## By Senator Latvala

19-726A-00

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A bill to be entitled An act relating to brownfield financial incentives; amending s. 197.432, F.S.; conforming statutory cross-references; amending s. 197.502, F.S.; authorizing local governments to file tax deed applications in a specified manner; amending s. 197.522, F.S.; conforming a statutory cross-reference; amending s. 199.1055, F.S.; broadening the contaminated site rehabilitation tax credit against the intangible personal property tax to include in the preapproved advanced cleanup program petroleum-contaminated sites and other contaminated sites at which cleanup is undertaken pursuant to a voluntary rehabilitation agreement with the Department of Environmental Protection under certain circumstances; amending s. 212.08, F.S.; providing an exemption from the sales and use tax for building materials used in the rehabilitation of real property located in a designated brownfield area; providing an exemption from the sales and use tax for business property purchased for use by businesses located in a designated brownfield area; amending s. 212.096, F.S.; providing for a brownfield area jobs credit against the sales and use tax; amending s. 220.181, F.S.; providing for a designated brownfield area jobs credit against the corporate income tax; amending s. 220.182, F.S.; providing for a

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designated brownfield area property tax credit against the corporate income tax; amending s. 220.183, F.S.; providing a partial credit against the corporate income tax for community contributions that benefit designated brownfield areas; amending s. 220.1845, F.S.; broadening the contaminated site rehabilitation tax credit against the corporate income tax to include in the preapproved advanced cleanup program petroleum-contaminated sites and other contaminated sites at which cleanup is undertaken pursuant to a voluntary rehabilitation agreement with the Department of Environmental Protection under certain circumstances; amending s. 290.007, F.S.; providing for state incentives in designated brownfield areas; creating s. 376.30702, F.S.; creating the Florida State-Owned-Lands Cleanup Program; providing intent; directing the Department of Environmental Protection to use existing site priority ranking and cleanup criteria; establishing liability protection; amending s. 376.30781, F.S.; broadening the partial tax credits for the rehabilitation of certain contaminated sites; clarifying provisions regarding the filing for the tax credits; amending s. 376.84, F.S.; authorizing entities approved by the local government for the purpose of redeveloping brownfield areas to use tax increment financing; amending s. 376.86, F.S.; increasing the limits of the

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           state loan guaranty in brownfield areas;
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           creating s. 376.876, F.S.; providing for a
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           Brownfield Redevelopment Grants Program in the
           Department of Environmental Protection;
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           specifying the uses of grant funds; requiring
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           matching funds; authorizing the department to
           adopt rules; providing appropriations;
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           providing an effective date.
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    Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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           Section 1. Subsection (4) of section 197.432, Florida
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    Statutes, is amended to read:
           197.432 Sale of tax certificates for unpaid taxes.--
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           (4) A tax certificate representing less than $100 in
    delinquent taxes on property that has been granted a homestead
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    exemption for the year in which the delinquent taxes were
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    assessed may not be sold at public auction but shall be issued
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   by the tax collector to the county at the maximum rate of
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    interest allowed by this chapter. The provisions of s.
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    197.502(4) s. 197.502(3) shall not be invoked as long as the
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   homestead exemption is granted to the person who received the
   homestead exemption for the year in which the tax certificate
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   was issued. However, when all such tax certificates and
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    accrued interest thereon represent an amount of $100 or more,
    the provisions of s. 197.502(4) s. 197.502(3) shall be
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    invoked.
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           Section 2. Present subsections (2), (3), (4), (5),
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    (6), (7), (8), (9), (10), and (11) of section 197.502, Florida
    Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (3), (4), (5), (6),
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(7), (8), (9), (10), (11), and (12), respectively, and a new 2 subsection (2) is added to that section to read: 3 197.502 Application for obtaining tax deed by holder of tax sale certificate; fees.--4 5 (2) When a tax certificate that is 2 years old or 6 older exists against a parcel that has been declared a 7 brownfield site under s. 376.80, the municipality or county 8 may file a tax deed application in the same manner in which an 9 application on a county-held tax certificate is filed and 10 processed under chapter 197. 11 Section 3. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 197.522, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 12 13 197.522 Notice to owner when application for tax deed is made.--14 15 (1)(a) The clerk of the circuit court shall notify, by certified mail with return receipt requested or by registered 16 17 mail if the notice is to be sent outside the continental United States, the persons listed in the tax collector's 18 19 statement pursuant to s. 197.502(5) s. 197.502(4) that an application for a tax deed has been made. Such notice shall 20 be mailed at least 20 days prior to the date of sale. If no 21 address is listed in the tax collector's statement, then no 22 notice shall be required. 23 24 Section 4. Subsection (1) of section 199.1055, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 25 199.1055 Contaminated site rehabilitation tax 26 credit.--27 (1) AUTHORIZATION FOR TAX CREDIT; LIMITATIONS.--28 29 (a) A credit in the amount of 35 percent of the costs

of voluntary cleanup activity that is integral to site

31 rehabilitation at the following sites is allowed against any

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tax due for a taxable year under s. 199.032, less any credit allowed by s. 220.68 for that year:

- A drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site eligible for state-funded site rehabilitation under s. 376.3078(3);
- 2. A drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site at which cleanup is undertaken by the real property owner pursuant to s. 376.3078(11), if the real property owner is not also, and has never been, the owner or operator of the drycleaning facility where the contamination exists; or
- 3. A brownfield site in a designated brownfield area under s. 376.80; or  $\overline{\cdot}$
- 4. Any other contaminated site at which the property owner did not cause or contribute to the contamination and for which cleanup is undertaken under a voluntary rehabilitation agreement approved by the Department of Environmental Protection.
- (b) For all applications received by January 15, if, as of the following March 1, the credits granted under paragraph (a) do not exhaust the annual maximum allowable credits under paragraph (h), any remaining credits may be granted for petroleum-contaminated sites at which cleanups are being conducted under the preapproved advanced cleanup program authorized in s. 376.30713(4), but only up to the amount of private funding involved in the site-cleanup activity. Tax credit applications submitted for petroleum-contaminated sites may not be included in the carry-forward provision of s. 376.30781(9), which otherwise allows applications that do not receive credits due to an exhaustion of the annual tax credit authorization to be carried forward in the same order for the next year's annual tax credit allocation, if any, based on the prior year's application.

 (c)(b) A taxpayer, or multiple taxpayers working jointly to clean up a single site, may not receive more than \$250,000 per year in tax credits for each site voluntarily rehabilitated. Multiple taxpayers shall receive tax credits in the same proportion as their contribution to payment of cleanup costs. Subject to the same conditions and limitations as provided in this section, a municipality or county which voluntarily rehabilitates a site may receive not more than \$250,000 per year in tax credits which it can subsequently transfer subject to the provisions in paragraph (g).

 $\underline{(d)(c)}$  If the credit granted under this section is not fully used in any one year because of insufficient tax liability on the part of the taxpayer, the unused amount may be carried forward for a period not to exceed 5 years.

 $\underline{\text{(e)}}$  (d) A taxpayer that receives a credit under s. 220.1845 is ineligible to receive credit under this section in a given tax year.

 $\underline{(f)(e)}$  A taxpayer that receives state-funded site rehabilitation pursuant to s. 376.3078(3) for rehabilitation of a drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site is ineligible to receive credit under this section for costs incurred by the taxpayer in conjunction with the rehabilitation of that site during the same time period that state-administered site rehabilitation was underway.

 $\underline{(g)}(f)$  The total amount of the tax credits which may be granted under this section and s. 220.1845 is \$2 million annually.

 $\underline{\text{(h)}(g)}$ 1. Tax credits that may be available under this section to an entity eligible under s. 376.30781 may be transferred after a merger or acquisition to the surviving or

 acquiring entity and used in the same manner with the same limitations.

- 2. The entity or its surviving or acquiring entity as described in subparagraph 1., may transfer any unused credit in whole or in units of no less than 25 percent of the remaining credit. The entity acquiring such credit may use it in the same manner and with the same limitation as described in this section. Such transferred credits may not be transferred again although they may succeed to a surviving or acquiring entity subject to the same conditions and limitations as described in this section.
- 3. In the event the credit provided for under this section is reduced either as a result of a determination by the Department of Environmental Protection or an examination or audit by the Department of Revenue, such tax deficiency shall be recovered from the first entity, or the surviving or acquiring entity, to have claimed such credit up to the amount of credit taken. Any subsequent deficiencies shall be assessed against any entity acquiring and claiming such credit, or in the case of multiple succeeding entities in the order of credit succession.

