

By the Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security

583-02386-13

20131784

1 A bill to be entitled  
2 An act relating to military installations; amending s.  
3 253.025, F.S.; authorizing the Board of Trustees of  
4 the Internal Improvement Trust Fund to acquire certain  
5 nonconservation lands to buffer a military  
6 installation against encroachment; amending s.  
7 288.980, F.S.; providing legislative findings;  
8 providing functions of the Military Base Protection  
9 Program; authorizing the Department of Economic  
10 Opportunity to annually recommend nonconservation  
11 lands for acquisition through fee simple purchase or  
12 less-than-fee interest purchase to the Board of  
13 Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund for  
14 the purpose of preventing the encroachment of military  
15 installations; requiring the board of trustees to also  
16 consider land acquisition recommendations of the  
17 Florida Defense Support Task Force; authorizing funds  
18 appropriated to the Military Base Protection Program  
19 to be used for land acquisition to prevent or reduce  
20 encroachment of military installations; providing an  
21 effective date.

22  
23 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

24  
25 Section 1. Subsection (18) is added to section 253.025,  
26 Florida Statutes, to read:

27 253.025 Acquisition of state lands for purposes other than  
28 preservation, conservation, and recreation.—

29 (18) The board of trustees may acquire, pursuant to s.

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30 288.980(2)(b), nonconservation lands from the annual list  
31 submitted by the Department of Economic Opportunity for the  
32 purpose of buffering a military installation against  
33 encroachment.

34 Section 2. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 288.980,  
35 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

36 288.980 Military base retention; legislative intent; grants  
37 program.—

38 (1)(a) It is the intent of this state to provide the  
39 necessary means to assist communities with military  
40 installations in supporting and sustaining those installations.  
41 It is further the intent to encourage communities to initiate a  
42 coordinated program of response and plan of action in advance of  
43 future actions of the federal government relating to  
44 realignments and closures. It is critical that communities  
45 develop and implement strategies to preserve and protect  
46 military installations. The Legislature hereby recognizes that  
47 the state needs to coordinate all efforts that can support  
48 military installations throughout the state. The Legislature,  
49 therefore, declares that providing such assistance to support  
50 the defense-related initiatives within this section is a public  
51 purpose for which public money may be used.

52 (b) The Florida Defense Alliance, an organization within  
53 Enterprise Florida, Inc., is designated as the organization to  
54 ensure that Florida, its resident military bases and missions,  
55 and its military host communities are in competitive positions  
56 as the United States continues its defense realignment and  
57 downsizing. The defense alliance shall serve as an overall  
58 advisory body for defense-related activity of Enterprise

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59 Florida, Inc. The Florida Defense Alliance may receive funding  
60 from appropriations made for that purpose administered by the  
61 department.

62 (c) The Legislature finds that encroachment of military  
63 installations has been identified by local, state, and federal  
64 leaders as a critical threat to protecting, preserving, and  
65 enhancing military installations in this state. Encroachment can  
66 be detrimental to the current and future missions of military  
67 installations due to the incompatible use of adjacent land. The  
68 Legislature recognizes the unique need to secure lands that have  
69 no conservation value, but may present an encroachment threat to  
70 a military installation.

71 (2)(a) The Military Base Protection Program is created. The  
72 functions of the Military Base Protection Program includes, but  
73 is not limited to:

74 1. Securing nonconservation lands to serve as a buffer to  
75 protect military installations against encroachment; and

76 2. Supporting local community efforts to engage in service  
77 partnerships with military installations.

78 (b) The department may annually submit a list to the Board  
79 of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund of  
80 nonconservation lands to acquire, subject to a specific  
81 appropriation, through fee simple purchase or through perpetual,  
82 less-than-fee interest purchase, for the purpose of buffering a  
83 military installation against encroachment. The Board of  
84 Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund shall also  
85 consider the recommendations of the Florida Defense Support Task  
86 Force, created in s. 288.987, when selecting nonconservation  
87 lands to purchase for the purpose of securing and protecting a

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88 military installation against encroachment. This paragraph does  
89 not preclude the acquisition of such lands by local governments  
90 through fee simple purchase or through perpetual, less-than-fee  
91 interest purchase, for the purpose of buffering a military  
92 installation against encroachment.

93 (c) Funds appropriated to this program may be used to  
94 address emergent needs relating to mission sustainment,  
95 encroachment reduction or prevention, and base retention. All  
96 funds appropriated for the purposes of this program are eligible  
97 to be used for matching of federal funds. The department shall  
98 coordinate and implement this program.

99 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.