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By the Committee on Finance and Tax; and Senators DiCeglie, Rodriguez, and Stewart

593-02553-23 2023288c1

A bill to be entitled An act relating to the Florida Main Street Program and historic preservation tax credits; creating s. 220.197, F.S.; providing a short title; defining terms; providing a credit against the state corporate income tax and the insurance premium tax for qualified expenses in rehabilitating certain historic structures; specifying eligibility requirements for the tax credit; specifying requirements for taxpayers claiming or transferring tax credits; specifying requirements for the Division of Historical Resources of the Department of State for evaluating and certifying applications for tax credits; specifying the allowable amounts of tax credits; providing construction; authorizing the carryforward, sale, and transfer of tax credits subject to certain requirements and limitations; providing the Department of Revenue and the division audit and examination powers for specified purposes; requiring the return of forfeited tax credits under certain circumstances; providing penalties; requiring the Department of Revenue to provide specified annual reports to the Legislature; providing duties of the Department of Revenue; authorizing the Department of Revenue and the division to adopt rules; amending s. 213.053, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Revenue to make certain information available to the division and the Federal Government for a specified purpose; amending s.

220.02, F.S.; specifying the order in which the credit

is applied against the corporate income tax or franchise tax; amending s. 220.13, F.S.; requiring the addition of amounts taken for the credit to taxable income; amending s. 624.509, F.S.; specifying the order in which the credit is applied against the insurance premium tax; authorizing the Department of Revenue to adopt emergency rules; providing for expiration of that authority; providing applicability; providing effective dates.

WHEREAS, historic revitalization creates highly paid local construction jobs, and

WHEREAS, historic rehabilitation increases the value of buildings and results in a growing state and local tax base, and

WHEREAS, historic revitalization boosts heritage tourism and creates thriving downtowns that are attractive to main street businesses, and

WHEREAS, reusing historic buildings creates affordable spaces for small business incubation, and

WHEREAS, repurposing historic buildings saves resources and activates vacant spaces, and

WHEREAS, historic rehabilitation projects leverage significant private investment, and

WHEREAS, leveraging state tax incentives increases the effectiveness of federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives and the Opportunity Zones Program to encourage the historic preservation of existing buildings, and

WHEREAS, an increase in rehabilitation activity occurs when a state incentive is combined with federal Historic Preservation

Tax Incentives, and

WHEREAS, many historic buildings in this state need safety upgrades and other improvements that require both public and private investment to return these buildings as assets of their local communities, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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Section 1. Section 220.197, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

220.197 Main Street Historic Tourism and Revitalization Act; tax credits; reports.—

- (1) SHORT TITLE.—This act may be cited as the "Main Street Historic Tourism and Revitalization Act."
 - (2) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:
- (a) "Accredited Main Street Program" means an active
 Florida Main Street Program or the Orlando Main Streets program,
 provided that such program meets the Main Street America
 accreditation standards. An Accredited Main Street Program must
 meet all of the following criteria:
- 1. Have broad-based community support for the commercial district revitalization process with strong support from the public and private sectors.
- 2. Have a developed vision and mission statement relevant to community conditions and to Main Street America's organizational stage.
 - 3. Have a comprehensive Main Street America work plan.
 - 4. Possess a historic preservation ethic.
 - 5. Have an active board of directors and committees.

593-02553-23 2023288c1

- 6. Have an adequate operating budget.
- 7. Have a paid professional program manager.
- 8. Conduct a program of ongoing training for staff and volunteers.
 - 9. Report key statistics.
 - 10. Be a current member of Main Street America.
- (b) "Certified historic structure" means a building and its structural components as defined in 36 C.F.R. s. 67.2 which is of a character subject to the allowance for depreciation provided in s. 167 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and which is:
- 1. Individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places; or
- 2. Located within a registered historic district and certified by the United States Secretary of the Interior as being of historic significance to the registered historic district as set forth in 36 C.F.R. s. 67.2.
- (c) "Certified rehabilitation" means the rehabilitation of a certified historic structure which the United States Secretary of the Interior has certified to the United States Secretary of the Treasury as being consistent with the historic character of the certified historic structure and, if applicable, consistent with the registered historic district in which the certified historic structure is located as set forth in 36 C.F.R. s. 67.2.
- (d) "Division" means the Division of Historical Resources of the Department of State.
- (e) "Florida Main Street Program" means a statewide historic preservation-based downtown revitalization assistance program created, maintained, and administered by the division

under s. 267.031(5).

