1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to smart region zones; creating s. 3 288.93, F.S.; authorizing a contiguous group of four 4 or more counties to apply to Enterprise Florida, Inc., 5 to receive designation as a smart region zone; 6 providing requirements for such designation; 7 authorizing smart region zone centers of excellence 8 and certain projects within a smart region zone to 9 apply to Enterprise Florida, Inc., for funding; requiring Enterprise Florida, Inc., to give 10 11 consideration to specified factors when determining 12 funding amounts; requiring smart region zone centers 13 of excellence to submit quarterly reports containing 14 specified information to Enterprise Florida, Inc.; 15 requiring smart region zone centers of excellence to 16 submit project reports containing specified 17 information to the Governor, the Legislature, and 18 Enterprise Florida, Inc., after each project in a 19 smart region zone is completed; requiring smart region zone centers of excellence to submit annual reports 20 21 containing specified information to the Governor, the 22 Legislature, and Enterprise Florida, Inc.; providing 23 an effective date. 24 25 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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26 27 Section 1. Section 288.93, Florida Statutes, is created in 28 part VIII of chapter 288, Florida Statutes, to read: 29 288.93 Smart region zones.-(1) A group of four or more contiguous counties may apply 30 to Enterprise Florida, Inc., to receive designation as a smart 31 32 region zone. To receive this designation, the counties must do 33 all of the following: 34 (a) Submit a map depicting the geographic area or areas to 35 be designated as a smart region zone. 36 (b) Create or designate a smart region zone center of 37 excellence with the purpose of improving knowledge transfer across the state, tracking measurable impact, and serving as a 38 39 clearinghouse for smart region zone projects and pilot projects. 40 A regional governmental entity or a not-for-profit corporation 41 under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code which 42 specializes in smart region planning may be designated as the 43 smart region zone center of excellence. The smart region zone 44 center of excellence shall: 45 1. Designate or partner with an open-source data exchange wherein public, private, and nonprofit data sources may be 46 47 collected and analyzed to provide better insights for 48 policymakers, promote transparency, and track the progress of 49 smart region zone projects; and 50 2. Develop practices and strategies to assist other Page 2 of 5

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51	counties with creating smart region zones.
52	(c) Develop a smart region zone strategic plan with the
53	smart region zone center of excellence and submit the plan to
54	Enterprise Florida, Inc. The plan must specify how the smart
55	region zone will:
56	1. Advance activities and infrastructure associated with
57	the Internet of Things technology, transportation, public
58	safety, health, education, and related services within the zone;
59	2. Allow for technology innovators to test new products
60	and services in a supervised and flexible regulatory ecosystem;
61	and
62	3. Accelerate start-up companies' technologies for the
63	purpose of economic development, job creation, and innovation of
64	public sector processes. Such companies may be located anywhere
64 65	public sector processes. Such companies may be located anywhere in the United States.
65	in the United States.
65 66	<u>in the United States.</u> (2) A smart region zone center of excellence and any
65 66 67	<u>in the United States.</u> <u>(2) A smart region zone center of excellence and any</u> projects within a smart region zone which are consistent with
65 66 67 68	<u>in the United States.</u> <u>(2) A smart region zone center of excellence and any</u> <u>projects within a smart region zone which are consistent with</u> <u>the smart region zone strategic plan may apply to Enterprise</u>
65 66 67 68 69	<u>in the United States.</u> <u>(2) A smart region zone center of excellence and any</u> <u>projects within a smart region zone which are consistent with</u> <u>the smart region zone strategic plan may apply to Enterprise</u> <u>Florida, Inc., to receive funding appropriated by the</u>
65 66 67 68 69 70	<u>in the United States.</u> <u>(2) A smart region zone center of excellence and any</u> projects within a smart region zone which are consistent with the smart region zone strategic plan may apply to Enterprise Florida, Inc., to receive funding appropriated by the Legislature to Enterprise Florida, Inc., for such purpose. For
65 66 67 68 69 70 71	<u>in the United States.</u> <u>(2) A smart region zone center of excellence and any</u> projects within a smart region zone which are consistent with the smart region zone strategic plan may apply to Enterprise Florida, Inc., to receive funding appropriated by the Legislature to Enterprise Florida, Inc., for such purpose. For purposes of determining funding amounts for projects applying
65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72	<u>in the United States.</u> <u>(2) A smart region zone center of excellence and any</u> <u>projects within a smart region zone which are consistent with</u> <u>the smart region zone strategic plan may apply to Enterprise</u> <u>Florida, Inc., to receive funding appropriated by the</u> <u>Legislature to Enterprise Florida, Inc., for such purpose. For</u> <u>purposes of determining funding amounts for projects applying</u> <u>under this subsection, Enterprise Florida, Inc., shall give</u>
65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73	<u>in the United States.</u> <u>(2) A smart region zone center of excellence and any</u> projects within a smart region zone which are consistent with the smart region zone strategic plan may apply to Enterprise Florida, Inc., to receive funding appropriated by the Legislature to Enterprise Florida, Inc., for such purpose. For purposes of determining funding amounts for projects applying under this subsection, Enterprise Florida, Inc., shall give consideration to all of the following:

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76	(b) Whether the project serves pilot startup technologies
77	in the smart region zone.
78	(c) Whether the project serves the strategic interests of
79	the state.
80	(d) The extent to which the project contributes to
81	economic activity in the state, including job creation,
82	increased wages, and increased revenues.
83	(e) The amount of investments or commitments made by the
84	owner or developer of the project.
85	(3)(a) Each smart region zone center of excellence shall
86	submit a quarterly report to Enterprise Florida, Inc. The report
87	must provide details on projects within the smart region zone
88	relating to infrastructure, open data exchange, and startup
89	piloting.
90	(b) After each project in a smart region zone is
91	completed, the smart region zone center of excellence must
92	submit a project report to the Governor, the President of the
93	Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and
94	Enterprise Florida, Inc. The report must demonstrate the
95	project's impact on the smart region zone, how the project is
96	meeting the goals of the smart region zone strategic plan, and
97	the current or projected return on investment of the project.
98	(c) At the end of each fiscal year, each smart region zone
99	center of excellence shall submit an annual report to the
100	Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House
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101	of Representatives, and Enterprise Florida, Inc. The report must
102	list all of the projects completed within the smart region zone
103	over the previous fiscal year, the impact and return on
104	investment of such projects, the extent to which the smart
105	region zone center of excellence met the goals of the smart
106	region zone strategic plan, and the priorities of the smart
107	region zone center of excellence for the upcoming fiscal year.
108	Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.

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