(i)(h) In order to encourage completion of site rehabilitation at contaminated sites being voluntarily cleaned up and eligible for a tax credit under this section, the taxpayer may claim an additional 10 percent of the total cleanup costs, not to exceed \$50,000, in the final year of cleanup as evidenced by the Department of Environmental Protection issuing a "No Further Action" order for that site.

Section 5. Paragraphs (g) and (h) of subsection (5) of section 212.08, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

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

- (5) EXEMPTIONS; ACCOUNT OF USE.--
- Building materials used in the rehabilitation of real property located in an enterprise zone or designated brownfield area.--
- Beginning July 1, 1995, building materials used in the rehabilitation of real property located in an enterprise zone, and, after July 1, 1997, in a designated brownfield area under s. 376.80, shall be exempt from the tax imposed by this chapter upon an affirmative showing to the satisfaction of the department that the items have been used for the rehabilitation of real property located in an enterprise zone or designated brownfield area. Except as provided in subparagraph 2., this exemption inures to the owner, lessee, or lessor of the rehabilitated real property located in an enterprise zone or designated brownfield area only through a refund of previously paid taxes. To receive a refund pursuant to this paragraph, the owner, lessee, or lessor of the rehabilitated real property located in an enterprise zone or designated brownfield area must file an application under oath with the governing body or enterprise zone development agency having jurisdiction over the enterprise zone or designated brownfield area where the business is located, as applicable, which includes:
- The name and address of the person claiming the a. 31 refund.

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- b. An address and assessment roll parcel number of the rehabilitated real property in an enterprise zone  $\underline{\text{or}}$   $\underline{\text{designated brownfield area}}$  for which a refund of previously paid taxes is being sought.
- c. A description of the improvements made to accomplish the rehabilitation of the real property.
- d. A copy of the building permit issued for the rehabilitation of the real property.
- A sworn statement, under the penalty of perjury, from the general contractor licensed in this state with whom the applicant contracted to make the improvements necessary to accomplish the rehabilitation of the real property, which statement lists the building materials used in the rehabilitation of the real property, the actual cost of the building materials, and the amount of sales tax paid in this state on the building materials. In the event that a general contractor has not been used, the applicant shall provide this information in a sworn statement, under the penalty of perjury. Copies of the invoices which evidence the purchase of the building materials used in such rehabilitation and the payment of sales tax on the building materials shall be attached to the sworn statement provided by the general contractor or by the applicant. Unless the actual cost of building materials used in the rehabilitation of real property and the payment of sales taxes due thereon is documented by a general contractor or by the applicant in this manner, the cost of such building materials shall be an amount equal to 40 percent of the increase in assessed value for ad valorem tax purposes.

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- The identifying number assigned pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the enterprise zone in which the rehabilitated real property is located.
- A certification by the local building inspector that the improvements necessary to accomplish the rehabilitation of the real property are substantially completed.
- Whether the business is a small business as defined by s. 288.703(1).
- If applicable, the name and address of each permanent employee of the business, including, for each employee who is a resident of an enterprise zone, the identifying number assigned pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the enterprise zone in which the employee resides.
- This exemption inures to a city, county, or other governmental agency through a refund of previously paid taxes if the building materials used in the rehabilitation of real property located in an enterprise zone or designated brownfield area are paid for from the funds of a community development block grant or similar grant or loan program. To receive a refund pursuant to this paragraph, a city, county, or other governmental agency must file an application which includes the same information required to be provided in subparagraph 1. by an owner, lessee, or lessor of rehabilitated real property. In addition, the application must include a sworn statement signed by the chief executive officer of the city, county, or other governmental agency seeking a refund which states that the building materials for which a refund is sought were paid for from the funds of a community development block grant or similar grant or loan 31 program.

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- 3. Within 10 working days after receipt of an application, the governing body or enterprise zone development agency shall review the application to determine if it contains all the information required pursuant to subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2. and meets the criteria set out in this paragraph. The governing body or agency shall certify all applications that contain the information required pursuant to subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2. and meet the criteria set out in this paragraph as eligible to receive a refund. If applicable, the governing body or agency shall also certify if 20 percent of the employees of the business are residents of an enterprise zone or designated brownfield area, excluding temporary and part-time employees. The certification shall be in writing, and a copy of the certification shall be transmitted to the executive director of the Department of Revenue. The applicant shall be responsible for forwarding a certified application to the department within the time specified in subparagraph 4.
- 4. An application for a refund pursuant to this paragraph must be submitted to the department within 6 months after the rehabilitation of the property is deemed to be substantially completed by the local building inspector.
- The provisions of s. 212.095 do not apply to any refund application made pursuant to this paragraph. No more than one exemption through a refund of previously paid taxes for the rehabilitation of real property shall be permitted for any one parcel of real property. No refund shall be granted pursuant to this paragraph unless the amount to be refunded exceeds \$500. No refund granted pursuant to this paragraph shall exceed the lesser of 97 percent of the Florida sales or 31 use tax paid on the cost of the building materials used in the

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rehabilitation of the real property as determined pursuant to sub-subparagraph 1.e. or \$5,000, or, if no less than 20 percent of the employees of the business are residents of an enterprise zone or designated brownfield area, excluding temporary and part-time employees, the amount of refund granted pursuant to this paragraph shall not exceed the lesser of 97 percent of the sales tax paid on the cost of such building materials or \$10,000. A refund approved pursuant to this paragraph shall be made within 30 days of formal approval by the department of the application for the refund.

- 6. The department shall adopt rules governing the manner and form of refund applications and may establish guidelines as to the requisites for an affirmative showing of qualification for exemption under this paragraph.
- 7. The department shall deduct an amount equal to 10 percent of each refund granted under the provisions of this paragraph from the amount transferred into the Local Government Half-cent Sales Tax Clearing Trust Fund pursuant to s. 212.20 for the county area in which the rehabilitated real property is located and shall transfer that amount to the General Revenue Fund.
- 8. For the purposes of the exemption provided in this paragraph:
- a. "Building materials" means tangible personal property <a href="that">that</a> which becomes a component part of improvements to real property.
- b. "Real property" has the same meaning as provided in s. 192.001(12).
- c. "Rehabilitation of real property" means the reconstruction, renovation, restoration, rehabilitation, construction, or expansion of improvements to real property.

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- "Substantially completed" has the same meaning as provided in s. 192.042(1).
- The provisions of this paragraph shall expire and be void on December 31, 2005.
- (h) Business property used in an enterprise zone or designated brownfield area. --
- Beginning July 1, 1995, business property purchased for use by businesses located in an enterprise zone that which is subsequently used in an enterprise zone or, after July 1, 1997, in a designated brownfield area under s. 376.80, shall be exempt from the tax imposed by this chapter. This exemption inures to the business only through a refund of previously paid taxes. A refund shall be authorized upon an affirmative showing by the taxpayer to the satisfaction of the department that the requirements of this paragraph have been met.
- To receive a refund, the business must file under oath with the governing body or enterprise zone development agency having jurisdiction over the enterprise zone where the business is located, as applicable, an application which includes:
- The name and address of the business claiming the a. refund.
- The identifying number assigned pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the enterprise zone in which the business is located.
- A specific description of the property for which a refund is sought, including its serial number or other permanent identification number.
  - The location of the property. d.
- The sales invoice or other proof of purchase of the 31 property, showing the amount of sales tax paid, the date of

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purchase, and the name and address of the sales tax dealer from whom the property was purchased.

- f. Whether the business is a small business as defined by s. 288.703(1).
- g. If applicable, the name and address of each permanent employee of the business, including, for each employee who is a resident of an enterprise zone or designated brownfield area, the identifying number assigned pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the enterprise zone in which the employee resides.
- Within 10 working days after receipt of an application, the governing body or enterprise zone development agency shall review the application to determine if it contains all the information required pursuant to subparagraph 2. and meets the criteria set out in this paragraph. The governing body or agency shall certify all applications that contain the information required pursuant to subparagraph 2. and meet the criteria set out in this paragraph as eligible to receive a refund. If applicable, the governing body or agency shall also certify if 20 percent of the employees of the business are residents of an enterprise zone or designated brownfield area, excluding temporary and part-time employees. The certification shall be in writing, and a copy of the certification shall be transmitted to the executive director of the Department of Revenue. The business shall be responsible for forwarding a certified application to the department within the time specified in subparagraph 4.
- 4. An application for a refund pursuant to this paragraph must be submitted to the department within 6 months after the business property is purchased.

