



Journal of the Senate

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CALL TO ORDER

The Senate was called to order by President Albritton at 9:00 a.m. A quorum present—36:

Mr. President	Davis	Osgood
Arrington	DiCeglie	Passidomo
Avila	Gaetz	Polsky
Berman	Garcia	Rodriguez
Bernard	Grall	Rouson
Boyd	Harrell	Sharief
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Simon
Bradley	Leek	Smith
Brodeur	Martin	Truenow
Burgess	Massullo	Trumbull
Burton	Mayfield	Wright
Calatayud	McClain	Yarborough

Excused: Senators Gruters and Jones

PRAYER

The following prayer was offered by Pastor Walt Jacobs, Otter Creek Community Church, Sopchoppy:

Heavenly Father, you are great, gracious, and holy. Your mercies are from everlasting to everlasting to them that fear you. Though you are high and lifted up, you care deeply about lowly mankind. The greatest revelation that we could ever have is that you love us, and the greatest mystery is how you could. Today, though we may not completely comprehend the fathomless depths of your love, we are thankful for it and for your desire to have close and constant fellowship with us.

Just as your eyes are upon even the smallest sparrow, your ever watchful eyes are upon us all today. You behold, not only our deeds, but you see the motives behind our actions. You see what we do and why we do it. Your living word is a discerner of the thoughts and intentions of the heart. We tremble at the thought, therefore, we seek your counsel. We humbly acknowledge that without you, we can do nothing, but with you all things are possible.

For this particular moment in time, you have raised up the honorable men and women of the Florida Senate to their respective seats in this great house. They have accepted the responsibility and the burden of service placed upon their shoulders. I pray that you will continue to provide them with the strength to carry it. I pray that the decisions that are made here today and every day will be guided by your unseen hand. Grant them the spirit of wisdom and revelation. Help them understand what needs to be done and provide them with the resolve to do it.

I ask all of these things in the name that is above every name—the precious, powerful, and holy name of Jesus. Amen.

PLEDGE

Senate Pages, Sophie Barkin of Tampa; Calla Benedict of Daytona Beach; Calliope Kauffman of Bradenton; and Talesha Vaughn of Green Cove Springs, led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

SPECIAL ORDER CALENDAR

SB 2500—A bill to be entitled An act making appropriations; providing moneys for the annual period beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, and supplemental appropriations for the period ending June 30, 2026, to pay salaries, and other expenses, capital outlay - buildings, and other improvements, and for other specified purposes of the various agencies of state government; providing effective dates.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **SB 2500**, pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **HB 5001** was withdrawn from the Committee on Appropriations.

On motion by Senator Hooper—

HB 5001—A bill to be entitled An act making appropriations; providing moneys for the annual period beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, and supplemental appropriations for the period ending June 30, 2026, to pay salaries and other expenses, capital outlay—buildings and other improvements, and for other specified purposes of the various agencies of state government; providing effective dates.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **SB 2500** and read the second time by title.

Senator Hooper moved the following amendment which was adopted:

Amendment 1 (524782)—Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Pursuant to Rule 7.6, **Amendment 1 (524782)** constituted an entirely new bill and was not published in the Journal.

On motion by Senator Hooper, by two-thirds vote, **HB 5001**, as amended, was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—36

Mr. President	Davis	Osgood
Arrington	DiCeglie	Passidomo
Avila	Gaetz	Polsky
Berman	Garcia	Rodriguez
Bernard	Grall	Rouson
Boyd	Harrell	Sharief
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Simon
Bradley	Leek	Smith
Brodeur	Martin	Truenow
Burgess	Massullo	Trumbull
Burton	Mayfield	Wright
Calatayud	McClain	Yarborough

Nays—None

Vote after roll call:

Yea—Pizzo

MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Hooper, the Senate, having refused to pass **HB 5001** as passed by the House, acceded to the request for a budget conference.

SB 2502—A bill to be entitled An act implementing the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act; providing legislative intent; incorporating by reference certain calculations; amending s. 1001.451, F.S.; revising the services required to be provided by regional consortium service organizations under certain circumstances; revising the allocation that certain regional consortium service organizations are eligible to receive from the General Appropriations Act; requiring regional consortium service organizations to submit certain annual reports to the Department of Education; requiring the carry forward of certain unexpended funds; requiring each regional consortium service organization to provide quarterly financial reports to member districts; requiring member districts to designate fiscal agent districts for certain purposes; providing for compensation of fiscal agent districts; providing for certain personnel recommendations, policies, salary schedules, and job descriptions; authorizing the purchase or lease of property and facilities; providing for the distribution of certain revenues upon dissolution of a regional consortium service organization; revising authorized means of revenue generation; requiring the establishment of a fund balance for certain purposes; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; creating s. 1001.4511, F.S.; creating the Regional Consortia Service Organization Supplemental Services Program; authorizing the use of program funds for specified purposes; requiring each regional consortium service organization to annually report certain information to the Legislature; authorizing the carryforward of certain funds; creating s. 1009.635, F.S.; establishing the Rural Incentive for Professional Educators (RIPE) Program within the Department of Education for a specified purpose; providing eligibility requirements for the program; providing for student loan repayment assistance, up to a specified amount; requiring the department to verify certain participant information before disbursement of an award; specifying that the program is administered by the Office of Student Financial Assistance within the department; requiring the State Board of Education to adopt rules by a specified date; authorizing certain state university boards of trustees to accept a health care provider's procurement methods and construction contracts under certain circumstances; authorizing the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University board of trustees to expend available reserves or carryforward certain balances for a specified purpose; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment to realign Medicaid funding for specified purposes, subject to certain limitations; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment to realign funding within the Florida Kidcare program appropriation categories or to increase budget authority for certain purposes; specifying the time period within which such budget amendment must be submitted; amending s. 381.986, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the exemption of certain rules pertaining to the medical use of marijuana from certain rulemaking requirements; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement specified programs and payments; requiring institutions participating in a specified workforce expansion and education program to provide quarterly reports to the agency; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment for a specified purpose; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement the Low Income Pool component of the Florida Managed Medical Assistance Demonstration up to a certain amount; requiring that the amendment include a signed attestation and acknowledgment for entities relating to the Low Income Pool; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement certain payments and specified programs; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement a certified expenditure program for emergency medical transportation services; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement the Disproportionate Share Hospital Program; requiring such amendment to include specified information; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority

to implement fee-for-service inpatient and outpatient supplemental payments for specialty hospitals; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority to support the Florida School-Based Services program; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to create the Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Task Force for a certain purpose; requiring the task force to evaluate certain information and develop recommendations; providing for membership of the task force; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to provide staff support; authorizing staff from specified agencies to provide additional expertise; providing for meetings of the task force; providing that members of the task force serve without compensation but are entitled to reimbursement of travel expenses; requiring the task force to provide a report to the Governor and the Legislature by a specified date; authorizing the Department of Children and Families to submit a budget amendment to realign funding within specified areas of the department based on implementation of the Guardianship Assistance Program; authorizing the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Health, and the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority to support certain refugee programs; requiring the Department of Children and Families to submit quarterly reports to the Executive Office of the Governor and the Legislature; authorizing the Department of Children and Families to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority to support specified federal grant programs; reenacting s. 393.066(2), F.S., relating to community services and treatment; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending s. 394.9082, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the authority of a managing entity to carry forward certain unexpended funds; specifying that nonqualified funds carried forward are not included in a cumulative cap on the percentage that may be carried forward; amending s. 409.9913, F.S.; requiring that core services funding be allocated as provided in the General Appropriations Act; requiring the Department of Children and Families to continue to collect certain data from community-based care lead agencies and to use a certain Tiered Funding Model; requiring community-based care lead agencies to submit certain data to the department; requiring the department to conduct certain ongoing performance monitoring; requiring the department to provide monthly status reports to the Governor and the Legislature; requiring the department to submit a final report to the Governor and the Legislature by a specified date; amending s. 409.990, F.S.; requiring that certain funds held by a community-based care lead agency and carried forward be returned to the Department of Children and Families; requiring the department to hold such funds in a separate account and report certain information to specified entities; providing for the reversion of such funds to the General Revenue Fund; authorizing the Department of Health to submit a budget amendment to increase budget authority for the Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and the Child Care Food Program if a certain condition is met; authorizing the Department of Health to submit a budget amendment to increase budget authority for the HIV/AIDS Prevention and Treatment Program if a certain condition is met; authorizing the Department of Health to submit a budget amendment to increase budget authority for the department if additional federal revenues specific to COVID-19 relief funds become available; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to replace the Florida Medicaid Management Information System (FMMIS) and fiscal agent operations with a specified new system; specifying items that may not be included in the new system; providing directives to the Agency for Health Care Administration related to the new Florida Health Care Connection (FX) system; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to meet certain requirements in replacing FMMIS and the current Medicaid fiscal agent; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to implement a specified program governance structure that includes an executive steering committee composed of specified members; providing the duties of the executive steering committee; requiring the establishment of specified working groups; providing the composition of such groups; providing requirements for such groups; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to contract for a certain assessment of the agency's Medicaid management information system (MMIS); providing requirements for the assessment; requiring submission of the assessment to specified entities by a certain date; requiring the agency to develop a new time-phased implementation roadmap for the MMIS replacement based on the assessment; requiring the agency to submit the roadmap to specified entities by a certain date; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration, in consultation with the Department of Health, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, the Department of Children and Families, and the Depart-

ment of Corrections, to competitively procure a contract with a vendor to negotiate prices for certain prescribed drugs and biological products; providing specifications for such contract; authorizing the issuance or renewal of certain inactive or partially inactive licenses to skilled nursing providers and requiring the extension of certificate-of-need validity periods under certain circumstances; providing for subsequent renewal periods of such inactive licenses and validity periods under certain circumstances; authorizing the Agency for Persons with Disabilities to submit budget amendments to transfer funding from the Salaries and Benefits appropriation categories for a specified purpose; authorizing the Agency for Persons with Disabilities to submit budget amendments to request funds from the Lump Sum-Home and Community-Based Waiver category for a specified purpose; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration and the Agency for Persons with Disabilities to submit budget amendments within a specified timeframe for a specified purpose; authorizing the Department of Veterans' Affairs to submit a budget amendment, subject to Legislative Budget Commission approval, requesting certain authority for certain purposes relating to veterans' nursing homes; amending s. 409.915, F.S.; extending for 1 year the expiration of an exception for certain funds used for the hospital directed payment program; authorizing the Department of Veterans' Affairs to expend certain funds and submit budget amendments, subject to certain approval, for the planning and construction of a new State Veterans' Nursing Home and Adult Day Health Center in a specified county; authorizing the department to apply for a specified federal grant for the Collier County State Veterans' Nursing Home; authorizing the Department of Elderly Affairs to submit a budget amendment requesting certain authority for an Adult Care Food Program or the Older Americans Act under certain circumstances; amending s. 216.262, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the authority of the Department of Corrections to submit a budget amendment for additional positions and appropriations under certain circumstances; amending s. 215.18, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the authority and related repayment requirements for temporary trust fund loans to the state court system which are sufficient to meet the system's appropriation; requiring the Department of Juvenile Justice to review county juvenile detention payments to determine whether a county has met specified financial responsibilities; requiring that amounts owed by a certain county for such financial responsibilities be deducted from certain county funds; requiring the Department of Revenue to transfer withheld funds to a specified trust fund; requiring the Department of Revenue to ensure that such reductions in amounts distributed do not reduce distributions below amounts necessary for certain payments due on bonds and to comply with bond covenants; requiring the Department of Revenue to notify the Department of Juvenile Justice if bond payment requirements mandate a reduction in deductions for amounts owed by a county; requiring the Department of Juvenile Justice to take certain actions; reenacting s. 27.40(1), (2)(a), (3)(a), (5), (6), and (7), F.S., relating to court-appointed counsel; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting and amending s. 27.5304, F.S., relating to the extension for 1 fiscal year of limitations on compensation for representation in criminal proceedings; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending s. 908.1033, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year provisions authorizing local law enforcement agencies to apply to the State Board of Immigration Enforcement to provide bonus payments for certain certified correctional officers; amending s. 934.50, F.S.; creating the Drone as First Responder Grant Program within the Department of Law Enforcement; providing the purpose of the program; providing eligibility requirements; requiring the department to develop an application process and allocate funds on a first-come, first-served basis; requiring that grants be matched by local funds in a specified percentage; authorizing the department to waive the matching funds requirement for certain agencies; defining the term "first responder agency"; authorizing the department to adopt rules; authorizing emergency rulemaking; requiring the Department of Management Services, with the cooperation of certain agencies, to use tenant broker services to renegotiate or reprocure certain private lease agreements for office or storage space; requiring the Department of Management Services to provide a report to the Governor and the Legislature by a specified date; prohibiting an agency from transferring funds from a data processing category to another category other than another data processing category; authorizing the Executive Office of the Governor to transfer funds appropriated in certain categories between departments for purposes of aligning amounts paid for risk management insurance and for human resources services purchased per statewide contract; authorizing the Department of Management Services to use certain facility disposition funds from

the Architects Incidental Trust Fund to pay for certain relocation expenses; authorizing the Department of Management Services to submit budget amendments for an increase in appropriation under certain circumstances; requiring that such amendments include specified information; requiring the Department of Financial Services to replace specified components of the Florida Accounting Information Resource Subsystem (FLAIR) and the Cash Management Subsystem (CMS) with a specified integrated enterprise system; prohibiting the Department of Financial Services from including certain components in the replacement of FLAIR and CMS; providing requirements for the Department of Financial Services related to replacing FLAIR and CMS; providing for the composition of an executive steering committee to oversee FLAIR and CMS replacement; providing requirements for the executive steering committee chair; providing duties and responsibilities of the executive steering committee; reenacting s. 282.709(3), F.S., relating to the state agency law enforcement radio system and interoperability network; providing for future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; authorizing state agencies and other eligible users of the Statewide Law Enforcement Radio System to use the Department of Management Services contract to purchase equipment and services; requiring that a specified transaction fee percentage for use of the on-line procurement system be collected for a specified fiscal year; amending s. 24.105, F.S.; specifying requirements for the adoption of rules of the Department of the Lottery, excluding certain rules for 1 fiscal year regarding the commission for lottery ticket sales; limiting additional retailer compensation in a specified manner; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending s. 627.351, F.S.; extending for 1 year the specified authority of Citizens Property Insurance Corporation; amending s. 215.5586, F.S.; extending for 1 year the homeowner eligibility criteria for a hurricane mitigation grant from the My Safe Florida Home Program; providing that certain funds appropriated to the Department of Financial Services may be carried forward through a specified fiscal year; authorizing the Executive Office of the Governor to transfer funds between departments to align the budget authority granted based on the estimated costs for data processing services for a specified fiscal year; limiting the auxiliary assessments that may be charged to state agencies related to contract management services provided to the Northwest Regional Data Center; reenacting and amending s. 284.51, F.S., relating to the electroencephalogram combined transcranial magnetic stimulation treatment (eTMS) pilot program; extending for 1 year the expiration of the program; requiring the Department of Financial Services to continue its existing contract for the establishment of the eTMS pilot program for veterans and first responders; amending s. 717.123, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Financial Services to retain specified funds, not to exceed a certain amount; requiring that the funds be held in a separate account; requiring the department to make prompt payment of certain claims from the separate account; amending s. 215.18, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year certain authority to transfer funds from certain trust funds in the State Treasury to other trust funds in certain circumstances; requiring the Department of Environmental Protection to transfer designated proportions of the revenues deposited in the Land Acquisition Trust Fund within the department to land acquisition trust funds in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of State, and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission according to specified parameters and calculations; defining the term "department"; requiring the Department of Environmental Protection to make transfers to land acquisition trust funds monthly; specifying the method of determining transfer amounts; authorizing the Department of Environmental Protection to advance funds from its land acquisition trust fund to the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's land acquisition trust fund for specified purposes; amending s. 259.105, F.S.; requiring that proceeds from a specified trust fund be distributed as provided in the General Appropriations Act for a specified fiscal year; amending s. 376.91, F.S.; extending for 1 year the date by which the Department of Environmental Protection shall adopt statewide cleanup target levels for PFAS under certain circumstances; providing for future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting s. 376.3071(15)(g), F.S., relating to the Inland Protection Trust Fund; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; requiring the Department of Citrus to enter into agreements for specified purposes by a certain date; requiring the Department of Citrus to file certain information with the department's Inspector General; reenacting s. 380.5105, F.S., relating to the Stan Mayfield Working Waterfronts; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; authorizing the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to use specified funds to provide grants for a

specified purpose; amending s. 403.890, F.S.; authorizing the use of revenues deposited into or appropriated to the Water Protection and Sustainability Program Trust Fund as provided in the General Appropriations Act; amending s. 375.041, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the requirement that funds for the Land Acquisition Trust Fund be appropriated in a specified manner; authorizing the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to lease an existing facility and administer a specified program; authorizing the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority for the National School Lunch Program; amending s. 288.80125, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year a requirement that the use of funds in the Triumph Gulf Coast Trust Fund be related to Hurricane Michael recovery; amending s. 339.135, F.S.; extending for 1 year the authority for the chair and vice chair of the Legislative Budget Commission to approve certain work program amendments under specified circumstances; authorizing the Department of Transportation to request a specified amount of budget authority to the extent necessary to advance or defer certain projects in the Work Program and align resources for a specified purpose; amending s. 288.0655, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year a requirement that certain appropriated funds relating to the Rural Infrastructure Fund be distributed in a specified manner; creating s. 288.013, F.S.; providing legislative findings; creating the Office of Rural Prosperity within the Department of Commerce; requiring the Governor to appoint a director, subject to Senate confirmation; providing that the director reports to and serves at the pleasure of the secretary of the department; providing duties of the office; requiring the office to establish and staff a certain number of regional rural community liaison centers for a specified purpose; providing the powers and duties of the liaison centers; requiring coordination between certain entities; requiring the liaison centers to engage with the Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI); requiring at least one staff member of a liaison center to attend the monthly REDI meetings in person or by means of electronic communication; requiring the director of the office to submit a report to the Administration Commission within the Executive Office of the Governor; specifying requirements for the report; requiring that the report also be submitted to the Legislature by a specified date and published on the office's website; requiring the director of the office to attend the next Administration Commission meeting to present detailed information from the annual report; amending s. 288.001, F.S.; requiring the Florida Small Business Development Center Network to use certain funds appropriated for a specified purpose; authorizing the network to dedicate funds to facilitate certain events; creating s. 288.014, F.S.; providing legislative findings; requiring the Office of Rural Prosperity to administer the Renaissance Grants Program to provide block grants to eligible communities; requiring the Office of Economic and Demographic Research to certify to the Office of Rural Prosperity certain information by a specified date; defining the term "growth-impaired"; requiring the Office of Economic and Demographic Research to certify annually that a county remains growth-impaired until certain conditions are met; providing that a county is eligible to participate in the program for 1 additional year under certain circumstances; requiring participating counties to enter into an agreement with the Office of Rural Prosperity to receive a block grant; giving such counties certain authority; prohibiting the Office of Rural Prosperity from determining how such counties implement the block grant; requiring regional rural community liaison center staff to provide certain assistance; requiring participating counties to report certain information to the Office of Rural Prosperity; providing that a participating county receives a specified amount from funds appropriated to the program, or an equal share of the funds appropriated under certain circumstances; requiring participating counties to limit certain expenses; authorizing participating counties to supplement the block grant with other funding sources; requiring participating counties to hire and retain a renaissance coordinator; providing the responsibilities of the renaissance coordinator; requiring the regional rural community liaison center staff to provide assistance and training to the renaissance coordinator, upon request; requiring participating counties to design a certain plan; specifying requirements for such plan; requiring participating counties to develop intergovernmental agreements with certain entities to implement the plan; requiring the Auditor General to conduct an operational audit of each county's grant activities; requiring the Office of Economic and Demographic Research to submit a certain report to the Legislature; specifying requirements for the report; providing that funds appropriated from the program are not subject to reversion; creating s. 288.0175, F.S.; creating the Public Infrastructure Smart Technology Grant Program within the Office of Rural Prosperity; de-

fining terms; requiring the office to contract with one or more smart technology lead organizations to administer the grant program for a specified purpose; providing the criteria for such contracts; requiring that a summary of projects funded by the grant program be included in the office's annual report; amending s. 288.065, F.S.; establishing the Rural Community Development Revolving Loan Fund within the Office of Rural Prosperity, rather than the Department of Commerce; defining the term "unit of local government"; requiring the office to include in its annual report certain information about the Rural Community Development Revolving Loan Fund; providing for future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; authorizing the Division of Emergency Management to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority for certain expenditures under certain circumstances; amending s. 282.201, F.S.; extending for 1 year the Division of Emergency Management's exemption from the use of the state data center; amending s. 443.1113, F.S.; providing that certain improvements to the Reemployment Assistance Claims and Benefits Information System are subject to appropriation; revising the date a certain report from the Department of Commerce is required to be submitted; revising the report requirements; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting and amending s. 445.08, F.S., relating to the Florida Law Enforcement Recruitment Bonus Payment Program; extending the program for 1 year; authorizing the Department of Commerce to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority to support specified federal grant programs; requiring the Department of Management Services to assess an administrative health insurance assessment on each state agency; providing the rate of such assessment; defining the term "state agency"; requiring the Department of Management Services to take certain actions in case of delinquencies; requiring the Chief Financial Officer to transfer funds under specified circumstances; requiring state agencies to provide a list of positions that qualify for a certain exception by a specified date and to update the list monthly thereafter; requiring state agencies to include the administrative health insurance assessment in their indirect cost plan beginning for a specified fiscal year and annually thereafter; requiring agencies to notify the Department of Management Services, the Executive Office of the Governor, and the Legislature regarding the approval of their updated indirect cost plans; authorizing the Executive Office of the Governor to transfer budget authority between agencies in specified circumstances; providing that the annual salaries of the members of the Legislature be maintained at a specified level for a specified fiscal year; reenacting s. 215.32(2)(b), F.S., relating to the authorization for transferring unappropriated cash balances from selected trust funds to the Budget Stabilization Fund and General Revenue Fund; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; specifying the type of travel which may be used with state employee travel funds for a specified fiscal year; providing exceptions; providing applicability; providing a monetary cap on lodging costs for state employee travel to certain meetings organized or sponsored by a state agency or the judicial branch; authorizing employees to expend their own funds for lodging expenses that exceed the monetary caps; providing construction; amending s. 216.181, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the authority of the Legislative Budget Commission to approve budget amendments for certain fixed capital outlay projects; amending s. 216.292, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the requirements for certain transfers; authorizing state agencies to purchase vehicles from nonstate term contract vendors without prior approval from the Department of Management Services under certain circumstances; amending s. 11.52, F.S.; extending for 1 year certain state agency reporting requirements regarding implementation of legislation; amending s. 216.013, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year an exception from certain planning requirements; amending s. 216.023, F.S.; extending for 1 year a requirement that certain entities include a specified inventory in their legislative budget requests; requiring that a specified percentage of funds appropriated for information technology projects be held in reserve and that general revenue funds not held in reserve be released; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration, Department of Children and Families, Department of Corrections, Department of Financial Services, Florida Gaming Control Commission, Department of Health, and Department of Revenue to submit a budget amendment to request release of funds; limiting the amount that may be requested; providing that release is contingent upon certain submissions; requiring entities receiving such funds to submit monthly project status reports to certain entities; providing requirements for such status reports; providing conditions under which the veto of certain appropriations or proviso language in the General Appropriations Act voids language that implements such appropriation; providing for the continued operation

of certain provisions notwithstanding a future repeal or expiration provided by the act; providing for severability; providing for contingent retroactivity; providing effective dates.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **SB 2502**, pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **HB 5003** was withdrawn from the Committee on Appropriations.

On motion by Senator Hooper, the rules were waived and—

HB 5003—A bill to be entitled An act implementing the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act; providing legislative intent; incorporating by reference certain calculations; providing an expiration date; amending s. 1011.62, F.S.; revising the Florida Education Finance Program adjustment calculation; providing calculations to determine the safe school allocation; revising the name of the Educational Enrollment Stabilization Program; revising the purpose of such program; authorizing the Legislature to appropriate funds for a specified purpose; providing calculations to determine specified funding; authorizing recalculation in specified circumstances; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting s. 1011.45(3) and (5), F.S., relating to end of year balance of funds; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting s. 1009.26(18), F.S., relating to fee waivers; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting s. 1004.89, F.S., relating to the Institute for Freedom in the Americas; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; authorizing certain state university board of trustees to accept a health care provider's procurement methods and construction contracts under certain circumstances; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment to realign Medicaid funding for specified purposes, subject to certain limitations; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment to realign funding within the Florida Kidcare program appropriation categories or to increase budget authority for certain purposes; specifying the time period within which each budget amendment must be submitted; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement specified programs and payments; requiring institutions participating in a specified workforce expansion and education program to provide quarterly reports to the agency; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment for a specified purpose; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement the Low Income Pool component of the Florida Managed Medical Assistance Demonstration up to a certain amount; requiring that the amendment include a signed attestation and acknowledgment for entities relating to the Low Income Pool; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement certain payments and specified programs; requiring such amendment include specified approval; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement a certified expenditure program for emergency medical transportation services; requiring such amendment include specified approval; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement the Disproportionate Share Hospital Program; requiring such amendment to include specified information; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement fee-for-service inpatient and outpatient supplemental payments for specialty hospitals; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority to support the Florida School-Based Services program; authorizing the Department of Children and Families to submit a budget amendment to realign funding within specified areas of the department based on implementation of the Guardianship Assistance Program; authorizing the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Health, and the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority to support certain refugee programs; requiring the Department of Children and Families to submit quarterly reports to the Executive Office of the Governor and the Legislature; amending s. 409.909, F.S.; revising the calculation for the Slots for Doctors Program; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; authorizing the Department of

