it by the department based on the production's estimated qualified expenditures, up to the production's maximum certified amount of tax credits, by the department. The term does not include a production if its first day of principal photography or project start date in this state

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407	occurs before the production is certified by the department,
408	unless the production spans more than 1 fiscal year, was a
409	certified production on its first day of principal photography
410	or project start date in this state, and submits an application
411	for continuing the same production for the subsequent fiscal
412	year.
413	(b) "Digital media project" means a production of
414	interactive entertainment that is produced for distribution in
415	commercial or educational markets. The term includes a video
416	game or production intended for Internet or wireless
417	distribution, an interactive website, digital animation, and
418	visual effects, including, but not limited to, three-dimensional
419	movie productions and movie conversions. The term does not
420	include a production that contains content that is obscene as
421	defined in s. 847.001.
422	(c) "High-impact digital media project" means a digital
423	media project that has qualified expenditures greater than \$4.5
424	million.
425	(d) "High-impact television series" means:
426	<u>1.</u> A production created to run multiple production seasons
427	which has and having an estimated order of at least seven
428	episodes per season and qualified expenditures of at least
429	\$625,000 per episode <u>; or</u>
430	2. A telenovela that has qualified expenditures of more
431	than \$4.5 million; a minimum of 45 principal photography days
432	filmed in this state; a production cast, including background
433	actors, and crew of which at least 90 percent are legal
434	residents of this state; and at least 90 percent of its
435	production occurring in this state.

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577-03938-14 20141734 436 (e) "Off-season certified production" means a feature film, 437 independent film, or television series or pilot that films 75 percent or more of its principal photography days from June 1 438 439 through November 30. 440 (e) (f) "Principal photography" means the filming of major or significant components of the qualified production which 441 442 involve lead actors. (f) (g) "Production" means a theatrical, or direct-to-video, 443 or direct-to-internet motion picture; a made-for-television 444 445 motion picture; visual effects or digital animation sequences 446 produced in conjunction with a motion picture; a commercial; a 447 music video; an industrial or educational film; an infomercial; 448 a documentary film; a television pilot program; a presentation for a television pilot program; a television series, including, 449 450 but not limited to, a drama, a reality show, a comedy, a soap 451 opera, a telenovela, a game show, an awards show, or a 452 miniseries production; a direct-to-internet television series; 453 or a digital media project by the entertainment industry. One 454 season of a television series is considered one production. The 455 term does not include a weather or market program; a sporting 456 event or a sporting event broadcast; a gala; a production that 457 solicits funds; a home shopping program; a political program; a 458 political documentary; political advertising; a gambling-related 459 project or production; a concert production; a local, regional, or Internet-distributed-only news show or current-events show; a 460 461 sports news or sports recap show; a pornographic production; or 462 any production deemed obscene under chapter 847. A production 463 may be produced on or by film, tape, or otherwise by means of a 464 motion picture camera; electronic camera or device; tape device;

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577-03938-14 20141734 465 computer; any combination of the foregoing; or any other means, 466 method, or device. 467 (g) (h) "Production expenditures" means the costs of 468 tangible and intangible property used for, and services 469 performed primarily and customarily in, production, including 470 preproduction and postproduction, but excluding costs for 471 development, marketing, and distribution. The term includes, but 472 is not limited to: 473 1. Wages, salaries, or other compensation paid to legal residents of this state, including amounts paid through payroll 474 475 service companies, for technical and production crews, 476 directors, producers, and performers. 477 2. Net expenditures for sound stages, backlots, production 478 editing, digital effects, sound recordings, sets, and set 479 construction. 480 3. Net expenditures for rental equipment, including, but 481 not limited to, cameras and grip or electrical equipment. 482 4. Up to \$300,000 of the costs of newly purchased computer 483 software and hardware unique to the project, including servers, 484 data processing, and visualization technologies, which are 485 located in and used exclusively in the state for the production 486 of digital media. 487 5. Expenditures for meals, travel, and accommodations. For 488 purposes of this paragraph, the term "net expenditures" means the actual amount of money a qualified production spent for 489 490 equipment or other tangible personal property, after subtracting 491 any consideration received for reselling or transferring the 492 item after the qualified production ends, if applicable. 493 (h) (i) "Qualified expenditures" means production

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577-03938-14 20141734 494 expenditures incurred in this state by a qualified production 495 for: 496 1. Goods purchased or leased from, or services, including, 497 but not limited to, insurance costs and bonding, payroll 498 services, and legal fees, which are provided by, a vendor or 499 supplier in this state that is registered with the Department of 500 State or the Department of Revenue, has a physical location in 501 this state, and employs one or more legal residents of this 502 state. This does not include rebilled goods or services provided 503 by an in-state company from out-of-state vendors or suppliers. 504 When services provided by the vendor or supplier include 505 personal services or labor, only personal services or labor 506 provided by residents of this state, evidenced by the required 507 documentation of residency in this state, qualify. 508 2. Payments to legal residents of this state in the form of 509 salary, wages, or other compensation up to a maximum of \$400,000 510 per resident unless otherwise specified in subsection (4). A 511 completed declaration of residency in this state must accompany 512 the documentation submitted to the department office for 513 reimbursement. 514 515 For a qualified production involving an event, such as an awards 516 show, the term does not include expenditures solely associated 517 with the event itself and not directly required by the production. The term does not include expenditures incurred 518 519 before certification, with the exception of those incurred for a 520 commercial, a music video, or the pickup of additional episodes 521 of a high-impact television series within a single season. Under 522 no circumstances may the qualified production include in the

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I	577-03938-14 20141734
523	calculation for qualified expenditures the original purchase
524	price for equipment or other tangible property that is later
525	sold or transferred by the qualified production for
526	consideration. In such cases, the qualified expenditure is the
527	net of the original purchase price minus the consideration
528	received upon sale or transfer.
529	<u>(i)</u> "Qualified production" means a production in this
530	state meeting the requirements of this section. The term does
531	not include a production:
532	1. In which, for the first 2 years of the incentive
533	<del>program, less than 50 percent, and thereafter,</del> less than $\underline{70}$ 60
534	<code>percent_</code> of the positions that make up its production <code>cast</code> and
535	below-the-line production crew, or, in the case of digital media
536	projects, less than $\underline{80}$ $\overline{75}$ percent of such positions, are filled
537	by legal residents of this state, whose residency is
538	demonstrated by a valid Florida <u>driver</u> <del>driver's</del> license or other
539	state-issued identification confirming residency, or students
540	enrolled full-time in a film-and-entertainment-related course of
541	study at an institution of higher education in this state; or
542	2. That contains obscene content as defined in s.
543	847.001(10).
544	<u>(j)</u> (k) "Qualified production company" means a corporation,
545	limited liability company, partnership, or other legal entity
546	engaged in one or more productions in this state.
547	(1) "Qualified digital media production facility" means a
548	building or series of buildings and their improvements in which
549	data processing, visualization, and sound synchronization
550	technologies are regularly applied for the production of

