

By Representative Peterman

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Florida Faith-Based
3 Initiative; creating the Florida Faith-Based
4 Initiative and providing for administration by
5 the Florida Faith-Based Network, Inc.;
6 providing for open records and meetings;
7 providing duties; providing funding; providing
8 eligibility for funds; providing an effective
9 date.

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

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13 Section 1. Florida Faith-Based Initiative.--

14 (1) CREATION.--The Florida Faith-Based Initiative is
15 created and shall be administered by the Florida Faith-Based
16 Network, Inc., which shall be registered, incorporated,
17 organized, and operated in compliance with chapter 617,
18 Florida Statutes, and which shall not be a unit or entity of
19 state government. The Legislature determines, however, that
20 public policy dictates that the Florida Faith-Based Network,
21 Inc., operate in the most open and accessible manner
22 consistent with its public purpose. To this end, the
23 Legislature specifically declares that the Florida Faith-Based
24 Network, Inc., is subject to the provisions of chapter 119,
25 Florida Statutes, relating to public records and those
26 provisions of chapter 286, Florida Statutes, relating to
27 public meetings and records.

28 (2) DUTIES.--The Florida Faith-Based Initiative shall:

29 (a) Examine competition-based barriers to state-funded
30 or federally funded provision of services by faith-based
31 organizations.

- 1 (b) Provide programmatic and managerial training and
2 technical assistance to faith-based organizations seeking or
3 using state or federal funds to provide services. Such
4 training and technical assistance shall focus on critical
5 areas of faith-based social services management, including
6 community asset-based program development, research-based
7 "best program practices," resource development for nonstate
8 funding sources, and financial management and budgeting.
- 9 (c) Provide funds to faith-based organizations to
10 provide authorized local services on behalf of a state agency.
- 11 (d) To the maximum extent possible, leverage state
12 funding for the initiative with any federal funding that the
13 initiative may receive to support similar faith-based
14 activities.
- 15 (e) Provide specific goals and objective criteria to
16 measure, evaluate, and document the quality and cost of
17 services provided by faith-based organizations with state or
18 federal funds.
- 19 (f) Serve as liaison to the Centers for Faith-Based
20 and Community Initiatives established within the United States
21 Department of Justice, United States Department of Health and
22 Human Services, United States Department of Education, United
23 States Department of Labor, and United States Department of
24 Housing and Urban Development to work in tandem with the White
25 House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives.
- 26 (g) Provide comprehensive chaplaincy programming in
27 juvenile detention centers across the state in order to assist
28 local youth in developing and internalizing a set of personal
29 moral values through interactive participation with the youth
30 and his or her family.
- 31 (3) FUNDING.--

- 1 (a) Notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida
2 Statutes, and pursuant to s. 216.351, Florida Statutes:
- 3 1. The Department of Juvenile Justice shall transfer
4 to the Florida Faith-Based Initiative each fiscal year up to
5 \$1 million from trust fund and Title II and Title V federal
6 fund appropriations to the department that fiscal year.
- 7 2. The Department of Corrections shall transfer to the
8 Florida Faith-Based Initiative each fiscal year up to \$1
9 million from trust fund and community-based program
10 appropriations to the department that fiscal year.
- 11 3. Workforce Florida, Inc., shall transfer to the
12 Florida Faith-Based Initiative each fiscal year up to \$2
13 million from toolkit and WAGES appropriations to the agency
14 that fiscal year.
- 15 4. The Department of Health shall transfer to the
16 Florida Faith-Based Initiative each fiscal year up to \$1.5
17 million from trust fund, anti-tobacco, and abstinence
18 education appropriations to the department that fiscal year.
- 19 5. The Department of Community Affairs shall transfer
20 to the Florida Faith-Based Initiative each fiscal year up to
21 \$1 million from community development appropriations to the
22 department that fiscal year.
- 23 6. The Department of Children and Family Services
24 shall transfer to the Florida Faith-Based Initiative each
25 fiscal year up to \$1.5 million from trust fund and family
26 preservation appropriations to the department that fiscal
27 year.
- 28 7. The Department of Law Enforcement shall transfer to
29 the Florida Faith-Based Initiative each fiscal year up to \$1
30 million from trust fund appropriations to the department that
31 fiscal year.

1 8. The Department of Environmental Protection shall
2 transfer to the Florida Faith-Based Initiative each fiscal
3 year up to \$1 million from trust fund appropriations to the
4 department that fiscal year.

5 (b) All funds transferred to the Florida Faith-Based
6 Initiative under this subsection shall be distributed to
7 faith-based organizations for provision of services on behalf
8 of the department or agency from which the funds were
9 transferred and only pursuant to a written agreement between
10 the department or agency and the initiative.

11 (c) All fund transfers under this subsection shall be
12 by budget amendment submitted through the Executive Office of
13 the Governor and are subject to the notice and review
14 procedures set forth in s. 216.177, Florida Statutes.

15 (4) ELIGIBILITY.--A faith-based organization receiving
16 funding or other assistance under the Florida Faith-Based
17 Initiative must be a nonprofit organization holding a current
18 exemption from federal taxation under s. 501(c)(3) or (4) of
19 the Internal Revenue Code or must be a religious organization
20 that is not required to apply for recognition of its exemption
21 from federal taxation under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal
22 Revenue Code. Funding under this section shall not be used
23 for religious or sectarian purposes.

24 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002.

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27 HOUSE SUMMARY

28 Creates the Florida Faith-Based Initiative and provides
29 for its administration by the Florida Faith-Based
30 Network, Inc. Provides duties and funding. See bill for
31 details.