

**The Florida Senate**  
**COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA**

**COMMERCE AND TOURISM**  
**Senator Montford, Chair**  
**Senator Gainer, Vice Chair**

**MEETING DATE:** Monday, November 6, 2017  
**TIME:** 4:00—6:00 p.m.  
**PLACE:** *Toni Jennings Committee Room, 110 Senate Office Building*

**MEMBERS:** Senator Montford, Chair; Senator Gainer, Vice Chair; Senators Gibson, Hutson, Latvala, Passidomo, Rodriguez, and Young

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
1	<b>SB 56</b> Book (Similar H 163)	Tax Exemption for Diapers and Incontinence Products; Exempting from the sales and use tax the sale for human use of diapers, incontinence undergarments, incontinence pads, or incontinence liners, etc.  CM     11/06/2017 Favorable AFT AP	Favorable Yeas 8 Nays 0
2	<b>SB 76</b> Garcia (Identical H 519)	Small Business Saturday Sales Tax Holiday; Defining the term "small business"; providing that small businesses are not required to collect the sales and use tax on the retail sale of certain items of tangible personal property during a specified timeframe, etc.  CM     11/06/2017 Favorable AFT AP	Favorable Yeas 8 Nays 0
3	<b>SB 170</b> Grimsley	Rural Economic Development Initiative; Revising the duties, responsibilities, and membership of the Rural Economic Development Initiative; deleting a provision limiting the number of rural areas of opportunity that may be designated; deleting a provision listing the economic development incentives for which the Governor may waive criteria requirements or similar provisions, etc.  CM     11/06/2017 Favorable AG GO RC	Favorable Yeas 8 Nays 0

Other Related Meeting Documents

**The Florida Senate**  
**BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

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Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Commerce and Tourism

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BILL: SB 56

INTRODUCER: Senator Book and others

SUBJECT: Tax Exemption for Diapers and Incontinence Products

DATE: November 3, 2017

REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Little	McKay	CM	<b>Favorable</b>
2.			AFT	
3.			AP	

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**I. Summary:**

SB 56 exempts the sale of diapers and certain incontinence products from state sales and use tax.

The Revenue Estimating Conference has estimated the fiscal impact of a sales tax exemption for diapers and incontinence products will reduce General Revenue receipts by \$19.6 million in Fiscal Year 2018-2019 and by \$46.9 million on a recurring basis. The bill reduces local revenue by \$5 million in Fiscal Year 2018-2019 and by \$12 million on a recurring basis. The Department of Revenue is expected to incur additional costs of approximately \$56,000 to notify sales tax dealers of the tax exemption.

The bill provides an effective date of January 1, 2019.

**II. Present Situation:**

**Florida Sales and Use Tax**

Florida levies a six percent state sales and use tax on the sale or rental of most tangible personal property, admissions, rentals of transient accommodations, rental of commercial real estate, and a limited number of services.<sup>1</sup> In addition to the six percent state sales tax, Florida law authorizes counties to levy discretionary sales surtaxes.<sup>2</sup> Sales tax is added to the price of taxable goods or services and the tax is collected from the purchaser at the time of sale.

Chapter 212, F.S., contains statutory provisions that authorize the levy and collection of Florida's sales and use tax, as well as the exemptions and credits applicable to certain items or

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<sup>1</sup> Chapter 212, F.S.

<sup>2</sup> Sections 212.054 and 212.055, F.S.

uses under specified circumstances. There are currently more than 250 different exemptions, exclusions, deductions, and credits from sales and use tax.<sup>3</sup>

Medical products and supplies considered necessary to human health are among the items exempt from sales and use tax.<sup>4</sup> Such products and supplies include ostomy pouches, catheters, and mastectomy pads. Common household remedies used in the cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of illness or disease are also exempt from sales and use tax. Alcohol wipes, bandages, and gauze are examples of common household remedies. Certain products relating to infants are also exempt, including baby food, formulas, and teething lotion.<sup>5</sup>

Diapers are not currently exempt from sales and use tax in Florida.<sup>6</sup>

### Other States

Currently, twelve states and the District of Columbia<sup>7</sup> do not subject the sale of diapers to state sales tax.<sup>8</sup> Massachusetts,<sup>9</sup> Minnesota,<sup>10</sup> Pennsylvania,<sup>11</sup> New Jersey,<sup>12</sup> New York,<sup>13</sup> Rhode Island,<sup>14</sup> and Vermont<sup>15</sup> provide sales tax exemptions for diapers or incontinence products. Connecticut<sup>16</sup> and Maryland<sup>17</sup> provide a tax exemption for disposable pads used for incontinency, but not baby diapers.

### III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The bill provides a state sales tax exemption for the sale of the following items:

- Diapers;
- Incontinence undergarments;
- Incontinence pads; and
- Incontinence liners.

The bill provides an effective date of January 1, 2019.

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<sup>3</sup> Florida Revenue Estimating Conference, *Florida Tax Handbook*, (2017), available at <http://edr.state.fl.us/content/revenues/reports/tax-handbook/taxhandbook2017.pdf> (last visited Nov. 1, 2017).

<sup>4</sup> See s. 212.08(2)(a), F.S. and

<sup>5</sup> The Department of Business and Professional Regulation is responsible for prescribing and approving a list of common household remedies, which is then certified by the Department of Revenue, available at [http://floridarevenue.com/Forms\\_library/current/dr46nt.pdf](http://floridarevenue.com/Forms_library/current/dr46nt.pdf) (last visited Nov. 1, 2017).

<sup>6</sup> However, diapers for children and adults, diaper bags, and diaper inserts have been temporarily exempt from sales tax during sales tax holidays. See Rule 12AER17-01, F.A.C.

<sup>7</sup> D.C. Code § 47-2005.

<sup>8</sup> Alaska, Delaware, Montana, New Hampshire, and Oregon do not impose a state sales tax.

<sup>9</sup> Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 64H, § 6.

<sup>10</sup> Minn. Stat. § 297A.67.9.

<sup>11</sup> 72 Pa. Cons. Stat. § 7204.

<sup>12</sup> N.J. Stat. Ann. 54:32B-8.4

<sup>13</sup> N.Y. Tax Law § 1115.

<sup>14</sup> Code. R.I. S.U. 07-13.

<sup>15</sup> Minn. Stat. § 297A.67.9.

<sup>16</sup> Conn. Gen. Stat. § 12-412.

<sup>17</sup> Md. Tax-Gen. Code Ann., § 11-211.

**IV. Constitutional Issues:****A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:**

Article VII, s. 18 of the Florida Constitution governs laws that require counties and municipalities to spend funds or that limit their ability to raise revenue or receive state tax revenue.

Subsection (b) of Article VII, s. 18 of the Florida Constitution provides that, except upon approval by each house of the Legislature by two-thirds vote of its membership, the Legislature may not enact, amend, or repeal any general law if the anticipated effect of doing so would be to reduce the authority that municipalities or counties have to raise revenue in the aggregate.<sup>18</sup> However, these requirements do not apply to laws that have an insignificant fiscal impact on local governments, which for Fiscal Year 2017-2018, is approximately \$2.08 million or less.<sup>19</sup>

The REC has estimated the bill reduces local revenue by \$2.5 million in Fiscal Year 2018-2019 and by \$6 million on a recurring basis. Therefore, the bill may require a two-thirds vote of approval by each house of the Legislature.

**B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:**

None.

**C. Trust Funds Restrictions:**

None.

**V. Fiscal Impact Statement:****A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

The Revenue Estimating Conference has estimated the fiscal impact of a sales tax exemption for diapers and incontinence products will reduce General Revenue receipts by \$19.6 million in Fiscal Year 2018-2019 and by \$46.9 million on a recurring basis.

**B. Private Sector Impact:**

Indeterminate, but positive. Individuals will see a reduction in the cost of purchasing diapers and incontinence products. Businesses such as daycare providers, diaper service providers, and hospitals will also see a reduction in the cost of diapers and incontinence products.

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<sup>18</sup> See FLA. CONST. art. VII, s. 18(d).

<sup>19</sup> An insignificant fiscal impact is the amount not greater than the average statewide population for the applicable fiscal year times ten cents. See Florida Senate Committee on Community Affairs, *Interim Report 2012-115: Insignificant Impact*, (Sept. 2011), available at <http://www.flsenate.gov/PublishedContent/Session/2012/InterimReports/2012-115ca.pdf> (last visited Feb. 17, 2017).

C. **Government Sector Impact:**

The Department of Revenue estimates the cost associated with notifying businesses of the sales tax exemption, by printing and mailing a Tax Information Publication (TIP), will be approximately \$56,000.

**VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

**VII. Related Issues:**

None.

**VIII. Statutes Affected:**

This bill creates section 212.08(7)(ooo) of the Florida Statutes.

**IX. Additional Information:**

A. **Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:**

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. **Amendments:**

None.