551 qualified digital media projects or the digital animation

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552	components of qualified productions.
553	(m) "Qualified production facility" means a building or
554	complex of buildings and their improvements and associated
555	backlot facilities in which regular filming activity for film or
556	television has occurred for a period of no less than 1 year and
557	which contain at least one sound stage of at least 7,800 square
558	feet.
559	(n) "Regional population ratio" means the ratio of the
560	population of a region to the population of this state. The
561	regional population ratio applicable to a given fiscal year is
562	the regional population ratio calculated by the Office of Film
563	and Entertainment using the latest official estimates of
564	population certified under s. 186.901, available on the first
565	day of that fiscal year.
566	(o) "Regional tax credit ratio" means a ratio the numerator
567	of which is the sum of tax credits awarded to productions in a
568	region to date plus the tax credits certified, but not yet
569	awarded, to productions currently in that region and the
570	denominator of which is the sum of all tax credits awarded in
571	the state to date plus all tax credits certified, but not yet
572	awarded, to productions currently in the state. The regional tax
573	credit ratio applicable to a given year is the regional tax
574	credit ratio calculated by the Office of Film and Entertainment
575	using credit award and certification information available on
576	the first day of that fiscal year.
577	(p) "Underutilized region" for a given state fiscal year
578	means a region with a regional tax credit ratio applicable to
579	that fiscal year that is lower than its regional population

580 ratio applicable to that fiscal year. The following regions are

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581	
582	1. North Region, consisting of Alachua, Baker, Bay,
583	Bradford, Calhoun, Clay, Columbia, Dixic, Duval, Escambia,
584	Franklin, Gadsden, Gilchrist, Gulf, Hamilton, Holmes, Jackson,
585	Jefferson, Lafayette, Leon, Levy, Liberty, Madison, Nassau,
586	Okaloosa, Putnam, Santa Rosa, St. Johns, Suwannee, Taylor,
587	Union, Wakulla, Walton, and Washington Counties.
588	2. Central East Region, consisting of Brevard, Flagler,
589	Indian River, Lake, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Seminole, St.
590	Lucie, and Volusia Counties.
591	3. Central West Region, consisting of Citrus, Hernando,
592	Hillsborough, Manatee, Marion, Polk, Pasco, Pinellas, Sarasota,
593	and Sumter Counties.
594	4. Southwest Region, consisting of Charlotte, Collier,
595	DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, and Lee Counties.
596	5. Southeast Region, consisting of Broward, Martin, Miami-
597	Dade, Monroe, and Palm Beach Counties.
598	<u>(k)</u> "Interactive website" means a website or group of
599	websites that includes interactive and downloadable content, and
600	creates 25 new Florida full-time equivalent positions operating
601	from a principal place of business located within Florida. An
602	interactive website or group of websites must provide
603	documentation that those jobs were created to the <u>department</u>
604	<u>before</u> Office of Film and Entertainment prior to the award of
605	tax credits. Each subsequent program application must provide
606	proof that 25 Florida full-time equivalent positions are
607	maintained.
608	(2) CREATION AND PURPOSE OF PROGRAMThe entertainment
609	industry financial incentive program is created within the

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610
     Office of Film and Entertainment. The purpose of this program is
611
     to encourage the use of this state as a site for entertainment
     production, for filming, and for the digital production of
612
613
     entertainment films, and to develop and sustain the workforce
     and infrastructure for film, digital media, and entertainment
614
615
     production.
616
          (3) APPLICATION PROCEDURE; APPROVAL PROCESS.-
617
           (a) Program application.-A qualified production company
     producing a qualified production in this state may submit a
618
619
     program application to the department Office of Film and
620
     Entertainment for the purpose of determining qualification for
621
     an award of tax credits authorized by this section no earlier
622
     than 150 180 days before the first day of principal photography
623
     or project start date in this state. The applicant shall provide
624
     the department Office of Film and Entertainment with information
625
     required to determine whether the production is a qualified
626
     production and to determine the qualified expenditures and other
627
     information necessary for the department office to determine
628
     eligibility for the tax credit.
629
           (b) Required documentation.-The department Office of Film
630
     and Entertainment shall develop an application form for
631
     qualifying an applicant as a qualified production. The form must
632
     include, but need not be limited to, production-related
633
     information concerning employment of residents in this state, a
634
     detailed budget of planned qualified expenditures and aggregate
635
     nonqualified expenditures in this state, proof of financing for
     the production, proof of local financial commitment, and the
636
637
     applicant's signed affirmation that the information on the form
638
     has been verified and is correct. The Division Office of Film
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639	and Entertainment of Enterprise Florida, Inc., and local film
640	commissions shall distribute the form.
641	(c) Application process.—The <u>department</u> Office of Film and
642	Entertainment shall establish a process by which an application
643	is accepted and reviewed and by which tax credit eligibility and
644	award amount are determined. The department may consult with the
645	Division Office of Film and Entertainment of Enterprise Florida,
646	Inc., or may request assistance from a duly appointed local film
647	commission in determining compliance with this section.
648	1. Applications may be accepted until, and shall include,
649	the application that causes the amount of tax credit eligibility
650	requested to exceed 125 percent of tax credits allocated for the
651	fiscal year under paragraph (7)(a). Applications received after
652	all tax credits allocated for the fiscal year have been
653	certified shall be assigned a queue number that is determined by
654	the date and time the application was received by the
655	department. Applications in the queue are deemed denied on June
656	30 of each year.
657	2. A certified high-impact television series may submit an
658	initial application for no more than two successive seasons,
659	notwithstanding the fact that the <u>second season has</u> <del>successive</del>
660	seasons have not been ordered. The successive season's qualified
661	expenditure amounts for the second season shall be based on the
662	current season's estimated qualified expenditures. Upon the
663	completion of production of each season, a high-impact
664	television series may submit an application for no more than one
665	additional season. To be certified for credits, the applicant
666	must provide proof that the additional season has been ordered
667	as part of the application for the additional season.

