

By the Committees on Appropriations; and Community Affairs; and  
Senator Simpson

576-04675-13

2013928c2

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to community development; amending s.  
3           159.603, F.S.; modifying the definition of "qualifying  
4           housing development"; amending s. 159.608, F.S.;  
5           revising the power of a housing finance authority to  
6           make loans directly to eligible persons; amending s.  
7           196.1978, F.S.; deleting an ad valorem tax exemption  
8           for property owned by certain Florida-based limited  
9           partnerships and used for affordable housing for  
10          certain income-qualified persons; amending s. 420.507,  
11          F.S.; revising the powers of the Florida Housing  
12          Finance Corporation; specifying how the corporation  
13          will allocate certain funds; directing the corporation  
14          to adopt rules prioritizing affordable housing  
15          projects in the Florida Keys; amending s. 420.5087,  
16          F.S.; revising provisions relating to state apartment  
17          incentive loans to provide for a competitive  
18          evaluation and selection process with respect to loan  
19          applications; amending s. 420.511, F.S.; providing  
20          that the corporation's strategic business plan must be  
21          consistent with a long-range program plan relating to  
22          affordable housing; deleting a requirement that the  
23          corporation compile certain data; revising provisions  
24          relating to the corporation's development of its long-  
25          range plan; revising the required contents and  
26          information to be included in the corporation's annual  
27          report; requiring the corporation to submit separate  
28          audited financial statements that include specified  
29          information and incorporate certain reports; requiring

576-04675-13

2013928c2

30 the Auditor General to conduct an operational audit of  
31 the corporation and provide a written report to the  
32 Legislature; amending ss. 420.0003, 420.0006, 420.504,  
33 and 420.506, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes  
34 made by this act; repealing s. 420.5091, F.S.,  
35 relating to the HOPE program; providing for  
36 retroactive application; providing an effective date.  
37

38 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
39

40 Section 1. Subsection (6) of section 159.603, Florida  
41 Statutes, is amended to read:

42 159.603 Definitions.—As used in this part, the following  
43 words and terms have the following meanings unless the context  
44 indicates another or different meaning or intent.

45 (6) "Qualifying housing development" means any work or  
46 improvement located or to be located in this ~~the~~ state,  
47 including real property, buildings, and any other real and  
48 personal property, designed or intended for the primary purpose  
49 of providing decent, safe, and sanitary residential housing for  
50 four or more families, at least 60 percent of whom are eligible  
51 persons, whether new construction, the acquisition of existing  
52 residential housing, or the remodeling, improvement,  
53 rehabilitation, or reconstruction of existing housing, together  
54 with such related nonhousing facilities as the authority  
55 determines to be necessary, convenient, or desirable.

56 (a) The term includes a housing development that meets the  
57 definition of a "qualified low-income housing project" under s.  
58 42(g) of the Internal Revenue Code, regardless of whether such

576-04675-13

2013928c2

59 development meets the 60-percent-eligible-persons requirement  
60 under this subsection.

61 (b) The exception provided under paragraph (a) applies to  
62 all housing developments that meet the federal definition of  
63 "qualified low-income housing project" and all developments that  
64 previously qualified under the state definition of "qualifying  
65 housing development." Housing finance authorities may enter into  
66 regulatory agreement amendments as necessary to accommodate  
67 housing developments that qualify under paragraph (a).

68 Section 2. Subsection (8) of section 159.608, Florida  
69 Statutes, is amended to read:

70 159.608 Powers of housing finance authorities.—A housing  
71 finance authority shall constitute a public body corporate and  
72 politic, exercising the public and essential governmental  
73 functions set forth in this act, and shall exercise its power to  
74 borrow only for the purpose as provided herein:

75 (8) To make loans directly to eligible persons ~~or families~~  
76 who otherwise cannot borrow from conventional lending sources  
77 ~~and whose annual income does not exceed 80 percent of the median~~  
78 ~~income based on a family of up to four persons for the county in~~  
79 ~~which they seek to purchase a residence. The housing finance~~  
80 ~~authority may adjust the annual income requirements for families~~  
81 ~~of greater than four persons. Such loans must be secured by~~  
82 ~~either first mortgages or subordinated mortgages and must be~~  
83 ~~used to purchase, construct, rehabilitate, or refinance single-~~  
84 ~~family residences that have purchase prices that do not exceed~~  
85 ~~the purchase price limits of; however, the purchase price of any~~  
86 ~~residence financed through such a loan may not exceed 90 percent~~  
87 ~~of the median sales price for single-family homes in the county~~

576-04675-13

2013928c2

88 where the borrower's residence is to be located, as mandated by  
89 federal law for tax-exempt, single-family bond programs.