By Senator Book

32-00031-18

201856\_\_

1 A bill to be entitled  
 2 An act relating to a tax exemption for diapers and  
 3 incontinence products; amending s. 212.08, F.S.;  
 4 exempting from the sales and use tax the sale for  
 5 human use of diapers, incontinence undergarments,  
 6 incontinence pads, or incontinence liners; providing  
 7 an effective date.

8  
 9 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

10 Section 1. Paragraph (ooo) is added to subsection (7) of  
 11 section 212.08, Florida Statutes, to read:

12 212.08 Sales, rental, use, consumption, distribution, and  
 13 storage tax; specified exemptions.—The sale at retail, the  
 14 rental, the use, the consumption, the distribution, and the  
 15 storage to be used or consumed in this state of the following  
 16 are hereby specifically exempt from the tax imposed by this  
 17 chapter.  
 18

19 (7) MISCELLANEOUS EXEMPTIONS.—Exemptions provided to any  
 20 entity by this chapter do not inure to any transaction that is  
 21 otherwise taxable under this chapter when payment is made by a  
 22 representative or employee of the entity by any means,  
 23 including, but not limited to, cash, check, or credit card, even  
 24 when that representative or employee is subsequently reimbursed  
 25 by the entity. In addition, exemptions provided to any entity by  
 26 this subsection do not inure to any transaction that is  
 27 otherwise taxable under this chapter unless the entity has  
 28 obtained a sales tax exemption certificate from the department  
 29 or the entity obtains or provides other documentation as

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**CODING:** Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

32-00031-18

201856\_\_

30 required by the department. Eligible purchases or leases made  
 31 with such a certificate must be in strict compliance with this  
 32 subsection and departmental rules, and any person who makes an  
 33 exempt purchase with a certificate that is not in strict  
 34 compliance with this subsection and the rules is liable for and  
 35 shall pay the tax. The department may adopt rules to administer  
 36 this subsection.

37 (ooo) Diapers and incontinence products.—The sale for human  
 38 use of diapers, incontinence undergarments, incontinence pads,  
 39 or incontinence liners is exempt from the tax imposed by this  
 40 chapter.

41 Section 2. This act shall take effect January 1, 2019.

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**CODING:** Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.



# THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

## COMMITTEES:

Appropriations Subcommittee on the  
Environment and Natural Resources, *Chair*  
Appropriations  
Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and  
Human Services  
Education  
Environmental Preservation and  
Conservation  
Health Policy  
Rules

## SENATOR LAUREN BOOK

*Democratic Leader Pro Tempore*  
32nd District

August 28, 2017

Chairman Bill Montford  
Committee on Commerce and Tourism  
310 Knott Building  
404 S. Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Chairman Montford,

I respectfully request that you place SB 56, relating to Tax Exemption for Diapers and Incontinence Products, on the agenda of the Committee on Commerce and Tourism at your earliest convenience.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact my office or me. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lauren Book".

Senator Lauren Book  
Senate District 32

cc: Todd McKay, Staff Director  
Gabriela Denton, Administrative Assistant

## REPLY TO:

- 967 Nob Hill Road, Plantation, Florida 33324 (954) 424-6674
- 202 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5032

Senate's Website: [www.flsenate.gov](http://www.flsenate.gov)

**JOE NEGRON**  
President of the Senate

**ANITERE FLORES**  
President Pro Tempore

**THE FLORIDA SENATE**  
**APPEARANCE RECORD**

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

November 6, 2017

*Meeting Date*

56

*Bill Number (if applicable)*

Topic Tax Exemption for Diapers and Incontinence Products

*Amendment Barcode (if applicable)*

Name Erin Choy

Job Title Immediate Past Chair

Address 404 East Sixth Avenue

*Street*

Phone (561) 635-4168

Tallahassee

FL

32303

*City*

*State*

*Zip*

Email erin.choy@gmail.com

Speaking:  For  Against  Information

Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against  
*(The Chair will read this information into the record.)*

Representing Junior Leagues of Florida

Appearing at request of Chair:  Yes  No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature:  Yes  No

*While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.*

***This form is part of the public record for this meeting.***



**The Florida Senate**  
**BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

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Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Commerce and Tourism

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BILL: SB 76

INTRODUCER: Senator Garcia

SUBJECT: Small Business Saturday Sales Tax Holiday

DATE: November 3, 2017

REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Harmsen	McKay	CM	<b>Favorable</b>
2.			AFT	
3.			AP	

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**I. Summary:**

SB 76 establishes a one-day sales tax holiday on Small Business Saturday, November 24, 2018. During the holiday, a small business may opt not to collect state sales tax and county discretionary sales surtaxes on retail sales of tangible personal property having a sales price of \$1,000 or less per item.

The bill defines a “small business” as one that:

- Has registered with the Department of Revenue (DOR);
- Began operation in Florida on or before January 8, 2018; and
- Owed and remitted less than \$200,000 in tax under ch. 212, F.S., to the DOR during either:
  - A one-year period ending on September 30, 2018, or
  - The period beginning on the date the business began operating in Florida and ending on September 30, 2018, if the business has not been in operation for a full year as of September 30, 2018.

The Revenue Estimating Conference estimates that the bill will reduce General Revenue receipts by \$32.8 million and local government revenues by \$8.4 million in Fiscal Year 2018-2019.<sup>1</sup>

The bill provides DOR with a nonrecurring General Revenue appropriation of \$200,000 in Fiscal Year 2018-2019 to administer the provisions of the Act.

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<sup>1</sup> Florida Legislature, Office of Economic and Demographic Research, Revenue Estimating Conference, *Small Business Saturday Tax Holiday, SB 76*, Oct. 6, 2018 Revenue Impact Results, available at <http://edr.state.fl.us/Content/conferences/revenueimpact/archives/2018/pdf/page44-48.pdf> (last visited Oct. 31, 2017).

## II. Present Situation:

Florida levies a six percent sales and use tax on the sale or rental of most tangible personal property, admissions,<sup>2</sup> transient rentals,<sup>3</sup> rental of commercial real estate,<sup>4</sup> and a limited number of services. Chapter 212, F.S., contains statutory provisions authorizing the levy and collection of Florida's sales and use tax, as well as the exemptions and credits applicable to certain items or uses under specified circumstances. There are currently more than 250 exemptions, exclusions, deductions, and credits from the sales and use tax.<sup>5</sup> Sales tax is added to the price of the taxable good or service and collected from the purchaser at the time of sale.<sup>6</sup>

In addition to the state tax, s. 212.055, F.S., authorizes counties to impose eight local discretionary sales surtaxes. A surtax applies to "all transactions occurring in the county which transactions are subject to the state tax imposed on sales, use, services, rental, admissions, and other transactions by [ch. 212, F.S.], and on communications services as defined in ch. 202, F.S."<sup>7</sup> The discretionary sales surtax is based on the tax rate imposed by the county where the taxable goods or services are sold, or are delivered into.

The Florida Legislature has not previously authorized a sales and use tax exemption for items of tangible personal property purchased from a small business.

In 2010, American Express instituted a Small Business Saturday incentive for their cardholders who shopped at small, independent businesses on the Saturday after Black Friday.<sup>8</sup> The U.S. Senate passed a resolution recognizing Small Business Saturday and encouraging consumers to shop locally in 2015, but this measure was not voted on by the U.S. House of Representatives.<sup>9</sup> Although American Express has removed the cash back incentive for their cardholders, sales on Small Business Saturday have grown.<sup>10</sup> One survey estimates that 112 million consumers spent \$15.4 billion at small, independent businesses on Small Business Saturday in 2016,<sup>11</sup> compared

<sup>2</sup> Section 212.04, F.S.

<sup>3</sup> Section 212.03, F.S.

<sup>4</sup> Section 212.031, F.S.

<sup>5</sup> See Office of Economic and Demographic Research, The Florida Legislature, *Florida Tax Handbook*, 164-170 (2017).

<sup>6</sup> Florida Dept. of Revenue, *Who must pay tax? Partial list of taxable business activities*, available at [http://dor.myflorida.com/dor/taxes/sales\\_tax.html](http://dor.myflorida.com/dor/taxes/sales_tax.html) (last visited Oct. 31, 2017).

<sup>7</sup> Section 212.054, F.S.

<sup>8</sup> Jeremy Quittner, *Small Business Saturday Is No Longer Just an AmEx Holiday* (Oct 21, 2016), <http://fortune.com/2016/11/21/small-business-saturday-amex-holiday/> (last visited Oct. 31, 2017). American Express, *Small Business Saturday*, <https://www.americanexpress.com/us/content/small-business/shop-small/about/?linknav=us-open-shops-small-homepage-about> (last visited Oct. 31, 2017).

<sup>9</sup> A Resolution Recognizing Small Business Saturday, S. Res. 304, 114<sup>th</sup> Cong. (2015). See also, H. Res. 886, 114<sup>th</sup> Cong. (2015).