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6.60	577-03938-14 20141734
668	3. An applicant must submit proof of financial commitment
669	by each county in which the applicant will engage in principal
670	photography or project production. The financial commitment must
671	be a cash match equal to 10 percent of the total amount of
672	credit applied for by the applicant. If at least 70 percent of
673	the production occurs within a county designated as an
674	underutilized county at the time that the production is
675	certified, the cash match must equal 5 percent of the total
676	amount of credit applied for by the applicant. The term
677	"underutilized county" means a county in which less than
678	\$500,000 in qualified expenditures were made in the last 2
679	fiscal years.
680	(d) Certification
681	1. The department Office of Film and Entertainment shall
682	review the application within 15 business days after receipt.
683	Upon <u>the department's</u> <del>its</del> determination, in consultation with
684	the Division of Film and Entertainment of Enterprise Florida,
685	Inc., that the application contains all the information required
686	by this subsection and meets the criteria set out in this
687	section, the <u>department</u> <del>Office of Film and Entertainment</del> shall
688	deny qualify the applicant and recommend to the department that
689	the applicant be certified for the maximum tax credit award
690	amount. Within 5 business days after receipt of the
691	recommendation, the department shall reject the application
692	recommendation or certify the maximum recommended tax credit
693	award in an amount reduced by 5 percent or 10 percent, as
694	required in subparagraph (c)3., if any funds are available, to
695	the applicant and to the executive director of the Department of
696	Revenue.

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697	2. In a fiscal year, the department may certify only the
698	amount of tax credits allocated for that fiscal year, as
699	provided under subsection (7). However, the department may
700	certify a high-impact television series for additional tax
701	credits allocated in a future fiscal year if the high-impact
702	television series has an executed contract or order for season
703	renewal effective for the future fiscal year from which tax
704	credits would be allocated. The department may certify one
705	additional ordered season per future fiscal year in which the
706	qualified production would occur.
707	(e) EmploymentUpon certification by the department, the
708	production must provide the department and the Division of Film
709	and Entertainment of Enterprise Florida, Inc., with a single
710	point of contact and information related to the production's
711	needs for cast, crew, contractors, and vendors. The division
712	shall publish this information online, including the type of
713	production, the projected start date of the production, the
714	locations in this state for such production, and the e-mail or
715	other contact information for the production's point of contact.
716	The department, in consultation with the division, may adopt
717	procedures for a production to post such information itself
718	within 7 days after certification.
719	<u>(f)</u> Grounds for denial.—
720	1. The department Office of Film and Entertainment shall
721	deny an application if it determines that the application is not
722	complete, or the production or application does not meet the
723	requirements of this section, or there are no additional credits
724	for certification as provided under paragraph (c). Within 90
725	days after submitting a program application, except with respect
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726	 to applications in the independent and emerging media queue, a
727	production must provide proof of project financing to the Office
728	of Film and Entertainment, otherwise the project is deemed
729	<del>denied and withdrawn</del> . A project that has been <u>denied</u> <del>withdrawn</del>
730	may submit a new application upon providing the Office of Film
731	and Entertainment proof of financing.
732	2. The department shall deny a certified production upon
733	any circumstance affecting the reasonable schedule or timely
734	completion of the certified production, including a break in
735	production, change in the production schedule, or loss of
736	financing for the production. A certified production must notify
737	the department within 5 days after any circumstance affecting
738	its timely completion. A certified production may not be denied
739	if it provides the department with proof of replacement
740	financing within 10 days after the loss of financing for the
741	production. To keep a reasonable schedule, the certified
742	production must begin principal photography or the production
743	project in this state no more than 45 calendar days before or
744	after the principal photography or project start date provided
745	in the production's program application.
746	<u>(g)</u> (f) Verification <del>of actual qualified expenditures</del>
747	1. The department, in consultation with the Division of
748	Film and Entertainment, Office of Film and Entertainment shall
749	develop a process to verify the actual qualified expenditures of
750	a certified production. The process must require:
751	a. A certified production to submit, <u>within 180 days</u> <del>in a</del>
752	timely manner after production ends in this state and after
753	making all of its qualified expenditures in this state, data
754	substantiating each qualified expenditure, including

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783

1	577-03938-14 20141734
755	documentation on the net expenditure on equipment and other
756	tangible personal property by the qualified production, to an
757	independent certified public accountant licensed in this state;
758	b. Such accountant to conduct a compliance audit, at the
759	certified production's expense, to substantiate each qualified
760	expenditure and submit the results as a report, along with the
761	required substantiating data, to the <u>department</u> <del>Office of Film</del>
762	and Entertainment; and
763	c. The <u>department</u> <del>Office of Film and Entertainment</del> to
764	review the accountant's submittal and <u>verify</u> <del>report to the</del>
765	department the final verified amount of actual qualified
766	expenditures made by the certified production.
767	2. The department shall verify that the qualified
768	production received the local financial commitment required
769	under paragraph (c). If the qualified production did not meet
770	this requirement, the department shall deny the total tax credit
771	award amount.
772	3.2. The department shall determine and approve the final
773	tax credit award amount to each certified applicant based on the
774	final verified amount of actual qualified expenditures and
775	evidence that the qualified production met the requirements of
776	this section. The department shall notify the executive director
777	of the Department of Revenue in writing that the certified
778	production has met the requirements of the incentive program and
779	of the final amount of the tax credit award. The final tax
780	credit award amount may not exceed the maximum tax credit award
781	amount certified under paragraph (d).
782	(h) (g) Promoting Florida.—The department Office of Film and
700	

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 $\ensuremath{\ensuremath{\mathsf{Entertainment}}}$  shall ensure that, as a condition of receiving a

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808 (4) TAX CREDIT ELIGIBILITY; TAX CREDIT AWARDS; QUEUES;
809 ELECTION AND DISTRIBUTION; CARRYFORWARD; CONSOLIDATED RETURNS;
810 PARTNERSHIP AND NONCORPORATE DISTRIBUTIONS; MERGERS AND
811 ACQUISITIONS.-