90 Section 3. Section 196.1978, Florida Statutes, is amended  
91 to read:

92 196.1978 Affordable housing property exemption.—Property  
93 used to provide affordable housing to ~~to serving~~ eligible persons  
94 as defined under ~~by~~ s. 159.603(7) and natural persons or  
95 families meeting the extremely-low-income, very-low-income, low-  
96 income, or moderate-income limits specified in s. 420.0004,  
97 which ~~property~~ is owned entirely by a nonprofit entity that is a  
98 corporation not for profit, qualified as charitable under s.  
99 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code and in compliance with  
100 Rev. Proc. 96-32, 1996-1 C.B. 717, is ~~or a Florida-based limited~~  
101 ~~partnership, the sole general partner of which is a corporation~~  
102 ~~not for profit which is qualified as charitable under s.~~  
103 ~~501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code and which complies with~~  
104 ~~Rev. Proc. 96-32, 1996-1 C.B. 717, shall be considered property~~  
105 owned by an exempt entity and used for a charitable purpose, and  
106 those portions of the affordable housing property which provide  
107 housing to natural persons or families classified as extremely  
108 low income, very low income, low income, or moderate income  
109 under s. 420.0004 are ~~shall be~~ exempt from ad valorem taxation  
110 to the extent authorized under ~~in~~ s. 196.196. All property  
111 identified in this section must ~~shall~~ comply with the criteria  
112 provided under s. 196.195 for determining ~~determination of~~  
113 exempt status and ~~to~~ be applied by property appraisers on an  
114 annual basis ~~as defined in s. 196.195~~. The Legislature intends  
115 that any property owned by a limited liability company ~~or~~  
116 ~~limited partnership~~ which is disregarded as an entity for

576-04675-13

2013928c2

117 federal income tax purposes pursuant to Treasury Regulation  
118 301.7701-3(b) (1) (ii) ~~shall~~ be treated as owned by its sole  
119 member ~~or sole general partner~~.

120 Section 4. Paragraph (h) of subsection (22) and subsection  
121 (48) of section 420.507, Florida Statutes are amended, and  
122 subsection (49) is added to that section, to read:

123 420.507 Powers of the corporation.—The corporation shall  
124 have all the powers necessary or convenient to carry out and  
125 effectuate the purposes and provisions of this part, including  
126 the following powers, which are in addition to all other powers  
127 granted by other provisions of this part:

128 (22) To develop and administer the State Apartment  
129 Incentive Loan Program. In developing and administering that  
130 program, the corporation may:

131 (h) Establish, by rule, the procedure for ~~evaluating,~~  
132 ~~scoring,~~ and competitively evaluating and selecting ~~ranking~~ all  
133 applications for funding based on the criteria set forth in s.  
134 420.5087(6) (c) , ~~+~~ determining actual loan amounts, ~~+~~ making and  
135 servicing loans, ~~+~~ and exercising the powers authorized in this  
136 subsection.

137 (48) To award ~~use up to 10 percent of~~ its annual allocation  
138 of low-income housing tax credits, nontaxable revenue bonds, and  
139 State Apartment Incentive Loan Program funds appropriated by the  
140 Legislature and available to allocate by request for proposals  
141 or other competitive solicitation. The corporation shall reserve  
142 up to 5 percent of each allocation ~~funding~~ for high-priority  
143 affordable housing projects, such as housing to support economic  
144 development and job-creation initiatives, housing for veterans  
145 and their families, and other special needs populations in

576-04675-13

2013928c2

146 communities throughout the state as determined by the  
147 corporation on an annual basis. The corporation shall reserve an  
148 additional 5 percent of each allocation for affordable housing  
149 projects that target persons who have a disabling condition as  
150 defined in s. 420.0004 and their families. These allocations  
151 must prioritize projects or initiatives piloting or  
152 demonstrating cost effective, best practices that meet the  
153 housing needs and preferences of such persons. Any tax credits  
154 or funds not allocated because of a lack of eligible projects  
155 targeting persons who have a disabling condition shall be  
156 distributed by the corporation for high-priority housing  
157 projects.

