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Proposed Committee Substitute by the Committee on Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to regional workforce boards; amending s. 445.007, F.S.; prohibiting board members and their relatives from contracting with or having a financial interest in a contract with the regional workforce board on which the member serves; requiring a member who is employed by or who receives remuneration from a contracting entity to abstain from voting on a contract with that entity; requiring the chief elected officers within a region to approve the appointment of any executive director to the staff of a regional workforce board; providing that the chairperson of a regional workforce board is subject to confirmation by the Senate; prohibiting workforce boards from expending federal or state funds for the purpose of providing meals, food, or beverages or recreational activities and entertainment for board members, staff, or employees of regional workforce boards, Workforce Florida, Inc., or the Agency for Workforce Innovation except as expressly authorized by state law; authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses; 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. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 445.007, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsections (10) and (11) are



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added to that section, to read:

445.007 Regional workforce boards.-

(1) One regional workforce board shall be appointed in each designated service delivery area and shall serve as the local workforce investment board pursuant to Pub. L. No. 105-220. The membership of the board shall be consistent with Pub. L. No. 105-220, Title I, s. 117(b), and contain one representative from a nonpublic postsecondary educational institution that is an authorized individual training account provider within the region and confers certificates and diplomas, one representative from a nonpublic postsecondary educational institution that is an authorized individual training account provider within the region and confers degrees, and three representatives of organized labor. The board shall include one nonvoting representative from a military installation if a military installation is located within the region and the appropriate military command or organization authorizes such representation. It is the intent of the Legislature that membership of a regional workforce board include persons who are current or former recipients of welfare transition assistance as defined in s. 445.002(3) or workforce services as provided in s. 445.009(1) or that such persons be included as ex officio members of the board or of committees organized by the board. The importance of minority and gender representation shall be considered when making appointments to the board. The board, its committees, subcommittees, and subdivisions, and other units of the workforce system, including units that may consist in whole or in part of local governmental units, may use any method of telecommunications to conduct meetings, including establishing a



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quorum through telecommunications, provided that the public is given proper notice of the telecommunications meeting and reasonable access to observe and, when appropriate, participate. Regional workforce boards are subject to chapters 119 and 286 and s. 24, Art. I of the State Constitution. A member of a regional workforce board is prohibited from contracting with or having a financial interest in a contract with the regional workforce board on which the member serves, except that a board may contract with a public or not-for-profit entity that has a representative who is a member of the board. This prohibition on contracting with a board member also applies to contracts with a relative of a board member. If the regional workforce board enters into a contract with a public or not-for-profit entity that is an organization or individual represented on the board of directors, the contract must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the entire board, and the board member who could benefit financially from the transaction or who is employed by or receives remuneration from the contracting entity must abstain from voting on the contract. A board member must disclose all conflicts any such conflict in a manner that is consistent with the procedures outlined in s. 112.3143. With the exception of an employee's employment contract with the board, this prohibition on contracting also applies to contracts between a board and its employees or the relatives of its employees. As used in this section, the term "relative" has the same meaning as in s. 112.3143. Any executive director appointed to the staff of a regional workforce board must be approved by the chief elected officials.

(2) The regional workforce board shall elect a chair from



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among the representatives described in Pub. L. No. 105-220, Title I, s. 117(b)(2)(A)(i) to serve for a term of no more than 2 years and shall serve no more than two terms. The chair is subject to confirmation by the Senate.

(10) Federal or state funds may not be used directly or indirectly to pay for meals, food, or beverages for board members, staff, or employees of regional workforce boards, Workforce Florida, Inc., or the Agency for Workforce Innovation except as expressly authorized by state law. Preapproved, reasonable, and necessary per diem allowances and travel expenses may be reimbursed. Such reimbursement shall be at the standard travel reimbursement rates established in s. 112.061 and shall be in compliance with all applicable federal and state requirements. The expenditure of federal or state funds for the provision of meals, food, or beverages to board members, staff, or employees of regional workforce boards, Workforce Florida, Inc., or the Agency for Workforce Innovation during board or staff meetings is deemed not reasonable or necessary.

(11) Federal or state funds may not be used to pay for recreational activities or entertainment costs, as these terms are defined by 2 C.F.R. part 230, on behalf or to the benefit of board members, staff, or employees of regional workforce boards, Workforce Florida, Inc., or the Agency for Workforce Innovation.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2010.