812

(a) Priority for tax credit award.-The priority of a

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813	qualified production for tax credit awards must be determined on
814	a first-come, first-served basis within its appropriate queue.
815	Each qualified production must be placed into the appropriate
816	queue and is subject to the requirements of that queue.
817	(b) Tax credit eligibility
818	1. General production queueNinety-four percent of tax
819	credits authorized pursuant to subsection <u>(7)</u> <del>(6)</del> in any state
820	fiscal year must be dedicated to the general production queue.
821	The general production queue consists of all qualified
822	productions other than those eligible for the commercial and
823	music video queue or the independent and emerging media
824	production queue. A qualified production that demonstrates a
825	minimum of \$625,000 in qualified expenditures is eligible for
826	tax credits equal to 20 percent of its actual qualified
827	expenditures, up to a maximum of \$8 million. A qualified
828	production that incurs qualified expenditures during multiple
829	state fiscal years may combine those expenditures to satisfy the
830	\$625,000 minimum threshold.
831	a. For the first 10 months of each fiscal year, 20 percent
832	of the credits in the general production queue shall be set
833	aside for qualified productions in underutilized counties. A
834	qualified production eligible for these funds is a production
835	for which at least 70 percent of its principal photography days
836	occur within an underutilized county designated as an
837	underutilized county at the time that the production is
838	certified. The term "underutilized county" means a county in
839	which less than \$500,000 in qualified expenditures were made in
840	the last 2 fiscal years. Any funds not yet certified from this
841	set-aside at the end of the 10-month period may be certified to
1	

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577-03938-14 20141734 842 qualified productions pursuant to this section An off-season 843 certified production that is a feature film, independent film, 844 television series or pilot is eligible for an additional 5 or 845 percent tax credit on actual qualified expenditures. An off-846 season certified production that does not complete 75 percent of 847 principal photography due to a disruption caused by a hurricane 848 or tropical storm may not be disqualified from eligibility for 849 the additional 5 percent credit as a result of the disruption. 850 b. If more than 45 percent of the sum of total tax credits 851 initially certified and awarded after April 1, 2012, total tax 852 credits initially certified after April 1, 2012, but not yet 853 awarded, and total tax credits available for certification after 854 April 1, 2012, but not yet certified has been awarded for high-855 impact television series, then no high-impact television series 856 is eligible for tax credits under this subparagraph. Tax credits 857 initially certified for a high-impact television series after 858 April 1, 2012, may not be awarded if the award will cause the 859 percentage threshold in this sub-subparagraph to be exceeded. 860 This sub-subparagraph does not prohibit the award of tax credits 861 certified before April 1, 2012, for high-impact television 862 series. 863 b.c. Subject to sub-subparagraph b., First priority in the

queue for tax credit awards not yet certified shall be given to high-impact television series and high-impact digital media projects. For the purposes of determining priority between a high-impact television series and a high-impact digital media project, the first position must go to the first application received. Thereafter, priority shall be determined <del>by</del> alternating between a high-impact television series and a high-

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871	impact digital media project on a first-come, first-served
872	basis. However, if the Office of Film and Entertainment receives
873	an application for a high-impact television series or high-
874	impact digital media project that would be certified but for the
875	
	alternating priority, the office may certify the project as
876	being in the priority position if an application that would
877	normally be the priority position is not received within 5
878	business days.
879	d. A qualified production for which at least 67 percent of
880	its principal photography days occur within a region designated
881	as an underutilized region at the time that the production is
882	certified is eligible for an additional 5 percent tax credit.
883	<u>c.e.</u> A qualified production is eligible for an additional
884	15 percent tax credit on qualified expenditures that are wages,
885	salaries, or other compensation paid to the following
886	individuals employed by the qualified production: that employs
887	students enrolled full-time in a film and entertainment-related
888	or digital media-related course of study at an institution of
889	higher education in this state, individuals participating in the
890	Road-to-Independence Program under s. 409.1451, individuals with
891	developmental disabilities as defined under s. 393.063 residing
892	in this state, veterans residing in this state, and individuals
893	is eligible for an additional 15 percent tax credit on qualified
894	expenditures that are wages, salaries, or other compensation
895	paid to such students. The additional 15 percent tax credit is
896	also applicable to persons hired within 12 months after
897	graduating from a film and entertainment-related or digital
898	media-related course of study at an institution of higher
899	education in this state. The additional 15 percent tax credit

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900	applies to qualified expenditures that are wages, salaries, or
901	other compensation paid to such recent graduates for 1 year
902	after the date of hiring.
903	f. A qualified production for which 50 percent or more of
904	its principal photography occurs at a qualified production
905	facility, or a qualified digital media project or the digital
906	animation component of a qualified production for which 50
907	percent or more of the project's or component's qualified
908	expenditures are related to a qualified digital media production
909	facility, is eligible for an additional 5 percent tax credit on
910	actual qualified expenditures for production activity at that
911	facility.
912	d. A qualified production that completes a capital
913	investment of at least \$2 million before the completion of the
914	qualified production is eligible for an additional 5 percent tax
915	credit. The capital investment must be permanent and must remain
916	in this state after the production ends in this state.
917	e. A qualified production determined by the department to
918	be family-friendly, based on review of the script and review of
919	the final release version, is eligible for an additional tax
920	credit equal to 5 percent of its actual qualified expenditures.
921	The department must consult with the Division of Film and
922	Entertainment of Enterprise Florida, Inc., to make this
923	determination. A family-friendly production is a production that
924	has cross-generational appeal; would be considered suitable for
925	viewing by children 5 years of age or older; is appropriate in
926	theme, content, and language for a broad family audience;
927	embodies a responsible resolution of issues; and does not
928	exhibit or imply any act of smoking, sex, nudity, or vulgar or

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929 profane language.

930 <u>f.g.</u> A qualified production is not eligible for tax credits
 931 provided under this paragraph totaling more than <u>25 percent</u> <del>30</del>
 932 percent of its actual qualified expenses.

933 2. Commercial and music video queue.-Three percent of tax 934 credits authorized pursuant to subsection (7) (6) in any state 935 fiscal year must be dedicated to the commercial and music video 936 queue. A qualified production company that produces national or 937 regional commercials or music videos may be eligible for a tax credit award if it demonstrates a minimum of \$100,000 in 938 939 qualified expenditures per national or regional commercial or 940 music video and exceeds a combined threshold of \$500,000 after 941 combining actual qualified expenditures from qualified 942 commercials and music videos during a single state fiscal year. After a qualified production company that produces commercials, 943 944 music videos, or both reaches the threshold of \$500,000, it is 945 eligible to apply for certification for a tax credit award. The 946 maximum credit award shall be equal to 20 percent of its actual 947 qualified expenditures up to a maximum of \$500,000. If there is 948 a surplus at the end of a fiscal year after the department 949 Office of Film and Entertainment certifies and determines the 950 tax credits for all qualified commercial and video projects, 951 such surplus tax credits shall be carried forward to the 952 following fiscal year and are available to any eligible 953 qualified productions under the general production queue.

