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Session Law 98-057

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Florida Legislature On-Line Sunshine

[Bill By](#) [Hundreds](#) [Text](#) [Amendments](#) [Staff Analysis/Bill](#) [Research](#) [Vote History](#) [Citations](#)

S 1114: WAGES Program

S 1114 GENERAL BILL/CS/2ND ENG by Ways and Means; McKay; (CO-SPONSORS) Lavalle
 (Similar CS/2ND ENG/S 2524, Compare H 2113, CS/H 3391, CS/2ND
 ENG/H 4147, H 4317, 1ST ENG/H 4535, H 4679, H 4753, CS/CS/2ND
 ENG/S 0484, CS/S 0666, CS/CS/2ND ENG/S 0760, S 1656, CS/S 1984,
 CS/S 2014)

WAGES Program; requires that WAGES Program state Bd. of Directors
 approve any WAGES-related proposed administrative rules; revises
 requirements for member of local WAGES coalition in case of conflict of
 interest; provides requirements for disclosing any such conflict;
 requires local coalition to deliver certain services under WAGES
 Program; creates WAGES training bonus to be paid to employer who hires
 certain program participants, etc. Amends FS. APPROPRIATION:
 \$33,900,000. EFFECTIVE DATE: 06/30/1998.

02/10/98 SENATE Prefiled
 02/12/98 SENATE Referred to Ways and Means Subcommittee E (Finance and Tax);
 03/03/98 SENATE Introduced, referred to Ways and Means Subcommittee E
 (Finance and Tax); Ways and Means Subcommittee E
 Opportunities - SJ 00069
 On Subcommittee agenda-- Ways and Means Subcommittee E
 (Finance and Tax), 04/07/98, 12:15 pm, Room-B(LL-42)
 Subcommittee Recommendation: CS by Ways and Means
 Subcommittee E (Finance and Tax) - SJ 00408; Now in Ways and
 Means - SJ 00408
 On Committee agenda-- Ways and Means, 04/15/98, 2:00 pm,

04/10/98 SENATE Room-EL
 Comm. Action: CS by Ways and Means - SJ 00528; CS read first
 time on 04/17/98 - SJ 00530
 Now in Commerce and Economic Opportunities - SJ 00528
 Withdrawn from Commerce and Economic Opportunities - SJ 00940;
 Placed on Calendar
 04/28/98 SENATE Placed on Special Order Calendar - SJ 01092
 04/29/98 SENATE Placed on Special Order Calendar - SJ 01092
 04/30/98 SENATE Placed on Special Order Calendar - SJ 01222, - SJ 01522; Read
 second time - SJ 01471; Amendment(s) adopted - SJ 01471; Read
 third time - SJ 01483; CS passed as amended; YEAS 40 NAYS 0

04/30/98 HOUSE In Messages
 Received - HJ 02175; Read second time - HJ 02189; Amendment(s)
 adopted - HJ 02189; Amendment(s) reconsidered, adopted as
 amended - HJ 02210; Read third time - HJ 02212; CS passed as
 amended; YEAS 112 NAYS 0 - HJ 02212
 05/01/98 SENATE In returning messages; Was taken up - SJ 01795; Concurred
 - SJ 01806; CS passed as amended; YEAS 38 NAYS 0 - SJ 01806;
 Ordered engrossed, then enrolled - SJ 01806

05/08/98 Signed by Officers and presented to Governor
 Approved by Governor; Chapter No. 98-57
 05/15/98

0414.155
0414.115
0414.105
0414.095
0414.065
0414.030
0414.028
0414.026
0414.0252
0341.052
0341.041
0288.047
0234.211
0234.01
0220.181
0220.03
0212.096

STATUTE CITATIONS: (Top)

SB1114 Rollcall:0079
 SENATE:
 05/01/98

SB1114 Rollcall:0046
 SENATE:
 04/30/98

SB1114 Rollcall:0046
 HOUSE:
 05/01/98

VOICE HISTORY: (Top)

SB1114 by wm (View As: As Printed)

STAFF ANALYSIS/BILL RESEARCH: (Top)

Amendment 104805: An Amendment to sb1114 (View As: HTML, As Printed)
 Amendment 191836: An Amendment to sb1114 (View As: HTML, As Printed)
 Amendment 205994: An Amendment to sb1114 (View As: HTML, As Printed)
 Amendment 234236: An Amendment to sb1114 (View As: HTML, As Printed)
 Amendment 315532: An Amendment to sb1114 (View As: HTML, As Printed)
 Amendment 641219: An Amendment to sb1114 (View As: HTML, As Printed)

AMENDMENTS: (Top)

sb1114 (View As: HTML, As Printed)
sb1114c1 (View As: HTML, As Printed)
sb1114e1 (View As: HTML, As Printed)
sb1114e2 (View As: HTML, As Printed)
sb1114er (View As: HTML, As Printed)

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NO CONSTITUTION CITATIONS FOUND FOR REQUESTED BILL.

CONSTITUTION CITATIONS:

0414.20
0414.225
0414.25
0427.013
0427.0155
0427.0157

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

2

3 Section 1. Paragraph (g) is added to subsection (1) of

4 section 234.01, Florida Statutes, to read:

5 234.01 Purpose; transportation; when provided.--

6 (1) School boards, after considering recommendations

7 of the superintendent:

8 (g) May provide transportation for WAGES program

9 participants as defined in s. 414.0252.

10 Section 2. Present paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of

11 section 234.211, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as

12 paragraph (c), and a new paragraph (b) is added to that

13 subsection to read:

14 234.211 Use of school buses for public purposes.--

15 (1)

16 (b) Each school district may enter into agreements

17 with local WAGES coalitions for the provision of

18 transportation services to WAGES program participants as

19 defined in s. 414.0252. Agreements must provide for

20 reimbursement in full or in part for the proportionate share

21 of fixed and operating costs incurred by the school district

22 attributable to the use of buses in accordance with the

23 agreement.

24 Section 3. Subsection (13) is added to section

25 341.041, Florida Statutes, to read:

26 341.041 Transit responsibilities of the

27 department.--The department shall, within the resources

28 provided pursuant to chapter 216:

29 (13) Assist local governmental entities and other

30 transit operators in the planning, development, and

31

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to WAGES program
3	transportation; amending s. 234.01, F.S.;
4	authorizing school districts to provide
5	transportation for WAGES participants; amending
6	s. 234.21, F.S.; providing for reimbursement
7	of school districts; amending s. 341.041, F.S.;
8	establishing responsibilities of the Department
9	of Transportation with respect to transit
10	services for WAGES participants; amending s.
11	341.052, F.S.; relating to duties of public
12	transit block grant recipients to coordinate
13	with local WAGES coalitions regarding
14	transportation services; deleting duplicative
15	provisions; amending s. 414.026, F.S.; revising
16	membership of the WAGES Program State Board of
17	Directors; amending s. 414.20, F.S.; clarifying
18	transportation options available to local WAGES
19	coalitions to assist WAGES participants;
20	creating s. 414.225, F.S.; providing for the
21	provision of transitional transportation for
22	former WAGES participants; amending s. 427.013,
23	F.S.; providing for the duties of the
24	Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged
25	regarding WAGES transportation; amending s.
26	427.0155, F.S.; providing for the duties of
27	community transportation coordinators regarding
28	WAGES transportation; amending s. 427.0157,
29	F.S.; providing for the duties of the local
30	coordinating boards regarding WAGES
31	transportation; providing an effective date.

1 (b) Costs of public bus transit service development
2 and transit corridor projects. Whenever block grant funds are
3 used for a service development project or a transit corridor
4 project, the use of such funds is governed by s. 341.051.
5 Local transit service development projects and transit
6 corridor projects currently operating under contract with the
7 department shall continue to receive state funds according to
8 the contract until such time as the contract expires. Transit
9 corridor projects, wholly within one county, meeting or
10 exceeding performance criteria as described in the contract
11 shall be continued by the transit provider at the same or a
12 higher level of service until such time as the department, the
13 M.P.O., and the service provider, agree to discontinue the
14 service. The provider may not increase fares for services in
15 transit corridor projects wholly within one county without the
16 consent of the department.
17 (c) Costs of public bus transit operations.
18
19 All projects must be consistent, to the maximum extent
20 feasible, with the approved local government comprehensive
21 plans of the units of local government comprehensive plans of
22 local government in which the project is located.
23 Section 5. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section
24 414.026, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
25 414.026 WAGES Program State Board of Directors. --
26 (2)(a) The board of directors shall be composed of the
27 following members:
28 1. The Commissioner of Education, or the
29 commissioner's designee.
30 2. The Secretary of Children and Family Services.
31 3. The Secretary of Health.

1 coordination of transit services for WAGS program

2 participants as defined in s. 414.0252.

3 Section 4. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 341.052, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

4 341.052 Public transit block grant program;

5 administration; eligible projects; limitation.--

6 (1) There is created a public transit block grant program which shall be administered by the department. Block grant funds shall only be provided to "Section 9" providers and "Section 18" providers designated by the United States Department of Transportation and community transportation coordinators as defined in chapter 427. Eligible providers must establish public transportation development plans consistent, to the maximum extent feasible, with approved local government comprehensive plans of the units of local government in which the provider is located. In developing public transportation development plans, eligible providers must solicit comments from local WAGS coalitions established under chapter 414. The development plans must address how the public transit provider will work with the appropriate local WAGS coalition to provide services to WAGS participants. Eligible providers must review program and financial plans established under s. 414.028 and provide information to the local WAGS coalition serving the county in which the provider is located regarding the availability of transportation services to assist WAGS program participants.

7 (2) Costs for which public transit block grant program funds may be expended include:

8 (a) Costs of public bus transit and local public fixed guideway capital projects.

1 The members appointed by the Governor shall be appointed to
2 4-year, staggered terms. Within 60 days after a vacancy occurs
3 on the board, the Governor shall fill the vacancy of a member
4 appointed from the nominees submitted by the President of the
5 Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives for the
6 remainder of the unexpired term from one nominee submitted by
7 the President of the Senate and one nominee submitted by the
8 Speaker of the House of Representatives. Within 60 days after
9 a vacancy of a member appointed at-large by the Governor
10 occurs on the board, the Governor shall fill the vacancy for
11 the remainder of the unexpired term. The composition of the
12 board must generally reflect the racial, gender, and ethnic
13 diversity of the state as a whole.

14 Section 6. Subsection (1) of section 414.20, Florida
15 Statutes, is amended to read:

16 414.20 Other support services.--Support services shall
17 be provided, if resources permit, to assist participants in
18 complying with work activity requirements outlined in s.
19 414.065. If resources do not permit the provision of needed
20 support services, the department and the Department of Labor
21 and Employment Security may prioritize or otherwise limit
22 provision of support services. This section does not
23 constitute an entitlement to support services. Lack of
24 provision of support services may be considered as a factor in
25 determining whether good cause exists for failing to comply
26 with work activity requirements but does not automatically
27 constitute good cause for failing to comply with work activity
28 requirements, and does not affect any applicable time limit on
29 the receipt of temporary cash assistance or the provision of
30 services under this chapter. Support services shall include,
31 but need not be limited to:

1 4. The Secretary of Labor and Employment Security.

2 5. The Secretary of Community Affairs.

3 6. The Secretary of Transportation, or the secretary's
designee.

4
5 7.6- The director of the Office of Tourism, Trade, and
6 Economic Development.

7 8.7- The president of the Enterprise Florida workforce
8 development board, established under s. 288.9620.

9 9.8- The chief executive officer of the Florida
10 Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation, established under s.
11 288.1226.

12 10.9- Nine members appointed by the Governor, as
13 follows:

14 a. Six members shall be appointed from a list of ten
15 nominees, of which five must be submitted by the President of
16 the Senate and five must be submitted by the Speaker of the
17 House of Representatives. The list of five nominees submitted
18 by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
19 Representatives must each contain at least three individuals
20 employed in the private sector, two of whom must have
21 management experience. One of the five nominees submitted by
22 the President of the Senate and one of the five nominees
23 submitted by the Speaker of the House of Representatives must
24 be an elected local government official who shall serve as an
25 ex officio nonvoting member.

26 b. Three members shall be at-large members appointed
27 by the Governor.

28 c. Of the nine members appointed by the Governor, at
29 least six must be employed in the private sector and of these,
30 at least five must have management experience.

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1 427 regarding the availability and cost of transportation
 2 services through the coordinated transportation system prior
 3 to contracting for comparable transportation services outside
 4 the coordinated system. Support services funds may also be
 5 used to develop transportation resources to expand
 6 transportation options available to participants. These
 7 services may include cooperative arrangements with local
 8 transit authorities or school districts and small enterprise
 9 development.
 10 Section 7. Section 414.225, Florida Statutes, is
 11 created to read:
 12 414.225 Transitional Transportation.--In order to
 13 assist former WAGES participants in maintaining and sustaining
 14 employment, transportation may be provided for up to 1 year
 15 after the participant is no longer eligible to participate in
 16 the program, if funds are available. This does not constitute
 17 an entitlement to transitional transportation. If funds are
 18 not sufficient to provide services under this section, the
 19 department may limit or otherwise prioritize transportation
 20 services.
 21 (1) Transitional transportation must be job related.
 22 (2) Transitional transportation may include expenses
 23 identified in s. 414.20.
 24 Section 8. Subsection (27) is added to section
 25 427.013, Florida Statutes, to read:
 26 427.013 The Commission for the Transportation
 27 Disadvantaged; purpose and responsibilities.--The purpose of
 28 the commission is to accomplish the coordination of
 29 transportation services provided to the transportation
 30 disadvantaged. The goal of this coordination shall be to
 31 assure the cost-effective provision of transportation by

1 (1) TRANSPORTATION.--Transportation expenses may be
2 provided to any participant when the assistance is needed to
3 comply with work activity requirements or employment
4 requirements, including transportation to and from a child
5 care provider. Payment may be made in cash or tokens in
6 advance or through reimbursement paid against receipts or
7 invoices. Transportation services may include, but are not
8 limited to, cooperative arrangements with the following:
9 public transit providers; community transportation
10 coordinators designated under chapter 427, school districts,
11 churches and community centers; donated motor vehicle
12 programs, vanpools, and ridesharing programs; small enterprise
13 developments and entrepreneurial programs that encourage WAGES
14 participants to become transportation providers; public and
15 private transportation partnerships; and other innovative
16 strategies to expand transportation options available to
17 program participants.
18 (a) Local WAGES coalitions are authorized to provide
19 payment for vehicle operational and repair expenses, including
20 repair expenditures necessary to make a vehicle functional;
21 vehicle registration fees; driver's license fees; and
22 liability insurance for the vehicle for a period of up to 6
23 months. Request for vehicle repairs must be accompanied by an
24 estimate of the cost prepared by a repair facility registered
25 under s. 559.904.
26 (b) Transportation disadvantaged funds as defined in
27 chapter 427 do not include WAGES support services funds that
28 are used for the provision of transportation services for
29 WAGES program participants. It is the intent of the
30 Legislature that local WAGES coalitions consult with local
31 community transportation coordinators designated under chapter

1 shall provide each board with sufficient staff support and
 2 resources to enable the board to fulfill its responsibilities
 3 under this section. Each board shall meet at least quarterly
 4 and shall:
 5 (7) Work cooperatively with local WAGES coalitions
 6 established in chapter 414 to provide assistance in the
 7 development of innovative transportation services for WAGES
 8 participants.
 9 Section 11. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
 10 law.

SENATE SUMMARY

14 Relates to WAGES program transportation. Authorizes
 15 school districts to provide transportation for WAGES
 16 participants and provides for reimbursing the school
 17 districts. Establishes responsibilities of the Department
 18 of Transportation with respect to transit services for
 19 WAGES participants. Provides for duties of public transit
 20 block grant recipients to coordinate with local WAGES
 21 coalitions regarding transportation services. Revises the
 22 membership of the WAGES Program State Board of Directors.
 23 Clarifies the transportation options available to local
 24 WAGES coalitions to assist WAGES participants. Allows the
 25 provision of transitional transportation for former WAGES
 26 participants. Provides duties of the Commission for the
 27 Transportation Disadvantaged regarding WAGES
 28 transportation. Provides duties of the local coordinating
 29 boards regarding WAGES transportation.

1 qualified community transportation coordinators or
2 transportation operators for the transportation disadvantaged
3 without any bias or presumption in favor of multiplier
4 systems or not-for-profit transportation operators over single
5 operator systems or for-profit transportation operators. In
6 carrying out this purpose, the commission shall:

7 (27) Ensure that local community transportation
coordinators work cooperatively with local WAGES coalitions
established in chapter 414 to provide assistance in the
development of innovative transportation services for WAGES
participants.

12 Section 9. Subsection (9) is added to section
13 427.0155, Florida Statutes, to read:

14 427.0155 Community transportation coordinators; powers
15 and duties.—Community transportation coordinators shall have
16 the following powers and duties:

17 (9) Work cooperatively with local WAGES coalitions
established in chapter 414 to provide assistance in the
development of innovative transportation services for WAGES
participants.

21 Section 10. Subsection (7) is added to section
22 427.0157, Florida Statutes, to read:

23 427.0157 Coordinating boards; powers and duties.—The
24 purpose of each coordinating board is to develop local service
25 needs and to provide information, advice, and direction to the
26 community transportation coordinators on the coordination of
27 services to be provided to the transportation disadvantaged.
28 The commission shall, by rule, establish the membership of
29 coordinating boards. The members of each board shall be
30 appointed by the metropolitan planning organization or
31 designated official planning agency. The appointing authority

CODING: words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

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CODING: words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions;

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

2

3 Section 1. Paragraph (g) is added to subsection (1) of

4 section 234.01, Florida Statutes, to read:

5 234.01 Purpose; transportation; when provided.---

6 (1) School boards, after considering recommendations

7 of the superintendent:

8 (g) May provide transportation for WAGES program

9 participants as defined in s. 414.0252.

10 Section 2. Present paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of

11 section 234.211, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as

12 paragraph (c), and a new paragraph (b) is added to that

13 subsection to read:

14 234.211 Use of school buses for public purposes.---

15 (1)

16 (b) Each school district may enter into agreements

17 with local WAGES coalitions for the provision of

18 transportation services to WAGES program participants as

19 defined in s. 414.0252. Agreements must provide for

20 reimbursement in full or in part for the proportionate share

21 of fixed and operating costs incurred by the school district

22 attributable to the use of buses in accordance with the

23 agreement.

24 Section 3. Subsection (13) is added to section

25 341.041, Florida Statutes, to read:

26 341.041 Transit responsibilities of the

27 department.--The department shall, within the resources

28 provided pursuant to chapter 216:

29 (13) Assist local governmental entities and other

30 transit operators in the planning, development, and

31

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to WAGES program

transportation; amending s. 234.01, F.S.;

authorizing school districts to provide

transportation for WAGES participants; amending

s. 234.211, F.S.; providing for reimbursement

of school districts; amending s. 341.041, F.S.;

establishing responsibilities of the Department

of Transportation with respect to transit

services for WAGES participants; amending s.

341.052, F.S.; relating to duties of public

transit block grant recipients to coordinate

with local WAGES coalitions regarding

transportation services; deleting duplicative

provisions; amending s. 414.026, F.S.; revising

membership of the WAGES Program State Board of

Directors; amending s. 414.20, F.S.; clarifying

transportation options available to local WAGES

coalitions to assist WAGES participants;

creating s. 414.225, F.S.; providing for the

provision of transitional transportation for

former WAGES participants; amending s. 427.013,

F.S.; providing for the duties of the

Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged

regarding WAGES transportation; amending s.

427.0155, F.S.; providing for the duties of

community transportation coordinators regarding

WAGES transportation; amending s. 427.0157,

F.S.; providing for the duties of the local

coordinating boards regarding WAGES

transportation; providing an effective date.

1 (b) Costs of public bus transit service development
2 and transit corridor projects. Whenever block grant funds are
3 used for a service development project or a transit corridor
4 project, the use of such funds is governed by s. 341.051.
5 Local transit service development projects and transit
6 corridor projects currently operating under contract with the
7 department shall continue to receive state funds according to
8 the contract until such time as the contract expires. Transit
9 corridor projects, wholly within one county, meeting or
10 exceeding performance criteria as described in the contract
11 shall be continued by the transit provider at the same or a
12 higher level of service until such time as the department, the
13 M.P.O., and the service provider, agree to discontinue the
14 service. The provider may not increase fares for services in
15 transit corridor projects wholly within one county without the
16 consent of the department.
17 (c) Costs of public bus transit operations.
18
19 All projects must ~~shall~~ be consistent, to the maximum extent
20 feasible, with the approved local government comprehensive
21 plans of the units of local government comprehensive plans of
22 local government in which the project is located.
23 Section 5. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section
24 414.026, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
25 414.026 WAGES Program State Board of Directors.---
26 (2)(a) The board of directors shall be composed of the
27 following members:
28 1. The Commissioner of Education, or the
29 commissioner's designee.
30 2. The Secretary of Children and Family Services.
31 3. The Secretary of Health.

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

1 coordination of transit services for WAGES program
2 participants as defined in s. 414.0252.
3 Section 4. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 341.052,
4 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
5 341.052 Public transit block grant program;
6 administration; eligible projects; limitation.--
7 (1) There is created a public transit block grant
8 program which shall be administered by the department. Block
9 grant funds shall only be provided to "Section 9" providers
10 and "Section 18" providers designated by the United States
11 Department of Transportation and community transportation
12 coordinators as defined in chapter 427. Eligible providers
13 must establish public transportation development plans
14 consistent, to the maximum extent feasible, with approved
15 local government comprehensive plans of the units of local
16 government in which the provider is located. In developing
17 public transportation development plans, eligible providers
18 must solicit comments from local WAGES coalitions established
19 under chapter 414. The development plans must address how the
20 public transit provider will work with the appropriate local
21 WAGES coalition to provide services to WAGES participants.
22 Eligible providers must review program and financial plans
23 established under s. 414.028 and provide information to the
24 local WAGES coalition serving the county in which the provider
25 is located regarding the availability of transportation
26 services to assist WAGES program participants.
27 (2) Costs for which public transit block grant program
28 funds may be expended include:
29 (a) Costs of public bus transit and local public fixed
30 guideway capital projects.
31

1 The members appointed by the Governor shall be appointed to
2 4-year, staggered terms. Within 60 days after a vacancy occurs
3 on the board, the Governor shall fill the vacancy of a member
4 appointed from the nominees submitted by the President of the
5 Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives for the
6 remainder of the unexpired term from one nominee submitted by
7 the President of the Senate and one nominee submitted by the
8 Speaker of the House of Representatives. Within 60 days after
9 a vacancy of a member appointed at-large by the Governor
10 occurs on the board, the Governor shall fill the vacancy for
11 the remainder of the unexpired term. The composition of the
12 board must generally reflect the racial, gender, and ethnic
13 diversity of the state as a whole.

14 Section 6. Subsection (1) of section 414.20, Florida
15 Statutes, is amended to read:

16 414.20 Other support services.--Support services shall
17 be provided, if resources permit, to assist participants in
18 complying with work activity requirements outlined in s.
19 414.065. If resources do not permit the provision of needed
20 support services, the department and the Department of Labor
21 and Employment Security may prioritize or otherwise limit
22 provision of support services. This section does not
23 constitute an entitlement to support services. Lack of
24 provision of support services may be considered as a factor in
25 determining whether good cause exists for failing to comply
26 with work activity requirements but does not automatically
27 constitute good cause for failing to comply with work activity
28 requirements, and does not affect any applicable time limit on
29 the receipt of temporary cash assistance or the provision of
30 services under this chapter. Support services shall include,
31 but need not be limited to:

31
30 at least five must have management experience.
29 least six must be employed in the private sector and of these,
28 c. Of the nine members appointed by the Governor, at
27 by the Governor.
26 b. Three members shall be at-large members appointed
25 ex officio nonvoting member.
24 be an elected local government official who shall serve as an
23 submitted by the Speaker of the House of Representatives must
22 the president of the Senate and one of the five nominees
21 management experience. One of the five nominees submitted by
20 employed in the private sector, two of whom must have
19 Representatives must each contain at least three individuals
18 by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
17 House of Representatives. The list of five nominees submitted
16 the Senate and five must be submitted by the Speaker of the
15 nominees, of which five must be submitted by the President of
14 a. Six members shall be appointed from a list of ten
13 follows:
12 10.9 Nine members appointed by the Governor, as
11 288.1226.
10 Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation, established under s.
9 9.8 The chief executive officer of the Florida
8 development board, established under s. 288.9620.
7 8.7 The president of the Enterprise Florida workforce
6 Economic Development.
5 7.6 The director of the Office of Tourism, Trade, and
4 designee.
3 6. The Secretary of Transportation, or the secretary's
2 5. The Secretary of Community Affairs.
1 4. The Secretary of Labor and Employment Security.

1 427 regarding the availability and cost of transportation
2 services through the coordinated transportation system prior
3 to contracting for comparable transportation services outside
4 the coordinated system. Support services funds may also be
5 used to develop transportation resources to expand
6 transportation options available to participants. These
7 services may include cooperative arrangements with local
8 transit authorities or school districts and small enterprise
9 development.
10 Section 7. Section 414.225, Florida Statutes, is
11 created to read:
12 414.225 Transportation.--In order to
13 assist former WAGES participants in maintaining and sustaining
14 employment, transportation may be provided, if funds are
15 available, for up to 1 year after the participant is no longer
16 eligible to participate in the program due to earnings. This
17 does not constitute an entitlement to transitional
18 transportation. If funds are not sufficient to provide
19 services under this section, the department may limit or
20 otherwise prioritize transportation services.
21 (1) Transitional transportation must be job related.
22 (2) Transitional transportation may include expenses
23 identified in s. 414.20.
24 Section 8. Subsection (27) is added to section
25 427.013, Florida Statutes, to read:
26 427.013 The Commission for the Transportation
27 Disadvantaged; purpose and responsibilities.--The purpose of
28 the commission is to accomplish the coordination of
29 transportation services provided to the transportation
30 disadvantaged. The goal of this coordination shall be to
31 assure the cost-effective provision of transportation by

(1) TRANSPORTATION.--Transportation expenses may be provided to any participant when the assistance is needed to comply with work activity requirements or employment requirements, including transportation to and from a child care provider. Payment may be made in cash or tokens in advance or through reimbursement paid against receipts or invoices. Transportation services may include, but are not limited to, cooperative arrangements with the following:

9 public transit providers; community transportation coordinators designated under chapter 427; school districts, churches and community centers; donated motor vehicle programs, vanpools, and ridesharing programs; small enterprise developments and entrepreneurial programs that encourage WAGES participants to become transportation providers; public and private transportation partnerships; and other innovative strategies to expand transportation options available to program participants.

18 (a) Local WAGES coalitions are authorized to provide payment for vehicle operational and repair expenses, including repair expenditures necessary to make a vehicle functional; vehicle registration fees; driver's license fees; and liability insurance for the vehicle for a period of up to 6 months. Request for vehicle repairs must be accompanied by an estimate of the cost prepared by a repair facility registered under s. 559.904.

26 (b) Transportation disadvantaged funds as defined in chapter 427 do not include WAGES support services funds that are used for the provision of transportation services for WAGES program participants. It is the intent of the legislature that local WAGES coalitions consult with local community transportation coordinators designated under chapter

1 shall provide each board with sufficient staff support and
 2 resources to enable the board to fulfill its responsibilities
 3 under this section. Each board shall meet at least quarterly
 4 and shall:
 5 (7) work cooperatively with local WAGES coalitions
 6 established in chapter 414 to provide assistance in the
 7 development of innovative transportation services for WAGES
 8 participants.

9 Section 11. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
 10 law.

12 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
 13 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
 14 SB 666

15 The CS provides that transitional employment transportation
 16 may be provided for up to 12 months for former WAGES
 17 participants who, do to earnings, are no longer eligible to
 18 participate in the WAGES program

31 designated official planning agency. The appointing authority
30 appointed by the metropolitan planning organization or
29 coordinating boards. The members of each board shall be
28 The commission shall, by rule, establish the membership of
27 services to be provided to the transportation disadvantaged.
26 community transportation coordinators on the coordination of
25 needs and to provide information, advice, and direction to the
24 purpose of each coordinating board is to develop local service
23 ~~427.0157 Coordinating boards; powers and duties.--The~~
22 ~~427.0157, Florida Statutes, to read:~~
21 Section 10. Subsection (7) is added to section
20 participants.
19 ~~development of innovative transportation services for WAGES~~
18 ~~established in chapter 414 to provide assistance in the~~
17 ~~(9) Work cooperatively with local WAGES coalitions~~
16 the following powers and duties:
15 and duties.--Community transportation coordinators shall have
14 ~~427.0155 Community transportation coordinators; powers~~
13 ~~427.0155, Florida Statutes, to read:~~
12 Section 9. Subsection (9) is added to section
11 participants.
10 ~~development of innovative transportation services for WAGES~~
9 ~~established in chapter 414 to provide assistance in the~~
8 ~~coordinators work cooperatively with local WAGES coalitions~~
7 ~~(27) Ensure that local community transportation~~
6 carrying out this purpose, the commission shall:
5 operator systems or for-profit transportation operators. In
4 systems or not-for-profit transportation operators over single
3 without any bias or presumption in favor of multioperator
2 transportation operators for the transportation disadvantaged
1 qualified community transportation coordinators or

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1 An employed worker may not be displaced,
2 completely or partially; conditions of a person's employment
3 may not be changed; and hours of nonovertime work, wages, or
4 employment benefits may not be reduced because of the
5 assignment or employment of a WAGES participant.
6 (2) A WAGES participant may not be assigned to an
7 activity or employed in a position if:
8 (a) Another person is laid off from the same or a
9 substantially equivalent job within the same organizational
10 unit.
11 (b) The position is vacant as a result of a strike,
12 lockout, or any other labor dispute.
13 (c) An employer has created a vacancy or terminated an
14 existing employee without good cause, or otherwise reduced the
15 workforce, with the effect of filling that position with a
16 WAGES participant.
17 (3) The assignment or employment of a WAGES
18 participant may not impair any contract for services or any
19 collective bargaining agreement in existence on the date of
20 the assignment or employment.
21 (4) The assignment or employment of a WAGES
22 participant may not infringe in any way upon the promotional
23 opportunities of any person employed within the same
24 organizational unit at the time of the assignment or
25 employment.
26 Section 2. Subsection (1) is added to section
27 414.105, Florida Statutes, to read:
28 414.105 Time limitations of temporary cash
29 assistance.--Unless otherwise expressly provided in this
30 chapter, an applicant or current participant shall receive
31 temporary cash assistance for episodes of not more than 24

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the WAGES program; amending
3 s. 414.065, F.S.; providing protections for
4 current employees with respect to the
5 assignment or employment of participants in the
6 WAGES program; prohibiting displacing or
7 terminating an existing employee if the
8 position is filled with a WAGES participant;
9 prohibiting the impairment of a contract or
10 collective bargaining agreement as a result of
11 the assignment or employment of a WAGES
12 participant; amending s. 414.105, F.S.,
13 relating to time limitations of temporary cash
14 assistance; extending the time limitations if
15 the local WAGES coalition determines and the
16 State Board of Directors certifies that the
17 WAGES program is not fully implemented in the
18 service area; providing an effective date.
19
20 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the state of Florida:
21
22 Section 1. Subsection (12) is added to section
23 414.065, Florida Statutes, to read:
24 414.065 Work requirements.--
25 (12) PROTECTION FOR CURRENT EMPLOYEES.--In
26 establishing and contracting for work experience and community
27 service activities, other work experience activities,
28 on-the-job training, subsidized employment, and work
29 supplementation under the WAGES program, the following shall
30 apply:

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1 cumulative months in any consecutive 60-month period that
 2 begins with the first month of participation and for not more
 3 than a lifetime cumulative total of 48 months as an adult.
 4 (11) If a local WAGES coalition determines that the
 5 WAGES program was not fully implemented in its service area
 6 during any month or portion thereof, and such determination is
 7 certified by the WAGES Program State Board of Directors, an
 8 equal number of days shall be added to the time limitations
 9 provided in this section. In making this determination, the
 10 local WAGES coalition may consider whether work activities and
 11 support services, including, but not limited to, child care,
 12 were available to the individuals subject to the time
 13 limitation during the period in which the program was not
 14 fully implemented.
 15 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
 16 law.

SENATE SUMMARY

20 Prohibits assigning or employing a WAGES participant in
 21 fulfillment of the work activity requirements of the
 22 program if the result of such assignment or employment is
 23 to displace or terminate the position of a current
 24 employee. Requires that the local WAGES coalition extend
 25 the time that a program participant is eligible to
 26 receive temporary cash assistance if the coalition
 27 determines and the State Board of Directors certifies
 28 that the WAGES program is not fully implemented in the
 29 service area.