Children and Families to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority to support specified federal grant programs; reenacting s. 393.066 (2), F.S., relating to community services and treatment; authorizing certain persons or entities to maintain an alternate data system that meets specified standards; prohibiting the Agency for Persons with Disabilities from requiring training on a specified system in certain circumstances; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending s. 394.9082, F.S.; authorizing unexpended funds for certain counties to be carried forward for a specified time period; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; authorizing the Department of Health to submit a budget amendment to increase budget authority for the Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and the Child Care Food Program if a certain condition is met; authorizing the Department of Health to submit a budget amendment to increase budget authority for the HIV/AIDS Prevention and Treatment Program if a certain condition is met; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to suspend certain development activities related to the replacement of the Florida Medicaid Management Information System (FMMIS); authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration and the Agency for Persons with Disabilities to submit budget amendments within a specified timeframe for a specified purpose; authorizing the Department of Veterans' Affairs to submit a budget amendment, subject to Legislative Budget Commission approval, requesting certain authority for certain purposes relating to veterans' nursing homes; amending s. 409.915, F.S.; extending for 1 year the expiration of an exception for certain funds used for the hospital directed payment program; authorizing the Department of Veterans' Affairs to submit budget amendments, subject to certain approval, for the development and construction of a new State Veterans' Nursing Home and Adult Day Health Care Center in a specified county; authorizing the Department of Elderly Affairs to submit a budget amendment requesting certain authority for an Adult Care Food Program under certain circumstances; amending s. 766.314, F.S.; extending for 1 year the expiration of an exception that allows the Florida Birth-Related Neurological Injury Compensation Plan to accept certain new claims; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending s. 409.990, F.S.; authorizing a lead agency to carry forward up to 8 percent of the annual amount of the contract, rather than the total contract amount; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending s. 216.262, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the authority of the Department of Corrections to submit a budget amendment for additional positions and appropriations under certain circumstances; amending s. 215.18, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the authority and related repayment requirements for temporary trust fund loans to the state court system which are sufficient to meet the system's appropriation; requiring the Department of Juvenile Justice to review county juvenile detention payments to determine whether a county has met specified financial responsibilities; requiring that amounts owed by a certain county for such financial responsibilities be deducted from certain county funds; requiring the Department of Revenue to transfer withheld funds to a specified trust fund; requiring the Department of Revenue to ensure that such reductions in amounts distributed do not reduce distributions below amounts necessary for certain payments due on bonds and to comply with bond covenants; requiring the Department of Revenue to notify the Department of Juvenile Justice if bond payment requirements mandate a reduction in deductions for amounts owed by a county; requiring the Department of Juvenile Justice to take certain actions; reenacting s. 27.40(1), (2)(a), (3)(a), (5), (6), and (7), F.S., relating to court-appointed counsel; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting and amending s. 27.5304, F.S., relating to private court-appointed counsel; extending for 1 fiscal year limitations on compensation for representation in criminal proceedings; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending s. 908.1033, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the authority of local law enforcement agencies to apply to the State Board of Immigration Enforcement to provide bonus payments for certain certified correctional officers; authorizing the Department of Legal Services to submit a budget amendment, subject to certain approval, to increase budget authority for Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) assistance grants in specified circumstances; requiring the Department of Law Enforcement to conduct a study on payment scams; defining the term "payment"; providing requirements of such study; requiring such study and recommendations be submitted to specified individuals and made available online by a certain date; requiring the Department of Management Services, with the cooperation of certain agencies, to use tenant broker

services to renegotiate or reprocure certain private lease agreements for office or storage space; requiring the Department of Management Services to provide a report to the Governor and the Legislature by a specified date; prohibiting an agency from transferring funds from a data processing category to another category other than another data processing category; authorizing the Executive Office of the Governor to transfer funds appropriated in certain categories between departments for purposes of aligning amounts paid for risk management insurance and for human resources services purchased per statewide contract; authorizing the Department of Management Services to use certain facility disposition funds from the Architects Incidental Trust Fund to pay for certain relocation expenses; authorizing the Department of Management Services to submit budget amendments for an increase in appropriation under certain circumstances; requiring that such amendments include specified information; requiring the Department of Financial Services to replace specified components of the Florida Accounting Information Resource Subsystem (FLAIR) and the Cash Management Subsystem (CMS) with a specified integrated enterprise system; prohibiting the Department of Financial Services from including certain components in the replacement of FLAIR and CMS; providing requirements for the Department of Financial services related to replacing FLAIR and CMS; providing for the composition of an executive steering committee to oversee FLAIR and CMS replacement; providing requirements for the executive steering committee chair; providing duties and responsibilities of the executive steering committee; reenacting s. 282.709(3), F.S., relating to the state agency law enforcement radio system and interoperability network; providing for future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; authorizing state agencies and other eligible users of the Statewide Law Enforcement Radio System to use the Department of Management Services contract to purchase equipment and services; requiring that a specified transaction fee percentage for use of the online procurement system be collected for a specified fiscal year; amending s. 24.105, F.S.; specifying requirements for the adoption of rules of the Department of the Lottery, excluding certain rules for 1 fiscal year regarding the commission for lottery ticket sales; limiting additional retailer compensation in a specified manner; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending s. 627.351, F.S.; extending for 1 year the authority of Citizens Property Insurance Corporation to contract with a the Division of Administrative Hearings to resolve certain disputes; amending s. 112.215, F.S.; authorizing a deferred compensation plan to offer a specified contribution program; amending s. 110.116, F.S.; providing legislative findings; directing the Department of Management Services to take specified actions relating to certain systems; requiring the department to submit certain estimates to specified persons by a specified date; removing provisions relating to specified contracted services; amending s. 215.5586, F.S.; extending for 1 year homeowner eligibility criteria for a hurricane mitigation grant from the My Safe Florida Home Program; providing that certain funds appropriated to the Department of Financial Services may be carried forward through a specified fiscal year; authorizing the Executive Office of the Governor to transfer funds between departments to align the budget authority granted based on the estimated costs for data processing services for a specified fiscal year; limiting the auxiliary assessments that may be charged to state agencies related to contract management services provided to the Northwest Regional Data Center; amending s. 284.51, F.S.; extending for 1 year the electroencephalogram combined Transactional Magnetic Stimulation (eTMS) treatment pilot program; requiring the Department of Financial Services to continue the eTMS pilot program for veterans and first responders; specifying that funds paid by the department do not constitute financial assistance; requiring the department to amend existing contracts to specify certain information; amending s. 717.123, F.S.; requiring the Department of Financial Services segregate a certain amount in a separate account to be used for a specified purpose; authorizing the department to retain certain funds for specified fiscal years; authorizing the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority for the National School Lunch Program; amending s. 215.18, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year certain authority to transfer funds from certain trust funds in the State Treasury to other trust funds in certain circumstances; requiring the Department of Environmental Protection to transfer designated proportions of the revenues deposited in the Land Acquisition Trust Fund within the department to land acquisition trust funds in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of State, and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission according to specified parameters and calculations; defining the term “department”; requiring the De-

partment of Environmental Protection to make transfers to land acquisition trust funds monthly; specifying the method of determining transfer amounts; authorizing the Department of Environmental Protection to advance funds from its land acquisition trust fund to the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission’s land acquisition trust fund for specified purposes; amending s. 376.91, F.S.; extending for 1 year the date by which the Department of Environmental Protection shall adopt statewide cleanup target levels for PFAS under certain circumstances; providing for future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending ss. 376.3071 and 376.3072, F.S.; extending for 1 year the prohibition of certain deductibles, copays, and monetary caps; extending for 1 year the requirement that certain costs be absorbed at the expense of the Inland Protection Trust Fund; reenacting s. 376.3071(15)(g), F.S., relating to the Inland Protection Trust Fund; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting s. 380.5105, F.S., relating to the Stan Mayfield Working Waterfronts; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; authorizing the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to use certain funds for a specified purpose; amending s. 403.0673, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the requirement that funds appropriated for the water quality improvement grant program be used in a specified manner; amending s. 288.80125, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year a requirement that the use of funds in the Triumph Gulf Coast Trust Fund be related to Hurricane Michael recovery; amending s. 339.135, F.S.; extending for 1 year the expiration of a specified program; authorizing the Department of Transportation to realign or increase certain budget authority; amending s. 288.0655, F.S.; extending for fiscal 1 year a requirement that certain appropriated funds relating to the Rural Infrastructure Fund be distributed in a specified manner; authorizing the Division of Emergency Management to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority for certain expenditures; reenacting s. 443.113(4) and (5), F.S., relating to the Reemployment Assistance Claims and Benefits Information System; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting and amending s. 445.08, F.S.; revising the definition of the terms “employing agency” and “newly employed officer”; extending for 1 year the expiration of the Florida Law Enforcement Recruitment Bonus Payment Program; requiring the Department of Management Services to assess an administrative health insurance assessment on each state agency; providing the rate of such assessment; defining the term “state agency”; requiring the Department of Management Services to take certain actions in case of delinquencies; requiring the Chief Financial Officer to transfer funds under specified circumstances; requiring state agencies to provide a list of positions that qualify for a certain exception by a specified date and to update the list monthly thereafter; requiring state agencies to include the administrative health insurance assessment in their indirect cost plan beginning for a specified fiscal year and annually thereafter; requiring agencies to notify the Department of Management Services, the Executive Office of the Governor, and the Legislature regarding the approval of their updated indirect cost plans; authorizing the Executive Office of the Governor to transfer budget authority between agencies in specified circumstances; providing that the annual salaries of the members of the Legislature be maintained at a specified level for a specified fiscal year; reenacting s. 215.32(2)(b), F.S., relating to the authorization for transferring unappropriated cash balances from selected trust funds to the Budget Stabilization Fund and General Revenue Fund; providing for future expiration and reversion of specific statutory text; requiring per diem and subsistence allowance rates for state employee travel to be established by each state agency or the judicial branch; prohibiting such rates from exceeding a specified rate; requiring mileage allowance for state employee travel to be established by each state agency or the judicial branch; prohibiting such allowance from exceeding a specified rate; specifying the type of travel which may be used with state employee travel funds for a specified fiscal year; providing exceptions; requiring reporting in specified circumstances; providing applicability; amending s. 216.181, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the authority of the Legislative Budget Commission to approve budget amendments for certain fixed capital outlay projects; amending s. 216.292, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the requirements for certain transfers; amending s. 11.52, F.S.; extending for 1 year certain state agency reporting requirements regarding implementation of legislation; amending s. 216.013, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year an exception from certain planning requirements; amending s. 216.023, F.S.; extending for 1 year a requirement that certain entities include a specified inventory in their legislative budget requests; providing that the use of state funds must be consistent with specified principles of individual freedom; prohibiting a state agency from using state funds to contract with an

advertising agency or other contractor who acts as or uses the services of media reliability and bias monitors; defining the term “media reliability and bias monitor”; amending s. 440.13, F.S.; extending for 1 year the expiration of certain reimbursement allowances; providing for future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting s. 373.0421(2), F.S., relating to establishment and implementation of minimum flow and minimum water levels; providing for future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; providing that the Governor, the Cabinet officers, and the Legislature are permanent tenants of the Capitol Complex; prohibiting the interior space allotted to each tenant as of a specified date from being reduced or moved without the tenant’s express consent; requiring the Legislature to have the right of first refusal if certain space becomes available; requiring the department to coordinate with specified entities before planning or scheduling any projects in the Capitol Center; requiring the office to solicit specified feedback in carrying out the provisions of the Capitol Center long-range planning; prohibiting certain parking spaces from being reduced or reassigned without the express consent of the Legislature; providing conditions under which the veto of certain appropriations or proviso language in the General Appropriations Act voids language that implements such appropriation; providing for the continued operation of certain provisions notwithstanding a future repeal or expiration provided by the act; providing for severability; providing for contingent retroactivity; providing effective dates.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **SB 2502** and read the second time by title.

Senator Hooper moved the following amendment which was adopted:

Amendment 1 (952064) (with title amendment)—Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. *It is the intent of the Legislature that the implementing and administering provisions of this act apply to the General Appropriations Act for the 2026-2027 fiscal year.*

Section 2. *In order to implement Specific Appropriations 5, 6, 88, and 89 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, the calculations of the Florida Education Finance Program for the 2026-2027 fiscal year included in the document titled “Public School Funding: The Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) Fiscal Year 2026-2027,” dated February 18, 2026, and filed with the Secretary of the Senate, are incorporated by reference for the purpose of displaying the calculations used by the Legislature, consistent with the requirements of state law, in making appropriations for the Florida Education Finance Program. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 3. *In order to implement Specific Appropriation 80 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, the school readiness reimbursement rates for the 2026-2027 fiscal year included in the document titled “School Readiness Program Reimbursement Rates Fiscal Year 2026-2027,” dated February 18, 2026, and filed with the Secretary of the Senate, are incorporated by reference, consistent with the requirements of state law, in making appropriations for the school readiness program allocation. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 4. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 102 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsections (1), (2), and (5) of section 1001.451, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1001.451 Regional consortium service organizations.—In order to provide a full range of programs to larger numbers of students, minimize duplication of services, and encourage the development of new programs and services:

(1) School districts with 20,000 or fewer unweighted full-time equivalent students, developmental research (laboratory) schools established pursuant to s. 1002.32, and the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind may enter into cooperative agreements to form a regional consortium service organization. Each regional consortium service organization shall provide ~~any, at a minimum, three~~ of the following services determined necessary and appropriate by the board of directors:

- (a) Exceptional student education;
- (b) ~~Safe schools support teacher education centers; environmental education;~~

- (c) ~~State and federal grant procurement and coordination;~~
- (d) ~~Data services processing; health~~
- (e) ~~Insurance services;~~
- (f) ~~Risk management insurance;~~
- (g) ~~Professional learning;~~
- (h) ~~College, career, and workforce development;~~
- (i) ~~Business and operational services staff development;~~
- (j) Purchasing; or
- (k) Planning and accountability.

(2)(a) Each regional consortium service organization ~~composed that consists~~ of four or more school districts is eligible to receive, through the Department of Education, subject to the funds provided in the General Appropriations Act, an ~~allocation incentive grant~~ of \$150,000 ~~\$50,000~~ per school district and eligible member to be used for the delivery of services within the participating school districts. The determination of services and use of such funds ~~must shall~~ be established by the board of directors of the regional consortium service organization. The funds ~~must shall~~ be distributed to each regional consortium service organization no later than 30 days following the release of the funds to the department. *Each regional consortium service organization shall submit an annual report to the department regarding the use of funds for consortia services. Unexpended amounts in any fund in a consortium’s current year operating budget must be carried forward and included as the balance forward for that fund in the approved operating budget for the following year. Each regional consortium service organization shall provide quarterly financial reports to member districts.*

(b) *Member districts shall designate a district to serve as a fiscal agent for contractual and reporting purposes. Such fiscal agent district is entitled to reasonable compensation for accounting and other services performed. The regional consortium service organization shall retain all funds received from grants or contracted services to cover indirect or administrative costs associated with the provision of such services. The regional consortium service organization board of directors shall determine the products and services to be provided by the consortium; however, in all contractual matters, the school board of the fiscal agent district shall act on proposed actions of the regional consortium service organization.*

(c) *The regional consortium service organization board of directors shall recommend establishment of positions and individuals for appointment to the fiscal agent district. Personnel must be employed under the personnel policies of the fiscal agent district and are deemed to be public employees of the fiscal agent district. The regional consortium service organization board of directors may recommend a salary schedule and job descriptions specific to its personnel.*

(d) *The regional consortium service organization may purchase or lease property and facilities essential for its operations and is responsible for their maintenance and associated overhead costs.*

(e) *If a regional consortium service organization is dissolved, any revenue from the sale of assets must be distributed among the member districts as determined by the board of directors. ~~Application for incentive grants shall be made to the Commissioner of Education by July 30 of each year for distribution to qualifying regional consortium service organizations by January 1 of the fiscal year.~~*

(5) The board of directors of a regional consortium service organization may use various means to generate revenue in support of its activities, including, but not limited to, contracting for services to non-member districts. The board of directors may acquire, enjoy, use, and dispose of patents, copyrights, and trademarks and any licenses and associated ~~other~~ rights or interests ~~thereunder or therein~~. Ownership of all such patents, copyrights, trademarks, licenses, and associated rights or interests ~~thereunder or therein~~ shall vest in the state, with the board of directors having full right of use and full right to retain ~~associated the~~ revenues ~~derived therefrom~~. Any funds realized from contracted services, patents, copyrights, trademarks, or licenses are ~~shall be~~ considered internal funds as provided in s. 1011.07. *A fund balance must be*

established for maintaining or expanding services, facilities maintenance, terminal pay, and other liabilities. ~~Such funds shall be used to support the organization's marketing and research and development activities in order to improve and increase services to its member districts.~~

Section 5. *The amendments to s. 1001.451, Florida Statutes, made by this act expire July 1, 2027, and the text of that section shall revert to that in existence on June 30, 2026, except that any amendments to such text enacted other than by this act shall be preserved and continue to operate to the extent that such amendments are not dependent upon the portions of text which expire pursuant to this section.*

Section 6. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 102 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, section 1001.4511, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

1001.4511 Regional Consortia Service Organization Supplemental Services Program.—

(1) *There is created the Regional Consortia Service Organization Supplemental Services Program to increase the ability of regional consortium service organizations under s. 1001.451 to provide programs and services to consortia members through cooperative agreements. Program funds may be used to supplement member needs related to transportation; district finance personnel services; property insurance, including property insurance obtained from any source; cybersecurity support; school safety; college, career, and workforce development; academic support; and behavior support within exceptional student education services.*

(2) *Each regional consortium service organization shall annually report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives the distribution of funds, including members awarded and services provided.*

(3) *Notwithstanding s. 216.301 and pursuant to s. 216.351, funds allocated for this purpose which are not disbursed by June 30 of the fiscal year in which the funds are allocated may be carried forward for up to 5 years after the effective date of the original appropriation.*

(4) *This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 7. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 64A of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, section 1009.635, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

1009.635 Rural Incentive for Professional Educators Program.—

(1) *ESTABLISHMENT.—The Rural Incentive for Professional Educators (RIPE) Program is established within the Department of Education to support the recruitment and retention of qualified instructional personnel in rural communities. The program shall provide financial assistance for the repayment of student loans for eligible participants who establish permanent residency and employment in rural areas of opportunity.*

(2) *ELIGIBILITY.—An individual is eligible to participate in the RIPE Program if he or she does all of the following:*

(a) *Establishes permanent residency on or after July 1, 2026, in a rural area of opportunity as designated pursuant to s. 288.0656. The address on an individual's state-issued identification card or driver license is evidence of residence.*

(b) *Secures full-time employment as a teacher or administrator in a private school as defined in s. 1002.01, or as instructional or administrative personnel as those terms are defined in s. 1012.01(2) and (3), respectively, in the public school district located within the same rural area of opportunity as he or she resides.*

(c) *Holds an associate degree, bachelor's degree, postgraduate degree, or certificate from an accredited institution earned before establishing residency.*

(d) *Has an active student loan balance incurred for the completion of the qualifying degree or certificate.*

(3) *LOAN REPAYMENT.—Eligible participants may receive up to \$15,000 in total student loan repayment assistance over 5 years, disbursed in annual payments not to exceed \$3,000 per year. Payments must be made directly to the lender servicing the participant's student loan.*

(4) *AWARD DISTRIBUTION.—Before disbursement of an award, the department shall verify that the participant:*

(a) *Has maintained continuous employment with the school district in an instructional or administrative position;*

(b) *Has received a rating of effective or highly effective pursuant to s. 1012.34; and*

(c) *Has not been placed on probation, had his or her certificate suspended or revoked, or been placed on the disqualification list, pursuant to s. 1012.796.*

(5) *ADMINISTRATION.—The program shall be administered by the Office of Student Financial Assistance within the Department of Education, which shall:*

(a) *Develop application procedures requiring documentation, including proof of residency, verification of employment, official academic transcripts, and details of outstanding student loans; and*

(b) *Monitor compliance with program requirements.*

(6) *RULEMAKING.—The State Board of Education shall adopt rules no later than January 31, 2027, to administer this section.*

(7) *EXPIRATION.—This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 8. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 17 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, a state university board of trustees that is beginning an approved capital outlay project with a health care provider may accept the health care provider's procurement methods and construction contracts entered thereunder and may reimburse the health care provider for its expenses using the proceeds from a bond issuance approved by the Board of Governors. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 9. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 152 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 1011.45 and 1012.975, Florida Statutes, the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University board of trustees may expend available reserves or carry forward balances from previous years' operational and programmatic appropriations, or other available reserves or balances from funds not appropriated from the General Revenue Fund, from state trust funds, or from tuition and fees, for the remuneration of the president of the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 10. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 209 through 237 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Agency for Health Care Administration may submit a budget amendment, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, to realign funding within the Medicaid program appropriation categories to address projected surpluses and deficits within the program and to maximize the use of state trust funds. A single budget amendment shall be submitted in the last quarter of the 2026-2027 fiscal year only. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 11. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 190 through 195 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Agency for Health Care Administration may submit a budget amendment, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, to realign funding within the Florida Kidcare program appropriation categories, or to increase budget authority in the Children's Medical Services network category, to address projected surpluses and deficits within the program or to maximize the use of state trust funds. A single budget amendment must be submitted in the last quarter of the 2026-2027 fiscal year only. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 12. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 490 through 499 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsection (17) of section 381.986, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

381.986 Medical use of marijuana.—

(17) Rules adopted pursuant to this section before July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~, are not subject to ss. 120.54(3)(b) and 120.541. This subsection expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 13. *In order to implement Specific Appropriations 217, 219, and 223 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, the Agency for Health Care Administration may submit a budget amendment pursuant to chapter 216, Florida Statutes, requesting additional spending authority to implement the federally approved directed payment program for hospitals statewide providing inpatient and outpatient services to Medicaid managed care enrollees, the Indirect Medical Education (IME) Program, and a nursing workforce expansion and education program for certain institutions participating in a graduate medical education or nursing education program. For institutions participating in the nursing workforce expansion and education program, the budget amendment must identify the educational institutions partnering with the teaching hospital. Institutions participating in the nursing workforce expansion and education program shall provide quarterly reports to the agency detailing the number of nurses participating in the program. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 14. *In order to implement Specific Appropriations 217, 219, and 223 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, the Agency for Health Care Administration may submit a budget amendment pursuant to chapter 216, Florida Statutes, requesting additional spending authority to implement the federally approved Directed Payment Program and fee-for-service supplemental payments for cancer hospitals that meet the criteria in 42 U.S.C. s. 1395ww(d)(1)(B)(v). This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 15. *In order to implement Specific Appropriations 209 through 237 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, the Agency for Health Care Administration may submit a budget amendment pursuant to chapter 216, Florida Statutes, requesting additional spending authority to implement the Low Income Pool component of the Florida Managed Medical Assistance Demonstration up to the total computable funds authorized by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The budget amendment must include the final terms and conditions of the Low Income Pool, a proposed distribution model by entity, and a listing of entities contributing intergovernmental transfers to support the state match required. In addition, for each entity included in the distribution model, a signed attestation must be provided which includes the charity care cost upon which the Low Income Pool payment is based and an acknowledgment that should the distribution result in an overpayment based on the Low Income Pool cost limit audit, the entity is responsible for returning that overpayment to the agency for return to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 16. *In order to implement Specific Appropriations 222 and 223 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, the Agency for Health Care Administration may submit a budget amendment pursuant to chapter 216, Florida Statutes, requesting additional spending authority to implement fee-for-service supplemental payments and a directed payment program for physicians and subordinate licensed health care practitioners employed by or under contract with a Florida medical or dental school, or a public hospital. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 17. *In order to implement Specific Appropriations 220, 223, and 235 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, the Agency for Health Care Administration may submit a budget amendment pursuant to chapter 216, Florida Statutes, requesting additional spending authority to implement a certified expenditure program for emergency medical transportation services. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 18. *In order to implement Specific Appropriations 209 through 237 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Agency for Health Care Administration may submit a budget amendment, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, requesting additional spending authority to implement the Disproportionate Share Hospital Program. The budget amendment must*

include a proposed distribution model by entity and a listing of entities contributing intergovernmental transfers and certified public expenditures to support the state match required. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 19. *In order to implement Specific Appropriations 209 through 237 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, the Agency for Health Care Administration may submit a budget amendment pursuant to chapter 216, Florida Statutes, requesting additional spending authority to implement fee-for-service inpatient and outpatient supplemental payments for specialty hospitals as defined in s. 395.002(28), Florida Statutes, providing comprehensive acute care services to children with Medicaid inpatient utilization equal to or greater than 50 percent and located in a county with greater than 250,000 Medicaid enrollees in 2023. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 20. *In order to implement Specific Appropriations 201 and 228 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Agency for Health Care Administration may submit budget amendments, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, to increase budget authority to support the Florida School-Based Services program. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 21. *In order to implement Specific Appropriations 209 through 237 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act:*

(1) *the Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Task Force, a task force as defined in s. 20.03(5), Florida Statutes, is created within the Agency for Health Care Administration to evaluate the delivery of applied behavior analysis services in a manner that promotes high-quality, family-centered care while ensuring long-term financial sustainability of the Medicaid program and cost predictability without disrupting access for current enrollees and families.*

(2) *The task force shall evaluate:*

(a) *Clinical care models that lead to best practices for the provision of therapy at the appropriate ages;*

(b) *Appropriate transitions for enrollees receiving ABA services across developmental, educational, and community settings;*

(c) *Quality metrics for ABA therapy services;*

(d) *Limits and utilization controls related to the length of time ABA services may be authorized;*

(e) *Potential caps on the number of months an enrollee may receive ABA services; and*

(f) *Ways to enhance Medicaid provider enrollment and billing standards for ABA services to promote program integrity and fiscal accountability.*

(3) *The task force shall develop recommendations for revising the state's service delivery model to improve care experience and service continuity for enrollees and families receiving ABA services, while safeguarding long-term program sustainability.*

(4) *The task force shall consist of 10 members as provided in this subsection.*

(a) *The Secretary of Health Care Administration, or his or her designee, shall serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the task force and shall serve as the chair.*

(b) *The remainder of the task force membership shall be composed as follows:*

1. *Two members appointed by the Governor, three members appointed by the President of the Senate, and three members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, based upon the criteria of this subparagraph. The appointing officers must make their appointments prioritizing members who have the following experience or expertise:*

a. *Persons with academic credentials or scientific expertise relating to autism and applied behavior analysis;*

b. Representatives of the applied behavior analysis provider community;

c. Representatives of Medicaid managed care plans with managerial experience and expertise relating to autism and applied behavior analysis; or

d. Physicians licensed under chapter 458, Florida Statutes, or chapter 459, Florida Statutes, with expertise relating to autism and applied behavior analysis.

2. One family member of a Medicaid managed care plan enrollee who receives applied behavior analysis services, appointed by the Governor.

(c) The Secretary of Health Care Administration shall coordinate with the appointing officers to ensure the task force's membership adequately represents the criteria provided under paragraph (b).

(d) Any vacancy occurring on the task force must be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

(5) The Agency for Health Care Administration must provide staff support for the work of the task force, and staff from the Department of Health, the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Education, and the Agency for Persons with Disabilities may provide additional expertise.

(6) Meetings of the task force may be held through teleconference or other electronic means. The task force shall convene for its initial meeting by August 15, 2026, and thereafter, upon the call of the chair. Notices for any task force meetings must be published in advance on the Agency for Health Care Administration's website.

(7) Members of the task force shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for travel expenses as provided in s. 112.061, Florida Statutes.

(8) The task force shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by December 31, 2026. The report must include advantages and disadvantages of each recommendation.

(9) This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 22. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 339, 339B, 368 through 369 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Department of Children and Families may submit a budget amendment, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, to realign funding within the department based on the implementation of the Guardianship Assistance Program, between the specific appropriations for guardianship assistance payments, foster care Level 1 room and board payments, relative caregiver payments, and nonrelative caregiver payments. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 23. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 209 through 212, 217, 219, 220, 222 through 224, 363, 372, 475, 479, 480, 486, 501, 502, 508, and 512 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Health, and the Agency for Health Care Administration may submit budget amendments, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, to increase budget authority to support refugee programs administered by the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement due to the ongoing instability of federal immigration policy and the resulting inability of the state to reasonably predict, with certainty, the budgetary needs of this state with respect to the number of refugees relocated to the state as part of those federal programs. The Department of Children and Families shall submit quarterly reports to the Executive Office of the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on the number of refugees entering the state, the nations of origin of such refugees, and current expenditure projections. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 24. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 295 through 390A of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Department of Children and Families may submit budget amendments, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes,

to increase budget authority to support the following federal grant programs: the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Grant Program, the Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer, the American Rescue Plan Grant, the State Opioid Response Grant, the Substance Use Prevention and Treatment Block Grant, the Chafee Grant for Independent Living Services, the Education and Traditional Voucher Grant, Title IV-B Subparts 1 and 2 Grants, the Elder Justice Act, the STOP Violence Against Women Grant, the Rapid Unsheltered Survivor Housing Grant, and the Mental Health Block Grant. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 25. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 267 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding the expiration date in section 32 of chapter 2025-199, Laws of Florida, subsection (2) of section 393.066, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

393.066 Community services and treatment.—

(2) Necessary services shall be purchased, rather than provided directly by the agency, when the purchase of services is more cost-efficient than providing them directly. All purchased services must be approved by the agency. As a condition of payment and before billing, persons or entities under contract with the agency to provide services shall use agency data management systems to document service provision to clients or shall maintain such information in its own data management system and electronically transmit it to the agency data management system in an industry standard electronic format designated by the agency. The agency may not require training on the use of agency data management systems by persons or entities that choose to maintain data in their own data management system, provided that they electronically transmit required information in a format and frequency designated by the agency. Contracted persons and entities shall meet the minimum hardware and software technical requirements established by the agency for the use of such systems. Such persons or entities shall also meet any requirements established by the agency for training and professional development of staff providing direct services to clients.

Section 26. The text of s. 393.066(2), Florida Statutes, as carried forward from chapter 2025-199, Laws of Florida, by this act expires July 1, 2027, and the text of that subsection shall revert to that in existence on June 30, 2025, except that any amendments to such text enacted other than by this act shall be preserved and continue to operate to the extent that such amendments are not dependent upon the portions of text which expire pursuant to this section.

Section 27. Effective upon this act becoming a law, and in order to implement Specific Appropriation 382 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, paragraph (c) of subsection (9) of section 394.9082, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

394.9082 Behavioral health managing entities.—

(9) FUNDING FOR MANAGING ENTITIES.—

(c) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), for the 2026-2027 ~~2025-2026~~ fiscal year, a managing entity may carry forward documented unexpended funds appropriated from the State Opioid Settlement Trust Fund from 1 fiscal year to the next. *Nonqualified* funds carried forward pursuant to this paragraph are not included in the 8 percent cumulative cap that may be carried forward. This paragraph expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 28. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 324A, 339, 339B, and 384A of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsection (10) is added to section 409.9913, Florida Statutes, to read:

409.9913 Funding methodology to allocate funding to lead agencies.—

(10) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, core services funding shall be allocated as provided in the General Appropriations Act. The department shall use the Tiered Funding Model developed and submitted to the Legislature pursuant to section 34 of chapter 2025-199, Laws of Florida, as the baseline framework for any updates, refinements, or enhancements to the model and shall continue to collect detailed cost, expenditure, and census data from community-based care lead agencies.

(a) Each lead agency shall submit any cost, expenditure, and census data requested by the department to support the continued development

and refinement of the Tiered Funding Model. Lead agencies shall complete and validate a standardized expenditure report template in the form and manner prescribed by the department.

(b) The department shall conduct ongoing performance monitoring by comparing trends in individual metrics against broader indicators of system health and shall analyze emerging market trends that may impact organizational financial stability. The department's analysis and reporting shall include a comprehensive explanation of the methodology used to establish residential group home rates, a description of the current rate-setting processes employed by each community-based care lead agency, and recommendations to enhance the fiscal sustainability and transparency of those processes.

(c) Beginning in July 2026 and continuing through November 2026, the department shall provide monthly status reports to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives detailing activities and progress related to the development of the funding methodology, including preliminary recommendations for adjustments for the subsequent fiscal year.

(d) By December 1, 2026, the department shall submit a final report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives that includes recommendations for adjustments to the funding methodology for the next fiscal year. The recommendations shall continue the Tiered Funding Model approach while proposing enhancements intended to strengthen operational and financial outcomes.

(e) This subsection expires July 1, 2027.

Section 29. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 324A, 339, 339B, and 384A and section 74 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsection (9) is added to section 409.990, Florida Statutes, to read:

409.990 Funding for lead agencies.—A contract established between the department and a lead agency must be funded by a grant of general revenue, other applicable state funds, or applicable federal funding sources.