3. Independent and emerging media production queue.—Three percent of tax credits authorized pursuant to subsection <u>(7)</u> <del>(6)</del> in any state fiscal year must be dedicated to the independent and emerging media production queue. This queue is intended to

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577-03938-14 20141734 958 encourage independent film and emerging media production in this 959 state. Any qualified production, excluding commercials, 960 infomercials, or music videos, which demonstrates at least 961 \$100,000, but not more than \$625,000, in total qualified 962 expenditures is eligible for tax credits equal to 20 percent of 963 its actual qualified expenditures. If a surplus exists at the 964 end of a fiscal year after the department Office of Film and 965 Entertainment certifies and determines the tax credits for all 966 qualified independent and emerging media production projects, 967 such surplus tax credits shall be carried forward to the 968 following fiscal year and are available to any eligible 969 qualified productions under the general production queue. 970 4. Family-friendly productions.-A certified theatrical or 971 direct-to-video motion picture production or video game 972 determined by the Commissioner of Film and Entertainment, with the advice of the Florida Film and Entertainment Advisory 973 974 Council, to be family-friendly, based on review of the script 975 and review of the final release version, is eligible for an 976 additional tax credit equal to 5 percent of its actual qualified 977 expenditures. Family-friendly productions are those that have 978 cross-generational appeal; would be considered suitable for 979 viewing by children age 5 or older; are appropriate in theme, 980 content, and language for a broad family audience; embody a responsible resolution of issues; and do not exhibit or imply 981 982 any act of smoking, sex, nudity, or vulgar or profane language. 983 (c) Withdrawal of tax credit eligibility. A qualified or 984 certified production must continue on a reasonable schedule, 985 which includes beginning principal photography or the production 986 project in this state no more than 45 calendar days before or

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577-03938-14 20141734 987 after the principal photography or project start date provided 988 in the production's program application. The department shall withdraw the eligibility of a gualified or certified production 989 990 that does not continue on a reasonable schedule. 991 (c) (d) Election and distribution of tax credits.-992 1. A certified production company receiving a tax credit 993 award under this section shall, at the time the credit is 994 awarded by the department after production is completed and all 995 requirements to receive a credit award have been met, make an 996 irrevocable election to apply the credit against taxes due under 997 chapter 220, against state taxes collected or accrued under 998 chapter 212, or against a stated combination of the two taxes. 999 The election is binding upon any distributee, successor, 1000 transferee, or purchaser. The department shall notify the Department of Revenue of any election made pursuant to this 1001 1002 paragraph.

1003 2. A qualified production company is eligible for tax 1004 credits against its sales and use tax liabilities and corporate 1005 income tax liabilities as provided in this section. However, tax 1006 credits awarded under this section may not be claimed against 1007 sales and use tax liabilities or corporate income tax 1008 liabilities for any tax period beginning before July 1, 2011, 1009 regardless of when the credits are applied for or awarded.

1010 <u>(d) (e)</u> Tax credit carryforward.—If the certified production 1011 company cannot use the entire tax credit in the taxable year or 1012 reporting period in which the credit is awarded, any excess 1013 amount may be carried forward to a succeeding taxable year or 1014 reporting period. A tax credit applied against taxes imposed 1015 under chapter 212 or may be carried forward for a maximum of 5

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1016 years after the date the credit is awarded. A tax credit applied 1017 against taxes imposed under chapter 220 may be carried forward 1018 for a maximum of 5 years after the date the credit is awarded, 1019 after which the credit expires and may not be used. 1020 (e) (f) Consolidated returns. - A certified production company 1021 that files a Florida consolidated return as a member of an 1022 affiliated group under s. 220.131(1) may be allowed the credit 1023 on a consolidated return basis up to the amount of the tax 1024 imposed upon the consolidated group under chapter 220. 1025 (f) (g) Partnership and noncorporate distributions.-A 1026 qualified production company that is not a corporation as 1027 defined in s. 220.03 may elect to distribute tax credits awarded 1028 under this section to its partners or members in proportion to 1029 their respective distributive income or loss in the taxable year 1030 in which the tax credits were awarded. 1031 (g) (h) Mergers or acquisitions.-Tax credits available under 1032 this section to a certified production company may succeed to a 1033 surviving or acquiring entity subject to the same conditions and 1034 limitations as described in this section; however, they may not 1035 be transferred again by the surviving or acquiring entity. 1036 (5) TRANSFER OF TAX CREDITS.-1037 (a) Authorization.-Upon application to the Office of Film 1038 and Entertainment and approval by the department, a certified 1039 production company, or a partner or member that has received a 1040 distribution under paragraph (4)(f)  $\frac{(4)(g)}{(4)(g)}$ , may elect to 1041 transfer, in whole or in part, any unused credit amount granted 1042 under this section. An election to transfer any unused tax 1043 credit amount under chapter 212 or chapter 220 must be made no 1044 later than 5 years after the date the credit is awarded, after

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577-03938-14 20141734 1045 which period the credit expires and may not be used. The 1046 department shall notify the Department of Revenue of the 1047 election and transfer. 1048 (b) Number of transfers permitted.-A certified production 1049 company that elects to apply a credit amount against taxes 1050 remitted under chapter 212 is permitted a one-time transfer of 1051 unused credits to one transferee. A certified production company 1052 that elects to apply a credit amount against taxes due under 1053 chapter 220 is permitted a one-time transfer of unused credits 1054 to no more than four transferees, and such transfers must occur 1055 in the same taxable year. 1056 (c) Transferee rights and limitations.-The transferee is 1057 subject to the same rights and limitations as the certified 1058 production company awarded the tax credit, except that the 1059 initial transferee shall be permitted a one-time transfer of 1060 unused credits to no more than two subsequent transferees, and

1061 such transfers must occur in the same taxable year as the 1062 credits were received by the initial transferee, after which the 1063 subsequent transferees may not sell or otherwise transfer the 1064 tax credit.

1065

(6) RELINQUISHMENT OF TAX CREDITS.-

(a) Beginning July 1, 2011, a certified production company, or any person who has acquired a tax credit from a certified production company pursuant to subsections (4) and (5), may elect to relinquish the tax credit to the Department of Revenue in exchange for 90 percent of the amount of the relinquished tax credit.