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- 1 The provisions of s. 212.095 do not apply to any 2 refund application made pursuant to this paragraph. The amount 3 refunded on purchases of business property under this paragraph shall be the lesser of 97 percent of the sales tax 4 5 paid on such business property or \$5,000, or, if no less than 6 20 percent of the employees of the business are residents of 7 an enterprise zone or designated brownfield area, excluding 8 temporary and part-time employees, the amount refunded on 9 purchases of business property under this paragraph shall be 10 the lesser of 97 percent of the sales tax paid on such 11 business property or \$10,000. A refund approved pursuant to this paragraph shall be made within 30 days of formal approval 12 13 by the department of the application for the refund. No refund shall be granted under this paragraph unless the amount to be 14 refunded exceeds \$100 in sales tax paid on purchases made 15 within a 60-day time period. 16 17
  - 6. The department shall adopt rules governing the manner and form of refund applications and may establish guidelines as to the requisites for an affirmative showing of qualification for exemption under this paragraph.
  - 7. If the department determines that the business property is used outside an enterprise zone or designated brownfield area within 3 years from the date of purchase, the amount of taxes refunded to the business purchasing such business property shall immediately be due and payable to the department by the business, together with the appropriate interest and penalty, computed from the date of purchase, in the manner provided by this chapter. Notwithstanding this subparagraph, business property used exclusively in:
    - a. Licensed commercial fishing vessels,
    - b. Fishing guide boats, or

c. Ecotourism guide boats

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that leave and return to a fixed location within an area designated under s. 370.28 are eligible for the exemption provided under this paragraph if all requirements of this paragraph are met. Such vessels and boats must be owned by a business that is eligible to receive the exemption provided under this paragraph. This exemption does not apply to the purchase of a vessel or boat.

- 8. The department shall deduct an amount equal to 10 percent of each refund granted under the provisions of this paragraph from the amount transferred into the Local Government Half-cent Sales Tax Clearing Trust Fund pursuant to s. 212.20 for the county area in which the business property is located and shall transfer that amount to the General Revenue Fund.
- 9. For the purposes of this exemption, "business property" means new or used property defined as "recovery property" in s. 168(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended, except:
- a. Property classified as 3-year property under s. 168(c)(2)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended;
- b. Industrial machinery and equipment as defined in sub-subparagraph (b)6.a. and eligible for exemption under paragraph (b); and
- c. Building materials as defined in sub-subparagraph (q)8.a.
- 10. The provisions of this paragraph shall expire and be void on December 31, 2005.
- 30 Section 6. Section 212.096, Florida Statutes, is 31 amended to read:

212.096 Sales, rental, storage, use tax; brownfield area and enterprise zone jobs credit against sales tax.--

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- For the purposes of the credit provided in this
- "Eligible business" means any sole proprietorship, firm, partnership, corporation, bank, savings association, estate, trust, business trust, receiver, syndicate, or other group or combination, or successor business, located in an enterprise zone or a brownfield area designated under s. 376.80. An eligible business does not include any business which has claimed the credit permitted under s. 220.181 for any new business employee first beginning employment with the business after July 1, 1995.
- "Month" means either a calendar month or the time (b) period from any day of any month to the corresponding day of the next succeeding month or, if there is no corresponding day in the next succeeding month, the last day of the succeeding month.
- "New employee" means a person residing in an enterprise zone or a designated brownfield area, a qualified Job Training Partnership Act classroom training participant, or a WAGES Program participant who begins employment with an eligible business after July 1, 1995, and who has not been previously employed within the preceding 12 months by the eligible business, or a successor eligible business, claiming the credit allowed by this section.

A person shall be deemed to be employed if the person performs duties in connection with the operations of the business on a regular, full-time basis, provided the person is performing 31 such duties for an average of at least 36 hours per week each

month, or a part-time basis, provided the person is performing such duties for an average of at least 20 hours per week each month throughout the year. The person must be performing such duties at a business site located in the enterprise zone or designated brownfield area.

- (2)(a) It is the legislative intent to encourage the provision of meaningful employment opportunities that which will improve the quality of life of those employed and to encourage economic expansion of enterprise zones or designated brownfield areas and the state. Therefore, beginning July 1, 1995, upon an affirmative showing by a business to the satisfaction of the department that the requirements of this section have been met, the business shall be allowed a credit against the tax remitted under this chapter.
  - (b) The credit shall be computed as follows:
- 1. Ten percent of the monthly wages paid in this state to each new employee whose wages do not exceed \$1,500 a month. If no less than 20 percent of the employees of the business are residents of an enterprise zone or a designated brownfield area, excluding temporary and part-time employees, the credit shall be computed as 15 percent of the monthly wages paid in this state to each new employee;
- 2. Five percent of the first \$1,500 of actual monthly wages paid in this state for each new employee whose wages exceed \$1,500 a month; or
- 3. Fifteen percent of the first \$1,500 of actual monthly wages paid in this state for each new employee who is a WAGES Program participant pursuant to chapter 414.

For purposes of this paragraph, monthly wages shall be computed as one-twelfth of the expected annual wages paid to

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such employee. The amount paid as wages to a new employee is the compensation paid to such employee that is subject to unemployment tax. The credit shall be allowed for up to 12 consecutive months, beginning with the first tax return due pursuant to s. 212.11 after approval by the department.

- (3) In order to claim this credit, an eliqible business must file under oath with the governing body or enterprise zone development agency having jurisdiction over the enterprise zone or designated brownfield area where the business is located, as applicable, a statement which includes:
- (a) For each new employee for whom this credit is claimed, the employee's name and place of residence, including the identifying number assigned pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the enterprise zone in which the employee resides if the new employee is a person residing in an enterprise zone, and, if applicable, documentation that the employee is a qualified Job Training Partnership Act classroom training participant or a WAGES Program participant.
- (b) If applicable, the name and address of each permanent employee of the business, including, for each employee who is a resident of an enterprise zone or a designated brownfield area, the identifying number assigned pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the enterprise zone in which the employee resides.
  - (c) The name and address of the eligible business.
- (d) The starting salary or hourly wages paid to the new employee.
- (e) The identifying number assigned pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the enterprise zone in which the business is 31 located.

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- (f) Whether the business is a small business as defined by  $s.\ 288.703(1)$ .
- (g) Within 10 working days after receipt of an application, the governing body or enterprise zone development agency shall review the application to determine if it contains all the information required pursuant to this subsection and meets the criteria set out in this section. The governing body or agency shall certify all applications that contain the information required pursuant to this subsection and meet the criteria set out in this section as eligible to receive a credit. If applicable, the governing body or agency shall also certify if 20 percent of the employees of the business are residents of an enterprise zone or a designated brownfield area, excluding temporary and part-time employees. The certification shall be in writing, and a copy of the certification shall be transmitted to the executive director of the Department of Revenue. The business shall be responsible for forwarding a certified application to the department within the time specified in paragraph (h).
- (h) All applications for a credit pursuant to this section must be submitted to the department within 4 months after the new employee is hired.
- (4) In the event the application is insufficient to support the credit authorized in this section, the department shall deny the credit and notify the business of that fact. The business may reapply for this credit.
- (5) The credit provided in this section does not apply:
- (a) For any new employee who is an owner, partner, or stockholder of an eligible business.