<sup>10</sup> Ethan Wolff-Mann, "Small Business Saturday No Longer Comes with Free Money from AmEx" (Nov. 13, 2015), <http://time.com/money/4110506/amex-credit-small-business-saturday-2015/> (last visited Oct. 31, 2017).

<sup>11</sup> Business Wire, *Small Business Saturday Results: 112 Million Consumers Shop and Dine Small on Small Business Saturday – More Than Ever Before* (Nov. 28, 2016), <http://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20161128005542/en/Small-Business-Saturday%20AE-Results-112-Million-Consumers> (last visited Oct. 31, 2017). National Federation of Independent Business, *Small Business Saturday 2016 Sees Record Participation* (Nov. 29, 2016), <http://www.nfib.com/content/news/economy/small-business-saturday-2016-sees-record-participation-76103/> (last visited Oct. 31, 2017).

to the estimated \$14.3 billion that 88 million consumers spent on Small Business Saturday in 2014.<sup>12</sup>

### III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The bill establishes a one-day sales tax holiday, on Saturday, November 24, 2018, to coincide with Small Business Saturday. During the tax holiday, and at the option of the small business, the total sales price of taxable tangible personal property, not to exceed \$1,000 per purchaser, per small business, is exempt from the state sales tax and county discretionary sales surtaxes.

The bill defines “small business” as one that:

- Has registered with the DOR;
- Began operation in Florida on or before January 8, 2018; and
- Owed and remitted less than \$200,000 in tax under ch. 212, F.S., to the DOR during either:
  - A one-year period ending on September 30, 2018, or
  - The period beginning on the date the business began operating in Florida and ending on September 30, 2018, if the business has not been in operation for the one-year period ending September 30, 2018.

Additionally, any business with multiple locations only qualifies as a small business for purposes of this bill if it is eligible to file a consolidated return, and has owed and remitted less than \$200,000 for all of its locations.

### IV. Constitutional Issues:

#### A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

Subsection (b) of s. 18, Art VII, Florida Constitution, provides, that except upon approval of each house of the Legislature by two-thirds vote of the membership, the Legislature may not enact, amend, or repeal any general law if the anticipated effect of doing so would be to reduce the authority that municipalities or counties have to raise revenue in the aggregate, as such authority existed on February 1, 1989. However, the mandates requirements do not apply to laws having an insignificant impact, which for Fiscal Year 2018-2019, is \$2.08 million or less.<sup>13,14</sup>

The Revenue Estimating Conference estimated that the bill would reduce the authority that counties have to raise revenues through local option sales surtax by \$4.2 million in

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<sup>12</sup> Nicole Leinbach-Reyhle, *Small Business Saturday 2014 Stood Strong Among Communities and Small Businesses* (Dec. 2, 2014), <https://www.forbes.com/sites/nicoleleinbachreyhle/2014/12/02/small-business-saturday-2014-stood-strong-among-communities-and-small-businesses/#7612b39242b7> (last visited Oct. 31, 2017).

<sup>13</sup> An insignificant fiscal impact is the amount not greater than the average statewide population for the applicable fiscal year times \$0.10. See Florida Senate Committee on Community Affairs, *Interim Report 2012-115: Insignificant Impact*, (September 2011), available at <http://www.flsenate.gov/PublishedContent/Session/2012/InterimReports/2012-115ca.pdf> (last visited Oct. 31, 2017).

<sup>14</sup> Based on the Demographic Estimating Conference’s population adopted on July 10, 2017. The conference packet is available at <http://edr.state.fl.us/Content/conferences/population/ConferenceResults.pdf> (last visited Oct. 31, 2017).

Fiscal Year 2018-2019.<sup>15</sup> Therefore, the bill may be a mandate requiring a two-thirds vote of the membership.

**B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:**

None.

**C. Trust Funds Restrictions:**

None.

**V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**

**A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

The Revenue Estimating Conference estimates that SB 76 will reduce General Revenue receipts by \$32.8 million and local government revenues by \$8.4 million in Fiscal Year 2018-2019.<sup>16</sup>

**B. Private Sector Impact:**

The sales tax holiday may promote retail sales at businesses that qualify under SB 76.

**C. Government Sector Impact:**

SB 76 provides DOR with a nonrecurring General Revenue appropriation of \$200,000 in Fiscal Year 2018-2019, to administer the provisions of the act. The DOR estimates that it can administer the holiday using existing resources, and that the appropriation is therefore unnecessary.<sup>17</sup>

**VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

**VII. Related Issues:**

According to the DOR, small business dealers will have to maintain documentation regarding whether and how they participated in the holiday.<sup>18</sup>

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<sup>15</sup> Florida Legislature, Office of Economic and Demographic Research, Revenue Estimating Conference, *Small Business Saturday Tax Holiday, SB 76*, Oct. 6, 2018 Revenue Impact Results, available at <http://edr.state.fl.us/Content/conferences/revenueimpact/archives/2018/pdf/page44-48.pdf> (last visited Oct. 31, 2017).

<sup>16</sup> Florida Legislature, Office of Economic and Demographic Research, Revenue Estimating Conference, *Small Business Saturday Tax Holiday, SB 76*, Oct. 6, 2018 Revenue Impact Results, available at <http://edr.state.fl.us/Content/conferences/revenueimpact/archives/2018/pdf/page44-48.pdf> (last visited Oct. 31, 2017).

<sup>17</sup> Department of Revenue, *Senate Bill 76 Bill Analysis*, (Sep. 29, 2017) (on file with the Senate Committee on Commerce and Tourism).

<sup>18</sup> *Id.*

Additionally, the DOR reports that it will not be able to disclose a list of businesses that qualify to participate in the Small Business Saturday sales tax holiday because of confidentiality requirements in s. 213.053, F.S.<sup>19</sup>

**VIII. Statutes Affected:**

This bill creates an undesignated section of Florida law.

**IX. Additional Information:**

**A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:**

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

**B. Amendments:**

None.

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This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.

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<sup>19</sup> *Id.*

By Senator Garcia

36-00105-18

201876\_\_

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to a Small Business Saturday sales tax holiday; defining the term "small business"; providing that small businesses are not required to collect the sales and use tax on the retail sale of certain items of tangible personal property during a specified timeframe; authorizing the Department of Revenue to adopt emergency rules; providing an appropriation; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Small Business Saturday sales tax holiday.-

(1) As used in this section, the term "small business" means a dealer, as defined in s. 212.06, Florida Statutes, who registered with the Department of Revenue and began operation no later than January 8, 2018, and who owed and remitted to the Department of Revenue less than \$200,000 in total tax under chapter 212, Florida Statutes, for the 1-year period ending September 30, 2018. If the dealer has not been in operation for a 1-year period as of September 30, 2018, the dealer must have owed and remitted less than \$200,000 in total tax under chapter 212, Florida Statutes, for the period beginning on the day the dealer began operation and ending September 30, 2018, in order to qualify as a small business under this section. If the dealer is eligible to file a consolidated return pursuant to s. 212.11(1)(e), Florida Statutes, the total tax under chapter 212, Florida Statutes, owed and remitted from all of the dealer's places of business must be less than \$200,000 for the applicable

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**CODING:** Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

36-00105-18

201876\_\_

period ending September 30, 2018.

(2) Subject to subsection (3), the tax levied under chapter 212, Florida Statutes, may not be collected by a small business during the period from 12:01 a.m. on November 24, 2018, through 11:59 p.m. on November 24, 2018, on the retail sale, as defined in s. 212.02(14), Florida Statutes, of any item of tangible personal property, as defined in s. 212.02(19), Florida Statutes, having a sales price of \$1,000 or less per item.

(3) At its option, a small business may choose not to participate in the sales and use tax exemption provided in subsection (2) and may collect tax on all sales made on November 24, 2018.

(4) The Department of Revenue may, and all conditions are deemed to be met to, adopt emergency rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54, Florida Statutes, to implement this section.

Section 2. For the 2018-2019 fiscal year, the sum of \$200,000 of nonrecurring funds is appropriated from the General Revenue Fund to the Department of Revenue for the purpose of implementing this act.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.

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**CODING:** Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.



**The Florida Senate**  
State Senator René García  
36<sup>th</sup> District

Please reply to:

□ District Office:

1490 West 68 Street  
Suite # 201  
Hialeah, FL. 33014  
Phone# (305) 364-3100

October 9, 2017

The Honorable Bill Montford  
Chair, Committee on Commerce and Tourism  
310 Knott Building  
404 S. Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Dear Senator Montford,

Please have this letter serve as my formal request to have **SB 76: Small Business Saturday Sales Tax Holiday** be heard during the next scheduled Judiciary Committee Meeting. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "René García".

State Senator René García  
District 36

CC: Todd McKay  
Gabriela Denton

**Committees:** Children, Families, and Elder Affairs, Chair, Appropriations Subcommittee on Finance and Tax, Vice Chair, Appropriations Subcommittee on the Environment and Natural Resources, Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government, Banking and Insurance, Judiciary, Joint Administrative Procedures Committee.