1072 (b) The Department of Revenue may approve payments to1073 persons relinquishing tax credits pursuant to this subsection.

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577-03938-14 20141734 1074 (c) Subject to legislative appropriation, the Department of 1075 Revenue shall request the Chief Financial Officer to issue 1076 warrants to persons relinquishing tax credits. Payments under 1077 this subsection shall be made from the funds from which the 1078 proceeds from the taxes against which the tax credits could have 1079 been applied pursuant to the irrevocable election made by the 1080 certified production company under subsection (4) are deposited. (7) ANNUAL ALLOCATION OF TAX CREDITS.-1081 1082 (a) The aggregate amount of the tax credits that may be 1083 certified pursuant to paragraph (3)(d) may not exceed: 1084 1. For fiscal year 2010-2011, \$53.5 million. 1085 2. For fiscal year 2011-2012, \$74.5 million. 1086 3. For fiscal years 2012-2013, 2013-2014, 2014-2015, and 1087 2015-2016, \$42 million per fiscal year. 1088 4. Beginning July 1, 2014, for fiscal years 2014-2015 and 1089 2015-2016, an additional \$50 million per fiscal year. 1090 5. Beginning July 1, 2016, for fiscal years 2016-2017, 2017-2018, 2018-2019, and 2019-2020, \$50 million per fiscal 1091 1092 year. 1093 (b) Any portion of the maximum amount of tax credits 1094 established per fiscal year in paragraph (a) that is not 1095 certified as of the end of a fiscal year shall be carried 1096 forward and made available for certification during the 1097 following 2 fiscal years in addition to the amounts available 1098 for certification under paragraph (a) for those fiscal years. 1099 (c) Upon approval of the final tax credit award amount 1100 pursuant to subparagraph (3)(g)2. (3)(f)2, an amount equal to

# 1101 the difference between the maximum tax credit award amount 1102 previously certified under paragraph (3)(d) and the approved

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1103	final tax credit award amount shall immediately be available for
1104	recertification during the current and following fiscal years in
1105	addition to the amounts available for certification under
1106	paragraph (a) for those fiscal years.
1107	(d) Amounts available on and after July 1, 2014, for
1108	certification may not be certified before the fiscal year in
1109	which the amounts are listed in paragraph (a), except as
1110	provided in subparagraph (3)(d)2. If, during a fiscal year, the
1111	total amount of credits applied for, pursuant to paragraph
1112	(3)(a), exceeds the amount of credits available for
1113	certification in that fiscal year, such excess shall be treated
1114	as having been applied for on the first day of the next fiscal
1115	year in which credits remain available for certification.
1116	(8) RULES, POLICIES, AND PROCEDURES
1117	(a) The department may adopt rules pursuant to ss.
1118	120.536(1) and 120.54 and develop policies and procedures to
1119	implement and administer this section, including, but not
1120	limited to, rules specifying requirements for the application
1121	and approval process, records required for substantiation for
1122	tax credits, procedures for making the election in paragraph
1123	(4)(c) $(4)(d)$ , the manner and form of documentation required to
1124	claim tax credits awarded or transferred under this section, and
1125	marketing requirements for tax credit recipients.
1126	(b) The Department of Revenue may adopt rules pursuant to
1127	ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to administer this section, including
1128	rules governing the examination and audit procedures required to
1129	administer this section and the manner and form of documentation
1130	required to claim tax credits awarded, transferred, or

relinquished under this section.

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577-03938-14 20141734 (9) AUDIT AUTHORITY; REVOCATION AND FORFEITURE OF TAX 1132 1133 CREDITS; FRAUDULENT CLAIMS.-1134 (a) Audit authority.-The Department of Revenue may conduct 1135 examinations and audits as provided in s. 213.34 to verify that 1136 tax credits under this section are received, transferred, and 1137 applied according to the requirements of this section. If the 1138 Department of Revenue determines that tax credits are not 1139 received, transferred, or applied as required by this section, it may, in addition to the remedies provided in this subsection, 1140 1141 pursue recovery of such funds pursuant to the laws and rules 1142 governing the assessment of taxes.

(b) Revocation of tax credits.-The department may revoke or 1143 1144 modify any written decision qualifying, certifying, or otherwise granting eligibility for tax credits under this section if it is 1145 1146 discovered that the tax credit applicant submitted any false statement, representation, or certification in any application, 1147 1148 record, report, plan, or other document filed in an attempt to 1149 receive tax credits under this section. The department shall 1150 immediately notify the Department of Revenue of any revoked or 1151 modified orders affecting previously granted tax credits. 1152 Additionally, the applicant must notify the Department of 1153 Revenue of any change in its tax credit claimed.

(c) Forfeiture of tax credits.—A determination by the Department of Revenue, as a result of an audit pursuant to paragraph (a) or from information received from the <u>department</u> or the Division Office of Film and Entertainment <u>of Enterprise</u> Florida, Inc., that an applicant received tax credits pursuant to this section to which the applicant was not entitled is grounds for forfeiture of previously claimed and received tax

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577-03938-14 20141734 1161 credits. The applicant is responsible for returning forfeited 1162 tax credits to the Department of Revenue, and such funds shall be paid into the General Revenue Fund of the state. Tax credits 1163 purchased in good faith are not subject to forfeiture unless the 1164 1165 transferee submitted fraudulent information in the purchase or 1166 failed to meet the requirements in subsection (5). 1167 (d) Fraudulent claims.-Any applicant that submits 1168 fraudulent information under this section is liable for reimbursement of the reasonable costs and fees associated with 1169 the review, processing, investigation, and prosecution of the 1170 1171 fraudulent claim. An applicant that obtains a credit payment 1172 under this section through a claim that is fraudulent is liable 1173 for reimbursement of the credit amount plus a penalty in an 1174 amount double the credit amount. The penalty is in addition to 1175 any criminal penalty to which the applicant is liable for the 1176 same acts. The applicant is also liable for costs and fees 1177 incurred by the state in investigating and prosecuting the 1178 fraudulent claim. 1179 (10) ANNUAL REPORT.-Each November 1, the department Office 1180 of Film and Entertainment shall submit an annual report for the 1181 previous fiscal year to the Governor, the President of the 1182 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives which 1183 outlines the incentive program's return on investment and

economic benefits to the state. The report must also include an estimate of the full-time equivalent positions created by each production that received tax credits under this section and information relating to the distribution of productions receiving credits by geographic region and type of production. The report must also include the expenditures report required