- (b) For any new employee who is employed for any period less than 3 full calendar months.
- (6) The credit provided in this section shall not be allowed for any month in which the tax due for such period or the tax return required pursuant to s. 212.11 for such period is delinquent.
- (7) In the event an eligible business has a credit larger than the amount owed the state on the tax return for the time period in which the credit is claimed, the amount of the credit for that time period shall be the amount owed the state on that tax return.
- (8) Any business which has claimed this credit shall not be allowed any credit under the provisions of s. 220.181 for any new employee beginning employment after July 1, 1995.
- (9) It shall be the responsibility of each business to affirmatively demonstrate to the satisfaction of the department that it meets the requirements of this section.
- (10) Any person who fraudulently claims this credit is liable for repayment of the credit plus a mandatory penalty of 100 percent of the credit plus interest at the rate provided in this chapter, and such person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- (11) The provisions of this section, except for subsection (10), shall expire and be void on December 31, 2005.
- Section 7. Subsections (1), (2), (3), and (9) of section 220.181, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
  - 220.181 Enterprise zone jobs credit.--
- 30 (1)(a) Beginning July 1, 1995, There shall be allowed 31 a credit against the tax imposed by this chapter to any

business located in an enterprise zone <u>or a brownfield area</u> <u>designated under s. 376.80</u> which employs one or more new employees. The credit shall be computed as follows:

- 1. Ten percent of the actual monthly wages paid in this state to each new employee whose wages do not exceed \$1,500 a month. If no less than 20 percent of the employees of the business are residents of an enterprise zone or a brownfield area designated under s. 376.80, excluding temporary and part-time employees, the credit shall be computed as 15 percent of the actual monthly wages paid in this state to each new employee, for a period of up to 12 consecutive months;
- 2. Five percent of the first \$1,500 of actual monthly wages paid in this state for each new employee whose wages exceed \$1,500 a month; or
- 3. Fifteen percent of the first \$1,500 of actual monthly wages paid in this state for each new employee who is a WAGES Program participant pursuant to chapter 414.
- (b) This credit applies only with respect to wages subject to unemployment tax and does not apply for any new employee who is employed for any period less than 3 full months.
- (c) If this credit is not fully used in any one year, the unused amount may be carried forward for a period not to exceed 5 years. The carryover credit may be used in a subsequent year when the tax imposed by this chapter for such year exceeds the credit for such year after applying the other credits and unused credit carryovers in the order provided in s. 220.02(10).
- (2) When filing for an enterprise zone jobs credit or a brownfield area jobs credit, a business must file under oath

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with the governing body or enterprise zone development agency having jurisdiction over the enterprise zone or the designated brownfield area where the business is located, as applicable, a statement which includes:

- (a) For each new employee for whom this credit is claimed, the employee's name and place of residence during the taxable year, including the identifying number assigned pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the enterprise zone, or to the brownfield area designated under s. 376.80, in which the new employee resides if the new employee is a person residing in an enterprise zone or a designated brownfield area, and, if applicable, documentation that the employee is a qualified Job Training Partnership Act classroom training participant or a WAGES Program participant.
- (b) If applicable, the name and address of each permanent employee of the business, including, for each employee who is a resident of an enterprise zone or a designated brownfield area, the identifying number assigned pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the enterprise zone in which the employee resides.
  - The name and address of the business.
- The identifying number assigned pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the enterprise zone in which the eligible business is located.
- (e) The salary or hourly wages paid to each new employee claimed.
- (f) Whether the business is a small business as defined by s. 288.703(1).
- (3) Within 10 working days after receipt of an application, the governing body or enterprise zone development 31 agency shall review the application to determine if it

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contains all the information required pursuant to subsection (2) and meets the criteria set out in this section. The governing body or agency shall certify all applications that contain the information required pursuant to subsection (2) and meet the criteria set out in this section as eligible to receive a credit. If applicable, the governing body or agency shall also certify if 20 percent of the employees of the business are residents of an enterprise zone or designated brownfield area, excluding temporary and part-time employees. The certification shall be in writing, and a copy of the certification shall be transmitted to the executive director of the Department of Revenue. The business shall be responsible for forwarding a certified application to the department.

Section 8. Section 220.182, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

220.182 Enterprise zone and brownfield area property tax credit.--

(1)(a) Beginning July 1, 1995, There shall be allowed a credit against the tax imposed by this chapter to any business which establishes a new business as defined in s. 220.03(1)(p)2., expands an existing business as defined in s. 220.03(1)(k)2., or rebuilds an existing business as defined in s. 220.03(1)(u) in this state. The credit shall be computed annually as ad valorem taxes paid in this state, in the case of a new business; the additional ad valorem tax paid in this state resulting from assessments on additional real or tangible personal property acquired to facilitate the expansion of an existing business; or the ad valorem taxes paid in this state resulting from assessments on property replaced or restored, in the case of a rebuilt business,

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including pollution and waste control facilities, or any part thereof, and including one or more buildings or other structures, machinery, fixtures, and equipment.

- (b) If the credit granted pursuant to this section is not fully used in any one year, the unused amount may be carried forward for a period not to exceed 5 years. The carryover credit may be used in a subsequent year when the tax imposed by this chapter for such year exceeds the credit for such year under this section after applying the other credits and unused credit carryovers in the order provided in s. 220.02(10). The amount of credit taken under this section in any one year, however, shall not exceed \$25,000, or, if no less than 20 percent of the employees of the business are residents of an enterprise zone or a brownfield area designated under s. 376.80, excluding temporary employees, the amount shall not exceed \$50,000.
- (2) To be eligible to receive an expanded enterprise zone or a designated brownfield area property tax credit of up to \$50,000, the business must provide a statement, under oath, on the form prescribed by the department for claiming the credit authorized by this section, that no less than 20 percent of its employees, excluding temporary and part-time employees, are residents of an enterprise zone or a designated brownfield area. It shall be a condition precedent to the granting of each annual tax credit that such employment requirements be fulfilled throughout each year during the 5-year period of the credit. The statement shall set forth the name and place of residence of each permanent employee on the last day of business of the tax year for which the credit is claimed or, if the employee is no longer employed or eligible 31 for the credit on that date, the last calendar day of the last

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full calendar month the employee was employed or eligible for the credit at the relevant site.

- (3) The credit shall be available to a new business for a period not to exceed the year in which ad valorem taxes are first levied against the business and the 4 years immediately thereafter. The credit shall be available to an expanded existing business for a period not to exceed the year in which ad valorem taxes are first levied on additional real or tangible personal property acquired to facilitate the expansion or rebuilding and the 4 years immediately thereafter. No business shall be entitled to claim the credit authorized by this section, except any amount attributable to the carryover of a previously earned credit, for more than 5 consecutive years.
- designated brownfield area property tax credit, a new, expanded, or rebuilt business shall file a notice with the property appraiser of the county in which the business property is located or to be located. The notice shall be filed no later than April 1 of the year in which new or additional real or tangible personal property acquired to facilitate such new, expanded, or rebuilt facility is first subject to assessment. The notice shall be made on a form prescribed by the department and shall include separate descriptions of:
- (a) Real and tangible personal property owned or leased by the business prior to expansion, if any.
- (b) Net new or additional real and tangible personal property acquired to facilitate the new, expanded, or rebuilt facility.

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- (5) When filing for an enterprise zone <u>or a designated</u> <u>brownfield area</u> property tax credit as a new business, a business shall include a copy of its receipt indicating payment of ad valorem taxes for the current year.
- brownfield area property tax credit as an expanded or rebuilt business, a business shall include copies of its receipts indicating payment of ad valorem taxes for the current year for prior existing property and for expansion-related or rebuilt property.
- (7) The receipts described in subsections (5) and (6) shall indicate the assessed value of the property, the property taxes paid, a brief description of the property, and an indication, if applicable, that the property was separately assessed as expansion-related or rebuilt property.
- (8) The department has authority to adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement the provisions of this act.
- (9) It shall be the responsibility of the taxpayer to affirmatively demonstrate to the satisfaction of the department that he or she meets the requirements of this act.
- designated brownfield area property tax credit as an expansion of an existing business or as a new business, it shall be a condition precedent to the granting of each annual tax credit that there have been, throughout each year during the 5-year period, no fewer than five more employees than in the year preceding the initial granting of the credit.
- (11) To apply for an enterprise zone <u>or a designated</u> <u>brownfield area</u> property tax credit, a new, expanded, or rebuilt business must file under oath with the governing body

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or enterprise zone development agency having jurisdiction over 2 the enterprise zone or the designated brownfield area where 3 the business is located, as applicable, an application prescribed by the department for claiming the credit 4 5 authorized by this section. Within 10 working days after 6 receipt of an application, the governing body or enterprise zone development agency shall review the application to 7 determine if it contains all the information required pursuant 8 to this section and meets the criteria set out in this 9 10 section. The governing body or agency shall certify all 11 applications that contain the information required pursuant to this section and meet the criteria set out in this section as 12 eliqible to receive a credit. If applicable, the governing 13 body or agency shall also certify if 20 percent of the 14 employees of the business are residents of an enterprise zone 15 or a designated brownfield area, excluding temporary and 16 17 part-time employees. The certification shall be in writing, and a copy of the certification shall be transmitted to the 18 19 executive director of the Department of Revenue. The business 20 shall be responsible for forwarding all certified applications to the department. 21

- (12) When filing for an enterprise zone <u>or a</u> <u>designated brownfield area</u> property tax credit, a business shall include the identifying number assigned pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the enterprise zone in which the business is located.
- (13) When filing for an enterprise zone <u>or a</u> <u>designated brownfield area</u> property tax credit, a business shall indicate whether the business is a small business as defined by s. 288.703(1).

