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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

House

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Floor: WD/2R

04/29/2009 02:55 PM

Senator Bennett moved the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Between lines 1759 and 1760
insert:

Section 22. (1) (a) The Department of Community Affairs shall implement the Energy Economic Zone Pilot Program for the purpose of developing a model to help communities encourage and attain renewable electric energy generation; manufacture products that contribute to energy conservation, green jobs, and energy-efficient land use; and develop patterns and building designs. The Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development and the Florida Energy and Climate Commission shall provide



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13 technical assistance to the department in developing and
14 administering the program. The pilot program is intended to
15 cultivate green economic development and further the
16 implementation of chapter 2008-191, Laws of Florida, which
17 requires that future land use elements within local government
18 comprehensive plans be based on the discouragement of urban
19 sprawl, the development of energy-efficient land use patterns
20 accounting for existing and future electric power generation and
21 transmission systems, and greenhouse gas reduction strategies.

22 (b) Sarasota County may apply to the department to
23 participate in the program based on its record of promoting
24 energy-efficient policies and practices and encouraging green
25 economic development, including the adoption of a resolution
26 with carbon neutral goals, an established green building and
27 development incentive program, and a voter-approved
28 infrastructure surtax, a portion of which is dedicated to
29 economic development. The application shall identify the
30 proposed location of the energy economic zone, which must be
31 within an adopted urban service area and may include the county
32 landfill outside the urban service boundary, present a proposed
33 strategic plan for development and redevelopment in the energy
34 economic zone, demonstrate consistency of the strategic plan
35 with the local comprehensive plan or include proposed plan
36 amendments necessary to achieve consistency, and identify
37 comprehensive plan amendments that will be proposed to implement
38 chapter 2008-191, Laws of Florida. The strategic plan must
39 include mixed-use and form-based standards that integrate
40 multimodal transportation facilities with land use and
41 development patterns to reduce reliance on automobiles,



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42 encourage certified green building developments and renewable
43 energy systems, encourage creation of green jobs, and
44 demonstrate how local financial and regulatory incentives will
45 be used in the energy economic zone. The department shall grant
46 the application if the application meets the requirements of
47 this paragraph.

48 (c) The department and the office shall provide the pilot
49 community, including businesses within the energy economic zone,
50 with technical assistance in identifying and qualifying for
51 eligible grants and credits in job creation, energy, and other
52 areas.

53 (2) (a) The department, with the assistance of the office,
54 shall submit an interim report by February 15, 2010, to the
55 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the
56 House of Representatives regarding the status of the pilot
57 program. Such report shall contain any recommendations deemed
58 appropriate by the department for statutory changes to
59 accomplish the goals of the pilot program community, including
60 whether it would be beneficial to provide financial incentives
61 similar to those offered to an enterprise zone.

62 (b) The department, after consultation with the office,
63 shall submit a final report to the Governor, the President of
64 the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by
65 February 15, 2012, evaluating whether the pilot program has
66 demonstrated success in development and redevelopment in the
67 energy economic zone, including incorporating renewable energy
68 generation systems, low-impact design, and energy-efficient land
69 use and development patterns or building designs. The report
70 shall contain recommendations with regard to whether the program



71 should be expanded for use by other local governments and
72 whether state policies should be revised to encourage the goals
73 of the program.

74
75 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

76 And the title is amended as follows:

77 Delete line 136

78 and insert:

79 requirement; requiring that the Department of
80 Community Affairs implement the Energy Economic Zone
81 Pilot Program for specified purposes; requiring that
82 the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development
83 provide technical assistance to the department in
84 developing and administering the program; specifying
85 intended goals of the program; authorizing Sarasota
86 County to apply to the program; requiring that the
87 application provide certain information; requiring
88 that the department and the office provide the pilot
89 community with certain assistance; requiring that the
90 department submit certain reports to the Governor, the
91 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House
92 of Representatives by specified deadlines; requiring
93 that such reports contain certain information and make
94 certain recommendations; providing an effective date.