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1190	under <u>s. 288.9241</u> <del>s. 288.1253(3)</del> and the information describing
1191	the relationship between tax exemptions and incentives to
1192	industry growth required under s. 288.1258(5). The department
1193	may work with the Division of Film and Entertainment of
1194	Enterprise Florida, Inc., to develop the annual report.
1195	(11) REPEAL.—This section is repealed <u>July 1, 2020</u> <del>July 1,</del>
1196	<del>2016</del> , except that:
1197	(a) Tax credits certified under paragraph (3)(d) before
1198	July 1, 2020 <del>July 1, 2016</del> , may be awarded under paragraph <u>(3)(g)</u>
1199	<del>(3)(f)</del> on or after <u>July 1, 2020</u> <del>July 1, 2016</del> , if the other
1200	requirements of this section are met.
1201	(b) Tax credits carried forward under paragraph (4)(d)
1202	(4)(e) remain valid for the period specified.
1203	(c) Subsections (5), (8), and (9) shall remain in effect
1204	until <u>July 1, 2025</u> <del>July 1, 2021</del> .
1205	Section 6. Beginning July 1, 2014, applications on file
1206	with the Department of Economic Opportunity to receive a tax
1207	credit through the entertainment industry financial incentive
1208	program under s. 288.1254, Florida Statutes, which are not yet
1209	certified are deemed denied.
1210	Section 7. Section 288.1258, Florida Statutes, is amended
1211	to read:
1212	288.1258 Entertainment industry qualified production
1213	companies; application procedure; categories; duties of the
1214	Department of Revenue; records and reports
1215	(1) PRODUCTION COMPANIES AUTHORIZED TO APPLY
1216	(a) Any production company engaged in this state in the
1217	production of motion pictures, made-for-TV motion pictures,
1218	television series, commercial advertising, music videos, or
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exemption.

577-03938-14 20141734 1219 sound recordings may submit an application to the Department of 1220 Revenue to be approved by the department Office of Film and 1221 Entertainment as a qualified production company for the purpose 1222 of receiving a sales and use tax certificate of exemption from 1223 the Department of Revenue. 1224 (b) As used in F<del>or the purposes of</del> this section, the term 1225 "qualified production company" means any production company that 1226 has submitted a properly completed application to the Department 1227 of Revenue and that is subsequently qualified by the department 1228 Office of Film and Entertainment. 1229 (2) APPLICATION PROCEDURE.-1230 (a) The Department of Revenue will review all submitted 1231 applications for the required information. Within 10 working 1232 days after the receipt of a properly completed application, the 1233 Department of Revenue will forward the completed application to 1234 the department Office of Film and Entertainment for approval. 1235 (b)1. The department Office of Film and Entertainment shall 1236 establish a process by which an entertainment industry 1237 production company may be approved by the department office as a 1238 qualified production company and may receive a certificate of 1239 exemption from the Department of Revenue for the sales and use 1240 tax exemptions under ss. 212.031, 212.06, and 212.08. 1241 2. Upon determination by the department Office of Film and 1242 Entertainment that a production company meets the established 1243 approval criteria and qualifies for exemption, the department 1244 Office of Film and Entertainment shall return the approved 1245 application or application renewal or extension to the 1246 Department of Revenue, which shall issue a certificate of

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1248 3. The <u>department</u> Office of Film and Entertainment shall 1249 deny an application or application for renewal or extension from 1250 a production company if it determines that the production 1251 company does not meet the established approval criteria.

(c) The <u>department</u> Office of Film and Entertainment shall develop, with the cooperation of the Department of Revenue, the Division of Film and Entertainment of Enterprise Florida, Inc., and local government entertainment industry promotion agencies, a standardized application form for use in approving qualified production companies.

1258 1. The application form shall include, but not be limited 1259 to, production-related information on employment, proposed 1260 budgets, planned purchases of items exempted from sales and use 1261 taxes under ss. 212.031, 212.06, and 212.08, a signed 1262 affirmation from the applicant that any items purchased for 1263 which the applicant is seeking a tax exemption are intended for 1264 use exclusively as an integral part of entertainment industry 1265 preproduction, production, or postproduction activities engaged 1266 in primarily in this state, and a signed affirmation from the 1267 department Office of Film and Entertainment that the information 1268 on the application form has been verified and is correct. In 1269 lieu of information on projected employment, proposed budgets, 1270 or planned purchases of exempted items, a production company 1271 seeking a 1-year certificate of exemption may submit summary 1272 historical data on employment, production budgets, and purchases 1273 of exempted items related to production activities in this 1274 state. Any information gathered from production companies for 1275 the purposes of this section shall be considered confidential 1276 taxpayer information and shall be disclosed only as provided in

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1277	s. 213.053.
1278	2. The application form may be distributed to applicants by
1279	the <u>department, the Division</u> <del>Office</del> of Film and Entertainment <u>of</u>
1280	Enterprise Florida, Inc., or local film commissions.
1281	(d) All applications, renewals, and extensions for
1282	designation as a qualified production company shall be processed
1283	by the <u>department</u> <del>Office of Film and Entertainment</del> .
1284	(e) <u>If</u> <del>In the event that</del> the Department of Revenue
1285	determines that a production company no longer qualifies for a
1286	certificate of exemption, or has used a certificate of exemption
1287	for purposes other than those authorized by this section and
1288	chapter 212, the Department of Revenue shall revoke the
1289	certificate of exemption of that production company, and any
1290	sales or use taxes exempted on items purchased or leased by the
1291	production company during the time such company did not qualify
1292	for a certificate of exemption or improperly used a certificate
1293	of exemption shall become immediately due to the Department of
1294	Revenue, along with interest and penalty as provided by s.
1295	212.12. In addition to the other penalties imposed by law, any
1296	person who knowingly and willfully falsifies an application, or
1297	uses a certificate of exemption for purposes other than those
1298	authorized by this section and chapter 212, commits a felony of
1299	the third degree, punishable as provided in ss. 775.082,
1300	775.083, and 775.084.
1301	(3) CATEGORIES
1302	(a)1. A production company may be qualified for designation
1303	as a qualified production company for a period of 1 year if the
1304	company has operated a business in Florida at a permanent