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See HB

8-1369-98

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the WAGES Program; creating
3 s. 414.155, F.S.; providing a relocation
4 assistance program for families receiving or
5 eligible to receive WAGES Program assistance;
6 providing responsibilities of the Department of
7 Children and Family Services; providing for a
8 relocation plan and for monitoring of the
9 relocation; requiring agreements restricting
10 application for temporary cash assistance for a
11 specified period; providing exceptions;
12 requiring repayment of temporary cash
13 assistance provided under certain
14 circumstances, and reduced eligibility for
15 future assistance; providing an effective date.
16
17 Be it Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
18
19 Section 1. Section 414.155, Florida Statutes, is
20 created to read:
21 414.155 Relocation assistance program.—
22 (1) The Legislature recognizes that the need for
23 public assistance may arise because a family is located in an
24 area with limited employment opportunities, because of
25 geographic isolation, because of formidable transportation
26 barriers, because of isolation from their extended family, or
27 because domestic violence interferes with the ability of a
28 parent to maintain self-sufficiency. Accordingly there is
29 established a program to assist families in relocating to
30 communities with greater opportunities for self-sufficiency.
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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the WAGES Program; creating s. 414.155, F.S.; providing a relocation assistance program for families receiving or eligible to receive WAGES Program assistance; providing responsibilities of the Department of Children and Family Services and the Department of Labor and Employment Security; providing for a relocation plan and for monitoring of the relocation; requiring agreements restricting application for temporary cash assistance for a specified period; providing exceptions; requiring repayment of temporary cash assistance provided under certain circumstances, and reduced eligibility for future assistance; providing rulemaking authority for the Department of Children and Family Services and the Department of Labor and Employment Security; providing legislative intent with respect to encouraging the employment of participants in the WAGES Program; requiring the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development to certify to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives the amount of taxes and the economic benefit generated by the restaurant industry from employing WAGES participants and to add that amount to the total amount of certain beverage taxes and penalties paid during a specified calendar year; providing for the repeal of s. 561.501,

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1 s. 234.211, F.S.; providing for reimbursement
 2 of school districts; amending s. 341.041, F.S.;
 3 establishing responsibilities of the Department
 4 of Transportation with respect to transit
 5 services for WAGES participants; amending s.
 6 341.052, F.S.; relating to duties of public
 7 transit block grant recipients to coordinate
 8 with local WAGES coalitions regarding
 9 transportation services; deleting duplicative
 10 provisions; amending s. 414.026, F.S.; revising
 11 membership of the WAGES Program State Board of
 12 Directors; amending s. 414.20, F.S.; clarifying
 13 transportation options available to local WAGES
 14 coalitions to assist WAGES participants;
 15 amending s. 414.25, F.S.; extending the
 16 exemption from leased real property
 17 requirements for the WAGES Program to June 30,
 18 1999; creating s. 414.225, F.S.; providing for
 19 the provision of transitional transportation
 20 for former WAGES participants; amending s.
 21 427.013, F.S.; providing for the duties of the
 22 Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged
 23 regarding WAGES transportation; amending s.
 24 427.0155, F.S.; providing for the duties of
 25 community transportation coordinators regarding
 26 WAGES transportation; amending s. 427.0157,
 27 F.S.; providing for the duties of the local
 28 coordinating boards regarding WAGES
 29 transportation; amending s. 212.096, F.S.;
 30 expanding enterprise zone sales tax credit to
 31 JTPA or WAGES Program participants not residing

1 in an enterprise zone; requiring documentation;
 2 amending s. 220.03, F.S.; expanding enterprise
 3 zone corporate tax credit to JTPA or WAGES
 4 Program participants not residing in an
 5 enterprise zone; amending s. 220.161, F.S.;
 6 requiring documentation; amending s. 288.047,
 7 F.S.; creating a Quick-response Training
 8 Program for WAGES participants; providing
 9 requirements; creating s. 414.155, F.S.;
 10 providing a relocation assistance program for
 11 families receiving or eligible to receive WAGES
 12 Program assistance; providing responsibilities
 13 of the Department of Children and Family
 14 Services and the Department of Labor and
 15 Employment Security; providing for a relocation
 16 plan and for monitoring of the relocation;
 17 requiring agreements restricting application
 18 for temporary cash assistance for a specified
 19 period; providing exceptions; requiring
 20 repayment of temporary cash assistance provided
 21 under certain circumstances, and reduced
 22 eligibility for future assistance; providing
 23 authority for rules; providing appropriations;
 24
 25 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
 26
 27 Section 1. Present subsection (4) of section 414.026,
 28 Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (6) and
 29 amended, and new subsection (4) is added to that section, to
 30 read:
 31 414.026 WAGES Program State Board of Directors.--

1 An act relating to the WAGES Program; amending
 2 s. 414.026, F.S.; requiring that the WAGES
 3 Program State Board of Directors approve any
 4 WAGES-related proposed administrative rules;
 5 requiring collaboration with the WAGES State
 6 Board concerning other actions by the Workforce
 7 Development Board of Enterprise Florida, Inc.,
 8 and state agencies; extending the existence of
 9 the WAGES Program State Board of Directors;
 10 amending s. 414.028, F.S.; revising
 11 requirements for a member of a local WAGES
 12 coalition in the case of a conflict of
 13 interest; providing requirements for disclosing
 14 any such conflict; providing for certain
 15 nonvoting members to be appointed to a local
 16 coalition; requiring a local coalition to
 17 deliver certain services under the WAGES
 18 Program; providing for staff support for local
 19 coalitions; requiring that the program and
 20 financial plan developed by a local WAGES
 21 coalition include provisions for providing
 22 services for victims of domestic violence and
 23 describing development of the plan; creating s.
 24 414.030, F.S.; creating a process for fostering
 25 the development or completion of certain WAGES
 26 Program Employment Projects, providing duties
 27 and requirements; amending s. 414.065, F.S.;
 28 deleting provisions that require an employer to
 29 repay certain supplements or incentives under
 30 specified circumstances; creating a WAGES
 31

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1 training bonus to be paid to an employer who
 2 hires certain program participants; providing
 3 protection for current employees; providing an
 4 exception from the work requirements for
 5 certain individuals at risk of domestic
 6 violence; providing an exception for a
 7 specified period for certain individuals
 8 impaired by past incidents of domestic
 9 violence, under certain circumstances; amending
 10 s. 414.105, F.S.; providing that an individual
 11 who cares for a disabled family member is
 12 exempt from certain time limitations;
 13 permitting domestic violence victims to be
 14 granted hardship exemptions not subject to
 15 certain percentage limitations, under specified
 16 circumstances; providing legislative intent;
 17 amending s. 414.0252, F.S.; providing
 18 definitions; amending s. 414.095, F.S.;
 19 allowing certain individuals to qualify as
 20 noncitizens for purpose of the WAGES Program,
 21 allowing WAGES participants to receive
 22 information regarding domestic violence support
 23 services, providing that risk of domestic
 24 violence is good cause for not cooperating with
 25 paternity establishment; amending s. 414.115,
 26 F.S.; providing that limited temporary cash
 27 assistance provisions do not apply to certain
 28 circumstances resulting from rape, incest, or
 29 sexual exploitation; amending s. 234.01, F.S.;
 30 authorizing school districts to provide
 31 transportation for WAGES participants; amending

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1 disclose any such conflict in a manner that is approved by the
2 WAGES Program State Board of Directors and is consistent with
3 the procedures outlined in s. 112.3142. A representative of an
4 agency or entity that could benefit financially from funds
5 appropriated under the WAGES Program may not be a member of a
6 local WAGES coalition.
7 (c) A member of the board of a public or private
8 educational institution may not serve as a member of a local
9 WAGES coalition.
10 (d) A representative of any county or municipal
11 governing body that elects to provide services through the
12 local WAGES coalition shall be an ex officio, nonvoting member
13 of the coalition.
14 (e) A representative of a county health department or
15 a representative of a healthy start coalition shall serve as
16 an ex officio, nonvoting member of the coalition.
17 (f) This subsection does not prevent a local WAGES
18 coalition from extending regular, voting membership to not
19 more than one representative of a county health department and
20 not more than one representative of a healthy start coalition.
21 (2) A local WAGES coalition and a regional workforce
22 development board may be combined into one board if the
23 membership complies with subsection (1), and if the membership
24 of the combined board meets the requirements of Pub. L. No.
25 97-300, the federal Job Training Partnership Act, as amended,
26 and with any law delineating the membership requirements for
27 the regional workforce development boards. Notwithstanding
28 paragraph (1)(b) in a region in which the duties of the two
29 boards are combined, a person may be a member of the WAGES
30 coalition even if the member or the member's principal could
31 benefit financially from transactions of the coalition

1 ~~However, members must recuse themselves from voting on all~~
2 ~~matters from which they or their principals could benefit~~
3 ~~financially. Failure to recuse on any such vote will~~
4 ~~constitute grounds for immediate removal from the local WAGES~~
5 ~~coalition.~~
6 (3) The statewide implementation plan prepared by the
7 WAGES Program State Board of Directors shall prescribe and
8 publish the process for chartering the local WAGES coalitions.
9 (4) Each local WAGES coalition shall perform the
10 planning, coordination, and oversight functions specified in
11 the statewide implementation plan, including, but not limited
12 to:
13 (a) Developing a program and financial plan to achieve
14 the performance outcomes specified by the WAGES Program State
15 Board of Directors for current and potential program
16 participants in the service area. The plan must reflect the
17 needs of service areas for seed money to create programs that
18 assist children of WAGES participants. The plan must also
19 include provisions for providing services for victims of
20 domestic violence.
21 (b) Developing a funding strategy to implement the
22 program and financial plan which incorporates resources from
23 all principal funding sources.
24 (c) Identifying employment, service, and support
25 resources in the community which may be used to fulfill the
26 performance outcomes of the WAGES Program.
27 (d) In cooperation with the regional workforce
28 development board, coordinating the implementation of one-stop
29 career centers.
30 (e) Advising the Department of Children and Family
31 Services and the Department of Labor and Employment Security

1 (4) The WAGES Program State Board of Directors must
 2 approve the WAGES State Plan, the operating budget and any
 3 amendments thereto, and any WAGES-related proposed
 4 administrative rules. In addition, state agencies charged by
 5 law with implementation of the WAGES Program and the Workforce
 6 Development Board of Enterprise Florida, Inc., shall
 7 collaborate with the staff of the WAGES Program State Board of
 8 Directors on all WAGES-related policies, requests for
 9 proposals, and related directives.

10 (5)(4) This section expires June 30, 2002 4999, and
 11 shall be reviewed by the Legislature prior to that date. In
 12 its review, the Legislature shall assess the status of the
 13 WAGES Program and shall determine if the responsibility for
 14 administering the program should be transferred to other state
 15 agencies.

16 Section 2. Section 414.028, Florida Statutes, is
 17 amended to read:

18 414.028 Local WAGES coalitions.--The WAGES Program
 19 State Board of Directors shall create and charter local WAGES
 20 coalitions to plan and coordinate the delivery of services
 21 under the WAGES Program at the local level. The boundaries of
 22 the service area for a local WAGES coalition shall conform to
 23 the boundaries of the service area for the regional workforce
 24 development board established under the Enterprise Florida
 25 workforce development board. The local delivery of services
 26 under the WAGES Program shall be coordinated, to the maximum
 27 extent possible, with the local services and activities of the
 28 local service providers designated by the regional workforce
 29 development boards.

30 (1)(a) Each local WAGES coalition must have a minimum
 31 of 11 members, of which at least one-half must be from the

1 business community. The composition of the coalition
 2 membership must generally reflect the racial, gender, and
 3 ethnic diversity of the community as a whole. All members
 4 shall be appointed to 3-year terms. The membership of each
 5 coalition must include:
 6 1. Representatives of the principal entities that
 7 provide funding for the employment, education, training, and
 8 social service programs that are operated in the service area,
 9 including, but not limited to, representatives of local
 10 government, the regional workforce development board, and the
 11 United Way.
 12 2. A representative of the health and human services
 13 board.
 14 3. A representative of a community development board.
 15 4. Three representatives of the business community who
 16 represent a diversity of sizes of businesses.
 17 5. Representatives of other local planning,
 18 coordinating, or service-delivery entities.
 19 6. A representative of a grassroots community or
 20 economic development organization that serves the poor of the
 21 community.

22 (b) A person may be a member of a local WAGES
 23 coalition or a combined WAGES coalition as provided in
 24 subsection (2) regardless of whether the member, or an
 25 organization represented by a member, could benefit
 26 financially from transactions of the coalition. However, if
 27 the coalition enters into a contract with an organization or
 28 individual represented on the coalition, the contract must be
 29 approved by a two-thirds vote of the entire board, and the
 30 board member who could benefit financially from the
 31 transaction must abstain from voting. A board member must

1 the WAGES Program State Board of Directors. Should career
 2 service employees of the Department of Labor and Employment
 3 Security be subject to layoff due to the local WAGES
 4 coalitions taking over the delivery of such services, such
 5 employees shall be given priority consideration for employment
 6 by the local WAGES coalitions. The local coalition's
 7 transition plan shall provide for the utilization of space
 8 leased by the Department of Labor and Employment Security for
 9 WAGES service functions. By October 1, 1998, the coalition
 10 may have negotiated and entered into new lease agreements or
 11 subleased for said space from the Department of Labor and
 12 Employment Security. In the event the coalition does not
 13 utilize the Department of Labor and Employment Security leased
 14 space, the Department of Labor and Employment Security shall
 15 not be obligated to pay under any lease agreement for WAGES
 16 services entered into by the Department since July 1, 1996.
 17 (6)(5) The WAGES Program State Board of Directors may
 18 not approve the program and financial plan of a local
 19 coalition unless the plan provides a teen pregnancy prevention
 20 component that includes, but is not necessarily limited to, a
 21 plan for implementing the Florida Education Now and Babies
 22 Later (ENABL) program under s. 411.242 and the Teen Pregnancy
 23 Prevention Community Initiative within each county segment of
 24 the service area in which the teen childhood birth rate is
 25 higher than the state average. Each local WAGES coalition is
 26 authorized to fund community-based welfare prevention and
 27 reduction initiatives that increase the support provided by
 28 noncustodial parents to their welfare-dependent children and
 29 are consistent with program and financial guidelines developed
 30 by the WAGES Program State Board of Directors and the
 31 Commission on Responsible Fatherhood. These initiatives may

1 include, but are not limited to, improved paternity
 2 establishment, work activities for noncustodial parents, and
 3 programs aimed at decreasing out-of-wedlock pregnancies,
 4 encouraging the involvement of fathers with their children,
 5 and increasing child-support payments.
 6 (7)(6) At the option of the local WAGES coalition,
 7 local employees of the department and the Department of Labor
 8 and Employment Security shall provide staff support for the
 9 local WAGES coalitions. At the option of the local WAGES
 10 coalition, staff support may be provided by another agency, or
 11 entity, or by contract if it can be provided at no cost to the
 12 state and if the support is not provided by an agency or other
 13 entity that could benefit financially from funds appropriated
 14 to implement the WAGES Program.
 15 (8)(7) There shall be no liability on the part of, and
 16 no cause of action of any nature shall arise against, any
 17 member of a local WAGES coalition or its employees or agents
 18 for any lawful action taken by them in the performance of
 19 their powers and duties under this section and s. 414.029.
 20 Section 3. Section 414.030, Florida Statutes, is
 21 created to read:
 22 414.030 WAGES Program Employment Projects.--
 23 (1) The Legislature finds that the success of the
 24 WAGES Program depends upon the existence of sufficient
 25 employment opportunities compatible with the education and
 26 skill levels of participants in the WAGES Program. The
 27 Legislature further finds that extraordinary assistance may
 28 need to be granted for certain economic development projects
 29 that can have a great impact on the employment of WAGES
 30 participants. It is the intent of the Legislature to
 31 authorize the Governor and local governments to marshal state

1 with respect to the competitive procurement of services under
 2 the WAGES Program.
 3 (f) Selecting an entity to administer the program and
 4 financial plan, such as a unit of a political subdivision
 5 within the service area, a not-for-profit private organization
 6 or corporation, or any other entity agreed upon by the local
 7 WAGES coalition.
 8 (g) Developing a plan for services for victims of
 9 domestic violence.
 10 1. The WAGES Program State Board of Directors shall
 11 specify requirements for the local plan, including:
 12 a. Criteria for determining eligibility for exceptions
 13 to state work requirements;
 14 b. The programs and services to be offered to victims
 15 of domestic violence;
 16 c. Time limits for exceptions to program requirements,
 17 which may not result in an adult participant exceeding the
 18 federal time limit for exceptions or the state lifetime
 19 benefit limit that the participant would otherwise be entitled
 20 to receive; and
 21 d. An annual report on domestic violence, including
 22 the progress made in reducing domestic violence as a barrier
 23 to self-sufficiency among WAGES participants, local policies
 24 and procedures for granting exceptions and exemptions from
 25 program requirements due to domestic violence, and the number
 26 and percentage of cases in which such exceptions and
 27 exemptions are granted.
 28 2. Each local WAGES coalition plan must specify
 29 provisions for coordinating and, where appropriate, delivering
 30 services, including:
 31

1 a. Provisions for the local coalition to coordinate
 2 with law enforcement agencies and social service agencies and
 3 organizations that provide services and protection to victims
 4 of domestic violence;
 5 b. Provisions for allowing participants access to
 6 domestic violence support services and ensuring that WAGES
 7 participants are aware of domestic violence shelters;
 8 hotlines, and other domestic violence services and policies;
 9 c. Designation of the agency that is responsible for
 10 determining eligibility for exceptions from program
 11 requirements due to domestic violence;
 12 d. Provisions that require each individual who is
 13 granted an exemption from program requirements due to domestic
 14 violence to participate in a program that prepares the
 15 individual for self-sufficiency and safety; and
 16 e. Where possible and necessary, provisions for job
 17 assignments and transportation arrangements that take maximum
 18 advantage of opportunities to preserve the safety of the
 19 victim of domestic violence and the victim's dependents.
 20 (5) By October 1, 1998, local WAGES coalitions shall
 21 deliver through one-stop career centers, the full continuum of
 22 services provided under the WAGES Program, including services
 23 that are provided at the point of application. The State WAGES
 24 Board may direct the Department of Labor and Employment
 25 Security to provide such services to WAGES participants if a
 26 local WAGES coalition is unable to provide services due to
 27 decertification. Local WAGES coalitions may not determine an
 28 individual's eligibility for temporary cash assistance and all
 29 education and training shall be provided through agreements
 30 with regional workforce development boards. The local WAGES
 31 coalitions shall develop a transition plan to be approved by

1 heads of the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic
 2 Development, Enterprise Florida, Inc., Institute of Food and
 3 Agricultural Science, the State Board of Community Colleges,
 4 the Division of Workforce Development of the Department of
 5 Education, State University System, and the Office of Planning
 6 and Budgeting shall select from within such organizations a
 7 person to be designated as the WAGES Program Employment
 8 Project Coordinator.
 9 (b) By October 1 of each year, each WAGES Program
 10 Employment Project Coordinator shall determine what resources
 11 are available at the organization to foster the development
 12 and completion of the economic development projects received
 13 pursuant to subsection (3). Each coordinator shall provide
 14 this determination to the Governor by October 1 of each year.
 15 (5)(a) By October 15 of each year, the Governor may,
 16 by executive order, designate these projects as WAGES Program
 17 Employment Projects, and direct the agencies to use the
 18 resources identified pursuant to subsection (4) to develop or
 19 complete such projects. The order shall direct such agencies
 20 to contract with the appropriate local WAGES coalition to
 21 develop or complete such projects.
 22 (b) Notwithstanding the eligibility provisions of s.
 23 403.973, the Governor may waive such eligibility requirements
 24 by executive order for projects that have been identified as
 25 needing expedited permitting.
 26 (c) To the extent that resources identified pursuant
 27 to subsection (4) have been appropriated by the Legislature
 28 for a specific purpose that does not allow for the expenditure
 29 of such resources on the projects, the Governor may use the
 30 budget amendment process in chapter 216 to request that these
 31

1 resources be released to the Governor's Office to accomplish
 2 the development or completion of the project.
 3 (d) Any executive order issued by the Governor
 4 pursuant to this section shall expire within 90 days, unless
 5 renewed for an additional 60 days by the Governor. However,
 6 no executive order may be issued by the Governor pursuant to
 7 this section for a period in excess of 150 days.
 8 (6) Each local WAGES coalition with jurisdiction over
 9 an area where a WAGES Program Employment Project has been
 10 designated by the Governor pursuant to subsection (5) shall
 11 enter into a contract with the appropriate local, state, or
 12 private entities to ensure that the project is developed and
 13 completed. Such contracts may include, but are not limited
 14 to, contracts with applicable state agencies, and businesses
 15 to provide training, education, and employment opportunities
 16 for WAGES participants.
 17 (7) By March 15 of each year, Enterprise Florida,
 18 Inc., shall submit to the state WAGES Board, the Governor, the
 19 President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of
 20 Representatives, the Senate Minority Leader, and the House
 21 Minority Leader a complete and detailed report that includes,
 22 but is not limited to, a description of the activities,
 23 expenditures, and projects undertaken pursuant to this
 24 section, and a description of what, if any, legislative action
 25 that may be necessary.
 26 (8)(a) The Auditor General may, pursuant to his or her
 27 own authority or at the direction of the Legislature, conduct
 28 a financial audit of the expenditure of resources pursuant to
 29 this section.
 30 (b) Prior to the 2000 Regular Session of the
 31 Legislature, the Office of Program Policy Analysis and

1 and local resources in a coordinated and timely manner to
 2 foster the development and completion of economic development
 3 projects that have been identified as having a great impact on
 4 the employment of WAGES participants.
 5 (2) By August 1 of each year, each local city and
 6 county economic development organizations in consultation with
 7 local WAGES coalitions, shall identify economic development
 8 projects that can have the greatest impact on employing WAGES
 9 participants in their areas. Each local economic development
 10 organization shall provide a prioritized list of no more than
 11 5 such projects to Enterprise Florida, Inc., by August 1 of
 12 each year. The organizations shall identify local resources
 13 that are available to foster the development and completion of
 14 each project.
 15 (3)(a) By September 1 of each year, Enterprise
 16 Florida, Inc., in consultation with the state WAGES Board
 17 shall review and prioritize the list of projects identified
 18 pursuant to subsection (2) using the following criteria:
 19 1. Areas with a high proportion of families who had
 20 already received cash assistance in three out of the previous
 21 five years at the time their time limit was established;
 22 2. Areas with a high proportion of families subject to
 23 the WAGES time limit headed by a parent who was under age 24
 24 at the time the time limit was established and who lacked high
 25 school or GED completion;
 26 3. Areas with a high proportion of families subject to
 27 the time limit who have used all of the available months of
 28 cash assistance since October 1996;
 29 4. Areas with a low ratio of new jobs per WAGES
 30 participants;
 31

1 5. Areas with a low ratio of job openings requiring
 2 less than a high school degree per WAGES participant;
 3 6. Areas with a high proportion of families subject to
 4 the time limit who are either within six months of the time
 5 limit or are receiving cash assistance under a period of
 6 hardship extension to the time limit;
 7 7. Areas with unusually high unemployment; and
 8 8. Areas identified as labor surplus areas using the
 9 criteria established by the U.S. Department of Labor
 10 Employment and Training Administration.
 11 (b) To the greatest extent possible, Enterprise
 12 Florida, Inc., shall foster the development or completion of
 13 the projects identified pursuant to paragraph (a) using
 14 existing state and local resources under the control of
 15 Enterprise Florida, Inc. To the extent that such projects
 16 cannot be developed or completed from resources available to
 17 Enterprise Florida, Inc., may identify and prioritize no more
 18 than 10 projects, of which no more than 3 may be located in
 19 Dade County, that need extraordinary state and local
 20 assistance. Enterprise Florida, Inc., shall provide the list
 21 of projects needing extraordinary assistance to the Governor
 22 and each WAGES Program Employment Project Coordinator
 23 designated pursuant to subsection (4) by September 1 of each
 24 year.
 25 (4)(a) By July 1, 1998, the heads of the Departments
 26 of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Labor and Employment
 27 Security, Community Affairs, Children and Family Services,
 28 Revenue, Business and Professional Regulation, Management
 29 Services, Military Affairs, Transportation, and Environmental
 30 Protection, and the Comptroller; the Auditor General; the
 31 executive director of each water management district; and the

1 3. Incentive payments.--The department and the
 2 Department of Labor and Employment Security may provide
 3 additional incentive payments to encourage employers to employ
 4 program participants. Incentive payments may include payments
 5 to encourage the employment of hard-to-place participants, in
 6 which case the amount of the payment shall be weighted
 7 proportionally to the extent to which the participant has
 8 limitations associated with the long-term receipt of welfare
 9 and difficulty in sustaining employment. In establishing
 10 incentive payments, the department and the Department of Labor
 11 and Employment Security shall consider the extent of prior
 12 receipt of welfare, lack of employment experience, lack of
 13 education, lack of job skills, and other appropriate factors.
 14 A participant who has complied with program requirements and
 15 who is approaching the time limit for receiving temporary cash
 16 assistance may be defined as "hard-to-place." Incentive
 17 payments may include payments in which an initial payment is
 18 made to the employer upon the employment of a participant, and
 19 the majority of the incentive payment is made after the
 20 employer retains the participant as a full-time employee for
 21 at least 12 months. An The incentive agreement may not be
 22 continued with any employer who exhibits a pattern of failing
 23 to provide participants with continued employment after the
 24 incentive payments cease must provide that if the employee is
 25 dismissed at any time within 12 months after termination of
 26 the incentive payment period due in any part to loss of the
 27 incentive the employer shall repay some or all of the payment
 28 previously paid as an incentive to the employer under the
 29 WAGES Program.
 30 4. Tax credits.--An employer who employs a program
 31 participant may qualify for enterprise zone property tax

1 credits under s. 220.182, the tax refund program for qualified
 2 target industry businesses under s. 288.106, or other federal
 3 or state tax benefits. The department and the Department of
 4 Labor and Employment Security shall provide information and
 5 assistance, as appropriate, to use such credits to accomplish
 6 program goals.
 7 5. WAGES training bonus.--An employer who hires a
 8 WAGES participant who has less than 6 months of eligibility
 9 for temporary cash assistance remaining and who pays the
 10 participant a wage that precludes the participant's
 11 eligibility for temporary cash assistance may receive \$240 for
 12 each full month of employment for a period that may not exceed
 13 3 months. An employer who receives a WAGES training bonus for
 14 an employee may not receive a work supplementation subsidy for
 15 the same employee. Employment is defined as 35 hours per week
 16 at a wage of no less than minimum wage.
 17 (7) EXCEPTIONS TO NONCOMPLIANCE PENALTIES.--The
 18 situations listed in this subsection shall constitute
 19 exceptions to the penalties for noncompliance with
 20 participation requirements, except that these situations do
 21 not constitute exceptions to the applicable time limit for
 22 receipt of temporary cash assistance:
 23 (a) Noncompliance related to child care.--Temporary
 24 cash assistance may not be terminated for refusal to
 25 participate in work activities if the individual is a single
 26 custodial parent caring for a child who has not attained 6
 27 years of age, and the adult proves to the department or to the
 28 Department of Labor and Employment Security an inability to
 29 obtain needed child care for one or more of the following
 30 reasons:
 31

1 Government Accountability, shall conduct a review of the
 2 projects developed or completed pursuant to this section. The
 3 review shall be comprehensive in its scope, but, at a minimum,
 4 must be conducted in a manner as to specifically determine:
 5 1. The impact the provisions contained in this section
 6 had on the development and completion of the projects
 7 identified pursuant to this section.
 8 2. Whether it would be sound public policy to continue
 9 or discontinue to foster the development or completion of
 10 projects using the processes provided in this section. The
 11 report shall be submitted by January 1, 2000, to the President
 12 of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives,
 13 the Senate Minority Leader, and the House Minority Leader.
 14 Section 4. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and
 15 subsection (7) of section 414.065, Florida Statutes, are
 16 amended and subsection (12) is added to that section to read:
 17 414.065 Work requirements.--
 18 (1) WORK ACTIVITIES.--The following activities may be
 19 used individually or in combination to satisfy the work
 20 requirements for a participant in the WAGES Program:
 21 (b) Subsidized private sector employment.--Subsidized
 22 private sector employment is employment in a private
 23 for-profit enterprise or a private not-for-profit enterprise
 24 which is directly supplemented by federal or state funds. A
 25 subsidy may be provided in one or more of the forms listed in
 26 this paragraph.
 27 1. Work supplementation.--A work supplementation
 28 subsidy diverts a participant's temporary cash assistance
 29 under the program to the employer. The employer must pay the
 30 participant wages that equal or exceed the applicable federal
 31 minimum wage. Work supplementation may not exceed 6 months. At

1 the end of the supplementation period, the employer is
 2 expected to retain the participant as a regular employee
 3 without receiving a subsidy for at least 12 months. A the work
 4 supplementation agreement may not be continued with any
 5 employer who exhibits a pattern of failing to provide
 6 participants with continued employment after the period of
 7 work supplementation ends must provide that if the employee is
 8 dismissed at any time within 12 months after termination of
 9 the supplementation period due in any part to loss of the
 10 supplement, the employer shall repay some or all of the
 11 supplement previously paid as a subsidy to the employer under
 12 the WAGES Program.
 13 2. On-the-job training.--On-the-job training is
 14 full-time, paid employment in which the employer or an
 15 educational institution in cooperation with the employer
 16 provides training needed for the participant to perform the
 17 skills required for the position. The employer or the
 18 educational institution on behalf of the employer receives a
 19 subsidy to offset the cost of the training provided to the
 20 participant. Upon satisfactory completion of the training, the
 21 employer is expected to retain the participant as a regular
 22 employee without receiving a subsidy. An the on-the-job
 23 training agreement may not be continued with any employer who
 24 exhibits a pattern of failing to provide participants with
 25 continued employment after the on-the-job training subsidy
 26 ends must provide that in the case of dismissal of a
 27 participant due to loss of the subsidy, the employer shall
 28 repay some or all of the subsidy previously provided by the
 29 department and the Department of Labor and Employment
 30 Security.
 31

1 (12) PROTECTION FOR CURRENT EMPLOYEES.--In
 2 establishing and contracting for work-experience and community
 3 service activities, other work-experience activities,
 4 on-the-job training, subsidized employment, and work
 5 supplementation under the WAGES Program, an employed worker
 6 may not be displaced, either completely or partially. A WAGES
 7 participant may not be assigned to an activity or employed in
 8 a position if the employer has created the vacancy or
 9 terminated an existing employee without good cause in order to
 10 fill that position with a WAGES Program participant.

11 Section 5. Section 414.105, Florida Statutes, is
 12 amended to read:

13 414.105 Time limitations of temporary cash
 14 assistance.--Unless otherwise expressly provided in this
 15 chapter, an applicant or current participant shall receive
 16 temporary cash assistance for episodes of not more than 24
 17 cumulative months in any consecutive 60-month period that
 18 begins with the first month of participation and for not more
 19 than a lifetime cumulative total of 48 months as an adult.

20 (1) The time limitation for episodes of temporary cash
 21 assistance may not exceed 36 cumulative months in any
 22 consecutive 72-month period that begins with the first month
 23 of participation and may not exceed a lifetime cumulative
 24 total of 48 months of temporary cash assistance as an adult,
 25 for cases in which the participant:

26 (a) Has received aid to families with dependent
 27 children or temporary cash assistance for any 36 months of the
 28 preceding 60 months; or

29 (b) Is a custodial parent under the age of 24 who:

30 1. Has not completed a high school education or its
 31 equivalent; or

1 2. Had little or no work experience in the preceding
 2 year.

3 (2) A participant who is not exempt from work activity
 4 requirements may earn 1 month of eligibility for extended
 5 temporary cash assistance, up to maximum of 12 additional
 6 months, for each month in which the participant is fully
 7 complying with the work activities of the WAGES Program
 8 through unsubsidized private sector employment. The period for
 9 which extended temporary cash assistance is granted shall be
 10 based upon compliance with WAGES Program requirements
 11 beginning October 1, 1996. A participant may not receive
 12 temporary cash assistance under this subsection, in
 13 combination with other periods of temporary cash assistance
 14 for longer than a lifetime limit of 48 months. Hardship
 15 exemptions to the time limitations of this chapter shall be
 16 limited to 10 percent of participants in the first year of
 17 implementation of this chapter, 15 percent of participants in
 18 the second year of implementation of this chapter, and 20
 19 percent of participants in all subsequent years. Criteria for
 20 hardship exemptions include:

21 (a) Diligent participation in activities, combined
 22 with inability to obtain employment.

23 (b) Diligent participation in activities, combined
 24 with extraordinary barriers to employment, including the
 25 conditions which may result in an exemption to work
 26 requirements.

27 (c) Significant barriers to employment, combined with
 28 a need for additional time.