158 (49) To adopt rules prescribing a priority for funding  
159 affordable housing projects in the Florida Keys Area of Critical  
160 State Concern and the City of Key West Area of Critical State  
161 Concern where, due to challenging environmental, land use,  
162 transportation, workforce, and economic factors, it is extremely  
163 difficult to successfully finance, develop, and construct  
164 affordable housing.

165 Section 5. Paragraphs (c) and (f) of subsection (6) of  
166 section 420.5087, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

167 420.5087 State Apartment Incentive Loan Program.—There is  
168 hereby created the State Apartment Incentive Loan Program for  
169 the purpose of providing first, second, or other subordinated  
170 mortgage loans or loan guarantees to sponsors, including for-  
171 profit, nonprofit, and public entities, to provide housing  
172 affordable to very-low-income persons.

173 (6) On all state apartment incentive loans, except loans  
174 made to housing communities for the elderly to provide for

576-04675-13

2013928c2

175 lifesafety, building preservation, health, sanitation, or  
176 security-related repairs or improvements, the following  
177 provisions shall apply:

178 (c) The corporation shall provide by rule for the  
179 establishment of a review committee ~~composed of the department~~  
180 ~~and corporation staff and shall establish by rule a scoring~~  
181 ~~system~~ for the competitive evaluation and selection ~~competitive~~  
182 ~~ranking~~ of applications submitted in this program, including,  
183 but not limited to, the following criteria:

184 1. Tenant income and demographic targeting objectives of  
185 the corporation.

186 2. Targeting objectives of the corporation which will  
187 ensure an equitable distribution of loans between rural and  
188 urban areas.

189 3. Sponsor's agreement to reserve the units for persons or  
190 families who have incomes below 50 percent of the state or local  
191 median income, whichever is higher, for a time period that  
192 exceeds ~~to exceed~~ the minimum required by federal law or ~~the~~  
193 ~~provisions of~~ this part.

194 4. Sponsor's agreement to reserve more than:

195 a. Twenty percent of the units in the project for persons  
196 or families who have incomes that do not exceed 50 percent of  
197 the state or local median income, whichever is higher; or

198 b. Forty percent of the units in the project for persons or  
199 families who have incomes that do not exceed 60 percent of the  
200 state or local median income, whichever is higher, without  
201 requiring a greater amount of the loans as provided in this  
202 section.

203 5. Provision for tenant counseling.

576-04675-13

2013928c2

204 6. Sponsor's agreement to accept rental assistance  
205 certificates or vouchers as payment for rent.

206 7. Projects requiring the least amount of a state apartment  
207 incentive loan compared to overall project cost, except that the  
208 share of the loan attributable to units serving extremely-low-  
209 income persons must ~~shall~~ be excluded from this requirement.

210 8. Local government contributions and local government  
211 comprehensive planning and activities that promote affordable  
212 housing.

213 9. Project feasibility.

214 10. Economic viability of the project.

215 11. Commitment of first mortgage financing.

216 12. Sponsor's prior experience.

217 13. Sponsor's ability to proceed with construction.

218 14. Projects that directly implement or assist welfare-to-  
219 work transitioning.

220 15. Projects that reserve units for extremely-low-income  
221 persons.

222 16. Projects that include green building principles, storm-  
223 resistant construction, or other elements that reduce long-term  
224 costs relating to maintenance, utilities, or insurance.

225 17. Job-creation rate of the developer and general  
226 contractor, as provided in s. 420.507(47).

227 (f) The review committee established by corporation rule  
228 pursuant to this subsection shall make recommendations to the  
229 board of directors of the corporation regarding program  
230 participation under the State Apartment Incentive Loan Program.  
231 The corporation board shall make the final ~~ranking and the~~  
232 decisions regarding which applicants shall become program

576-04675-13

2013928c2

233 participants based on the scores received in the competitive  
234 process ranking, further review of applications, and the  
235 recommendations of the review committee. The corporation board  
236 shall approve or reject applications for loans and shall  
237 determine the tentative loan amount available to each applicant  
238 selected for participation in the program. The actual loan  
239 amount shall be determined pursuant to rule adopted pursuant to  
240 s. 420.507(22) (h) .

241 Section 6. Section 420.511, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
242 read:

243 420.511 Strategic business plan; long-range program  
244 ~~strategie~~ plan; annual report; audited financial statements.-

245 (1) The corporation shall develop a strategic business plan  
246 for the provision of affordable housing for the state. The plan  
247 must be consistent ~~shall not be inconsistent~~ with the long-range  
248 program ~~strategie~~ plan prepared pursuant to subsection (2) and  
249 shall contain performance measures and specific performance  
250 targets for the following:

251 (a) The ability of low-income and moderate-income  
252 Floridians to access housing that is decent and affordable.