(9) Notwithstanding subsection (5), all funds held by a lead agency carried forward pursuant to subsection (5) as of July 1, 2026, must be returned to the department. The department must hold such funds in a separate account and, by August 1, 2026, report to the chair of the Senate Committee on Appropriations, the chair of the House of Representatives Budget Committee, and the Executive Office of the Governor's Office of Policy and Budget the amount of funds returned by each lead agency. As of September 30, 2026, all funds returned pursuant to this subsection shall revert to the General Revenue Fund. This subsection expires July 1, 2027.

Section 30. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 465 and 467 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Department of Health may submit a budget amendment, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, to increase budget authority for the Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and the Child Care Food Program if additional federal revenues will be expended in the 2026-2027 fiscal year. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 31. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 476 and 526 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Department of Health may submit a budget amendment, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, to increase budget authority for the HIV/AIDS Prevention and Treatment Program if additional federal revenues specific to HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment become available in the 2026-2027 fiscal year. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 32. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 432 through 593 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Department of Health may submit a budget amendment, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, to increase budget authority for the department if additional federal revenues spe-

cific to COVID-19 relief funds become available in the 2026-2027 fiscal year. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 33. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 203 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act:

(1) The Agency for Health Care Administration shall replace the current Florida Medicaid Management Information System (FMMIS) and fiscal agent operations with a system that is modular, interoperable, and scalable for the Florida Medicaid program and that complies with all applicable federal and state laws and requirements. The agency may not include in the program to replace the current FMMIS and fiscal agent contract:

(a) Functionality that duplicates any of the information systems of the other health and human services state agencies;

(b) Procurement for agency requirements external to Medicaid programs with the intent to leverage the Medicaid technology infrastructure for other purposes without legislative appropriation or legislative authorization to procure these requirements. The new system, the Florida Health Care Connection (FX) system, must provide better integration with subsystems supporting Florida's Medicaid program; uniformity, consistency, and improved access to data; and compatibility with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' Medicaid Information Technology Architecture (MITA) as the system matures and expands its functionality; or

(c) Any contract executed after July 1, 2022, not including staff augmentation services purchased off the Department of Management Services Information Technology staff augmentation state term contract which are not deliverables based fixed price contracts.

(2) For purposes of replacing FMMIS and the current Medicaid fiscal agent, the Agency for Health Care Administration shall:

(a) Prioritize procurements for the replacement of the current functions of FMMIS and the responsibilities of the current Medicaid fiscal agent, to minimize the need to extend all or portions of the current fiscal agent contract.

(b) Comply with and not exceed the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services funding authorizations for the FX system.

(c) Develop and mature an enterprise architecture framework to align the requirements of the FX project phases and overarching program objectives, including completing and maintaining key components such as the Business Capability Model and Business Value Model.

(d) Apply value-based measures to support informed decisionmaking around release readiness and go-live criteria. These measures must be tracked and reported quarterly to the executive steering committee established in paragraph (k) post-implementation to support performance monitoring and continuous improvement.

(e) Through documented FX architecture governance practices, ensure that the Medicaid business needs and the business architecture are the primary drivers of information and technical architecture design decisions. All such decisions must be documented with traceable rationale to promote transparency and accountability across the program. The business, information, and technical architectures must align with the MITA framework where applicable. In areas where MITA guidance is not available, alignment will be maintained through adherence to The Open Group Architecture Framework (TOGAF).

(f) Ensure compliance and uniformity with the published MITA framework and guidelines. The agency shall:

1. Implement an Enterprise Architecture (EA) management tool that supports an integrated approach to FX program architecture. The EA tool must serve as a centralized repository for the FX Business Process Inventory and support the integrated management and oversight of the FX business, technical, and information architectures.

2. Establish governance structures and define user roles within the EA tool for the business, technical, and information architecture components.

(g) Ensure that all business requirements and technical specifications have been provided to all affected state agencies for their review and input and approved by the executive steering committee.

(h) Consult with the Executive Office of the Governor's working group for interagency information technology integration for the development of competitive solicitations that provide for data interoperability and shared information technology services across the state's health and human services agencies.

(i) Implement a data governance structure for the program to coordinate data sharing and interoperability across state health care entities.

(j) Establish a continuing oversight team for each contract pursuant to s. 287.057(26), Florida Statutes. The teams must provide quarterly reports to the executive steering committee, summarizing the status of the contract, the pace of deliverables, the quality of deliverables, contractor responsiveness, and contractor performance.

(k) Implement a program governance structure that includes an executive steering committee composed of:

1. The Secretary of Health Care Administration, or the executive sponsor of the program.
2. A representative of the Division of Health Care Finance and Data of the Agency for Health Care Administration, appointed by the Secretary of Health Care Administration.
3. Two representatives from the Division of Medicaid Policy, Quality, and Operations of the Agency for Health Care Administration, appointed by the Secretary of Health Care Administration.
4. A representative of the Division of Health Care Policy and Oversight of the Agency for Health Care Administration, appointed by the Secretary of Health Care Administration.
5. A representative of the Florida Center for Health Information and Transparency of the Agency for Health Care Administration, appointed by the Secretary of Health Care Administration.
6. The Chief Information Officer of the Agency for Health Care Administration, or his or her designee.

(3)(a) The Secretary of Health Care Administration or the executive sponsor of the program shall serve as chair of the executive steering committee, and the committee shall take action by a vote of at least 5 affirmative votes with the chair voting on the prevailing side. A quorum of the executive steering committee consists of at least 5 members.

(b)1. The chair shall establish a program finance and contracting working group composed of:

- a. The FX program director.
- b. A representative from the agency's Office of the General Counsel.
- c. A representative from the agency's Division of Administration.
- d. Representatives from each continuing oversight team.
- e. The FX program strategic roadmap manager.
- f. The FX program project managers.
- g. The FX program risk manager.
- h. Any other personnel deemed necessary by the chair.

2. The working group shall meet at least monthly to review the program status and all contract and program operations, policies, risks, and issues related to the budget, spending plans and contractual obligations, and shall develop recommendations to the executive steering committee for improvement. The working group shall review all change requests that impact the program's scope, schedule, or budget related to contract management and vendor payments and submit those recommended for adoption to the executive steering committee. The chair shall request input from the working group on agenda items for each sched-

uled meeting. The program shall make available program staff to the group, as needed, for the group to fulfill its duties.

(c)1. The chair shall establish a state agency stakeholder working group composed of:

- a. The executive sponsor of the FX program.
- b. A representative of the Department of Children and Families, appointed by the Secretary of Children and Families.
- c. A representative of the Department of Health, appointed by the State Surgeon General.
- d. A representative of the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, appointed by the director of the Agency for Persons with Disabilities.
- e. A representative from the Florida Healthy Kids Corporation.
- f. A representative from the Department of Elderly Affairs, appointed by the Secretary of Elderly Affairs.
- g. The state chief information officer, or his or her designee.
- h. A representative of the Department of Financial Services who has experience with the state's financial processes, including development of the PALM system, appointed by the Chief Financial Officer.

2. The working group shall meet at least quarterly to review the program status and all program operations, policies, risks, and issues that may impact the operations external to the Agency for Health Care Administration FX program, and shall develop recommendations to the executive steering committee for improvement. The chair shall request input from the working group on agenda items for each scheduled meeting. The program shall make available program staff to the group to provide system demonstrations and any program documentation, as needed, for the group to fulfill its duties.

(4) The executive steering committee has the overall responsibility for ensuring that the program to replace FMMIS and the Medicaid fiscal agent meets its primary business objectives and shall:

(a) Identify and recommend to the Executive Office of the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives any statutory changes needed to implement the modular replacement to standardize, to the fullest extent possible, the state's health care data and business processes.

(b) Review and approve any changes to the program's scope, schedule, and budget.

(c) Review and approve any changes to the program's strategic roadmap.

(d) Review and approve change requests that impact the program's scope, schedule, or budget recommended for adoption by the program finance and contracting working group.

(e) Review recommendations provided by the program working groups.

(f) Review vendor scorecards, reports, and notifications produced by the continuing oversight teams.

(g) Ensure that adequate resources are provided throughout all phases of the program.

(h) Approve all major program deliverables.

(i) Review and verify that all procurement and contractual documents associated with the replacement of the current FMMIS and Medicaid fiscal agent align with the scope, schedule, and anticipated budget for the program.

(5) This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 34. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 203 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, the Agency for Health Care Administration shall contract for a comprehensive, independent technical architecture and feasibility assessment of the agency's Medicaid

management information system (MMIS), including components completed under the FX project.

(1) The assessment must evaluate the agency's current technical architecture and technology standards related to its MMIS replacement activities and assess alignment with all applicable federal and state laws and requirements, including, but not limited to, the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Interoperability and Patient Access Rule (CMS-9115), the Medicaid Information Technology Architecture (MITA) frameworks and guidelines, and recognized industry and governmental best practices, including CMS modularity guidance and National Institute of Standards and Technology cybersecurity standards.

(2) The assessment must, at a minimum:

(a) Identify and document current deficiencies in the technical architecture, system design, and standards that may affect long-term sustainability, including issues related to maintainability, scalability, security, interoperability, technical debt, vendor dependency, and compliance with evolving federal and state requirements.

(b) Develop a future-state technical architecture that is driven by and aligned with the business architecture, Medicaid program needs, and CMS modularity and interoperability principles, including identification of core components, interfaces, data flows, and applicable standards.

(c) Evaluate the feasibility of transitioning from the current-state architecture to the future-state architecture, including phased or modular implementation options, associated risks, estimated costs, implementation timelines, operational impacts, and implications for federal funding eligibility.

(d) Prioritize replacement of the functionality provided under the current fiscal agent contract and recommend a sustainable path forward, including identification of any prerequisite governance, policy, or remediation actions required prior to implementation.

(e) Assess the agency's readiness to implement and operate the recommended solution, including evaluation of governance structures, staffing capacity, and resource sufficiency.

(3) The completed assessment must be submitted simultaneously to the Agency for Health Care Administration, the chair of the Senate Committee on Appropriations, the chair of the House of Representatives Budget Committee, and the Executive Office of the Governor's Office of Policy and Budget by January 8, 2027.

(4) Based on the results of the assessment, the Agency for Health Care Administration shall develop a new time-phased implementation roadmap with measurable success criteria for the MMIS replacement that aligns investments with the agency's Medicaid program goals and business strategy. The agency must submit the roadmap to chair of the Senate Committee on Appropriations, the chair of the House of Representatives Budget Committee, and the Executive Office of the Governor's Office of Policy and Budget by February 2, 2027.

(5) This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 35. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 223, 224, 279, 290, 349, 503, 526, and 751 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, the Agency for Health Care Administration, in consultation with the Department of Health, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, the Department of Children and Families, and the Department of Corrections, shall competitively procure a contract with a vendor to negotiate, for these agencies, prices for prescribed drugs and biological products excluded from the program established under s. 381.02035, Florida Statutes, and ineligible under 21 U.S.C. s. 384, including, but not limited to, insulin and epinephrine. The contract may allow the vendor to directly purchase these products for participating agencies when feasible and advantageous. The contracted vendor must be compensated on a contingency basis, paid from a portion of the savings achieved by its price negotiation or purchase of the prescription drugs and products. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 36. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 238 through 245 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, notwithstanding ss. 408.040(2) and 408.808(3), Florida Statutes:

(1)(a) An inactive license or a partially inactive license with an expiration date on or after June 1, 2024, may be issued or renewed to a skilled nursing provider subject to the certificate-of-need provisions in part I of chapter 408, Florida Statutes, if the provider currently holds an active or inactive license, does not have a provisional license, and will be temporarily unable to provide services due to impacts from a natural disaster or state of emergency; or will be deactivating or has deactivated beds to improve and modernize the licensee's physical plant, but is reasonably expected to resume services within 48 months.

(b) Such issuance or renewal may be made for a period of 12 months and may be further renewed for up to 36 additional months upon demonstration by the licensee of the provider's progress toward reopening. During each 12-month renewal cycle, the applicant shall attest that good-faith progress towards commencement of the project is ongoing or that the project is delayed by litigation or by governmental action or inaction with respect to regulations or permitting that precludes commencement of the project.

(2)(a) The certificate-of-need validity period for a project shall be extended by the agency if the certificateholder demonstrates to the satisfaction of the agency that good-faith progress toward the commencement of the project is ongoing or that the project is delayed by litigation or by government action or inaction with respect to regulations or permitting that precludes commencement of the project.

(b) Such extension may be made for a period of 12 months and may be renewed for up to 36 additional months upon demonstration by the certificateholder of the progress towards opening. During each 12-month validity period renewal cycle, the certificateholder shall attest that good-faith progress towards commencement of the project is ongoing or that the project is being delayed by litigation or by governmental action or inaction.

(3) This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 37. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 272, 277, 278, 283, 288, and 289 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities may submit budget amendments, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, to transfer funding from the Salaries and Benefits appropriation categories to categories used for contractual services in order to support additional staff augmentation resources needed at the Developmental Disability Centers. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 38. In order to implement section 66 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities may submit budget amendments, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, to request the appropriation of funds from the Lump Sum-Home and Community-Based Services Waiver category to address any deficits or funding shortfalls. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 39. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 231 and 254 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Agency for Health Care Administration and the Agency for Persons with Disabilities may submit budget amendments, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, at least 3 days before the effective date of the action, to increase budget authority to support the implementation of the home and community-based services Medicaid waiver program of the Agency for Persons with Disabilities. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 40. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 594 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding chapter 216, Florida Statutes, the Department of Veterans' Affairs may submit a budget amendment, subject to Legislative Budget Commission approval, requesting the authority to establish positions in excess of the number authorized by the Legislature, increase appropriations from the Operations and Maintenance Trust Fund, or provide a necessary salary rate sufficient to provide for essential staff for veterans' nursing homes, if the department projects that additional direct care staff are needed to meet its established staffing ratio. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 41. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 223 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsection (1) of section 409.915, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.915 County contributions to Medicaid.—Although the state is responsible for the full portion of the state share of the matching funds required for the Medicaid program, the state shall charge the counties an annual contribution in order to acquire a certain portion of these funds.

(1)(a) As used in this section, the term “state Medicaid expenditures” means those expenditures used as matching funds for the federal Medicaid program.

(b) The term does not include funds specially assessed by any local governmental entity and used as the nonfederal share for the hospital directed payment program after July 1, 2021. This paragraph expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 42. *In order to implement Specific Appropriations 594 through 622A of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Department of Veterans’ Affairs is authorized to:*

(1) *Expend funds pursuant to a Memorandum of Agreement between the department and the Collier County Board of County Commissioners, as well as funds appropriated in chapter 2023-239, Laws of Florida, for the planning and construction of a new State Veterans’ Nursing Home and Adult Day Health Center in Collier County.*

(2) *Apply for a U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Construction Grant for the Collier County State Veterans’ Nursing Home.*

(3) *Submit budget amendments subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures in s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, subject to federal approval, requesting additional spending authority to support the development and construction of a new State Veterans’ Nursing Home and Adult Day Health Care Center in Collier County.*

This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 43. *In order to implement Specific Appropriations 404 and 406 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Department of Elderly Affairs may submit a budget amendment, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, to increase budget authority for the United States Department of Agriculture’s Adult Care Food Program or the Older Americans Act if additional federal revenues will be expended in the 2026-2027 fiscal year. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 44. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 626 through 718 and 729 through 782 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsection (4) of section 216.262, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

216.262 Authorized positions.—

(4) Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter relating to increasing the number of authorized positions, and for the 2026-2027 ~~2025-2026~~ fiscal year only, if the actual inmate population of the Department of Corrections exceeds the inmate population projections of the December 23 ~~February 21~~, 2025, Criminal Justice Estimating Conference by 1 percent for 2 consecutive months or 2 percent for any month, the Executive Office of the Governor, with the approval of the Legislative Budget Commission, shall immediately notify the Criminal Justice Estimating Conference, which shall convene as soon as possible to revise the estimates. The Department of Corrections may then submit a budget amendment requesting the establishment of positions in excess of the number authorized by the Legislature and additional appropriations from unallocated general revenue sufficient to provide for essential staff, fixed capital improvements, and other resources to provide classification, security, food services, health services, and other variable expenses within the institutions to accommodate the estimated increase in the inmate population. All actions taken pursuant to this subsection are subject to review and approval by the Legislative Budget Commission. This subsection expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 45. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 3340 through 3409 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsection (2) of section 215.18, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

215.18 Transfers between funds; limitation.—

(2) The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court may receive one or more trust fund loans to ensure that the state court system has funds sufficient to meet its appropriations in the 2026-2027 ~~2025-2026~~ General Appropriations Act. If the Chief Justice accesses the loan, he or she must notify the Governor and the chairs of the legislative appropriations committees in writing. The loan must come from other funds in the State Treasury which are for the time being or otherwise in excess of the amounts necessary to meet the just requirements of such last-mentioned funds. The Governor shall order the transfer of funds within 5 days after the written notification from the Chief Justice. If the Governor does not order the transfer, the Chief Financial Officer shall transfer the requested funds. The loan of funds from which any money is temporarily transferred must be repaid by the end of the 2026-2027 ~~2025-2026~~ fiscal year. This subsection expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 46. *In order to implement Specific Appropriations 1183 through 1194 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act:*

(1) *The Department of Juvenile Justice shall review county juvenile detention payments to ensure that counties fulfill their financial responsibilities required in s. 985.6865, Florida Statutes. If the Department of Juvenile Justice determines that a county has not met its obligations, the department shall direct the Department of Revenue to deduct the amount owed to the Department of Juvenile Justice from the funds provided to the county under s. 218.23, Florida Statutes. The Department of Revenue shall transfer the funds withheld to the Shared County/State Juvenile Detention Trust Fund.*

(2) *As an assurance to holders of bonds issued by counties before July 1, 2026, for which distributions made pursuant to s. 218.23, Florida Statutes, are pledged, or bonds issued to refund such bonds which mature no later than the bonds they refunded and which result in a reduction of debt service payable in each fiscal year, the amount available for distribution to a county shall remain as provided by law and continue to be subject to any lien or claim on behalf of the bondholders. The Department of Revenue must ensure, based on information provided by an affected county, that any reduction in amounts distributed pursuant to subsection (1) does not reduce the amount of distribution to a county below the amount necessary for the timely payment of principal and interest when due on the bonds and the amount necessary to comply with any covenant under the bond resolution or other documents relating to the issuance of the bonds. If a reduction to a county’s monthly distribution must be decreased in order to comply with this section, the Department of Revenue must notify the Department of Juvenile Justice of the amount of the decrease, and the Department of Juvenile Justice must send a bill for payment of such amount to the affected county.*

(3) *This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 47. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 793 through 817A, 978 through 1125, and 1146 through 1182 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding the expiration date in section 52 of chapter 2025-199, Laws of Florida, subsection (1), paragraph (a) of subsection (2), paragraph (a) of subsection (3), and subsections (5), (6), and (7) of section 27.40, Florida Statutes, are reenacted to read:

27.40 Court-appointed counsel; circuit registries; minimum requirements; appointment by court.—

(1) Counsel shall be appointed to represent any individual in a criminal or civil proceeding entitled to court-appointed counsel under the Federal or State Constitution or as authorized by general law. The court shall appoint a public defender to represent indigent persons as authorized in s. 27.51. The office of criminal conflict and civil regional counsel shall be appointed to represent persons in those cases in which provision is made for court-appointed counsel, but only after the public defender has certified to the court in writing that the public defender is unable to provide representation due to a conflict of interest or is not authorized to provide representation. The public defender shall report, in the aggregate, the specific basis of all conflicts of interest certified to

the court. On a quarterly basis, the public defender shall submit this information to the Justice Administrative Commission.

(2)(a) Private counsel shall be appointed to represent persons in those cases in which provision is made for court-appointed counsel but only after the office of criminal conflict and civil regional counsel has been appointed and has certified to the court in writing that the criminal conflict and civil regional counsel is unable to provide representation due to a conflict of interest. The criminal conflict and civil regional counsel shall report, in the aggregate, the specific basis of all conflicts of interest certified to the court. On a quarterly basis, the criminal conflict and civil regional counsel shall submit this information to the Justice Administrative Commission.

(3) In using a registry:

(a) The chief judge of the circuit shall compile a list of attorneys in private practice, by county and by category of cases, and provide the list to the clerk of court in each county. The chief judge of the circuit may restrict the number of attorneys on the general registry list. To be included on a registry, an attorney must certify that he or she:

1. Meets any minimum requirements established by the chief judge and by general law for court appointment;
2. Is available to represent indigent defendants in cases requiring court appointment of private counsel; and
3. Is willing to abide by the terms of the contract for services, s. 27.5304, and this section.

To be included on a registry, an attorney must enter into a contract for services with the Justice Administrative Commission. Failure to comply with the terms of the contract for services may result in termination of the contract and removal from the registry. Each attorney on the registry is responsible for notifying the clerk of the court and the Justice Administrative Commission of any change in his or her status. Failure to comply with this requirement is cause for termination of the contract for services and removal from the registry until the requirement is fulfilled.

(5) The Justice Administrative Commission shall approve uniform contract forms for use in procuring the services of private court-appointed counsel and uniform procedures and forms for use by a court-appointed attorney in support of billing for attorney's fees, costs, and related expenses to demonstrate the attorney's completion of specified duties. Such uniform contracts and forms for use in billing must be consistent with s. 27.5304, s. 216.311, and the General Appropriations Act and must contain the following statement: "The State of Florida's performance and obligation to pay under this contract is contingent upon an annual appropriation by the Legislature."

(6) After court appointment, the attorney must immediately file a notice of appearance with the court indicating acceptance of the appointment to represent the defendant and of the terms of the uniform contract as specified in subsection (5).

(7)(a) A private attorney appointed by the court from the registry to represent a client is entitled to payment as provided in s. 27.5304 so long as the requirements of subsection (1) and paragraph (2)(a) are met. An attorney appointed by the court who is not on the registry list may be compensated under s. 27.5304 only if the court finds in the order of appointment that there were no registry attorneys available for representation for that case and only if the requirements of subsection (1) and paragraph (2)(a) are met.

(b)1. The flat fee established in s. 27.5304 and the General Appropriations Act shall be presumed by the court to be sufficient compensation. The attorney shall maintain appropriate documentation, including contemporaneous and detailed hourly accounting of time spent representing the client. If the attorney fails to maintain such contemporaneous and detailed hourly records, the attorney waives the right to seek compensation in excess of the flat fee established in s. 27.5304 and the General Appropriations Act. These records and documents are subject to review by the Justice Administrative Commission and audit by the Auditor General, subject to the attorney-client privilege and work-product privilege. The attorney shall maintain the records and documents in a manner that enables the attorney to redact

any information subject to a privilege in order to facilitate the commission's review of the records and documents and not to impede such review. The attorney may redact information from the records and documents only to the extent necessary to comply with the privilege. The Justice Administrative Commission shall review such records and shall contemporaneously document such review before authorizing payment to an attorney. Objections by or on behalf of the Justice Administrative Commission to records or documents or to claims for payment by the attorney shall be presumed correct by the court unless the court determines, in writing, that competent and substantial evidence exists to justify overcoming the presumption.

2. If an attorney fails, refuses, or declines to permit the commission or the Auditor General to review documentation for a case as provided in this paragraph, the attorney waives the right to seek, and the commission may not pay, compensation in excess of the flat fee established in s. 27.5304 and the General Appropriations Act for that case.

3. A finding by the commission that an attorney has waived the right to seek compensation in excess of the flat fee established in s. 27.5304 and the General Appropriations Act, as provided in this paragraph, shall be presumed to be correct, unless the court determines, in writing, that competent and substantial evidence exists to justify overcoming the presumption.

Section 48. *The text of s. 27.40(1), (2)(a), (3)(a), (5), (6), and (7), Florida Statutes, as carried forward from chapter 2019-116, Laws of Florida, by this act expires July 1, 2027, and the text of those subsections and paragraphs, as applicable, shall revert to that in existence on June 30, 2019, except that any amendments to such text enacted other than by this act shall be preserved and continue to operate to the extent that such amendments are not dependent upon the portions of text which expire pursuant to this section.*

Section 49. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 793 through 817A, 978 through 1125, and 1146 through 1182 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding the expiration date in section 54 of chapter 2025-199, Laws of Florida, subsection (13) of section 27.5304, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsections (1), (3), (6), (7), and (11) and paragraphs (a) through (e) of subsection (12) of that section are reenacted, to read:

27.5304 Private court-appointed counsel; compensation; notice.—

(1) Private court-appointed counsel appointed in the manner prescribed in s. 27.40(1) and (2)(a) shall be compensated by the Justice Administrative Commission only as provided in this section and the General Appropriations Act. The flat fees prescribed in this section are limitations on compensation. The specific flat fee amounts for compensation shall be established annually in the General Appropriations Act. The attorney also shall be reimbursed for reasonable and necessary expenses in accordance with s. 29.007. If the attorney is representing a defendant charged with more than one offense in the same case, the attorney shall be compensated at the rate provided for the most serious offense for which he or she represented the defendant. This section does not allow stacking of the fee limits established by this section.

(3) The court retains primary authority and responsibility for determining the reasonableness of all billings for attorney fees, costs, and related expenses, subject to statutory limitations and the requirements of s. 27.40(7). Private court-appointed counsel is entitled to compensation upon final disposition of a case.

(6) For compensation for representation pursuant to a court appointment in a proceeding under chapter 39:

(a) At the trial level, compensation for representation for dependency proceedings shall not exceed \$1,450 for the first year following the date of appointment and shall not exceed \$700 each year thereafter. Compensation shall be paid based upon representation of a parent irrespective of the number of case numbers that may be assigned or the number of children involved, including any children born during the pendency of the proceeding. Any appeal, except for an appeal from an adjudication of dependency, shall be completed by the trial attorney and is considered compensated by the flat fee for dependency proceedings.

1. Counsel may bill the flat fee not exceeding \$1,450 following disposition or upon dismissal of the petition.

2. Counsel may bill the annual flat fee not exceeding \$700 following the first judicial review in the second year following the date of appointment and each year thereafter as long as the case remains under protective supervision.

3. If the court grants a motion to reactivate protective supervision, the attorney shall receive the annual flat fee not exceeding \$700 following the first judicial review and up to an additional \$700 each year thereafter.

4. If, during the course of dependency proceedings, a proceeding to terminate parental rights is initiated, compensation shall be as set forth in paragraph (b). If counsel handling the dependency proceeding is not authorized to handle proceedings to terminate parental rights, the counsel must withdraw and new counsel must be appointed.

(b) At the trial level, compensation for representation in termination of parental rights proceedings shall not exceed \$1,800 for the first year following the date of appointment and shall not exceed \$700 each year thereafter. Compensation shall be paid based upon representation of a parent irrespective of the number of case numbers that may be assigned or the number of children involved, including any children born during the pendency of the proceeding. Any appeal, except for an appeal from an order granting or denying termination of parental rights, shall be completed by trial counsel and is considered compensated by the flat fee for termination of parental rights proceedings. If the individual has dependency proceedings ongoing as to other children, those proceedings are considered part of the termination of parental rights proceedings as long as that termination of parental rights proceeding is ongoing.

1. Counsel may bill the flat fee not exceeding \$1,800 30 days after rendition of the final order. Each request for payment submitted to the Justice Administrative Commission must include the trial counsel's certification that:

a. Counsel discussed grounds for appeal with the parent or that counsel attempted and was unable to contact the parent; and

b. No appeal will be filed or that a notice of appeal and a motion for appointment of appellate counsel, containing the signature of the parent, have been filed.

2. Counsel may bill the annual flat fee not exceeding \$700 following the first judicial review in the second year after the date of appointment and each year thereafter as long as the termination of parental rights proceedings are still ongoing.

(c) For appeals from an adjudication of dependency, compensation may not exceed \$1,800.

1. Counsel may bill a flat fee not exceeding \$1,200 upon filing the initial brief or the granting of a motion to withdraw.

2. If a brief is filed, counsel may bill an additional flat fee not exceeding \$600 upon rendition of the mandate.

(d) For an appeal from an adjudication of termination of parental rights, compensation may not exceed \$3,500.

1. Counsel may bill a flat fee not exceeding \$1,750 upon filing the initial brief or the granting of a motion to withdraw.

2. If a brief is filed, counsel may bill an additional flat fee not exceeding \$1,750 upon rendition of the mandate.

(7) Counsel eligible to receive compensation from the state for representation pursuant to court appointment made in accordance with the requirements of s. 27.40(1) and (2)(a) in a proceeding under chapter 384, chapter 390, chapter 392, chapter 393, chapter 394, chapter 397, chapter 415, chapter 743, chapter 744, or chapter 984 shall receive compensation not to exceed the limits prescribed in the General Appropriations Act. Any such compensation must be determined as provided in s. 27.40(7).

(11) It is the intent of the Legislature that the flat fees prescribed under this section and the General Appropriations Act comprise the full and complete compensation for private court-appointed counsel. It is further the intent of the Legislature that the fees in this section are

prescribed for the purpose of providing counsel with notice of the limit on the amount of compensation for representation in particular proceedings and the sole procedure and requirements for obtaining payment for the same.

(a) If court-appointed counsel moves to withdraw prior to the full performance of his or her duties through the completion of the case, the court shall presume that the attorney is not entitled to the payment of the full flat fee established under this section and the General Appropriations Act.

(b) If court-appointed counsel is allowed to withdraw from representation prior to the full performance of his or her duties through the completion of the case and the court appoints a subsequent attorney, the total compensation for the initial and any and all subsequent attorneys may not exceed the flat fee established under this section and the General Appropriations Act, except as provided in subsection (12).