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(14) The provisions of this section shall expire and be void on June 30, 2005, and no business shall be allowed to begin claiming such enterprise zone or designated brownfield area property tax credit after that date; however, the expiration of this section shall not affect the operation of any credit for which a business has qualified under this section prior to June 30, 2005, or any carryforward of unused credit amounts as provided in paragraph (1)(b).

Section 9. Subsections (1) and (2) and paragraph (d) of subsection (4) of section 220.183, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

220.183 Community contribution tax credit.--

- LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS. -- The Legislature finds that:
- There exist in the counties and municipalities (a) conditions of blight evidenced by extensive deterioration of public and private facilities, abandonment of sound structures, and high unemployment which conditions impede the conservation and development of healthy, safe, and economically viable communities.
- (b) Deterioration of housing and industrial, commercial, and public facilities contributes to the decline of neighborhoods and communities and leads to the loss of their historic character and the sense of community which this inspires; reduces the value of property comprising the tax base of local communities; discourages private investment; and requires a disproportionate expenditure of public funds for the social services, unemployment benefits, and police protection required to combat the social and economic problems found in slum communities.
- (c) In order to ultimately restore social and economic 31 viability to enterprise zones and brownfield areas designated

under s. 376.80, it is necessary to renovate or construct new housing, water and sewer infrastructure, and transportation facilities and to specifically provide mechanisms to attract and encourage private economic activity.

- (d) The various local governments and other redevelopment organizations now undertaking physical revitalization projects are limited by tightly constrained budgets and inadequate resources.
- (e) In order to significantly improve revitalization efforts by local governments and community development organizations and to retain as much of the historic character of our communities as possible, it is necessary to provide additional resources, and the participation of private enterprise in revitalization efforts is an effective means for accomplishing that goal.
- (2) POLICY AND PURPOSE.—It is the policy of this state to encourage the participation of private corporations in revitalization projects undertaken by public redevelopment organizations. The purpose of this section is to provide to the greatest extent possible an incentive for such participation by granting partial state income tax credits to corporations that contribute resources to public redevelopment organizations for the revitalization of enterprise zones and brownfield areas designated under s. 376.80 for the benefit of low-income and moderate—income persons or to preserve existing historically significant properties within enterprise zones or brownfield areas designated under s. 376.80 to the greatest extent possible. The Legislature thus declares this a public purpose for which public money may be borrowed, expended, loaned, and granted.
  - (4) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS. --

(d) The project shall be located in an area designated as an enterprise zone pursuant to s. 290.0065 or a brownfield area designated under s. 376.80. Any project designed to construct or rehabilitate low-income housing is exempt from the area requirement of this paragraph.

Section 10. Subsection (1) of section 220.1845, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

220. 1845 Contaminated site rehabilitation tax credit.--

- (1) AUTHORIZATION FOR TAX CREDIT; LIMITATIONS.--
- (a) A credit in the amount of 35 percent of the costs of voluntary cleanup activity that is integral to site rehabilitation at the following sites is allowed against any tax due for a taxable year under this chapter:
- 1. A drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site eligible for state-funded site rehabilitation under s. 376.3078(3);
- 2. A drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site at which cleanup is undertaken by the real property owner pursuant to s. 376.3078(11), if the real property owner is not also, and has never been, the owner or operator of the drycleaning facility where the contamination exists; or
- 4. Any other contaminated site at which the property owner did not cause or contribute to the contamination and for which cleanup is undertaken under a voluntary rehabilitation agreement approved by the Department of Environmental Protection.
- 29 (b) For all applications received by January 15, if,
  30 as of the following March 1, the credits granted under
  31 paragraph (a) do not exhaust the annual maximum allowable

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credits under paragraph (h), any remaining credits may be granted for petroleum-contaminated sites at which cleanups are being conducted under the preapproved advanced cleanup program authorized in s. 376.30713(4), but only up to the amount of private funding involved in the site-cleanup activity. Tax credit applications submitted for petroleum-contaminated sites may not be included in the carry-forward provision of s. 376.30781(9), which otherwise allows applications that do not receive credits due to an exhaustion of the annual tax credit authorization to be carried forward in the same order for the next year's annual tax credit allocation, if any, based on the prior year's application.

(c) (b) A taxpayer, or multiple taxpayers working jointly to clean up a single site, may not receive more than \$250,000 per year in tax credits for each site voluntarily rehabilitated. Multiple taxpayers shall receive tax credits in the same proportion as their contribution to payment of cleanup costs. Subject to the same conditions and limitations as provided in this section, a municipality or county which voluntarily rehabilitates a site may receive not more than \$250,000 per year in tax credits which it can subsequently transfer subject to the provisions in paragraph (h).

(d)<del>(c)</del> If the credit granted under this section is not fully used in any one year because of insufficient tax liability on the part of the corporation, the unused amount may be carried forward for a period not to exceed 5 years. The carryover credit may be used in a subsequent year when the tax imposed by this chapter for that year exceeds the credit for which the corporation is eligible in that year under this section after applying the other credits and unused carryovers 31 in the order provided by s. 220.02(10).

  $\underline{\text{(e)}(d)}$  A taxpayer that files a consolidated return in this state as a member of an affiliated group under s. 220.131(1) may be allowed the credit on a consolidated return basis up to the amount of tax imposed upon and paid by the taxpayer that incurred the rehabilitation costs.

 $\underline{\text{(f)}}$  (e) A taxpayer that receives credit under s. 199.1055 is ineligible to receive credit under this section in a given tax year.

 $\underline{(g)}(f)$  A taxpayer that receives state-funded site rehabilitation under s. 376.3078(3) for rehabilitation of a drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site is ineligible to receive credit under this section for costs incurred by the taxpayer in conjunction with the rehabilitation of that site during the same time period that state-administered site rehabilitation was underway.

 $\underline{\text{(h)}}$  The total amount of the tax credits which may be granted under this section and s. 199.1055 is \$2 million annually.

 $\underline{\text{(i)}}$ (h)1. Tax credits that may be available under this section to an entity eligible under s. 376.30781 may be transferred after a merger or acquisition to the surviving or acquiring entity and used in the same manner and with the same limitations.

2. The entity or its surviving or acquiring entity as described in subparagraph 1., may transfer any unused credit in whole or in units of no less than 25 percent of the remaining credit. The entity acquiring such credit may use it in the same manner and with the same limitation as described in this section. Such transferred credits may not be transferred again although they may succeed to a surviving or

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acquiring entity subject to the same conditions and limitations as described in this section.

In the event the credit provided for under this section is reduced either as a result of a determination by the Department of Environmental Protection or an examination or audit by the Department of Revenue, such tax deficiency shall be recovered from the first entity, or the surviving or acquiring entity, to have claimed such credit up to the amount of credit taken. Any subsequent deficiencies shall be assessed against any entity acquiring and claiming such credit, or in the case of multiple succeeding entities in the order of credit succession.

(j)(i) In order to encourage completion of site rehabilitation at contaminated sites being voluntarily cleaned up and eligible for a tax credit under this section, the taxpayer may claim an additional 10 percent of the total cleanup costs, not to exceed \$50,000, in the final year of cleanup as evidenced by the Department of Environmental Protection issuing a "No Further Action" order for that site.

Section 11. Section 290.007, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

290.007 State incentives available in enterprise zones and brownfield areas. -- The following incentives are provided by the state to encourage the revitalization of enterprise zones and brownfield areas designated under s. 376.80:

- (1) The enterprise zone jobs credit and the designated brownfield area jobs credit provided in s. 220.181.
- (2) The enterprise zone or designated brownfield area property tax credit provided in s. 220.182.
- (3) The community contribution tax credits provided in 31 ss. 220.183 and 624.5105.