1305 address for a period of 12 consecutive months. Such a qualified

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1306	production company shall receive a single 1-year certificate of
1307	exemption from the Department of Revenue for the sales and use
1308	tax exemptions under ss. 212.031, 212.06, and 212.08, which
1309	certificate shall expire 1 year after issuance or upon the
1310	cessation of business operations in the state, at which time the
1311	certificate shall be surrendered to the Department of Revenue.
1312	2. The <u>department</u> Office of Film and Entertainment shall
1313	develop a method by which a qualified production company may
1314	annually renew a 1-year certificate of exemption for a period of
1315	up to 5 years without requiring the production company to
1316	resubmit a new application during that 5-year period.
1317	3. Any qualified production company may submit a new
1318	application for a 1-year certificate of exemption upon the
1319	expiration of that company's certificate of exemption.
1320	(b)1. A production company may be qualified for designation
1321	as a qualified production company for a period of 90 days. Such
1322	production company shall receive a single 90-day certificate of
1323	exemption from the Department of Revenue for the sales and use
1324	tax exemptions under ss. 212.031, 212.06, and 212.08, which
1325	certificate shall expire 90 days after issuance, with extensions
1326	contingent upon approval of the <u>department</u> <del>Office of Film and</del>
1327	Entertainment. The certificate shall be surrendered to the
1328	Department of Revenue upon its expiration.
1329	2. Any production company may submit a new application for
1330	a 90-day certificate of exemption upon the expiration of that
1331	company's certificate of exemption.
1332	(4) DUTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE.—
1333	(a) The Department of Revenue shall review the initial
1334	application and notify the applicant of any omissions and

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20141734 1335 request additional information if needed. An application shall 1336 be complete upon receipt of all requested information. The 1337 Department of Revenue shall forward all complete applications to 1338 the department Office of Film and Entertainment within 10 1339 working days. 1340 (b) The Department of Revenue shall issue a numbered 1341 certificate of exemption to a qualified production company within 5 working days of the receipt of an approved application, 1342 application renewal, or application extension from the 1343 department Office of Film and Entertainment. 1344 1345 (c) The Department of Revenue may adopt promulgate such 1346 rules and shall prescribe and publish such forms as may be 1347 necessary to effectuate the purposes of this section or any of 1348 the sales tax exemptions which are reasonably related to the 1349 provisions of this section. 1350 (d) The Department of Revenue may is authorized to 1351 establish audit procedures in accordance with the provisions of 1352 ss. 212.12, 212.13, and 213.34 which relate to the sales tax 1353 exemption provisions of this section. 1354 (5) RELATIONSHIP OF TAX EXEMPTIONS AND INCENTIVES TO 1355 INDUSTRY GROWTH; REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE.-The department 1356 Office of Film and Entertainment shall keep annual records from 1357 the information provided on taxpayer applications for tax exemption certificates beginning January 1, 2001. These records 1358 also must reflect a ratio of the annual amount of sales and use 1359 1360 tax exemptions under this section, plus the incentives awarded 1361 pursuant to s. 288.1254 to the estimated amount of funds 1362 expended by certified productions. In addition, the department 1363 office shall maintain data showing annual growth in Florida-

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1364	based entertainment industry companies and entertainment
1365	industry employment and wages. The employment information must
1366	include an estimate of the full-time equivalent positions
1367	created by each production that received tax credits pursuant to
1368	s. 288.1254. The <u>department</u> <del>Office of Film and Entertainment</del>
1369	shall include this information in the annual report for the
1370	entertainment industry financial incentive program required
1371	under s. 288.1254(10).
1372	Section 8. Subsection (1) of section 288.92, Florida
1373	Statutes, is amended to read:
1374	288.92 Divisions of Enterprise Florida, Inc
1375	(1) Enterprise Florida, Inc., may create and dissolve
1376	divisions as necessary to carry out its mission. Each division
1377	shall have distinct responsibilities and complementary missions.
1378	At a minimum, Enterprise Florida, Inc., shall have divisions
1379	related to the following areas:
1380	(a) International Trade and Business Development;
1381	(b) Business Retention and Recruitment;
1382	(c) Tourism Marketing;
1383	(d) Minority Business Development; and
1384	(e) Sports Industry Development; and
1385	(f) Film and Entertainment.
1386	Section 9. Paragraph (q) of subsection (5) of section
1387	212.08, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
1388	212.08 Sales, rental, use, consumption, distribution, and
1389	storage tax; specified exemptionsThe sale at retail, the
1390	rental, the use, the consumption, the distribution, and the
1391	storage to be used or consumed in this state of the following
1392	are hereby specifically exempt from the tax imposed by this

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1	577-03938-14 20141734
1393	chapter.
1394	(5) EXEMPTIONS; ACCOUNT OF USE
1395	(q) Entertainment industry tax credit; authorization;
1396	eligibility for creditsThe credits against the state sales tax
1397	authorized pursuant to s. 288.1254 shall be deducted from any
1398	sales and use tax remitted by the dealer to the department by
1399	electronic funds transfer and may only be deducted on a sales
1400	and use tax return initiated through electronic data
1401	interchange. The dealer shall separately state the credit on the
1402	electronic return. The net amount of tax due and payable must be
1403	remitted by electronic funds transfer. If the credit for the
1404	qualified expenditures is larger than the amount owed on the
1405	sales and use tax return that is eligible for the credit, the
1406	unused amount of the credit may be carried forward to a
1407	succeeding reporting period as provided in <u>s. 288.1254(4)(d)</u> <del>s.</del>
1408	<del>288.1254(4)(e)</del> . A dealer may only obtain a credit using the
1409	method described in this subparagraph. A dealer is not
1410	authorized to obtain a credit by applying for a refund.
1411	Section 10. Subsection (3) of section 220.1899, Florida
1412	Statutes, is amended to read:
1413	220.1899 Entertainment industry tax credit
1414	(3) To the extent that the amount of a tax credit exceeds
1415	the amount due on a return, the balance of the credit may be
1416	carried forward to a succeeding taxable year pursuant to <u>s.</u>
1417	<u>288.1254(4)(d)</u> <del>s. 288.1254(4)(e)</del> .
1418	Section 11. Subsection (5) of section 477.0135, Florida
1419	Statutes, is amended to read:
1420	477.0135 Exemptions
1421	(5) A license is not required of any individual providing

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1422	makeup, special effects, or cosmetology services to an actor,
1423	stunt person, musician, extra, or other talent during a
1424	production recognized by the Department of Economic Opportunity
1425	the Office of Film and Entertainment as a qualified production
1426	as defined in s. 288.1254(1). Such services are not required to
1427	be performed in a licensed salon. Individuals exempt under this
1428	subsection may not provide such services to the general public.
1429	Section 12. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014.