This subsection constitutes notice to any subsequently appointed attorney that he or she will not be compensated the full flat fee.

(12) The Legislature recognizes that on rare occasions an attorney may receive a case that requires extraordinary and unusual effort.

(a) If counsel seeks compensation that exceeds the limits prescribed by law, he or she must file a motion with the chief judge for an order approving payment of attorney fees in excess of these limits.

1. Before filing the motion, the counsel shall deliver a copy of the intended billing, together with supporting affidavits and all other necessary documentation, to the Justice Administrative Commission.

2. The Justice Administrative Commission shall review the billings, affidavit, and documentation for completeness and compliance with contractual and statutory requirements and shall contemporaneously document such review before authorizing payment to an attorney. If the Justice Administrative Commission objects to any portion of the proposed billing, the objection and supporting reasons must be communicated in writing to the private court-appointed counsel. The counsel may thereafter file his or her motion, which must specify whether the commission objects to any portion of the billing or the sufficiency of documentation, and shall attach the commission's letter stating its objection.

(b) Following receipt of the motion to exceed the fee limits, the chief judge or a single designee shall hold an evidentiary hearing. The chief judge may select only one judge per circuit to hear and determine motions pursuant to this subsection, except multicounty circuits and the eleventh circuit may have up to two designees.

1. At the hearing, the attorney seeking compensation must prove by competent and substantial evidence that the case required extraordinary and unusual efforts. The chief judge or single designee shall consider criteria such as the number of witnesses, the complexity of the factual and legal issues, and the length of trial. The fact that a trial was conducted in a case does not, by itself, constitute competent substantial evidence of an extraordinary and unusual effort. In a criminal case, relief under this section may not be granted if the number of work hours does not exceed 75 or the number of the state's witnesses deposed does not exceed 20.

2. Objections by or on behalf of the Justice Administrative Commission to records or documents or to claims for payment by the attorney shall be presumed correct by the court unless the court determines, in writing, that competent and substantial evidence exists to justify overcoming the presumption. The chief judge or single designee shall enter a written order detailing his or her findings and identifying the extraordinary nature of the time and efforts of the attorney in the case which warrant exceeding the flat fee established by this section and the General Appropriations Act.

(c) A copy of the motion and attachments shall be served on the Justice Administrative Commission at least 20 business days before the date of a hearing. The Justice Administrative Commission has standing to appear before the court, and may appear in person or telephonically, including at the hearing under paragraph (b), to contest any motion for an order approving payment of attorney fees, costs, or related expenses and may participate in a hearing on the motion by use of telephonic or

other communication equipment. The Justice Administrative Commission may contract with other public or private entities or individuals to appear before the court for the purpose of contesting any motion for an order approving payment of attorney fees, costs, or related expenses. The fact that the Justice Administrative Commission has not objected to any portion of the billing or to the sufficiency of the documentation is not binding on the court.

(d) If the chief judge or a single designee finds that counsel has proved by competent and substantial evidence that the case required extraordinary and unusual efforts, the chief judge or single designee shall order the compensation to be paid to the attorney at a percentage above the flat fee rate, depending on the extent of the unusual and extraordinary effort required. The percentage must be only the rate necessary to ensure that the fees paid are not confiscatory under common law. The percentage may not exceed 200 percent of the established flat fee, absent a specific finding that 200 percent of the flat fee in the case would be confiscatory. If the chief judge or single designee determines that 200 percent of the flat fee would be confiscatory, he or she shall order the amount of compensation using an hourly rate not to exceed \$75 per hour for a noncapital case and \$100 per hour for a capital case. However, the compensation calculated by using the hourly rate shall be only that amount necessary to ensure that the total fees paid are not confiscatory, subject to the requirements of s. 27.40(7).

(e) Any order granting relief under this subsection must be attached to the final request for a payment submitted to the Justice Administrative Commission and must satisfy the requirements of subparagraph (b)2.

(13) Notwithstanding the limitation set forth in subsection (5) and for the 2026-2027 ~~2025-2026~~ fiscal year only, the compensation for representation in a criminal proceeding may not exceed the following:

(a) For misdemeanors and juveniles represented at the trial level: \$2,000.

(b) For noncapital, nonlife felonies represented at the trial level: \$15,000.

(c) For life felonies represented at the trial level: \$15,000.

(d) For capital cases represented at the trial level: \$25,000. For purposes of this paragraph, a "capital case" is any offense for which the potential sentence is death and the state has not waived seeking the death penalty.

(e) For representation on appeal: \$9,000.

(f) This subsection expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 50. *The text of s. 27.5304(1), (3), (7), (11), and (12)(a)-(e), Florida Statutes, as carried forward from chapter 2019-116, Laws of Florida, and the text of s. 27.5304(6), Florida Statutes, as carried forward from chapter 2023-240, Laws of Florida, by this act, expire July 1, 2027, and the text of those subsections and paragraphs, as applicable, shall revert to that in existence on June 30, 2019, except that any amendments to such text enacted other than by this act shall be preserved and continue to operate to the extent that such amendments are not dependent upon the portions of text which expire pursuant to this section.*

Section 51. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 1348 through 1353 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsection (3) of section 908.1033, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

908.1033 Local Law Enforcement Immigration Grant Program.—

(3)(a) A local law enforcement agency may apply to the State Board of Immigration Enforcement to provide bonus payments for the agency's local law enforcement officers who participate in United States Department of Homeland Security at-large task force operations. The local law enforcement agency may apply for a bonus of up to \$1,000 for each local law enforcement officer employed within that agency. The local law enforcement agency must certify to the board that the local law enforcement officer participated in one or more operations and provide any information required by the board. Eligible participation does not include operations occurring solely at state correctional facilities or county detention facilities.

(b) The bonus payment shall be adjusted to include 7.65 percent for the officers' share of Federal Insurance Contribution Act tax on the bonus.

(c) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), and for the 2026-2027 ~~2025-2026~~ fiscal year, a local law enforcement agency may apply to the State Board of Immigration Enforcement to provide bonus payments for the agency's certified correctional officers under s. 943.10(2), who are a warrant service officer under s. 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. s. 1357 or an immigration officer under the jail enforcement model under s. 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. s. 1357. The local law enforcement agency may apply for a bonus of up to \$1,000 for each certified correctional officer employed with that county detention facility. The local law enforcement agency must certify to the board that the certified correctional officer acted in such capacity as a warrant service officer or an immigration officer under the jail enforcement model for at least 6 months preceding the application and provide any information required by the board. Eligible participation does not include operations occurring solely at state correctional facilities. This paragraph expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 52. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 1336A of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, paragraph (g) is added to subsection (7) of section 934.50, Florida Statutes, to read:

934.50 Searches and seizure using a drone.—

(7) SECURITY STANDARDS FOR GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY DRONE USE.—

(g) *Subject to appropriation, the Drone as First Responder Grant Program is created within the Department of Law Enforcement.*

1. *The grant program shall provide funds to law enforcement agencies, fire service providers, ambulance crews, or other first responders that apply for funding to acquire new drones that comply with this section. To be eligible, the applicant must provide the department with any information the department deems necessary. A law enforcement agency, fire service, ambulance service, or other first responder agency may apply directly to the department or a local governmental entity may submit an application on behalf of one or more of its agencies to purchase one or more new drones.*

2. *The department shall expeditiously develop an application process. Funds shall be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, determined by the date the department receives the application.*

3. *Grants must be matched by at least 50 percent local funds, but the department may waive this requirement for agencies solely serving within a fiscally constrained county as described in s. 218.67(1), Florida Statutes. Each grant is limited to a total of \$250,000 per agency and a maximum \$50,000 per drone.*

4. *For the purposes of this paragraph, the term "first responder agency" has the same meaning as in s. 365.179(1)(a).*

5. *The department may adopt rules to implement this paragraph. The department is authorized, and all conditions are deemed met, to adopt emergency rules under s. 120.54(4) for the purpose of implementing this paragraph. Notwithstanding any other law, emergency rules adopted under this section are effective for 12 months after adoption and may be renewed during the pendency of procedures to adopt permanent rules addressing the subject of the emergency rules.*

This paragraph expires July 1, 2027.

Section 53. *In order to implement appropriations used to pay existing lease contracts for private lease space in excess of 2,000 square feet in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, the Department of Management Services, with the cooperation of the agencies having the existing lease contracts for office or storage space, shall use tenant broker services to renegotiate or reprocure all private lease agreements for office or storage space which are expiring between July 1, 2027, and June 30, 2029, in order to reduce costs in future years. The department shall incorporate this initiative into its 2026 master leasing report required under s. 255.249(7), Florida Statutes, and may use tenant broker services to explore the possibilities of collocating office or storage space, to review the space needs of each agency, and to review the length and terms of potential renewals or renegotiations. The department shall provide a report*

to the Executive Office of the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by November 1, 2026, which lists each lease contract for private office or storage space, the status of renegotiations, and the savings achieved. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 54. In order to implement appropriations authorized in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act for data center services, and notwithstanding s. 216.292(2)(a), Florida Statutes, an agency may not transfer funds from a data processing category to a category other than another data processing category or a cloud computing category for information technology resources hosted outside an agency. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 55. In order to implement the appropriation of funds in the appropriation category "Special Categories-Risk Management Insurance" in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and pursuant to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, the Executive Office of the Governor may transfer funds appropriated in that category between departments in order to align the budget authority granted with the premiums paid by each department for risk management insurance. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 56. In order to implement the appropriation of funds in the appropriation category "Special Categories-Transfer to Department of Management Services-Human Resources Services Purchased per Statewide Contract" in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and pursuant to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, the Executive Office of the Governor may transfer funds appropriated in that category between departments in order to align the budget authority granted with the assessments that must be paid by each agency to the Department of Management Services for human resource management services. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 57. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 2935 in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act in the Building Relocation appropriation category from the Architects Incidental Trust Fund of the Department of Management Services, and in accordance with s. 215.196, Florida Statutes:

(1) Upon the final disposition of a state-owned building, the Department of Management Services may use up to 5 percent of facility disposition funds from the Architects Incidental Trust Fund to defer, offset, or otherwise pay for all or a portion of relocation expenses, including furniture, fixtures, and equipment for state agencies impacted by the disposition of the department's managed facilities in the Florida Facilities Pool. The extent of the financial assistance provided to impacted state agencies shall be determined by the department.

(2) The Department of Management Services may submit budget amendments for an increase in appropriation if necessary for the implementation of this section pursuant to chapter 216, Florida Statutes. Budget amendments for an increase in appropriation shall include a detailed plan providing all estimated costs and relocation proposals.

(3) This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 58. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 2513 through 2516 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act:

(1) The Department of Financial Services shall replace the four main components of the Florida Accounting Information Resource Subsystem (FLAIR), which include central FLAIR, departmental FLAIR, payroll, and information warehouse, and shall replace the cash management and accounting management components of the Cash Management Subsystem (CMS) with an integrated enterprise system that allows the state to organize, define, and standardize its financial management business processes and that complies with ss. 215.90-215.96, Florida Statutes. The department may not include in the replacement of FLAIR and CMS:

(a) Functionality that duplicates any of the other information subsystems of the Florida Financial Management Information System; or

(b) Agency business processes related to any of the functions included in the Personnel Information System, the Purchasing Subsystem, or the Legislative Appropriations System/Planning and Budgeting Subsystem.

(2) For purposes of replacing FLAIR and CMS, the Department of Financial Services shall:

(a) Take into consideration the cost and implementation data identified for Option 3 as recommended in the March 31, 2014, Florida Department of Financial Services FLAIR Study, version 031.

(b) Ensure that all business requirements and technical specifications have been provided to all state agencies for their review and input and approved by the executive steering committee established in paragraph (c), including any updates to these documents.

(c) Implement a project governance structure that includes an executive steering committee composed of:

1. The Chief Financial Officer or the executive sponsor of the project.
2. A representative of the Division of Treasury of the Department of Financial Services, appointed by the Chief Financial Officer.
3. The Chief Information Officers of the Department of Financial Services and the Department of Environmental Protection.

4. Two employees from the Division of Accounting and Auditing of the Department of Financial Services, appointed by the Chief Financial Officer. Each employee must have experience relating to at least one of the four main components that compose FLAIR.

5. Two employees from the Executive Office of the Governor, appointed by the Governor. One employee must have experience relating to the Legislative Appropriations System/Planning and Budgeting Subsystem.

6. One employee from the Department of Revenue, appointed by the executive director, who has experience using or maintaining the department's finance and accounting systems.

7. Two employees from the Department of Management Services, appointed by the Secretary of Management Services. One employee must have experience relating to the department's personnel information subsystem and one employee must have experience relating to the department's purchasing subsystem.

8. A state agency administrative services director, appointed by the Governor.

9. The executive sponsor of the Florida Health Care Connection (FX) System or his or her designee, appointed by the Secretary of Health Care Administration.

10. The state chief information officer, or his or her designee, as a nonvoting member. The state chief information officer, or his or her designee, shall provide monthly status reports to the executive steering committee pursuant to the oversight responsibilities in s. 282.0051, Florida Statutes.

11. One employee from the Department of Business and Professional Regulation who has experience in finance and accounting and FLAIR, appointed by the Secretary of Business and Professional Regulation.

12. One employee from the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission who has experience using or maintaining the commission's finance and accounting systems, appointed by the chair of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

13. The budget director of the Department of Education, or his or her designee.

(3)(a) The Chief Financial Officer or the executive sponsor of the project shall serve as chair of the executive steering committee, and the committee shall take action by a vote of at least eight affirmative votes with the Chief Financial Officer or the executive sponsor of the project voting on the prevailing side. A quorum of the executive steering committee consists of at least 10 members.

(b) No later than 14 days before a meeting of the executive steering committee, the chair shall request input from committee members on agenda items for the next scheduled meeting.

(c) The chair shall establish a working group composed of FLAIR users, state agency technical staff who maintain applications that integrate with FLAIR, and no less than four state agency finance and accounting or budget directors. The working group shall meet at least monthly to review PALM functionality, assess project impacts to state financial business processes and agency staff, and develop recommendations to the executive steering committee for improvements. The chair shall request input from the working group on agenda items for each scheduled meeting. The Florida PALM project team shall dedicate a staff member to the group and provide system demonstrations and any project documentation, as needed, for the group to fulfill its duties.

(d) The chair shall request all agency project sponsors to provide bimonthly status reports to the executive steering committee. The form and format of the bimonthly status reports shall be developed by the Florida PALM project and provided to the executive steering committee meeting for approval. Such agency status reports shall provide information to the executive steering committee on the activities and ongoing work within the agency to prepare its systems and impacted employees for the deployment of the Florida PALM System. The first bimonthly status report is due September 1, 2026, and bimonthly thereafter.

(4) The executive steering committee has the overall responsibility for ensuring that the project to replace FLAIR and CMS meets its primary business objectives and shall:

(a) Identify and recommend to the Executive Office of the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives any statutory changes needed to implement the replacement subsystem that will standardize, to the fullest extent possible, the state's financial management business processes.

(b) Review and approve any changes to the project's scope, schedule, and budget which do not conflict with the requirements of subsection (1).

(c) Ensure that adequate resources are provided throughout all phases of the project.

(d) Approve all major project deliverables and any cost changes to each deliverable over \$250,000.

(e) Approve contract amendments and changes to all contract-related documents associated with the replacement of FLAIR and CMS.

(f) Review, and approve as warranted, the format of the bimonthly agency status reports to include objective and quantifiable information on each agency's progress in planning for the Florida PALM Major Implementation, covering the agency's people, processes, technology, and data transformation activities.

(g) Ensure compliance with ss. 216.181(16), 216.311, 216.313, 282.318(4)(h), and 287.058, Florida Statutes.

(5) This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 59. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 3040 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding the expiration date in section 65 of chapter 2025-199, Laws of Florida, subsection (3) of section 282.709, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

282.709 State agency law enforcement radio system and interoperability network.—

(3) In recognition of the critical nature of the statewide law enforcement radio communications system, the Legislature finds that there is an immediate danger to the public health, safety, and welfare, and that it is in the best interest of the state to continue partnering with the system's current operator. The Legislature finds that continuity of coverage is critical to supporting law enforcement, first responders, and other public safety users. The potential for a loss in coverage or a lack of interoperability between users requires emergency action and is a serious concern for officers' safety and their ability to communicate and respond to various disasters and events.

(a) The department, pursuant to s. 287.057(11), shall enter into a 15-year contract with the entity that was operating the statewide radio communications system on January 1, 2021. The contract must include:

1. The purchase of radios;
2. The upgrade to the Project 25 communications standard;
3. Increased system capacity and enhanced coverage for system users;
4. Operations, maintenance, and support at a fixed annual rate;
5. The conveyance of communications towers to the department; and
6. The assignment of communications tower leases to the department.

(b) The State Agency Law Enforcement Radio System Trust Fund is established in the department and funded from surcharges collected under ss. 318.18, 320.0802, and 328.72. Upon appropriation, moneys in the trust fund may be used by the department to acquire the equipment, software, and engineering, administrative, and maintenance services it needs to construct, operate, and maintain the statewide radio system. Moneys in the trust fund from surcharges shall be used to help fund the costs of the system. Upon completion of the system, moneys in the trust fund may also be used by the department for payment of the recurring maintenance costs of the system.

Section 60. The text of s. 282.709(3), Florida Statutes, as carried forward from chapter 2021-37, Laws of Florida, by this act expires July 1, 2027, and the text of that subsection shall revert to that in existence on June 1, 2021, except that any amendments to such text enacted other than by this act shall be preserved and continue to operate to the extent that such amendments are not dependent upon the portions of text which expire pursuant to this section.

Section 61. In order to implement appropriations relating to the purchase of equipment and services related to the Statewide Law Enforcement Radio System (SLERS) as authorized in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding s. 287.057, Florida Statutes, state agencies and other eligible users of the SLERS network may use the Department of Management Services SLERS contract for purchase of equipment and services. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 62. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 2954 through 2965 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding rule 60A-1.031, Florida Administrative Code, the transaction fee as identified in s. 287.057(24)(c), Florida Statutes, shall be collected for use of the online procurement system and is 0.7 percent for the 2026-2027 fiscal year only. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 63. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 2866 through 2892 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and upon the expiration and reversion of the amendments made by section 69 of chapter 2025-199, Laws of Florida, paragraph (i) of subsection (9) of section 24.105, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

24.105 Powers and duties of department.—The department shall:

(9) Adopt rules governing the establishment and operation of the state lottery, including:

(i) The manner and amount of compensation of retailers, except for the 2026-2027 fiscal year only, effective July 1, 2026, the commission for lottery ticket sales shall be 6 percent of the purchase price of each ticket sold or issued as a prize by a retailer. Any additional retailer compensation is limited to the Florida Lottery Retailer Bonus Commission program appropriated in Specific Appropriation 2892 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act.

Section 64. The amendment to s. 24.105(9)(i), Florida Statutes, made by this act expires July 1, 2027, and the text of that paragraph shall revert to that in existence on June 30, 2022, except that any amendments to such text enacted other than by this act shall be preserved and continue to operate to the extent that such amendments are not dependent upon the portions of text which expire pursuant to this section.

Section 65. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 3084 through 3092 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, paragraph (11) of subsection (6) of section 627.351, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

627.351 Insurance risk apportionment plans.—

(6) CITIZENS PROPERTY INSURANCE CORPORATION.—

(ll)1. In addition to any other method of alternative dispute resolution authorized by state law, the corporation may adopt policy forms that provide for the resolution of disputes regarding its claim determinations, including disputes regarding coverage for, or the scope and value of, a claim, in a proceeding before the Division of Administrative Hearings. Any such policies are not subject to s. 627.70154. All proceedings in the Division of Administrative Hearings pursuant to such policies are subject to ss. 57.105 and 768.79 as if filed in the courts of this state and are not considered chapter 120 administrative proceedings. Rule 1.442, Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, applies to any offer served pursuant to s. 768.79, except that, notwithstanding any provision in Rule 1.442, Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, to the contrary, an offer shall not be served earlier than 10 days after filing the request for hearing with the Division of Administrative Hearings and shall not be served later than 10 days before the date set for the final hearing. The administrative law judge in such proceedings shall award attorney fees and other relief pursuant to ss. 57.105 and 768.79. The corporation may not seek, and the office may not approve, a maximum hourly rate for attorney fees.

2. The corporation may contract with the division to conduct proceedings to resolve disputes regarding its claim determinations as may be provided for in the applicable policies of insurance. This subparagraph expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 66. In order to implement section 125 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 215.5586, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

215.5586 My Safe Florida Home Program.—There is established within the Department of Financial Services the My Safe Florida Home Program. The department shall provide fiscal accountability, contract management, and strategic leadership for the program, consistent with this section. This section does not create an entitlement for property owners or obligate the state in any way to fund the inspection or retrofitting of residential property in this state. Implementation of this program is subject to annual legislative appropriations. It is the intent of the Legislature that, subject to the availability of funds, the My Safe Florida Home Program provide licensed inspectors to perform hurricane mitigation inspections of eligible homes and grants to fund hurricane mitigation projects on those homes. The department shall implement the program in such a manner that the total amount of funding requested by accepted applications, whether for inspections, grants, or other services or assistance, does not exceed the total amount of available funds. If, after applications are processed and approved, funds remain available, the department may accept applications up to the available amount. The program shall develop and implement a comprehensive and coordinated approach for hurricane damage mitigation pursuant to the requirements provided in this section.

(2) HURRICANE MITIGATION GRANTS.—Financial grants shall be used by homeowners to make improvements recommended by an inspection which increase resistance to hurricane damage.

(a) A homeowner is eligible for a hurricane mitigation grant if all of the following criteria are met:

1. The home must be eligible for an inspection under subsection (1).
2. The home must be a dwelling with an insured value of \$700,000 or less. Homeowners who are low-income persons, as defined in s. 420.0004(11), are exempt from this requirement.
3. The home must undergo an acceptable hurricane mitigation inspection as provided in subsection (1).
4. The building permit application for initial construction of the home must have been made before January 1, 2008.
5. The homeowner must agree to make his or her home available for inspection once a mitigation project is completed.
6. The homeowner must agree to provide to the department information received from the homeowner's insurer identifying the dis-

counts realized by the homeowner because of the mitigation improvements funded through the program.

7.a. The homeowner must be a low-income person or moderate-income person as defined in s. 420.0004.

b. The hurricane mitigation inspection must have occurred within the previous 24 months from the date of application.

c. Notwithstanding subparagraph 2., homeowners who are low-income persons, as defined in s. 420.0004(11), are not exempt from the requirement that the home must be a dwelling with an insured value of \$700,000 or less.

d. This subparagraph expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 67. *Effective upon this act becoming a law, in order to implement Specific Appropriation 2544A of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding s. 216.301, Florida Statutes, the funds appropriated to the Department of Financial Services in Specific Appropriation 2245A and section 74 of the 2025-2026 General Appropriations Act will not revert and may be carried forward through the 2026-2027 fiscal year. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 68. *In order to implement the appropriation of funds in the appropriation category "Northwest Regional Data Center" in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and pursuant to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, the Executive Office of the Governor may transfer funds appropriated in that category between departments in order to align the budget authority granted based on the estimated costs for data processing services for the 2026-2027 fiscal year. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 69. *In order to implement appropriations authorized in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act for state data center services, auxiliary assessments charged to state agencies related to contract management services provided to Northwest Regional Data Center may not exceed 3 percent. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 70. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 2563A of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, section 284.51, Florida Statutes, is reenacted and amended to read:

284.51 Electroencephalogram combined transcranial magnetic stimulation treatment pilot program.—

(1) As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Division" means the Division of Risk Management of the Department of Financial Services.

(b) "Electroencephalogram combined Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation" or "eTMS" means treatment in which transcranial magnetic stimulation frequency pulses are tuned to the patient's physiology and biometric data.

(c) "First responder" means a law enforcement officer, a part-time law enforcement officer, or an auxiliary law enforcement officer as defined in s. 943.10; a firefighter as defined in s. 633.102; a 911 public safety telecommunicator as defined in s. 401.465; or an emergency medical technician or paramedic as defined in s. 401.23 employed by state or local government. The term also includes a volunteer or retired law enforcement officer, firefighter, or emergency medical technician or paramedic engaged, or previously engaged, by the state or a local government.

(d) "Veteran" means:

1. A veteran as defined in 38 U.S.C. s. 101(2);
2. A person who served in a reserve component as defined in 38 U.S.C. s. 101(27); or
3. A person who served in the National Guard of any state.

(2) The division shall select a provider to establish a statewide pilot program to make eTMS available for veterans, first responders, and immediate family members of veterans and first responders with:

- (a) Substance use disorders.
 - (b) Mental illness.
 - (c) Sleep disorders.
 - (d) Traumatic brain injuries.
 - (e) Sexual trauma.
 - (f) Posttraumatic stress disorder and accompanying comorbidities.
 - (g) Concussions.
 - (h) Other brain trauma.
- (i) Quality of life issues affecting human performance, including issues related to or resulting from problems with cognition and problems maintaining attention, concentration, or focus.

(3) The provider must display a history of serving veteran and first responder populations at a statewide level. The provider shall establish a network for in-person and offsite care with the goal of providing statewide access. Consideration shall be provided to locations with a large population of first responders and veterans. In addition to traditional eTMS devices, the provider may utilize nonmedical Portable Magnetic Stimulation devices to improve access to underserved populations in remote areas or to be used to serve as a pre-post treatment or a stand-alone device. The provider shall be required to establish and operate a clinical practice and to evaluate outcomes of such clinical practice.

- (4) The pilot program shall include:
- (a) The establishment of a peer-to-peer support network by the provider made available to all individuals receiving treatment under the program.
 - (b) The requirement that each individual who receives treatment under the program also must receive neurophysiological monitoring, monitoring for symptoms of substance use and other mental health disorders, and access to counseling and wellness programming. Each individual who receives treatment must also participate in the peer-to-peer support network established by the provider.
 - (c) The establishment of protocols which include the use of adopted stimulation frequency and intensity modulation based on EEGs done on days 0, 10, and 20 and motor threshold testing, as well as clinical symptoms, signs, and biometrics.
 - (d) The requirement that protocols and outcomes of any treatment provided by the clinical practice shall be collected and reported by the provider quarterly to the division, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Such report shall include the biodata metrics and all expenditures and accounting of the use of funds received from the department.
 - (e) The requirement that protocols and outcomes of any treatment provided by the clinical practice shall be collected and reported to the University of South Florida and may be provided by the provider to any relevant Food and Drug Administration studies or trials.

- (5) The division may adopt rules to implement this section.
- (6) This section expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 71. *In order to implement Specific Appropriation 2563A of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, the Department of Financial Services shall continue its existing contract for the establishment of the Electroencephalogram Combined Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation Treatment pilot program for veterans and first responders. The department's existing contract, and all funds paid by the department pursuant to that contract, do not constitute state financial assistance as provided in s. 215.97, Florida Statutes. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 72. Effective upon this act becoming a law, and in order to implement Specific Appropriations 2505 through 2512 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsection (3) is added to section 717.123, Florida Statutes, to read:

717.123 Deposit of funds.—

(3) *Notwithstanding subsection (1), and for the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 fiscal years, the department shall retain, from the funds received under this chapter, an amount not to exceed the amount estimated to be received as atypical receipts for the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 fiscal years by the Revenue Estimating Conference resulting from the implementation of chapter 2024-140, Laws of Florida. This amount must be held in a separate account and is in addition to the \$15 million the department is authorized to retain pursuant to subsection (1). From the separate account the department shall make prompt payment of claims relating to the atypical receipts allowed by the department. This subsection expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 73. In order to implement specific appropriations from the land acquisition trust funds within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of State, and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, which are contained in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsection (3) of section 215.18, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

215.18 Transfers between funds; limitation.—

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (1) and only with respect to a land acquisition trust fund in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of State, or the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, whenever there is a deficiency in a land acquisition trust fund which would render that trust fund temporarily insufficient to meet its just requirements, including the timely payment of appropriations from that trust fund, and other trust funds in the State Treasury have moneys that are for the time being or otherwise in excess of the amounts necessary to meet the just requirements, including appropriated obligations, of those other trust funds, the Governor may order a temporary transfer of moneys from one or more of the other trust funds to a land acquisition trust fund in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of State, or the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. Any action proposed pursuant to this subsection is subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, and the Governor shall provide notice of such action at least 7 days before the effective date of the transfer of trust funds, except that during July 2026 ~~2025~~, notice of such action shall be provided at least 3 days before the effective date of a transfer unless such 3-day notice is waived by the chair and vice chair of the Legislative Budget Commission. Any transfer of trust funds to a land acquisition trust fund in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of State, or the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission must be repaid to the trust funds from which the moneys were loaned by the end of the 2026-2027 ~~2025-2026~~ fiscal year. The Legislature has determined that the repayment of the other trust fund moneys temporarily loaned to a land acquisition trust fund in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of State, or the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission pursuant to this subsection is an allowable use of the moneys in a land acquisition trust fund because the moneys from other trust funds temporarily loaned to a land acquisition trust fund shall be expended solely and exclusively in accordance with s. 28, Art. X of the State Constitution. This subsection expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 74. (1) *In order to implement specific appropriations from the land acquisition trust funds within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of State, and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission which are contained in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, the Department of Environmental Protection shall transfer revenues from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund within the department to the land acquisition trust funds within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of State, and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission as provided in this section. As used in this section, the term "department" means the Department of Environmental Protection.*

(2) *After subtracting any required debt service payments, the proportionate share of revenues to be transferred to each land acquisition trust fund shall be calculated by dividing the appropriations from each of the land acquisition trust funds for the fiscal year by the total ap-*

proportions from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund within the department and the land acquisition trust funds within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of State, and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission for the fiscal year. The department shall transfer the proportionate share of the revenues in the Land Acquisition Trust Fund within the department on a monthly basis to the appropriate land acquisition trust funds within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of State, and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and shall retain its proportionate share of the revenues in the Land Acquisition Trust Fund within the department. Total distributions to a land acquisition trust fund within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of State, and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission may not exceed the total appropriations from such trust fund for the fiscal year.