- (4) The sales tax exemption for building materials used in the rehabilitation of real property in enterprise zones or designated brownfield areas provided in s. 212.08(5)(g).
  - (5) The sales tax exemption for business equipment used in an enterprise zone or a designated brownfield area provided in s. 212.08(5)(h).
  - (6) The sales tax exemption for electrical energy used in an enterprise zone or a designated brownfield area provided in s. 212.08(15).
  - (7) The enterprise zone jobs credit <u>and the designated</u> <u>brownfield area jobs credit</u> against the sales tax provided in s. 212.096.
- (8) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the Public Service Commission may allow public utilities and telecommunications companies to grant discounts of up to 50 percent on tariffed rates for services to small businesses located in an enterprise zone designated pursuant to s. 290.0065 or a brownfield area designated under s.376.80. Such discounts may be granted for a period not to exceed 5 years. For purposes of this subsection, "public utility" has the same meaning as in s. 366.02(1) and "telecommunications company" has the same meaning as in s. 364.02(12)s. 364.02(7).

Section 12. Section 376.30702, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

376.30702 The State-Owned-Lands Cleanup Program; findings; intent; purpose; program requirements; funding; liability protection; cost recovery.--

(1) FINDINGS; INTENT.--In addition to the legislative findings set forth in s. 376.30, the Legislature finds and declares that:

- (a) Significant quantities of pollutants or hazardous substances have been discharged in the past on state-owned lands. Generally, these discharges have occurred as part of the normal operation of facilities that existed on the property. Many of these discharges occurred prior to the state acquiring title to the property, or the discharges resulted from the acts of tenants or lessees of the state-owned lands.
- (b) These discharges of pollutants and hazardous substances on state-owned lands pose a significant threat to the quality of the groundwaters and inland surface waters of this state.
- (c) Where contamination of the groundwater or surface water has occurred, remedial measures have often been delayed for long periods while determinations as to liability and the extent of liability have been made, and such delays have resulted in the continuation and intensification of the threat to the public health, safety, and welfare; in greater damage to the environment; and in significantly higher costs to contain and remove the contamination.
- (d) Adequate financial resources must be readily available to provide for the expeditious supply of safe and reliable alternative sources of potable water to affected persons and to provide a means for investigation and rehabilitation without delay of contaminated sites on state-owned lands.
- (e) Site rehabilitation at contaminated sites on state-owned lands should be based on the actual risk that contamination may pose to the environment and public health, taking into account current and future land and water use and the degree to which contamination may spread and place the public or the environment at risk.

(2) CREATION; PURPOSES OF PROGRAM. --

(a) There is created the Florida State-Owned-Lands
Cleanup Program to be administered by the department. To
encourage detection, reporting, and cleanup of contamination
on state-owned lands, the department shall, within the
guidelines established in this section, implement a cleanup
program to provide state-funded and state-managed site
rehabilitation for all state-owned property contaminated by
discharges of pollutants or hazardous substances occurring
before July 1, 2000. The Legislature intends to address only
residual historical contamination on state-owned lands, and it
is not the intent of this program to provide funding for
environmental compliance for ongoing operations that may cause
future contamination on state-owned lands.

- (b) Continuation of this program is subject to an annual appropriation from the Legislature. Continued state funding will not be considered an entitlement or a vested right under this section. The department shall not obligate funds in excess of the annual appropriation established in subsection (6).
- (c) Whenever, in its determination, incidents of contamination on state-owned lands caused by pollutants or hazardous substances may pose a threat to the environment or the public health, safety, or welfare, the department shall obligate moneys available under this section to provide for:
- 1. Prompt investigation and assessment of the contaminated site.
- 2. Expeditious treatment, restoration, or replacement of potable water supplies as provided in s. 376.30(3)(c)1.
- 30 3. Rehabilitation of contaminated sites, which shall consist of rehabilitation of affected soil, groundwater,

sediment and surface waters, using the most cost-effective alternative that is technologically feasible and reliable and that provides adequate protection of the public health, safety, and welfare and minimizes environmental damage, in accordance with the rehabilitation criteria established by the department under s. 376.3078(4), except that nothing in this subsection may be construed to authorize the department to obligate funds for payment of costs that may be associated with, but are not integral to, site rehabilitation.

- 4. Maintenance and monitoring of contaminated sites.
- $\underline{\mbox{5. Inspection and supervision of activities described}}$  in this subsection.
- 6. Payment of expenses incurred by the department in its efforts to obtain from responsible parties the payment or recovery of reasonable costs resulting from the activities described in this subsection.
- 7. Payment of any other reasonable costs of administration, including those administrative costs incurred by the Department of Health in providing field and laboratory services, toxicological risk assessment, and other assistance to the department in the investigation of drinking water contamination complaints and costs associated with public information and education activities.
- 8. Reasonable costs of restoring property as nearly as practicable to the conditions that existed prior to activities associated with contamination assessment or remedial action.
  - (3) SITE PRIORITY RANKING AND CLEANUP CRITERIA. --
- (a) The department shall determine the priority ranking of all known contaminated sites on state-owned lands using the criteria listed in s. 376.3078(7) and (8). It is the intent of the Legislature that site rehabilitation be conducted first at

 those sites that pose the greatest threat to human health and the environment, within the availability of funds appropriated annually for this program.

- (b) The department shall conduct site rehabilitation at contaminated sites being cleaned up under this program using the cleanup criteria established in s. 376.3078(4) and chapter 62-777, Florida Administrative Code, as that chapter may hereafter be amended.
- c) It is recognized that restoration of groundwater resources contaminated with pollutants or hazardous substances may not be achievable using currently available technology. In situations where the use of available technology is not expected to achieve water quality standards, the department may use innovative technology that has been field-tested and that has engineering and cost data available.
- (d) This subsection may not be construed to restrict the department from temporarily postponing completion of any site rehabilitation activities at a contaminated site on state-owned lands for which funds are being expended under this section whenever the postponement is deemed necessary in order to make funds available for rehabilitation of another contamination site on state-owned lands having a higher priority status.
  - (4) LIABILITY PROTECTION. --
- (a) Any state agency that controls or manages state-owned lands that are contaminated with pollutants or hazardous substances is relieved of further liability for remediation of the contaminated site or sites to the state and to third parties and of liability in contribution to any other party who has or may incur cleanup liability for the contaminated site or sites.

- (b) This section may not be construed as a limitation on the right of a third party other than the state to pursue an action for damages to property or person; however, such an action may not compel site rehabilitation in excess of that required by the department.
- (c) This section does not affect the department's ability or authority to pursue enforcement compelling site rehabilitation, or to pursue penalties available under current law, against any person who may have liability with respect to a contaminated site on state-owned land and who has not received cleanup liability protection under this section.
- (d) This section does not affect the department's ability or authority to seek contribution from any person who may have liability with respect to a contaminated site on state-owned land and who has not received cleanup liability protection under this section.
- (e) This section does not subject the department to liability for any action that may be required of the real property owner or the owner or operator of a facility on state-owned lands by any private party or any local, state, or Federal Government entity.
- (5) DEPARTMENTAL DUTY TO SEEK RECOVERY AND REIMBURSEMENT.--
- (a) Except as provided in subsection (4) and as otherwise provided by law, the department shall recover from any person causing or having caused the discharge of pollutants or hazardous substances on state-owned lands, jointly and severally, all sums owed or expended for site rehabilitation at a site designated under the State-Owned-Lands Cleanup Program under s. 376.308, except that the department may decline to pursue such recovery if it

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finds the amount involved to be too small or the likelihood of recovery too uncertain.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (4) and as otherwise provided by law, it is the duty of the department in administering the State-Owned-Lands Cleanup Program to diligently pursue the recovery of any sum expended from the fund for site rehabilitation in accordance with the provisions of this section, unless the department finds the amount involved to be too small or the likelihood of recovery too uncertain. For the purposes of s. 95.11, the limitation period within which to institute an action to recover such sums shall commence on the last date on which any such sums were expended and not the date on which the discharge occurred.

Section 13. Section 376.30781, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

376.30781 Partial tax credits for rehabilitation of drycleaning-solvent-contaminated sites and brownfield sites in designated brownfield areas; application process; rulemaking authority; revocation authority. --

- (1) The Legislature finds that:
- To facilitate property transactions and economic growth and development, it is in the interest of the state to encourage the voluntary cleanup, at the earliest possible time, of contaminated drycleaning-solvent-contaminated sites and brownfield sites in designated brownfield areas.
- (b) It is the intent of the Legislature to encourage the voluntary cleanup of contaminated drycleaning-solvent-contaminated sites and brownfield sites in designated brownfield areas by providing a partial tax credit for the restoration of such property in specified 31 circumstances.