29 (d) Diligent participation in activities and a need by
 30 teen parents for an exemption in order to have 24 months of
 31

1 1. Unavailability of appropriate child care within a
 2 reasonable distance from the individual's home or worksite.
 3 2. Unavailability or unsuitability of informal child
 4 care by a relative or under other arrangements.
 5 3. Unavailability of appropriate and affordable formal
 6 child care arrangements.
 7 (b) Noncompliance related to domestic violence.--An
 8 individual who is determined to be unable to comply with the
 9 work requirements because such compliance would make it
 10 probable that the individual would be unable to escape
 11 domestic violence shall be exempt from work requirements
 12 pursuant to s. 414.028(4)(g). However, the individual shall
 13 comply with a plan that specifies alternative requirements
 14 that prepare the individual for self-sufficiency while
 15 providing for the safety of the individual and the
 16 individual's dependents. An exception granted under this
 17 paragraph does not constitute an exception to the time
 18 limitations on benefits specified under s. 414.105.

19 (c) Noncompliance related to treatment or remediation
 20 of past effects of domestic violence.--An individual who is
 21 determined to be unable to comply with the work requirements
 22 under this section due to mental or physical impairment
 23 related to past incidents of domestic violence may be exempt
 24 from work requirements for a specified period pursuant to s.
 25 414.028(4)(g), except that such individual shall comply with a
 26 plan that specifies alternative requirements that prepare the
 27 individual for self-sufficiency while providing for the safety
 28 of the individual and the individual's dependents. The plan
 29 must include counseling or a course of treatment necessary for
 30 the individual to resume participation. The need for treatment
 31 and the expected duration of such treatment must be verified

1 by a physician licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459, a
 2 psychologist licensed under s. 490.005(1), s. 490.006, or the
 3 provision identified as s. 490.013(2) in s. 1, chapter 01-235,
 4 Laws of Florida, a therapist as defined in s. 491.003(2) or
 5 (6) or a treatment professional who is registered under s.
 6 415.605(1)(g), is authorized to maintain confidentiality under
 7 s. 90.5036(1)(d), and has a minimum of 2 years experience at a
 8 certified domestic violence center. An exception granted under
 9 this paragraph does not constitute an exception from the time
 10 limitations on benefits specified under s. 414.105.

11 (d)(b) Noncompliance related to medical
 12 incapacity.--If an individual cannot participate in assigned
 13 work activities due to a medical incapacity, the individual
 14 may be excused from the activity for a specific period,
 15 except that the individual shall be required to comply with
 16 the course of treatment necessary for the individual to resume
 17 participation. A participant may not be excused from work
 18 activity requirements unless the participant's medical
 19 incapacity is verified by a physician licensed under chapter
 20 458 or chapter 459, in accordance with procedures established
 21 by rule of the Department of Labor and Employment Security.

22 (e) Other good cause exceptions for
 23 noncompliance.--Individuals who are temporarily unable to
 24 participate due to circumstances beyond their control may be
 25 excused from the noncompliance penalties. The Department of
 26 Labor and Employment Security may define by rule situations
 27 that would constitute good cause. These situations must
 28 include caring for a disabled family member when the need for
 29 the care has been verified and alternate care is not
 30 available.

1 temporary cash assistance after the effective date of this
 2 act.
 3 (9)(f) Child-only cases are not subject to time
 4 limitations, and temporary cash assistance received while an
 5 individual is a minor child shall not count towards time
 6 limitations.
 7 (10)(9) An individual who receives benefits under the
 8 Supplemental Security Income program or the Social Security
 9 Disability Insurance program is not subject to time
 10 limitations.
 11 (11) A person who is totally responsible for the
 12 personal care of a disabled family member is not subject to
 13 time limitations if the need for the care is verified and
 14 alternative care is not available for the family member. The
 15 department shall annually evaluate an individual's
 16 qualifications for this exemption.
 17 (12)(t) A member of the WAGES Program staff shall
 18 interview and assess the employment prospects and barriers of
 19 each participant who is within 6 months of reaching the
 20 24-month time limit. The staff member shall assist the
 21 participant in identifying actions necessary to become
 22 employed prior to reaching the benefit time limit for
 23 temporary cash assistance and, if appropriate, shall refer the
 24 participant for services that could facilitate employment.
 25 Section 6. Present subsections (4), (5), (6), (7),
 26 (8), (9), and (10) of section 414.0252, Florida Statutes, are
 27 renumbered as subsections (5), (7), (8), (9), (10), (11), and
 28 (12) of that section, respectively, and new subsections (4)
 29 and (6) are added to that section, to read:
 30 414.0252 Definitions.--As used in ss. 414.015-414.45,
 31 the term:

1 (4) "Domestic violence" means any assault, aggravated
 2 assault, battery, aggravated battery, sexual assault, sexual
 3 battery, stalking, aggravated stalking, kidnapping, false
 4 imprisonment, or any criminal offense that results in the
 5 physical injury or death of one family or household member by
 6 another.
 7 (6) "Family or household member" means spouses, former
 8 spouses, noncohabitating partners, persons related by blood or
 9 marriage, persons who are presently residing together as if a
 10 family or who have resided together in the past as if a
 11 family, and persons who have a child in common regardless of
 12 whether they have been married or have resided together at any
 13 time.
 14 Section 7. Paragraph (g) is added to subsection (10)
 15 of section 414.095, Florida Statutes, and subsection (3) and
 16 paragraph (d) of subsection (15) of that section are amended
 17 to read:
 18 414.095 Determining eligibility for the WAGES
 19 Program.--
 20 (3) ELIGIBILITY FOR NONCITIZENS.--A "qualified
 21 noncitizen" is an individual who is lawfully present in the
 22 United States as a refugee or who is granted asylum under ss.
 23 207 and 208 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, an alien
 24 whose deportation is withheld under s. 243(h) of the
 25 Immigration and Nationality Act, or an alien who has been
 26 admitted as a permanent resident and meets specific criteria
 27 under federal law. In addition, a "qualified noncitizen"
 28 includes an individual who has been battered or subject to
 29 extreme cruelty in the United States by a spouse or a parent,
 30 and has applied for or received protection under the federal
 31 Violence Against Women Act of 1994, Pub. L. No. 103-322, if

1 eligibility beyond receipt of the high school diploma or
 2 equivalent.
 3 (e) A recommendation of extension for a minor child of
 4 a participating family that has reached the end of the
 5 eligibility period for temporary cash assistance. The
 6 recommendation must be the result of a review which determines
 7 that the termination of the child's temporary cash assistance
 8 would be likely to result in the child being placed into
 9 emergency shelter or foster care. Temporary cash assistance
 10 shall be provided through a protective payee. Staff of the
 11 Children and Families Family-Services Program Office of the
 12 department shall conduct all assessments in each case in which
 13 it appears a child may require continuation of temporary cash
 14 assistance through a protective payee.
 15

16 At the recommendation of the local WAGES coalition, temporary
 17 cash assistance under a hardship exemption for a participant
 18 who is eligible for work activities and who is not working
 19 shall be reduced by 10 percent. Upon the employment of the
 20 participant, full benefits shall be restored.
 21 (3) In addition to the exemptions listed in subsection
 22 (2), a victim of domestic violence may be granted a hardship
 23 exemption if the effects of such domestic violence delay or
 24 otherwise interrupt or adversely affect the individual's
 25 participation in the program. Hardship exemptions granted
 26 under this subsection shall not be subject to the percentage
 27 limitations in subsection (3).

28 (4)(g) The department shall establish a procedure for
 29 reviewing and approving hardship exemptions, and the local
 30 WAGES coalitions may assist in making these determinations.
 31 The composition of any review panel must generally reflect the

1 racial, gender, and ethnic diversity of the community as a
 2 whole. Members of a review panel shall serve without
 3 compensation, but are entitled to receive reimbursement for
 4 per diem and travel expenses as provided in s. 112.016.

5 (5)(f) The cumulative total of all hardship exemptions
 6 may not exceed 12 months, may include reduced benefits at the
 7 option of the community review panel, and shall, in
 8 combination with other periods of temporary cash assistance as
 9 an adult, total no more than 48 months of temporary cash
 10 assistance. If an individual fails to comply with program
 11 requirements during a hardship exemption period, the hardship
 12 exemption shall be removed.

13 (6)(b) For individuals who have moved from another
 14 state and have legally resided in this state for less than 12
 15 months, the time limitation for temporary cash assistance
 16 shall be the shorter of the respective time limitations used
 17 in the two states, and months in which temporary cash
 18 assistance was received under a block grant program that
 19 provided temporary assistance for needy families in any state
 20 shall count towards the cumulative 48-month benefit limit for
 21 temporary cash assistance.

22 (7)(f) For individuals subject to a time limitation
 23 under the Family Transition Act of 1993, that time limitation
 24 shall continue to apply. Months in which temporary cash
 25 assistance was received through the family transition program
 26 shall count towards the time limitations under this chapter.

27 (8)(f) Except when temporary cash assistance was
 28 received through the family transition program, the
 29 calculation of the time limitation for temporary cash
 30 assistance shall begin with the first month of receipt of
 31

1 414.115 Limited temporary cash assistance for children
 2 born to families receiving temporary cash assistance.--
 3 (2) Subsection (1) does not apply:
 4 (a) To a program participant who is a victim of rape
 5 or incest if the victim files a police report on the rape or
 6 incest within 30 days after the incident;
 7 (b) To a program participant who is confirmed by the
 8 Title IV-D child support agency as having been granted an
 9 exemption from participating in requirements for the
 10 enforcement of child support due to circumstances consistent
 11 with the conception of the child as a result of rape, incest,
 12 or sexual exploitation. A child for whom an exemption is
 13 claimed under this paragraph and for whom an application has
 14 been made for a good-cause exemption from the requirements of
 15 s. 414.095 shall receive temporary benefits until a
 16 determination is made on the application for a good-cause
 17 exemption from the requirements of s. 414.095;
 18 (c)(b) To children who are the firstborn, including
 19 all children in the case of multiple birth, of minors included
 20 in a temporary cash assistance group who as minors become
 21 first-time parents;
 22 (d)(c) To a child when parental custody has been
 23 legally transferred; or
 24 (e)(d) To a child who is no longer able to live with
 25 his or her parents as a result of:
 26 1. The death of the child's parent or parents;
 27 2. The incapacity of the child's parent or parents as
 28 documented by a physician, such that the parent or parents are
 29 unable to care for the child;
 30 3. Legal transfer of the custody of the child to
 31 another individual;

1 4. Incarceration of the child's parent or parents,
 2 except that the child shall not receive temporary cash
 3 assistance if a parent is subsequently released and reunited
 4 with the child; or
 5 5. A situation in which the child's parent's or
 6 parents' institutionalization is expected to be for an
 7 extended period, as defined by the department.
 8 Section 9. Paragraph (g) is added to subsection (1) of
 9 section 234.01, Florida Statutes, to read:
 10 234.01 Purpose; transportation; when provided.--
 11 (1) School boards, after considering recommendations
 12 of the superintendent:
 13 (g) May provide transportation for WAGES program
 14 participants as defined in s. 414.0252.
 15 Section 10. Present paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of
 16 section 234.211, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as
 17 paragraph (c), and a new paragraph (b) is added to that
 18 subsection to read:
 19 234.211 Use of school buses for public purposes.--
 20 (1)
 21 (b) Each school district may enter into agreements
 22 with local WAGES coalitions for the provision of
 23 transportation services to WAGES program participants as
 24 defined in s. 414.0252. Agreements must provide for
 25 reimbursement in full or in part for the proportionate share
 26 of fixed and operating costs incurred by the school district
 27 attributable to the use of buses in accordance with the
 28 agreement.
 29 Section 11. Subsection (13) is added to section
 30 341.041, Florida Statutes, to read:
 31

1 the need for benefits is related to the abuse. A "nonqualified
 2 noncitizen" is a nonimmigrant alien, including a tourist,
 3 business visitor, foreign student, exchange visitor, temporary
 4 worker, or diplomat. In addition, a "nonqualified noncitizen"
 5 includes an individual paroled into the United States for less
 6 than 1 year. A qualified noncitizen who is otherwise eligible
 7 may receive temporary cash assistance to the extent permitted
 8 by federal law. The income or resources of a sponsor and the
 9 sponsor's spouse shall be included in determining eligibility
 10 to the maximum extent permitted by federal law.

11 (a) A child born in the United States to an illegal or
 12 ineligible alien is eligible for temporary cash assistance
 13 under this chapter if the family meets all eligibility
 14 requirements.

15 (b) If the parent may legally work in this country,
 16 the parent must participate in the work activity requirements
 17 provided in s. 414.065, to the extent permitted under federal
 18 law.

19 (c) The department shall participate in the Systematic
 20 Alien Verification for Entitlements Program (SAVE) established
 21 by the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service in
 22 order to verify the validity of documents provided by aliens
 23 and to verify an alien's eligibility.

24 (d) The income of an illegal alien or ineligible
 25 alien, less a pro rata share for the illegal alien or
 26 ineligible alien, counts in determining a family's eligibility
 27 to participate in the program.

28 (e) The entire assets of an ineligible alien or a
 29 disqualified individual who is a mandatory member of a family
 30 shall be included in determining the family's eligibility.
 31

1 (10) PARTICIPANT OPPORTUNITIES AND OBLIGATIONS.--An
 2 applicant or participant in the WAGES Program has the
 3 following opportunities and obligations:

4 (g) To receive information regarding services
 5 available from certified domestic violence centers or
 6 organizations that provide counseling and supportive services
 7 to individuals who are past or present victims of domestic
 8 violence or who are at risk of domestic violence and, upon
 9 request, to be referred to such organizations in a manner
 10 which protects the individual's confidentiality.

11 (15) PROHIBITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS.--

12 (d) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, if a
 13 parent or caretaker relative without good cause does not
 14 cooperate with the state agency responsible for administering
 15 the child support enforcement program in establishing,
 16 modifying, or enforcing a support order with respect to a
 17 child of a teen parent or other family member, or a child of a
 18 family member who is in the care of an adult relative,
 19 temporary cash assistance to the entire family shall be denied
 20 until the state agency indicates that cooperation by the
 21 parent or caretaker relative has been satisfactory. To the
 22 extent permissible under federal law, a parent or caretaker
 23 relative shall not be penalized for failure to cooperate with
 24 paternity establishment or with the establishment,
 25 modification, or enforcement of a support order when such
 26 cooperation could subject an individual to a risk of domestic
 27 violence. Such risk shall constitute good cause to the extent
 28 permitted by Title IV-D of the Social Security Act, as
 29 amended, or other federal law.

30 Section 8. Subsection (2) of section 414.115, Florida
 31 Statutes, is amended to read:

1 1. The Commissioner of Education, or the
 2 commissioner's designee.
 3 2. The Secretary of Children and Family Services.
 4 3. The Secretary of Health.
 5 4. The Secretary of Labor and Employment Security.
 6 5. The Secretary of Community Affairs.
 7 6. The Secretary of Transportation, or the secretary's
 8 designee.
 9 7.6r The director of the Office of Tourism, Trade, and
 10 Economic Development.
 11 8.7r The president of the Enterprise Florida workforce
 12 development board, established under s. 208.9620.
 13 9.8r The chief executive officer of the Florida
 14 Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation, established under s.
 15 288.1226.
 16 10.9r Nine members appointed by the Governor, as
 17 follows:
 18 a. Six members shall be appointed from a list of ten
 19 nominees, of which five must be submitted by the President of
 20 the Senate and five must be submitted by the Speaker of the
 21 House of Representatives. The list of five nominees submitted
 22 by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
 23 Representatives must each contain at least three individuals
 24 employed in the private sector, two of whom must have
 25 management experience. One of the five nominees submitted by
 26 the President of the Senate and one of the five nominees
 27 submitted by the Speaker of the House of Representatives must
 28 be an elected local government official who shall serve as an
 29 ex officio nonvoting member.
 30 b. Three members shall be at-large members appointed
 31 by the Governor.

1 c. Of the nine members appointed by the Governor, at
 2 least six must be employed in the private sector and of these,
 3 at least five must have management experience.
 4
 5 The members appointed by the Governor shall be appointed to
 6 4-year, staggered terms. Within 60 days after a vacancy occurs
 7 on the board, the Governor shall fill the vacancy of a member
 8 appointed from the nominees submitted by the President of the
 9 Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives for the
 10 remainder of the unexpired term from one nominee submitted by
 11 the President of the Senate and one nominee submitted by the
 12 Speaker of the House of Representatives. Within 60 days after
 13 a vacancy of a member appointed at-large by the Governor
 14 occurs on the board, the Governor shall fill the vacancy for
 15 the remainder of the unexpired term. The composition of the
 16 board must generally reflect the racial, gender, and ethnic
 17 diversity of the state as a whole.
 18 Section 14. Section 414.20, Florida Statutes, is
 19 amended to read:
 20 414.20 Other support services.--Support services shall
 21 be provided, if resources permit, to assist participants in
 22 complying with work activity requirements outlined in s.
 23 414.065. If resources do not permit the provision of needed
 24 support services, the department and the Department of Labor
 25 and Employment Security may prioritize or otherwise limit
 26 provision of support services. This section does not
 27 constitute an entitlement to support services. Lack of
 28 provision of support services may be considered as a factor in
 29 determining whether good cause exists for failing to comply
 30 with work activity requirements but does not automatically
 31 constitute good cause for failing to comply with work activity

1 341.041 Transit responsibilities of the
 2 department.--The department shall, within the resources
 3 provided pursuant to chapter 216:
 4 (13) Assist local governmental entities and other
 5 transit operators in the planning, development, and
 6 coordination of transit services for WAGES program
 7 participants as defined in s. 414.0252.
 8 Section 12. Subsections (1) and (2) of section
 9 341.052, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
 10 341.052 Public transit block grant program;
 11 administration; eligible projects; limitation.--
 12 (1) There is created a public transit block grant
 13 program which shall be administered by the department. Block
 14 grant funds shall only be provided to "Section 9" providers
 15 and "Section 10" providers designated by the United States
 16 Department of Transportation and community transportation
 17 coordinators as defined in chapter 427. Eligible providers
 18 must establish public transportation development plans
 19 consistent, to the maximum extent feasible, with approved
 20 local government comprehensive plans of the units of local
 21 government in which the provider is located. In developing
 22 public transportation development plans, eligible providers
 23 must solicit comments from local WAGES coalitions established
 24 under chapter 414. The development plans must address how the
 25 public transit provider will work with the appropriate local
 26 WAGES coalition to provide services to WAGES participants.
 27 Eligible providers must review program and financial plans
 28 established under s. 414.026 and provide information to the
 29 local WAGES coalition serving the county in which the provider
 30 is located regarding the availability of transportation
 31 services to assist WAGES program participants.

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

1 (2) Costs for which public transit block grant program
 2 funds may be expended include:
 3 (a) Costs of public bus transit and local public fixed
 4 guideway capital projects.
 5 (b) Costs of public bus transit service development
 6 and transit corridor projects. Whenever block grant funds are
 7 used for a service development project or a transit corridor
 8 project, the use of such funds is governed by s. 341.051.
 9 Local transit service development projects and transit
 10 corridor projects currently operating under contract with the
 11 department shall continue to receive state funds according to
 12 the contract until such time as the contract expires. Transit
 13 corridor projects, wholly within one county, meeting or
 14 exceeding performance criteria as described in the contract
 15 shall be continued by the transit provider at the same or a
 16 higher level of service until such time as the department, the
 17 M.P.O., and the service provider, agree to discontinue the
 18 service. The provider may not increase fares for services in
 19 transit corridor projects wholly within one county without the
 20 consent of the department.
 21 (c) Costs of public bus transit operations.
 22
 23 All projects must ~~shall~~ be consistent, to the maximum extent
 24 feasible, with the approved local government comprehensive
 25 plans of the units of local government comprehensive plans of
 26 local government in which the project is located.
 27 Section 13. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section
 28 414.026, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 29 414.026 WAGES Program State Board of Directors.--
 30 (2)(a) The board of directors shall be composed of the
 31 following members:

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

1 considered a medical service for purposes of the required
 2 statewide implementation plan or use of federal funds.
 3 Section 15. Section 414.25, Florida Statutes, is
 4 amended to read:
 5 414.25 Exemption from leased real property
 6 requirements.--In order to facilitate implementation of this
 7 chapter with respect to establishing jobs and benefits
 8 offices, the Department of Labor and Employment Security and
 9 the Department of Children and Family Services are exempt from
 10 the requirements of 255.25(2)(b) and 255.25(3)(a) which relate
 11 to the requirement of advertisement for and receipt of
 12 competitive bids for the procurement of leased real property.
 13 This exemption expires June 30, 1999 or 255.25 which relate to
 14 the procurement of leased real property.---This exemption
 15 expires June 30, 1998.
 16 Section 16. Section 414.225, Florida Statutes, is
 17 created to read:
 18 414.225 Transitional transportation.--In order to
 19 assist former WAGES participants in maintaining and sustaining
 20 employment, transportation may be provided, if funds are
 21 available, for up to 1 year after the participant is no longer
 22 eligible to participate in the program due to earnings. This
 23 does not constitute an entitlement to transitional
 24 transportation. If funds are not sufficient to provide
 25 services under this section, the department may limit or
 26 otherwise prioritize transportation services.
 27 (1) Transitional transportation must be job related.
 28 (2) Transitional transportation may include expenses
 29 identified in s. 414.20.
 30 Section 17. Subsection (27) is added to section
 31 427.013, Florida Statutes, to read:

1 427.013 The Commission for the Transportation
 2 Disadvantaged; purpose and responsibilities.--The purpose of
 3 the commission is to accomplish the coordination of
 4 transportation services provided to the transportation
 5 disadvantaged. The goal of this coordination shall be to
 6 assure the cost-effective provision of transportation by
 7 qualified community transportation coordinators or
 8 transportation operators for the transportation disadvantaged
 9 without any bias or presumption in favor of multioperator
 10 systems or not-for-profit transportation operators over single
 11 operator systems or for-profit transportation operators. In
 12 carrying out this purpose, the commission shall:
 13 (27) Ensure that local community transportation
 14 coordinators work cooperatively with local WAGES coalitions
 15 established in chapter 414 to provide assistance in the
 16 development of innovative transportation services for WAGES
 17 participants.
 18 Section 18. Subsection (9) is added to section
 19 427.0155, Florida Statutes, to read:
 20 427.0155 Community transportation coordinators; powers
 21 and duties.--Community transportation coordinators shall have
 22 the following powers and duties:
 23 (9) Work cooperatively with local WAGES coalitions
 24 established in chapter 414 to provide assistance in the
 25 development of innovative transportation services for WAGES
 26 participants.
 27 Section 19. Subsection (7) is added to section
 28 427.0157, Florida Statutes, to read:
 29 427.0157 Coordinating boards; powers and duties.--The
 30 purpose of each coordinating board is to develop local service
 31 needs and to provide information, advice, and direction to the

1 requirements, and does not affect any applicable time limit on
 2 the receipt of temporary cash assistance or the provision of
 3 services under this chapter. Support services shall include,
 4 but need not be limited to:

5 (1) TRANSPORTATION.--Transportation expenses may be
 6 provided to any participant when the assistance is needed to
 7 comply with work activity requirements or employment
 8 requirements, including transportation to and from a child
 9 care provider. Payment may be made in cash or tokens in
 10 advance or through reimbursement paid against receipts or
 11 invoices. Transportation services may include, but are not
 12 limited to, cooperative arrangements with the following:
 13 public transit providers; community transportation
 14 coordinators designated under chapter 427; school districts;
 15 churches and community centers; donated motor vehicle
 16 programs, vanpools, and ridesharing programs; small enterprise
 17 developments and entrepreneurial programs that encourage WAGES
 18 participants to become transportation providers; public and
 19 private transportation partnerships; and other innovative
 20 strategies to expand transportation options available to
 21 program participants.

22 (a) Local WAGES coalitions are authorized to provide
 23 payment for vehicle operational and repair expenses, including
 24 repair expenditures necessary to make a vehicle functional;
 25 vehicle registration fees; driver's license fees; and
 26 liability insurance for the vehicle for a period of up to 6
 27 months. Request for vehicle repairs must be accompanied by an
 28 estimate of the cost prepared by a repair facility registered
 29 under S. 552.904.

30 (b) Transportation disadvantaged funds as defined in
 31 chapter 427 do not include WAGES support services funds or

1 funds appropriated to assist persons eligible under the Job
 2 Training Partnership Act. It is the intent of the Legislature
 3 that local WAGES coalitions and regional workforce development
 4 boards consult with local community transportation
 5 coordinators designated under chapter 427 regarding the
 6 availability and cost of transportation services through the
 7 coordinated transportation system prior to contracting for
 8 comparable transportation services outside the coordinated
 9 system. Support services funds may also be used to develop
 10 transportation resources to expand transportation options
 11 available to participants. These services may include
 12 cooperative arrangements with local transit authorities or
 13 school districts and small enterprise development:

14 (2) ANCILLARY EXPENSES.--Ancillary expenses such as
 15 books, tools, clothing, fees, and costs necessary to comply
 16 with work activity requirements or employment requirements may
 17 be provided.

18 (3) MEDICAL SERVICES.--A family that meets the
 19 eligibility requirements for Medicaid shall receive medical
 20 services under the Medicaid program.

21 (4) PERSONAL AND FAMILY COUNSELING AND
 22 THERAPY.--Counseling may be provided to participants who have
 23 a personal or family problem or problems caused by substance
 24 abuse that is a barrier to compliance with work activity
 25 requirements or employment requirements. In providing these
 26 services, the department and the Department of Labor and
 27 Employment Security shall use services that are available in
 28 the community at no additional cost. If these services are not
 29 available, the department and the Department of Labor and
 30 Employment Security may use support services funds. Personal
 31 or family counseling not available through Medicaid may not be

1 Training Partnership Act classroom training participant or a
 2 WAGES Program participant.
 3 Section 21. Paragraph (q) of subsection (1) of section
 4 220.03, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 5 220.03 Definitions.--
 6 (1) SPECIFIC TERMS.--When used in this code, and when
 7 not otherwise distinctly expressed or manifestly incompatible
 8 with the intent thereof, the following terms shall have the
 9 following meanings:
 10 (q) "New employee," for the purposes of the enterprise
 11 zone jobs credit, means a person residing in an enterprise
 12 zone, a qualified Job Training Partnership Act classroom
 13 training participant, or a WAGES Program participant employed
 14 at a business located in an enterprise zone who begins
 15 employment in the operations of the business after July 1,
 16 1995, and who has not been previously employed within the
 17 preceding 12 months by the business or a successor business
 18 claiming the credit pursuant to s. 220.181. A person shall be
 19 deemed to be employed by such a business if the person
 20 performs duties in connection with the operations of the
 21 business on a full-time basis, provided she or he is
 22 performing such duties for an average of at least 36 hours per
 23 week each month, or a part-time basis, provided she or he is
 24 performing such duties for an average of at least 20 hours per
 25 week each month throughout the year. The person must be
 26 performing such duties at a business site located in an
 27 enterprise zone. The provisions of this paragraph shall expire
 28 and be void on June 30, 2005.
 29 Section 22. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section
 30 220.181, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 31 220.181 Enterprise zone jobs credit.--

1 (2) When filing for an enterprise zone jobs credit, a
 2 business must file under oath with the governing body or
 3 enterprise zone development agency having jurisdiction over
 4 the enterprise zone where the business is located, as
 5 applicable, a statement which includes:
 6 (a) For each new employee for whom this credit is
 7 claimed, the employee's name and place of residence during the
 8 taxable year, including the identifying number assigned
 9 pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the enterprise zone in which the
 10 new employee resides if the new employee is a person residing
 11 in an enterprise zone, and, if applicable, documentation that
 12 the employee is a qualified Job Training Partnership Act
 13 classroom training participant or a WAGES Program participant.
 14 Section 23. Subsection (10) is added to section
 15 288.047, Florida Statutes, to read:
 16 288.047 Quick-response training for economic
 17 development.--
 18 (10) There is created a Quick-response Training
 19 Program for Work and Gain Economic Self-sufficiency (WAGES)
 20 participants. Enterprise Florida, Inc., may, at the discretion
 21 of the State WAGES Emergency Response Team, award
 22 quick-response training grants and develop applicable
 23 guidelines for the training of participants in the WAGES
 24 Program. In addition to a local economic development
 25 organization, grants must be endorsed by the applicable local
 26 WAGES coalition and regional workforce development board.
 27 (a) Training funded pursuant to this subsection may
 28 not exceed 12 months, and may be provided by the local
 29 community college, school district, regional workforce
 30 development board, or the business employing the participant,
 31 including on-the-job training. Training will provide

1 community transportation coordinators on the coordination of
 2 services to be provided to the transportation disadvantaged.
 3 The commission shall, by rule, establish the membership of
 4 coordinating boards. The members of each board shall be
 5 appointed by the metropolitan planning organization or
 6 designated official planning agency. The appointing authority
 7 shall provide each board with sufficient staff support and
 8 resources to enable the board to fulfill its responsibilities
 9 under this section. Each board shall meet at least quarterly
 10 and shall:

11 (7) Work cooperatively with local WAGES coalitions
 12 established in chapter 414 to provide assistance in the
 13 development of innovative transportation services for WAGES
 14 participants.

15 Section 20. Subsection (1) and paragraph (a) of
 16 subsection (3) of section 212.096, Florida Statutes, are
 17 amended to read:

18 212.096 Sales, rental, storage, use tax; enterprise
 19 zone jobs credit against sales tax.--

20 (1) For the purposes of the credit provided in this
 21 section:

22 (a) "Eligible business" means any sole proprietorship,
 23 firm, partnership, corporation, bank, savings association,
 24 estate, trust, business trust, receiver, syndicate, or other
 25 group or combination, or successor business, located in an
 26 enterprise zone. An eligible business does not include any
 27 business which has claimed the credit permitted under s.
 28 220.161 for any new business employee first beginning
 29 employment with the business after July 1, 1995.

30 (b) "Month" means either a calendar month or the time
 31 period from any day of any month to the corresponding day of

1 the next succeeding month or, if there is no corresponding day
 2 in the next succeeding month, the last day of the succeeding
 3 month.

4 (c) "New employee" means a person residing in an
 5 enterprise zone, a qualified Job Training Partnership Act
 6 classroom training participant, or a WAGES Program participant
 7 who begins employment with an eligible business after July 1,
 8 1995, and who has not been previously employed within the
 9 preceding 12 months by the eligible business, or a successor
 10 eligible business, claiming the credit allowed by this
 11 section.

12
 13 A person shall be deemed to be employed if the person performs
 14 duties in connection with the operations of the business on a
 15 regular, full-time basis, provided the person is performing
 16 such duties for an average of at least 36 hours per week each
 17 month, or a part-time basis, provided the person is performing
 18 such duties for an average of at least 20 hours per week each
 19 month throughout the year. The person must be performing such
 20 duties at a business site located in the enterprise zone.

21 (3) In order to claim this credit, an eligible
 22 business must file under oath with the governing body or
 23 enterprise zone development agency having jurisdiction over
 24 the enterprise zone where the business is located, as
 25 applicable, a statement which includes:

26 (a) For each new employee for whom this credit is
 27 claimed, the employee's name and place of residence, including
 28 the identifying number assigned pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the
 29 enterprise zone in which the employee resides if the new
 30 employee is a person residing in an enterprise zone, and, if
 31 applicable, documentation that the employee is a qualified Job

1 months after receiving a relocation assistance payment.
 2 repayment must be made on a prorated basis over an 8-month
 3 period and subtracted from any regular payment of temporary
 4 cash assistance for which the applicant may be eligible.
 5 (4) The Department of Labor and Employment Security
 6 shall have authority to adopt rules pursuant to the
 7 Administrative Procedure Act to determine that a community has
 8 the capacity to provide services and employment opportunities
 9 for a relocated family.
 10 (5) The Department of Children and Family Services
 11 shall have authority to adopt rules pursuant to the
 12 Administrative Procedure Act to develop and implement
 13 relocation plans and to draft an agreement restricting a
 14 family from applying for temporary cash assistance within 6
 15 months after receiving a relocation assistance payment.
 16 (6) The Department of Labor and Employment Security
 17 shall have authority to adopt rules pursuant to the
 18 Administrative Procedure Act to determine that a community has
 19 the capacity to provide services and employment opportunities
 20 for a relocated family.