253 (b) The continued availability and affordability of housing  
254 financed by the corporation to target populations.

255 (c) The availability of affordable financing programs,  
256 including equity and debt products, and programs that reduce  
257 gaps in conventional financing in order, to increase individual  
258 access to housing and stimulate private production of affordable  
259 housing.

260 (d) The establishment and maintenance of efficiencies in  
261 the delivery of affordable housing.

576-04675-13

2013928c2

262 (e) Such other measures as directed by the corporation's  
263 board of directors.

264  
265 ~~The corporation shall also compile data on the stimulus of~~  
266 ~~economic activity created by the affordable housing finance~~  
267 ~~programs administered by the corporation.~~

268 (2) The corporation, in coordination ~~equal partnership~~ with  
269 the department, shall ~~develop~~ annually develop a long-range  
270 program ~~strategie~~ plan for the provision of affordable housing  
271 in this state as Florida ~~as part of the department's agency~~  
272 ~~strategie plan~~ required pursuant to chapter 186. In part, the  
273 plan must ~~shall~~ include provisions that maximize the abilities  
274 of the corporation ~~and the department~~ to implement the state  
275 housing strategy established under s. 420.0003, to respond to  
276 federal housing initiatives, and to develop programs in a manner  
277 that is more responsive to the needs of public and private  
278 partners. The plan shall be developed on a schedule consistent  
279 with that established by s. 186.021. For purposes of this  
280 section ~~act~~, the executive director or his or her designee shall  
281 serve as the corporation's representative to achieve a  
282 coordinated and integrated planning relationship with the  
283 department.

284 (3) ~~(a)~~ The corporation shall submit to the Governor and the  
285 presiding officers of each house of the Legislature, within 6 ~~2~~  
286 months after the end of its fiscal year, a complete and detailed  
287 report setting forth the corporation's state and federal program  
288 accomplishments using the most recent available data. The report  
289 must include, but is not limited to:

290 (a) The following tenant characteristics in existing rental

576-04675-13

2013928c2

291 units financed through corporation-administered programs:

292 1. The number of households served, delineated by income,  
293 race, ethnicity, and age of the head of household.

294 2. The number of households served in large, medium, and  
295 small counties as defined in s. 420.5087 and the extent to which  
296 geographic distribution has been achieved in accordance with s.  
297 420.5087.

298 3. The number of farmworker and commercial-fishing worker  
299 households served.

300 4. The number of homeless households served.

301 5. The number of special needs households served.

302 6. By county, the average rent charged based on unit size.

303 (b) The number of rental units to which resources have been  
304 allocated in the last fiscal year, including income and  
305 demographic restrictions.

306 (c) The estimated average cost of producing units under  
307 each rental or homeownership unit financed under each program in  
308 the last fiscal year.

309 (d) By county, the average sales price of homeownership  
310 units financed in the last fiscal year.

311 (e) The number of households served by homeownership  
312 programs in the last fiscal year, including the income, race,  
313 ethnicity, and age of the homeowner of each household.

314 (f) The percentage of homeownership loans that are in  
315 foreclosure.

316 (g) The percentage of properties in the corporation's  
317 rental portfolio which have an occupancy rate below 90 percent.

318 (h) The amount of economic stimulus created by the  
319 affordable housing finance programs administered by the

576-04675-13

2013928c2

320 corporation for the most recent year available.

321 (i) For the State Apartment Incentive Loan (SAIL) Program,  
322 a comprehensive list of all closed loans outstanding at the end  
323 of the most recent fiscal year, including, but not limited to,  
324 development name, city, county, developer, set-aside type, set-  
325 aside percentage, affordability term, total number of units,  
326 number of set-aside units, lien position, original loan amount,  
327 loan maturity date, loan balance at close of year, status of  
328 loan, rate of interest, and interest paid.

329 (j) For the Florida Affordable Housing Guarantee Program, a  
330 list of all guaranteed loans through the close of the most  
331 recent fiscal year, including, but not limited to, development  
332 name, city, county, developer, total number of units, issuer of  
333 the bonds, loan maturity date, participation in the United  
334 States Department of Housing and Urban Development Risk-Sharing  
335 Program, original guarantee amount, guarantee amount at the  
336 close of the fiscal year, status of guaranteed loans, and total  
337 outstanding Florida Housing Finance Corporation Affordable  
338 Housing Guarantee Program revenue bonds at the close of the most  
339 recent fiscal year.