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- CODING: Words stricken

- (2)(a) A credit in the amount of 35 percent of the costs of voluntary cleanup activity that is integral to site rehabilitation at the following sites is allowed pursuant to ss. 199.1055 and 220.1845:
- A drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site eligible for state-funded site rehabilitation under s. 376.3078(3);
- 2. A drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site at which cleanup is undertaken by the real property owner pursuant to s. 376.3078(11), if the real property owner is not also, and has never been, the owner or operator of the drycleaning facility where the contamination exists; or
- 3. A brownfield site in a designated brownfield area under s. 376.80; or.
- 4. Any other contaminated site at which the property owner did not cause or contribute to the contamination and for which cleanup is undertaken under a voluntary rehabilitation agreement approved by the Department of Environmental Protection.
- (b) For all applications received by January 15, if, as of the following March 1, the credits granted under paragraph (a) do not exhaust the annual maximum allowable credits under subsection (3), any remaining credits may be granted for petroleum-contaminated sites at which cleanups are being conducted under the preapproved advanced cleanup program authorized in s. 376.30713(4), but only up to the amount of private funding involved in the site-cleanup activity. Tax credit applications submitted for petroleum-contaminated sites may not be included in the carry-forward provision of subsection (9), which otherwise allows applications that do not receive credits due to an exhaustion of the annual tax credit authorization to be carried forward in the same order

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for the next year's annual tax credit allocation, if any, based on the prior year's application.

(c) (b) A taxpayer, or multiple taxpayers working jointly to clean up a single site, may not receive more than \$250,000 per year in tax credits for each site voluntarily rehabilitated. Multiple taxpayers shall receive tax credits in the same proportion as their contribution to payment of cleanup costs. Tax credits are available only for site rehabilitation conducted during the calendar tax year for in which the tax credit application is submitted.

(d)<del>(c)</del> In order to encourage completion of site rehabilitation at contaminated sites that are being voluntarily cleaned up and that are eligible for a tax credit under this section, the tax credit applicant may claim an additional 10 percent of the total cleanup costs, not to exceed \$50,000, in the final year of cleanup as evidenced by the Department of Environmental Protection issuing a "no further action" order for that site.

- (3) The Department of Environmental Protection shall be responsible for allocating the tax credits provided for in ss. 199.1055 and 220.1845, not to exceed a total of \$2 million in tax credits annually.
- (4) To claim the credit for site rehabilitation conducted during the current calendar year, each applicant must apply to the Department of Environmental Protection for an allocation of the \$2 million annual credit by January 15 of the following year December 31 on a form developed by the Department of Environmental Protection in cooperation with the Department of Revenue. The form shall include an affidavit from each applicant certifying that all information contained 31 in the application, including all records of costs incurred

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and claimed in the tax credit application, are true and 2 correct. If the application is submitted pursuant to 3 subparagraph (2)(a)2., the form must include an affidavit 4 signed by the real property owner stating that it is not, and 5 has never been, the owner or operator of the drycleaning 6 facility where the contamination exists. If the application is 7 submitted under subparagraph (2)(b)2., the form must include 8 an affidavit signed by the person agreeing to conduct 9 voluntary cleanup stating that he or she did not cause or 10 contribute to the contamination at the site. Approval of 11 partial tax credits must be accomplished on a first-come, first-served basis based upon the date complete applications 12 are received by the Division of Waste Management. An applicant 13 14 shall submit only one complete application per site for each calendar year's site rehabilitation costs. Placeholder 15 applications may not be accepted and will not secure a place 16 17 in the first-come, first-served application line per year. To 18 be eligible for a tax credit the applicant must: 19

- (a) Have entered into a voluntary cleanup agreement with the Department of Environmental Protection for a <a href="mailto:contaminated">contaminated</a> drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site or <a href="mailto:into">into</a> a Brownfield Site Rehabilitation Agreement, as applicable; and
- (b) Have paid all deductibles pursuant to s. 376.3078(3)(d) for eligible drycleaning-solvent-cleanup program sites.
- (5) To obtain the tax credit certificate, an applicant must annually file an application for certification, which must be received by the Department of Environmental Protection's Division of Waste Management Protection by January 15 of the year following the calendar year for which site rehabilitation costs are being claimed in a tax credit

 <u>application</u> <u>December 31</u>. The applicant must provide all pertinent information requested on the tax credit application form, including, at a minimum, the name and address of the applicant and the address and tracking identification number of the eligible site. Along with the application form, the applicant must submit the following:

- (a) A nonrefundable review fee of \$250 made payable to the Water Quality Assurance Trust Fund to cover the administrative costs associated with the department's review of the tax credit application;
- (b) Copies of contracts and documentation of contract negotiations, accounts, invoices, sales tickets, or other payment records from purchases, sales, leases, or other transactions involving actual costs incurred for that tax year related to site rehabilitation, as that term is defined in ss. 376.301 and 376.79;
- (c) Proof that the documentation submitted pursuant to paragraph (b) has been reviewed and verified by an independent certified public accountant in accordance with standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Specifically, the certified public accountant must attest to the accuracy and validity of the costs incurred and paid by conducting an independent review of the data presented by the applicant. Accuracy and validity of costs incurred and paid would be determined once the level of effort was certified by an appropriate professional registered in this state in each contributing technical discipline. The certified public accountant's report would also attest that the costs included in the application form are not duplicated within the application. A copy of the accountant's report

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shall be submitted to the Department of Environmental Protection with the tax credit application; and

- (d) A certification form stating that site rehabilitation activities associated with the documentation submitted pursuant to paragraph (b) have been conducted under the observation of, and related technical documents have been signed and sealed by, an appropriate professional registered in this state in each contributing technical discipline. The certification form shall be signed and sealed by the appropriate registered professionals stating that the costs incurred were integral, necessary, and required for site rehabilitation, as that term is defined in ss. 376.301 and 376.79.
- (6) The certified public accountant and appropriate registered professionals submitting forms as part of a tax credit application must verify such forms. Verification must be accomplished as provided in s. 92.525(1)(b) and subject to the provisions of s. 92.525(3).
- (7) The Department of Environmental Protection shall review the tax credit application and any supplemental documentation that the applicant may submit before the annual application deadline in order to have the application considered complete submitted by each applicant, for the purpose of verifying that the applicant has met the qualifying criteria in subsections (2) and (4) and has submitted all required documentation listed in subsection (5). Upon verification that the applicant has met these requirements, the department shall issue a written decision granting eligibility for partial tax credits (a tax credit certificate) in the amount of 35 percent of the total costs claimed, 31 subject to the \$250,000 limitation, for the calendar tax year

 <u>for</u> in which the tax credit application is submitted based on the report of the certified public accountant and the certifications from the appropriate registered technical professionals.

- (8) On or before March 1, the Department of Environmental Protection shall inform each eligible applicant for sites listed in paragraph (2)(a) of the amount of its partial tax credit and provide each eligible applicant with a tax credit certificate that must be submitted with its tax return to the Department of Revenue to claim the tax credit. Credits will not result in the payment of refunds if total credits exceed the amount of tax owed.
- paragraph (2)(b), if an applicant does not receive a tax credit allocation due to an exhaustion of the \$2 million annual tax credit authorization, such application will then be included in the same first-come, first-served order in the next year's annual tax credit allocation, if any, based on the prior year application.
- (10) The Department of Environmental Protection may adopt rules to prescribe the necessary forms required to claim tax credits under this section and to provide the administrative guidelines and procedures required to administer this section. Prior to the adoption of rules regulating the tax credit application, the department shall, by September 1, 1998, establish reasonable interim application requirements and forms.
- (11) The Department of Environmental Protection may revoke or modify any written decision granting eligibility for partial tax credits under this section if it is discovered that the tax credit applicant submitted any false statement,

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representation, or certification in any application, record, 2 report, plan, or other document filed in an attempt to receive 3 partial tax credits under this section. The Department of Environmental Protection shall immediately notify the 4 5 Department of Revenue of any revoked or modified orders 6 affecting previously granted partial tax credits. 7 Additionally, the taxpayer must notify the Department of 8 Revenue of any change in its tax credit claimed.

- (12) An owner, operator, or real property owner who receives state-funded site rehabilitation under s. 376.3078(3) for rehabilitation of a drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site is ineligible to receive a tax credit under s. 199.1055 or s. 220.1845 for costs incurred by the taxpayer in conjunction with the rehabilitation of that site during the same time period that state-administered site rehabilitation was underway.
- (13) Any person who receives partial state-funded site rehabilitation under the preapproved advanced cleanup program authorized in s. 376.30713(4) is ineligible to receive tax credits under s. 199.1055 or s. 220.1845 for the portion of site rehabilitation costs paid for by the state.
- (14) Regardless of the effective date of this statute, the Legislature intends to allow tax credit applications filed under paragraph (2)(b) to include site rehabilitation costs for the entire 2000 calendar year rather than only those costs incurred and paid from July 1, 2000, forward.