(3) In addition, the department shall transfer from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund to land acquisition trust funds within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of State, and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission amounts equal to the difference between the amounts appropriated in chapter 2025-198, Laws of Florida, to the department's Land Acquisition Trust Fund and the other land acquisition trust funds, and the amounts actually transferred between those trust funds during the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

(4) The department may advance funds from the beginning unobligated fund balance in the Land Acquisition Trust Fund to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund within the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission needed for cash flow purposes based on a detailed expenditure plan. The department shall prorate amounts transferred quarterly to the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to recoup the amount of funds advanced by June 30, 2027.

(5) This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 75. In order to implement specific appropriations from the Florida Forever Trust Fund within the Department of Environmental Protection, which are contained in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, paragraph (m) of subsection (3) of section 259.105, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

259.105 The Florida Forever Act.—

(3) Less the costs of issuing and the costs of funding reserve accounts and other costs associated with bonds, the proceeds of cash payments or bonds issued pursuant to this section shall be deposited into the Florida Forever Trust Fund created by s. 259.1051. The proceeds shall be distributed by the Department of Environmental Protection in the following manner:

(m) Notwithstanding paragraphs (a)-(j) and for the 2026-2027 ~~2025-2026~~ fiscal year, the proceeds shall be distributed as provided in the General Appropriations Act. This paragraph expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 76. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 1776 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding the expiration date in section 85 of chapter 2025-199, Laws of Florida, paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 376.91, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

376.91 Statewide cleanup of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances.—

(2) STATEWIDE CLEANUP TARGET LEVELS.—

(a) If the United States Environmental Protection Agency has not finalized its standards for PFAS in drinking water, groundwater, and soil by January 1, 2027 ~~2026~~, the department shall adopt by rule statewide cleanup target levels for PFAS in drinking water, groundwater, and soil using criteria set forth in s. 376.30701, with priority given to PFOA and PFOS. The rules for statewide cleanup target levels may not take effect until ratified by the Legislature.

Section 77. *The amendment to s. 376.91(2)(a), Florida Statutes, made by this act expires July 1, 2027, and the text of that paragraph shall revert to that in existence on June 30, 2025, except that any amendments to such text enacted other than by this act shall be preserved and continue to operate to the extent that such amendments are*

not dependent upon the portions of text which expire pursuant to this section.

Section 78. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 1831A of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding the expiration date in section 89 of chapter 2025-199, Laws of Florida, paragraph (g) of subsection (15) of section 376.3071, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

376.3071 Inland Protection Trust Fund; creation; purposes; funding.—

(15) ETHANOL OR BIODIESEL DAMAGE; PREVENTIVE MEASURES.—The department shall pay, pursuant to this subsection, up to \$10 million each fiscal year from the fund for the costs of labor and equipment to repair or replace petroleum storage systems that may have been damaged due to the storage of fuels blended with ethanol or biodiesel, or for preventive measures to reduce the potential for such damage.

(g) Payments may not be made for the following:

1. Proposal costs or costs related to preparation of the application and required documentation;
2. Certified public accountant costs;
3. Except as provided in paragraph (j), any costs in excess of the amount approved by the department under paragraph (b) or which are not in substantial compliance with the purchase order;
4. Costs associated with storage tanks, piping, or ancillary equipment that has previously been repaired or replaced for which costs have been paid under this section;
5. Facilities that are not in compliance with department storage tank rules, until the noncompliance issues have been resolved; or
6. Costs associated with damage to petroleum storage systems caused in whole or in part by causes other than the storage of fuels blended with ethanol or biodiesel.

Section 79. *The text of s. 376.3071(15)(g), Florida Statutes, as carried forward from chapter 2020-114, Laws of Florida, by this act expires July 1, 2027, and the text of that paragraph shall revert to that in existence on July 1, 2020, but not including any amendments made by this act or chapter 2020-114, Laws of Florida, and any amendments to such text enacted other than by this act shall be preserved and continue to operate to the extent that such amendments are not dependent upon the portion of text which expires pursuant to this section.*

Section 80. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 2320 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding chapter 287, Florida Statutes, the Department of Citrus shall enter into agreements for the purpose of increasing production of trees that show tolerance or resistance to citrus greening and to commercialize technologies that produce tolerance or resistance to citrus greening in trees. The department shall enter into these agreements no later than January 1, 2027, and shall file with the department's Inspector General a certification of conditions and circumstances justifying each agreement entered into without competitive solicitation. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 81. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 1715 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding the expiration date in section 92 of chapter 2025-199, Laws of Florida, section 380.5105, Florida Statutes, as amended by chapters 2024-228 and 2025-199, Laws of Florida, is reenacted to read:

380.5105 The Stan Mayfield Working Waterfronts; Florida Forever program.—

(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, it is the intent of the Legislature that the trust shall administer the working waterfronts land acquisition program as set forth in this section.

(a) The trust and the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall jointly develop rules specifically establishing an application process and a process for the evaluation, scoring and ranking of

working waterfront projects. The proposed rules jointly developed pursuant to this paragraph shall be promulgated by the trust. Such rules shall establish a system of weighted criteria to give increased priority to projects:

1. Within a municipality with a population less than 30,000;
2. Within a municipality or area under intense growth and development pressures, as evidenced by a number of factors, including a determination that the municipality's growth rate exceeds the average growth rate for the state;
3. Within the boundary of a community redevelopment agency established pursuant to s. 163.356;
4. Adjacent to state-owned submerged lands designated as an aquatic preserve identified in s. 258.39; or
5. That provide a demonstrable benefit to the local economy.

(b) For projects that will require more than the grant amount awarded for completion, the applicant must identify in their project application funding sources that will provide the difference between the grant award and the estimated project completion cost. Such rules may be incorporated into those developed pursuant to s. 380.507(11).

(c) The trust shall develop a ranking list based on criteria identified in paragraph (a) for proposed fee simple and less-than-fee simple acquisition projects developed pursuant to this section. The trust shall, by the first Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund meeting in February, present the ranking list pursuant to this section to the board of trustees for final approval of projects for funding. The board of trustees may remove projects from the ranking list but may not add projects.

(d) Grant awards, acquisition approvals, and terms of less-than-fee acquisitions shall be approved by the trust. Waterfront communities that receive grant awards must submit annual progress reports to the trust identifying project activities which are complete, and the progress achieved in meeting the goals outlined in the project application. The trust must implement a process to monitor and evaluate the performance of grant recipients in completing projects that are funded through the working waterfronts program.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, it is the intent of the Legislature that the Department of Environmental Protection shall administer the working waterfronts capital outlay grant program as set forth in this section to support the commercial fishing and marine aquaculture industries, including the infrastructure for receiving or unloading seafood for the purpose of supporting the seafood economy.

(a) The working waterfronts capital outlay grant program is created to provide funding to assist commercial saltwater products or commercial saltwater wholesale dealer or retailer license holders and seafood houses in maintaining their operations.

(b) Eligible costs and expenditures include fixed capital outlay and operating capital outlay, including, but not limited to, the repair and maintenance or replacement of equipment, the repair and maintenance or replacement of water-adjacent facilities or infrastructure, and the construction or renovation of shoreside facilities.

(c) The applicant must demonstrate a benefit to the local economy.

(d) Grant recipients must submit annual progress reports to the department identifying project activities that are complete and the progress achieved in meeting the goals outlined in the project application.

(e) The department shall implement a process to monitor and evaluate the performance of grant recipients in completing projects funded through the program.

Section 82. *The text of s. 380.5105, Florida Statutes, as carried forward from chapters 2024-228 and 2025-199, Laws of Florida, by this act expires July 1, 2027, and the text of that section shall revert to that in existence on June 30, 2024, except that any amendments to such text enacted other than by this act shall be preserved and continue to operate*

to the extent that such amendments are not dependent upon the portions of text which expire pursuant to this section.

Section 83. *In order to implement Specific Appropriation 1951 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act and notwithstanding s. 823.11(4)(c), Florida Statutes, the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission may use funds appropriated for the derelict vessel removal program for grants to local governments or to remove, store, destroy, and dispose of, or to pay private contractors to remove, store, destroy, and dispose of, derelict vessels or vessels declared a public nuisance pursuant to s. 327.73(1)(aa), Florida Statutes. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 84. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 1744A of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsection (4) is added to section 403.890, Florida Statutes, to read:

403.890 Water Protection and Sustainability Program.—

(4) *Notwithstanding subsections (1) and (2), revenues deposited into or appropriated to the Water Protection and Sustainability Program Trust Fund may be used as provided in the General Appropriations Act. This subsection expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 85. In order to implement appropriations from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund within the Department of Environmental Protection in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 375.041, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

375.041 Land Acquisition Trust Fund.—

(3) Funds distributed into the Land Acquisition Trust Fund pursuant to s. 201.15 shall be applied:

(b) Of the funds remaining after the payments required under paragraph (a), but before funds may be appropriated, pledged, or dedicated for other uses:

1. A minimum of the lesser of 25 percent or \$200 million shall be appropriated annually for Everglades projects that implement the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan as set forth in s. 373.470, including the Central Everglades Planning Project subject to congressional authorization; the Long-Term Plan as defined in s. 373.4592(2); and the Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program as set forth in s. 373.4595. From these funds, \$32 million shall be distributed each fiscal year through the 2023-2024 fiscal year to the South Florida Water Management District for the Long-Term Plan as defined in s. 373.4592(2). After deducting the \$32 million distributed under this subparagraph, from the funds remaining, a minimum of the lesser of 76.5 percent or \$100 million shall be appropriated each fiscal year through the 2025-2026 fiscal year for the planning, design, engineering, and construction of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan as set forth in s. 373.470, including the Central Everglades Planning Project, the Everglades Agricultural Area Storage Reservoir Project, the Lake Okeechobee Watershed Project, the C-43 West Basin Storage Reservoir Project, the Indian River Lagoon-South Project, the Western Everglades Restoration Project, and the Picayune Strand Restoration Project. The Department of Environmental Protection and the South Florida Water Management District shall give preference to those Everglades restoration projects that reduce harmful discharges of water from Lake Okeechobee to the St. Lucie or Caloosahatchee estuaries in a timely manner. For the purpose of performing the calculation provided in this subparagraph, the amount of debt service paid pursuant to paragraph (a) for bonds issued after July 1, 2016, for the purposes set forth under this paragraph shall be added to the amount remaining after the payments required under paragraph (a). The amount of the distribution calculated shall then be reduced by an amount equal to the debt service paid pursuant to paragraph (a) on bonds issued after July 1, 2016, for the purposes set forth under this subparagraph.

2. A minimum of the lesser of 7.6 percent or \$50 million shall be appropriated annually for spring restoration, protection, and management projects. For the purpose of performing the calculation provided in this subparagraph, the amount of debt service paid pursuant to paragraph (a) for bonds issued after July 1, 2016, for the purposes set forth under this paragraph shall be added to the amount remaining after the payments required under paragraph (a). The amount of the distribution calculated shall then be reduced by an amount equal to the debt service

paid pursuant to paragraph (a) on bonds issued after July 1, 2016, for the purposes set forth under this subparagraph.

3. The sum of \$5 million shall be appropriated annually each fiscal year through the 2025-2026 fiscal year to the St. Johns River Water Management District for projects dedicated to the restoration of Lake Apopka. This distribution shall be reduced by an amount equal to the debt service paid pursuant to paragraph (a) on bonds issued after July 1, 2016, for the purposes set forth in this subparagraph.

4. The sum of \$64 million is appropriated and shall be transferred to the Everglades Trust Fund for the 2018-2019 fiscal year, and each fiscal year thereafter, for the EAA reservoir project pursuant to s. 373.4598. Any funds remaining in any fiscal year shall be made available only for Phase II of the C-51 reservoir project or projects identified in subparagraph 1. and must be used in accordance with laws relating to such projects. Any funds made available for such purposes in a fiscal year are in addition to the amount appropriated under subparagraph 1. This distribution shall be reduced by an amount equal to the debt service paid pursuant to paragraph (a) on bonds issued after July 1, 2017, for the purposes set forth in this subparagraph.

5. The sum of \$50 million shall be appropriated annually to the South Florida Water Management District for the Lake Okeechobee Watershed Restoration Project in accordance with s. 373.4599. This distribution must be reduced by an amount equal to the debt service paid pursuant to paragraph (a) on bonds issued after July 1, 2021, for the purposes set forth in this subparagraph.

6. The sum of \$100 million shall be appropriated annually to the Department of Environmental Protection for the acquisition of land pursuant to s. 259.105.

7. Notwithstanding *subparagraph 6.* ~~subparagraphs 3. and 6.~~, for the 2026-2027 ~~2025-2026~~ fiscal year, funds shall be appropriated as provided in the General Appropriations Act. This subparagraph expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 86. *In order to implement Specific Appropriation 1650 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding chapter 255, Florida Statutes, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services may lease an existing facility that meets the requirements of s. 581.1843(6), Florida Statutes, and may administer a program to expedite the expansion of the propagation of Citrus sinensis or Citrus sinensis-like budwood trees and seedlings that show tolerance or resistance to citrus greening, and to commercialize technologies that produce tolerance or resistance to citrus greening in trees. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 87. *In order to implement Specific Appropriation 1660 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services may submit budget amendments, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, to increase budget authority to support the National School Lunch Program. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 88. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 2331 through 2338 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsection (3) of section 288.80125, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

288.80125 Triumph Gulf Coast Trust Fund.—

(3) For the 2026-2027 ~~2025-2026~~ fiscal year, funds shall be used for the Rebuild Florida Revolving Loan Fund program to provide assistance to businesses impacted by Hurricane Michael as provided in the General Appropriations Act. This subsection expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 89. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 2055 through 2068, 2069D through 2069E, 2080 through 2090, 2092 through 2100, and 2138 through 2151 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, paragraph (h) of subsection (7) of section 339.135, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

339.135 Work program; legislative budget request; definitions; preparation, adoption, execution, and amendment.—

(7) AMENDMENT OF THE ADOPTED WORK PROGRAM.—

(h)1. Any work program amendment that also adds a new project, or phase thereof, to the adopted work program in excess of \$3 million is subject to approval by the Legislative Budget Commission. Any work program amendment submitted under this paragraph must include, as supplemental information, a list of projects, or phases thereof, in the current 5-year adopted work program which are eligible for the funds within the appropriation category being used for the proposed amendment. The department shall provide a narrative with the rationale for not advancing an existing project, or phase thereof, in lieu of the proposed amendment.

2. If the department submits an amendment to the Legislative Budget Commission and the commission does not meet or consider the amendment within 30 days after its submittal, the chair and vice chair of the commission may authorize the amendment to be approved pursuant to s. 216.177. This subparagraph expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 90. *In order to implement Specific Appropriations 2055 through 2068, 2069D, 2069E, 2080 through 2082, 2092 through 2100 and 2138 through 2151 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding s. 339.135(7)(b), Florida Statutes, the Department of Transportation is authorized to request up to \$100 million of budget authority to the extent necessary to advance or defer projects programmed in the Work Program and realign resources to safeguard district allocations and ensure projects programmed in the Work Program are balanced to the finance plan. The department may submit budget amendments to realign budget authority consistent with this section and pursuant to s. 339.135(7), Florida Statutes. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 91. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 2396 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsection (6) of section 288.0655, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

288.0655 Rural Infrastructure Fund.—

(6) For the 2026-2027 ~~2025-2026~~ fiscal year, the funds appropriated for the grant program for Florida Panhandle counties shall be distributed pursuant to and for the purposes described in the proviso language associated with Specific Appropriation 2396 ~~2113~~ of the 2026-2027 ~~2025-2026~~ General Appropriations Act. This subsection expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 92. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 2396A through 2396J of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, section 288.013, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

288.013 Office of Rural Prosperity.—

(1) *The Legislature finds that the unique characteristics of the rural communities in this state are integral to making Florida an attractive place to visit, work, and live. The Legislature further finds that fostering a prosperous rural economy and vibrant rural communities serves the best interests of this state. Rural prosperity supports this state's infrastructure, housing, agricultural, and food-processing needs and advances the overall health of Florida's economy. It is essential that rural areas be able to grow and thrive, whether independently or through regional partnerships. To better serve rural communities, and in recognition of the unique challenges and opportunities they face, the Office of Rural Prosperity is established to ensure that state efforts to support rural Florida are coordinated, focused, and effective.*

(2) *Notwithstanding s. 20.60, the Office of Rural Prosperity is created within the Department of Commerce to support rural communities by helping rural stakeholders navigate available programs and resources and by representing rural interests across state government.*

(3) *The Governor shall appoint a director to lead the office, subject to confirmation by the Senate. The director shall report to the secretary of the department and shall serve at the pleasure of the secretary.*

(4) *The office shall do all of the following:*

(a) *Serve as the state's point of contact for rural local governments.*

(b) *Provide administrative support to the Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) pursuant to s. 288.0656.*

(c) Provide training and technical assistance to rural local governments on a broad range of community and economic development activities. The training and technical assistance may be offered using communications technology or in person. In addition, the office shall post a recorded training and technical assistance video to the office's website which covers all of the required topics. The training and technical assistance must include, at a minimum, the following topics:

1. How to access state and federal resources, including training on the online rural resource directory required under paragraph (d).
2. Best practices for comprehensive planning, economic development, and land development in rural communities.
3. Strategies to address staffing shortages and strengthen management functions in rural local governments.
4. Requirements of, and updates on recent changes to, the Community Planning Act under s. 163.3161.
5. Updates on other recent state and federal laws affecting rural local governments.

(d) Create and maintain an online rural resource directory to serve as an interactive tool for users to navigate state and federal resources, tools, and services available to rural local governments. The office shall ensure the directory is regularly updated and, to the greatest extent possible, includes current information on programs, resources, and services that address the needs of rural communities in all areas of governance. Each state agency shall routinely provide information and updates to the office to support maintenance of the directory. The directory must allow users to search by indicators, such as agency name, resource type, or topic, and include a notification feature that alerts users when new or updated resources are available. To the greatest extent possible, the directory must identify any financial match requirements associated with listed programs.

(5)(a) By October 1, 2026, the office shall establish and provide staff for seven regional rural community liaison centers across this state to provide specialized in-person state support to rural local governments located in rural areas of opportunity as defined in s. 288.0656. The department shall, by rule, divide the state into seven regions and assign a liaison center to each region. Each liaison center shall serve the local governments within its geographic area and shall be staffed with at least two full-time department employees. At a minimum, each liaison center has the following powers and duties:

1. Assist local governments in planning and achieving goals related to local or regional growth, economic development, and rural prosperity.
2. Facilitate access to state and federal resources, including grants, loans, and other available assistance.
3. Advise local governments on available program waivers, including financial match waivers or reductions for projects using state or federal funds through REDI under s. 288.0656.
4. Coordinate technical assistance needs with the department and other state or federal agencies.
5. Promote model ordinances, policies, and strategies related to economic development.
6. Assist local governments with regulatory and reporting compliance requirements.

(b) To the greatest extent possible, each regional rural community liaison center shall coordinate with local and regional governmental entities, regional economic development organizations as defined in s. 288.018, and other appropriate entities to establish a network that fosters community-driven solutions promoting viable and sustainable rural communities.

(c) Each regional rural community liaison center shall regularly engage with REDI established in s. 288.0656, and at least one staff member from each liaison center shall attend the monthly REDI meeting, either in person or by means of electronic communication.

(6) By December 1, 2026, the director of the office shall submit to the Administration Commission within the Executive Office of the Governor a written report describing the office's operations and accomplishments for the preceding year. In consultation with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the office shall also include in the report recommendations for policies, programs, and funding initiatives to further support the needs of rural communities in this state. The office shall also submit the report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by December 1 of each year and publish it on the office's website. At the next scheduled meeting of the Administration Commission following submission of the report, the director shall, in person, present detailed information from the report required under this subsection.

(7) This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 93. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 2396E of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, paragraph (f) is added to subsection (7) of section 288.001, Florida Statutes, to read:

288.001 The Florida Small Business Development Center Network.—

(7) ADDITIONAL STATE FUNDS; USES; PAY-PER-PERFORMANCE INCENTIVES; STATEWIDE SERVICE; SERVICE ENHANCEMENTS; BEST PRACTICES; ELIGIBILITY.—

(f) Notwithstanding paragraphs (a), (b), and (c), the network shall use funds directly appropriated for the specific purpose of expanding service in rural communities as defined in s. 288.0656, in addition to any funds allocated by the network from other sources. The network shall use the funds to develop an activity plan focused on network consultants and resources in rural communities. In collaboration with regional economic development organizations as defined in s. 288.018, the plan must provide for either full- or part-time consultants to be available for at least 20 hours per week in rural areas or to be permanently stationed in rural areas. This may include establishing a circuit in specific rural locations to ensure the consultants' availability on a regular basis. By using the funds to create a regular presence in rural areas, the network will strengthen community collaboration, raise awareness of available resources to provide opportunities for new business development or existing business growth, and make professional experience, education, and business information available in these essential communities. The network may dedicate funds to facilitate local or regional events that focus on small business topics, provide consulting services, and leverage partner organizations, such as the regional economic development organizations, local workforce development boards as described in s. 445.007, and Florida College System institutions. This paragraph expires July 1, 2027.

Section 94. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 2396F of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, section 288.014, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

288.014 Renaissance Grants Program.—

(1) The Legislature finds that it has historically provided programs to assist rural communities with economic development and to enhance their ability to attract businesses and that, by providing that extra component of economic viability, rural communities are able to attract new businesses and grow existing ones. However, the Legislature further finds that a subset of rural communities has decreased in population over the past decade, contributing to a decline in local business activity and economic development. The Legislature therefore determines that state assistance must evolve to support these communities in achieving the foundation necessary for economic viability. The intent of the Renaissance Grants Program is to reverse economic deterioration in such rural communities by retaining and attracting residents by giving them a reason to stay, which will stimulate natural economic growth, business opportunities, and improved quality of life.

(2) The Office of Rural Prosperity within the department shall administer the Renaissance Grants Program to provide block grants to eligible counties. By August 1, 2026, the Office of Economic and Demographic Research shall certify to the Office of Rural Prosperity which counties are growth-impaired. For the purposes of this section, the term "growth-impaired" means a county that, as of the most recent population estimate, has experienced a declining population over the previous 10

years. After the initial certification, the Office of Economic and Demographic Research shall annually certify whether the county remains growth-impaired, until the office certifies the county has had 3 consecutive years of population growth. Upon such certification of population growth, the county remains eligible for the program for 1 additional year to prepare for the end of block grant funding.

(3)(a) Each participating county shall enter into an agreement with the Office of Rural Prosperity to receive block grant funds. Counties have broad authority to design their specific plan to achieve population growth consistent with this section. The Office of Rural Prosperity may not determine the manner in which a county implements its plan. However, regional rural community liaison center staff shall provide assistance in developing the county's plan, upon the county's request.

(b) Each participating county shall submit a report to the Office of Rural Prosperity detailing program activities, intergovernmental agreements, and other information as required by the office.

(c) Each participating county shall receive \$1 million from the funds appropriated to the program, or an equal share of the funds appropriated if insufficient to provide that amount. Counties shall make all attempts to limit expenses for administrative costs, consistent with the need for prudent management and accountability in the use of public funds. Counties may supplement the block grant with other funding sources, including local, state, or federal grants, and may seek public or private contributions or in-kind support to advance program activities.

(4)(a) Each participating county shall hire and retain a renaissance coordinator, who may be funded from block grant proceeds. The renaissance coordinator is responsible for:

1. Ensuring that block grant funds are used as provided in this section;
2. Coordinating with other local governments, school boards, Florida College System institutions, and other partners; and
3. Reporting as necessary to the state, including information necessary pursuant to subsection (7).

(b) The Office of Rural Prosperity regional rural community liaison center staff shall, upon request, provide assistance and training to the renaissance coordinator to support successful implementation of the block grant.

(5) Each participating county shall design a plan for targeted community investments designed to achieve population growth and increase economic vitality. The plan must include the following key features for use of the state support:

(a) Technology centers located within schools or on school premises, administered by the local school board, providing extended hours and access for students.

(b) Facilities that colocate adult day care with child care facilities. The site-sharing facilities must be managed to also encourage interaction between generations and increase the health and well-being of younger and older participants, reduce social isolation, and create cost and time efficiencies for working families. The regional rural community liaison center staff of the Office of Rural Prosperity shall, upon request, assist the county with bringing recommendations to the Rural Economic Development Initiative or the appropriate state agency to streamline all required state permits, licenses, regulations, or other requirements.

(c) Technology labs operated in partnership with the nearest Florida College System institution or a career center under s. 1001.44. Repurposed vacant industrial sites or existing office space must be given priority in the selection of lab locations. Each local technology lab must be staffed and open for extended hours with the capacity to provide:

1. Access to trainers and equipment necessary for earning certificates or online degrees in technology;
2. Hands-on assistance in securing remote work opportunities; and
3. Studio space equipped for remote technology-based work available for graduates and other qualifying residents. Participating counties may determine which residents receive priority access. Collaboration with

community partners, including the local workforce development board as described in s. 445.007, to provide training opportunities, in-kind support such as transportation to and from the lab, financing of equipment for in-home use, or basic maintenance of such equipment is required.

(6) In addition to hiring a renaissance coordinator, each participating county shall develop intergovernmental agreements for shared responsibilities with its municipalities, school board, and Florida College System institution or career center and enter into necessary contracts with providers and community partners in order to implement the plan.

(7)(a) Beginning in 2027, the Auditor General shall conduct an operational audit as defined in s. 11.45 of each county's grant activities.

(b) By July 1, 2027, the Office of Economic and Demographic Research shall submit a report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives summarizing renaissance block grant recipients by county. The report must provide key economic indicators that measure progress in reversing long-term trends in the county. The Office of Rural Prosperity shall, upon request, provide any data necessary to complete the report.

(8) Notwithstanding s. 216.301, funds appropriated for the purposes of this section are not subject to reversion.

(9) This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 95. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 2396G of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, section 288.0175, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

288.0175 Public Infrastructure Smart Technology Grant Program.—

(1) The Public Infrastructure Smart Technology Grant Program is established within the Office of Rural Prosperity within the department to fund and support public infrastructure smart technology projects in communities located in rural areas of opportunity, subject to legislative appropriation.

(2) As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Public infrastructure smart technology" means systems or applications that use connectivity, data analytics, or automation to improve public infrastructure by increasing efficiency, enhancing public services, and promoting sustainable development.

(b) "Rural area of opportunity" has the same meaning as in s. 288.0656.

(c) "Smart region" means a geographic area that uses technology and innovative ideas to improve the quality of life for its citizens by addressing regional challenges through collaboration among government, businesses, and communities.

(d) "Smart technology lead organization" means a not-for-profit corporation organized under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code which has been in existence for at least 3 years and specializes in smart region planning.

(3)(a) By October 1, 2026, the Office of Rural Prosperity shall contract with one or more smart technology lead organizations to administer the grant program for the purpose of deploying public infrastructure smart technology in rural communities. Under such contracts, the smart technology lead organization shall award grants to counties and municipalities located within a rural area of opportunity for eligible public infrastructure smart technology projects.

(b) Each contract must specify deliverables, reporting requirements, timeframes, and any other term the office deems necessary. At a minimum, the contract must require the smart technology lead organization to:

1. Collaborate with counties and municipalities in rural areas of opportunity to identify cost-effective smart technology solutions for improving public services and infrastructure.

2. Provide technical assistance to counties and municipalities located in rural areas of opportunity in developing public infrastructure smart technology project plans.

3. Facilitate connections between rural communities and other entities, including companies and regional partners to maximize the impact of funded projects.

(4) The Office of Rural Prosperity shall include a summary of projects funded under this section in its report required by s. 288.013(6).

(5) This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 96. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 2396J of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, section 288.065, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

288.065 Rural Community Development Revolving Loan Fund.—

(1) The Rural Community Development Revolving Loan Fund Program is established within the Office of Rural Prosperity department to facilitate the use of existing federal, state, and local financial resources by providing local governments with financial assistance to further promote the economic viability of rural communities. These funds may be used to finance initiatives directed toward maintaining or developing the economic base of rural communities, especially initiatives addressing employment opportunities for residents of these communities.