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

11/6/17

Meeting Date

76

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic \_\_\_\_\_

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Speaking:  For  Against  Information

Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against  
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing National Federation of Independent Business

Appearing at request of Chair:  Yes  No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature:  Yes  No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.



**The Florida Senate**  
**BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Commerce and Tourism

BILL: SB 170

INTRODUCER: Senator Grimsley

SUBJECT: Rural Economic Development Initiative

DATE: November 3, 2017      REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Little	McKay	CM	<b>Favorable</b>
2.			AG	
3.			GO	
4.			RC	

**I. Summary:**

SB 170 makes the following changes to the Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI):

- Reduces the number of specified agencies and organizations that are required to designate REDI representatives;
- Clarifies which individuals from specified agencies and organizations must be designated as REDI representatives;
- Provides for the appointment of five additional members from the private sector:
  - Three of the private sector members are to be appointed by the executive director of the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO), one appointed by the President of the Senate, and one appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
- Authorizes the creation of ad hoc committees and provides guidance for the organization of ad hoc committees;
- Modifies the definition and designation criteria for a rural area of opportunity (RAO);
- Updates the annual reporting requirements; and
- Makes conforming changes to address cross-references in numerous sections of the Florida Statutes.

The bill is effective upon becoming law.

**II. Present Situation:**

**Rural Economic Development Initiative**

The Florida Legislature established the Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) in 1997 to encourage and facilitate the location and expansion of economic development projects of

significant scale in rural communities.<sup>1</sup> The REDI is responsible for coordinating and focusing the efforts and resources of state and regional agencies on the problems that affect the fiscal, economic, and community viability of Florida's economically distressed rural communities.<sup>2</sup> The REDI works with local governments, community-based organizations, and private organizations that have an interest in the growth and development of these communities to find ways to balance environmental and growth management issues with local needs and economic development.<sup>3</sup> Other responsibilities include the review and evaluation of the impact of statutes and rules on rural communities, and the facilitation of better access to state resources by promoting direct access and referrals to both state and regional agencies and statewide organizations.<sup>4</sup>

The REDI is administered by the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO), but is a collaborative effort facilitated by a group of agencies and organizations. Numerous state agencies and organizations are required to participate in the REDI by designating a deputy secretary or higher-level staff person to serve as a REDI representative.<sup>5</sup> The agencies and organizations that are statutorily required to designate a representative are:

- The Department of Transportation;
- The Department of Environmental Protection;
- The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services;
- The Department of State;
- The Department of Health;
- The Department of Children and Families;
- The Department of Corrections;
- The Department of Education;
- The Department of Juvenile Justice;
- The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission;
- Each water management district;
- Enterprise Florida, Inc. (EFI);
- VISIT Florida;
- The Florida Regional Planning Council Association;
- The Agency for Health Care Administration; and
- The Institute for Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS).<sup>6</sup>

REDI representatives are required to have comprehensive knowledge of their agency's regulatory and service functions in addition to the state's economic goals, policies, and programs.<sup>7</sup> The representatives are required to work with the REDI in reviewing, evaluating, and proposing impact mitigation of any statute or rule that may have an adverse effect on rural

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<sup>1</sup> Ch. 97-278, Laws of Fla.

<sup>2</sup> Section 288.0656(3), F.S.

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

<sup>4</sup> Sections 288.0656(4) and (5), F.S.

<sup>5</sup> Section 288.0656(6)(a), F.S.

<sup>6</sup> *Id.*

<sup>7</sup> Section 288.0656(6)(b), F.S.

communities.<sup>8</sup> Additionally, representatives must inform their agencies and organizations about the REDI and provide assistance to the REDI throughout the agency or organization.<sup>9</sup>

### ***Rural Area of Opportunity***

The law governing the REDI program defines a “rural area of opportunity” (RAO) as a rural community<sup>10</sup> or a region comprised of rural communities, designated by the Governor, that have been adversely affected by an extraordinary economic event, a natural disaster, or severe or chronic distress.<sup>11</sup> An area may also be classified as a RAO if it presents a unique economic development opportunity of regional impact.<sup>12</sup> A designation of RAO must be agreed upon by the DEO and the local governments included in the RAO.<sup>13</sup>

Based on recommendations of the REDI, the Governor may designate up to three RAOs by executive order.<sup>14</sup> This designation establishes these areas as priority assignments for REDI as well as allows the Governor, acting through REDI, to waive criteria, requirements, or similar provisions of any economic development initiative.<sup>15</sup>

Currently, there are three designated RAO areas:

- Northwest RAO: Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty, Wakulla, and Washington counties, and the City of Freeport in Walton County. The name of this area’s economic development organization is Opportunity Florida.<sup>16</sup>
- South Central RAO: DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, and Okeechobee counties, and the cities of Pahokee, Belle Glade, and South Bay (Palm Beach County), and Immokalee (Collier County). The name of this area’s economic development organization is Florida’s Heartland Regional Economic Development Initiative, Inc.<sup>17</sup>
- North Central RAO: Baker, Bradford, Citrus, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Putnam, Suwannee, Taylor, and Union counties. The

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<sup>8</sup> Section 288.0656(6)(c), F.S.

<sup>9</sup> Section 288.0656(6)(d), F.S.

<sup>10</sup> Section 288.0656(2)(e), F.S., defines a “Rural community” as a county with a population of 75,000 or fewer; a county with a population of 125,000 or fewer, which is contiguous to a county with a population of 75,000 or fewer; a municipality within such a county; or an unincorporated federal enterprise community or an incorporated rural city with a population of 25,000 or fewer and an employment base focused on traditional agricultural or resource-based industries, located in a county not defined as rural, which has at least three or more of the economic distress factors identified in s. 288.0656(2)(c), F.S., and verified by DEO. For purposes of this paragraph, population is determined in accordance with the most recent official estimate pursuant to the state population census statute located in s. 186.901, F.S. The U.S. Census Bureau defines “rural” as all population, housing, and territory not included within an urban area, and identifies two types of urban areas, Urbanized Areas of 50,000 or more people; and Urban Clusters of at least 2,500 and less than 50,000 people.

<sup>11</sup> Section 288.0656(2)(d), F.S.

<sup>12</sup> *Id.*

<sup>13</sup> Section 288.0656(7)(b), F.S. A designation of RAO is contingent upon the execution of a memorandum of agreement among the Department of Economic Opportunity, the governing body of the county, and the governing bodies of any municipalities included within a RAO.

<sup>14</sup> Section 288.0656(7)(a), F.S.

<sup>15</sup> *Id.*

<sup>16</sup> For additional information on Opportunity Florida, see <http://www.floridajobs.org/business-growth-and-partnerships/rural-and-economic-development-initiative/rural-areas-of-opportunity> (last viewed Nov. 2, 2017).

<sup>17</sup> For additional information on Florida’s Heartland Regional Economic Development Initiative, Inc., see <http://flaheartland.com/> (last viewed Nov. 2, 2017).

name of this area's economic development organization is the North Florida Economic Development Partnership.<sup>18</sup>

Each RAO, by a REDI recommendation and identification by EFI, may designate catalyst projects, which must be confirmed by the DEO.<sup>19</sup> All agencies and departments of the state are required to use all available tools and resources available to promote the creation and development of each catalyst project and the development of catalyst sites.<sup>20</sup> For purposes of the REDI program, a catalyst project is a business relocating or expanding in an RAO and serves as an economic generator of regional significance, and a catalyst site is one or more parcels of land in an RAO that is prioritized for economic development.<sup>21</sup>

### ***Annual Reporting***

REDI is required to submit a report to DEO on all REDI activities for the previous fiscal year as a supplement to DEO's annual report required under s. 20.60, F.S.<sup>22</sup> This supplementary report must include:

- A status report on all projects currently being coordinated through REDI;
- The number of preferential awards and allowances made pursuant to the REDI program;
- The dollar amount of such awards, and the names of the recipients;
- A description of all waivers of program requirements granted;
- Information as to the economic impact of the projects coordinated by REDI; and
- Recommendations based on the review and evaluation of statutes and rules having an adverse impact on rural communities and proposals to mitigate such adverse impacts.

### **III. Effect of Proposed Changes:**

The bill provides for the appointment of members from the private sector to the REDI and reduces the number of agencies and organizations that are statutorily required to designate REDI representatives.

The REDI membership is required to consist of the following individuals:

- The executive director of the DEO or their designee, to serve as chair;
- The Secretary of Transportation or their designee;
- The Secretary of Environmental Protection or their designee;
- The Commissioner of Agriculture or their designee;
- The State Surgeon General or their designee;
- The Commissioner of Education or their designee;
- The President of EFI or their designee;
- The chair of the board of directors of CareerSource Florida, Inc., or their designee;
- The chair of the board of the regional economic development organization for each of the RAOs or their designee; and

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<sup>18</sup> For additional information on the North Florida Economic Development Partnership, see <http://nflp.org/?/Home> (last viewed Nov. 2, 2017).