21 (7) The Department of Children and Family Services
 22 shall have authority to adopt rules pursuant to the
 23 Administrative Procedure Act to develop and implement
 24 relocation plans and to draft an agreement restricting a
 25 family from applying for temporary cash assistance within 6
 26 months after receiving a relocation assistance payment.
 27 Section 25. (1) The sum of \$2 million is hereby
 28 appropriated from the Employment Security Administration Trust
 29 Fund for the Department of Labor and Employment Security,
 30 which shall be used to assist WAGES Coalitions to prepare
 31 places, and support WAGES programs participants in jobs or

1 other approved work-related activities. Such expenditures from
 2 the Employment Security Administration Trust Fund which are
 3 based on receipts from the Temporary Assistance for Needy
 4 Families block grant shall be expended in accordance with the
 5 requirements and limitations of Part A of Title IV of the
 6 Social Security Act, as amended, or any other applicable
 7 federal requirement or limitation. Prior to any expenditure of
 8 such funds, the Secretary of the Department of Children and
 9 Family Services or his designee shall certify that controls
 10 are in place to ensure that such funds are expended in
 11 accordance with the requirements and limitations of federal
 12 law and that any reporting requirements of federal law are
 13 met. It shall be the responsibility of any entity to which
 14 such funds are appropriated to obtain the required
 15 certification prior to any expenditure of funds. The
 16 appropriation provided in this subsection is void if an
 17 appropriation for the same amount and for the same purposes is
 18 contained in another bill that passes after the passage of
 19 this bill during the 1998 Regular Session or an extension
 20 thereof.

21 (2) A total of \$1.9 million is appropriated from the
 22 Employment Security Administration Trust Fund to establish a
 23 life preparation program with the National Guard for children
 24 of WAGES participants and economically disadvantaged youths in
 25 concert with neighborhood revitalization efforts.

26 (3) The following resources are designated for support
 27 of the WAGES Program Employment Projects. Any expenditures
 28 from the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families block grant
 29 or Job Training Partnership Act shall be expended in
 30 accordance with the requirements and limitations of part A of
 31 Title IV of the Social Security Act, as amended or any other

1 entry-level skills to new workers, including those employed in
 2 retail, who are participants in the WAGES Program.
 3 (b) WAGES participants trained pursuant to this
 4 subsection must be employed at a wage not less than \$6.00 per
 5 hour.
 6 (c) Funds made available pursuant to this subsection
 7 may be expended in connection with the relocation of a
 8 business from one community to another community if approved
 9 by the State WAGES Emergency Response Team.
 10 Section 24. Section 414.155, Florida Statutes, is
 11 created to read:
 12 414.155 Relocation assistance program.--
 13 (1) The Legislature recognizes that the need for
 14 public assistance may arise because a family is located in an
 15 area with limited employment opportunities, because of
 16 geographic isolation, because of formidable transportation
 17 barriers, because of isolation from their extended family, or
 18 because domestic violence interferes with the ability of a
 19 parent to maintain self-sufficiency. Accordingly there is
 20 established a program to assist families in relocating to
 21 communities with greater opportunities for self-sufficiency.
 22 (2) The relocation assistance program shall involve
 23 five steps by the Department of Children and Family Services
 24 of the Department of Labor and Employment Security:
 25 (a) A determination that the family is a WAGES Program
 26 participant or that all requirements of eligibility for the
 27 WAGES Program would likely be met.
 28 (b) A determination that there is a basis for
 29 believing that relocation will contribute to the ability of
 30 the applicant to achieve self-sufficiency. For example, the
 31 applicant:

1 1. Is unlikely to achieve independence at the current
 2 community of residence.
 3 2. Has secured a job that requires relocation to
 4 another community.
 5 3. Has a family support network in another community.
 6 OR
 7 4. Is determined, pursuant to criteria or procedures
 8 established by the WAGES Program State Board of Directors, to
 9 be a victim of domestic violence who would experience reduced
 10 probability of further incidents through relocation.
 11 (c) Establishment of a relocation plan, including a
 12 budget and such requirements as are necessary to prevent abuse
 13 of the benefit and to provide an assurance that the applicant
 14 will relocate. The plan may require that expenditures be made
 15 on behalf of the recipient. However, the plan must include
 16 provisions to protect the safety of victims of domestic
 17 violence and avoid provisions that place them in anticipated
 18 danger. The payment to defray relocation expenses shall be
 19 limited to an amount not to exceed 4 months' temporary cash
 20 assistance, based on family size.
 21 (d) A determination, pursuant to criteria adopted by
 22 the WAGES Program State Board of Directors, that a Florida
 23 community receiving a relocated family has the capacity to
 24 provide needed services and employment opportunities.
 25 (e) Monitoring the relocation.
 26 (3) A family receiving relocation assistance for
 27 reasons other than domestic violence must sign an agreement
 28 restricting the family from applying for temporary cash
 29 assistance for 6 months, unless an emergency is demonstrated
 30 to the department. If a demonstrated emergency forces the
 31 family to reapply for temporary cash assistance within 6

1 applicable federal requirement or limitation. Prior to any
 2 expenditure of such funds, the secretaries of the departments
 3 of Children and Family Services and Labor and Employment
 4 Security, or their designees shall certify that controls are
 5 in place to insure such funds are expended in accordance with
 6 the requirements and limitations of federal law and that any
 7 reporting requirements of federal law are met. It shall be
 8 the responsibility of any entity to which such funds are
 9 appropriated to obtain the required certification prior to any
 10 expenditure of funds.

11 (a) Up to \$25 million of funds designated for WAGES
 12 reserve is to be expended for WAGES Program Employment
 13 Projects.

14 (b) Up to \$7.5 million from Employment Security
 15 Administration Trust Fund amounts associated with the
 16 Welfare-to-Work grant is to be reserved for WAGES Program
 17 Employment Projects. Of the \$7.5 million reserved, \$2.5
 18 million is to be provided to the Institute of Food and
 19 Agricultural Sciences of the University of Florida for WAGES
 20 job opportunities, and \$1 million is to be provided to the
 21 Department of Military Affairs to provide job readiness
 22 services for WAGES Program participants as approved by the
 23 State WAGES Board.

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

2 Section 1. Present subsection (4) of section 414.026,

3 Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (5), and a new

4 subsection (4) is added to that section, to read:

5 414.026 WAGES Program State Board of Directors.--

6 (4) The WAGES Program State Board of Directors shall

7 approve all programs, policies, proposed rules, requests for

8 proposals, and other WAGES directives initiated by the

9 Workforce Development Board of Enterprise Florida, Inc., or a

10 state agency charged by law to implement the WAGES Program.

11 The board of directors is responsible for communicating such

12 directives to the local WAGES coalitions.

13 Section 2. Section 414.0262, Florida Statutes, is

14 created to read:

15 414.0262 Staff of the WAGES Program State Board of

16 Directors.--

17 (1) The Governor, by executive order, shall designate

18 the staff of the WAGES Program State Board of Directors as a

19 nonprofit corporation for the purpose of receiving federal

20 funds and providing oversight and maintenance to the WAGES

21 Program State Board of Directors in administering the State

22 Plans for Aid and Services to Needy Families with Children

23 under 42 U.S.C. s. 602, as amended. The nonprofit corporation

24 shall be known as WAGES, Inc., and is the designated state

25 agency required by 42 U.S.C. s. 602(a)(3).

26 (2) The executive order designating the nonprofit

27 corporation must include provisions for the governance and

28 organizational structure of the corporation which are

29 consistent with 42 U.S.C. s. 602(a)(5).

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to the WAGES Program; amending

3 s. 414.026, F.S.; requiring that the WAGES

4 Program State Board of Directors approve the

5 directives initiated by the workforce

6 Development Board of Enterprise Florida, Inc.,

7 in implementing the WAGES Program; creating s.

8 414.0262, F.S.; requiring that the Governor

9 designate the staff of the WAGES Program State

10 Board of Directors as a nonprofit corporation;

11 amending s. 414.028, F.S.; revising

12 requirements for a member of a local WAGES

13 coalition in the case of a conflict of

14 interest; providing requirements for disclosing

15 any such conflict; providing for certain

16 nonvoting members to be appointed to a local

17 coalition; authorizing a local coalition to

18 deliver certain services under the WAGES

19 Program; providing for staff support for local

20 coalitions; amending s. 414.065, F.S.; deleting

21 provisions that require an employer to repay

22 certain supplements or incentives under

23 specified circumstances; creating a WAGES

24 training bonus to be paid to an employer who

25 hires certain program participants; amending s.

26 414.105, F.S.; providing for eligibility for

27 extended temporary cash assistance under

28 specified circumstances; providing that an

29 individual who cares for a disabled family

30 member is exempt from certain time limitations;

31 providing an effective date.

1 coalitions to plan and coordinate the delivery of services
2 under the WAGES Program at the local level. The boundaries of
3 the service area for a local WAGES coalition shall conform to
4 the boundaries of the service area for the regional workforce
5 development board established under the Enterprise Florida
6 workforce development board. The local delivery of services
7 under the WAGES Program shall be coordinated, to the maximum
8 extent possible, with the local services and activities of the
9 local service providers designated by the regional workforce
10 development boards.

11 (1)(a) Each local WAGES coalition must have a minimum
12 of 11 members, of which at least one-half must be from the
13 business community. The composition of the coalition
14 membership must generally reflect the racial, gender, and
15 ethnic diversity of the community as a whole. All members
16 shall be appointed to 3-year terms. The membership of each
17 coalition must include:

18 1. Representatives of the principal entities that
19 provide funding for the employment, education, training, and
20 social service programs that are operated in the service area,
21 including, but not limited to, representatives of local
22 government, the regional workforce development board, and the
23 united way.

24 2. A representative of the health and human services
25 board.

26 3. A representative of a community development board.
27 4. Three representatives of the business community who
28 represent a diversity of sizes of businesses.

29 5. Representatives of other local planning,
30 coordinating, or service-delivery entities.

31

1 (3) The nonprofit corporation shall be organized under
2 chapter 617 and shall possess all the powers granted by that
3 chapter.
4 (4) The designated nonprofit corporation is eligible
5 to use the state communications system in accordance with s.
6 282.105(3).
7 (5) Pursuant to the applicable provisions of chapter
8 284, the Division of Risk Management of the Department of
9 Insurance may insure the nonprofit corporation under the same
10 general terms and conditions as other nonprofit, statutory
11 corporations.
12 (6) All departments, officers, agencies, coalitions,
13 and institutions of the state shall cooperate with the
14 designated nonprofit corporation in the performance of its
15 duties.
16 (7) The designated nonprofit corporation shall make
17 provisions for an annual postaudit of its financial accounts
18 by an independent certified public accountant. The annual
19 audit shall be submitted to the Executive Office of the
20 Governor for review.
21 (8) WAGES, Inc., shall make all arrangements and
22 fulfill all legal conditions to become a nonprofit corporation
23 by July 1, 1998.
24 (9) The nonprofit corporation shall make available to
25 the public, upon request, copies of 42 U.S.C. s. 602, as
26 amended, applicable state laws, and any executive orders
27 establishing WAGES, Inc.
28 Section 3. Section 414.028, Florida Statutes, is
29 amended to read:
30 414.028 Local WAGES coalitions.--The WAGES Program
31 State Board of Directors shall create and charter local WAGES

1 more than one representative of a county health department and
2 not more than one representative of a healthy state coalition.
3 (2) A local WAGES coalition and a regional workforce
4 development board may be combined into one board if the
5 membership complies with subsection (1), and if the membership
6 of the combined board meets the requirements of Pub. L. No.
7 97-300, the Federal Job Training Partnership Act, as amended,
8 and with any law delineating the membership requirements for
9 the regional workforce development boards. Notwithstanding
10 paragraph (1)(b), in a region in which the dates of the two
11 boards are combined, a person may be a member of the WAGES
12 coalition even if the member or the members participating could
13 benefit financially from transactions of the coalition.
14 However, members must refuse themselves from voting on all
15 matters from which they or their principals could benefit
16 financially. Future to refuse on any such vote will
17 constitute grounds for immediate removal from the local WAGES
18 coalition.
19 (3) The statewide implementation plan prepared by the
20 WAGES Program State Board of Directors shall prescribe and
21 publish the process for chartering the local WAGES coalitions.
22 (4) Each local WAGES coalition shall perform the
23 planning, coordination, and oversight functions specified in
24 the statewide implementation plan, including, but not limited
25 to:
26 (a) Developing a program and financial plan to achieve
27 the performance outcomes specified by the WAGES Program State
28 Board of Directors for current and potential program
29 participants in the service area. The plan must reflect the
30 needs of service areas for seed money to create programs that
31 assist children of WAGES participants.

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

1 6. A representative of a grassroots community or
2 economic development organization that serves the poor of the
3 community.

4 (b) A person may be a member of a local WAGES

5 coalition or a combined WAGES coalition as provided in

6 subsection (2) regardless of whether the member, or an

7 organization represented by a member, could benefit

8 financially from transactions of the coalition. However, if

9 the coalition enters into a contract with an organization or

10 individual represented on the coalition, the contract must be

11 approved by a two-thirds vote of the entire board, and the

12 board member who could benefit financially from the

13 transaction must abstain from voting. A board member must

14 disclose any such conflict in a manner that is approved by the

15 WAGES Program State Board of Directors and is consistent with

16 the procedures outlined in s. 112.3143. A representative of an

17 agency or entity that could benefit financially from funds

18 appropriated under the WAGES program may not be a member of a

19 local WAGES coalition.

20 (c) A member of the board of a public or private

21 educational institution may not serve as a member of a local

22 WAGES coalition.

23 (d) A representative of any county or municipal

24 governing body that elects to provide services through the

25 local WAGES coalition shall be an ex officio, nonvoting member

26 of the coalition.

27 (e) A representative of a county health department or

28 a representative of a healthy start coalition shall serve as

29 an ex officio, nonvoting member of the coalition.

30 (f) This subsection does not prevent a local WAGES

31 coalition from extending regular, voting membership to not

1 Later (ENABL) program under s. 411.242 and the Teen Pregnancy

2 prevention Community Initiative within each county segment of

3 the service area in which the teenage pregnancy childbirth

4 birth rate is higher than the state average. Each local WAGES

5 coalition is authorized to fund community-based welfare

6 prevention and reduction initiatives that increase the support

7 provided by noncustodial parents to their welfare-dependent

8 children and are consistent with program and financial

9 guidelines developed by the WAGES Program State Board of

10 Directors and the Commission on Responsible Fatherhood. These

11 initiatives may include, but are not limited to, improved

12 paternity establishment, work activities for noncustodial

13 parents, and programs aimed at decreasing out-of-wedlock

14 pregnancies, encouraging the involvement of fathers with their

15 children, and increasing child-support payments.

16 ~~(77) At the option of the local wages coalition,~~

17 local employees of the department and the Department of Labor

18 and Employment Security shall provide staff support for the

19 local wages coalitions. At the option of the local wages

20 coalition, staff support may be provided by another agency, or

21 entity, or by contract if it can be provided at no cost to the

22 state and if the support is not provided by an agency or other

23 entity that could benefit financially from funds appropriated

24 to implement the wages program.

25 ~~(77) There shall be no liability on the part of, and~~

26 no cause of action of any nature shall arise against, any

27 member of a local WAGES coalition or its employees or agents

28 for any lawful action taken by them in the performance of

29 their powers and duties under this section and s. 414.029.

30 Section 4. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section

31 414.065, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1 (b) Developing a funding strategy to implement the
 2 program and financial plan which incorporates resources from
 3 all principal funding sources.
 4 (c) Identifying employment, service, and support
 5 resources in the community which may be used to fulfill the
 6 performance outcomes of the WAGES Program.
 7 (d) In cooperation with the regional workforce
 8 development board, coordinating the implementation of one-stop
 9 career centers.
 10 (e) Advising the Department of Children and Family
 11 Services and the Department of Labor and Employment Security
 12 with respect to the competitive procurement of services under
 13 the WAGES Program.
 14 (f) Selecting an entity to administer the program and
 15 financial plan, such as a unit of a political subdivision
 16 within the service area, a not-for-profit private organization
 17 or corporation, or any other entity agreed upon by the local
 18 WAGES coalition.
 19 (5) A local WAGES coalition may deliver the full
 20 continuum of services provided under the WAGES Program,
 21 including services that are provided at the point of
 22 application. However, a local WAGES coalition may not
 23 determine an individual's eligibility for temporary cash
 24 assistance. Before assuming responsibility for providing
 25 services, the local WAGES coalition must receive approval by
 26 the WAGES Program State Board of Directors.
 27 (6) The WAGES Program State Board of Directors may
 28 not approve the program and financial plan of a local
 29 coalition unless the plan provides a teen pregnancy prevention
 30 component that includes, but is not necessarily limited to, a
 31 plan for implementing the Florida Education Now and Babies

1 skills required for the position. The employer or the
 2 educational institution on behalf of the employer receives a
 3 subsidy to offset the cost of the training provided to the
 4 participant. Upon satisfactory completion of the training, the
 5 employer is expected to retain the participant as a regular
 6 employee without receiving a subsidy. Am the on-the-job
 7 training agreement may not be continued with any employer who
 8 exhibits a pattern of failing to provide participants with
 9 continued employment after the on-the-job training subsidy
 10 ends must provide that in the case of dismissal of a
 11 participant due to loss of the subsidy, the employer shall
 12 repay some or all of the subsidy previously provided by the
 13 department and the department of labor and employment
 14 Security.
 15 3. Incentive payments.--The department and the
 16 department of labor and employment Security may provide
 17 additional incentive payments to encourage employers to employ
 18 program participants. Incentive payments may include payments
 19 to encourage the employment of hard-to-place participants, in
 20 which case the amount of the payment shall be weighted
 21 proportionally to the extent to which the participant has
 22 limitations associated with the long-term receipt of welfare
 23 and difficulty in sustaining employment. In establishing
 24 incentive payments, the department and the Department of Labor
 25 and Employment Security shall consider the extent of prior
 26 receipt of welfare, lack of employment experience, lack of
 27 education, lack of job skills, and other appropriate factors.
 28 A participant who has complied with program requirements and
 29 who is approaching the time limit for receiving temporary cash
 30 assistance may be defined as "hard-to-place." Incentive
 31 payments may include payments in which an initial payment is

1 414.065 Work requirements.--

2 (1) WORK ACTIVITIES.--The following activities may be

3 used individually or in combination to satisfy the work

4 requirements for a participant in the WAGES Program:

5 (b) Subsidized private sector employment.--Subsidized

6 private sector employment is employment in a private

7 for-profit enterprise or a private not-for-profit enterprise

8 which is directly supplemented by federal or state funds. A

9 subsidy may be provided in one or more of the forms listed in

10 this paragraph.

11 1. Work supplementation.--A work supplementation

12 subsidy diverts a participant's temporary cash assistance

13 under the program to the employer. The employer must pay the

14 participant wages that equal or exceed the applicable federal

15 minimum wage. Work supplementation may not exceed 6 months. At

16 the end of the supplementation period, the employer is

17 expected to retain the participant as a regular employee

18 without receiving a subsidy for at least 12 months. A The work

19 supplementation may not be continued with any

20 employer who exhibits a pattern of failing to provide

21 participants with continued employment after the period of

22 work supplementation ends must provide that if the employee is

23 dismissed at any time within 12 months after termination of

24 the supplementation period due in any part to loss of the

25 supplement--the employer shall repay some or all of the

26 supplement previously paid as a subsidy to the employer under

27 the WAGES program.

28 2. On-the-job training.--On-the-job training is

29 full-time, paid employment in which the employer or an

30 educational institution in cooperation with the employer

31 provides training needed for the participant to perform the

1 414.105 Time limitations of temporary cash
2 assistance.--Unless otherwise expressly provided in this
3 chapter, an applicant or current participant shall receive
4 temporary cash assistance for episodes of not more than 24
5 cumulative months in any consecutive 60-month period that
6 begins with the first month of participation and for not more
7 than a lifetime cumulative total of 48 months as an adult.
8 (1) The time limitation for episodes of temporary cash
9 assistance may not exceed 36 cumulative months in any
10 consecutive 72-month period that begins with the first month
11 of participation and may not exceed a lifetime cumulative
12 total of 48 months of temporary cash assistance as an adult,
13 for cases in which the participant:
14 (a) Has received aid to families with dependent
15 children or temporary cash assistance for any 36 months of the
16 preceding 60 months; or
17 (b) Is a custodial parent under the age of 24 who:
18 1. Has not completed a high school education or its
19 equivalent; or
20 2. Had little or no work experience in the preceding
21 year.
22 (2) A participant who is not exempt from work activity
23 requirements may earn 1 month of eligibility for extended
24 temporary cash assistance, up to a maximum of 12 additional
25 months, for each month in which the participant is fully
26 complying with all the requirements of the WAGES Program and
27 is employed part-time or full-time. A participant may not
28 receive temporary cash assistance under this subsection, in
29 combination with other periods of temporary cash assistance,
30 for longer than 48 months.
31

2 made to the employer upon the employment of a participant, and

3 the majority of the incentive payment is made after the
4 employer retains the participant as a full-time employee for
5 at least 12 months. An incentive agreement may not be

6 continued with any employer who exhibits a pattern of failing
7 to provide participants with continued employment after the
8 incentive payments cease must provide that if the employee is

9 dismissed at any time within 12 months after termination of
10 the incentive payment period due in any part to loss of the
11 incentive, the employer shall repay some or all of the payment
12 previously paid as an incentive to the employer under the

13 WAGES-Program.
14 4. Tax credits.--An employer who employs a program

15 participant may qualify for enterprise zone property tax
16 credits under s. 220.182, the tax refund program for qualified
17 target industry businesses under s. 288.106, or other federal
18 or state tax benefits. The department and the Department of

19 Labor and Employment Security shall provide information and
20 assistance, as appropriate, to use such credits to accomplish
21 program goals.

22 5. WAGES training bonus.--An employer who hires a
23 WAGES participant who has less than 6 months of eligibility
24 for temporary cash assistance remaining and who pays the
25 participant a wage that precludes the participant's

26 eligibility for temporary cash assistance may receive \$240 for
27 each full month of employment for a period that may not exceed
28 3 months. An employer who receives a WAGES training bonus for

29 an employee may not receive a work supplementation subsidy for
30 the same employee.

31 Section 5. Section 414.105, Florida Statutes, is
32 amended to read:

1 At the recommendation of the local WAGES coalition, temporary
2 cash assistance under a hardship exemption for a participant
3 who is eligible for work activities and who is not working
4 shall be reduced by 10 percent. Upon the employment of the
5 participant, full benefits shall be restored.
6 (4)(3) The department shall establish a procedure for
7 reviewing and approving hardship exemptions, and the local
8 WAGES coalitions may assist in making these determinations.
9 The composition of any review panel must generally reflect the
10 racial, gender, and ethnic diversity of the community as a
11 whole. Members of a review panel shall serve without
12 compensation, but are entitled to receive reimbursement for
13 per diem and travel expenses as provided in s. 112.016.
14 (5)(4) The cumulative total of all hardship exemptions
15 may not exceed 12 months, may include reduced benefits at the
16 option of the community review panel, and shall, in
17 combination with other periods of temporary cash assistance as
18 an adult, total no more than 48 months of temporary cash
19 assistance. If an individual fails to comply with program
20 requirements during a hardship exemption period, the hardship
21 exemption shall be removed.
22 (6)(5) For individuals who have moved from another
23 state and have legally resided in this state for less than 12
24 months, the time limitation for temporary cash assistance
25 shall be the shorter of the respective time limitations used
26 in the two states, and months in which temporary cash
27 assistance was received under a block grant program that
28 provided temporary assistance for needy families in any state
29 shall count towards the cumulative 48-month benefit limit for
30 temporary cash assistance.

31
30 assistance through a protective payee.
29 it appears a child may require continuation of temporary cash
28 department shall conduct all assessments in each case in which
27 children and families Family-Services Program Office of the
26 shall be provided through a protective payee. Staff of the
25 emergency shelter or foster care. Temporary cash assistance
24 would be likely to result in the child being placed into
23 that the termination of the child's temporary cash assistance
22 recommendation must be the result of a review which determines
21 eligibility period for temporary cash assistance. The
20 a participating family that has reached the end of the
19 (e) A recommendation of extension for a minor child of
18 equivalent.
17 eligibility beyond receipt of the high school diploma or
16 teen parents for an exemption in order to have 24 months of
15 (d) Diligent participation in activities and a need by
14 a need for additional time.
13 (c) Significant barriers to employment, combined with
12 requirements.
11 conditions which may result in an exemption to work
10 with extraordinary barriers to employment, including the
9 (b) Diligent participation in activities, combined
8 with inability to obtain employment.
7 (a) Diligent participation in activities, combined
6 years. Criteria for hardship exemptions include:
5 chapter, and 20 percent of participants in all subsequent
4 of participants in the second year of implementation of this
3 the first year of implementation of this chapter, 15 percent
2 this chapter shall be limited to 10 percent of participants in
1 (3)(f) Hardship exemptions to the time limitations of

Section 6. This act shall take effect upon becoming a

2 LAW.

SENATE SUMMARY

Requires the Governor to designate the staff of the WAGES Program State Board of Directors as "WAGES, Inc." Provides conditions under which a member of a local WAGES coalition must disclose the existence of a conflict of interest. Provides that a local coalition may provide all services offered under the WAGES Program, with the exception of determining an individual's eligibility for temporary cash assistance. Deletes requirements that an employer repay certain supplements or incentives if the employer dismisses a program participant from employment. Provides for an employer to be paid a training bonus if the employer hires certain program participants. Provides for extended temporary cash assistance under certain circumstances. Provides that an individual who cares for a disabled family member is exempt from certain time limitations on receiving benefits. (See bill for details.)

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2 under the Family Transition Act of 1993, that time limitation
 3 shall continue to apply. Months in which temporary cash
 4 assistance was received through the family transition program
 5 shall count towards the time limitations under this chapter.
 6 (8)(f) Except when temporary cash assistance was
 7 received through the family transition program, the
 8 calculation of the time limitation for temporary cash
 9 assistance shall begin with the first month of receipt of
 10 temporary cash assistance after the effective date of this
 11 act.
 12 (9)(f) Child-only cases are not subject to time
 13 limitations, and temporary cash assistance received while an
 14 individual is a minor child shall not count towards time
 15 limitations.
 16 (10)(f) An individual who receives benefits under the
 17 Supplemental Security Income program or the Social Security
 18 Disability Insurance program is not subject to time
 19 limitations.
 20 (11) An individual who cares for a disabled family
 21 member is not subject to time limitations if the need for the
 22 care is verified and alternative care is not available for the
 23 family member.
 24 (12)(f) A member of the WAGES program staff shall
 25 interview and assess the employment prospects and barriers of
 26 each participant who is within 6 months of reaching the
 27 24-month time limit. The staff member shall assist the
 28 participant in identifying actions necessary to become
 29 employed prior to reaching the benefit time limit for
 30 temporary cash assistance and, if appropriate, shall refer the
 31 participant for services that could facilitate employment.

1 providing that an individual who cares for a
2 disabled family member is exempt from certain
3 time limitations; providing legislative intent
4 with respect to encouraging the employment of
5 participants in the WAGES Program; requiring
6 the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic
7 Development to certify to the President of the
8 Senate and the Speaker of the House of
9 Representatives the amount of taxes and the
10 economic benefit generated by the restaurant
11 industry from employing WAGES participants and
12 to add that amount to the total amount of
13 certain beverage taxes and penalties paid
14 during a specified calendar year; providing for
15 the repeal of s. 561.501, F.S., relating to the
16 surcharge on the sale of alcoholic beverages,
17 if the total amount of the surcharge exceeds a
18 specified figure; providing an effective date.

19
20 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
21
22 Section 1. Present subsection (4) of section 414.026,
23 Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (6) and
24 amended, and new subsections (4) and (5) are added to that
25 section, to read:
26 414.026 WAGES Program State Board of Directors.---
27 (4) The WAGES Program State Board of Directors must
28 approve the WAGES State Plan, the operating budget and any
29 amendments thereto, and any WAGES-related proposed
30 administrative rules. In addition, state agencies charged by
31 law with implementation of the WAGES Program and the workforce

1
 A bill to be entitled
 1 an act relating to the WAGES Program; amending
 2 s. 414.026, F.S.; requiring that the WAGES
 3 Program State Board of Directors approve any
 4 WAGES-related proposed administrative rules;
 5 requiring collaboration with the WAGES State
 6 Board concerning other actions by the Workforce
 7 Development Board of Enterprise Florida, Inc.,
 8 and state agencies; extending the existence of
 9 the WAGES Program State Board of Directors;
 10 allowing the Governor to designate the WAGES
 11 Program State Board of Directors as a nonprofit
 12 corporation; providing requirements; amending
 13 s. 414.028, F.S.; revising requirements for a
 14 member of a local WAGES coalition in the case
 15 of a conflict of interest; providing
 16 requirements for disclosing any such conflict;
 17 providing for certain nonvoting members to be
 18 appointed to a local coalition; requiring a
 19 local coalition to deliver certain services
 20 under the WAGES Program; providing for staff
 21 support for local coalitions; amending s.
 22 414.065, F.S.; deleting provisions that require
 23 an employer to repay certain supplements or
 24 incentives under specified circumstances;
 25 creating a WAGES training bonus to be paid to
 26 an employer who hires certain program
 27 participants; providing protection for current
 28 employees; amending s. 414.105, F.S.; providing
 29 for eligibility for extended temporary cash
 30 assistance under specified circumstances;
 31

1 designated nonprofit corporation in the performance of its
 2 duties.
 3 (g) The designated nonprofit corporation shall make
 4 provisions for an annual postaudit of its financial accounts
 5 by an independent certified public accountant. The annual
 6 audit shall be submitted to the Executive Office of the
 7 Governor for review.
 8 (h) WAGES, Inc., shall make all arrangements and
 9 fulfill all legal conditions to become a nonprofit
 10 corporation.
 11 (i) The nonprofit corporation shall make available to
 12 the public, upon request, copies of 42 U.S.C. s. 602, as
 13 amended, applicable state laws, and any executive orders
 14 establishing WAGES, Inc.
 15 (j) The nonprofit corporation is subject to the
 16 provisions of chapter 119, relating to public records, and
 17 those provisions of chapter 286 relating to public meetings
 18 and records.
 19 (k) The nonprofit corporation is authorized to hire an
 20 executive director and appropriate staff. The nonprofit
 21 corporation shall annually, by February 1, provide the
 22 Legislature with a list of staff and salaries.
 23 (l) This section expires June 30, 2002 +999, and
 24 shall be reviewed by the Legislature prior to that date. In
 25 its review, the Legislature shall assess the status of the
 26 WAGES Program and shall determine if the responsibility for
 27 administering the program should be transferred to other state
 28 agencies.
 29 Section 2. Section 414.028, Florida Statutes, is
 30 amended to read:

1 Development Board of Enterprise Florida, Inc., shall
 2 collaborate with the staff of the WAGES Program State Board of
 3 Directors on all WAGES-related policies, requests for
 4 proposals, and related directives.
 5 (5)(a) The Governor, by executive order, may designate
 6 the WAGES Program State Board of Directors as a nonprofit
 7 corporation for the purpose of receiving federal funds and
 8 providing oversight and maintenance to the WAGES Program and
 9 in administering the State Plans for Aid and Services to Needy
 10 Families with Children under 42 U.S.C. s. 602, as amended. The
 11 nonprofit corporation shall be known as WAGES, Inc., and may,
 12 by executive order, be designated as the state agency required
 13 by 42 U.S.C. s. 602(a)(3).
 14 (b) The executive order designating the nonprofit
 15 corporation must include provisions for the governance and
 16 organizational structure of the corporation which are
 17 consistent with 42 U.S.C. s. 602(a)(5).
 18 (c) The nonprofit corporation shall be organized under
 19 chapter 617 and shall possess all the powers granted by that
 20 chapter.
 21 (d) The designated nonprofit corporation is eligible
 22 to use the state communications system in accordance with s.
 23 282.105(3).
 24 (e) Pursuant to the applicable provisions of chapter
 25 284, the Division of Risk Management of the Department of
 26 Insurance may insure the nonprofit corporation under the same
 27 general terms and conditions as other nonprofit, statutory
 28 corporations.
 29 (f) All departments, officers, agencies, coalitions,
 30 and institutions of the state shall cooperate with the
 31

1 5. Representatives of other local planning,
 2 coordinating, or service-delivery entities.
 3 6. A representative of a grassroots community or
 4 economic development organization that serves the poor of the
 5 community.

6 (b) A person may be a member of a local WAGES
 7 coalition or a combined WAGES coalition as provided in
 8 subsection (2) regardless of whether the member, or an
 9 organization represented by a member, could benefit
 10 financially from transactions of the coalition. However, if
 11 the coalition enters into a contract with an organization or
 12 individual represented on the coalition, the contract must be
 13 approved by a two-thirds vote of the entire board, and the

14 board member who could benefit financially from the
 15 transaction must abstain from voting. A board member must
 16 disclose any such conflict in a manner that is approved by the
 17 WAGES Program State Board of Directors and is consistent with
 18 the procedures outlined in s. 112.3143. A representative of an
 19 agency or entity that could benefit financially from funds
 20 appropriated under the WAGES program may not be a member of a
 21 local WAGES coalition.

22 (c) A member of the board of a public or private
 23 educational institution may not serve as a member of a local
 24 WAGES coalition.