340 (k) Any other information the corporation deems  
341 appropriate.

- 342 ~~1. Its operations and accomplishments;~~  
343 ~~2. Its receipts and expenditures during its fiscal year in~~  
344 ~~accordance with the categories or classifications established by~~  
345 ~~the corporation for its operating and capital outlay purposes;~~  
346 ~~3. Its assets and liabilities at the end of its fiscal year~~  
347 ~~and the status of reserve, special, or other funds;~~  
348 ~~4. A schedule of its bonds outstanding at the end of its~~

576-04675-13

2013928c2

349 ~~fiscal year, together with a statement of the principal amounts~~  
350 ~~of bonds issued and redeemed during the fiscal year; and~~

351 ~~5. Information relating to the corporation's activities in~~  
352 ~~implementing the provisions of ss. 420.5087, 420.5088, and~~  
353 ~~420.5095.~~

354 ~~(b) The report shall include, but not be limited to:~~

355 ~~1. The number of people served, delineated by income, age,~~  
356 ~~family size, and racial characteristics.~~

357 ~~2. The number of units produced under each program.~~

358 ~~3. The average cost of producing units under each program.~~

359 ~~4. The average sales price of single-family units financed~~  
360 ~~under s. 420.5088.~~

361 ~~5. The average amount of rent charged based on unit size on~~  
362 ~~units financed under s. 420.5087.~~

363 ~~6. The number of persons in rural communities served under~~  
364 ~~each program.~~

365 ~~7. The number of farmworkers served under each program.~~

366 ~~8. The number of homeless persons served under each~~  
367 ~~program.~~

368 ~~9. The number of elderly persons served under each program.~~

369 ~~10. The extent to which geographic distribution has been~~  
370 ~~achieved in accordance with the provisions of s. 420.5087.~~

371 ~~11. The success of the Community Workforce Housing~~  
372 ~~Innovation Pilot Program in meeting the housing needs of~~  
373 ~~eligible areas.~~

374 ~~12. Any other information the corporation deems~~  
375 ~~appropriate.~~

376 ~~(4) Within 6 months after the end of its fiscal year, the~~  
377 ~~corporation shall submit audited financial statements prepared~~

576-04675-13

2013928c2

378 in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles  
379 which include all assets, liabilities, revenues, and expenses of  
380 the corporation, and a list of all bonds outstanding at the end  
381 of its fiscal year. ~~with the annual report required by this~~  
382 ~~section, a copy of an annual financial audit of its accounts and~~  
383 ~~records and an annual compliance~~ The audit must be of its  
384 ~~programs~~ conducted by an independent certified public accountant  
385 and performed in accordance with generally accepted auditing  
386 standards and government auditing standards, and must  
387 incorporate all reports, including compliance reports, as  
388 required by such auditing standards.

389 (5) The Auditor General shall conduct an operational audit  
390 of the accounts and records of the corporation and provide a  
391 written report on the audit to the President of the Senate and  
392 the Speaker of the House of Representatives by December 1, 2016.  
393 Both the corporation's business plan and annual report must  
394 ~~shall~~ recognize the different fiscal periods under which the  
395 corporation, the state, the Federal Government, and local  
396 governments operate.

397 Section 7. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section  
398 420.0003, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

399 420.0003 State housing strategy.-

400 (4) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Department of Economic Opportunity  
401 and the Florida Housing Finance Corporation in carrying out the  
402 strategy articulated herein shall have the following duties:

403 (b) The long-range program ~~agency strategic~~ plan of the  
404 Department of Economic Opportunity must ~~shall~~ include specific  
405 goals, objectives, and strategies that implement the housing  
406 policies in this section and ~~shall include the strategic plan~~

576-04675-13

2013928c2

407 ~~for housing production prepared by the corporation pursuant to~~  
408 ~~s. 420.511.~~