(2)(a) The program shall provide for long-term loans, loan guarantees, and loan loss reserves to units of local governments, or economic development organizations substantially underwritten by a unit of local government.;

(b) For purposes of this section, the term “unit of local government” means any of the following:

1. A county ~~within counties~~ with a population ~~populations~~ of 75,000 or less. ~~fewer, or within any~~

2. A county with a population of 125,000 or less ~~fewer~~ which is contiguous to a county with a population of 75,000 or less. ~~fewer~~

3. A municipality within a county described in subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2.

4. A county or municipality within a rural area of opportunity designated under s. 288.0656.

~~For purposes of this paragraph, population is determined in accordance with the most recent official estimates pursuant to s. 186.901 and must include those residing in incorporated and unincorporated areas of a county, based on the most recent official population estimate as determined under s. 186.901, including those residing in incorporated areas and those residing in unincorporated areas of the county, or to units of local government, or economic development organizations substantially underwritten by a unit of local government, within a rural area of opportunity.~~

(c)(b) Requests for loans ~~must shall~~ be made by application to the office ~~department~~. Loans ~~must shall~~ be made pursuant to agreements specifying the terms and conditions agreed to between the applicant and the office ~~department~~. The loans ~~are shall~~ be the legal obligations of the applicant.

(d)(e) All repayments of principal and interest ~~must shall~~ be returned to the loan fund and made available for loans to other applicants. However, in a rural area of opportunity designated ~~under s. 288.0656 by the Governor~~, and upon approval by the office ~~department~~, repayments of principal and interest may be retained by the applicant if such repayments are dedicated and matched to fund regionally based economic development organizations representing the rural area of opportunity.

(3) The office ~~department~~ shall manage the fund, establishing loan practices that must include, but are not limited to, procedures for establishing loan interest rates, uses of funding, application procedures, and application review procedures. The office ~~has department shall~~ have final approval authority for any loan under this section.

(4) Notwithstanding ~~the provisions of~~ s. 216.301, funds appropriated for this loan fund ~~may purpose shall~~ not be subject to reversion.

(5) The office shall include in its report required under s. 288.013 detailed information about the fund, including loans made during the previous fiscal year, loans active, loans terminated or repaid, and the amount of funds not obligated as of 14 days before the date the report is due.

Section 97. The amendments to s. 288.065, Florida Statutes, made by this act expire July 1, 2027, and the text of that section shall revert to that in existence on June 30, 2026, except that any amendments to such text enacted other than by this act shall be preserved and continue to operate to the extent that such amendments are not dependent upon the portions of text which expire pursuant to this section.

Section 98. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 2759 through 2764 and sections 157 and 158 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Division of Emergency Management may submit budget amendments, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, to increase budget authority for projected expenditures due to reimbursements from federally declared disasters if additional federal revenues specific to such programs become available in the 2026-2027 fiscal year. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 99. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 2750 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsection (2) of section 282.201, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

282.201 State data center.—The state data center is established within the department. The provision of data center services must comply with applicable state and federal laws, regulations, and policies, including all applicable security, privacy, and auditing requirements. The department shall appoint a director of the state data center who has experience in leading data center facilities and has expertise in cloud-computing management.

(2) USE OF THE STATE DATA CENTER.—

(a) The following are exempt from the use of the state data center: the Department of Law Enforcement, the Department of the Lottery’s Gaming System, Systems Design and Development in the Office of Policy and Budget, the regional traffic management centers as described in s. 335.14(2) and the Office of Toll Operations of the Department of Transportation, the State Board of Administration, state attorneys, public defenders, criminal conflict and civil regional counsel, capital collateral regional counsel, and the Florida Housing Finance Corporation.

(b) The Division of Emergency Management is exempt from the use of the state data center. This paragraph expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 100. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 2367 of the 2025-2026 General Appropriations Act, and upon the expiration and reversion of the amendments to s. 443.1113, Florida Statutes, pursuant to section 105 of chapter 2025-199, Laws of Florida, subsections (4) and (5) of section 443.1113, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

443.1113 Reemployment Assistance Claims and Benefits Information System.—

(4)(a) The Department of Commerce shall perform an annual review of the system and identify enhancements or modernization efforts that improve the delivery of services to claimants and employers and reporting to state and federal entities. These improvements ~~are subject to appropriation~~, and must include, but need not be limited to:

1. Infrastructure upgrades through cloud services.
2. Software improvements.
3. Enhanced data analytics and reporting.
4. Increased cybersecurity pursuant to s. 282.318.

(b) The department shall seek input on recommended enhancements from, at a minimum, the following entities:

1. The Florida Digital Service within the Department of Management Services.
2. The General Tax Administration Program Office within the Department of Revenue.
3. The Division of Accounting and Auditing within the Department of Financial Services.

(5) By *September 1, 2026* ~~October 1, 2023~~, and each year thereafter, the Department of Commerce shall submit a Reemployment Assistance Claims and Benefits Information System report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The report must, at a minimum, include:

(a) A summary of *clearly defined deliverables and measurable outcomes* of maintenance, enhancement, and modernization efforts over the last fiscal year.

(b) A *plan for the next 2 fiscal years* ~~3-year outlook~~ of recommended enhancements or modernization efforts that includes projected *non-recurring project costs, clear deliverables, and timeframes for completion of each enhancement or modernization effort in priority order, and the projected recurring operations and maintenance costs after the completion of each enhancement or modernization effort.*

Section 101. *The amendments to s. 443.1113(4) and (5), Florida Statutes, made by this act expire July 1, 2027, and the text of those subsections shall revert to that in existence on June 30, 2025, except that any amendments to such text enacted other than by this act shall be preserved and continue to operate to the extent that such amendments are not dependent upon the portions of text which expire pursuant to this section.*

Section 102. In order to implement Specific Appropriation 2359 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsection (9) of section 445.08, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsections (2) and (4) of that section are reenacted, to read:

445.08 Florida Law Enforcement Recruitment Bonus Payment Program.—

(2)(a) There is created within the department the Florida Law Enforcement Recruitment Bonus Payment Program to aid in the recruitment of law enforcement officers within the state. The purpose of the program is to administer one-time bonus payments of up to \$5,000 to each newly employed officer within the state.

(b) Bonus payments provided to eligible newly employed officers are contingent upon legislative appropriations and shall be prorated subject to the amount appropriated for the program.

(4) The department shall develop an annual plan for the administration of the program and distribution of bonus payments. Applicable employing agencies shall assist the department with the collection of any data necessary to determine bonus payment amounts and to distribute the bonus payments, and shall otherwise provide the department with any information or assistance needed to fulfill the requirements of this section. At a minimum, the plan must include:

(a) The method for determining the estimated number of newly employed officers to gain or be appointed to full-time employment during the applicable fiscal year.

(b) The minimum eligibility requirements a newly employed officer must meet to receive and retain a bonus payment, which must include:

1. Obtaining certification for employment or appointment as a law enforcement officer pursuant to s. 943.1395.
2. Gaining full-time employment with a Florida criminal justice agency.
3. Maintaining full-time employment as a law enforcement officer with a Florida criminal justice agency for at least 2 years from the date on which the officer obtained certification. The required 2-year employment period may be satisfied by maintaining full-time employment at one or more employing agencies, but such period must not contain any break in service longer than 180 calendar days.

(c) The standards by which the department will determine under what circumstances a break in service is acceptable. A law enforcement officer must provide documentation to the department justifying a break in service. For purposes of this section, the term “break in service” means a period of time during which the person is employed with a Florida criminal justice agency but is not employed as a full-time law enforcement officer or a period of time during which the person is in between employment as a full-time law enforcement officer for no longer than 15 days. The time period for any break in service does not count toward satisfying the 2-year full-time employment requirement of this section.

(d) The method that will be used to determine the bonus payment amount to be distributed to each newly employed officer.

(e) The method that will be used to distribute bonus payments to applicable employing agencies for distribution to eligible officers. Such method should prioritize distributing bonus payments to eligible officers in the most efficient and quickest manner possible.

(f) The estimated cost to the department associated with developing and administering the program and distributing bonus payment funds.

(g) The method by which an officer must reimburse the state if he or she received a bonus payment under the program, but failed to maintain continuous employment for the required 2-year period. Reimbursement shall not be required if an officer is discharged by his or her employing agency for a reason other than misconduct as designated on the affidavit of separation completed by the employing agency and maintained by the commission.

The department may establish other criteria deemed necessary to determine bonus payment eligibility and distribution.

(9) This section expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 103. *In order to implement Specific Appropriations 2384 through 2386 and sections 146, 147, 148, 152, and 155 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292, Florida Statutes, the Department of Commerce may submit budget amendments, subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, to increase budget authority to support the following federal grant programs: the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program (BEAD), Capital Projects Fund Program, Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery Program (CDBG-DR), Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP), Home Energy Assistance Programs – Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), and Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund, Pub. L. No. 117-2. This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 104. (1) *In order to implement section 8 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, beginning July 1, 2026, and on the first day of each month thereafter, the Department of Management Services shall assess an administrative health insurance assessment on each state agency equal to the employer’s cost of individual employee health care coverage for each vacant position within such agency eligible for coverage through the Division of State Group Insurance. As used in this section, the term “state agency” means an agency within the State Personnel System, the Department of the Lottery, the Justice Administrative Commission and all entities administratively housed in the Justice Administrative Commission, and the state courts system.*

(2) *Each state agency shall remit the assessed administrative health insurance assessment under subsection (1) to the State Employees Health Insurance Trust Fund, for the State Group Insurance Program, as provided in ss. 110.123 and 110.1239, Florida Statutes, from currently allocated moneys for salaries and benefits within 30 days after receipt of the assessment from the Department of Management Services. Should any state agency become more than 60 days delinquent in payment of this obligation, the Department of Management Services shall certify to the Chief Financial Officer the amount due and the Chief Financial Officer shall transfer the amount due to the Department of Management Services.*

(3) *The administrative health insurance assessment shall apply to all vacant positions funded with state funds whether fully or partially funded with state funds. Vacant positions partially funded with state funds shall pay a percentage of the assessment imposed in subsection (1)*

equal to the percentage share of state funds provided for such vacant positions. No assessment shall apply to vacant positions fully funded with federal funds. Each state agency shall provide the Department of Management Services with a complete list of position numbers that are funded, or partially funded, with federal funding, and include the percentage of federal funding for each position no later than July 31, 2026, and shall update the list on the last day of each month thereafter. For federally funded vacant positions, or partially funded vacant positions, each state agency shall immediately take steps to include the administrative health insurance assessment in its indirect cost plan for the 2027-2028 fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter. A state agency shall notify the Department of Management Services, the Executive Office of the Governor, the chair of the Senate Committee on Appropriations, and the chair of the House of Representatives Budget Committee upon approval of the updated indirect cost plan. If the state agency is not able to obtain approval from its federal awarding agency, the state agency must notify the Department of Management Services, the Executive Office of the Governor, and the appropriation and budget chairs no later than January 15, 2027.

(4) Pursuant to the notice, review, and objection procedures of s. 216.177, Florida Statutes, the Executive Office of the Governor may transfer budget authority appropriated in the Salaries and Benefits appropriation category between agencies in order to align the appropriations granted with the assessments that must be paid by each agency to the Department of Management Services for the administrative health insurance assessment.

(5) This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 105. In order to implement Specific Appropriations 2852 and 2855 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding s. 11.13(1), Florida Statutes, the authorized salaries for members of the Legislature for the 2026-2027 fiscal year shall be set at the same level in effect on July 1, 2010. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 106. In order to implement the transfer of funds from the General Revenue Fund from trust funds for the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, and notwithstanding the expiration date in section 111 of chapter 2025-199, Laws of Florida, paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 215.32, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

215.32 State funds; segregation.—

(2) The source and use of each of these funds shall be as follows:

(b)1. The trust funds shall consist of moneys received by the state which under law or under trust agreement are segregated for a purpose authorized by law. The state agency or branch of state government receiving or collecting such moneys is responsible for their proper expenditure as provided by law. Upon the request of the state agency or branch of state government responsible for the administration of the trust fund, the Chief Financial Officer may establish accounts within the trust fund at a level considered necessary for proper accountability. Once an account is established, the Chief Financial Officer may authorize payment from that account only upon determining that there is sufficient cash and releases at the level of the account.

2. In addition to other trust funds created by law, to the extent possible, each agency shall use the following trust funds as described in this subparagraph for day-to-day operations:

a. Operations or operating trust fund, for use as a depository for funds to be used for program operations funded by program revenues, with the exception of administrative activities when the operations or operating trust fund is a proprietary fund.

b. Operations and maintenance trust fund, for use as a depository for client services funded by third-party payors.

c. Administrative trust fund, for use as a depository for funds to be used for management activities that are departmental in nature and funded by indirect cost earnings and assessments against trust funds. Proprietary funds are excluded from the requirement of using an administrative trust fund.

d. Grants and donations trust fund, for use as a depository for funds to be used for allowable grant or donor agreement activities funded by

restricted contractual revenue from private and public nonfederal sources.

e. Agency working capital trust fund, for use as a depository for funds to be used pursuant to s. 216.272.

f. Clearing funds trust fund, for use as a depository for funds to account for collections pending distribution to lawful recipients.

g. Federal grant trust fund, for use as a depository for funds to be used for allowable grant activities funded by restricted program revenues from federal sources.

To the extent possible, each agency must adjust its internal accounting to use existing trust funds consistent with the requirements of this subparagraph. If an agency does not have trust funds listed in this subparagraph and cannot make such adjustment, the agency must recommend the creation of the necessary trust funds to the Legislature no later than the next scheduled review of the agency's trust funds pursuant to s. 215.3206.

3. All such moneys are hereby appropriated to be expended in accordance with the law or trust agreement under which they were received, subject always to the provisions of chapter 216 relating to the appropriation of funds and to the applicable laws relating to the deposit or expenditure of moneys in the State Treasury.

4.a. Notwithstanding any provision of law restricting the use of trust funds to specific purposes, unappropriated cash balances from selected trust funds may be authorized by the Legislature for transfer to the Budget Stabilization Fund and General Revenue Fund in the General Appropriations Act.

b. This subparagraph does not apply to trust funds required by federal programs or mandates; trust funds established for bond covenants, indentures, or resolutions whose revenues are legally pledged by the state or public body to meet debt service or other financial requirements of any debt obligations of the state or any public body; the Division of Licensing Trust Fund in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; the State Transportation Trust Fund; the trust fund containing the net annual proceeds from the Florida Education Lotteries; the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund; trust funds under the management of the State Board of Education or the Board of Governors of the State University System, where such trust funds are for auxiliary enterprises, self-insurance, and contracts, grants, and donations, as those terms are defined by general law; trust funds that serve as clearing funds or accounts for the Chief Financial Officer or state agencies; trust funds that account for assets held by the state in a trustee capacity as an agent or fiduciary for individuals, private organizations, or other governmental units; and other trust funds authorized by the State Constitution.

Section 107. The text of s. 215.32(2)(b), Florida Statutes, as carried forward from chapter 2011-47, Laws of Florida, by this act expires July 1, 2027, and the text of that paragraph shall revert to that in existence on June 30, 2011, except that any amendments to such text enacted other than by this act shall be preserved and continue to operate to the extent that such amendments are not dependent upon the portions of text which expire pursuant to this section.

Section 108. In order to implement appropriations in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act for state employee travel, the funds appropriated to each state agency which may be used for travel by state employees are limited during the 2026-2027 fiscal year to travel for activities that are critical to each state agency's mission. Funds may not be used for travel by state employees to foreign countries, other states, conferences, staff training activities, or other administrative functions unless the agency head has approved, in writing, that such activities are critical to the agency's mission. The agency head shall consider using teleconferencing and other forms of electronic communication to meet the needs of the proposed activity before approving mission-critical travel. This section does not apply to travel for law enforcement purposes, military purposes, emergency management activities, or public health activities. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 109. In order to implement appropriations in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act for state employee travel and notwithstanding s. 112.061, Florida Statutes, costs for lodging associated with a

meeting, conference, or convention organized or sponsored in whole or in part by a state agency or the judicial branch may not exceed \$225 per day. An employee may expend his or her own funds for any lodging expenses in excess of \$225 per day. For purposes of this section, a meeting does not include travel activities for conducting an audit, examination, inspection, or investigation or travel activities related to a litigation or emergency response. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 110. In order to implement the appropriations and re-appropriations authorized in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, paragraph (d) of subsection (11) of section 216.181, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

216.181 Approved budgets for operations and fixed capital outlay.—

(11)

(d) Notwithstanding paragraph (b) and paragraph (2)(b), and for the 2026-2027 ~~2025-2026~~ fiscal year only, the Legislative Budget Commission may approve budget amendments for new fixed capital outlay projects or increase the amounts appropriated to state agencies for fixed capital outlay projects. This paragraph expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

The provisions of this subsection are subject to the notice and objection procedures set forth in s. 216.177.

Section 111. In order to implement the salaries and benefits, expenses, other personal services, contracted services, special categories, and operating capital outlay categories of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 216.292, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

216.292 Appropriations nontransferable; exceptions.—

(2) The following transfers are authorized to be made by the head of each department or the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court whenever it is deemed necessary by reason of changed conditions:

(a) The transfer of appropriations funded from identical funding sources, except appropriations for fixed capital outlay, and the transfer of amounts included within the total original approved budget and plans of releases of appropriations as furnished pursuant to ss. 216.181 and 216.192, as follows:

1. Between categories of appropriations within a budget entity, if no category of appropriation is increased or decreased by more than 5 percent of the original approved budget or \$250,000, whichever is greater, by all action taken under this subsection.

2. Between budget entities within identical categories of appropriations, if no category of appropriation is increased or decreased by more than 5 percent of the original approved budget or \$250,000, whichever is greater, by all action taken under this subsection.

3. Any agency exceeding salary rate established pursuant to s. 216.181(8) on June 30th of any fiscal year shall not be authorized to make transfers pursuant to subparagraphs 1. and 2. in the subsequent fiscal year.

4. Notice of proposed transfers under subparagraphs 1. and 2. shall be provided to the Executive Office of the Governor and the chairs of the legislative appropriations committees at least 3 days prior to agency implementation in order to provide an opportunity for review. The review shall be limited to ensuring that the transfer is in compliance with the requirements of this paragraph.

5. For the 2026-2027 ~~2025-2026~~ fiscal year, the review shall ensure that transfers proposed pursuant to this paragraph comply with this chapter, maximize the use of available and appropriate trust funds, and are not contrary to legislative policy and intent. This subparagraph expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 112. In order to implement appropriations in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act for the acquisitions of motor vehicles, and notwithstanding chapter 287, Florida Statutes, relating to the purchase of motor vehicles from a state term contract, state agencies may purchase vehicles from nonstate term contract vendors without prior approval from the Department of Management Services, provided the cost of the motor vehicle is equal to or less than the cost of a similar class of vehicle

found on a state term contract and provided the funds for the purchase have been specifically appropriated. This section expires July 1, 2027.

Section 113. In order to implement appropriations for state agencies in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, section 11.52, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

11.52 Implementation of enacted legislation.—Each state agency shall provide the Legislature and the Executive Office of the Governor with information about the status of implementation of recently enacted legislation. The implementation status must be provided 90 days following the effective date of the legislation and updated each August 1 thereafter until all provisions of the legislation have been fully implemented. The implementation status report must include, at a minimum, for each enacted legislation, the actions or steps taken to implement the legislation and planned actions or steps for implementation, such as any rules proposed for implementation, any procurements required, any contract executed to assist the agency in the implementation, any contracts executed to implement or administer the legislation, programs started, offices established, or other organization administrative changes made including personnel changes, or federal waivers requested; any expenditures made directly related to the implementation; and any impediments or delays in implementation, including, but not limited to, challenges of administrative rules. No later than 14 days prior to the next regular legislative session, the state agency shall provide an update of any changes to the implementation status, notify the Legislature of any protests of rulemaking or other communications regarding the implementation of the legislation and the status of any litigation related to the legislation, and identify any policy issues that need to be resolved by the Legislature to ensure timely and effective implementation of the legislation. This section expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 114. In order to implement appropriations for state agencies and the judicial branch in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsection (7) of section 216.013, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

216.013 Long-range program plan.—State agencies and the judicial branch shall develop long-range program plans to achieve state goals using an interagency planning process that includes the development of integrated agency program service outcomes. The plans shall be policy based, priority driven, accountable, and developed through careful examination and justification of all agency and judicial branch programs.

(7) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, each state executive agency and the judicial branch are not required to develop or post a long-range program plan by September 30, 2026 ~~2025~~, for the 2027-2028 ~~2026-2027~~ fiscal year, except in circumstances outlined in any updated written instructions prepared by the Executive Office of the Governor in consultation with the chairs of the legislative appropriations committees. This subsection expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 115. In order to implement appropriations for state agencies and the judicial branch in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act, subsection (7) of section 216.023, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

216.023 Legislative budget requests to be furnished to Legislature by agencies.—

(7) As part of the legislative budget request, each state agency and the judicial branch shall include an inventory of all ongoing technology-related projects that have a cumulative estimated or realized cost of more than \$1 million. The inventory must, at a minimum, contain all of the following information:

(a) The name of the technology system.

(b) A brief description of the purpose and function of the system.

(c) A brief description of the goals of the project.

(d) The initiation date of the project.

(e) The key performance indicators for the project.

(f) Any other metrics for the project evaluating the health and status of the project.

- (g) The original and current baseline estimated end dates of the project.
- (h) The original and current estimated costs of the project.
- (i) Total funds appropriated or allocated to the project and the current realized cost for the project by fiscal year.

For purposes of this subsection, an ongoing technology-related project is one which has been funded or has had or is expected to have expenditures in more than one fiscal year. An ongoing technology-related project does not include the continuance of existing hardware and software maintenance agreements, the renewal of existing software licensing agreements, or the replacement of desktop units with new technology that is substantially similar to the technology being replaced. This subsection expires July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~.

Section 116. *In order to implement Specific Appropriations 203, 583, 642, 1455A, 2514, and 3235, and sections 72 and 94 of the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act:*

(1) *Of the funds appropriated for information technology projects, 75 percent shall be held in reserve. All general revenue funds not held in reserve shall be fully released. The Agency for Health Care Administration, Department of Children and Families, Department of Corrections, Department of Financial Services, Florida Gaming Control Commission, Department of Health, and Department of Revenue are authorized to submit a budget amendment to request release of funds pursuant to chapter 216, Florida Statutes. The amount requested to be released in each budget amendment may not exceed the agency's projected quarterly expenditures, reduced by any unexpended funds from prior releases. Release is contingent upon submission of the following:*

- (a) *An updated and comprehensive operational work plan;*
 - (b) *A detailed monthly spend plan with expenditures broken down by deliverable which identifies all planned and actual project work and costs specified in the current project schedule; and*
 - (c) *A copy of the project status report from the most recently completed month at the time of submission which provides justification for any variance from the most recently submitted project schedule and spend plan.*
- (2) *The agencies receiving funds pursuant to this section must submit monthly project status reports to the Executive Office of the Governor's Office of Policy and Budget, the chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, the chair of the House Budget Committee, and any other designated project oversight entity no later than 30 days after the close of the previous month. Each status report must include copies of any new or updated relevant task order, contract, or purchase order. The status report must also describe progress made to date for each project milestone and deliverable, planned and actual completion dates, planned and actual costs incurred, and any current project issues or risks.*

(3) *This section expires July 1, 2027.*

Section 117. *Any section of this act which implements a specific appropriation or specifically identified proviso language in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act is void if the specific appropriation or specifically identified proviso language is vetoed. Any section of this act which implements more than one specific appropriation or more than one portion of specifically identified proviso language in the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act is void if all the specific appropriations or portions of specifically identified proviso language are vetoed.*

Section 118. *If any other act passed during the 2026 Regular Session of the Legislature contains a provision that is substantively the same as a provision in this act, but that removes or is otherwise not subject to the future repeal applied to such provision by this act, the Legislature intends that the provision in the other act takes precedence and continues to operate, notwithstanding the future repeal provided by this act.*

Section 119. *If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are severable.*

Section 120. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon this act becoming a law, this act shall take effect July 1, 2026, or, if this act fails to become a law until after that date, it shall take effect upon becoming a law and shall operate retroactively to July 1, 2026.

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause and insert: A bill to be entitled An act implementing the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act; providing legislative intent; incorporating by reference certain calculations; amending s. 1001.451, F.S.; revising the services required to be provided by regional consortium service organizations under certain circumstances; revising the allocation that certain regional consortium service organizations are eligible to receive from the General Appropriations Act; requiring regional consortium service organizations to submit certain annual reports to the Department of Education; requiring the carry forward of certain unexpended funds; requiring each regional consortium service organization to provide quarterly financial reports to member districts; requiring member districts to designate fiscal agent districts for certain purposes; providing for compensation of fiscal agent districts; providing for certain personnel recommendations, policies, salary schedules, and job descriptions; authorizing the purchase or lease of property and facilities; providing for the distribution of certain revenues upon dissolution of a regional consortium service organization; revising authorized means of revenue generation; requiring the establishment of a fund balance for certain purposes; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; creating s. 1001.4511, F.S.; creating the Regional Consortia Service Organization Supplemental Services Program; authorizing the use of program funds for specified purposes; requiring each regional consortium service organization to annually report certain information to the Legislature; authorizing the carryforward of certain funds; creating s. 1009.635, F.S.; establishing the Rural Incentive for Professional Educators (RIPE) Program within the Department of Education for a specified purpose; providing eligibility requirements for the program; providing for student loan repayment assistance, up to a specified amount; requiring the department to verify certain participant information before disbursement of an award; specifying that the program is administered by the Office of Student Financial Assistance within the department; requiring the State Board of Education to adopt rules by a specified date; authorizing certain state university boards of trustees to accept a health care provider's procurement methods and construction contracts under certain circumstances; authorizing the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University board of trustees to expend available reserves or carryforward certain balances for a specified purpose; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment to realign Medicaid funding for specified purposes, subject to certain limitations; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment to realign funding within the Florida Kidcare program appropriation categories or to increase budget authority for certain purposes; specifying the time period within which such budget amendment must be submitted; amending s. 381.986, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the exemption of certain rules pertaining to the medical use of marijuana from certain rulemaking requirements; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement specified programs and payments; requiring institutions participating in a specified workforce expansion and education program to provide quarterly reports to the agency; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment for a specified purpose; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement the Low Income Pool component of the Florida Managed Medical Assistance Demonstration up to a certain amount; requiring that the amendment include a signed attestation and acknowledgment for entities relating to the Low Income Pool; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement certain payments and specified programs; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement a certified expenditure program for emergency medical transportation services; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement the Disproportionate Share Hospital Program; requiring such amendment to include specified information; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Admin-

istration to submit a budget amendment requesting additional spending authority to implement fee-for-service inpatient and outpatient supplemental payments for specialty hospitals; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority to support the Florida School-Based Services program; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to create the Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Task Force for a certain purpose; requiring the task force to evaluate certain information and develop recommendations; providing for membership of the task force; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to provide staff support; authorizing staff from specified agencies to provide additional expertise; providing for meetings of the task force; providing that members of the task force serve without compensation but are entitled to reimbursement of travel expenses; requiring the task force to provide a report to the Governor and the Legislature by a specified date; authorizing the Department of Children and Families to submit a budget amendment to realign funding within specified areas of the department based on implementation of the Guardianship Assistance Program; authorizing the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Health, and the Agency for Health Care Administration to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority to support certain refugee programs; requiring the Department of Children and Families to submit quarterly reports to the Executive Office of the Governor and the Legislature; authorizing the Department of Children and Families to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority to support specified federal grant programs; reenacting s. 393.066(2), F.S., relating to community services and treatment; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending s. 394.9082, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the authority of a managing entity to carry forward certain unexpended funds; specifying that nonqualified funds carried forward are not included in a cumulative cap on the percentage that may be carried forward; amending s. 409.9913, F.S.; requiring that core services funding be allocated as provided in the General Appropriations Act; requiring the Department of Children and Families to continue to collect certain data from community-based care lead agencies and to use a certain Tiered Funding Model; requiring community-based care lead agencies to submit certain data to the department; requiring the department to conduct certain ongoing performance monitoring; requiring the department to provide monthly status reports to the Governor and the Legislature; requiring the department to submit a final report to the Governor and the Legislature by a specified date; amending s. 409.990, F.S.; requiring that certain funds held by a community-based care lead agency and carried forward be returned to the Department of Children and Families; requiring the department to hold such funds in a separate account and report certain information to specified entities; providing for the reversion of such funds to the General Revenue Fund; authorizing the Department of Health to submit a budget amendment to increase budget authority for the Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and the Child Care Food Program if a certain condition is met; authorizing the Department of Health to submit a budget amendment to increase budget authority for the HIV/AIDS Prevention and Treatment Program if a certain condition is met; authorizing the Department of Health to submit a budget amendment to increase budget authority for the department if additional federal revenues specific to COVID-19 relief funds become available; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to replace the Florida Medicaid Management Information System (FMMIS) and fiscal agent operations with a specified new system; specifying items that may not be included in the new system; providing directives to the Agency for Health Care Administration related to the new Florida Health Care Connection (FX) system; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to meet certain requirements in replacing FMMIS and the current Medicaid fiscal agent; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to implement a specified program governance structure that includes an executive steering committee composed of specified members; providing the duties of the executive steering committee; requiring the establishment of specified working groups; providing the composition of such groups; providing requirements for such groups; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to contract for a certain assessment of the agency's Medicaid management information system (MMIS); providing requirements for the assessment; requiring submission of the assessment to specified entities by a certain date; requiring the agency to develop a new time-phased implementation roadmap for the MMIS replacement based on the assessment; requiring the agency to submit the roadmap to specified entities by a certain date; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration, in consultation with the Department of Health, the Agency for Persons with Dis-