25 (d) A representative of any county or municipal
 26 governing body that elects to provide services through the
 27 local WAGES coalition shall be an ex officio, nonvoting member
 28 of the coalition.

29 (e) A representative of a county health department or
 30 a representative of a healthy start coalition shall serve as
 31 an ex officio, nonvoting member of the coalition.

1 414.028 Local WAGES coalitions.--The WAGES Program
2 State Board of Directors shall create and charter local WAGES
3 coalitions to plan and coordinate the delivery of services
4 under the WAGES Program at the local level. The boundaries of
5 the service area for a local WAGES coalition shall conform to
6 the boundaries of the service area for the regional workforce
7 development board established under the Enterprise Florida
8 workforce development board. The local delivery of services
9 under the WAGES Program shall be coordinated, to the maximum
10 extent possible, with the local services and activities of the
11 local service providers designated by the regional workforce
12 development boards.
13 (1)(a) Each local WAGES coalition must have a minimum
14 of 11 members, of which at least one-half must be from the
15 business community. The composition of the coalition
16 membership must generally reflect the racial, gender, and
17 ethnic diversity of the community as a whole. All members
18 shall be appointed to 3-year terms. The membership of each
19 coalition must include:
20 1. Representatives of the principal entities that
21 provide funding for the employment, education, training, and
22 social service programs that are operated in the service area,
23 including, but not limited to, representatives of local
24 government, the regional workforce development board, and the
25 United Way.
26 2. A representative of the health and human services
27 board.
28 3. A representative of a community development board.
29 4. Three representatives of the business community who
30 represent a diversity of sizes of businesses.
31

1 needs of service areas for seed money to create programs that
2 assist children of WAGES participants.
3 (b) Developing a funding strategy to implement the
4 program and financial plan which incorporates resources from
5 all principal funding sources.
6 (c) Identifying employment, service, and support
7 resources in the community which may be used to fulfill the
8 performance outcomes of the WAGES Program.
9 (d) In cooperation with the regional workforce
10 development board, coordinating the implementation of one-stop
11 career centers.
12 (e) Advising the Department of Children and Family
13 Services and the Department of Labor and Employment Security
14 with respect to the competitive procurement of services under
15 the WAGES Program.
16 (f) Selecting an entity to administer the program and
17 financial plan, such as a unit of a political subdivision
18 within the service area, a not-for-profit private organization
19 or corporation, or any other entity agreed upon by the local
20 WAGES coalition.
21 (5) By October 1, 1998, local WAGES coalitions shall
22 deliver the full continuum of services provided under the
23 WAGES Program, including services that are provided at the
24 point of application. However, local WAGES coalitions may not
25 determine an individual's eligibility for temporary cash
26 assistance. The local WAGES coalitions shall develop a
27 transition plan to be approved by the WAGES Program State
28 Board of Directors.
29 (6) The WAGES Program State Board of Directors may
30 not approve the program and financial plan of a local
31 coalition unless the plan provides a teen pregnancy prevention

1 (f) This subsection does not prevent a local WAGES
2 coalition from extending regular, voting membership to not
3 more than one representative of a county health department and
4 not more than one representative of a healthy start coalition.
5 (2) A local WAGES coalition and a regional workforce
6 development board may be combined into one board if the
7 membership complies with subsection (1), and if the membership
8 of the combined board meets the requirements of Pub. L. No.
9 97-300, the federal Job Training Partnership Act, as amended,
10 and with any law delineating the membership requirements for
11 the regional workforce development boards. Notwithstanding
12 paragraph (1)(b), in a region in which the duties of the two
13 boards are combined, a person may be a member of the WAGES
14 coalition even if the member or the member's principal could
15 benefit financially from transactions of the coalition.
16 However, members must recuse themselves from voting on any
17 matters from which they or their principals could benefit
18 financially. Failure to recuse on any such vote will
19 constitute grounds for immediate removal from the local WAGES
20 coalition.
21 (3) The statewide implementation plan prepared by the
22 WAGES Program State Board of Directors shall prescribe and
23 publish the process for chartering the local WAGES coalitions.
24 (4) Each local WAGES coalition shall perform the
25 planning, coordination, and oversight functions specified in
26 the statewide implementation plan, including, but not limited
27 to:
28 (a) Developing a program and financial plan to achieve
29 the performance outcomes specified by the WAGES Program State
30 Board of Directors for current and potential program
31 participants in the service area. The plan must reflect the

1 Section 3. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section
2 414.065, Florida Statutes, is amended and subsection (12) is
3 added to that section to read:
4 414.065 Work requirements.--
5 (1) WORK ACTIVITIES.--The following activities may be
6 used individually or in combination to satisfy the work
7 requirements for a participant in the WAGES program:
8 (b) Subsidized private sector employment.--Subsidized
9 private sector employment is employment in a private
10 for-profit enterprise or a private not-for-profit enterprise
11 which is directly supplemented by federal or state funds. A
12 subsidy may be provided in one or more of the forms listed in
13 this paragraph.
14 1. Work supplementation.--A work supplementation
15 subsidy diverts a participant's temporary cash assistance
16 under the program to the employer. The employer must pay the
17 participant wages that equal or exceed the applicable federal
18 minimum wage. Work supplementation may not exceed 6 months. At
19 the end of the supplementation period, the employer is
20 expected to retain the participant as a regular employee
21 without receiving a subsidy for at least 12 months. A work
22 supplementation agreement may not be continued with any
23 employer who exhibits a pattern of failing to provide
24 participants with continued employment after the period of
25 work supplementation ends must provide that the employee is
26 dismissed at any time within 12 months after termination of
27 the supplementation period due in any part to loss of the
28 supplementer, the employer shall repay some or all of the
29 supplement previously paid as a subsidy to the employer under
30 the WAGES program.

1 component that includes, but is not necessarily limited to, a
2 plan for implementing the Florida Education Now and Babies
3 Later (ENABL) program under s. 411.242 and the Teen Pregnancy
4 Prevention Community Initiative within each county segment of
5 the service area in which the teen childbirth birth rate is
6 higher than the state average. Each local WAGES coalition is
7 authorized to fund community-based welfare prevention and
8 reduction initiatives that increase the support provided by
9 noncustodial parents to their welfare-dependent children and
10 are consistent with program and financial guidelines developed
11 by the WAGES Program State Board of Directors and the
12 Commission on Responsible Fatherhood. These initiatives may
13 include, but are not limited to, improved paternity
14 establishment, work activities for noncustodial parents, and
15 programs aimed at decreasing out-of-wedlock pregnancies,
16 encouraging the involvement of fathers with their children,
17 and increasing child-support payments.
18 (77) At the option of the local WAGES coalition,
19 local employees of the department and the Department of Labor
20 and Employment Security shall provide state support for the
21 local WAGES coalitions. At the option of the local WAGES
22 coalition, state support may be provided by another agency, or
23 entity, or by contract if it can be provided at no cost to the
24 state and if the support is not provided by an agency or other
25 entity that could benefit financially from funds appropriated
26 to implement the WAGES program.
27 (77) There shall be no liability on the part of, and
28 no cause of action of any nature shall arise against, any
29 member of a local WAGES coalition or its employees or agents
30 for any lawful action taken by them in the performance of
31 their powers and duties under this section and s. 414.029.

1 A participant who has complied with program requirements and

2 who is approaching the time limit for receiving temporary cash

3 assistance may be defined as "hard-to-place." Incentive

4 payments may include payments in which an initial payment is

5 made to the employer upon the employment of a participant, and

6 the majority of the incentive payment is made after the

7 employer retains the participant as a full-time employee for

8 at least 12 months. An incentive agreement may not be

9 continued with any employer who exhibits a pattern of failing

10 to provide participants with continued employment after the

11 incentive payments cease ~~wast provide that the employees~~

12 ~~dismissed at any time within 12 months after termination of~~

13 ~~the incentive payment period due in any part to loss of the~~

14 ~~incentive the employer shall repay some or all of the payment~~

15 ~~previously paid as an incentive to the employer under the~~

16 ~~WAGES-Program.~~

17 4. Tax credits.--An employer who employs a program

18 participant may qualify for enterprise zone property tax

19 credits under s. 220.182, the tax refund program for qualified

20 target industry businesses under s. 288.106, or other federal

21 or state tax benefits. The department and the Department of

22 Labor and Employment Security shall provide information and

23 assistance, as appropriate, to use such credits to accomplish

24 program goals.

25 5. WAGES training bonus.--An employer who hires a

26 WAGES participant who has less than 6 months of eligibility

27 for temporary cash assistance remaining and who pays the

28 participant a wage that exceeds the participant's

29 eligibility for temporary cash assistance may receive \$240 for

30 each full month of employment for a period that may not exceed

31 3 months. An employer who receives a WAGES training bonus for

1 On-the-job training.--On-the-job training is
 2 full-time, paid employment in which the employer or an
 3 educational institution in cooperation with the employer
 4 provides training needed for the participant to perform the
 5 skills required for the position. The employer or the
 6 educational institution on behalf of the employer receives a
 7 subsidy to offset the cost of the training provided to the
 8 participant. Upon satisfactory completion of the training, the
 9 employer is expected to retain the participant as a regular
 10 employee without receiving a subsidy. in the on-the-job
 11 training agreement may not be continued with any employer who
 12 exhibits a pattern of failing to provide participants with
 13 continued employment after the on-the-job training subsidy
 14 ends ~~must provide that in the case of dismissal of a~~
 15 participant due to loss of the subsidy, the employer shall
 16 repay some or all of the subsidy previously provided by the
 17 department and the department of labor and employment
 18 Security.
 19 3. Incentive payments.--The department and the
 20 department of labor and employment Security may provide
 21 additional incentive payments to encourage employers to employ
 22 program participants. Incentive payments may include payments
 23 to encourage the employment of hard-to-place participants, in
 24 which case the amount of the payment shall be weighted
 25 proportionally to the extent to which the participant has
 26 limitations associated with the long-term receipt of welfare
 27 and difficulty in sustaining employment. In establishing
 28 incentive payments, the department and the Department of Labor
 29 and Employment Security shall consider the extent of prior
 30 receipt of welfare, lack of employment experience, lack of
 31 education, lack of job skills, and other appropriate factors.

1 Has not completed a high school education or its
 2 equivalent; or
 3 2. Had little or no work experience in the preceding
 4 year.
 5 (2) A participant who is not exempt from work activity
 6 requirements may earn 1 month of eligibility for extended
 7 temporary cash assistance, up to a maximum of 12 additional
 8 months, for each month in which the participant is fully
 9 complying with all the requirements of the WAGES Program and
 10 is employed part-time or full-time. The period for which
 11 extended temporary cash assistance is granted shall be based
 12 upon compliance with WAGES Program requirements beginning
 13 October 1, 1997. A participant may not receive temporary cash
 14 assistance under this subsection, in combination with other
 15 periods of temporary cash assistance, for longer than 48
 16 months.

17 (3) Hardship exemptions to the time limitations of
 18 this chapter shall be limited to 10 percent of participants in
 19 the first year of implementation of this chapter, 15 percent
 20 of participants in the second year of implementation of this
 21 chapter, and 20 percent of participants in all subsequent
 22 years. Criteria for hardship exemptions include:

- 23 (a) Diligent participation in activities, combined
 24 with inability to obtain employment.
- 25 (b) Diligent participation in activities, combined
 26 with extraordinary barriers to employment, including the
 27 conditions which may result in an exemption to work
 28 requirements.
- 29 (c) Significant barriers to employment, combined with
 30 a need for additional time.

1 an employee may not receive a work supplementation subsidy for

2 the same employee.

3 (12) PROTECTION FOR CURRENT EMPLOYEES.--In

4 establishing and contracting for work-experience and community

5 service activities, other work-experience activities,

6 on-the-job training, subsidized employment, and work

7 supplementation under the WAGES Program, an employed worker

8 may not be displaced, either completely or partially. A WAGES

9 participant may not be assigned to an activity or employed in

10 a position if the employer has created the vacancy or

11 terminated an existing employee without good cause in order to

12 fill that position with a WAGES Program participant.

13 Section 4. Section 414.105, Florida Statutes, is

14 amended to read:

15 414.105 Time limitations of temporary cash

16 assistance.--Unless otherwise expressly provided in this

17 chapter, an applicant or current participant shall receive

18 temporary cash assistance for episodes of not more than 24

19 cumulative months in any consecutive 60-month period that

20 begins with the first month of participation and for not more

21 than a lifetime cumulative total of 48 months as an adult.

22 (1) The time limitation for episodes of temporary cash

23 assistance may not exceed 36 cumulative months in any

24 consecutive 72-month period that begins with the first month

25 of participation and may not exceed a lifetime cumulative

26 total of 48 months of temporary cash assistance as an adult,

27 for cases in which the participant:

28 (a) Has received aid to families with dependent

29 children or temporary cash assistance for any 36 months of the

30 preceding 60 months; or

31 (b) Is a custodial parent under the age of 24 who:

1 (5)(4) The cumulative total of all hardship exemptions
2 may not exceed 12 months, may include reduced benefits at the
3 option of the community review panel, and shall, in
4 combination with other periods of temporary cash assistance as
5 an adult, total no more than 48 months of temporary cash
6 assistance. If an individual fails to comply with program
7 requirements during a hardship exemption period, the hardship
8 exemption shall be removed.
9 (6)(5) For individuals who have moved from another
10 state and have legally resided in this state for less than 12
11 months, the time limitation for temporary cash assistance
12 shall be the shorter of the respective time limitations used
13 in the two states, and months in which temporary cash
14 assistance was received under a block grant program that
15 provided temporary assistance for needy families in any state
16 shall count towards the cumulative 48-month benefit limit for
17 temporary cash assistance.
18 (7)(6) For individuals subject to a time limitation
19 under the Family Transition Act of 1993, that time limitation
20 shall continue to apply. Months in which temporary cash
21 assistance was received through the family transition program
22 shall count towards the time limitations under this chapter.
23 (8)(7) Except when temporary cash assistance was
24 received through the family transition program, the
25 calculation of the time limitation for temporary cash
26 assistance shall begin with the first month of receipt of
27 temporary cash assistance after the effective date of this
28 act.
29 (9)(8) Child-only cases are not subject to time
30 limitations, and temporary cash assistance received while an
31

1 (d) Diligent participation in activities and a need by
2 teen parents for an exemption in order to have 24 months of
3 eligibility beyond receipt of the high school diploma or
4 equivalent.
5 (e) A recommendation of extension for a minor child of
6 a participating family that has reached the end of the
7 eligibility period for temporary cash assistance. The
8 recommendation must be the result of a review which determines
9 that the termination of the child's temporary cash assistance
10 would be likely to result in the child being placed into
11 emergency shelter or foster care. Temporary cash assistance
12 shall be provided through a protective payee. Staff of the
13 Children and Families Family-Services Program Office of the
14 department shall conduct all assessments in each case in which
15 it appears a child may require continuation of temporary cash
16 assistance through a protective payee.
17
18 At the recommendation of the local WAGES coalition, temporary
19 cash assistance under a hardship exemption for a participant
20 who is eligible for work activities and who is not working
21 shall be reduced by 10 percent. Upon the employment of the
22 participant, full benefits shall be restored.
23 (4)(f) The department shall establish a procedure for
24 reviewing and approving hardship exemptions, and the local
25 WAGES coalitions may assist in making these determinations.
26 The composition of any review panel must generally reflect the
27 racial, gender, and ethnic diversity of the community as a
28 whole. Members of a review panel shall serve without
29 compensation, but are entitled to receive reimbursement for
30 per diem and travel expenses as provided in s. 112.016.
31

1 year. The total of the amount of taxes and the dollar value of economic benefits reported to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall be added to the amount of taxes paid during the 1998 calendar year under sections 563.05, 564.06, and 565.12, Florida Statutes, and payments made to the state under section 561.54, Florida Statutes. If the total of these amounts is greater than \$535 million, effective July 1, 1999, section 561.501, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 6. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
 SENATE BILL 2524

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

1 individual is a minor child shall not count towards time
 2 limitations.
 3 (10)(9) An individual who receives benefits under the
 4 Supplemental Security Income program or the Social Security
 5 Disability Insurance program is not subject to time
 6 limitations.
 7 (11) A person who is totally responsible for the
 8 personal care of a disabled family member is not subject to
 9 time limitations if the need for the care is verified and
 10 alternative care is not available for the family member. The
 11 department shall annually evaluate an individual's
 12 qualifications for this exemption.
 13 (12)(10) A member of the WAGES Program staff shall
 14 interview and assess the employment prospects and barriers of
 15 each participant who is within 6 months of reaching the
 16 24-month time limit. The staff member shall assist the
 17 participant in identifying actions necessary to become
 18 employed prior to reaching the benefit time limit for
 19 temporary cash assistance and, if appropriate, shall refer the
 20 participant for services that could facilitate employment.
 21 Section 5. The Legislature recognizes that the
 22 restaurant industry is uniquely qualified to provide
 23 employment opportunities for a significant number of WAGES
 24 participants. Therefore, it is the intent of the Legislature
 25 to encourage employment of WAGES participants by the
 26 restaurant industry. By March 1, 1999, the Office of Tourism,
 27 Trade, and Economic Development shall certify to the President
 28 of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives
 29 the amount of taxes and the dollar value of economic benefits
 30 generated by the restaurant industry from the employment of
 31 participants in the WAGES Program during the 1998 calendar

COPIES: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

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- Providing specific provisions for WAGES participants who are also victims of Domestic Violence.

This committee substitute amends sections 414.026, 414.028, 414.065, 414.105, Florida Statutes.

II. Present Situation:

WAGES PROGRAM

Chapter 96-175, L.O.F., eliminated individual entitlement to public assistance and created the Work and Gain Economic Self-sufficiency (WAGES) Program. Under the WAGES Program, for most individuals, cash assistance is temporary and is tied to a requirement that able-bodied adults must work and be financially responsible for themselves and their families. WAGES Program requirements and administrative responsibilities are established in ch. 414, F.S.

Section 414.026, F.S., creates within the Executive Office of the Governor the WAGES Program State Board of Directors. The board is charged with the oversight and the operation of the WAGES Program and is required to advise and assist state agencies in implementing the WAGES Program. This section expires June 30, 1999, and must be reviewed by the Legislature prior to that date. In its review, the Legislature must assess the status of the WAGES Program and must determine if the responsibility for administering the program should be transferred to other state agencies.

Section 414.028, F.S., creates local WAGES coalitions and provides for membership requirements, to plan and coordinate the delivery of services under the WAGES Program at the local level. Section 414.028(1)(b), F.S., provides that a representative of an agency or entity that could benefit financially from funds appropriated under the WAGES Program may not be a member of a local WAGES coalition. However, in a region in which the duties of the local WAGES coalition and a regional workforce development board are combined, a person may be a member of the WAGES coalition even if the member, or the member's principal, could benefit financially from transactions of the coalition. These members must recuse themselves from voting on all matters from which they or their principals could benefit financially and failure to recuse on any such vote constitutes grounds for immediate removal from the local WAGES coalition.

Local employees of the Department of Children and Family Services and the Department of Labor and Employment Security must provide staff support for the local WAGES coalitions. At the option of the local WAGES coalition, staff support may be provided by another agency or entity if it can be provided at no cost to the state and if the support is not provided by an agency or other entity that could benefit financially from funds appropriated to implement the WAGES Program.

Section 414.065, F.S., provides for the work requirements of the WAGES Program. Subsidized private sector employment is an activity which may be used individually or in combination with other activities to satisfy the work requirements of WAGES. Such employer subsidies include work supplementation, on-the-job training, incentive payments and tax credits. Except for tax

SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based only on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Date: April 10, 1998 Revised: _____

Subject: Work and Gain Economic Self-sufficiency

Analyst	Staff Director	Reference	Action
1 Schmeling	Austin	CM	Favorable/CS
2 Hardy	Smith	WM	Favorable/CS
3 _____	_____	_____	_____
4 _____	_____	_____	_____
5 _____	_____	_____	_____

I. Summary:

This committee substitute makes various revisions to the Work and Gain Economic Self-sufficiency (WAGES) Program including:

- Requiring the WAGES Program State Board of Directors to approve all WAGES proposed administrative rules and further requiring the Workforce Development Board of Enterprise Florida, Inc., and state agencies charged by law to implement the WAGES Program, to collaborate with the staff of the WAGES Board on all WAGES related policies, request for proposals and related directives;
- Extending the life of the WAGES State Board to the year 2002;
- Allowing the Governor, by executive order, to designate the WAGES Program State Board of Directors as a nonprofit corporation;
- Revising conflict of interest language for members of local WAGES coalitions,
- Adding additional members to the local WAGES coalitions,
- Requiring by October 1, 1998, the local WAGES coalitions to deliver the full continuum of services, with exceptions, provided under the WAGES Program,
- Revising staffing requirements of the local WAGES coalitions,
- Removing the repayment provisions for certain WAGES employer subsidies;
- Creating the WAGES training bonus and WAGES work reward,
- Providing that existing employed workers may not be displaced by WAGES participants;
- Providing an exemption from the ten percent reduction in benefits under a hardship exemption if recommended by the local WAGES coalition; and
- Providing an exemption to time limits for individuals which are totally responsible for the care of a disabled family member

the entire board, and the board member who could benefit financially from the transaction must abstain from voting. A board member must disclose any such conflict in a manner that is approved by the WAGES Program State Board of Directors and is consistent with the procedures outlined in s 112.3143, F S , voting conflicts for public officers and employees.

This section adds to the membership of the local WAGES coalition a representative of a county health department or a representative of a healthy start coalition to serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the coalition. This provision however, does not prevent a local WAGES coalition from extending regular voting membership to not more than one representative of a county health department and not more than one representative of a healthy start coalition.

This section requires local WAGES coalitions to deliver the full continuum of services provided under the WAGES Program, including services that are provided at the point of application, by October 1, 1998. However, a local WAGES coalition may not determine an individual's eligibility for temporary cash assistance. Local coalitions must develop a transition plan to be approved by the WAGES Program State Board.

This section makes permissive the use of employees for staffing local WAGES coalitions from the Department of Children and Families and Department of Labor and Employment Security and provides authority for staffing by another agency, entity or by contract.

Section 3 amends 414.065, F S , removing the repayment provisions for WAGES subsidies including work supplementation, on-the-job-training, and incentive payments, however, these incentives may not be continued with any employer who exhibits a pattern of failing to provide participants with continued employment after the incentive payment period ends.

This section creates the WAGES training bonus whereby an employer who hires a WAGES participant who has less than six months of eligibility for temporary cash assistance remaining and who pays the participant a wage that precludes the participant's eligibility for temporary cash assistance can receive \$240 for each full month of employment for a period that may not exceed 3 months. An employer who receives a WAGES training bonus for an employee may not receive a work supplementation subsidy for the same employee.

This section prohibits the displacement of current employees with WAGES participants.

Section 4 reenacts s. 414.20, F S .

Section 5 repeals language that provides that by March 1, 1999, the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development (OTTED) must certify to the Legislature the amount of taxes and the dollar value of economic benefits generated by the restaurant industry from the employment of WAGES participants during 1998, and that the total amount of taxes and the dollar value of economic benefits that are reported by OTTED to the Legislature must be added to the amount of taxes paid during 1998 under ss 563 05, 564 06, and 565 12, F S , and payments made under s. 561.54, F S., as described in the present situation of this analysis, and that if the total amount is

credits, upon satisfactory completion of the subsidy period by the WAGES participant, the employer is expected to retain the participant as a regular employee without receiving a subsidy and if the WAGES participant is dismissed due to loss of the subsidy, the employer must repay some or all of the subsidy.

Section 414.105, F.S., imposes a lifetime limit of 24 cumulative months within a 60 consecutive month period and a 48-month lifetime limit for WAGES participants. Long-term welfare recipients with limited skills and little work experience are eligible for up to 36 cumulative months within a 72 consecutive month period, but are still subject to the 48-month lifetime limit.

Exempted from time limits are child only cases, minor children and individuals who are eligible for Supplemental Security Income benefits due to age or disability.

"Hardship" exemptions from the time limits for up to a total of 12 months may be available for individuals who have diligently participated in all program activities and complied with all program requirements but have been unable to find employment. The cumulative total of months in which an individual may receive temporary cash assistance, including the hardship months, cannot exceed 48 months. Temporary cash assistance under a hardship exemption for a participant who is eligible for work activities and who is not working is reduced by ten percent. Upon the employment of the participant, full benefits are to be restored.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 amends s. 414.026, F.S., requiring the WAGES Program State Board of Directors to approve the WAGES State Plan, operating budget, amendments thereto, as well as any WAGES related proposed rules. In addition, the Workforce Development Board of Enterprise Florida, Inc., or a state agency charged by law to implement the WAGES Program must collaborate with the staff of the WAGES State Board on any WAGES related policies, requests for proposals, and related directives.

This section allows the Governor, by executive order, to designate the WAGES Program State Board of Directors as a nonprofit corporation for the purpose of receiving federal funds and providing oversight and maintenance to the WAGES Program and in administering the State Plans for Aid and Services to Needy Families with Children under 42 U.S.C. s. 602, as amended. The corporation is subject to state public meeting and records law. The corporation is authorized to hire an executive director and appropriate staff while a list of staff and salaries must be provided annually to the Legislature. This section further extends the life of the WAGES State Board to the year 2002.

Section 2 amends s. 414.028, F.S., allowing a person to be a member of a local WAGES coalition or a combined WAGES coalition/regional workforce development board regardless of whether the member, or an organization represented by a member, could benefit financially from transactions of the coalition. However, if the coalition enters into a contract with an organization or individual represented on the coalition, the contract must be approved by a two-thirds vote of

V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

Employers could benefit financially from the ability to receive a WAGES training bonus for the hiring of WAGES participants.

C. Government Sector Impact:

An indeterminate amount of savings should result from the ability of local WAGES coalitions to provide the continuum of services at the local level.

Additional funds may be required to support the WAGES training bonus. Because these costs are dependent on future participation by employers, costs are indeterminable at this time.

Long term costs may increase as a result of the exemption from time limits for WAGES participants who care for a disabled family member. Future costs are indeterminable but are not expected to create additional financial requirements until after FY 1998-99

Exemptions for victims of Domestic Violence should not create a significant added cost

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Amendments:

None

This Senate staff analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's sponsor or the Florida Senate

greater than \$535 million, effective July 1, 1999, s 561 501, F.S., as described in the present situation of this analysis, is repealed

The amended Section 5 provides that an applicant or current participant shall receive temporary cash assistance for episodes of not more than 24 cumulative months in any consecutive 60-month period that begins with the first month of participation and for not more than a lifetime cumulative total of 48 months as an adult. In addition, the time limitation for episodes of temporary assistance may not exceed 36 cumulative months in any consecutive 72-month period that begins with the first month of participation and may not exceed a lifetime cumulative total of 48 months of temporary cash assistance as an adult for certain specified cases.

Section 6 is amended as follows:

Provides that each local WAGES coalition shall plan for the provision of services for victims of domestic violence, and specifies the provisions which must be included in the plan. In addition, the committee substitute creates a new exemption from non-compliance with the WAGES program for participants who are also victims of domestic violence.

Exempts persons who are totally responsible for the personal care of a disabled family member from the provisions of the WAGES time limits, and provides for annual re-evaluation of eligibility criteria.

Section 7 extends WAGES eligibility criteria for "qualified non-citizen" status to include individuals who have been battered or subject to extreme cruelty in the U.S. and has applied for and received protection under the federal Violence Against Women Act of 1994.

Section 8 allows temporary cash assistance for children of a WAGES participant who has been exempted from the Child Support Enforcement program as a result of rape, incest, or sexual exploitation.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions: None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues: None

C. Trust Funds Restrictions: None.

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to the WAGES Program; amending

3 s. 414.026, F.S.; requiring that the WAGES

4 Program State Board of Directors approve any

5 WAGES-related proposed administrative rules;

6 requiring collaboration with the WAGES State

7 Board concerning other actions by the workforce

8 Development Board of Enterprise Florida, Inc.,

9 and state agencies; extending the existence of

10 the WAGES Program State Board of Directors;

11 allowing the Governor to designate the WAGES

12 Program State Board of Directors as a nonprofit

13 corporation; providing requirements; amending

14 s. 414.028, F.S.; revising requirements for a

15 member of a local WAGES coalition in the case

16 of a conflict of interest; providing

17 requirements for disclosing any such conflict;

18 providing for certain nonvoting members to be

19 appointed to a local coalition; requiring a

20 local coalition to deliver certain services

21 under the WAGES Program; providing for staff

22 support for local coalitions; requiring that

23 the program and financial plan developed by a

24 local WAGES coalition include provisions for

25 providing services for victims of domestic

26 violence and describing development of the

27 plan; amending s. 414.065, F.S.; deleting

28 provisions that require an employer to repay

29 certain supplements or incentives under

30 specified circumstances; creating a WAGES

31 training bonus to be paid to an employer who

1 hires certain program participants; providing
2 protection for current employees; providing an
3 exception from the work requirements for
4 certain individuals at risk of domestic
5 violence; providing an exception for a
6 specified period for certain individuals
7 impaired by past incidents of domestic
8 violence, under certain circumstances;
9 reenacting s. 414.20, F.S., relating to support
10 services, to incorporate the amendment in a
11 reference; amending s. 414.105, F.S.; providing
12 for eligibility for extended temporary cash
13 assistance under specified circumstances;
14 providing that an individual who cares for a
15 disabled family member is exempt from certain
16 time limitations; permitting domestic violence
17 victims to be granted hardship exemptions not
18 subject to certain percentage limitations,
19 under specified circumstances; providing
20 legislative intent; amending s. 234.01, F.S.;
21 authorizing school districts to provide
22 transportation for WAGES participants; amending
23 s. 234.211, F.S.; providing for reimbursement
24 of school districts; amending s. 341.041, F.S.;
25 establishing responsibilities of the Department
26 of Transportation with respect to transit
27 services for WAGES participants; amending s.
28 341.052, F.S.; relating to duties of public
29 transit block grant recipients to coordinate
30 with local WAGES coalitions regarding
31 transportation services; deleting duplicative

1	provisions; amending s. 414.026, F.S.; revising
2	membership of the WAGES Program State Board of
3	Directors; amending s. 414.20, F.S.; clarifying
4	transportation options available to local WAGES
5	coalitions to assist WAGES participants;
6	creating s. 414.225, F.S.; providing for the
7	provision of transitional transportation for
8	former WAGES participants; amending s. 427.013,
9	F.S.; providing for the duties of the
10	Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged
11	regarding WAGES transportation; amending s.
12	427.0155, F.S.; providing for the duties of
13	community transportation coordinators regarding
14	WAGES transportation; amending s. 427.0157,
15	F.S.; providing for the duties of the local
16	coordinating boards regarding WAGES
17	transportation; creating s. 414.80, F.S.;
18	designating specified sections as the "WAGES
19	Emergency Response Act"; creating s. 414.810,
20	F.S.; providing legislative findings and
21	intent; creating s. 414.811, F.S.; providing
22	for policy and purposes relating to the WAGES
23	Emergency Response Program; creating s.
24	414.812, F.S.; limiting authority of the State
25	WAGES Emergency Response Team; creating s.
26	414.813, F.S.; providing for liberal
27	construction; creating s. 414.820, F.S.;
28	designating areas of critical state economic
29	concern; creating s. 414.830, F.S.; providing
30	for WAGES Emergency Response Team Coordinators;
31	providing team authorities; providing for

1 gubernatorial authorities; creating s. 414.840,
 2 F.S.; creating Regional WAGES Emergency
 3 Response Teams; providing for responsibilities;
 4 creating s. 414.845, F.S.; creating local
 5 project teams; providing for powers and
 6 responsibilities for such teams; creating s.
 7 414.850, F.S.; providing for expiration and
 8 review of the WAGES Emergency Response Program;
 9 creating s. 414.860, F.S.; providing for a
 10 legislative oversight committee; requiring a
 11 contract related to job creation and training
 12 activities; amending s. 212.08, F.S.; exempting
 13 certain property based in enterprise zones from
 14 the sales tax under certain circumstances;
 15 amending s. 212.096, F.S.; expanding enterprise
 16 zone sales tax credit to JTPA or WAGES Program
 17 participants not residing in an enterprise
 18 zone; requiring documentation; amending s.
 19 220.03, F.S.; expanding enterprise zone
 20 corporate tax credit to JTPA or WAGES Program
 21 participants not residing in an enterprise
 22 zone; amending s. 220.181, F.S.; requiring
 23 documentation; amending s. 288.047, F.S.;
 24 creating a Quick-response Training Program for
 25 WAGES participants; providing requirements;
 26 amending s. 370.28, F.S.; providing that a
 27 business located in an enterprise zone in a
 28 community impacted by net limitations is
 29 eligible for the maximum sales tax exemption
 30 for building materials used in the
 31 rehabilitation of real property in an

1 enterprise zone, for business property used in
 2 an enterprise zone, and for electrical energy
 3 used in an enterprise zone, and the maximum
 4 enterprise zone property tax credit against the
 5 corporate income tax, if a specified percentage
 6 of its employees are residents of the
 7 jurisdiction of the county, rather than of the
 8 enterprise zone; requiring businesses eligible
 9 to receive certain tax credits to apply for
 10 such credits by a time certain; providing an
 11 effective date.