<sup>19</sup> Section 288.0656(7)(c), F.S.

<sup>20</sup> *Id.*

<sup>21</sup> Section 288.0656(2), F.S.

<sup>22</sup> Section 288.0656(8), F.S.

- Five members from the private sector:
  - Three of the private sector members are to be appointed by the executive director of the DEO, one appointed by the President of the Senate, and one appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The executive director of the DEO, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives must ensure that the diversity of the state's business community and the state's ethnic, racial, and gender diversity are reflected in their appointments. Such appointments are for 2-year terms, beginning on July 1 and expiring on June 30, with initial appointments beginning in July 2018. The bill provides direction for appointee vacancies and removal.

The bill authorizes the chair of the REDI to create ad hoc committees to address issues or projects relating to RAOs and economically distressed rural communities. While the bill authorizes the chair to request the head of any state agency or organization to serve on an ad hoc committee, the bill requires the chair to consider the following individuals:

- The executive director of FWC or their designee;
- The Secretary of State or their designee;
- The Secretary of Children and Families or their designee;
- The Secretary of Corrections or their designee;
- The Secretary of Juvenile Justice or their designee;
- The Secretary of Health Care Administration or their designee; or
- A board member of the Florida Regional Councils Association or their designee.<sup>23</sup>

The bill also:

- Modifies the goals of the REDI to include job creation, community infrastructure, the development and expansion of a skilled workforce, and improved access to healthcare;
- Modifies the definition of "rural area of opportunity" to include a rural community that faces competitive disadvantages including low labor force participation, low education levels, high unemployment, a school district grade of "D" or "F" pursuant to s. 1008.34, high infant mortality rates, and high rates of diabetes and obesity;
- Requires the REDI to focus its efforts on the challenges of the state's RAOs and economically distressed rural communities, and to work with private organizations that have an interest in the renewed prosperity and competitiveness of these communities;
- Clarifies that the REDI shall undertake outreach and capacity-building efforts in order to improve rural communities' ability to compete in a global economy;
- Removes the limitation on the number of RAOs that may be designated by the Governor;
- Requires the REDI's annual report to be submitted to the DEO, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by September 1<sup>st</sup> of each year; and
- Requires the annual report to include an evaluation of organizational progress and a description of the accomplishments of the REDI.

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<sup>23</sup> Under existing law, these organizations and agencies are currently required to designate REDI representatives in addition to VISIT Florida and the IFAS.

The bill makes conforming changes to address cross-references in ss. 163.3177, 163.3187, 257.193, 288.019, 288.06561, 290.0055, 290.06561, 337.403, 339.2818, 339.2819, 339.63, 479.16, and 627.6699, F.S.

The bill is effective upon becoming law.

**IV. Constitutional Issues:**

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

**V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

**VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

**VII. Related Issues:**

None.

**VIII. Statutes Affected:**

This bill substantially amends the following sections of the Florida Statutes: 288.0656, 163.3177, 163.3187, 257.193, 288.019, 288.06561, 290.0055, 290.06561, 337.403, 339.2818, 339.2819, 339.63, 479.16, and 627.6699

**IX. Additional Information:**

- A. **Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:**  
(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

- B. **Amendments:**

None.

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This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.

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By Senator Grimsley

26-00117-18

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the Rural Economic Development Initiative; amending s. 288.0656, F.S.; revising legislative intent relating to the Rural Economic Development Initiative; redefining the term "rural area of opportunity"; revising the duties, responsibilities, and membership of the Rural Economic Development Initiative; deleting a provision limiting the number of rural areas of opportunity that may be designated; deleting a provision listing the economic development incentives for which the Governor may waive criteria requirements or similar provisions; deleting a requirement that certain catalyst projects be identified as such by Enterprise Florida, Inc.; revising reporting requirements; amending ss. 163.3177, 163.3187, 257.193, 288.019, 288.06561, 290.0055, 290.06561, 337.403, 339.2818, 339.2819, 339.63, 479.16, and 627.6699, F.S.; conforming cross-references; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 288.0656, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

288.0656 Rural Economic Development Initiative.—

(1)~~(a)~~ Recognizing that rural communities and regions continue to face extraordinary challenges in their efforts to significantly improve residents' quality of life and their local economies, specifically in terms of personal income, education,

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infrastructure, access to health care, and job creation.

~~Therefore, average wages, and strong tax bases,~~ it is the intent of the Legislature to encourage and facilitate their achievement of the following goals:

(a) Job creation, through the location and expansion of ~~major~~ economic development projects ~~of significant scale in such rural communities.~~

(b) Improved community infrastructure, including, but not limited to, roads, utilities, water and sewer systems, and communications.

(c) The development and growth of a skilled workforce.

(d) Improved access to health care.

~~(2)(b)~~ The Rural Economic Development Initiative, known as "REDI," is created within the department, and the participation of state and regional agencies in this initiative is authorized.

~~(3)(2)~~ As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Catalyst project" means a business locating or expanding in a rural area of opportunity to serve as an economic generator of regional significance for the growth of a regional target industry cluster. The project must provide capital investment on a scale significant enough to affect the entire region and result in the development of high-wage and high-skill jobs.

(b) "Catalyst site" means a parcel or parcels of land within a rural area of opportunity that has been prioritized as a geographic site for economic development through partnerships with state, regional, and local organizations. The site must be reviewed by REDI and approved by the department for the purposes of locating a catalyst project.

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59 (c) "Economic distress" means conditions affecting the  
60 fiscal and economic viability of a rural community, including  
61 such factors as low per capita income, low per capita taxable  
62 values, high unemployment, high underemployment, low weekly  
63 earned wages compared to the state average, low housing values  
64 compared to the state average, high percentages of the  
65 population receiving public assistance, high poverty levels  
66 compared to the state average, and a lack of year-round stable  
67 employment opportunities.

68 (d) "Rural area of opportunity" means a rural community, or  
69 a region composed of rural communities, designated by the  
70 Governor, which has been adversely affected by ~~an extraordinary~~  
71 ~~economic event,~~ severe or chronic economic distress, and faces  
72 competitive disadvantages, such as low labor force  
73 participation, low educational attainment levels, high  
74 unemployment, school district grades of "D" or "F" calculated  
75 pursuant to s. 1008.34, high infant mortality rates, and high  
76 diabetes and obesity rates, and which ~~or a natural disaster or~~  
77 that presents a unique economic development opportunity of  
78 regional impact.

79 (e) "Rural community" means:

- 80 1. A county with a population of 75,000 or fewer.
- 81 2. A county with a population of 125,000 or fewer which is  
82 contiguous to a county with a population of 75,000 or fewer.
- 83 3. A municipality within a county described in subparagraph  
84 1. or subparagraph 2.
- 85 4. An unincorporated federal enterprise community or an  
86 incorporated rural city with a population of 25,000 or fewer and  
87 an employment base focused on traditional agricultural or

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88 resource-based industries, located in a county not defined as  
89 rural, which has at least three or more of the economic distress  
90 factors identified in paragraph (c) and verified by the  
91 department.  
92

93 For purposes of this paragraph, population shall be determined  
94 in accordance with the most recent official estimate pursuant to  
95 s. 186.901.

96 ~~(4)(3)~~ REDI is ~~shall be~~ responsible for coordinating and  
97 focusing the efforts and resources of state and regional  
98 agencies on the challenges of the state's rural areas of  
99 opportunity and economically distressed rural communities. REDI  
100 shall work ~~problems which affect the fiscal, economic, and~~  
101 community viability of Florida's economically distressed rural  
102 communities, working with local governments, community-based  
103 organizations, and private organizations that have an interest  
104 in the renewed prosperity and competitiveness ~~growth and~~  
105 development of these communities ~~to find ways to balance~~  
106 environmental and growth management issues with local needs.

107 ~~(5)(4)~~ REDI shall review and evaluate the impact of  
108 statutes and rules on rural communities and ~~shall~~ work to  
109 minimize any adverse impact and undertake outreach and capacity-  
110 building efforts to improve the ability of rural communities to  
111 compete in a global economy.

112 ~~(6)(5)~~ REDI shall facilitate better access to state  
113 resources by promoting direct access and referrals to  
114 appropriate state and regional agencies and statewide  
115 organizations. ~~REDI may undertake outreach, capacity building,~~  
116 ~~and other advocacy efforts to improve conditions in rural~~

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117 ~~communities. These activities may include sponsorship of~~  
 118 ~~conferences and achievement awards.~~

119 (7) (a) REDI shall consist of the following members:

120 1. The executive director of the department or his or her  
 121 designee, who shall serve as chair.

122 2. The Secretary of Transportation or his or her designee.

123 3. The Secretary of Environmental Protection or his or her  
 124 designee.

125 4. The Commissioner of Agriculture or his or her designee.

126 5. The State Surgeon General or his or her designee.

127 6. The Commissioner of Education or his or her designee.

128 7. The President of Enterprise Florida, Inc., or his or her  
 129 designee.

