CS/HB 7069, Engrossed 1 2012

A bill to be entitled 1 2 An act relating to economic development tax refund 3 programs; amending ss. 288.1045 and 288.106, F.S.; 4 deleting certain limits on the amounts of tax refunds 5 that may be received by qualified applicants under the 6 qualified defense contractor and space flight business 7 tax refund program and qualified target industry 8 businesses under the tax refund program for such 9 businesses; authorizing the reduction of local 10 financial support requirements for qualified target 11 industry businesses in specified counties; requiring that any reduction of local financial support 12 requirements be provided from funds in the Economic 13 14 Development Incentives Account within the Economic 15 Development Trust Fund; limiting the amount of funds 16 provided from the account for any annual tax refund 17 for a qualified target industry business; deleting an obsolete provision; conforming a cross-reference; 18 19 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. Paragraphs (d) through (h) of subsection (2) of section 288.1045, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as paragraphs (c) through (g), respectively, and present paragraph (c) of that subsection is amended to read:

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288.1045 Qualified defense contractor and space flight business tax refund program.—

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- (2) GRANTING OF A TAX REFUND; ELIGIBLE AMOUNTS.-
- (c) A qualified applicant may not receive more than \$7 million in tax refunds pursuant to this section in all fiscal years.
- Section 2. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) and paragraph (f) of subsection (4) of section 288.106, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
- 288.106 Tax refund program for qualified target industry businesses.—
 - (3) TAX REFUND; ELIGIBLE AMOUNTS.-

- (c) A qualified target industry business may not receive refund payments of more than 25 percent of the total tax refunds specified in the tax refund agreement under subparagraph (5)(a)1. in any fiscal year. Further, a qualified target industry business may not receive more than \$1.5 million in refunds under this section in any single fiscal year, or more than \$2.5 million in any single fiscal year if the project is located in an enterprise zone. A qualified target industry business may not receive more than \$7 million in refund payments under this section in all fiscal years, or more than \$7.5 million if the project is located in an enterprise zone.
 - (4) APPLICATION AND APPROVAL PROCESS.-
- (f) Effective July 1, 2011, Notwithstanding paragraph

 (2)(j) (2)(k), the department office may reduce the local financial support requirements of this section by one-half for a qualified target industry business located in Bay County, Escambia County, Franklin County, Gadsden County, Gulf County, Holmes County, Jackson County, Jefferson County, Leon County,

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Okaloosa County, Santa Rosa County, Wakulla County, or Washington County, if the department office determines that such reduction of the local financial support requirements is in the best interest of the state and facilitates economic development, growth, or new employment opportunities in such county. The amount of any reduction of the local financial support requirements shall be provided by the department using funds from the account; however, funds provided from the account may not exceed 90 percent of the annual tax refund for a qualified target industry business. This paragraph expires June 30, 2014.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.