12
 13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

14
 15 Section 1. Present subsection (4) of section 414.026,
 16 Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (6) and
 17 amended, and new subsections (4) and (5) are added to that
 18 section, to read:

19 414.026 WAGES Program State Board of Directors.--
 20 (4) The WAGES Program State Board of Directors must
 21 approve the WAGES State Plan, the operating budget and any
 22 amendments thereto, and any WAGES-related proposed
 23 administrative rules. In addition, state agencies charged by
 24 law with implementation of the WAGES Program and the workforce
 25 Development Board of Enterprise Florida, Inc., shall
 26 collaborate with the staff of the WAGES Program State Board of
 27 Directors on all WAGES-related policies, requests for
 28 proposals, and related directives.

29 (5)(a) The Governor, by executive order, may designate
 30 the WAGES Program State Board of Directors as a nonprofit
 31 corporation for the purpose of receiving federal funds and

1 providing oversight and maintenance to the WAGES Program and

2 in administering the State Plans for Aid and Services to Needy

3 Families with Children under 42 U.S.C. s. 602, as amended. The

4 nonprofit corporation shall be known as WAGES, Inc., and may,

5 by executive order, be designated as the state agency required

6 by 42 U.S.C. s. 602(a)(3).

7 (b) The executive order designating the nonprofit

8 corporation must include provisions for the governance and

9 organizational structure of the corporation which are

10 consistent with 42 U.S.C. s. 602(a)(5).

11 (c) The nonprofit corporation shall be organized under

12 chapter 617 and shall possess all the powers granted by that

13 chapter.

14 (d) The designated nonprofit corporation is eligible

15 to use the state communications system in accordance with s.

16 282.105(3).

17 (e) Pursuant to the applicable provisions of chapter

18 284, the Division of Risk Management of the Department of

19 Insurance may insure the nonprofit corporation under the same

20 general terms and conditions as other nonprofit, statutory

21 corporations.

22 (f) All departments, officers, agencies, coalitions,

23 and institutions of the state shall cooperate with the

24 designated nonprofit corporation in the performance of its

25 duties.

26 (g) The designated nonprofit corporation shall make

27 provisions for an annual postaudit of its financial accounts

28 by an independent certified public accountant. The annual

29 audit shall be submitted to the Executive Office of the

30 Governor for review.

31

1 (h) WAGES, Inc., shall make all arrangements and
 2 fulfill all legal conditions to become a nonprofit
 3 corporation.
 4 (i) The nonprofit corporation shall make available to
 5 the public, upon request, copies of 42 U.S.C. s. 602, as
 6 amended; applicable state laws; and any executive orders
 7 establishing WAGES, Inc.
 8 (j) The nonprofit corporation is subject to the
 9 provisions of chapter 119, relating to public records, and
 10 those provisions of chapter 286 relating to public meetings
 11 and records.
 12 (k) The nonprofit corporation is authorized to hire an
 13 executive director and appropriate staff. The nonprofit
 14 corporation shall annually, by February 1, provide the
 15 Legislature with a list of staff and salaries.
 16 (6)(4) This section expires June 30, 2002 +999, and
 17 shall be reviewed by the Legislature prior to that date. In
 18 its review, the Legislature shall assess the status of the
 19 WAGES Program and shall determine if the responsibility for
 20 administering the program should be transferred to other state
 21 agencies.
 22 Section 2. Section 414.028, Florida Statutes, is
 23 amended to read:
 24 414.028 Local WAGES coalitions.--The WAGES Program
 25 State Board of Directors shall create and charter local WAGES
 26 coalitions to plan and coordinate the delivery of services
 27 under the WAGES Program at the local level. The boundaries of
 28 the service area for a local WAGES coalition shall conform to
 29 the boundaries of the service area for the regional workforce
 30 development board established under the Enterprise Florida
 31 workforce development board. The local delivery of services

1 under the WAGES Program shall be coordinated, to the maximum
2 extent possible, with the local services and activities of the
3 local service providers designated by the regional workforce
4 development boards.
5 (1)(a) Each local WAGES coalition must have a minimum
6 of 11 members, of which at least one-half must be from the
7 business community. The composition of the coalition
8 membership must generally reflect the racial, gender, and
9 ethnic diversity of the community as a whole. All members
10 shall be appointed to 3-year terms. The membership of each
11 coalition must include:
12 1. Representatives of the principal entities that
13 provide funding for the employment, education, training, and
14 social service programs that are operated in the service area,
15 including, but not limited to, representatives of local
16 government, the regional workforce development board, and the
17 United Way.
18 2. A representative of the health and human services
19 board.
20 3. A representative of a community development board.
21 4. Three representatives of the business community who
22 represent a diversity of sizes of businesses.
23 5. Representatives of other local planning,
24 coordinating, or service-delivery entities.
25 6. A representative of a grassroots community or
26 economic development organization that serves the poor of the
27 community.
28 (b) A person may be a member of a local WAGES
29 coalition or a combined WAGES coalition as provided in
30 subsection (2) regardless of whether the member, or an
31 organization represented by a member, could benefit

1 financially from transactions of the coalition. However, if
2 the coalition enters into a contract with an organization or
3 individual represented on the coalition, the contract must be
4 approved by a two-thirds vote of the entire board, and the
5 board member who could benefit financially from the
6 transaction must abstain from voting. A board member must
7 disclose any such conflict in a manner that is approved by the
8 WAGES Program State Board of Directors and is consistent with
9 the procedures outlined in s. 112.3143. A representative of an
10 agency or entity that could benefit financially from funds
11 appropriated under the WAGES program may not be a member of a
12 local WAGES coalition.

(c) A member of the board of a public or private
14 educational institution may not serve as a member of a local
15 WAGES coalition.

(d) A representative of any county or municipal
17 governing body that elects to provide services through the
18 local WAGES coalition shall be an ex officio, nonvoting member
19 of the coalition.

(e) A representative of a county health department or
21 a representative of a healthy start coalition shall serve as
22 an ex officio, nonvoting member of the coalition.

(f) This subsection does not prevent a local WAGES
24 coalition from extending regular, voting membership to not
25 more than one representative of a county health department and
26 not more than one representative of a healthy start coalition.

(2) A local WAGES coalition and a regional workforce
28 development board may be combined into one board if the
29 membership complies with subsection (1), and if the membership
30 of the combined board meets the requirements of Pub. L. No.
31 97-300, the federal Job Training Partnership Act, as amended,

1 and with any law delineating the membership requirements for
 2 the regional workforce development boards. Notwithstanding
 3 paragraph (b) in a region in which the dates of the two
 4 boards are combined a person may be a member of the WAGES
 5 coalition even if the member or the member's principal could
 6 benefit financially from transactions of the coalition
 7 however members must recuse themselves from voting on all
 8 matters from which they or their principals could benefit
 9 financially. Failure to recuse on any such vote will
 10 constitute grounds for immediate removal from the local WAGES
 11 coalition.
 12 (3) The statewide implementation plan prepared by the
 13 WAGES Program State Board of Directors shall prescribe and
 14 publish the process for chartering the local WAGES coalitions.
 15 (4) Each local WAGES coalition shall perform the
 16 planning, coordination, and oversight functions specified in
 17 the statewide implementation plan, including, but not limited
 18 to:
 19 (a) Developing a program and financial plan to achieve
 20 the performance outcomes specified by the WAGES Program State
 21 Board of Directors for current and potential program
 22 participants in the service area. The plan must reflect the
 23 needs of service areas for seed money to create programs that
 24 assist children of WAGES participants. The plan must also
 25 include provisions for providing services for victims of
 26 domestic violence.
 27 (b) Developing a funding strategy to implement the
 28 program and financial plan which incorporates resources from
 29 all principal funding sources.

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1 (c) Identifying employment, service, and support
 2 resources in the community which may be used to fulfill the
 3 performance outcomes of the WAGES Program.
 4 (d) In cooperation with the regional workforce
 5 development board, coordinating the implementation of one-stop
 6 career centers.
 7 (e) Advising the Department of Children and Family
 8 Services and the Department of Labor and Employment Security
 9 with respect to the competitive procurement of services under
 10 the WAGES Program.
 11 (f) Selecting an entity to administer the program and
 12 financial plan, such as a unit of a political subdivision
 13 within the service area, a not-for-profit private organization
 14 or corporation, or any other entity agreed upon by the local
 15 WAGES coalition.
 16 (g) Developing a plan for services for victims of
 17 domestic violence.
 18 1. The WAGES Program State Board of Directors shall
 19 specify requirements for the local plan, including:
 20 a. Criteria for determining eligibility for exceptions
 21 to state work requirements;
 22 b. The programs and services to be offered to victims
 23 of domestic violence;
 24 c. Time limits for exceptions to program requirements,
 25 which may not result in an adult participant exceeding the
 26 federal time limit for exceptions or the state lifetime
 27 benefit limit that the participant would otherwise be entitled
 28 to receive; and
 29 d. An annual report on domestic violence, including
 30 the progress made in reducing domestic violence as a barrier
 31 to self-sufficiency among WAGES participants, local policies

1 and procedures for granting exceptions and exemptions from
2 program requirements due to domestic violence, and the number
3 and percentage of cases in which such exceptions and
4 exemptions are granted.
5 2. Each local WAGES coalition plan must specify
6 provisions for coordinating and, where appropriate, delivering
7 services, including:
8 a. Provisions for the local coalition to coordinate
9 with law enforcement agencies and social service agencies and
10 organizations that provide services and protection to victims
11 of domestic violence;
12 b. Provisions for allowing participants access to
13 domestic violence support services and ensuring that WAGES
14 participants are aware of domestic violence shelters,
15 hotlines, and other domestic violence services and policies;
16 c. Designation of the agency that is responsible for
17 determining eligibility for exceptions from program
18 requirements due to domestic violence;
19 d. Provisions that require each individual who is
20 granted an exemption from program requirements due to domestic
21 violence to participate in a program that prepares the
22 individual for self-sufficiency and safety; and
23 e. Where possible and necessary, provisions for job
24 assignments and transportation arrangements that take maximum
25 advantage of opportunities to preserve the safety of the
26 victim of domestic violence and the victim's dependents.
27 (5) By October 1, 1998, local WAGES coalitions shall
28 deliver through one-stop career centers, the full continuum of
29 services provided under the WAGES Program, including services
30 that are provided at the point of application. The State WAGES
31 Board may direct the Department of Labor and Employment

1 Security to provide such services to WAGES participants if a
2 local WAGES coalition is unable to provide services due to
3 decertification. Local WAGES coalitions may not determine an
4 individual's eligibility for temporary cash assistance and all
5 education and training shall be provided through agreements
6 with regional workforce development boards. The local WAGES
7 coalitions shall develop a transition plan to be approved by
8 the WAGES Program State Board of Directors. Should career
9 service employees of the Department of Labor and Employment
10 Security be subject to layoff due to the local WAGES
11 coalitions taking over the delivery of such services, such
12 employees shall be given priority consideration for employment
13 by the local WAGES coalitions.
14 (6) The WAGES Program State Board of Directors may
15 not approve the program and financial plan of a local
16 coalition unless the plan provides a teen pregnancy prevention
17 component that includes, but is not necessarily limited to, a
18 plan for implementing the Florida Education Now and Babies
19 Later (ENABL) program under s. 411.242 and the Teen Pregnancy
20 Prevention Community Initiative within each county segment of
21 the service area in which the teen childbirth birth rate is
22 higher than the state average. Each local WAGES coalition is
23 authorized to fund community-based welfare prevention and
24 reduction initiatives that increase the support provided by
25 noncustodial parents to their welfare-dependent children and
26 are consistent with program and financial guidelines developed
27 by the WAGES Program State Board of Directors and the
28 Commission on Responsible Fatherhood. These initiatives may
29 include, but are not limited to, improved paternity
30 establishment, work activities for noncustodial parents, and
31 programs aimed at decreasing out-of-wedlock pregnancies,

1 encouraging the involvement of fathers with their children,

2 and increasing child-support payments.

3 (7)(6) At the option of the local WAGES coalition,

4 local employees of the department and the Department of Labor
5 and Employment Security shall provide staff support for the
6 local WAGES coalitions. At the option of the local WAGES

7 coalition, staff support may be provided by another agency, or

8 entity, or by contract if it can be provided at no cost to the

9 state and if the support is not provided by an agency or other

10 entity that could benefit financially from funds appropriated

11 to implement the WAGES program.

12 (8)(7) There shall be no liability on the part of, and

13 no cause of action of any nature shall arise against, any

14 member of a local WAGES coalition or its employees or agents

15 for any lawful action taken by them in the performance of

16 their powers and duties under this section and s. 414.029.

17 Section 3. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and

18 subsection (7) of section 414.065, Florida Statutes, are

19 amended and subsection (12) is added to that section to read:

20 414.065 Work requirements.--

21 (1) WORK ACTIVITIES.--The following activities may be

22 used individually or in combination to satisfy the work

23 requirements for a participant in the WAGES Program:

24 (b) Subsidized private sector employment.--Subsidized

25 private sector employment is employment in a private

26 for-profit enterprise or a private not-for-profit enterprise

27 which is directly supplemented by federal or state funds. A

28 subsidy may be provided in one or more of the forms listed in

29 this paragraph.

30 1. Work supplementation.--A work supplementation

31 subsidy diverts a participant's temporary cash assistance

1 under the program to the employer. The employer must pay the
2 participant wages that equal or exceed the applicable federal
3 minimum wage. Work supplementation may not exceed 6 months. At
4 the end of the supplementation period, the employer is
5 expected to retain the participant as a regular employee
6 without receiving a subsidy for at least 2 months. A work
7 supplementation agreement may not be continued with any
8 employer who exhibits a pattern of failing to provide
9 participants with continued employment after the period of
10 work supplementation ends must provide that the employee is
11 dismissed at any time within 2 months after termination of
12 the supplementation period due in any part to loss of the
13 supplement the employer shall repay some or all of the
14 supplement previously paid as a subsidy to the employer under
15 the WAGBS program.
16 2. On-the-job training.--On-the-job training is
17 full-time, paid employment in which the employer or an
18 educational institution in cooperation with the employer
19 provides training needed for the participant to perform the
20 skills required for the position. The employer or the
21 educational institution on behalf of the employer receives a
22 subsidy to offset the cost of the training provided to the
23 participant. Upon satisfactory completion of the training, the
24 employer is expected to retain the participant as a regular
25 employee without receiving a subsidy. An on-the-job
26 training agreement may not be continued with any employer who
27 exhibits a pattern of failing to provide participants with
28 continued employment after the on-the-job training subsidy
29 ends must provide that in the case of dismissal of a
30 participant due to loss of the subsidy the employer shall
31 repay some or all of the subsidy previously provided by the

1 department-and-the-department-of-labor-and-employment

2 Security.

3 3. Incentive payments.--The department and the

4 Department of Labor and Employment Security may provide

5 additional incentive payments to encourage employers to employ

6 program participants. Incentive payments may include payments

7 to encourage the employment of hard-to-place participants, in

8 which case the amount of the payment shall be weighted

9 proportionally to the extent to which the participant has

10 limitations associated with the long-term receipt of welfare

11 and difficulty in sustaining employment. In establishing

12 incentive payments, the department and the Department of Labor

13 and Employment Security shall consider the extent of prior

14 receipt of welfare, lack of employment experience, lack of

15 education, lack of job skills, and other appropriate factors.

16 A participant who has complied with program requirements and

17 who is approaching the time limit for receiving temporary cash

18 assistance may be defined as "hard-to-place." Incentive

19 payments may include payments in which an initial payment is

20 made to the employer upon the employment of a participant, and

21 the majority of the incentive payment is made after the

22 employer retains the participant as a full-time employee for

23 at least 12 months. An the incentive agreement may not be

24 continued with any employer who exhibits a pattern of failing

25 to provide participants with continued employment after the

26 incentive payments cease must provide that the employees

27 dismissed at any time within 12 months after termination of

28 the incentive payment period due in any part to loss of the

29 incentive the employer shall repay some or all of the payment

30 previously paid as an incentive to the employer under the

31 WABS-Program.

1 4. Tax credits.--An employer who employs a program
2 participant may qualify for enterprise zone property tax
3 credits under s. 220.182, the tax refund program for qualified
4 target industry businesses under s. 288.106, or other federal
5 or state tax benefits. The department and the Department of
6 Labor and Employment Security shall provide information and
7 assistance, as appropriate, to use such credits to accomplish
8 program goals.

9 5. WAGES training bonus.--An employer who hires a
10 WAGES participant who has less than 6 months of eligibility
11 for temporary cash assistance remaining and who pays the
12 participant a wage that precludes the participant's
13 eligibility for temporary cash assistance may receive \$240 for
14 each full month of employment for a period that may not exceed
15 3 months. An employer who receives a WAGES training bonus for
16 an employee may not receive a work supplementation subsidy for
17 the same employee. Employment is defined as 35 hours per week
18 at a wage of no less than \$6 per hour.

19 (7) EXCEPTIONS TO NONCOMPLIANCE PENALTIES.--The
20 situations listed in this subsection shall constitute
21 exceptions to the penalties for noncompliance with
22 participation requirements, except that these situations do
23 not constitute exceptions to the applicable time limit for
24 receipt of temporary cash assistance:

25 (a) Noncompliance related to child care.--Temporary
26 cash assistance may not be terminated for refusal to
27 participate in work activities if the individual is a single
28 custodial parent caring for a child who has not attained 6
29 years of age, and the adult proves to the department or to the
30 Department of Labor and Employment Security an inability to

1 obtain needed child care for one or more of the following

2 reasons:

- 3 1. Unavailability of appropriate child care within a
- 4 reasonable distance from the individual's home or worksite.
- 5 2. Unavailability or unsuitability of informal child
- 6 care by a relative or under other arrangements.
- 7 3. Unavailability of appropriate and affordable formal
- 8 child care arrangements.

9 (b) Noncompliance related to domestic violence.--An

10 individual who is determined to be unable to comply with the

11 work requirements because such compliance would make it

12 probable that the individual would be unable to escape

13 domestic violence shall be exempt from work requirements

14 pursuant to s. 414.028(4)(g). However, the individual shall

15 comply with a plan that specifies alternative requirements

16 that prepare the individual for self-sufficiency while

17 providing for the safety of the individual and the

18 individual's dependents. An exception granted under this

19 paragraph does not constitute an exception to the time

20 limitations on benefits specified under s. 414.105.

21 (c) Noncompliance related to treatment or remediation

22 of past effects of domestic violence.--An individual who is

23 determined to be unable to comply with the work requirements

24 under this section due to mental or physical impairment

25 related to past incidents of domestic violence may be exempt

26 from work requirements for a specified period pursuant to s.

27 414.028(4)(g), except that such individual shall comply with a

28 plan that specifies alternative requirements that prepare the

29 individual for self-sufficiency while providing for the safety

30 of the individual and the individual's dependents. The plan

31 must include counseling or a course of treatment necessary for

1 the individual to resume participation. The need for treatment
2 and the expected duration of such treatment must be verified
3 by a physician licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459; a
4 psychologist licensed under s. 490.005(1), s. 490.006, or the
5 provision identified as s. 490.013(2) in s. 1, chapter 81-235,
6 laws of Florida; a therapist as defined in s. 491.003(2) or
7 (6); or a treatment professional who is registered under s.
8 415.605(1)(g), is authorized to maintain confidentiality under
9 s. 90.5036(1)(d), and has a minimum of 2 years experience at a
10 certified domestic violence center. An exception granted under
11 this paragraph does not constitute an exception from the time
12 limitations on benefits specified under s. 414.105.

(d)(b) Noncompliance related to medical
13 incapacity.--If an individual cannot participate in assigned
14 work activities due to a medical incapacity, the individual
15 may be excused from the activity for a specific period,
16 except that the individual shall be required to comply with
17 the course of treatment necessary for the individual to resume
18 participation. A participant may not be excused from work
19 activity requirements unless the participant's medical
20 incapacity is verified by a physician licensed under chapter
21 458 or chapter 459, in accordance with procedures established
22 by rule of the Department of Labor and Employment Security.
23 (e)(c) Other good cause exceptions for
24 noncompliance.--Individuals who are temporarily unable to
25 participate due to circumstances beyond their control may be
26 excused from the noncompliance penalties. The Department of
27 Labor and Employment Security may define by rule situations
28 that would constitute good cause. These situations must
29 include caring for a disabled family member when the need for
30

1 the care has been verified and alternate care is not

2 available.

3 (12) PROTECTION FOR CURRENT EMPLOYEES.--In

4 establishing and contracting for work-experience and community

5 service activities, other work-experience activities,

6 on-the-job training, subsidized employment, and work

7 supplementation under the WAGES Program, an employed worker

8 may not be displaced, either completely or partially. A WAGES

9 participant may not be assigned to an activity or employed in

10 a position if the employer has created the vacancy or

11 terminated an existing employee without good cause in order to

12 fill that position with a WAGES Program participant.

13 Section 4. For the purpose of incorporating the

14 amendment to section 414.065, Florida Statutes, in a reference

15 thereto, section 414.20, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to

16 read:

17 414.20 Other support services.--Support services shall

18 be provided, if resources permit, to assist participants in

19 complying with work activity requirements outlined in s.

20 414.065. If resources do not permit the provision of needed

21 support services, the department and the Department of Labor

22 and Employment Security may prioritize or otherwise limit

23 provision of support services. This section does not

24 constitute an entitlement to support services. Lack of

25 provision of support services may be considered as a factor in

26 determining whether good cause exists for failing to comply

27 with work activity requirements but does not automatically

28 constitute good cause for failing to comply with work activity

29 requirements, and does not affect any applicable time limit on

30 the receipt of temporary cash assistance or the provision of

31

1 services under this chapter. Support services shall include,

2 but need not be limited to:

3 (1) TRANSPORTATION.--Transportation expenses may be

4 provided to any participant when the assistance is needed to

5 comply with work activity requirements or employment

6 requirements, including transportation to and from a child

7 care provider. Payment may be made in cash or tokens in

8 advance or through reimbursement paid against receipts or

9 invoices. Support services funds may also be used to develop

10 transportation resources to expand transportation options

11 available to participants. These services may include

12 cooperative arrangements with local transit authorities or

13 school districts and small enterprise development.

14 (2) ANCILLARY EXPENSES.--Ancillary expenses such as

15 books, tools, clothing, fees, and costs necessary to comply

16 with work activity requirements or employment requirements may

17 be provided.

18 (3) MEDICAL SERVICES.--A family that meets the

19 eligibility requirements for Medicaid shall receive medical

20 services under the Medicaid program.

21 (4) PERSONAL AND FAMILY COUNSELING AND

22 THERAPY.--Counseling may be provided to participants who have

23 a personal or family problem or problems caused by substance

24 abuse that is a barrier to compliance with work activity

25 requirements or employment requirements. In providing these

26 services, the department and the Department of Labor and

27 Employment Security shall use services that are available in

28 the community at no additional cost. If these services are not

29 available, the department and the Department of Labor and

30 Employment Security may use support services funds. Personal

31 or family counseling not available through Medicaid may not be

1 considered a medical service for purposes of the required
2 statewide implementation plan or use of federal funds.
3 Section 5. Section 414.105, Florida Statutes, is
4 amended to read:
5 414.105 Time limitations of temporary cash
6 assistance.--Unless otherwise expressly provided in this
7 chapter, an applicant or current participant shall receive
8 temporary cash assistance for episodes of not more than 24
9 cumulative months in any consecutive 60-month period that
10 begins with the first month of participation and for not more
11 than a lifetime cumulative total of 48 months as an adult.
12 (1) The time limitation for episodes of temporary cash
13 assistance may not exceed 36 cumulative months in any
14 consecutive 72-month period that begins with the first month
15 of participation and may not exceed a lifetime cumulative
16 total of 48 months of temporary cash assistance as an adult,
17 for cases in which the participant:
18 (a) Has received aid to families with dependent
19 children or temporary cash assistance for any 36 months of the
20 preceding 60 months; or
21 (b) Is a custodial parent under the age of 24 who:
22 1. Has not completed a high school education or its
23 equivalent; or
24 2. Had little or no work experience in the preceding
25 year.
26 (2) A participant who is not exempt from work activity
27 requirements may earn 1 month of eligibility for extended
28 temporary cash assistance, up to a maximum of 12 additional
29 months, for each month in which the participant is fully
30 complying with all the requirements of the WAGES Program. The
31 period for which extended temporary cash assistance is granted

1 shall be based upon compliance with WAGES Program requirements
2 beginning October 1, 1996. A participant may not receive
3 temporary cash assistance under this subsection, in
4 combination with other periods of temporary cash assistance,
5 for longer than 48 months.

6 (3)(2) Hardship exemptions to the time limitations of
7 this chapter shall be limited to 10 percent of participants in
8 the first year of implementation of this chapter, 15 percent
9 of participants in the second year of implementation of this
10 chapter, and 20 percent of participants in all subsequent
11 years. Criteria for hardship exemptions include:

12 (a) Diligent participation in activities, combined
13 with inability to obtain employment.
14 (b) Diligent participation in activities, combined
15 with extraordinary barriers to employment, including the
16 conditions which may result in an exemption to work
17 requirements.
18 (c) Significant barriers to employment, combined with
19 a need for additional time.
20 (d) Diligent participation in activities and a need by
21 teen parents for an exemption in order to have 24 months of
22 eligibility beyond receipt of the high school diploma or
23 equivalent.
24 (e) A recommendation of extension for a minor child of
25 a participating family that has reached the end of the
26 eligibility period for temporary cash assistance. The
27 recommendation must be the result of a review which determines
28 that the termination of the child's temporary cash assistance
29 would be likely to result in the child being placed into
30 emergency shelter or foster care. Temporary cash assistance
31 shall be provided through a protective payee. Staff of the

1 Children and Families Family-Services Program Office of the
2 department shall conduct all assessments in each case in which
3 it appears a child may require continuation of temporary cash
4 assistance through a protective payee.
5
6 At the recommendation of the local WAGES coalition, temporary
7 cash assistance under a hardship exemption for a participant
8 who is eligible for work activities and who is not working
9 shall be reduced by 10 percent. Upon the employment of the
10 participant, full benefits shall be restored.
11 (4) In addition to the exemptions listed in subsection
12 (3), a victim of domestic violence may be granted a hardship
13 exemption if the effects of such domestic violence delay or
14 otherwise interrupt or adversely affect the individual's
15 participation in the program. Hardship exemptions granted
16 under this subsection shall not be subject to the percentage
17 limitations in subsection (3).
18 (5)(3) The department shall establish a procedure for
19 reviewing and approving hardship exemptions, and the local
20 WAGES coalitions may assist in making these determinations.
21 The composition of any review panel must generally reflect the
22 racial, gender, and ethnic diversity of the community as a
23 whole. Members of a review panel shall serve without
24 compensation, but are entitled to receive reimbursement for
25 per diem and travel expenses as provided in s. 112.016.
26 (6)(4) The cumulative total of all hardship exemptions
27 may not exceed 12 months, may include reduced benefits at the
28 option of the community review panel, and shall, in
29 combination with other periods of temporary cash assistance as
30 an adult, total no more than 48 months of temporary cash
31 assistance. If an individual fails to comply with program

1 requirements during a hardship exemption period, the hardship
 2 exemption shall be removed.
 3 (7)(5) For individuals who have moved from another
 4 state and have legally resided in this state for less than 12
 5 months, the time limitation for temporary cash assistance
 6 shall be the shorter of the respective time limitations used
 7 in the two states, and months in which temporary cash
 8 assistance was received under a block grant program that
 9 provided temporary assistance for needy families in any state
 10 shall count towards the cumulative 48-month benefit limit for
 11 temporary cash assistance.
 12 (8)(6) For individuals subject to a time limitation
 13 under the Family Transition Act of 1993, that time limitation
 14 shall continue to apply. Months in which temporary cash
 15 assistance was received through the family transition program
 16 shall count towards the time limitations under this chapter.
 17 (9)(7) Except when temporary cash assistance was
 18 received through the family transition program, the
 19 calculation of the time limitation for temporary cash
 20 assistance shall begin with the first month of receipt of
 21 temporary cash assistance after the effective date of this
 22 act.
 23 (10)(8) Child-only cases are not subject to time
 24 limitations, and temporary cash assistance received while an
 25 individual is a minor child shall not count towards time
 26 limitations.
 27 (11)(9) An individual who receives benefits under the
 28 Supplemental Security Income program or the Social Security
 29 Disability Insurance program is not subject to time
 30 limitations.
 31

1 (12) A person who is totally responsible for the
 2 personal care of a disabled family member is not subject to
 3 time limitations if the need for the care is verified and
 4 alternative care is not available for the family member. The
 5 department shall annually evaluate an individual's
 6 qualifications for this exemption.
 7 (13)++ A member of the WAGES Program staff shall
 8 interview and assess the employment prospects and barriers of
 9 each participant who is within 6 months of reaching the
 10 24-month time limit. The staff member shall assist the
 11 participant in identifying actions necessary to become
 12 employed prior to reaching the benefit time limit for
 13 temporary cash assistance and, if appropriate, shall refer the
 14 participant for services that could facilitate employment.
 15 Section 6. Present subsections (4), (5), (6), (7),
 16 (8), (9), and (10) of section 414.0252, Florida Statutes, are
 17 renumbered as subsections (5), (7), (8), (9), (10), (11), and
 18 (12) of that section, respectively, and new subsections (4)
 19 and (6) are added to that section, to read:
 20 414.0252 Definitions.--As used in ss. 414.015-414.45,
 21 the term:
 22 (4) "Domestic violence" means any assault, aggravated
 23 assault, battery, aggravated battery, sexual assault, sexual
 24 battery, stalking, aggravated stalking, kidnapping, false
 25 imprisonment, or any criminal offense that results in the
 26 physical injury or death of one family or household member by
 27 another.
 28 (6) "Family or household member" means spouses, former
 29 spouses, noncohabitating partners, persons related by blood or
 30 marriage, persons who are presently residing together as if a
 31 family or who have resided together in the past as if a

1 family, and persons who have a child in common regardless of
2 whether they have been married or have resided together at any
3 time.

4 Section 7. Paragraph (g) is added to subsection (10)
5 of section 414.095, Florida Statutes, and subsection (3) and
6 paragraph (d) of subsection (15) of that section are amended
7 to read:

8 414.095 Determining eligibility for the WAGES
9 Program.--

10 (3) ELIGIBILITY FOR NONCITIZENS.--A "qualified
11 noncitizen" is an individual who is lawfully present in the
12 United States as a refugee or who is granted asylum under ss.
13 207 and 208 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, an alien
14 whose deportation is withheld under s. 243(h) of the
15 Immigration and Nationality Act, or an alien who has been
16 admitted as a permanent resident and meets specific criteria
17 under federal law. In addition, a "qualified noncitizen"
18 includes an individual who has been battered or subject to
19 extreme cruelty in the United States by a spouse or a parent,
20 and has applied for or received protection under the federal
21 Violence Against Women Act of 1994, Pub. L. No. 103-322, if
22 the need for benefits is related to the abuse. A "nonqualified
23 noncitizen" is a nonimmigrant alien, including a tourist,
24 business visitor, foreign student, exchange visitor, temporary
25 worker, or diplomat. In addition, a "nonqualified noncitizen"
26 includes an individual paroled into the United States for less
27 than 1 year. A qualified noncitizen who is otherwise eligible
28 may receive temporary cash assistance to the extent permitted
29 by federal law. The income or resources of a sponsor and the
30 sponsor's spouse shall be included in determining eligibility
31 to the maximum extent permitted by federal law.

1 (a) A child born in the United States to an illegal or
 2 ineligible alien is eligible for temporary cash assistance
 3 under this chapter if the family meets all eligibility
 4 requirements.

5 (b) If the parent may legally work in this country,
 6 the parent must participate in the work activity requirements
 7 provided in s. 414.065, to the extent permitted under federal
 8 law.

9 (c) The department shall participate in the Systematic
 10 Alien Verification for Entitlements Program (SAVE) established
 11 by the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service in
 12 order to verify the validity of documents provided by aliens
 13 and to verify an alien's eligibility.

14 (d) The income of an illegal alien or ineligible
 15 alien, less a pro rata share for the illegal alien or
 16 ineligible alien, counts in determining a family's eligibility
 17 to participate in the program.

18 (e) The entire assets of an ineligible alien or a
 19 disqualified individual who is a mandatory member of a family
 20 shall be included in determining the family's eligibility.
 21 (10) PARTICIPANT OPPORTUNITIES AND OBLIGATIONS.--An
 22 applicant or participant in the WAGES Program has the
 23 following opportunities and obligations:

24 (g) To receive information regarding services
 25 available from certified domestic violence centers or
 26 organizations that provide counseling and supportive services
 27 to individuals who are past or present victims of domestic
 28 violence or who are at risk of domestic violence and, upon
 29 request, to be referred to such organizations in a manner
 30 which protects the individual's confidentiality.