130 8. The chair of the board of directors of CareerSource  
 131 Florida, Inc., or his or her designee.

132 9. The chair of the board of the regional economic  
 133 development organization for each of the rural areas of  
 134 opportunity or his or her designee.

135 10. Five members from the private sector, three of whom  
 136 shall be appointed by the executive director of the department,  
 137 one of whom shall be appointed by the President of the Senate,  
 138 and one of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House  
 139 of Representatives.

140 (b) In making their appointments, the executive director,  
 141 the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of  
 142 Representatives shall ensure that the appointments reflect the  
 143 diversity of Florida's business community and have the necessary  
 144 skills to assist rural communities and regions in achieving the  
 145 goals specified in subsection (1).

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146 (c) The executive director, the President of the Senate,  
 147 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall consider  
 148 appointees who reflect the state's racial, ethnic, and gender  
 149 diversity and who are from rural communities.

150 (d) Each appointed member shall be appointed to a 2-year  
 151 term.

152 (e) Initial appointments shall be made by July 1, 2018,  
 153 with members' terms expiring on June 30 of their second year of  
 154 service.

155 (f) A vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of the  
 156 unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointment.

157 (g) An appointed member may be removed by the appointing  
 158 officer for cause. Absence of a member from three consecutive  
 159 meetings results in automatic removal.

160 (h) The chair may request the head of any state agency or  
 161 organization to serve on an ad hoc committee as needed to  
 162 address issues or projects relating to rural areas of  
 163 opportunity and economically distressed rural communities. The  
 164 chair shall consider requesting the following individuals to  
 165 serve on an ad hoc committee:

166 1. The executive director of the Fish and Wildlife  
 167 Conservation Commission or his or her designee.

168 2. The Secretary of State or his or her designee.

169 3. The Secretary of Children and Families or his or her  
 170 designee.

171 4. The Secretary of Corrections or his or her designee.

172 5. The Secretary of Juvenile Justice or his or her  
 173 designee.

174 6. The Secretary of Health Care Administration or his or

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175 her designee.

176 7. A board member of the Florida Regional Councils  
 177 Association or his or her designee.

178 ~~(6) (a) By August 1 of each year, the head of each of the~~  
 179 ~~following agencies and organizations shall designate a deputy~~  
 180 ~~secretary or higher-level staff person from within the agency or~~  
 181 ~~organization to serve as the REDI representative for the agency~~  
 182 ~~or organization.~~

- 183 ~~1. The Department of Transportation.~~
- 184 ~~2. The Department of Environmental Protection.~~
- 185 ~~3. The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.~~
- 186 ~~4. The Department of State.~~
- 187 ~~5. The Department of Health.~~
- 188 ~~6. The Department of Children and Families.~~
- 189 ~~7. The Department of Corrections.~~
- 190 ~~8. The Department of Education.~~
- 191 ~~9. The Department of Juvenile Justice.~~
- 192 ~~10. The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.~~
- 193 ~~11. Each water management district.~~
- 194 ~~12. Enterprise Florida, Inc.~~
- 195 ~~13. CareerSource Florida, Inc.~~
- 196 ~~14. VISIT Florida.~~
- 197 ~~15. The Florida Regional Planning Council Association.~~
- 198 ~~16. The Agency for Health Care Administration.~~
- 199 ~~17. The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS).~~

201 ~~An alternate for each designee shall also be chosen, and the~~  
 202 ~~names of the designees and alternates shall be sent to the~~  
 203 ~~executive director of the department.~~

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204 (i) (b) Each REDI member who is, or is designated by, a  
 205 state agency or organization head ~~representative must have~~  
 206 ~~comprehensive knowledge of his or her agency's functions, both~~  
 207 ~~regulatory and service in nature, and of the state's economic~~  
 208 ~~goals, policies, and programs. This person~~ shall be the primary  
 209 point of contact for his or her agency with REDI on issues and  
 210 projects relating to rural areas of opportunity and economically  
 211 distressed rural communities and with regard to expediting  
 212 project review, shall ensure a prompt effective response to  
 213 problems arising with regard to rural issues, and shall work  
 214 closely with the other REDI members ~~representatives~~ in the  
 215 identification of opportunities for preferential awards of  
 216 program funds and allowances and waiver of program requirements  
 217 when necessary to encourage and facilitate long-term private  
 218 capital investment and job creation. Such members shall also  
 219 ensure that each district office or facility of his or her  
 220 agency or organization is informed about REDI and provide  
 221 assistance throughout the agency in the implementation of REDI  
 222 activities.

223 ~~(c) The REDI representatives shall work with REDI in the~~  
 224 ~~review and evaluation of statutes and rules for adverse impact~~  
 225 ~~on rural communities and the development of alternative~~  
 226 ~~proposals to mitigate that impact.~~

227 ~~(d) Each REDI representative shall be responsible for~~  
 228 ~~ensuring that each district office or facility of his or her~~  
 229 ~~agency is informed about the Rural Economic Development~~  
 230 ~~Initiative and for providing assistance throughout the agency in~~  
 231 ~~the implementation of REDI activities.~~

232 (8) (7) (a) REDI may recommend to the Governor up to three

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233 ~~rural areas of opportunity.~~ The Governor, may by executive  
 234 order, may designate ~~up to three~~ rural areas of opportunity  
 235 which will establish these areas as priority assignments for  
 236 REDI, and, acting through REDI, may as well as to allow the  
 237 ~~Governor, acting through REDI, to~~ waive criteria, requirements,  
 238 or similar provisions of any economic development incentive.  
 239 ~~Such incentives shall include, but are not limited to, the~~  
 240 ~~Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund Program under s. 288.106,~~  
 241 ~~the Quick Response Training Program under s. 288.047, the Quick~~  
 242 ~~Response Training Program for participants in the welfare~~  
 243 ~~transition program under s. 288.047(8), transportation projects~~  
 244 ~~under s. 339.2821, the brownfield redevelopment bonus refund~~  
 245 ~~under s. 288.107, and the rural job tax credit program under ss.~~  
 246 ~~212.098 and 220.1895.~~

247 (b) Designation as a rural area of opportunity under this  
 248 subsection is shall be contingent upon the execution of a  
 249 memorandum of agreement among the department; the governing body  
 250 of the county; and the governing bodies of any municipalities to  
 251 be included within a rural area of opportunity. Such agreement  
 252 must shall specify the terms and conditions of the designation,  
 253 including, but not limited to, the duties and responsibilities  
 254 of the county and any participating municipalities to take  
 255 actions designed to facilitate the retention and expansion of  
 256 existing businesses in the area, as well as the recruitment of  
 257 new businesses to the area.

258 (c) Each rural area of opportunity may designate catalyst  
 259 projects, ~~provided that each catalyst project is~~ specifically  
 260 recommended by REDI, ~~identified as a catalyst project by~~  
 261 ~~Enterprise Florida, Inc., and approved confirmed as a catalyst~~

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262 ~~project~~ by the department. All state agencies and departments  
 263 shall use all available tools and resources to the extent  
 264 permissible by law to promote the creation and development of  
 265 each catalyst project and the development of catalyst sites.

266 (9)(8) Before September 1 of each year, REDI shall submit ~~a~~  
 267 ~~report~~ to the department, the Governor, the President of the  
 268 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a  
 269 complete and detailed report, including, but not limited to on  
 270 all REDI activities for the previous fiscal year as a supplement  
 271 to the department's annual report required under s. 20.60. This  
 272 supplementary report must include:

273 (a) A description of the operations of ~~status report on~~ all  
 274 projects currently being coordinated through REDI, the number of  
 275 preferential awards and allowances made pursuant to this  
 276 section, the dollar amount of such awards, ~~and~~ the names of the  
 277 recipients, and an evaluation of progress toward achieving  
 278 organizational goals and specific performance outcomes, as  
 279 established by the department.

280 (b) A description of the accomplishments of REDI and  
 281 identification of major trends, initiatives, or developments  
 282 affecting the performance of a program or activity coordinated  
 283 through REDI.

284 (c) A description of all waivers of program requirements  
 285 granted.

286 (d)(e) Information as to the economic impact of the  
 287 projects coordinated by REDI.

288 (e)(d) Recommendations based on the review and evaluation  
 289 of statutes and rules having an adverse impact on rural  
 290 communities and proposals to mitigate such adverse impacts.

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291 Section 2. Paragraph (e) of subsection (7) of section  
292 163.3177, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

293 163.3177 Required and optional elements of comprehensive  
294 plan; studies and surveys.—

295 (7)

296 (e) This subsection does not confer the status of rural  
297 area of opportunity, or any of the rights or benefits derived  
298 from such status, on any land area not otherwise designated as  
299 such pursuant to s. 288.0656(8) ~~s. 288.0656(7)~~.