abilities, the Department of Children and Families, and the Department of Corrections, to competitively procure a contract with a vendor to negotiate prices for certain prescribed drugs and biological products; providing specifications for such contract; authorizing the issuance or renewal of certain inactive or partially inactive licenses to skilled nursing providers and requiring the extension of certificate-of-need validity periods under certain circumstances; providing for subsequent renewal periods of such inactive licenses and validity periods under certain circumstances; authorizing the Agency for Persons with Disabilities to submit budget amendments to transfer funding from the Salaries and Benefits appropriation categories for a specified purpose; authorizing the Agency for Persons with Disabilities to submit budget amendments to request funds from the Lump Sum-Home and Community-Based Waiver category for a specified purpose; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration and the Agency for Persons with Disabilities to submit budget amendments within a specified timeframe for a specified purpose; authorizing the Department of Veterans' Affairs to submit a budget amendment, subject to Legislative Budget Commission approval, requesting certain authority for certain purposes relating to veterans' nursing homes; amending s. 409.915, F.S.; extending for 1 year the expiration of an exception for certain funds used for the hospital directed payment program; authorizing the Department of Veterans' Affairs to expend certain funds and submit budget amendments, subject to certain approval, for the planning and construction of a new State Veterans' Nursing Home and Adult Day Health Center in a specified county; authorizing the department to apply for a specified federal grant for the Collier County State Veterans' Nursing Home; authorizing the Department of Elderly Affairs to submit a budget amendment requesting certain authority for an Adult Care Food Program or the Older Americans Act under certain circumstances; amending s. 216.262, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the authority of the Department of Corrections to submit a budget amendment for additional positions and appropriations under certain circumstances; amending s. 215.18, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the authority and related repayment requirements for temporary trust fund loans to the state court system which are sufficient to meet the system's appropriation; requiring the Department of Juvenile Justice to review county juvenile detention payments to determine whether a county has met specified financial responsibilities; requiring that amounts owed by a certain county for such financial responsibilities be deducted from certain county funds; requiring the Department of Revenue to transfer withheld funds to a specified trust fund; requiring the Department of Revenue to ensure that such reductions in amounts distributed do not reduce distributions below amounts necessary for certain payments due on bonds and to comply with bond covenants; requiring the Department of Revenue to notify the Department of Juvenile Justice if bond payment requirements mandate a reduction in deductions for amounts owed by a county; requiring the Department of Juvenile Justice to take certain actions; reenacting s. 27.40(1), (2)(a), (3)(a), (5), (6), and (7), F.S., relating to court-appointed counsel; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting and amending s. 27.5304, F.S., relating to the extension for 1 fiscal year of limitations on compensation for representation in criminal proceedings; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending s. 908.1033, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year provisions authorizing local law enforcement agencies to apply to the State Board of Immigration Enforcement to provide bonus payments for certain certified correctional officers; amending s. 934.50, F.S.; creating the Drone as First Responder Grant Program within the Department of Law Enforcement; providing the purpose of the program; providing eligibility requirements; requiring the department to develop an application process and allocate funds on a first-come, first-served basis; requiring that grants be matched by local funds in a specified percentage; authorizing the department to waive the matching funds requirement for certain agencies; defining the term "first responder agency"; authorizing the department to adopt rules; authorizing emergency rulemaking; requiring the Department of Management Services, with the cooperation of certain agencies, to use tenant broker services to renegotiate or reprocure certain private lease agreements for office or storage space; requiring the Department of Management Services to provide a report to the Governor and the Legislature by a specified date; prohibiting an agency from transferring funds from a data processing category to another category other than another data processing category; authorizing the Executive Office of the Governor to transfer funds appropriated in certain categories between departments for purposes of aligning amounts paid for risk management insurance and for human resources services purchased per statewide contract; authorizing the Department

of Management Services to use certain facility disposition funds from the Architects Incidental Trust Fund to pay for certain relocation expenses; authorizing the Department of Management Services to submit budget amendments for an increase in appropriation under certain circumstances; requiring that such amendments include specified information; requiring the Department of Financial Services to replace specified components of the Florida Accounting Information Resource Subsystem (FLAIR) and the Cash Management Subsystem (CMS) with a specified integrated enterprise system; prohibiting the Department of Financial Services from including certain components in the replacement of FLAIR and CMS; providing requirements for the Department of Financial Services related to replacing FLAIR and CMS; providing for the composition of an executive steering committee to oversee FLAIR and CMS replacement; providing requirements for the executive steering committee chair; providing duties and responsibilities of the executive steering committee; reenacting s. 282.709(3), F.S., relating to the state agency law enforcement radio system and interoperability network; providing for future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; authorizing state agencies and other eligible users of the Statewide Law Enforcement Radio System to use the Department of Management Services contract to purchase equipment and services; requiring that a specified transaction fee percentage for use of the on-line procurement system be collected for a specified fiscal year; amending s. 24.105, F.S.; specifying requirements for the adoption of rules of the Department of the Lottery, excluding certain rules for 1 fiscal year regarding the commission for lottery ticket sales; limiting additional retailer compensation in a specified manner; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending s. 627.351, F.S.; extending for 1 year the specified authority of Citizens Property Insurance Corporation; amending s. 215.5586, F.S.; extending for 1 year the homeowner eligibility criteria for a hurricane mitigation grant from the My Safe Florida Home Program; providing that certain funds appropriated to the Department of Financial Services may be carried forward through a specified fiscal year; authorizing the Executive Office of the Governor to transfer funds between departments to align the budget authority granted based on the estimated costs for data processing services for a specified fiscal year; limiting the auxiliary assessments that may be charged to state agencies related to contract management services provided to the Northwest Regional Data Center; reenacting and amending s. 284.51, F.S., relating to the electroencephalogram combined transcranial magnetic stimulation treatment (eTMS) pilot program; extending for 1 year the expiration of the program; requiring the Department of Financial Services to continue its existing contract for the establishment of the eTMS pilot program for veterans and first responders; amending s. 717.123, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Financial Services to retain specified funds, not to exceed a certain amount; requiring that the funds be held in a separate account; requiring the department to make prompt payment of certain claims from the separate account; amending s. 215.18, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year certain authority to transfer funds from certain trust funds in the State Treasury to other trust funds in certain circumstances; requiring the Department of Environmental Protection to transfer designated proportions of the revenues deposited in the Land Acquisition Trust Fund within the department to land acquisition trust funds in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of State, and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission according to specified parameters and calculations; defining the term "department"; requiring the Department of Environmental Protection to make transfers to land acquisition trust funds monthly; specifying the method of determining transfer amounts; authorizing the Department of Environmental Protection to advance funds from its land acquisition trust fund to the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's land acquisition trust fund for specified purposes; amending s. 259.105, F.S.; requiring that proceeds from a specified trust fund be distributed as provided in the General Appropriations Act for a specified fiscal year; amending s. 376.91, F.S.; extending for 1 year the date by which the Department of Environmental Protection shall adopt statewide cleanup target levels for PFAS under certain circumstances; providing for future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting s. 376.3071(15)(g), F.S., relating to the Inland Protection Trust Fund; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; requiring the Department of Citrus to enter into agreements for specified purposes by a certain date; requiring the Department of Citrus to file certain information with the department's Inspector General; reenacting s. 380.5105, F.S., relating to the Stan Mayfield Working Waterfronts; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; authorizing the Fish and Wildlife

Conservation Commission to use specified funds to provide grants for a specified purpose; amending s. 403.890, F.S.; authorizing the use of revenues deposited into or appropriated to the Water Protection and Sustainability Program Trust Fund as provided in the General Appropriations Act; amending s. 375.041, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the requirement that funds for the Land Acquisition Trust Fund be appropriated in a specified manner; authorizing the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to lease an existing facility and administer a specified program; authorizing the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority for the National School Lunch Program; amending s. 288.80125, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year a requirement that the use of funds in the Triumph Gulf Coast Trust Fund be related to Hurricane Michael recovery; amending s. 339.135, F.S.; extending for 1 year the authority for the chair and vice chair of the Legislative Budget Commission to approve certain work program amendments under specified circumstances; authorizing the Department of Transportation to request a specified amount of budget authority to the extent necessary to advance or defer certain projects in the Work Program and align resources for a specified purpose; amending s. 288.0655, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year a requirement that certain appropriated funds relating to the Rural Infrastructure Fund be distributed in a specified manner; creating s. 288.013, F.S.; providing legislative findings; creating the Office of Rural Prosperity within the Department of Commerce; requiring the Governor to appoint a director, subject to Senate confirmation; providing that the director reports to and serves at the pleasure of the secretary of the department; providing duties of the office; requiring the office to establish and staff a certain number of regional rural community liaison centers for a specified purpose; providing the powers and duties of the liaison centers; requiring coordination between certain entities; requiring the liaison centers to engage with the Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI); requiring at least one staff member of a liaison center to attend the monthly REDI meetings in person or by means of electronic communication; requiring the director of the office to submit a report to the Administration Commission within the Executive Office of the Governor; specifying requirements for the report; requiring that the report also be submitted to the Legislature by a specified date and published on the office's website; requiring the director of the office to attend the next Administration Commission meeting to present detailed information from the annual report; amending s. 288.001, F.S.; requiring the Florida Small Business Development Center Network to use certain funds appropriated for a specified purpose; authorizing the network to dedicate funds to facilitate certain events; creating s. 288.014, F.S.; providing legislative findings; requiring the Office of Rural Prosperity to administer the Renaissance Grants Program to provide block grants to eligible communities; requiring the Office of Economic and Demographic Research to certify to the Office of Rural Prosperity certain information by a specified date; defining the term "growth-impeded"; requiring the Office of Economic and Demographic Research to certify annually that a county remains growth-impeded until certain conditions are met; providing that a county is eligible to participate in the program for 1 additional year under certain circumstances; requiring participating counties to enter into an agreement with the Office of Rural Prosperity to receive a block grant; giving such counties certain authority; prohibiting the Office of Rural Prosperity from determining how such counties implement the block grant; requiring regional rural community liaison center staff to provide certain assistance; requiring participating counties to report certain information to the Office of Rural Prosperity; providing that a participating county receives a specified amount from funds appropriated to the program, or an equal share of the funds appropriated under certain circumstances; requiring participating counties to limit certain expenses; authorizing participating counties to supplement the block grant with other funding sources; requiring participating counties to hire and retain a renaissance coordinator; providing the responsibilities of the renaissance coordinator; requiring the regional rural community liaison center staff to provide assistance and training to the renaissance coordinator, upon request; requiring participating counties to design a certain plan; specifying requirements for such plan; requiring participating counties to develop intergovernmental agreements with certain entities to implement the plan; requiring the Auditor General to conduct an operational audit of each county's grant activities; requiring the Office of Economic and Demographic Research to submit a certain report to the Legislature; specifying requirements for the report; providing that funds appropriated from the program are not subject to reversion; creating s. 288.0175, F.S.; creating the Public Infrastructure Smart

Technology Grant Program within the Office of Rural Prosperity; defining terms; requiring the office to contract with one or more smart technology lead organizations to administer the grant program for a specified purpose; providing the criteria for such contracts; requiring that a summary of projects funded by the grant program be included in the office's annual report; amending s. 288.065, F.S.; establishing the Rural Community Development Revolving Loan Fund within the Office of Rural Prosperity, rather than the Department of Commerce; defining the term "unit of local government"; requiring the office to include in its annual report certain information about the Rural Community Development Revolving Loan Fund; providing for future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; authorizing the Division of Emergency Management to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority for certain expenditures under certain circumstances; amending s. 282.201, F.S.; extending for 1 year the Division of Emergency Management's exemption from the use of the state data center; amending s. 443.1113, F.S.; providing that certain improvements to the Reemployment Assistance Claims and Benefits Information System are subject to appropriation; revising the date a certain report from the Department of Commerce is required to be submitted; revising the report requirements; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; reenacting and amending s. 445.08, F.S., relating to the Florida Law Enforcement Recruitment Bonus Payment Program; extending the program for 1 year; authorizing the Department of Commerce to submit budget amendments to increase budget authority to support specified federal grant programs; requiring the Department of Management Services to assess an administrative health insurance assessment on each state agency; providing the rate of such assessment; defining the term "state agency"; requiring the Department of Management Services to take certain actions in case of delinquencies; requiring the Chief Financial Officer to transfer funds under specified circumstances; requiring state agencies to provide a list of positions that qualify for a certain exception by a specified date and to update the list monthly thereafter; requiring state agencies to include the administrative health insurance assessment in their indirect cost plan beginning for a specified fiscal year and annually thereafter; requiring agencies to notify the Department of Management Services, the Executive Office of the Governor, and the Legislature regarding the approval of their updated indirect cost plans; authorizing the Executive Office of the Governor to transfer budget authority between agencies in specified circumstances; providing that the annual salaries of the members of the Legislature be maintained at a specified level for a specified fiscal year; reenacting s. 215.32(2)(b), F.S., relating to the authorization for transferring unappropriated cash balances from selected trust funds to the Budget Stabilization Fund and General Revenue Fund; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; specifying the type of travel which may be used with state employee travel funds for a specified fiscal year; providing exceptions; providing applicability; providing a monetary cap on lodging costs for state employee travel to certain meetings organized or sponsored by a state agency or the judicial branch; authorizing employees to expend their own funds for lodging expenses that exceed the monetary caps; providing construction; amending s. 216.181, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the authority of the Legislative Budget Commission to approve budget amendments for certain fixed capital outlay projects; amending s. 216.292, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year the requirements for certain transfers; authorizing state agencies to purchase vehicles from nonstate term contract vendors without prior approval from the Department of Management Services under certain circumstances; amending s. 11.52, F.S.; extending for 1 year certain state agency reporting requirements regarding implementation of legislation; amending s. 216.013, F.S.; extending for 1 fiscal year an exception from certain planning requirements; amending s. 216.023, F.S.; extending for 1 year a requirement that certain entities include a specified inventory in their legislative budget requests; requiring that a specified percentage of funds appropriated for information technology projects be held in reserve and that general revenue funds not held in reserve be released; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration, Department of Children and Families, Department of Corrections, Department of Financial Services, Florida Gaming Control Commission, Department of Health, and Department of Revenue to submit a budget amendment to request release of funds; limiting the amount that may be requested; providing that release is contingent upon certain submissions; requiring entities receiving such funds to submit monthly project status reports to certain entities; providing requirements for such status reports; providing conditions under which the veto of certain appropriations or proviso language in the General Appropriations Act voids language that

implements such appropriation; providing for the continued operation of certain provisions notwithstanding a future repeal or expiration provided by the act; providing for severability; providing for contingent retroactivity; providing effective dates.

On motion by Senator Hooper, by two-thirds vote, **HB 5003**, as amended, was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—36

Mr. President	Davis	Osgood
Arrington	DiCeglie	Passidomo
Avila	Gaetz	Polsky
Berman	Garcia	Rodriguez
Bernard	Grall	Rouson
Boyd	Harrell	Sharief
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Simon
Bradley	Leek	Smith
Brodeur	Martin	Truenow
Burgess	Massullo	Trumbull
Burton	Mayfield	Wright
Calatayud	McClain	Yarborough

Nays—None

Vote after roll call:

Yea—Pizzo

MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Hooper, the Senate, having refused to pass **HB 5003** as passed by the House, acceded to the request for a budget conference.

SB 2504—A bill to be entitled An act relating to state employees; providing for the resolution of collective bargaining issues at impasse between the state and certified bargaining units for state employees; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **SB 2504**, pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **HB 5201** was withdrawn from the Committee on Appropriations.

On motion by Senator Hooper—

HB 5201—A bill to be entitled An act relating to collective bargaining; providing for resolution pursuant to specified instructions of collective bargaining issues at impasse between the state and certified representatives of the bargaining units for state employees; providing an effective date.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **SB 2504** and read the second time by title.

Senator Hooper moved the following amendment which was adopted:

Amendment 1 (136368) (with title amendment)—Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. *All collective bargaining issues for which negotiations have reached an impasse for the 2026-2027 fiscal year between the state and the legal representatives of the certified bargaining units for state employees shall be resolved pursuant to the instructions provided in the General Appropriations Act and the relevant provisions of any legislation enacted to implement the General Appropriations Act for the 2026-2027 fiscal year.*

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause and insert: A bill to be entitled An act relating to state employees; providing for the resolution of collective bargaining issues at impasse between the state and certified bargaining units for state employees; providing an effective date.

On motion by Senator Hooper, by two-thirds vote, **HB 5201**, as amended, was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—36

Mr. President	Davis	Osgood
Arrington	DiCeglie	Passidomo
Avila	Gaetz	Polsky
Berman	Garcia	Rodriguez
Bernard	Grall	Rouson
Boyd	Harrell	Sharief
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Simon
Bradley	Leek	Smith
Brodeur	Martin	Truenow
Burgess	Massullo	Trumbull
Burton	Mayfield	Wright
Calatayud	McClain	Yarborough

Nays—None

Vote after roll call:

Yea—Pizzo

MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Hooper, the Senate, having refused to pass **HB 5201** as passed by the House, acceded to the request for a budget conference.

CS for SB 7028—A bill to be entitled An act relating to retirement; amending s. 121.053, F.S.; authorizing an elected officer, except while serving as a legislator, to remain in elective office and receive accumulated Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) proceeds after the officer attains a certain age; providing that, upon termination, the officer receives accumulated DROP proceeds including interest earned in accordance with a specified provision; amending s. 121.091, F.S.; requiring the Division of Retirement or the State Board of Administration, as appropriate, to take steps to recoup from the elected officer any DROP proceeds distributed in accordance with a specified provision, under specified circumstances; amending s. 121.101, F.S.; revising the cost-of-living adjustment for eligible Special Risk Class retirees; defining the term “eligible Special Risk Class retiree”; amending s. 121.71, F.S.; revising required employer retirement contribution rates for each membership class and subclass of the Florida Retirement System; amending s. 121.73, F.S.; revising required allocations from the Contributions Clearing Trust Fund to provide disability coverage to members of the investment plan of the Florida Retirement System; amending s. 121.735, F.S.; revising allocations from the Contributions Clearing Trust Fund to provide line-of-duty death benefits to members of the investment plan of the Florida Retirement System; providing a declaration of important state interest; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **CS for SB 7028**, pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **HB 5205** was withdrawn from the Committee on Appropriations.

On motion by Senator Mayfield, the rules were waived and—

HB 5205—A bill to be entitled An act relating to retirement; amending s. 121.71, F.S.; revising required employer retirement contribution rates for each membership class and subclass of the Florida Retirement System; providing a declaration of important state interest; providing an effective date.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **CS for SB 7028** and read the second time by title.

Senator Mayfield moved the following amendment which was adopted:

Amendment 1 (183726) (with title amendment)—Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Subsection (7) of section 121.053, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

121.053 Participation in the Elected Officers’ Class for retired members.—

(7) A member who is elected or appointed to an elective office and who is participating in the Deferred Retirement Option Program is not subject to termination as defined in s. 121.021, or reemployment limitations as provided in s. 121.091(9), until the end of his or her current term of office or, if the officer is consecutively elected or reelected to an elective office eligible for coverage under the Florida Retirement System, until he or she no longer holds an elective office, as follows:

(a) At the end of the member’s DROP period:

1. The officer’s DROP account may not accrue additional monthly benefits, but does continue to earn interest as provided in s. 121.091(13). However, an officer whose DROP participation begins on or after July 1, 2010, may not continue to earn such interest.

2. Retirement contributions, except for unfunded actuarial liability and health insurance subsidy contributions required in ss. 121.71(5) and 121.76, are not required of the employer of the elected officer, and additional retirement credit may not be earned under the Florida Retirement System.

3. *The officer, except while serving as a legislator, may remain in elective office and receive his or her accumulated DROP proceeds, including interest earned in accordance with subparagraph 1., after attaining the age of 59 1/2 years.*

(b) An elected officer may voluntarily terminate his or her elective office at any time and receive his or her DROP proceeds. However, until termination occurs, an elected officer whose termination limitations are extended by this section is ineligible for renewed membership in the system and may not receive pension payments, ~~DROP lump sum payments~~, or any other state payment other than the statutorily determined salary, travel, and per diem for the elective office.

(c) Upon termination, the officer shall receive his or her accumulated DROP account, *including plus interest earned in accordance with subparagraph (a)1.*, and shall accrue and commence receiving monthly retirement benefits, which must be paid on a prospective basis only.

Section 2. Subsection (5) of section 121.091, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

121.091 Benefits payable under the system.—Benefits may not be paid under this section unless the member has terminated employment as provided in s. 121.021(39)(a) or begun participation in the Deferred Retirement Option Program as provided in subsection (13), and a proper application has been filed in the manner prescribed by the department. The department may cancel an application for retirement benefits when the member or beneficiary fails to timely provide the information and documents required by this chapter and the department’s rules. The department shall adopt rules establishing procedures for application for retirement benefits and for the cancellation of such application when the required information or documents are not received.

(5) **TERMINATION BENEFITS.**—A member whose employment is terminated prior to retirement retains membership rights to previously earned member-noncontributory service credit, and to member-contributory service credit, if the member leaves the member contributions on deposit in his or her retirement account. If a terminated member receives a refund of member contributions, such member may reinstate membership rights to the previously earned service credit represented by the refund by completing 1 year of creditable service and repaying the refunded member contributions, plus interest.

(a) A member whose employment is terminated for any reason other than death or retirement before becoming vested is entitled to the re-

turn of his or her accumulated contributions as of the date of termination. Effective July 1, 2011, upon termination of employment from all participating employers for 3 calendar months as defined in s. 121.021(39)(c) for any reason other than retirement, a member may receive a refund of all contributions he or she has made to the pension plan, subject to the restrictions otherwise provided in this chapter. The refund may be received as a lump-sum payment, a rollover to a qualified plan, or a combination of these methods. Partial refunds are not permitted. The refund may not include any interest earnings on the contributions for a member of the pension plan. Employer contributions made on behalf of the member are not refundable. A member may not receive a refund of employee contributions if a pending or an approved qualified domestic relations order is filed against his or her retirement account. By obtaining a refund of contributions, a member waives all rights under the Florida Retirement System and the health insurance subsidy to the service credit represented by the refunded contributions, except the right to purchase his or her prior service credit in accordance with s. 121.081(2).

(b) A member whose employment is terminated for any reason other than death or retirement after becoming vested may elect to receive a deferred monthly benefit which shall begin to accrue on the first day of the month of normal or early retirement and shall be payable on the last day of that month and each month thereafter during his or her lifetime. The amount of monthly benefit shall be computed in the same manner as for a normal retirement benefit in accordance with subsection (1) or early retirement benefit in accordance with s. 121.021(30), but based on average monthly compensation and creditable service as of the date of termination.

(c) In lieu of the deferred monthly benefit provided in paragraph (b), the terminated member may elect to receive a lump-sum amount equal to his or her accumulated contributions as of the date of termination. Effective July 1, 2011, upon termination of employment from all participating employers for 3 calendar months as defined in s. 121.021(39)(c) for any reason other than retirement, a member may receive a refund of all contributions he or she has made to the pension plan, subject to the restrictions otherwise provided in this chapter. Partial refunds are not permitted. The refund may not include any interest earnings on the contributions for a member of the pension plan. Employer contributions made on behalf of the member are not refundable. A member may not receive a refund of employee contributions if a pending or an approved qualified domestic relations order is filed against his or her retirement account. By obtaining a refund of contributions, a member waives all rights under the Florida Retirement System and the health insurance subsidy to the service credit represented by the refunded contributions, except the right to purchase his or her prior service credit in accordance with s. 121.081(2).

(d) If any retired member dies without having received in benefit payments an amount equal to his or her accumulated contributions, there shall be payable to his or her designated beneficiary an amount equal to the excess, if any, of the member's accumulated contributions over the total monthly payments made to the member prior to the date of death.

(e) A member shall be deemed a terminated member when termination of employment has occurred as provided in s. 121.021(39).

(f) Any member who has been found guilty by a verdict of a jury, or by the court trying the case without a jury, of committing, aiding, or abetting any embezzlement or theft from his or her employer, bribery in connection with the employment, or other felony specified in chapter 838, except ss. 838.15 and 838.16, committed prior to retirement, or who has entered a plea of guilty or of nolo contendere to such crime, or any member whose employment is terminated by reason of the member's admitted commitment, aiding, or abetting of an embezzlement or theft from his or her employer, bribery, or other felony specified in chapter 838, except ss. 838.15 and 838.16, shall forfeit all rights and benefits under this chapter, except the return of his or her accumulated contributions as of the date of termination.

(g) Any elected official who is convicted by the Senate of an impeachable offense shall forfeit all rights and benefits under this chapter,

except the return of his or her accumulated contributions as of the date of the conviction.

(h) Any member who, prior to retirement, is adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to have violated any state law against strikes by public employees, or who has been found guilty by such court of violating any state law prohibiting strikes by public employees, shall forfeit all rights and benefits under this chapter, except the return of his or her accumulated contributions as of the date of the conviction.

(i) The division or the state board may not pay benefits to any member convicted of a felony committed on or after October 1, 2008, defined in s. 800.04 against a victim younger than 16 years of age, or defined in chapter 794 against a victim younger than 18 years of age, through the use or attempted use of power, rights, privileges, duties, or position of the member's public office or employment position. However, the division or the state board shall return the member's accumulated contributions, if any, that the member accumulated as of the date of conviction.

(j) Any beneficiary who by a verdict of a jury or by the court trying the case without a jury is found guilty, or who has entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, of unlawfully and intentionally killing or procuring the death of the member forfeits all rights to the deceased member's benefits under this chapter, and the benefits will be paid as if such beneficiary had predeceased the decedent.

(k) Benefits may not be paid by the division or the state board pending final resolution of such charges against a member or beneficiary if the resolution of such charges could require the forfeiture of benefits as provided in paragraph (f), paragraph (g), paragraph (h), paragraph (i), paragraph (j), or chapter 112.

(l) The division and the state board, as appropriate, must take steps to recoup from the elected officer any DROP proceeds distributed pursuant to s. 121.053(7)(a)3. if:

1. Such DROP proceeds were distributed before the elected officer's termination; and

2. The division or state board would be prohibited pursuant to paragraph (k) from making a distribution to the elected officer, absent the distribution to the elected officer pursuant to s. 121.053(7)(a)3.

Section 3. Present subsections (5) through (9) of section 121.101, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (6) through (10), respectively, and a new subsection (5) is added to that section, to read:

121.101 Cost-of-living adjustment of benefits.—

(5)(a) Commencing July 1, 2026, and in lieu of any annual adjustment authorized in paragraph (4)(b) occurring after the fifth anniversary of retirement of an eligible Special Risk Class member whose effective retirement date is on or after July 1, 2011, the adjusted monthly benefit of each eligible Special Risk Class retiree and annuitant shall be the amount of the monthly benefit being received on June 30 immediately preceding the adjustment date plus the greater of the amount determined by multiplying the benefit by the factor calculated pursuant to paragraph (4)(c) or the amount equal to 1.5 percent of this benefit.

(b) For purposes of this subsection, the term "eligible Special Risk Class retiree" means a retiree:

1. Initially enrolled in the Florida Retirement System prior to July 1, 2011, who has completed at least 72 calendar months of creditable service as a Special Risk Class member; or

2. Initially enrolled in the Florida Retirement System on or after July 1, 2011, who has completed at least 96 calendar months of creditable service as a Special Risk Class member.