31 (15) PROHIBITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS.--

1 (d) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, if a
2 parent or caretaker relative without good cause does not
3 cooperate with the state agency responsible for administering
4 the child support enforcement program in establishing,
5 modifying, or enforcing a support order with respect to a
6 child of a teen parent or other family member, or a child of a
7 family member who is in the care of an adult relative,
8 temporary cash assistance to the entire family shall be denied
9 until the state agency indicates that cooperation by the
10 parent or caretaker relative has been satisfactory. To the
11 extent permissible under federal law, a parent or caretaker
12 relative shall not be penalized for failure to cooperate with
13 paternity establishment or with the establishment,
14 modification, or enforcement of a support order when such
15 cooperation could subject an individual to a risk of domestic
16 violence. Such risk shall constitute good cause to the extent
17 permitted by Title IV-D of the Social Security Act, as
18 amended, or other federal law.
19 Section 8. Subsection (2) of section 414.115, Florida
20 Statutes, is amended to read:
21 414.115 Limited temporary cash assistance for children
22 born to families receiving temporary cash assistance.--
23 (2) Subsection (1) does not apply:
24 (a) To a program participant who is a victim of rape
25 or incest if the victim files a police report on the rape or
26 incest within 30 days after the incident;
27 (b) To a program participant who is confirmed by the
28 Title IV-D child support agency as having been granted an
29 exemption from participating in requirements for the
30 enforcement of child support due to circumstances consistent
31 with the conception of the child as a result of rape, incest,

1 or sexual exploitation. A child for whom an exemption is
 2 claimed under this paragraph and for whom an application has
 3 been made for a good-cause exemption from the requirements of
 4 s. 414.095 shall receive temporary benefits until a
 5 determination is made on the application for a good-cause
 6 exemption from the requirements of s. 414.095;
 7 (c)(b) To children who are the firstborn, including
 8 all children in the case of multiple birth, of minors included
 9 in a temporary cash assistance group who as minors become
 10 first-time parents;
 11 (d)(c) To a child when parental custody has been
 12 legally transferred; or
 13 (e)(d) To a child who is no longer able to live with
 14 his or her parents as a result of:
 15 1. The death of the child's parent or parents;
 16 2. The incapacity of the child's parent or parents as
 17 documented by a physician, such that the parent or parents are
 18 unable to care for the child;
 19 3. Legal transfer of the custody of the child to
 20 another individual;
 21 4. Incarceration of the child's parent or parents,
 22 except that the child shall not receive temporary cash
 23 assistance if a parent is subsequently released and reunited
 24 with the child; or
 25 5. A situation in which the child's parent's or
 26 parents' institutionalization is expected to be for an
 27 extended period, as defined by the department.
 28 Section 9. Paragraph (g) is added to subsection (1) of
 29 section 234.01, Florida Statutes, to read:
 30 234.01 Purpose: transportation; when provided.--
 31

1 (1) School boards, after considering recommendations
2 of the superintendent:
3 (g) May provide transportation for WAGES program
4 participants as defined in s. 414.0252.
5 Section 10. Present paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of
6 section 234.211, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as
7 paragraph (c), and a new paragraph (b) is added to that
8 subsection to read:
9 234.211 Use of school buses for public purposes.--
10 (1)
11 (b) Each school district may enter into agreements
12 with local WAGES coalitions for the provision of
13 transportation services to WAGES program participants as
14 defined in s. 414.0252. Agreements must provide for
15 reimbursement in full or in part for the proportionate share
16 of fixed and operating costs incurred by the school district
17 attributable to the use of buses in accordance with the
18 agreement.
19 Section 11. Subsection (13) is added to section
20 341.041, Florida Statutes, to read:
21 341.041 Transit responsibilities of the
22 department.--The department shall, within the resources
23 provided pursuant to chapter 216:
24 (13) Assist local governmental entities and other
25 transit operators in the planning, development, and
26 coordination of transit services for WAGES program
27 participants as defined in s. 414.0252.
28 Section 12. Subsections (1) and (2) of section
29 341.052, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
30 341.052 Public transit block grant program;
31 administration; eligible projects; limitation.--

1 (1) There is created a public transit block grant
2 program which shall be administered by the department. Block
3 grant funds shall only be provided to "Section 9" providers
4 and "Section 18" providers designated by the United States
5 Department of Transportation and community transportation
6 coordinators as defined in chapter 427. Eligible providers
7 must establish public transportation development plans
8 consistent, to the maximum extent feasible, with approved
9 local government comprehensive plans of the units of local
10 government in which the provider is located. In developing
11 public transportation development plans, eligible providers
12 must solicit comments from local WAGES coalitions established
13 under chapter 414. The development plans must address how the
14 public transit provider will work with the appropriate local
15 WAGES coalition to provide services to WAGES participants.
16 Eligible providers must review program and financial plans
17 established under s. 414.028 and provide information to the
18 local WAGES coalition serving the county in which the provider
19 is located regarding the availability of transportation
20 services to assist WAGES program participants.
21 (2) Costs for which public transit block grant program
22 funds may be expended include:
23 (a) Costs of public bus transit and local public fixed
24 guideway capital projects.
25 (b) Costs of public bus transit service development
26 and transit corridor projects. Whenever block grant funds are
27 used for a service development project or a transit corridor
28 project, the use of such funds is governed by s. 341.051.
29 Local transit service development projects and transit
30 corridor projects currently operating under contract with the
31 department shall continue to receive state funds according to

1 the contract until such time as the contract expires. Transit
2 corridor projects, wholly within one county, meeting or
3 exceeding performance criteria as described in the contract
4 shall be continued by the transit provider at the same or a
5 higher level of service until such time as the department, the
6 M.P.O., and the service provider, agree to discontinue the
7 service. The provider may not increase fares for services in
8 transit corridor projects wholly within one county without the
9 consent of the department.
10 (c) Costs of public bus transit operations.
11
12 All projects must shalt be consistent, to the maximum extent
13 feasible, with the approved local government comprehensive
14 plans of the units of local government comprehensive-plans-of
15 local-government in which the project is located.
16 Section 13. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section
17 414.026, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
18 414.026 WAGES Program State Board of Directors.--
19 (2)(a) The board of directors shall be composed of the
20 following members:
21 1. The Commissioner of Education, or the
22 commissioner's designee.
23 2. The Secretary of Children and Family Services.
24 3. The Secretary of Health.
25 4. The Secretary of Labor and Employment Security.
26 5. The Secretary of Community Affairs.
27 6. The Secretary of Transportation, or the secretary's
28 designee.
29 7.6- The director of the Office of Tourism, Trade, and
30 Economic Development.
31

1 8.7 The president of the Enterprise Florida workforce

2 development board, established under s. 288.9620.

3 9.8 The chief executive officer of the Florida

4 Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation, established under s.

5 288.1226.

6 10.9 Nine members appointed by the Governor, as

7 follows:

8 a. Six members shall be appointed from a list of ten

9 nominees, of which five must be submitted by the President of

10 the Senate and five must be submitted by the Speaker of the

11 House of Representatives. The list of five nominees submitted

12 by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of

13 Representatives must each contain at least three individuals

14 employed in the private sector, two of whom must have

15 management experience. One of the five nominees submitted by

16 the President of the Senate and one of the five nominees

17 submitted by the Speaker of the House of Representatives must

18 be an elected local government official who shall serve as an

19 ex officio nonvoting member.

20 b. Three members shall be at-large members appointed

21 by the Governor.

22 c. Of the nine members appointed by the Governor, at

23 least six must be employed in the private sector and of these,

24 at least five must have management experience.

25 The members appointed by the Governor shall be appointed to

26 4-year, staggered terms. Within 60 days after a vacancy occurs

27 on the board, the Governor shall fill the vacancy of a member

28 appointed from the nominees submitted by the President of the

29 Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives for the

30 remainder of the unexpired term from one nominee submitted by

1 the President of the Senate and one nominee submitted by the
2 Speaker of the House of Representatives. Within 60 days after
3 a vacancy of a member appointed at-large by the Governor
4 occurs on the board, the Governor shall fill the vacancy for
5 the remainder of the unexpired term. The composition of the
6 board must generally reflect the racial, gender, and ethnic
7 diversity of the state as a whole.

8 Section 14. Subsection (1) of section 414.20, Florida
9 Statutes, is amended to read:

10 414.20 Other support services.--Support services shall
11 be provided, if resources permit, to assist participants in
12 complying with work activity requirements outlined in s.
13 414.065. If resources do not permit the provision of needed
14 support services, the department and the Department of Labor
15 and Employment Security may prioritize or otherwise limit
16 provision of support services. This section does not
17 constitute an entitlement to support services. Lack of
18 provision of support services may be considered as a factor in
19 determining whether good cause exists for failing to comply
20 with work activity requirements but does not automatically
21 constitute good cause for failing to comply with work activity
22 requirements, and does not affect any applicable time limit on
23 the receipt of temporary cash assistance or the provision of
24 services under this chapter. Support services shall include,
25 but need not be limited to:

26 (1) TRANSPORTATION.--Transportation expenses may be
27 provided to any participant when the assistance is needed to
28 comply with work activity requirements or employment
29 requirements, including transportation to and from a child
30 care provider. Payment may be made in cash or tokens in
31 advance or through reimbursement paid against receipts or

1 invoices. Transportation services may include, but are not
 2 limited to, cooperative arrangements with the following:
 3 public transit providers; community transportation
 4 coordinators designated under chapter 427; school districts,
 5 churches and community centers; donated motor vehicle
 6 programs, vanpools, and ridesharing programs; small enterprise
 7 developments and entrepreneurial programs that encourage WAGES
 8 participants to become transportation providers; public and
 9 private transportation partnerships; and other innovative
 10 strategies to expand transportation options available to
 11 program participants.
 12 (a) Local WAGES coalitions are authorized to provide
 13 payment for vehicle operational and repair expenses, including
 14 repair expenditures necessary to make a vehicle functional;
 15 vehicle registration fees; driver's license fees; and
 16 liability insurance for the vehicle for a period of up to 6
 17 months. Request for vehicle repairs must be accompanied by an
 18 estimate of the cost prepared by a repair facility registered
 19 under s. 559.904.
 20 (b) Transportation disadvantaged funds as defined in
 21 chapter 427 do not include WAGES support services funds that
 22 are used for the provision of transportation services for
 23 WAGES program participants. It is the intent of the
 24 legislature that local WAGES coalitions consult with local
 25 community transportation coordinators designated under chapter
 26 427 regarding the availability and cost of transportation
 27 services through the coordinated transportation system prior
 28 to contracting for comparable transportation services outside
 29 the coordinated system. Support services funds may also be
 30 used to develop transportation resources to expand
 31 transportation options available to participants; these

1 services may include cooperative arrangements with local
2 transit authorities or school districts and small enterprise
3 development.
4 Section 15, Florida Statutes, is
5 created to read:
6 414.225 Transitional transportation.--In order to
7 assist former WAGES participants in maintaining and sustaining
8 employment, transportation may be provided, if funds are
9 available, for up to 1 year after the participant is no longer
10 eligible to participate in the program due to earnings. This
11 does not constitute an entitlement to transitional
12 transportation. If funds are not sufficient to provide
13 services under this section, the department may limit or
14 otherwise prioritize transportation services.
15 (1) Transitional transportation must be job related.
16 (2) Transitional transportation may include expenses
17 identified in s. 414.20.
18 Section 16, Subsection (27) is added to section
19 427.013, Florida Statutes, to read:
20 427.013 The Commission for the Transportation
21 Disadvantaged; purpose and responsibilities.--The purpose of
22 the commission is to accomplish the coordination of
23 transportation services provided to the transportation
24 disadvantaged. The goal of this coordination shall be to
25 assure the cost-effective provision of transportation by
26 qualified community transportation coordinators or
27 transportation operators for the transportation disadvantaged
28 without any bias or presumption in favor of multiplier
29 systems or not-for-profit transportation operators over single
30 operator systems or for-profit transportation operators. In
31 carrying out this purpose, the commission shall:

1 (27) Ensure that local community transportation
2 coordinators work cooperatively with local WAGES coalitions
3 established in chapter 414 to provide assistance in the
4 development of innovative transportation services for WAGES
5 participants.
6 Section 17. Subsection (9) is added to section
7 427.0155, Florida Statutes, to read:
8 427.0155 Community transportation coordinators; powers
9 and duties.--Community transportation coordinators shall have
10 the following powers and duties:
11 (9) Work cooperatively with local WAGES coalitions
12 established in chapter 414 to provide assistance in the
13 development of innovative transportation services for WAGES
14 participants.
15 Section 18. Subsection (7) is added to section
16 427.0157, Florida Statutes, to read:
17 427.0157 Coordinating boards; powers and duties.--The
18 purpose of each coordinating board is to develop local service
19 needs and to provide information, advice, and direction to the
20 community transportation coordinators on the coordination of
21 services to be provided to the transportation disadvantaged.
22 The commission shall, by rule, establish the membership of
23 coordinating boards. The members of each board shall be
24 appointed by the metropolitan planning organization or
25 designated official planning agency. The appointing authority
26 shall provide each board with sufficient staff support and
27 resources to enable the board to fulfill its responsibilities
28 under this section. Each board shall meet at least quarterly
29 and shall:
30 (7) Work cooperatively with local WAGES coalitions
31 established in chapter 414 to provide assistance in the

1 development of innovative transportation services for WAGES
2 participants.
3 Section 19. Section 414.80, Florida Statutes, is
4 created to read:
5 414.80 Short title.--Sections 414.80-414.860 may be
6 cited as the "WAGES Emergency Response Act."
7 Section 20. Section 414.810, Florida Statutes, is
8 created to read:
9 414.810 Legislative findings and intent.--
10 (1) The Legislature finds that the success of the Work
11 and Gain Economic Self-sufficiency (WAGES) Program depends
12 upon the existence of sufficient employment opportunities
13 compatible with the education and skill levels of participants
14 in the WAGES Program.
15 (2) The Legislature finds that in several identifiable
16 regions of the state there is an alarmingly inadequate supply
17 of entry-level jobs in relation to the number of WAGES Program
18 participants who are exhausting statutory limitations on the
19 receipt of temporary cash assistance under the WAGES Program.
20 (3) The Legislature finds that the disparity between
21 employment opportunities and the number of WAGES Program
22 participants in these areas of critical state economic concern
23 constitutes an economic development emergency with significant
24 fiscal and social implications for these areas and for the
25 state as a whole.
26 (4) The Legislature finds that there is an immediate
27 need to facilitate the location and expansion of businesses
28 and the creation of jobs in these areas of critical state
29 economic concern, but that such activities may be hampered by
30 existing budgetary, statutory, regulatory, or programmatic
31 requirements.

1 (5) It is the intent of the Legislature to provide for
2 a WAGES Emergency Response Program in order to ensure that the
3 resources of state and local government are marshaled in a
4 coordinated, effective, and timely manner to promote economic
5 development and job creation integral to the success of the
6 WAGES Program.
7 Section 21. Section 414.811, Florida Statutes, is
8 created to read:
9 414.811 Policy and purpose.--Because the Legislature
10 has determined that the state must take extraordinary measures
11 to meet the employment needs of its residents who are
12 transitioning from dependence on welfare to self-reliance
13 through employment and to ensure that adequate employment
14 opportunities exist for such residents, it is hereby found and
15 declared necessary:
16 (1) To create a State WAGES Emergency Response Team to
17 be composed of a state director and appointed agency WAGES
18 Emergency Response Team Coordinators.
19 (a) The state director shall be appointed by the
20 Governor, and for administrative purposes, shall be housed in
21 the Executive Office of the Governor.
22 (b) Staffing for the State WAGES Emergency Response
23 Team shall be provided by the Department of Community Affairs.
24 The department shall coordinate the use of state facilities
25 and resources in ensuring the successful completion of the
26 team's objectives.
27 (2) To empower the State WAGES Emergency Response Team
28 to facilitate the creation of employment opportunities in
29 areas of critical state economic concern.
30 (3) To provide for coordination with local government
31 of state designated projects.

1 Section 22. Section 414.812, Florida Statutes, is
 2 created to read:
 3 414.812 Limitations.--
 4 (1) The existence of the State WAGES Emergency
 5 Response Team is not designed to disrupt the orderly economic
 6 development of the state. Rather, it is created to coordinate
 7 state resources and rapidly eliminate barriers that prevent
 8 the creation of employment opportunities in designated regions
 9 and communities of the state.
 10 (2) Nothing in ss. 414.80-414.860 shall be construed
 11 to:
 12 (a) Interfere with the responsibilities of the
 13 Division of Community Affairs relative to the State Emergency
 14 Management Act under chapter 252;
 15 (b) Interfere with military and defense obligations of
 16 the Florida National Guard; or
 17 (c) Authorize the destruction of wetlands or other
 18 ecologically or environmentally sensitive lands.
 19 Section 23. Section 414.813, Florida Statutes, is
 20 created to read:
 21 414.813 Liberal construction.--Sections 414.80-414.860
 22 shall be construed liberally in order to effectuate their
 23 purposes.
 24 Section 24. Section 414.820, Florida Statutes, is
 25 created to read:
 26 414.820 Designation of Areas of Critical State
 27 Economic Concern.--
 28 (1) The Legislature declares the following workforce
 29 Development Regions to be areas of critical state economic
 30 concern:
 31 (a) Region 5--Gadsden, Leon, and Wakulla counties;

1 (b) Region 6--Hamilton, Jefferson, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee, and Taylor counties;

2 (c) Region 7--Baker, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, and Union counties;

3 (d) Region 19--Desoto, Hardee, and Highlands counties; and

4 (e) Region 23--Dade and Monroe counties.

5 (2) By Executive Order, the Governor shall declare no more than 4 additional areas of the state as areas of critical state economic concern based upon the following criteria:

6 (a) Areas with a high proportion of families who had already received cash assistance in three out of the previous five years at the time their time limit was established;

7 (b) Areas with a high proportion of families subject to the WAGES time limit headed by a parent who was under age 24 at the time the time limit was established and who lacked high school or GED completion;

8 (c) Areas with a high proportion of families subject to the time limit who have used all of the available months of cash assistance since October 1996;

9 (d) Areas with a low ratio of new jobs per WAGES client;

10 (e) Areas with a low ratio of job openings requiring less than a high school degree per WAGES client;

11 (f) Areas with a high proportion of families subject to the time limit who are either within six months of the time limit or are receiving cash assistance under a period of hardship extension to the time limit;

12 (g) Areas with unusually high unemployment; and

1 Areas identified as labor surplus areas using the
2 criteria established by the U.S. Department of Labor
3 Employment and Training Administration.
4 (3) Subcounty areas determined to have the greatest
5 need for job creation as determined by the workforce
6 Development Board of Enterprise Florida, Inc., based upon the
7 criteria in subsection (2) shall qualify for designation by
8 the Governor under the authority provided by this section.
9 Section 25. Section 414.830, Florida Statutes, is
10 created to read:
11 414.830 WAGES Emergency Response Program.--
12 (1)(a) By July 1, 1998, the heads of the Departments
13 of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Labor and Employment
14 Security, Community Affairs, Children and Family Services,
15 Revenue, Business and Professional Regulation, Management
16 Services, Military Affairs, Transportation, and Environmental
17 Protection shall select from within each such department a
18 person to be designated as the WAGES Emergency Response
19 Coordinator for the department and a person to serve as an
20 alternate.
21 (b) By July 1, 1998, the Comptroller, the Auditor
22 General, the executive director of each water management
23 district, and the heads of the Office of Tourism, Trade, and
24 Economic Development, Enterprise Florida, Inc., State WAGES
25 Board of Directors, Institute of Food and Agricultural
26 Science, Florida Chamber of Commerce, the Florida Home
27 Builders Association, the State Board of Community Colleges,
28 Division of Workforce Development of the Department of
29 Education, State University System, Florida Ports Council, and
30 the Office of Planning and Budgeting shall select from within
31 such organizations a person to be designated as the WAGES

Emergency Response Coordinator for the organization and a
 person to serve as an alternate.
 (c) By designation, the WAGES Emergency Response
 Coordinators are empowered to commit and coordinate those
 resources applicable to the organization that the coordinator
 represents. The WAGES Emergency Response Coordinators together
 with the state director comprise the WAGES Emergency Response
 Team, and are responsible for providing various resources
 dictated by need as determined by project teams.
 (d) The head of each organization identified in
 paragraphs (a) and (b) shall notify the Governor and the state
 director in writing of the person initially designated as the
 WAGES Emergency Response Coordinator for such organization and
 his or her alternate and of any changes in persons so
 designated thereafter. The Governor may add individuals to the
 WAGES Emergency Response Team as deemed necessary.
 (2) The State WAGES Emergency Response Team shall
 encourage state and local agencies to cooperatively solve all
 barriers for attracting and committing potential employers to
 locate in areas of critical state economic concern and to
 facilitate expansion of existing businesses in those areas.
 Once a local project leader or regional response team has
 identified a barrier that cannot be overcome through
 traditional means, the State WAGES Emergency Response Team
 may:

(a) By contract with the potential employer, waive any
 criteria, requirement or similar provision of any economic
 development incentive. Such incentives shall include, but not
 be limited to: the Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund
 Program under s. 288.106, the Quick-Response Training Program
 under s. 288.047, the WAGES Quick-Response Training Program,

1 contracts for transportation projects under s. 288.063, the
 2 Qualified Defense contractor Tax Refund Program under s.
 3 288.1045, the brownfield redevelopment bonus refunds under s.
 4 288.107, the urban high-crime area and rural job tax credit
 5 programs under ss. 212.097, 212.098, and 220.1895;
 6 (b) By contract with the potential employer, provide
 7 training and educational opportunities for new employees,
 8 develop training programs, and pay tuition or training
 9 expenses for employees;
 10 (c) Contract with any Florida based provider of
 11 employment training services or educational services for the
 12 provision of services related to the team's responsibilities;
 13 (d) Contract with potential employers to provide any
 14 service or product over which the team has control;
 15 (e) Recommend emergency issues to the Governor for his
 16 consideration as matters requiring an executive order;
 17 (f) Waive transportation provider preferences and
 18 exclusions provided to the Transportation Disadvantage
 19 Commission and associated providers; and
 20 (g) Authorize the use of funds appropriated for the
 21 WAGES Emergency Response Program for the staffing expenses of
 22 the Department of Community Affairs.
 23 (3) The State WAGES Emergency Response Team shall meet
 24 at a minimum on a monthly basis.
 25 (4) In order to accomplish the goals of the State
 26 WAGES Emergency Response Team, the Governor may, by executive
 27 order:
 28 (a) Exercise any power enumerated under s. 252.36; and
 29 (b) Require, at the recommendation of the State WAGES
 30 Emergency Response Team, minimum hiring requirements of
 31 participants of the WAGES Program for contracts entered into

1 by the Florida Department of Transportation or any school
2 district entering into contract for capital construction.
3 (5) The State WAGES Emergency Response Team is
4 directed to use local resources and financing whenever
5 possible and to petition the Governor to use the powers
6 granted in this act to finance local projects.
7 Section 26. Section 414.840, Florida Statutes, is
8 created to read:
9 414.840 Regional WAGES Emergency Response Teams.--
10 (1) Enterprise Florida, Inc., in cooperation with the
11 Department of Community Affairs, is responsible for initial
12 organization of the regional response teams. Regional response
13 teams shall be composed of representatives of cities and
14 counties that have governing responsibilities for a given
15 area. In addition to representatives of local government, a
16 representative from the local WAGES coalition, the regional
17 workforce development board, local economic development
18 councils, and a representative of the local school board shall
19 also be included on the regional response team. The team
20 leader shall be selected by the team members.
21 (2)(a) Regional response teams shall assess businesses
22 located in the region to identify potential expansion projects
23 that may require the assistance of the state response team.
24 The teams shall also identify underutilized local resources.
25 (b) Regional response teams shall be responsible for
26 coordinating the efforts of local government and local
27 agencies to attract potential new employers and shall work in
28 conjunction with local economic development councils.
29 Enterprise Florida, Inc., shall assist the regional response
30 teams by providing research and advice in fulfilling their
31 charge.

1 (c) A regional response team may propose any local
2 opportunity for the expansion of an existing business or for
3 the relocation to the region of an existing employer to the
4 State WAGES Emergency Response Team to exercise the powers
5 vested in the state team.
6 (d) It is the desire of the Legislature that local
7 resources and local solutions shall be used first as the
8 economic development resulting from the efforts of the teams
9 will be felt greatest by local communities.
10 Section 27, Section 414.845, Florida Statutes, is
11 created to read:
12 414.845 Local Project Teams.--
13 (1) Recognizing that significant job creation efforts
14 often focus on development of specific sites and may include
15 multiple employers, not more than 10 local project districts
16 may be designated by the State WAGES Emergency Response Team.
17 Not more than 3 of the local project districts may be created
18 in Dade County. Not more than 7 may be located in
19 legislatively designated areas of critical state economic
20 concern, including those designated in Dade County. Such sites
21 must be contiguous and capable of supporting businesses
22 creating a total of 500 jobs or more.
23 (2) Upon designation of a local project district, a
24 local project team shall be assembled and approved by the
25 State WAGES Emergency Response Team, after consultation with
26 the regional response team. Local project leaders should look
27 first to the regional response teams for assistance, but may
28 directly appeal to the State WAGES Emergency Response Team for
29 assistance.
30 (3) Local project teams shall have the following
31 powers and responsibilities:

1 (a) Local project teams are to aggressively solicit
 2 potential businesses for site specific projects?
 3 (b) Local project teams shall assist potential
 4 employers in identifying and applying for all relevant
 5 incentives and permits?
 6 (c) Local project teams, with permission of the State
 7 WAGES Emergency Response Team, may negotiate specific terms of
 8 agreement with potential employers; and
 9 (d) Local project teams shall identify and assist in
 10 the elimination of local barriers to the location or expansion
 11 of a business at the site.
 12 (4) In selecting potential projects, the State WAGES
 13 Emergency Response Team shall consider all projects submitted,
 14 and shall pay particular attention to projects which include
 15 elements relating to transportation distribution centers,
 16 warehousing facilities, agricultural processing and packaging,
 17 and the aquaculture industry. While traditional economic
 18 development does not usually focus on retail establishments,
 19 the team may consider projects which provide retail employment
 20 opportunities and select retail projects if they provide
 21 significant employment opportunities.
 22 Section 28. Section 414.850, Florida Statutes, is
 23 created to read:
 24 414.850 Expiration and review of WAGES Emergency
 25 Response Program.--Sections 414.80-414.860, expire June 30,
 26 2002, and shall be reviewed by the Legislature and Enterprise
 27 Florida, Inc., prior to that date. In its review, the
 28 Legislature shall determine if the continued use of the WAGES
 29 Emergency Response Program fulfills a state need. Enterprise
 30 Florida, Inc., shall assess the usefulness and applicability
 31

1 of the WAGES Emergency Response Program for economic

2 development projects.

3 Section 29. Section 414.860, Florida Statutes, is

4 created to read:

5 414.860 Legislative oversight.--The President of the

6 Senate shall appoint 2 members of the Senate and the Speaker

7 of the House of Representatives shall appoint 2 members of the

8 House of Representatives to serve as a legislative oversight

9 committee to monitor and advise the State WAGES Emergency

10 Response Team.

11 Section 30. The State WAGES Emergency Response Team

12 shall, from funds appropriated for the use of the team,

13 contract with the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences

14 for job creation and training activities related to the

15 Institute's Job Start, Care Giver Education, Aquaculture of

16 High Value Species, and New Technologies in Plasticulture for

17 Vegetable Producers Programs.

18 Section 31. Paragraph (h) of subsection (5) of section

19 212.08, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

20 212.08 Sales, rental, use, consumption, distribution,

21 and storage tax; specified exemptions.--The sale at retail,

22 the rental, the use, the consumption, the distribution, and

23 the storage to be used or consumed in this state of the

24 following are hereby specifically exempt from the tax imposed

25 by this chapter.

26 (5) EXEMPTIONS; ACCOUNT OF USE.--

27 (h) Business property used in an enterprise zone.--

28 1. Beginning July 1, 1995, business property purchased

29 for use by businesses located in an enterprise zone which is

30 subsequently used in an enterprise zone shall be exempt from

31 the tax imposed by this chapter. This exemption inures to the

1 business only through a refund of previously paid taxes. A
 2 refund shall be authorized upon an affirmative showing by the
 3 taxpayer to the satisfaction of the department that the
 4 requirements of this paragraph have been met.
 5 2. To receive a refund, the business must file under
 6 oath with the governing body or enterprise zone development
 7 agency having jurisdiction over the enterprise zone where the
 8 business is located, as applicable, an application which
 9 includes:
 10 a. The name and address of the business claiming the
 11 refund.
 12 b. The identifying number assigned pursuant to s.
 13 290.0065 to the enterprise zone in which the business is
 14 located.
 15 c. A specific description of the property for which a
 16 refund is sought, including its serial number or other
 17 permanent identification number.
 18 d. The location of the property.
 19 e. The sales invoice or other proof of purchase of the
 20 property, showing the amount of sales tax paid, the date of
 21 purchase, and the name and address of the sales tax dealer
 22 from whom the property was purchased.
 23 f. Whether the business is a small business as defined
 24 by s. 288.703(1).
 25 g. If applicable, the name and address of each
 26 permanent employee of the business, including, for each
 27 employee who is a resident of an enterprise zone, the
 28 identifying number assigned pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the
 29 enterprise zone in which the employee resides.
 30 3. Within 10 working days after receipt of an
 31 application, the governing body or enterprise zone development

1 agency shall review the application to determine if it
2 contains all the information required pursuant to subparagraph
3 2. and meets the criteria set out in this paragraph. The
4 governing body or agency shall certify all applications that
5 contain the information required pursuant to subparagraph 2.
6 and meet the criteria set out in this paragraph as eligible to
7 receive a refund. If applicable, the governing body or agency
8 shall also certify if 20 percent of the employees of the
9 business are residents of an enterprise zone, excluding
10 temporary and part-time employees. The certification shall be
11 in writing, and a copy of the certification shall be
12 transmitted to the executive director of the Department of
13 Revenue. The business shall be responsible for forwarding a
14 certified application to the department within the time
15 specified in subparagraph 4.
16 4. An application for a refund pursuant to this
17 paragraph must be submitted to the department within 6 months
18 after the business property is purchased.
19 5. The provisions of s. 212.095 do not apply to any
20 refund application made pursuant to this paragraph. The amount
21 refunded on purchases of business property under this
22 paragraph shall be the lesser of 97 percent of the sales tax
23 paid on such business property or \$5,000, or, if no less than
24 20 percent of the employees of the business are residents of
25 an enterprise zone, excluding temporary and part-time
26 employees, the amount refunded on purchases of business
27 property under this paragraph shall be the lesser of 97
28 percent of the sales tax paid on such business property or
29 \$10,000. A refund approved pursuant to this paragraph shall be
30 made within 30 days of formal approval by the department of
31 the application for the refund. No refund shall be granted

1 under this paragraph unless the amount to be refunded exceeds
2 \$100 in sales tax paid on purchases made within a 60-day time
3 period.
4 6. The department shall adopt rules governing the
5 manner and form of refund applications and may establish
6 guidelines as to the requisites for an affirmative showing of
7 qualification for exemption under this paragraph.
8 7. If the department determines that the business
9 property is used outside an enterprise zone within 3 years
10 from the date of purchase, the amount of taxes refunded to the
11 business purchasing such business property shall immediately
12 be due and payable to the department by the business, together
13 with the appropriate interest and penalty, computed from the
14 date of purchase, in the manner provided by this chapter.
15 Notwithstanding this subparagraph, in order to provide greater
16 employment opportunities in areas of critical state economic
17 concern, business property used exclusively in:
18 a. Licensed commercial fishing vessels,
19 b. Fishing guide boats, or
20 c. Ecotourism guide boats
21 that leave and return to a fixed location within an area
22 designated under s. 370.28 are eligible for the exemption
23 provided under this paragraph if all requirements of this
24 paragraph are met. Such vessels and boats must be owned by a
25 business that is eligible to receive the exemption provided
26 under this paragraph. This exemption does not apply to the
27 purchase of a vessel or boat.
28 8. The department shall deduct an amount equal to 10
29 percent of each refund granted under the provisions of this
30 paragraph from the amount transferred into the local

1 Government Half-cent Sales Tax Clearing Trust Fund pursuant to
2 s. 212.20 for the county area in which the business property
3 is located and shall transfer that amount to the General
4 Revenue Fund.
5 9. For the purposes of this exemption, "business
6 property" means new or used property defined as "recovery
7 property" in s. 168(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954,
8 as amended, except:
9 a. Property classified as 3-year property under s.
10 168(c)(2)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended;
11 b. Industrial machinery and equipment as defined in
12 sub-paragraph (b)6.a. and eligible for exemption under
13 paragraph (b); and
14 c. Building materials as defined in sub-paragraph
15 (g)8.a.
16 10. The provisions of this paragraph shall expire and
17 be void on December 31, 2005.
18 Section 32. Subsection (1) and paragraph (a) of
19 subsection (3) of section 212.096, Florida Statutes, are
20 amended to read:
21 212.096 Sales, rental, storage, use tax; enterprise
22 zone jobs credit against sales tax.--
23 (1) For the purposes of the credit provided in this
24 section:
25 (a) "Eligible business" means any sole proprietorship,
26 firm, partnership, corporation, bank, savings association,
27 estate, trust, business trust, receiver, syndicate, or other
28 group or combination, or successor business, located in an
29 enterprise zone. An eligible business does not include any
30 business which has claimed the credit permitted under s.
31

1 220.181 for any new business employee first beginning
2 employment with the business after July 1, 1995.
3 (b) "Month" means either a calendar month or the time
4 period from any day of any month to the corresponding day of
5 the next succeeding month or, if there is no corresponding day
6 in the next succeeding month, the last day of the succeeding
7 month.
8 (c) "New employee" means a person residing in an
9 enterprise zone, a qualified Job Training Partnership Act
10 classroom training participant, or a WAGES Program participant
11 who begins employment with an eligible business after July 1,
12 1995, and who has not been previously employed within the
13 preceding 12 months by the eligible business, or a successor
14 eligible business, claiming the credit allowed by this
15 section.
16
17 A person shall be deemed to be employed if the person performs
18 duties in connection with the operations of the business on a
19 regular, full-time basis, provided the person is performing
20 such duties for an average of at least 36 hours per week each
21 month, or a part-time basis, provided the person is performing
22 such duties for an average of at least 20 hours per week each
23 month throughout the year. The person must be performing such
24 duties at a business site located in the enterprise zone.
25 (3) In order to claim this credit, an eligible
26 business must file under oath with the governing body or
27 enterprise zone development agency having jurisdiction over
28 the enterprise zone where the business is located, as
29 applicable, a statement which includes:
30 (a) For each new employee for whom this credit is
31 claimed, the employee's name and place of residence, including

1 the identifying number assigned pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the
 2 enterprise zone in which the employee resides if the new
 3 employee is a person residing in an enterprise zone, and, if
 4 applicable, documentation that the employee is a qualified job
 5 Training Partnership Act classroom training participant or a
 6 WAGES Program participant.
 7 Section 33. Paragraph (q) of subsection (1) of section
 8 220.03, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 9 220.03 Definitions.--
 10 (1) SPECIFIC TERMS.--When used in this code, and when
 11 not otherwise distinctly expressed or manifestly incompatible
 12 with the intent thereof, the following terms shall have the
 13 following meanings:
 14 (q) "New employee," for the purposes of the enterprise
 15 zone jobs credit, means a person residing in an enterprise
 16 zone, a qualified job Training Partnership Act classroom
 17 training participant, or a WAGES Program participant employed
 18 at a business located in an enterprise zone who begins
 19 employment in the operations of the business after July 1,
 20 1995, and who has not been previously employed within the
 21 preceding 12 months by the business or a successor business
 22 claiming the credit pursuant to s. 220.181. A person shall be
 23 deemed to be employed by such a business if the person
 24 performs duties in connection with the operations of the
 25 business on a full-time basis, provided she or he is
 26 performing such duties for an average of at least 36 hours per
 27 week each month, or a part-time basis, provided she or he is
 28 performing such duties for an average of at least 20 hours per
 29 week each month throughout the year. The person must be
 30 performing such duties at a business site located in an
 31

1 enterprise zone. The provisions of this paragraph shall expire
2 and be void on June 30, 2005.