300 Section 3. Subsection (3) of section 163.3187, Florida  
301 Statutes, is amended to read:

302 163.3187 Process for adoption of small-scale comprehensive  
303 plan amendment.—

304 (3) If the small scale development amendment involves a  
305 site within a rural area of opportunity as defined under s.  
306 288.0656(3)(d) ~~s. 288.0656(2)(d)~~ for the duration of such  
307 designation, the 10-acre limit listed in subsection (1) shall be  
308 increased by 100 percent to 20 acres. The local government  
309 approving the small scale plan amendment shall certify to the  
310 state land planning agency that the plan amendment furthers the  
311 economic objectives set forth in the executive order issued  
312 under s. 288.0656(8) ~~s. 288.0656(7)~~, and the property subject to  
313 the plan amendment shall undergo public review to ensure that  
314 all concurrency requirements and federal, state, and local  
315 environmental permit requirements are met.

316 Section 4. Subsection (2) of section 257.193, Florida  
317 Statutes, is amended to read:

318 257.193 Community Libraries in Caring Program.—

319 (2) The purpose of the Community Libraries in Caring

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320 Program is to assist libraries in rural communities, as defined  
321 in s. 288.0656(3) ~~s. 288.0656(2)~~ and subject to the provisions  
322 of s. 288.06561, to strengthen their collections and services,  
323 improve literacy in their communities, and improve the economic  
324 viability of their communities.

325 Section 5. Section 288.019, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
326 read:

327 288.019 Rural considerations in grant review and evaluation  
328 processes.—Notwithstanding any other law, and to the fullest  
329 extent possible, the member agencies and organizations of the  
330 Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) as defined in s.  
331 288.0656(7)(a) ~~s. 288.0656(6)(a)~~ shall review all grant and loan  
332 application evaluation criteria to ensure the fullest access for  
333 rural counties as defined in s. 288.0656(3) ~~s. 288.0656(2)~~ to  
334 resources available throughout the state.

335 (1) Each REDI agency and organization shall review all  
336 evaluation and scoring procedures and develop modifications to  
337 those procedures which minimize the impact of a project within a  
338 rural area.

339 (2) Evaluation criteria and scoring procedures must provide  
340 for an appropriate ranking based on the proportionate impact  
341 that projects have on a rural area when compared with similar  
342 project impacts on an urban area.

343 (3) Evaluation criteria and scoring procedures must  
344 recognize the disparity of available fiscal resources for an  
345 equal level of financial support from an urban county and a  
346 rural county.

347 (a) The evaluation criteria should weight contribution in  
348 proportion to the amount of funding available at the local

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349 level.

350 (b) In-kind match should be allowed and applied as  
 351 financial match when a county is experiencing financial distress  
 352 through elevated unemployment at a rate in excess of the state's  
 353 average by 5 percentage points or because of the loss of its ad  
 354 valorem base.

355 (4) For existing programs, the modified evaluation criteria  
 356 and scoring procedure must be delivered to the department for  
 357 distribution to the REDI agencies and organizations. The REDI  
 358 agencies and organizations shall review and make comments.  
 359 Future rules, programs, evaluation criteria, and scoring  
 360 processes must be brought before a REDI meeting for review,  
 361 discussion, and recommendation to allow rural counties fuller  
 362 access to the state's resources.

363 Section 6. Section 288.06561, Florida Statutes, is amended  
 364 to read:

365 288.06561 Reduction or waiver of financial match  
 366 requirements.—Notwithstanding any other law, the member agencies  
 367 and organizations of the Rural Economic Development Initiative  
 368 (REDI), as defined in s. 288.0656(7) (a) ~~s. 288.0656(6) (a)~~, shall  
 369 review the financial match requirements for projects in rural  
 370 areas as defined in s. 288.0656(3) ~~s. 288.0656(2)~~.

371 (1) Each agency and organization shall develop a proposal  
 372 to waive or reduce the match requirement for rural areas.

373 (2) Agencies and organizations shall ensure that all  
 374 proposals are submitted to the department for review by the REDI  
 375 agencies.

376 (3) These proposals shall be delivered to the department  
 377 for distribution to the REDI agencies and organizations. A

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378 meeting of REDI agencies and organizations must be called within  
 379 30 days after receipt of such proposals for REDI comment and  
 380 recommendations on each proposal.

381 (4) Waivers and reductions must be requested by the county  
 382 or community, and such county or community must have three or  
 383 more of the factors identified in s. 288.0656(3) (c) ~~s.~~  
 384 ~~288.0656(2) (e)~~.

385 (5) Any other funds available to the project may be used  
 386 for financial match of federal programs when there is fiscal  
 387 hardship, and the match requirements may not be waived or  
 388 reduced.

389 (6) When match requirements are not reduced or eliminated,  
 390 donations of land, though usually not recognized as an in-kind  
 391 match, may be permitted.

392 (7) To the fullest extent possible, agencies and  
 393 organizations shall expedite the rule adoption and amendment  
 394 process if necessary to incorporate the reduction in match by  
 395 rural areas in fiscal distress.

396 (8) REDI shall include in its annual report an evaluation  
 397 on the status of changes to rules, number of awards made with  
 398 waivers, and recommendations for future changes.

399 Section 7. Paragraph (d) of subsection (6) of section  
 400 290.0055, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

401 290.0055 Local nominating procedure.—

402 (6)

403 (d)1. The governing body of a jurisdiction which has  
 404 nominated an application for an enterprise zone that is at least  
 405 15 square miles and less than 20 square miles and includes a  
 406 portion of the state designated as a rural area of opportunity

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407 under s. 288.0656(8) ~~s. 288.0656(7)~~ may apply to the department  
408 to expand the boundary of the existing enterprise zone by not  
409 more than 3 square miles.

410 2. The governing body of a jurisdiction which has nominated  
411 an application for an enterprise zone that is at least 20 square  
412 miles and includes a portion of the state designated as a rural  
413 area of opportunity under s. 288.0656(8) ~~s. 288.0656(7)~~ may  
414 apply to the department to expand the boundary of the existing  
415 enterprise zone by not more than 5 square miles.

416 3. An application to expand the boundary of an enterprise  
417 zone under this paragraph must be submitted by December 31,  
418 2013.

419 4. Notwithstanding the area limitations specified in  
420 subsection (4), the department may approve the request for a  
421 boundary amendment if the area continues to satisfy the  
422 remaining requirements of this section.

423 5. The department shall establish the initial effective  
424 date of an enterprise zone designated under this paragraph.

425 Section 8. Section 290.06561, Florida Statutes, is amended  
426 to read:

427 290.06561 Designation of rural enterprise zone as catalyst  
428 site.—Notwithstanding s. 290.0065(1), the Department of Economic  
429 Opportunity, upon request of the host county, shall designate as  
430 a rural enterprise zone any catalyst site as defined in s.  
431 288.0656(3)(b) ~~s. 288.0656(2)(b)~~ that was approved before  
432 January 1, 2010, and that is not located in an existing rural  
433 enterprise zone. The request from the host county must include  
434 the legal description of the catalyst site and the name and  
435 contact information for the county development authority

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436 responsible for managing the catalyst site. The designation  
437 shall provide businesses locating within the catalyst site the  
438 same eligibility for economic incentives and other benefits of a  
439 rural enterprise zone designated under s. 290.0065. The  
440 reporting criteria for a catalyst site designated as a rural  
441 enterprise zone under this section are the same as for other  
442 rural enterprise zones. Host county development authorities may  
443 enter into memoranda of agreement, as necessary, to coordinate  
444 their efforts to implement this section.

445 Section 9. Paragraph (h) of subsection (1) of section  
446 337.403, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

447 337.403 Interference caused by utility; expenses.—

448 (1) If a utility that is placed upon, under, over, or  
449 within the right-of-way limits of any public road or publicly  
450 owned rail corridor is found by the authority to be unreasonably  
451 interfering in any way with the convenient, safe, or continuous  
452 use, or the maintenance, improvement, extension, or expansion,  
453 of such public road or publicly owned rail corridor, the utility  
454 owner shall, upon 30 days' written notice to the utility or its  
455 agent by the authority, initiate the work necessary to alleviate  
456 the interference at its own expense except as provided in  
457 paragraphs (a)-(j). The work must be completed within such  
458 reasonable time as stated in the notice or such time as agreed  
459 to by the authority and the utility owner.

460 (h) If a municipally owned utility or county-owned utility  
461 is located in a rural area of opportunity, as defined in s.  
462 288.0656(3) ~~s. 288.0656(2)~~, and the department determines that  
463 the utility is unable, and will not be able within the next 10  
464 years, to pay for the cost of utility work necessitated by a

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465 department project on the State Highway System, the department  
 466 may pay, in whole or in part, the cost of such utility work  
 467 performed by the department or its contractor.

468 Section 10. Subsection (7) of section 339.2818, Florida  
 469 Statutes, is amended to read:

470 339.2818 Small County Outreach Program.—

471 (7) Subject to a specific appropriation in addition to  
 472 funds annually appropriated for projects under this section, a  
 473 municipality within a rural area of opportunity or a rural area  
 474 of opportunity community designated under s. 288.0656(8) (a) ~~s.~~  
 475 ~~288.0656(7) (a)~~ may compete for the additional project funding  
 476 using the criteria listed in subsection (4) at up to 100 percent  
 477 of project costs, excluding capacity improvement projects.