(f) "Local program area" means the specific geographic area in which an Accredited Main Street Program is conducted as approved and maintained by the division or in which the Orlando Main Streets program is conducted.

- (g) "Long-term leasehold" means a leasehold in a nonresidential real property for a term of 39 years or more or a leasehold in a residential real property for a term of 27.5 years or more.
- (h) "Main Street America" means a national network of grassroots organizations revitalizing historic downtown areas under the leadership of the National Main Street Center, Inc., a subsidiary of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.
- (i) "National Register of Historic Places" means the list of historic properties significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture maintained by the United States Secretary of the Interior as authorized in 54 U.S.C. s. 3021.
- (j) "Orlando Main Streets" means a historic preservationbased district revitalization program administered by the City of Orlando.
- (k) "Placed in service" means the time that property is first placed by the taxpayer in a condition or state of readiness and availability for a specifically assigned function, whether for use in a trade or business, for the production of income, or in a tax-exempt activity.
- (1) "Qualified expenses" means rehabilitation expenditures incurred in this state which qualify for the credit under 26 U.S.C. s. 47.

593-02553-23 2023288c1

(m) "Registered historic district" means a district listed in the National Register of Historic Places or a district:

- 1. Designated under general law or local ordinance and certified by the United States Secretary of the Interior as meeting criteria that will substantially achieve the purposes of preserving and rehabilitating buildings of historic significance to the district; and
- 2. Certified by the United States Secretary of the Interior as meeting substantially all of the requirements for listing a district in the National Register of Historic Places.
- (n) "Taxpayer" has the same meaning as in s. 220.03(1)(z), but also includes an insurer subject to the insurance premium tax under s. 624.509.
 - (3) ELIGIBILITY.-
- (a) To receive a tax credit under this section, an applicant must apply to the division, no later than 6 months after the date the certified historic structure is placed in service, for a tax credit for qualified expenses in the amount and under the conditions and limitations provided in this section. The applicant must provide the division with all of the following:
 - 1. Documentation showing that:
 - a. The rehabilitation is a certified rehabilitation;
- b. The structure is a certified historic structure, is income-producing, is located within this state, and is placed into service on or after January 1, 2024;
- c. The applicant had an ownership or a long-term leasehold interest in the certified historic structure in the year during which the certified historic structure was placed into service;

593-02553-23 2023288c1

d. The total amount of qualified expenses incurred in rehabilitating the certified historic structure exceeded \$5,000;

- e. The qualified expenses were incurred in this state; and
- <u>f. The applicant received a tax credit for the qualified</u> expenses under 26 U.S.C. s. 47.
- 2. An official certificate of eligibility from the division, signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer or the Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, attesting that the project has been approved by the National Park Service. The attestation must identify if the project is located within a local program area.
- 3. National Park Service Form 10-168c (Rev. 2019), titled "Historic Preservation Certification Application-Part 3-Request for Certification of Completed Work," or a similar form, signed by an officer of the National Park Service, attesting that the completed rehabilitation meets the United States Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and is consistent with the historic character of the property and, if applicable, the district in which the completed rehabilitation is located. The form may be obtained from the National Park Service.
- 4. The dates during which the certified historic structure was rehabilitated, the date the certified historic structure was placed into service after the certified rehabilitation was completed, and evidence that the certified historic structure was placed into service after the certified rehabilitation was completed.
- 5. A list of total qualified expenses incurred in rehabilitating the certified historic structure. For certified rehabilitations with qualified expenses that exceed \$750,000,

593-02553-23 2023288c1

the applicant must submit an audited cost report issued by a certified public accountant which itemizes the qualified expenses incurred in rehabilitating the certified historic structure. An applicant may submit an audited cost report issued by a certified public accountant which was created for purposes of applying for a federal historic rehabilitation tax credit and which includes all of the qualified expenses incurred in rehabilitating the certified historic structure.

- 6. An attestation of the total qualified expenses incurred by the applicant in rehabilitating the certified historic structure.
- 7. The information required to be reported by the department in subsection (8) to enable the department to compile its annual report.

This paragraph may not be construed to restrict an applicant from making an application with the division before the certified historic structure is placed in service. However, a final determination on eligibility may not be made until the certified historic structure is placed in service.

(b) Within 90 days after receipt of the information required under paragraph (a) or the certified historic structure is placed in service, whichever is later, the division shall approve or deny the application. If approved, the division must provide a letter of certification to the applicant consistent with any restrictions imposed. If the division denies any part of the requested credit, the division must inform the applicant of the grounds for the denial. The division must submit a copy of the certification and the information provided by the

applicant to the department within 10 days after the division's approval.

