

By Senator Wright

14-00495-21

2021586\_\_

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to veterans employment and training;  
3       amending s. 295.21, F.S.; directing Florida Is For  
4       Veterans, Inc., to serve as the state's principal  
5       assistance organization under the United States  
6       Department of Defense's SkillBridge program; amending  
7       s. 295.22, F.S.; prescribing duties of the corporation  
8       to facilitate the administration of the SkillBridge  
9       program; providing an effective date.

10  
11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

12  
13       Section 1. Paragraph (g) is added to subsection (3) of  
14       section 295.21, Florida Statutes, to read:

15       295.21 Florida Is For Veterans, Inc.—

16       (3) DUTIES.—The corporation shall:

17       (g) Serve as the state's principal assistance organization  
18       under the United States Department of Defense's SkillBridge  
19       program for employers and transitioning servicemembers.

20       Section 2. Paragraph (f) is added to subsection (3) of  
21       section 295.22, Florida Statutes, to read:

22       295.22 Veterans Employment and Training Services Program.—

23       (3) ADMINISTRATION.—Florida Is For Veterans, Inc., shall  
24       administer the Veterans Employment and Training Services Program  
25       and perform all of the following functions:

26       (f) As the state's principal assistance organization under  
27       the United States Department of Defense's SkillBridge program  
28       for qualified businesses in this state and for transitioning  
29       servicemembers who reside in, or who wish to reside in, this

14-00495-21

2021586\_\_

30 state, the corporation shall:

31 1. Establish and maintain, as applicable, its certification  
32 for the SkillBridge program or any other similar workforce  
33 training and transition programs established by the United  
34 States Department of Defense;

35 2. Educate businesses, business associations, and  
36 transitioning servicemembers on the SkillBridge program and its  
37 benefits, and educate military command and personnel within the  
38 state on the opportunities available to transitioning  
39 servicemembers through the SkillBridge program;

40 3. Assist businesses in obtaining approval for skilled  
41 workforce training curricula under the SkillBridge program,  
42 including, but not limited to, apprenticeships, internships, or  
43 fellowships; and

44 4. Match transitioning servicemembers who are deemed  
45 eligible for SkillBridge participation by their military command  
46 with training opportunities offered by the corporation or  
47 participating businesses, with the intent of having  
48 transitioning servicemembers achieve gainful employment in this  
49 state upon completion of their SkillBridge training.

50 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.