478 Section 11. Paragraph (c) of subsection (4) of section  
 479 339.2819, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

480 339.2819 Transportation Regional Incentive Program.—

481 (4)

482 (c) The department shall give priority to projects that:

483 1. Provide connectivity to the Strategic Intermodal System  
 484 developed under s. 339.64.

485 2. Support economic development and the movement of goods  
 486 in rural areas of opportunity designated under s. 288.0656(8) ~~s.~~  
 487 ~~288.0656(7)~~.

488 3. Are subject to a local ordinance that establishes  
 489 corridor management techniques, including access management  
 490 strategies, right-of-way acquisition and protection measures,  
 491 appropriate land use strategies, zoning, and setback  
 492 requirements for adjacent land uses.

493 4. Improve connectivity between military installations and

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494 the Strategic Highway Network or the Strategic Rail Corridor  
 495 Network.

496

497 The department shall also consider the extent to which local  
 498 matching funds are available to be committed to the project.

499 Section 12. Paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section  
 500 339.63, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

501 339.63 System facilities designated; additions and  
 502 deletions.—

503 (5)

504 (b) A facility designated part of the Strategic Intermodal  
 505 System pursuant to paragraph (a) that is within the jurisdiction  
 506 of a local government that maintains a transportation  
 507 concurrency system shall receive a waiver of transportation  
 508 concurrency requirements applicable to Strategic Intermodal  
 509 System facilities in order to accommodate any development at the  
 510 facility which occurs pursuant to a building permit issued on or  
 511 before December 31, 2017, but only if such facility is located:

512 1. Within an area designated pursuant to s. 288.0656(8) ~~s.~~  
 513 ~~288.0656(7)~~ as a rural area of opportunity;

514 2. Within a rural enterprise zone as defined in s.  
 515 290.004(5); or

516 3. Within 15 miles of the boundary of a rural area of  
 517 opportunity or a rural enterprise zone.

518 Section 13. Subsection (16) of section 479.16, Florida  
 519 Statutes, is amended to read:

520 479.16 Signs for which permits are not required.—The  
 521 following signs are exempt from the requirement that a permit  
 522 for a sign be obtained under this chapter but are required to



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523 comply with s. 479.11(4)-(8), and subsections (15)-(20) may not  
 524 be implemented or continued if the Federal Government notifies  
 525 the department that implementation or continuation will  
 526 adversely affect the allocation of federal funds to the  
 527 department:

528 (16) Signs placed by a local tourist-oriented business  
 529 located within a rural area of opportunity as defined in s.  
 530 288.0656(3) ~~s. 288.0656(2)~~ which are:

531 (a) Not more than 8 square feet in size or more than 4 feet  
 532 in height;

533 (b) Located only in rural areas on a facility that does not  
 534 meet the definition of a limited access facility, as defined in  
 535 s. 334.03;

536 (c) Located within 2 miles of the business location and at  
 537 least 500 feet apart;

538 (d) Located only in two directions leading to the business;  
 539 and

540 (e) Not located within the road right-of-way.

541

542 A business placing such signs must be at least 4 miles from any  
 543 other business using this exemption and may not participate in  
 544 any other directional signage program by the department.

545

546 If the exemptions in subsections (15)-(20) are not implemented  
 547 or continued due to notification from the Federal Government  
 548 that the allocation of federal funds to the department will be  
 549 adversely impacted, the department shall provide notice to the  
 550 sign owner that the sign must be removed within 30 days after  
 551 receipt of the notice. If the sign is not removed within 30 days

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552 after receipt of the notice by the sign owner, the department  
 553 may remove the sign, and the costs incurred in connection with  
 554 the sign removal shall be assessed against and collected from  
 555 the sign owner.

556 Section 14. Paragraph (d) of subsection (14) of section  
 557 627.6699, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

558 627.6699 Employee Health Care Access Act.—

559 (14) SMALL EMPLOYERS ACCESS PROGRAM.—

560 (d) *Eligibility.*—

561 1. Any small employer that is actively engaged in business,  
 562 has its principal place of business in this state, employs up to  
 563 25 eligible employees on business days during the preceding  
 564 calendar year, employs at least 2 employees on the first day of  
 565 the plan year, and has had no prior coverage for the last 6  
 566 months may participate.

567 2. Any municipality, county, school district, or hospital  
 568 employer located in a rural community as defined in s.  
 569 288.0656(3) ~~s. 288.0656(2)~~ may participate.

570 3. Nursing home employers may participate.

571 4. Each dependent of a person eligible for coverage is also  
 572 eligible to participate.

573

574 Any employer participating in the program must do so until the  
 575 end of the term for which the carrier providing the coverage is  
 576 obligated to provide such coverage to the program. Coverage for  
 577 a small employer group that ceases to meet the eligibility  
 578 requirements of this section may be terminated at the end of the  
 579 policy period for which the necessary premiums have been paid.

580 Section 15. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.



The Florida Senate

## Committee Agenda Request

**To:** Senator Bill Montford, Chair  
Committee on Commerce and Tourism

**Subject:** Committee Agenda Request

**Date:** October 12, 2017

---

I respectfully request that **Senate Bill #170**, relating to Rural Economic Development Initiative, be placed on the:

- committee agenda at your earliest possible convenience.
- next committee agenda.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Denise Grimsley".

---

Senator Denise Grimsley  
Florida Senate, District 26

cc: Todd McKay, Staff Director  
Gabriela Denton, Administrative Assistant

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

11/6/17 Meeting Date

170 Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Rural Economic Development

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Jim Spratt

Job Title

Address PO Box 10011 Street

Phone 850-228-1296

TALCAHASSEE FL 32302 City State Zip

Email Jim@magnoliastrategiesllc.com

Speaking: [ ] For [ ] Against [ ] Information

Waive Speaking: [x] In Support [ ] Against (The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Associated Industries of Florida

Appearing at request of Chair: [ ] Yes [ ] No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: [x] Yes [ ] No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

11/6/2017  
Meeting Date

170  
Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Rural Economic Development Initiative Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Ellen N. Anderson

Job Title Govt. Relations Director

Address 1066 E College Ave Suite 650  
Street

Phone 850.288.7959

Tallahassee FL 32301  
City State Zip

Email ellen-anderson@chs.net

Speaking:  For  Against  Information

Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against  
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Community Health Systems

Appearing at request of Chair:  Yes  No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature:  Yes  No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

# CourtSmart Tag Report

Room: EL 110

Caption: Senate Commerce Committee

Case No.:

Judge:

Type:

Started: 11/6/2017 4:02:20 PM

Ends: 11/6/2017 4:13:35 PM

Length: 00:11:16

4:02:19 PM Meeting called to order  
4:02:24 PM Roll Call  
4:02:29 PM Pledge to Flag  
4:03:06 PM Opening Comments  
4:03:25 PM Tab 2 by Senator Garcia - SB 76, Small Business Saturday Sales Tax Holiday  
4:03:44 PM Senator Garcia explaining SB 76  
4:04:21 PM Senator Montford  
4:04:26 PM Senator Young asking question  
4:04:39 PM Senator Garcia responding  
4:05:10 PM Senator Garcia responding  
4:05:11 PM Senator Young with follow up  
4:05:22 PM Senator Garcia responding to question  
4:05:33 PM Senator Gainer with a question  
4:06:01 PM Senator Garcia responding  
4:06:08 PM Senator Gainer with follow up  
4:06:16 PM Senator Garcia responding  
4:06:38 PM Senator Gainer with follow up question  
4:06:53 PM Senator Garcia with response  
4:07:21 PM Senator Gainer with follow up  
4:07:28 PM Senator Garcia responding  
4:07:51 PM Senator Garcia closes on bill  
4:08:01 PM Senator Garcia waives close  
4:08:07 PM Roll call on SB 76  
4:08:13 PM SB 76 passes favorably  
4:08:24 PM Tab 1 on SB 56 by Senator Book, Tax Exemption for Diapers and Incontinence Products  
4:08:49 PM Senator Book presenting bill  
4:09:59 PM question and debate  
4:10:21 PM Senator Book waives closes  
4:10:28 PM Senator Book waives closes  
4:10:30 PM Roll call on SB 56  
4:10:38 PM SB 56 passes favorably  
4:10:49 PM Tab 3 SB 170 by Senator Grimsley, Rural Economic Development Initiative  
4:11:15 PM Senator Grimsley presenting bill  
4:12:18 PM No questions  
4:12:41 PM No question  
4:12:45 PM Senator Grimsley waives close  
4:12:52 PM Roll call on SB 170  
4:12:58 PM SB 170 passes favorably  
4:13:14 PM Senator Hutson moves to adjourn  
4:13:23 PM Meeting adjourned