- (4) CERTIFIED REHABILITATION TAX CREDIT.—For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2024, there is allowed a credit against any tax due for a taxable year under this chapter after the application of any other allowable credits by the taxpayer in an amount equal to:
- (a) Twenty percent of the total qualified expenses incurred in this state in rehabilitating a certified historic structure that has been approved by the National Park Service to receive the federal historic rehabilitation tax credit; or
- (b) Thirty percent of the total qualified expenses incurred in this state in rehabilitating a certified historic structure that has been approved by the National Park Service to receive the federal historic rehabilitation tax credit and that is located within a local program area.

- The tax credit may be used to offset the corporate income tax imposed under this chapter and the insurance premium tax imposed in s. 624.509. An insurer claiming a credit against insurance premium tax liability under this section may not be required to pay any additional retaliatory tax levied pursuant to s. 624.5091 as a result of claiming such credit. Section 624.5091 does not limit such credit in any manner.
- (5) CARRYFORWARD OF TAX CREDIT.—
 - (a) If a tax credit exceeds the amount of tax owed, the taxpayer may carry forward the unused tax credit for a period of up to 5 taxable years.
 - (b) A carryforward is considered the remaining portion of a

593-02553-23 2023288c1

tax credit that cannot be claimed in the current taxable year.

- (6) SALE OR TRANSFER OF TAX CREDIT.—
- (a) All or part of the tax credit may be sold or transferred.
- (b) A taxpayer to which all or part of the tax credit is sold or transferred may sell or transfer to another taxpayer all or part of the tax credit that may otherwise be claimed.
- (c) A taxpayer that sells or transfers a tax credit to another taxpayer must provide a copy of the certificate of eligibility provided under subparagraph (3)(a)2. together with the audited cost report, if applicable, to the purchaser or transferee.
- (d) Qualified expenses may be counted only once in determining the amount of an available tax credit, and more than one taxpayer may not claim a tax credit for the same qualified expenses.
- (e) There is no limit on the total number of transactions for the sale or transfer of all or part of a tax credit.
- or transfer, the seller or transferor and the purchaser or transferee shall jointly submit written notice of the sale or transfer to the department on a form prescribed by the department. The notice must include all of the following:
 - a. The date of the sale or transfer.
 - b. The amount of the tax credit sold or transferred.
- c. The name and federal tax identification number of the seller or transferor of the tax credit and the purchaser or transferee.
 - d. The amount of the tax credit owned by the seller or

593-02553-23 2023288c1

transferor before the sale or transfer and the amount the seller or transferor retained, if any, after the sale or transfer.

- 2. The sale or transfer of a tax credit under this subsection does not extend the period for which a tax credit may be carried forward and does not increase the total amount of the tax credit that may be claimed.
- 3. If a taxpayer claims a tax credit for qualified expenses, another taxpayer may not use the same expenses as the basis for claiming a tax credit.
- 4. Notwithstanding the requirements of this subsection, a tax credit earned by, purchased by, or transferred to a partnership, limited liability company, S corporation, or other pass-through taxpayer may be allocated to the partners, members, or shareholders of that taxpayer in accordance with any agreement among the partners, members, or shareholders and without regard to the ownership interest of the partners, members, or shareholders in the rehabilitated certified historic structure.
- (g) If the tax credit is reduced due to a determination, examination, or audit by the department, the tax deficiency shall be recovered from the taxpayer that sold or transferred the tax credit or the purchaser or transferee that claimed the tax credit up to the amount of the tax credit taken.
- (h) Any subsequent deficiencies shall be assessed against the purchaser or transferee that claimed the tax credit or, in the case of multiple succeeding entities, in the order of tax credit succession.
- (7) AUDIT AUTHORITY; REVOCATION AND FORFEITURE OF TAX CREDITS; FRAUDULENT CLAIMS.—

593-02553-23 2023288c1

(a) The department, with assistance from the division, may perform any additional financial and technical audits and examinations, including examining the accounts, books, or records of the tax credit applicant, to verify the legitimacy of the qualified expenses included in a tax credit return and to ensure compliance with this section. If requested by the department, the division must provide technical assistance for any technical audits or examinations performed under this subsection.