Section 14. Section 376.84, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

376.84 Brownfield redevelopment economic incentives. -- It is the intent of the Legislature that 31 | brownfield redevelopment activities be viewed as opportunities

to significantly improve the utilization, general condition, and appearance of these sites. Alternative Different standards than those in place for new development, as allowed under current state and local laws, should be used to the fullest extent to encourage the redevelopment of a brownfield. State and local governments are encouraged to offer redevelopment incentives for this purpose, as an ongoing public investment in infrastructure and services, to help eliminate the public health and environmental hazards, and to promote the creation of jobs in these areas. These Such incentives may include financial, regulatory, and technical assistance to persons and businesses involved in the redevelopment of the brownfield pursuant to this act.

- (1) Financial incentives and local incentives for redevelopment may include, but not be limited to:
- (a) Tax increment financing through community redevelopment agencies, pursuant to part III of chapter 163, or any other entities approved by the local government for the purpose of redeveloping brownfield areas.
- (b) Enterprise zone tax exemptions for businesses pursuant to chapters 196 and 290.
- (c) Safe neighborhood improvement districts as provided in ss. 163.501-163.523.
- (d) Waiver, reduction, or limitation by line of business with respect to occupational license taxes pursuant to chapter 205.
- (e) Tax exemption for historic properties as provided in s. 196.1997.
- 29 (f) Residential electricity exemption of up to the 30 first 500 kilowatts of use may be exempted from the municipal 31 public service tax pursuant to s. 166.231.

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- 1 (g) Minority business enterprise programs as provided 2 in s. 287.0943. 3 (h) Electric and gas tax exemption as provided in s.
  - (h) Electric and gas tax exemption as provided in s. 166.231(6).
  - (i) Economic development tax abatement as provided in s. 196.1995.
  - (j) Grants, including community development block grants.
    - (k) Pledging of revenues to secure bonds.
  - (1) Low-interest revolving loans and zero-interest loan pools.
  - (m) Local grant programs for facade, storefront, signage, and other business improvements.
  - (n) Governmental coordination of loan programs with lenders, such as microloans, business reserve fund loans, letter of credit enhancements, gap financing, land lease and sublease loans, and private equity.
  - (o) Payment schedules over time for payment of fees, within criteria, and marginal cost pricing.
  - (2) Regulatory incentives may include, but not be limited to:
  - (a) Cities' absorption of developers' concurrency needs.
    - (b) Developers' performance of certain analyses.
- 25 (c) Exemptions and lessening of state and local review 26 requirements.
  - (d) Water and sewer regulatory incentives.
  - (e) Waiver of transportation impact fees and permit fees.
- (f) Zoning incentives to reduce review requirementsfor redevelopment changes in use and occupancy; establishment

 of code criteria for specific uses; and institution of credits for previous use within the area.

- (g) Flexibility in parking standards and buffer zone standards.
- (h) Environmental management through specific code criteria and conditions allowed by current law.
- (i) Maintenance standards and activities by ordinance and otherwise, and increased security and crime prevention measures available through special assessments.
  - (j) Traffic-calming measures.
- (k) Historic preservation ordinances, loan programs, and review and permitting procedures.
- (1) One-stop permitting and streamlined development and permitting process.
- (3) Technical assistance incentives may include, but not be limited to:
  - (a) Expedited development applications.
- (b) Formal and informal information on business incentives and financial programs.
  - (c) Site design assistance.
  - (d) Marketing and promotion of projects or areas.
- (4) A local government having a designated brownfield area under s. 376.80 and a brownfield site rehabilitation agreement under subsection (5) of that section may issue revenue bonds under s. 163.385 and employ tax increment financing under s. 163.387 for the purpose of financing the implementation of the brownfield site rehabilitation agreement and the local government's approved plan for revitalizing the brownfield area, except that in a charter county such incentive shall be employed consistent with the provisions of s. 163.410.

1 (5) A local government having a designated brownfield
2 area as described in subsection (4) may also exercise the
3 powers granted under s. 163.514 for community redevelopment
4 improvement districts, including the authority to levy special
5 assessments when such mechanisms will assist in revitalizing
6 the brownfield area.

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Section 15. Subsection (1) of section 376.86, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

376.86 Brownfield Areas Loan Guarantee Program.--

(1) The Brownfield Areas Loan Guarantee Council is created to review and approve or deny by a majority vote of its membership, the situations and circumstances for participation in partnerships by agreements with local governments, financial institutions, and others associated with the redevelopment of brownfield areas pursuant to the Brownfields Redevelopment Act for a limited state guaranty of up to 4 5 years of loan guarantees or loan loss reserves issued pursuant to law. The limited state loan guaranty applies only to 20 10 percent of the primary lenders' lenders loans for redevelopment projects in brownfield areas. A limited state guaranty of private loans or a loan loss reserve is authorized for lenders licensed to operate in the state upon a determination by the council that such an arrangement is would be in the public interest and that the likelihood of the success of the loan is great.

Section 16. Section 376.876, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

376.876 Brownfield Redevelopment Grants Program. --

(1) The Department of Environmental Protection shall administer a program to make grants to local governments that have designated brownfield areas under s. 376.80 and need

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financial assistance for site assessment and cleanup activities to make the redevelopment project financially 2 3 feasible. The grants may not be used for general administrative costs incurred by a local government for 4 5 oversight and administration of a brownfield area 6 redevelopment program, but instead the state grants must be used for actual site assessment and cleanup activities, 7 8 including integrally related engineering design, soil removal, 9 and soil treatment, and customary nonadministrative activities undertaken in the remediation of contamination at a designated 10 11 brownfield site. The department shall take into consideration the following factors when reviewing each applicant's grant 12 13 proposal: (a) The level of unemployment and poverty in the 14 census tract in the brownfield area and in which the project 15 site is located; 16

- The likelihood that the proposed response action will be adequate to clean up the property in accordance with the requirements of all applicable laws;
- The presence of community benefits associated with the project, including, without limitation, the creation or revitalization of open space;
- The proximity of the project site to existing transportation and utility infrastructure appropriate to support the proposed reuse of the project site;
- Whether the project site is located in an area that has received pilot project funding for redevelopment of brownfield areas from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency;
- (f) Whether the local government in which the project site is located has made available substantial funds in 31

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furtherance of remediation and redevelopment of the designated brownfield area; and

- (g) Whether the local government having the designated brownfield area has completed any projects in the brownfield area.
- (2) While grants must be applied for by municipalities or counties, the local governments may by agreement allow the grant funds to be used by local redevelopment authorities, economic development authorities, community redevelopment agencies, or other similar entities approved by the municipal or county governing body that has designated the brownfield area under s. 376.80 and has jurisdiction over the location where the redevelopment grant funds will be used.
- (3) Each grant requires a 20-percent match from the applicant in either cash or in-kind services. A single grant may not be larger than \$300,000 during each state fiscal year. Of each grant, no more than \$100,000 may be used for site assessment activities. The remainder of the grant amount is to be used for cleanup activities at a brownfield site. In the first fiscal year in which the Legislature provides an appropriation for this grant program, the department shall administer the funds to assure that at least one-half of the amount available is awarded to local governments that can demonstrate compliance with paragraphs (1)(e), (f), and (g).
- (4) The department may adopt rules to administer the grant program authorized by this section relating to application forms, timeframes for submission of applications, notification of grant awards, and grant agreement documents required.
- Section 17. The sum of \$5 million is appropriated from 31 the General Revenue Fund to the Department of Environmental

Protection for the purpose of administering the Brownfield Redevelopment Grants Program under section 376.876, Florida Statutes, during the 2000-2001 fiscal year. Section 18. The sum of \$2.5 million is appropriated from the General Revenue Fund to the Department of Environmental Protection for the purpose of administering the State-Owned-Lands Cleanup Program under section 376.30702, Florida Statutes, during the 2000-2001 fiscal year. Section 19. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000. \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* SENATE SUMMARY Provides financial incentives through tax exemptions, tax credits, and appropriations for new programs in designated brownfield areas.