



847996

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

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House

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The Committee on Innovation, Industry, and Technology (Gruters) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete everything after the enacting clause  
and insert:

Section 1. (1) The Legislature finds that:

(a) Blockchain technology and distributed ledger technology allow the secure recording of transactions through cryptographic algorithms and distributed record sharing, and such technology has reached a point where the opportunities for efficiency, cost savings, and cybersecurity deserve study.



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11       (b) Blockchain technology is a promising way to facilitate  
12 more efficient government service delivery models and economies  
13 of scale, including facilitating safe paperless transactions and  
14 recordkeeping that are nearly impervious to cyberattacks and  
15 data destruction.

16       (c) Blockchain technology can reduce the prevalence of  
17 disparate government computer systems, databases, and custom-  
18 built software interfaces; reduce costs associated with  
19 maintenance and implementation; streamline information sharing;  
20 and allow more areas of the state to electronically participate  
21 in government services.

22       (d) Nations, other states, and municipalities across the  
23 world are studying and implementing governmental reforms that  
24 bolster trust and reduce bureaucracy through verifiable open  
25 source blockchain technology in a variety of areas, including,  
26 but not limited to, medical and health records, land records,  
27 banking, tax and fee payments, smart contracts, professional  
28 accrediting, and property auctions.

29       (e) It is in the public interest to establish a Florida  
30 Blockchain Task Force comprised of government and industry  
31 representatives to study the ways in which state, county, and  
32 municipal governments can benefit from a transition to a  
33 blockchain-based system for recordkeeping, security, and service  
34 delivery and to develop and submit recommendations to the  
35 Governor and the Legislature concerning the potential for  
36 implementation of blockchain-based systems that promote  
37 government efficiencies, better services for citizens, economic  
38 development, and safer cyber-secure interaction between  
39 government and the public.



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40           (2) The Florida Blockchain Task Force, a task force as  
41 defined in s. 20.03, Florida Statutes, is established within the  
42 Department of Financial Services to explore and develop a master  
43 plan for fostering the expansion of the blockchain industry in  
44 the state, to recommend policies and state investments to help  
45 make this state a leader in blockchain technology, and to issue  
46 a report to the Governor and the Legislature. The task force  
47 shall study if and how state, county, and municipal governments  
48 can benefit from a transition to a blockchain-based system for  
49 recordkeeping, data security, financial transactions, and  
50 service delivery and identify ways to improve government  
51 interaction with businesses and the public.

52           (a) The master plan shall:

53           1. Identify the economic growth and development  
54 opportunities presented by blockchain technology.

55           2. Assess the existing blockchain industry in the state.

56           3. Identify innovative and successful blockchain  
57 applications currently used by industry and other governments to  
58 determine viability for state applications.

59           4. Review workforce needs and academic programs required to  
60 build blockchain technology expertise across all relevant  
61 industries.

62           5. Make recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature  
63 that will promote innovation and economic growth by reducing  
64 barriers to and expedite the expansion of the state's blockchain  
65 industry.

66           (b) The task force shall consist of 12 members. Membership  
67 shall be as follows:

68           1. Three agency heads or executive directors of cabinet



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69 agencies, or their designees, appointed by the Governor.

70 2. Four members of the private sector with knowledge and  
71 experience in blockchain technology, appointed by the Governor.

72 3. Three members from the private sector with knowledge and  
73 experience in blockchain technology, appointed by the Chief  
74 Financial Officer.

75 4. One member from the private sector with knowledge and  
76 experience in blockchain technology, appointed by the President  
77 of the Senate.

78 5. One member from the private sector with knowledge and  
79 experience in blockchain technology, appointed by the Speaker of  
80 the House of Representatives.

81 (c) Within 90 days after the effective date of this act, a  
82 majority of the members of the task force must be appointed and  
83 the task force shall hold its first meeting. The task force  
84 shall elect one of its members to serve as chair. Members of the  
85 task force shall serve for the duration of the existence of the  
86 task force. Any vacancy that occurs shall be filled in the same  
87 manner as the original appointment. Task force members shall  
88 serve without compensation, but are entitled to reimbursement  
89 for per diem and travel expenses as provided in s. 112.061,  
90 Florida Statutes.

91 (d) The task force shall study blockchain technology,  
92 including, but not limited to, the following:

93 1. Opportunities and risks associated with using blockchain  
94 and distributed ledger technology for state and local  
95 governments.

96 2. Different types of blockchains, both public and private,  
97 and different consensus algorithms.



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98           3. Projects and cases currently under development in other  
99 states and local governments, and how these cases could be  
100 applied in this state.

101           4. Ways the Legislature can modify general law to support  
102 secure paperless recordkeeping, increase cybersecurity, improve  
103 interactions with citizens, and encourage blockchain innovation  
104 for businesses in the state.

105           5. Identifying potential economic incentives for companies  
106 investing in blockchain technologies in collaboration with the  
107 state.

108           6. Recommending projects for potential blockchain  
109 solutions, including, but not limited to, use cases for state  
110 agencies that would improve services for citizens or businesses.

111           7. Identifying the technical skills necessary to develop  
112 blockchain technology and ensuring that instruction in such  
113 skills is available at secondary and postsecondary educational  
114 institutions in this state.

115           (3) The task force shall submit a report to the Governor,  
116 the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of  
117 Representatives and present its findings to the appropriate  
118 legislative committees in each house of the Legislature within  
119 180 days after the initial meeting of the task force. The report  
120 must include:

121           (a) A general description of the costs and benefits of  
122 state and local government agencies using blockchain technology.

123           (b) Recommendations concerning the feasibility of  
124 implementing blockchain technology in the state and the best  
125 approach to finance the cost of implementation.

126           (c) Recommendations for specific implementations to be



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127 developed by relevant state agencies.

128 (d) Any draft legislation the task force deems appropriate  
129 to implement such blockchain technologies.

130 (e) Identification of one pilot project that may be  
131 implemented in the state.

132 (f) Any other information deemed relevant by the task  
133 force.

134 (4) The task force is entitled to the assistance and  
135 services of any state agency, board, bureau, or commission as  
136 necessary and available for the purposes of this act.

137 (5) The Department of Financial Services shall provide  
138 support staff for the task force and any relevant studies, data,  
139 and materials in its possession to assist the task force in the  
140 performance of its duties.

141 (6) The task force shall terminate upon submission of the  
142 report and the presentation of findings.

143 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

144  
145 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

146 And the title is amended as follows:

147 Delete everything before the enacting clause  
148 and insert:

149 A bill to be entitled  
150 An act relating to blockchain technology; providing  
151 legislative findings; establishing the Florida  
152 Blockchain Task Force within the Department of  
153 Financial Services; requiring the task force to  
154 develop a specified master plan; specifying the  
155 composition of the task force; specifying duties and



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156 procedures of the task force; providing that task  
157 force members shall serve without compensation but are  
158 entitled to certain reimbursement; requiring the task  
159 force to submit a specified report to the Governor and  
160 the Legislature and to make presentations; providing  
161 that the task force is entitled to assistance and  
162 services of state governmental entities; requiring the  
163 department to provide support staff and other  
164 assistance to the task force; providing for  
165 termination of the task force; providing an effective  
166 date.