Section 4. Subsections (4) and (5) of section 121.71, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

121.71 Uniform rates; process; calculations; levy.—

(4) Required employer retirement contribution rates for each membership class and subclass of the Florida Retirement System for both retirement plans are as follows:

Membership Class	Percentage of Gross Compensation, Effective July 1, 2026 2025
Regular Class	7.11% 7.10%
Special Risk Class	21.58% 20.10%
Special Risk Administrative Support Class	11.45% 10.88%
Elected Officers' Class—Legislators, Governor, Lt. Governor, Cabinet Officers, State Attorneys, Public Defenders	10.30% 10.04%
Elected Officers' Class—Justices, Judges	15.54% 15.62%
Elected Officers' Class—County Elected Officers	11.45% 11.79%
Senior Management Service Class	8.68% 8.73%
DROP	9.86% 9.37%

(5) In order to address unfunded actuarial liabilities of the system, the required employer retirement contribution rates for each membership class and subclass of the Florida Retirement System for both retirement plans are as follows:

Membership Class	Percentage of Gross Compensation, Effective July 1, 2026 2025
Regular Class	4.42% 4.87%
Special Risk Class	14.10% 13.03%
Special Risk Administrative Support Class	28.28% 26.54%
Elected Officers' Class—Legislators, Governor, Lt. Governor, Cabinet Officers, State Attorneys, Public Defenders	51.43% 50.56%
Elected Officers' Class—Justices, Judges	28.40% 28.46%
Elected Officers' Class—County Elected Officers	41.49% 40.72%
Senior Management Service Class	21.86% 22.45%
DROP	10.26% 10.65%

Section 5. Subsection (3) of section 121.73, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

121.73 Allocations for member disability coverage; percentage amounts.—

(3) Effective July 1, 2026 ~~2002~~, allocations from the Florida Retirement System Contributions Clearing Trust Fund to provide disability coverage for members in the investment plan, and to offset the costs of administering said coverage, are as follows:

Membership Class	Percentage of Gross Compensation
Regular Class	0.25%

Special Risk Class	1.91% 1.85%
Special Risk Administrative Support Class	0.46% 0.45%
Elected Officers' Class—Legislators, Governor, Lt. Governor, Cabinet Officers, State Attorneys, Public Defenders	0.41%
Elected Officers' Class—Justices, Judges	0.73%
Elected Officers' Class—County Elected Officers	0.41%
Senior Management Service Class	0.26%

Section 6. Subsection (3) of section 121.735, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

121.735 Allocations for member line-of-duty death benefits; percentage amounts.—

(3) Allocations from the Florida Retirement System Contributions Clearing Trust Fund to provide line-of-duty death benefits for members in the investment plan and to offset the costs of administering said coverage, are as follows:

Membership Class	Percentage of Gross Compensation
Regular Class	0.05%
Special Risk Class	1.28% 1.26%
Special Risk Administrative Support Class	0.03%
Elected Officers' Class—Legislators, Governor, Lt. Governor, Cabinet Officers, State Attorneys, Public Defenders	0.15%
Elected Officers' Class—Justices, Judges	0.09%
Elected Officers' Class—County Elected Officers	0.20%
Senior Management Service Class	0.05%

Section 7. *The Legislature finds that a proper and legitimate state purpose is served when employees, officers, and retirees of the state and its political subdivisions, and the dependents, survivors, and beneficiaries of such employees, officers, and retirees, are extended the basic protections afforded by governmental retirement systems. These persons must be provided benefits that are fair and adequate and that are managed, administered, and funded in an actuarially sound manner as required by s. 14, Article X of the State Constitution and part VII of chapter 112, Florida Statutes. Therefore, the Legislature determines and declares that this act fulfills an important state interest.*

Section 8. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause and insert: A bill to be entitled An act relating to retirement; amending s. 121.053, F.S.; authorizing an elected officer, except while serving as a legislator, to remain in elective office and receive accumulated Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) proceeds after the officer attains a certain age; providing that, upon termination, the officer receives accumulated DROP proceeds including interest earned in accordance with a specified provision; amending s. 121.091, F.S.; requiring the Division of Retirement or the State Board of Administration, as appropriate, to take steps

to recoup from the elected officer any DROP proceeds distributed in accordance with a specified provision, under specified circumstances; amending s. 121.101, F.S.; revising the cost-of-living adjustment for eligible Special Risk Class retirees; defining the term “eligible Special Risk Class retiree”; amending s. 121.71, F.S.; revising required employer retirement contribution rates for each membership class and subclass of the Florida Retirement System; amending s. 121.73, F.S.; revising required allocations from the Contributions Clearing Trust Fund to provide disability coverage to members of the investment plan of the Florida Retirement System; amending s. 121.735, F.S.; revising allocations from the Contributions Clearing Trust Fund to provide line-of-duty death benefits to members of the investment plan of the Florida Retirement System; providing a declaration of important state interest; providing an effective date.

On motion by Senator Mayfield, by two-thirds vote, **HB 5205**, as amended, was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—36

Mr. President	Davis	Osgood
Arrington	DiCeglie	Passidomo
Avila	Gaetz	Polsky
Berman	Garcia	Rodriguez
Bernard	Grall	Rouson
Boyd	Harrell	Sharief
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Simon
Bradley	Leek	Smith
Brodeur	Martin	Truenow
Burgess	Massullo	Trumbull
Burton	Mayfield	Wright
Calatayud	McClain	Yarborough

Nays—None

Vote after roll call:

Yea—Pizzo

MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Mayfield, the Senate, having refused to pass **HB 5205** as passed by the House, acceded to the request for a budget conference.

SB 2506—A bill to be entitled An act relating to fuel taxes; amending s. 206.606, F.S.; revising the distribution of the proceeds of the fuel sales tax; amending s. 206.9945, F.S.; revising the transfer of funds received and collected into the Fuel Tax Collection Trust Fund; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title. On motion by Senator Brodeur, by two-thirds vote, **SB 2506** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—36

Mr. President	Davis	Osgood
Arrington	DiCeglie	Passidomo
Avila	Gaetz	Polsky
Berman	Garcia	Rodriguez
Bernard	Grall	Rouson
Boyd	Harrell	Sharief
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Simon
Bradley	Leek	Smith
Brodeur	Martin	Truenow
Burgess	Massullo	Trumbull
Burton	Mayfield	Wright
Calatayud	McClain	Yarborough

Nays—None

Vote after roll call:

Yea—Pizzo

MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Brodeur, the House was requested to pass **SB 2506** as passed by the Senate, or agree to include the bill in the budget conference.

SB 2508—A bill to be entitled An act relating to the state agency law enforcement radio system; amending ss. 318.18 and 318.21, F.S.; abrogating the scheduled expiration of provisions relating to the remission of surcharges for specified criminal offenses and noncriminal moving traffic violations to the Department of Revenue to fund the state agency law enforcement radio system and to provide technical assistance with respect to statewide systems of regional law enforcement communications; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title. On motion by Senator Brodeur, by two-thirds vote, **SB 2508** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—36

Mr. President	Davis	Osgood
Arrington	DiCeglie	Passidomo
Avila	Gaetz	Polsky
Berman	Garcia	Rodriguez
Bernard	Grall	Rouson
Boyd	Harrell	Sharief
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Simon
Bradley	Leek	Smith
Brodeur	Martin	Truenow
Burgess	Massullo	Trumbull
Burton	Mayfield	Wright
Calatayud	McClain	Yarborough

Nays—None

Vote after roll call:

Yea—Pizzo

MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Brodeur, the House was requested to pass **SB 2508** as passed by the Senate, or agree to include the bill in the budget conference.

SB 2510—A bill to be entitled An act relating to trust funds of the State Courts System; terminating the Mediation and Arbitration Trust Fund; providing for the disposition of balances in and revenues of the trust fund; prescribing procedures for the termination of the trust fund; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **SB 2510**, pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **HB 5401** was withdrawn from the Committee on Appropriations.

On motion by Senator Garcia—

HB 5401—A bill to be entitled An act relating to trust funds of the State Courts System; terminating the Mediation and Arbitration Trust Fund; providing for the disposition of balances in and revenues of the trust fund; prescribing procedures for the termination of the trust fund; providing an effective date.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **SB 2510** and read the second time by title.

On motion by Senator Garcia, by two-thirds vote, **HB 5401** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—37

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Pizzo
Arrington	Gaetz	Polsky
Avila	Garcia	Rodriguez
Berman	Grall	Rouson
Bernard	Harrell	Sharief
Boyd	Hooper	Simon
Bracy Davis	Leek	Smith
Bradley	Martin	Truenow
Brodeur	Massullo	Trumbull
Burgess	Mayfield	Wright
Burton	McClain	Yarborough
Calatayud	Osgood	
Davis	Passidomo	

Nays—None

SB 2512—A bill to be entitled An act relating to judges; amending s. 26.031, F.S.; increasing the number of circuit judges in certain judicial circuits; amending s. 34.022, F.S.; increasing the number of county court judges in certain counties; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title. On motion by Senator Garcia, by two-thirds vote, **SB 2512** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—37

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Pizzo
Arrington	Gaetz	Polsky
Avila	Garcia	Rodriguez
Berman	Grall	Rouson
Bernard	Harrell	Sharief
Boyd	Hooper	Simon
Bracy Davis	Leek	Smith
Bradley	Martin	Truenow
Brodeur	Massullo	Trumbull
Burgess	Mayfield	Wright
Burton	McClain	Yarborough
Calatayud	Osgood	
Davis	Passidomo	

Nays—None

MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Garcia, the House was requested to pass **SB 2512** as passed by the Senate, or agree to include the bill in the budget conference.

SB 2514—A bill to be entitled An act relating to Pre-K-12 education; amending s. 1002.411, F.S.; revising conditions under which a specified scholarship account's funds revert to the state; amending s. 1011.62, F.S.; providing a supplement for districts that have a decline in enrollment; requiring that fiscally constrained districts receive a higher calculation than non-fiscally constrained districts; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title. On motion by Senator Burgess, by two-thirds vote, **SB 2514** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—37

Mr. President	Berman	Bracy Davis
Arrington	Bernard	Bradley
Avila	Boyd	Brodeur

Burgess	Leek	Rouson
Burton	Martin	Sharief
Calatayud	Massullo	Simon
Davis	Mayfield	Smith
DiCeglie	McClain	Truenow
Gaetz	Osgood	Trumbull
Garcia	Passidomo	Wright
Grall	Pizzo	Yarborough
Harrell	Polsky	
Hooper	Rodriguez	

Nays—None

MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Burgess, the House was requested to pass **SB 2514** as passed by the Senate, or agree to include the bill in the budget conference.

SB 2516—A bill to be entitled An act relating to higher education; amending s. 464.0195, F.S.; establishing the Florida Center for Nursing within the University of South Florida; requiring the center to administer the Linking Industry to Nursing Education Fund (LINE) Fund; requiring the center to promote certain funds and provide technical assistance during a specified timeframe; requiring the center to develop certain guidelines and make them publicly available on its website; providing requirements for the administration of LINE funds; amending s. 1009.26, F.S.; providing that a specified fee waiver applies to a student's out-of-pocket expenses for tuition and fees after other aid is applied; deleting a requirement for a state university to report and disburse certain waived fees; deleting a requirement for disbursement; amending s. 1009.8962, F.S.; providing that the LINE Fund was established for shortages in health science professions in addition to nursing; defining terms; requiring that the LINE Fund be administered by the Florida Center for Nursing within the University of South Florida, rather than the Board of Governors and the Department of Education; providing that funding is subject to approval of an application by the center; authorizing the fund to match certain contributions if funds are available; revising how funds may be used; providing exceptions to certain prohibitions on the use of funds; revising requirements for a proposal for LINE funds submitted by an institution; providing that proposals for related health science programs may not be prioritized over nursing programs; revising requirements for the center to evaluate submitted proposals; authorizing the center to prioritize certain grant applications; requiring the center to notify each applicant of its determination; defining terms; requiring an institution with an approved proposal to certify the health care partner's contribution in a specified manner; authorizing the center to award funds for up to 3 academic years; requiring institutions awarded grant funds to submit an annual report by a certain date to the center instead of the Board of Governors or the Department of Education; providing that the Department of Education is the lead entity for identifying and maintaining which health science programs are eligible for LINE funds; requiring the department to compile and publish a list of eligible programs by a specified date; requiring the department to review and update the list annually; requiring the Office of Reimagining Education and Career Help to provide specified data to the department; deleting a requirement for the Board of Governors to adopt regulations and the State Board of Education to adopt rules; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title. On motion by Senator Harrell, by two-thirds vote, **SB 2516** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—36

Mr. President	Brodeur	Grall
Arrington	Burgess	Harrell
Avila	Burton	Hooper
Berman	Calatayud	Leek
Bernard	Davis	Martin
Boyd	DiCeglie	Massullo
Bracy Davis	Gaetz	Mayfield
Bradley	Garcia	McClain

Osgood	Rouson	Truenow
Passidomo	Sharief	Trumbull
Pizzo	Simon	Wright
Rodriguez	Smith	Yarborough

Nays—None

MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Harrell, the House was requested to pass **SB 2516** as passed by the Senate, or agree to include the bill in the budget conference.

SB 2518—A bill to be entitled An act relating to health; amending s. 216.136, F.S.; requiring the Social Services Estimating Conference to develop certain official information relating to the pilot program for individuals with developmental disabilities; amending s. 394.495, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Children and Families, as authorized by and consistent with appropriated funding, to contract with a specified organization to provide grief support services to help certain children and youth; requiring that the services be provided at no cost; authorizing the contracted organization to also provide grief awareness training and outreach to local schools and medical facilities under the contract; amending s. 409.145, F.S.; revising the monthly room and board rates the department is required to pay to certain foster parents and caregivers; amending s. 409.1455, F.S.; renaming the Step into Success Workforce Education and Internship Pilot Program as the Step into Success Workforce Education and Internship Program; deleting a provision limiting the duration of the program; requiring the Office of Continuing Care within the department to develop certain cohorts within specified regions, to collaborate with certain organizations to recruit mentors and organizations, and to provide eligible former foster youth with internship placement opportunities; deleting a provision requiring that the program be administered in a certain manner; deleting obsolete language; requiring the office to develop trauma-informed training for mentors of certain former foster youth; providing requirements for the training; authorizing the office to provide certain additional trainings on mentorship of special populations; revising the amount of monthly financial assistance that the office provides to participating former foster youth; requiring the office to assign experienced staff to serve as program liaisons for a specified purpose; revising qualifications to serve as a mentor; authorizing the department to offer certain training to mentors in subsequent years; authorizing an employee who serves as a mentor to participate in certain additional trainings; deleting a provision authorizing the offset of a reduction in or loss of certain benefits due to receipt of a Step into Success stipend by an additional stipend payment; creating s. 409.1475, F.S.; providing legislative findings and intent; creating the Foster and Family Support Grant Program within the department; requiring the department to award grants to not-for-profit, faith-based organizations for specified purposes; requiring that the program emphasize certain support; specifying authorized uses for awarded grant funds; requiring grant recipients to submit reports to the department in a format and at intervals prescribed by the department; authorizing the department to adopt rules; amending s. 409.908, F.S.; revising the parameters for the prospective payment methodology used for determining the Agency for Health Care Administration's long-term care reimbursement plan for nursing home care; requiring the agency to consider specified recommendations when revising its methodology for calculating Quality Incentive Program payments; requiring the agency to delay the effective date of any changes to its methodology for a specified timeframe; amending s. 409.9855, F.S.; requiring the agency to collect and analyze certain data relating to the pilot program for individuals with developmental disabilities for a specified timeframe; requiring the agency to report specified information to the Social Services Estimating Conference; amending s. 409.990, F.S.; revising the cumulative amount of unexpended state funds that a community-based care lead agency may carry forward to the next fiscal year; amending s. 414.56, F.S.; conforming a provision to changes made by the act; reenacting ss. 39.5085(2)(d), 39.6225(5)(d), 393.065(5)(b), and 409.1451(2)(b), F.S., relating to the Relative Caregiver Program, the Guardianship Assistance Program, application and eligibility determinations, and the Road-to-Independence Program, respectively, to incorporate the amendment made to s. 409.145, F.S., in references thereto; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title. On motion by Senator Trumbull, by two-thirds vote, **SB 2518** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—36

Mr. President	Davis	Osgood
Arrington	DiCeglie	Passidomo
Avila	Gaetz	Pizzo
Berman	Garcia	Rodriguez
Bernard	Grall	Rouson
Boyd	Harrell	Sharief
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Simon
Bradley	Leek	Smith
Brodeur	Martin	Truenow
Burgess	Massullo	Trumbull
Burton	Mayfield	Wright
Calatayud	McClain	Yarborough

Nays—None

MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Trumbull, the House was requested to pass **SB 2518** as passed by the Senate, or agree to include the bill in the budget conference.

CS for SB 1004—A bill to be entitled An act relating to domestic animals; amending s. 828.12, F.S.; requiring the Department of Law Enforcement to post on its website specified information relating to each individual convicted of specified animal cruelty offenses; requiring the clerk of each court and county detention facility to provide the Department of Law Enforcement with such information; amending s. 828.29, F.S.; extending the timeframe for which a consumer may pursue remedies for the sale of an animal certifiably unfit for purchase; revising such remedies; requiring that all financing terms be disclosed to the consumer by the pet dealer before the sale of the animal; requiring a specified mandatory waiting period between the purchase and receipt of an animal if the transaction is financed by the consumer; prohibiting a consumer from signing a financing agreement until the conclusion of the specified waiting period; deleting certain provisions relating to a consumer's waiver relinquishing his or her rights to return an animal; requiring a pet dealer to provide copies of specified medical records to a consumer; denying a consumer the right to a refund or an exchange for a pet sale under certain circumstances; extending the timeframe within which a consumer must notify the pet dealer of a veterinarian's determination that the animal is unfit; authorizing the consumer to initiate an action in certain courts for any contestation of veterinary expenses or demands of the pet dealer for a refund or exchange; providing for the award of punitive damages; revising requirements for a required notice to a consumer; revising the text of the required notice; revising the definition of the term "pet dealer"; requiring a pet dealer to retain a copy of a specified notice for a specified period; providing that violations constitute an unfair method of competition or an unfair or deceptive act or practice in violation of specified provisions and subject to penalties; creating s. 828.291, F.S.; providing a legislative purpose; providing construction; requiring the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to develop a list of best management practices for adoption and implementation; providing requirements for such best management practices; requiring the department to post guidance on its website related to the selection of breeders and the purchase of an animal; requiring the department to post information on its website relating to animal cruelty; providing requirements for such information; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Senator Gaetz moved the following amendment which was adopted:

Amendment 1 (342166) (with title amendment)—Delete lines 127-280 and insert:
to the consumer before the sale of the animal ~~A consumer may sign a waiver relinquishing his or her right to return the dog or cat for congenital or hereditary disorders. In the case of such waiver, the consumer has 48 normal business hours, excluding weekends and holidays, in~~

which to have the animal examined by a licensed veterinarian of the consumer's choosing. If the veterinarian certifies that, at the time of sale, the dog or cat was unfit for purchase due to a congenital or hereditary disorder, the pet dealer must afford the consumer the right to choose one of the following options:

(a) The right to return the animal and receive a refund of the purchase price, including sales tax, but excluding the veterinary costs related to the certification that the dog or cat is unfit; or

(b) The right to return the animal and receive an exchange dog or cat of the consumer's choice of equivalent value, but not a refund of the veterinary costs related to the certification that the dog or cat is unfit.

(7) Before the sale of an animal, a pet dealer must provide to the consumer copies of records of all medical examinations or tests that were conducted on the animal or any medication given before the purchase of the animal. A pet dealer may specifically state at the time of sale, in writing to the consumer, the presence of specific congenital or hereditary disorders, in which case the consumer has no right to any refund or exchange for those identified disorders, if such consumer signs a notification that indicates that the animal has been examined by a veterinarian who determined that the animal has the identified congenital or hereditary disorder.

(8) The refund or exchange required by subsection (5) ~~or subsection (6)~~ shall be made by the pet dealer not later than 10 business days after following receipt of a signed veterinary certification as required in subsection (5) ~~or subsection (6)~~. The consumer must notify the pet dealer within 7 ~~2~~ business days after receipt of the veterinarian's determination that the animal is unfit. The written certification of unfitness must be presented to the pet dealer not later than 3 business days following receipt thereof by the consumer.

(10) If a pet dealer wishes to contest a demand for veterinary expenses, refund, or exchange made by a consumer under this section, the dealer may require the consumer to produce the animal for examination by a licensed veterinarian designated by the dealer. Upon such examination, if the consumer and the dealer are unable to reach an agreement that constitutes one of the options set forth in subsection (5) ~~or subsection (6)~~ within 10 business days after following receipt of the animal for such examination, the consumer may initiate an action in a court of competent jurisdiction, or the county court small claims court division, in the county where the animal owner resides, to recover or obtain reimbursement of veterinary expenses and a refund, or exchange, as set forth in subsection (5), and may collect punitive damages in an amount not less than \$2,500 at the discretion of the court.

(12) Every pet dealer who sells an animal to a consumer must provide the consumer at the time of sale with a printed, written notice in 14-point boldface type to be signed by the consumer, ~~printed or typed~~, which is separate from the contract and reads as follows:

RIGHT TO CANCEL

Florida consumers have certain rights under section 828.29, Florida Statutes. You have the right to: 1) return the animal; 2) exchange the animal; and 3) receive reimbursement for certain veterinary expenses under certain circumstances. Please have your new pet seen by a veterinarian immediately. A copy of this law is attached to this notice.

It is the consumer's right, pursuant to section 828.29, Florida Statutes, to receive a certificate of veterinary inspection with each animal ~~dog or cat~~ purchased from a pet dealer. Such certificate shall list all vaccines and deworming medications administered to the animal and list any medical diagnosis and treatments and shall state that the animal has been examined by a Florida licensed veterinarian who certifies that, to the best of the veterinarian's knowledge, the animal was found to have been healthy at the time of the veterinary examination. In the event that the consumer purchases the animal and finds it to have been unfit for purchase as provided in section 828.29(5), Florida Statutes, the consumer must notify the pet dealer within 7 ~~2~~ business days after of the veterinarian's determination that the animal was unfit. The consumer has the right to retain, return, or exchange the animal and receive reimbursement for certain related veterinary services rendered to

the animal, subject to the right of the dealer to have the animal examined by another veterinarian.

...(Signature of Animal owner or Lessee, or Owner's or Lessee's Authorized Person)...

(13) For the purposes of this section ~~subsections (5) (12) and (16)~~, the term "pet dealer" means any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other association which, in the ordinary course of business, engages in the sale of more than three ~~two~~ litters, or 30 ~~20~~ dogs or cats, per year, whichever is greater, to the public. This definition includes breeders of animals who sell such animals directly to a consumer. This definition does not include not-for-profit entities that do not purchase dogs or cats from a breeder or broker.

(17) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, a person who violates ~~any provision of~~ this section commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

(18) Any record provided to a consumer pursuant to the sale of an animal under this section must be maintained by the pet dealer for a period of at least 7 years after the sale.

(19) A pet dealer who violates this section commits an unfair method of competition or an unfair or deceptive act or practice in violation of part II of chapter 501 and is subject to the penalties and remedies provided for such violations.

Section 3. Section 828.291, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

828.291 *Best management practices for dog breeding.*—

(1) *The purpose of this section is to allow voluntary participation in best management practices relating to minimum standards of care, facility operations, and breeding practices for individuals or entities engaged in the breeding of dogs in order to protect animal welfare, promote responsible breeding, and ensure the health and safety of animals and consumers.*

(2) *This section may not be construed to prohibit a local jurisdiction from implementing requirements for individuals or entities engaged in the breeding of dogs.*

(3) *The Department of Business and Professional Regulation shall develop a list of best management practices that individuals or entities engaged in the breeding of dogs may voluntarily adopt and implement. Such best management practices must include minimum standards of care, facility operations, and breeding practices for individuals or entities engaged in the breeding of dogs, including, but not limited to, standards relating to all of the following:*

- (a) *Breeding.*
- (b) *Feeding.*
- (c) *Housing.*
- (d) *Health.*
- (e) *Enrichment.*
- (f) *Selling and transferring, in accordance with s. 828.29.*
- (g) *Recordkeeping, in accordance with s. 828.29.*

(4) *The Department of Business and Professional Regulation shall post on its website guidance for the public about how to identify the breeders that are following best management practices and provide a checklist to use when purchasing an animal.*

(5) *The Department of Business and Professional Regulation*

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete lines 14-48 and insert: before the sale of the animal; deleting certain provisions relating to a consumer's waiver relinquishing his or her rights to return an animal; requiring a pet dealer to provide copies of specified medical records to a consumer; denying a consumer the right to a refund or an exchange for a pet sale under certain circumstances; extending the timeframe within which a consumer must notify

the pet dealer of a veterinarian's determination that the animal is unfit; authorizing the consumer to initiate an action in certain courts for any contestation of veterinary expenses or demands of the pet dealer for a refund or exchange; providing for the award of punitive damages; revising requirements for a required notice to a consumer; revising the text of the required notice; revising the definition of the term "pet dealer"; requiring a pet dealer to retain a copy of a specified notice for a specified period; providing that violations constitute an unfair method of competition or an unfair or deceptive act or practice in violation of specified provisions and subject to penalties; creating s. 828.291, F.S.; providing a legislative purpose; providing construction; requiring the Department of Business and Professional Regulation to develop a list of best management practices for adoption and implementation; specifying requirements for such best management practices; requiring the department to post guidance on its website related to the selection of breeders and the purchase of an animal; requiring the department to post information

On motion by Senator Gaetz, by two-thirds vote, **CS for SB 1004**, as amended, was read the third time by title, passed, ordered engrossed, and then certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—36

Mr. President	Davis	Osgood
Arrington	DiCeglie	Passidomo
Avila	Gaetz	Pizzo
Berman	Garcia	Rodriguez
Bernard	Grall	Rouson
Boyd	Harrell	Sharief
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Simon
Bradley	Leek	Smith
Brodeur	Martin	Truenow
Burgess	Massullo	Trumbull
Burton	Mayfield	Wright
Calatayud	McClain	Yarborough

Nays—None

MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Passidomo, by two-thirds vote, all bills passed this day were ordered immediately certified to the House.

BILLS ON SPECIAL ORDERS

Pursuant to Rule 4.17(1), the Rules Chair, Majority Leader, and Minority Leader submit the following bills to be placed on the Special Order Calendar for Friday, February 20, 2026: SB 2500, SB 2502, SB 2504, CS for SB 7028, SB 2506, SB 2508, SB 2510, SB 2512, SB 2514, SB 2516, SB 2518.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Passidomo, Rules Chair
Jim Boyd, Majority Leader
Lori Berman, Minority Leader

SENATE CONFEREES APPOINTED

The President appointed the following conferees on HB 5001, HB 5003, HB 5201, and HB 5205 on the part of the Senate: Appropriations Conference Committee/Budget: Senator Hooper, Chair; Senators Berman, Boyd, Brodeur, Gruters, Passidomo, and Rouson, At Large; Appropriations Conference Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government/Agriculture & Natural Resources: Senator Brodeur, Chair; Senators Arrington, Berman, DiCeglie, Grall, Massullo, McClain, Pizzo, Rodriguez, Sharief, and Truenow; Appropriations Conference Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government/State Administration: Senator Brodeur, Chair; Senators Arrington, Berman, DiCeglie, Grall, Massullo, McClain, Pizzo,

Rodriguez, Sharief, and Truenow; Appropriations Conference Committee on Criminal and Civil Justice/Justice: Senator Garcia, Chair; Senators Martin, Osgood, Polsky, Simon, Smith, Wright, and Yarborough; Appropriations Conference Committee on Health and Human Services/Health Care: Senator Trumbull, Chair; Senators Brodeur, Burton, Davis, Garcia, Harrell, Rodriguez, Rouson, and Sharief; Appropriations Conference Committee on Higher Education/Higher Education: Senator Harrell, Chair; Senators Bracy Davis, Bradley, Burgess, Calatayud, Davis, and Leek; Appropriations Conference Committee on Pre-K – 12 Education/Pre-K – 12: Senator Burgess, Chair; Senators Bradley, Calatayud, Gaetz, Jones, Massullo, Osgood, Pizzo, Simon, and Yarborough; Appropriations Conference Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development/Transportation & Economic Development: Senator DiCeglie, Chair; Senators Arrington, Avila, Bernard, Bracy Davis, Grall, Leek, Martin, Mayfield, McClain, Polsky, Smith, Truenow, and Wright.

HOUSE CONFEREES APPOINTED

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the Speaker of the House of Representatives has appointed the following Representatives to the Conference Committee on HB 5001 to serve with Rep. McClure, Chair; Managers At-Large: Reps. Brannan, Buchanan, Canady, Chambliss, Driskell, Duggan, Eskamani, Franklin, Garrison, Hunschofsky, Koster, Melo, Mooney, Overdorf, Rayner, F. Robinson, W. Robinson, Salzman, Sirois, Tant, Tomkow, Tuck, Valdés, and Woodson; House Agriculture & Natural Resources/Senate Agriculture, Environment, and General Government—Rep. Snyder, Chair; Reps. Albert, J. Alvarez, Barnaby, Bartleman, Benarroch, Black, Botana, Borrero, Boyles, Dunkley, Hinson, and Weinberger; House Health Care/Senate Health and Human Services—Rep. Andrade, Chair; Reps. McFarland (Co-chair for IT Budget), Anderson, Berfield, Cassel, Gonzalez Pittman, Kincart Jonsson, Nixon, Redondo, Rosenwald, Tendrich, Trabulsky, and Tramont; House Higher Education/Senate Higher Education—Rep. Busatta, Chair; Reps. Aristide, Blanco, Booth, Campbell, Giallombardo, Gossett-Seidman, Holcomb, Jacques, Kendall, Rizo, Sapp, Smith, and Young; House Justice/Senate Criminal and Civil Justice—Rep. Maney, Chair; Reps. McFarland (Co-chair for IT Budget), D. Alvarez, Baker, Borrero, Chamberlin, Cobb, Daniels, Gottlieb, Jacques, Johnson, Joseph, Porras, Skidmore, and Smith; House PreK-12/Senate PreK - 12 Education—Rep. Persons-Mulicka, Chair; Reps. Basabe, Brackett, Daniels, Edmonds, Esposito, Gantt, Gerwig, J. López, Michael, Nix, Steele, Trabulsky, and Yeager; House State Administration/Senate Agriculture, Environment, and General Government—Rep. Maggard, Chair; Reps. Abbott, Antone, Bankson, Chaney, Edmonds, Grow, Harris, Hodggers, Long, Miller, Partington, Plakon, Plasencia, and Yarkosky; House Transportation & Economic Development/Senate Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development—Rep. Shoaf, Chair; Reps. McFarland (Co-chair for IT Budget), D. Alvarez, Conerly, Cross, Daley, Fabricio, Gentry, Greco, Griffiths, Hart-Lowman, LaMarca, Oliver, Owen, Spencer, and Stark.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

The Journal of February 19 was corrected and approved.

CO-INTRODUCERS

Senator Avila—SB 878

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Senator Passidomo, the Senate adjourned at 11:06 a.m. for the purpose of holding committee meetings and conducting other Senate business to reconvene at 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 25 or upon call of the President.

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

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February 20, 2026

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BP — Bill Passed
CO — Co-Introducers
CR — Committee Report
CS — Committee Substitute, First Reading

FR — First Reading
MO — Motion
RC — Reference Change
SM — Special Master Reports
SO — Bills on Special Orders

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