- (b) It is grounds for forfeiture of previously claimed and received tax credits if the department determines, as a result of an audit or information received from the division or the United States Department of the Interior, that an applicant or a taxpayer received a tax credit pursuant to this section to which the taxpayer was not entitled. In the case of fraud, the taxpayer may not claim any future tax credits under this section.
- (c) The taxpayer must return forfeited tax credits to the department, and such funds shall be paid into the General Revenue Fund.
- (d) The taxpayer shall file with the department an amended tax return or such other report as the department prescribes and shall pay any required tax within 60 days after the taxpayer receives notification from the United States Internal Revenue Service that a previously approved tax credit has been revoked or modified, if uncontested, or within 60 days after a final order is issued following proceedings involving a contested revocation or modification order.
 - (e) A notice of deficiency may be issued by the department

593-02553-23 2023288c1

at any time within 5 years after the date on which the taxpayer receives notification from the United States Internal Revenue Service that a previously approved tax credit has been revoked or modified. If a taxpayer fails to notify the department of any change in its tax credit claimed, a notice of deficiency may be issued at any time. In either case, the amount of any proposed assessment set forth in such notice of deficiency is limited to the amount of the tax credit claimed.

- (f) A taxpayer that fails to report and timely pay any tax due as a result of the forfeiture of its tax credit violates this section and is subject to applicable penalties and interest.
- (8) ANNUAL REPORT.—Based on the applications submitted and approved, the department shall submit a report by December 1 of each year to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives which identifies, in the aggregate, all of the following:
- (a) The number of employees hired during construction phases.
- (b) The use of each newly rehabilitated building and the expected number of employees hired.
- (c) The number of affordable housing units created or preserved. As used in this paragraph, the term "affordable" has the same meaning as in s. 420.0004.
- (d) The property values before and after the certified rehabilitations.
 - (9) DEPARTMENT DUTIES.—The department shall:
 - (a) Establish a cooperative agreement with the division.
 - (b) Adopt any necessary forms required to claim a tax

credit under this section.

593-02553-23

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(c) Provide administrative guidelines and procedures required to administer this section, including rules establishing an entitlement to and sale or transfer of a tax credit under this section. (d) Provide examination and audit procedures required to administer this section. (10) RULES.—The department and the division may adopt rules to administer this section. Section 2. Subsection (24) is added to section 213.053, Florida Statutes, to read: 213.053 Confidentiality and information sharing.-(24) The department may make available to the Division of Historical Resources of the Department of State and the Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior or his or her delegate, exclusively for official purposes, information for the purposes of administering the Main Street Historic Tourism and Revitalization Act pursuant to s. 220.197.

220.02 Legislative intent.-

Statutes, is amended to read:

(8) It is the intent of the Legislature that credits against either the corporate income tax or the franchise tax be applied in the following order: those enumerated in s. 631.828, those enumerated in s. 220.191, those enumerated in s. 220.181, those enumerated in s. 220.183, those enumerated in s. 220.182, those enumerated in s. 220.1895, those enumerated in s. 220.195, those enumerated in s. 220.184, those enumerated in s. 220.186, those enumerated in s. 220.184, those enumerated in s. 220.19,

Section 3. Subsection (8) of section 220.02, Florida

those enumerated in s. 220.185, those enumerated in s. 220.1875,

- those enumerated in s. 220.1876, those enumerated in s.
- 409 220.1877, those enumerated in s. 220.193, those enumerated in s.
- 410 288.9916, those enumerated in s. 220.1899, those enumerated in
- 411 s. 220.194, those enumerated in s. 220.196, those enumerated in
- 412 s. 220.198, and those enumerated in s. 220.1915, and those
- 413 enumerated in s. 220.197.

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Section 4. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 220.13, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 220.13 "Adjusted federal income" defined.-
- (1) The term "adjusted federal income" means an amount equal to the taxpayer's taxable income as defined in subsection (2), or such taxable income of more than one taxpayer as provided in s. 220.131, for the taxable year, adjusted as follows:
 - (a) Additions.—There shall be added to such taxable income:
- 1.a. The amount of any tax upon or measured by income, excluding taxes based on gross receipts or revenues, paid or accrued as a liability to the District of Columbia or any state of the United States which is deductible from gross income in the computation of taxable income for the taxable year.
- b. Notwithstanding sub-subparagraph a., if a credit taken under s. 220.1875, s. 220.1876, or s. 220.1877 is added to taxable income in a previous taxable year under subparagraph 11. and is taken as a deduction for federal tax purposes in the current taxable year, the amount of the deduction allowed shall not be added to taxable income in the current year. The exception in this sub-subparagraph is intended to ensure that the credit under s. 220.1875, s. 220.1876, or s. 220.1877 is

593-02553-23 2023288c1

added in the applicable taxable year and does not result in a duplicate addition in a subsequent year.