409 Section 8. Section 420.0006, Florida Statutes, is amended  
410 to read:

411 420.0006 Authority to contract with corporation; contract  
412 requirements; nonperformance.—The executive director of the  
413 department shall contract, notwithstanding part I of chapter  
414 287, with the Florida Housing Finance Corporation on a multiyear  
415 basis to stimulate, provide, and foster affordable housing in  
416 the state. The contract must incorporate the performance  
417 measures required by s. 420.511 and ~~must~~ be consistent with ~~the~~  
418 ~~provisions of~~ the corporation's strategic business plan prepared  
419 in accordance with s. 420.511. The contract must provide that  
420 ~~if, in the event~~ the corporation fails to comply with ~~any of the~~  
421 a performance measure ~~measures~~ required under ~~by~~ s. 420.511, the  
422 executive director shall notify the Governor and ~~shall~~ refer the  
423 nonperformance to the department's inspector general for review  
424 and determination as to whether such failure is due to forces  
425 beyond the corporation's control or whether such failure is due  
426 to inadequate management of the corporation's resources.  
427 Advances shall continue to be made pursuant to s. 420.0005  
428 during the pendency of the review ~~by the department's inspector~~  
429 ~~general~~. If such failure is due to outside forces, it may ~~shall~~  
430 not be deemed a violation of the contract. If such failure is  
431 due to inadequate management, the department's inspector general  
432 shall provide recommendations regarding solutions. The Governor  
433 may ~~is authorized to~~ resolve ~~any~~ differences of opinion with  
434 respect to performance under the contract and may request that  
435 advances continue in the event of a failure under the contract

576-04675-13

2013928c2

436 due to inadequate management. The Chief Financial Officer shall  
437 approve the request absent a finding by the Chief Financial  
438 Officer that continuing such advances would adversely impact the  
439 state; however, ~~in any event~~ the Chief Financial Officer shall  
440 provide advances sufficient to meet the debt service  
441 requirements of the corporation and sufficient to fund contracts  
442 committing funds from the State Housing Trust Fund if so long as  
443 such contracts are in accordance with the laws of this state.

444 Section 9. Subsection (1) of section 420.504, Florida  
445 Statutes, is amended to read:

446 420.504 Public corporation; creation, membership, terms,  
447 expenses.—

448 (1) ~~There is created within the Department of Economic~~  
449 ~~Opportunity~~ A public corporation and a public body corporate and  
450 politic, to be known as the "Florida Housing Finance  
451 Corporation," is created within the Department of Economic  
452 Opportunity."~~Florida Housing Finance Corporation.~~ It is  
453 declared to be the intent of and constitutional construction by  
454 the Legislature that the Florida Housing Finance Corporation  
455 constitutes an entrepreneurial public corporation organized to  
456 provide and promote the public welfare by administering the  
457 governmental function of financing or refinancing housing and  
458 related facilities in this state ~~Florida~~ and that the  
459 corporation is not a department of the executive branch of state  
460 government within the scope and meaning of s. 6, Art. IV of the  
461 State Constitution, but is functionally related to the  
462 Department of Economic Opportunity in which it is placed. The  
463 executive function of state government to be performed by the  
464 executive director of the Department of Economic Opportunity in

576-04675-13

2013928c2

465 the conduct of the business of the Florida Housing Finance  
466 Corporation must be performed pursuant to a contract to monitor  
467 and set performance standards for the implementation of the  
468 business plan for the provision of housing approved for the  
469 corporation as provided in s. 420.0006. This contract must ~~shall~~  
470 include ~~the~~ performance standards for the provision of  
471 affordable housing in this state ~~Florida~~ established in the  
472 strategic business plan described in s. 420.511.

473 Section 10. Subsection (1) of section 420.506, Florida  
474 Statutes, is amended to read:

475 420.506 Executive director; agents and employees; inspector  
476 general.—

477 (1) The appointment and removal of an executive director  
478 shall be by the executive director of the Department of Economic  
479 Opportunity, with the advice and consent of the corporation's  
480 board of directors. The executive director shall employ legal  
481 and technical experts and such other agents and employees,  
482 permanent and temporary, as the corporation may require, and  
483 shall communicate with and provide information to the  
484 Legislature with respect to the corporation's activities. ~~The~~  
485 ~~board is authorized,~~ Notwithstanding ~~the provisions of~~ s.  
486 216.262, the board may ~~to~~ develop and implement rules regarding  
487 the employment of employees of the corporation and service  
488 providers, including legal counsel. The board ~~of directors of~~  
489 ~~the corporation~~ is entitled to establish travel procedures and  
490 guidelines for employees of the corporation, subject to s.  
491 112.061(6) and (7). The executive director's office and the  
492 corporation's files and records must be located in Leon County.

493 Section 11. Section 420.5091, Florida Statutes, is

576-04675-13

2013928c2

494 repealed.

495       Section 12. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law  
496 and shall first apply to the 2013 ad valorem tax rolls.