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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

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House

The Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security (Garcia) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete lines 45 - 106

and insert:

(3) A small business that hires a veteran as a new employee may receive a one-time grant of:

(a) Fifteen hundred dollars for each newly hired veteran, as defined in s. 1.01(14).

(b) Three thousand dollars for each newly hired disabled veteran, as that term is described in s. 295.07(1)(a).



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11 (4) The total dollar amount of grants awarded to a
12 participating small business under subsection (3) may not exceed
13 \$10,500 per fiscal year.

14 (5) A small business must apply to, and enter into an
15 agreement with, the corporation in order to participate in the
16 program. The agreement must require that the small business:

17 (a) Hire and employ for at least 1 year a qualifying
18 veteran before becoming eligible for a grant awarded under
19 subsection (3).

20 (b) Report information regarding the employment status of
21 each qualifying veteran, if requested to do so by the
22 corporation.

23 (c) Pay each qualifying veteran an amount equal to at least
24 90 percent of the annual median income for veterans in this
25 state at the time of hire, based on the most recent American
26 Community Survey 1-year estimates published by the United States
27 Census Bureau.

28 (d) Use any awarded grant moneys to facilitate the creation
29 of additional jobs for and employment of veterans by the small
30 business; however, grant moneys may be used only for
31 manufacturing, equipment, and facility expenses or other
32 operating costs or fixed capital outlay projects.

33 (e) Not receive any additional grant for rehiring a veteran
34 who it previously claimed as an employee for purposes of
35 obtaining funds under the program.

36 (f) Is eligible to receive a grant award only for a veteran
37 initially hired on or after July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2023.

38 (6) The corporation shall notify the regional small
39 business development center that serves the county in which a



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40 participating small business is located of the participation of
41 the small business in the grant program in order to facilitate
42 improved access to the resources of the Florida Small Business
43 Development Center Network.

44 (7) The Department of Economic Opportunity shall adopt
45 rules to implement and administer this section which specify
46 requirements for the application and approval process and the
47 documentation necessary to claim grant moneys awarded under this
48 section.

49 (8) By each December 31 for the duration of the grant
50 program, the corporation shall provide an annual report to the
51 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the
52 House of Representatives on the grant program's progress and
53 outcomes for the preceding fiscal year. The report must include
54 the following:

55 (a) An accounting of how the corporation used the state
56 funds it received for the grant program.

57 (b) The number of small businesses receiving grant funds.

58 (c) The number of veterans and disabled veterans employed
59 by each small business receiving grant funds.

60 (d) The salary paid to each veteran employed.

61 (e) The length of time for which the small business
62 employed each veteran.

63 (f) The grant program's economic benefit to the state and
64 the performance-based metrics and methodologies used to
65 calculate the grant program's economic benefit to the state.

66 (9) The grant program terminates October 1, 2024.

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68 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====



69 And the title is amended as follows:
70 Delete line 17
71 and insert:
72 participation; requiring the department to adopt
73 certain