- 2. The amount of interest which is excluded from taxable income under s. 103(a) of the Internal Revenue Code or any other federal law, less the associated expenses disallowed in the computation of taxable income under s. 265 of the Internal Revenue Code or any other law, excluding 60 percent of any amounts included in alternative minimum taxable income, as defined in s. 55(b)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, if the taxpayer pays tax under s. 220.11(3).
- 3. In the case of a regulated investment company or real estate investment trust, an amount equal to the excess of the net long-term capital gain for the taxable year over the amount of the capital gain dividends attributable to the taxable year.
- 4. That portion of the wages or salaries paid or incurred for the taxable year which is equal to the amount of the credit allowable for the taxable year under s. 220.181. This subparagraph shall expire on the date specified in s. 290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act.
- 5. That portion of the ad valorem school taxes paid or incurred for the taxable year which is equal to the amount of the credit allowable for the taxable year under s. 220.182. This subparagraph shall expire on the date specified in s. 290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act.
- 6. The amount taken as a credit under s. 220.195 which is deductible from gross income in the computation of taxable income for the taxable year.
- 7. That portion of assessments to fund a guaranty association incurred for the taxable year which is equal to the

593-02553-23 2023288c1

amount of the credit allowable for the taxable year.

- 8. In the case of a nonprofit corporation which holds a pari-mutuel permit and which is exempt from federal income tax as a farmers' cooperative, an amount equal to the excess of the gross income attributable to the pari-mutuel operations over the attributable expenses for the taxable year.
- 9. The amount taken as a credit for the taxable year under $s.\ 220.1895.$
- 10. Up to nine percent of the eligible basis of any designated project which is equal to the credit allowable for the taxable year under s. 220.185.
- 11. Any amount taken as a credit for the taxable year under s. 220.1875, s. 220.1876, or s. 220.1877. The addition in this subparagraph is intended to ensure that the same amount is not allowed for the tax purposes of this state as both a deduction from income and a credit against the tax. This addition is not intended to result in adding the same expense back to income more than once.
- 12. The amount taken as a credit for the taxable year under s. 220.193.
- 13. Any portion of a qualified investment, as defined in s. 288.9913, which is claimed as a deduction by the taxpayer and taken as a credit against income tax pursuant to s. 288.9916.
- 14. The costs to acquire a tax credit pursuant to s. 288.1254(5) that are deducted from or otherwise reduce federal taxable income for the taxable year.
- 15. The amount taken as a credit for the taxable year pursuant to s. 220.194.
 - 16. The amount taken as a credit for the taxable year under

593-02553-23 2023288c1

s. 220.196. The addition in this subparagraph is intended to ensure that the same amount is not allowed for the tax purposes of this state as both a deduction from income and a credit against the tax. The addition is not intended to result in adding the same expense back to income more than once.

- 17. The amount taken as a credit for the taxable year pursuant to s. 220.198.
- 18. The amount taken as a credit for the taxable year pursuant to s. 220.1915.
- 19. The amount taken as a credit for the taxable year pursuant to s. 220.197.

Section 5. Subsection (7) of section 624.509, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

624.509 Premium tax; rate and computation.

(7) Credits and deductions against the tax imposed by this section shall be taken in the following order: deductions for assessments made pursuant to s. 440.51; credits for taxes paid under ss. 175.101 and 185.08; credits for income taxes paid under chapter 220 and the credit allowed under subsection (5), as these credits are limited by subsection (6); the credit allowed under s. 624.51057; the credit allowed under s. 220.197; and all other available credits and deductions.

Section 6. (1) The Department of Revenue may, and all conditions are deemed met to, adopt emergency rules under s.

120.54(4), Florida Statutes, for the purpose of implementing the Main Street Historic Tourism and Revitalization Act.

(2) Notwithstanding any other law, emergency rules adopted under this section are effective for 6 months after adoption and may be renewed during the pendency of procedures to adopt

593-02553-23 2023288c1 523 permanent rules addressing the subject of the emergency rules. 524 (3) This section shall take effect upon this act becoming a 525 law and expires July 1, 2024. 526 Section 7. This act applies to taxable years beginning, and 527 for qualified expenses incurred, on or after January 1, 2024. 528 Section 8. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this 529 act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon 530 this act becoming a law, this act shall take effect January 1, 531 2024.