3 Section 34. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section
4 220.181, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
5 220.181 Enterprise zone jobs credit.--
6 (2) When filing for an enterprise zone jobs credit, a
7 business must file under oath with the governing body or
8 enterprise zone development agency having jurisdiction over
9 the enterprise zone where the business is located, as
10 applicable, a statement which includes:

11 (a) For each new employee for whom this credit is
12 claimed, the employee's name and place of residence during the
13 taxable year, including the identifying number assigned
14 pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the enterprise zone in which the
15 new employee resides if the new employee is a person residing
16 in an enterprise zone, and, if applicable, documentation that
17 the employee is a qualified job training Partnership Act
18 classroom training participant or a WAGES Program participant.

19 Section 35. Subsection (10) is added to section
20 288.047, Florida Statutes, to read:
21 288.047 Quick-response training for economic
22 development.--

23 (10) There is created a Quick-response Training
24 Program for Work and Gain Economic Self-sufficiency (WAGES)
25 participants. Enterprise Florida, Inc., may, at the discretion
26 of the State WAGES Emergency Response Team, award
27 quick-response training grants and develop applicable
28 guidelines for the training of participants in the WAGES
29 Program. In addition to a local economic development
30 organization, grants must be endorsed by the applicable local
31 WAGES coalition and regional workforce development board.

1 (a) Training funded pursuant to this subsection may
2 not exceed 12 months, and may be provided by the local
3 community college, school district, regional workforce
4 development board, or the business employing the participant,
5 including on-the-job training. Training will provide
6 entry-level skills to new workers, including those employed in
7 retail, who are participants in the WAGES Program.
8 (b) WAGES participants trained pursuant to this
9 subsection must be employed at a wage not less than \$6.00 per
10 hour.
11 (c) Funds made available pursuant to this subsection
12 may be expended in connection with the relocation of a
13 business from one community to another community if approved
14 by the State WAGES Emergency Response Team.
15 Section 36. Subsection (4) of section 370.28, Florida
16 Statutes, is amended, and subsection (5) is added to that
17 section to read:
18 370.28 Enterprise zone designation; communities
19 adversely impacted by net limitations.--
20 (4) Notwithstanding the enterprise zone residency
21 requirements set out in ss. 212.096(1)(c) and 220.03(1)(g),
22 businesses located in enterprise zones designated pursuant to
23 this section may receive the credit provided under s. 212.096
24 or s. 220.181 for hiring any person within the jurisdiction of
25 the county within which nominating-community-of such
26 enterprise zone is located. All other provisions of ss.
27 212.096, 220.03(1)(g), and 220.181 apply to such businesses.
28 To increase employment opportunities for WAGES clients and
29 prevent other persons from reliance on WAGES benefits,
30 notwithstanding the requirement specified in ss.
31 212.08(5)(g)5. and (h)5. and (15)(a) and 220.182(1)(b) that no

1 less than 20 percent of a business's employees, excluding
 2 temporary and part-time employees, must be residents of an
 3 enterprise zone for the business to qualify for the maximum
 4 exemption or credit provided in ss. 212.08(5)(g) and (h) and
 5 (15) and 220.182, a business that is located in an enterprise
 6 zone designated pursuant to this section shall be qualified
 7 for those maximum exemptions or credits if no less than 20
 8 percent of such employees of the business are residents of the
 9 jurisdiction of the county within which the enterprise zone is
 10 located. All other provisions of ss. 212.08(5)(g) and (h) and
 11 (15) and 220.182 apply to such business.
 12 (5) Notwithstanding the time limitations contained in
 13 chapters 212 and 220, a business eligible to receive tax
 14 credits under this section from January 1, 1997, to June 1,
 15 1998, must submit an application for the tax credits by
 16 December 1, 1998. All other requirements of the enterprise
 17 zone program apply to such a business.
 18 Section 37. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
 19 law.

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1 transportation services; deleting duplicative
 2 provisions; amending s. 414.026, F.S.; revising
 3 membership of the WAGES Program State Board of
 4 Directors; creating s. 414.225, F.S.; providing
 5 for the provision of transitional
 6 transportation for former WAGES participants;
 7 amending s. 427.013, F.S.; providing for the
 8 duties of the Commission for the Transportation;
 9 Disadvantaged regarding WAGES transportation;
 10 amending s. 427.0155, F.S.; providing for the
 11 duties of community transportation coordinators
 12 regarding WAGES transportation; amending s.
 13 427.0157, F.S.; providing for the duties of the
 14 local coordinating boards regarding WAGES
 15 transportation; creating s. 414.80, F.S.;
 16 designating specified sections as the "WAGES
 17 Emergency Response Act"; creating s. 414.810,
 18 F.S.; providing legislative findings and
 19 intent; creating s. 414.811, F.S.; providing
 20 for policy and purposes relating to the WAGES
 21 Emergency Response Program; creating s.
 22 414.812, F.S.; limiting authority of the State
 23 WAGES Emergency Response Team; creating s.
 24 414.813, F.S.; providing for liberal
 25 construction; creating s. 414.820, F.S.;
 26 designating areas of critical state economic
 27 concern; creating s. 414.830, F.S.; providing
 28 for WAGES Emergency Response Team Coordinators;
 29 providing team authorities; providing for
 30 gubernatorial authorities; creating s. 414.840,
 31 F.S.; creating Regional WAGES Emergency

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

1 Response Teams; providing for responsibilities;
 2 creating s. 414.845, F.S.; creating local
 3 project teams; providing for powers and
 4 responsibilities for such teams; providing
 5 guidelines for prioritization of projects;
 6 creating s. 414.850, F.S.; providing for
 7 expiration and review of the WAGES Emergency
 8 Response Program; creating s. 414.860, F.S.;
 9 providing for a legislative oversight
 10 committee; requiring a contract related to job
 11 creation and training activities; amending s.
 12 212.08, F.S.; exempting certain property based
 13 in enterprise zones from the sales tax under
 14 certain circumstances; amending s. 212.096,
 15 F.S.; expanding enterprise zone sales tax
 16 credit to JTPA or WAGES Program participants
 17 not residing in an enterprise zone; requiring
 18 documentation; amending s. 220.03, F.S.;
 19 expanding enterprise zone corporate tax credit
 20 to JTPA or WAGES Program participants not
 21 residing in an enterprise zone; amending s.
 22 220.181, F.S.; requiring documentation;
 23 amending s. 288.047, F.S.; creating a
 24 Quick-response Training Program for WAGES
 25 participants; providing requirements; amending
 26 s. 370.28, F.S.; providing that a business
 27 located in an enterprise zone in a community
 28 impacted by net limitations is eligible for the
 29 maximum sales tax exemption for building
 30 materials used in the rehabilitation of real
 31 property in an enterprise zone, for business

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to the WAGES Program; amending
 3 s. 414.026, F.S.; requiring that the WAGES
 4 Program State Board of Directors approve any
 5 WAGES-related proposed administrative rules;
 6 requiring collaboration with the WAGES State
 7 Board concerning other actions by the Workforce
 8 Development Board of Enterprise Florida, Inc.,
 9 and state agencies; extending the existence of
 10 the WAGES Program State Board of Directors;
 11 allowing the Governor to designate the WAGES
 12 Program State Board of Directors as a nonprofit
 13 corporation; providing requirements; amending
 14 s. 414.028, F.S.; revising requirements for a
 15 member of a local WAGES coalition in the case
 16 of a conflict of interest; providing
 17 requirements for disclosing any such conflict;
 18 providing for certain nonvoting members to be
 19 appointed to a local coalition; requiring a
 20 local coalition to deliver certain services
 21 under the WAGES Program; providing for staff
 22 support for local coalitions; requiring that
 23 the program and financial plan developed by a
 24 local WAGES coalition include provisions for
 25 providing services for victims of domestic
 26 violence and describing development of the
 27 plan; amending s. 414.065, F.S.; deleting
 28 provisions that require an employer to repay
 29 certain supplements or incentives under
 30 specified circumstances; creating a WAGES
 31 training bonus to be paid to an employer who

1 hires certain program participants; providing
 2 protection for current employees; providing an
 3 exception from the work requirements for
 4 certain individuals at risk of domestic
 5 violence; providing an exception for a
 6 specified period for certain individuals
 7 impaired by past incidents of domestic
 8 violence, under certain circumstances; amending
 9 s. 414.20, F.S.; clarifying transportation
 10 options available to local WAGES coalitions to
 11 assist WAGES participants; amending s. 414.105,
 12 F.S.; providing for eligibility for extended
 13 temporary cash assistance under specified
 14 circumstances; providing that an individual who
 15 cares for a disabled family member is exempt
 16 from certain time limitations; permitting
 17 domestic violence victims to be granted
 18 hardship exemptions not subject to certain
 19 percentage limitations, under specified
 20 circumstances; providing legislative intent;
 21 amending s. 234.01, F.S.; authorizing school
 22 districts to provide transportation for WAGES
 23 participants; amending s. 234.211, F.S.;
 24 providing for reimbursement of school
 25 districts; amending s. 341.041, F.S.;
 26 establishing responsibilities of the Department
 27 of Transportation with respect to transit
 28 services for WAGES participants; amending s.
 29 341.052, F.S.; relating to duties of public
 30 transit block grant recipients to coordinate
 31 with local WAGES coalitions regarding

1 (b) The executive order designating the nonprofit
 2 corporation must include provisions for the governance and
 3 organizational structure of the corporation which are
 4 consistent with 42 U.S.C. s. 602(a)(5).
 5 (c) The nonprofit corporation shall be organized under
 6 chapter 617 and shall possess all the powers granted by that
 7 chapter.
 8 (d) The designated nonprofit corporation is eligible
 9 to use the state communications system in accordance with s.
 10 282.105(3).
 11 (e) Pursuant to the applicable provisions of chapter
 12 284, the Division of Risk Management of the Department of
 13 Insurance may insure the nonprofit corporation under the same
 14 general terms and conditions as other nonprofit, statutory
 15 corporations.
 16 (f) All departments, officers, agencies, coalitions,
 17 and institutions of the state shall cooperate with the
 18 designated nonprofit corporation in the performance of its
 19 duties.
 20 (g) The designated nonprofit corporation shall make
 21 provisions for an annual postaudit of its financial accounts
 22 by an independent certified public accountant. The annual
 23 audit shall be submitted to the Executive Office of the
 24 Governor for review.
 25 (h) WAGES, Inc., shall make all arrangements and
 26 fulfill all legal conditions to become a nonprofit
 27 corporation.
 28 (i) The nonprofit corporation shall make available to
 29 the public, upon request, copies of 42 U.S.C. s. 602, as
 30 amended, applicable state laws, and any executive orders
 31 establishing WAGES, Inc.

1 (j) The nonprofit corporation is subject to the
 2 provisions of chapter 119, relating to public records, and
 3 those provisions of chapter 286 relating to public meetings
 4 and records.
 5 (k) The nonprofit corporation is authorized to hire an
 6 executive director and appropriate staff. The nonprofit
 7 corporation shall annually, by February 1, provide the
 8 Legislature with a list of staff and salaries.
 9 (l)(4) This section expires June 30, 2002 +999, and
 10 shall be reviewed by the Legislature prior to that date. In
 11 its review, the Legislature shall assess the status of the
 12 WAGES Program and shall determine if the responsibility for
 13 administering the program should be transferred to other state
 14 agencies.
 15 Section 2. Section 414.028, Florida Statutes, is
 16 amended to read:
 17 414.028 Local WAGES coalitions.--The WAGES Program
 18 State Board of Directors shall create and charter local WAGES
 19 coalitions to plan and coordinate the delivery of services
 20 under the WAGES Program at the local level. The boundaries of
 21 the service area for a local WAGES coalition shall conform to
 22 the boundaries of the service area for the regional workforce
 23 development board established under the Enterprise Florida
 24 workforce development board. The local delivery of services
 25 under the WAGES Program shall be coordinated, to the maximum
 26 extent possible, with the local services and activities of the
 27 local service providers designated by the regional workforce
 28 development boards.
 29 (1)(a) Each local WAGES coalition must have a minimum
 30 of 11 members, of which at least one-half must be from the
 31 business community. The composition of the coalition

1 property used in an enterprise zone, and for
 2 electrical energy used in an enterprise zone,
 3 and the maximum enterprise zone property tax
 4 credit against the corporate income tax, if a
 5 specified percentage of its employees are
 6 residents of the jurisdiction of the county,
 7 rather than of the enterprise zone; requiring
 8 businesses eligible to receive certain tax
 9 credits to apply for such credits by a time
 10 certain; providing an appropriation from
 11 federal funds to support local WAGES
 12 Coalitions; creating s. 414.155, F.S.;
 13 providing a relocation assistance program for
 14 families receiving or eligible to receive WAGES
 15 Program assistance; providing responsibilities
 16 of the Department of Children and Family
 17 Services and the Department of Labor and
 18 Employment Security; providing for a relocation
 19 plan and for monitoring of the relocation;
 20 requiring agreements restricting application
 21 for temporary cash assistance for a specified
 22 period; providing exceptions; requiring
 23 repayment of temporary cash assistance provided
 24 under certain circumstances, and reduced
 25 eligibility for future assistance; providing
 26 rulemaking authority for the Department of
 27 Children and Family Services and the Department
 28 of Labor and Employment Security; prescribing
 29 that the relocation assistance program shall
 30 not be construed to require relocation of a
 31 WAGES participant; requiring approval of the

1 relocation plan of a WAGES participant;
 2 designating resources for support of the WAGES
 3 Emergency Response Program; appropriating
 4 resources for the life preparation program;
 5 providing an effective date.
 6
 7 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
 8
 9 Section 1. Present subsection (4) of section 414.026,
 10 Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (6) and
 11 amended, and new subsections (4) and (5) are added to that
 12 section, to read:
 13 414.026 WAGES Program State Board of Directors.--
 14 (4) The WAGES Program State Board of Directors must
 15 approve the WAGES State Plan, the operating budget and any
 16 amendments thereto, and any WAGES-related proposed
 17 administrative rules. In addition, state agencies charged by
 18 law with implementation of the WAGES Program and the Workforce
 19 Development Board of Enterprise Florida, Inc., shall
 20 collaborate with the staff of the WAGES Program State Board of
 21 Directors on all WAGES-related policies, requests for
 22 proposals, and related directives.
 23 (5)(a) The Governor, by executive order, may designate
 24 the WAGES Program State Board of Directors as a nonprofit
 25 corporation for the purpose of receiving federal funds and
 26 providing oversight and maintenance to the WAGES Program and
 27 in administering the State Plans for Aid and Services to Needy
 28 Families with Children under 42 U.S.C. s. 602, as amended. The
 29 nonprofit corporation shall be known as WAGES, Inc., and may
 30 by executive order, be designated as the state agency required
 31 by 42 U.S.C. s. 602(a)(3).

1 ~~atters from which they or their principals could benefit~~
2 ~~financially. Failure to recuse on any such vote with~~
3 ~~constitute grounds for immediate removal from the local WAGES~~
4 ~~coalition.~~
5 (3) The statewide implementation plan prepared by the
6 WAGES Program State Board of Directors shall prescribe and
7 publish the process for chartering the local WAGES coalitions.
8 (4) Each local WAGES coalition shall perform the
9 planning, coordination, and oversight functions specified in
10 the statewide implementation plan, including, but not limited
11 to:
12 (a) Developing a program and financial plan to achieve
13 the performance outcomes specified by the WAGES Program State
14 Board of Directors for current and potential program
15 participants in the service area. The plan must reflect the
16 needs of service areas for seed money to create programs that
17 assist children of WAGES participants. The plan must also
18 include provisions for providing services for victims of
19 domestic violence.
20 (b) Developing a funding strategy to implement the
21 program and financial plan which incorporates resources from
22 all principal funding sources.
23 (c) Identifying employment, service, and support
24 resources in the community which may be used to fulfill the
25 performance outcomes of the WAGES Program.
26 (d) In cooperation with the regional workforce
27 development board, coordinating the implementation of one-stop
28 career centers.
29 (e) Advising the Department of Children and Family
30 Services and the Department of Labor and Employment Security
31

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1 with respect to the competitive procurement of services under
2 the WAGES Program.
3 (f) Selecting an entity to administer the program and
4 financial plan, such as a unit of a political subdivision
5 within the service area, a not-for-profit private organization
6 or corporation, or any other entity agreed upon by the local
7 WAGES coalition.
8 (g) Developing a plan for services for victims of
9 domestic violence.
10 1. The WAGES Program State Board of Directors shall
11 specify requirements for the local plan, including:
12 a. Criteria for determining eligibility for exceptions
13 to state work requirements.
14 b. The programs and services to be offered to victims
15 of domestic violence;
16 c. Time limits for exceptions to program requirements,
17 which may not result in an adult participant exceeding the
18 federal time limit for exceptions or the state lifetime
19 benefit limit that the participant would otherwise be entitled
20 to receive; and
21 d. An annual report on domestic violence, including
22 the progress made in reducing domestic violence as a barrier
23 to self-sufficiency among WAGES participants, local policies
24 and procedures for granting exceptions and exemptions from
25 program requirements due to domestic violence, and the number
26 and percentage of cases in which such exceptions and
27 exemptions are granted.
28 2. Each local WAGES coalition plan must specify
29 provisions for coordinating and, where appropriate, delivering
30 services, including:
31

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1 membership must generally reflect the racial, gender, and
 2 ethnic diversity of the community as a whole. All members
 3 shall be appointed to 3-year terms. The membership of each
 4 coalition must include:

- 5 1. Representatives of the principal entities that
- 6 provide funding for the employment, education, training, and
- 7 social service programs that are operated in the service area,
- 8 including, but not limited to, representatives of local
- 9 government, the regional workforce development board, and the
- 10 United Way.
- 11 2. A representative of the health and human services
- 12 board.
- 13 3. A representative of a community development board.
- 14 4. Three representatives of the business community who
- 15 represent a diversity of sizes of businesses.
- 16 5. Representatives of other local planning,
- 17 coordinating, or service-delivery entities.
- 18 6. A representative of a grassroots community or
- 19 economic development organization that serves the poor of the
- 20 community.

21 (b) A person may be a member of a local WAGES
 22 coalition or a combined WAGES coalition as provided in
 23 subsection (2) regardless of whether the member, or an
 24 organization represented by a member, could benefit
 25 financially from transactions of the coalition. However, if
 26 the coalition enters into a contract with an organization or
 27 individual represented on the coalition, the contract must be
 28 approved by a two-thirds vote of the entire board, and the
 29 board member who could benefit financially from the
 30 transaction must abstain from voting. A board member must
 31 disclose any such conflict in a manner that is approved by the

1 WAGES Program State Board of Directors and is consistent with
 2 the procedures outlined in s. 112.3143. A representative of an
 3 agency or entity that could benefit financially from funds
 4 appropriated under the WAGES Program may not be a member of a
 5 local WAGES coalition:

- 6 (c) A member of the board of a public or private
- 7 educational institution may not serve as a member of a local
- 8 WAGES coalition.
- 9 (d) A representative of any county or municipal
- 10 governing body that elects to provide services through the
- 11 local WAGES coalition shall be an ex officio, nonvoting member
- 12 of the coalition.

13 (e) A representative of a county health department or
 14 a representative of a healthy start coalition shall serve as
 15 an ex officio, nonvoting member of the coalition.

16 (f) This subsection does not prevent a local WAGES
 17 coalition from extending regular, voting membership to not
 18 more than one representative of a county health department and
 19 not more than one representative of a healthy start coalition.

20 (2) A local WAGES coalition and a regional workforce
 21 development board may be combined into one board if the
 22 membership complies with subsection (1), and if the membership
 23 of the combined board meets the requirements of Pub. L. No.
 24 97-300, the federal Job Training Partnership Act, as amended,
 25 and with any law delineating the membership requirements for
 26 the regional workforce development boards. Notwithstanding
 27 paragraph (b) in a region in which the duties of the two
 28 boards are combined, a person may be a member of the WAGES
 29 coalition even if the member or the member's principal could
 30 benefit financially from transactions of the coalition.
 31 However, members must recuse themselves from voting on all

1 establishment, work activities for noncustodial parents, and
 2 programs aimed at decreasing out-of-wedlock pregnancies,
 3 encouraging the involvement of fathers with their children,
 4 and increasing child-support payments.

5 (1)(f) At the option of the LOCAL WAGES COALITION.
 6 local employees of the department and the Department of Labor
 7 and Employment Security shall provide staff support for the
 8 local WAGES coalitions. ~~At the option of the local WAGES~~
 9 ~~coalition, staff support may be provided by another agency, or~~
 10 ~~entity, or by contract if it can be provided at no cost to the~~
 11 ~~state and if the support is not provided by an agency or other~~
 12 ~~entity that could benefit financially from funds appropriated~~
 13 ~~to implement the WAGES Program.~~

14 (g)(7) There shall be no liability on the part of, and
 15 no cause of action of any nature shall arise against, any
 16 member of a local WAGES coalition or its employees or agents
 17 for any lawful action taken by them in the performance of
 18 their powers and duties under this section and s. 414.029.

19 Section 3. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and
 20 subsection (7) of section 414.065, Florida Statutes, are
 21 amended and subsection (12) is added to that section to read:
 22 414.065 Work requirements.--
 23 (1) WORK ACTIVITIES.--The following activities may be
 24 used individually or in combination to satisfy the work
 25 requirements for a participant in the WAGES Program:
 26 (b) Subsidized private sector employment.--Subsidized
 27 private sector employment is employment in a private
 28 for-profit enterprise or a private not-for-profit enterprise
 29 which is directly supplemented by federal or state funds. A
 30 subsidy may be provided in one or more of the forms listed in
 31 this paragraph.

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1 1. Work supplementation.--A work supplementation
 2 subsidy diverts a participant's temporary cash assistance
 3 under the program to the employer. The employer must pay the
 4 participant wages that equal or exceed the applicable federal
 5 minimum wage. Work supplementation may not exceed 6 months. At
 6 the end of the supplementation period, the employer is
 7 expected to retain the participant as a regular employee
 8 without receiving a subsidy for at least 12 months. A work
 9 supplementation agreement may not be continued with any
 10 employer who exhibits a pattern of failing to provide
 11 participants with continued employment after the period of
 12 work supplementation ends must provide that if the employee is
 13 dismissed at any time within 12 months after termination of
 14 the supplementation period due in any part to loss of the
 15 subsidy, the employer shall repay some or all of the
 16 subsidy previously paid as a subsidy to the employer under
 17 the WAGES Program.

18 2. On-the-job training.--On-the-job training is
 19 full-time, paid employment in which the employer or an
 20 educational institution in cooperation with the employer
 21 provides training needed for the participant to perform the
 22 skills required for the position. The employer or the
 23 educational institution on behalf of the employer receives a
 24 subsidy to offset the cost of the training provided to the
 25 participant. Upon satisfactory completion of the training, the
 26 employer is expected to retain the participant as a regular
 27 employee without receiving a subsidy. An on-the-job
 28 training agreement may not be continued with any employer who
 29 exhibits a pattern of failing to provide participants with
 30 continued employment after the on-the-job training subsidy
 31 ends must provide that in the case of dismissal of a

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1 a. Provisions for the local coalition to coordinate
 2 with law enforcement agencies and social service agencies and
 3 organizations that provide services and protection to victims
 4 of domestic violence;
 5 b. Provisions for allowing participants access to
 6 domestic violence support services and ensuring that WAGES
 7 participants are aware of domestic violence shelters,
 8 hotlines, and other domestic violence services and policies;
 9 c. Designation of the agency that is responsible for
 10 determining eligibility for exceptions from program
 11 requirements due to domestic violence;
 12 d. Provisions that require each individual who is
 13 granted an exemption from program requirements due to domestic
 14 violence to participate in a program that prepares the
 15 individual for self-sufficiency and safety; and
 16 e. Where possible and necessary, provisions for job
 17 assignments and transportation arrangements that take maximum
 18 advantage of opportunities to preserve the safety of the
 19 victim of domestic violence and the victim's dependents.
 20 (5) By October 1, 1998, local WAGES coalitions shall
 21 deliver through one-stop career centers, the full continuum of
 22 services provided under the WAGES Program, including services
 23 that are provided at the point of application. The State WAGES
 24 Board may direct the Department of Labor and Employment
 25 Security to provide such services to WAGES participants if a
 26 local WAGES coalition is unable to provide services due to
 27 decertification. Local WAGES coalitions may not determine an
 28 individual's eligibility for temporary cash assistance and all
 29 education and training shall be provided through agreements
 30 with regional workforce development boards. The local WAGES
 31 coalitions shall develop a transition plan to be approved by

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1 the WAGES Program State Board of Directors. Should career
 2 service employees of the Department of Labor and Employment
 3 Security be subject to layoff due to the local WAGES
 4 coalitions taking over the delivery of such services, such
 5 employees shall be given priority consideration for employment
 6 by the local WAGES coalitions. Positions associated with
 7 operation of WAGES Program functions that will be transferred
 8 to local WAGES coalitions must be vacated within 60 days after
 9 transfer of such functions and placed in reserve by the
 10 Executive Office of the Governor. When positions have been
 11 vacated, funds associated with those positions are to be
 12 transferred to local WAGES coalitions to support operation of
 13 the transferred functions. The amount of funds provided to
 14 each local WAGES coalition will be determined by an allocation
 15 formula to be developed by the State WAGES Board.
 16 (6)(f) The WAGES Program State Board of Directors may
 17 not approve the program and financial plan of a local
 18 coalition unless the plan provides a teen pregnancy prevention
 19 component that includes, but is not necessarily limited to, a
 20 plan for implementing the Florida Education Now and Babies
 21 Later (ENABL) program under s. 411.242 and the Teen Pregnancy
 22 Prevention Community Initiative within each county segment of
 23 the service area in which the teen childhood birth rate is
 24 higher than the state average. Each local WAGES coalition is
 25 authorized to fund community-based welfare prevention and
 26 reduction initiatives that increase the support provided by
 27 noncustodial parents to their welfare-dependent children and
 28 are consistent with program and financial guidelines developed
 29 by the WAGES Program State Board of Directors and the
 30 Commission on Responsible Fatherhood. These initiatives may
 31 include, but are not limited to, improved paternity

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1 Department of Labor and Employment Security an inability to
 2 obtain needed child care for one or more of the following
 3 reasons:

- 4 1. Unavailability of appropriate child care within a
 5 reasonable distance from the individual's home or worksite.
- 6 2. Unavailability or unsuitability of informal child
 7 care by a relative or under other arrangements.
- 8 3. Unavailability of appropriate and affordable formal
 9 child care arrangements.

10 (b) Noncompliance related to domestic violence.--An
 11 individual who is determined to be unable to comply with the
 12 work requirements because such compliance would make it
 13 probable that the individual would be unable to escape
 14 domestic violence shall be exempt from work requirements
 15 pursuant to s. 414.028(4)(g). However, the individual shall
 16 comply with a plan that specifies alternative requirements
 17 that prepare the individual for self-sufficiency while
 18 providing for the safety of the individual and the
 19 individual's dependents. An exception granted under this
 20 paragraph does not constitute an exception to the time
 21 limitations on benefits specified under s. 414.105.

22 (c) Noncompliance related to treatment or remediation
 23 of past effects of domestic violence.--An individual who is
 24 determined to be unable to comply with the work requirements
 25 under this section due to mental or physical impairment
 26 related to past incidents of domestic violence may be exempt
 27 from work requirements for a specified period pursuant to s.
 28 414.028(4)(g), except that such individual shall comply with a
 29 plan that specifies alternative requirements that prepare the
 30 individual for self-sufficiency while providing for the safety
 31 of the individual and the individual's dependents. The plan

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1 must include counseling or a course of treatment necessary for
 2 the individual to resume participation. The need for treatment
 3 and the expected duration of such treatment must be verified
 4 by a physician licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459, a
 5 psychologist licensed under s. 490.005(1), s. 490.006, or the
 6 provision identified as s. 490.013(2) in s. 1, chapter 81-235,
 7 Laws of Florida; a therapist as defined in s. 491.003(2) or
 8 (6) or a treatment professional who is registered under s.
 9 415.605(1)(g), is authorized to maintain confidentiality under
 10 s. 90.5036(1)(d), and has a minimum of 2 years experience at a
 11 certified domestic violence center. An exception granted under
 12 this paragraph does not constitute an exception from the time
 13 limitations on benefits specified under s. 414.105.

14 (d) Noncompliance related to medical
 15 incapacity.--If an individual cannot participate in assigned
 16 work activities due to a medical incapacity, the individual
 17 may be excused from the activity for a specific period,
 18 except that the individual shall be required to comply with
 19 the course of treatment necessary for the individual to resume
 20 participation. A participant may not be excused from work
 21 activity requirements unless the participant's medical
 22 incapacity is verified by a physician licensed under chapter
 23 458 or chapter 459, in accordance with procedures established
 24 by rule of the Department of Labor and Employment Security.

25 (e) Other good cause exceptions for
 26 noncompliance.--Individuals who are temporarily unable to
 27 participate due to circumstances beyond their control may be
 28 excused from the noncompliance penalties. The Department of
 29 Labor and Employment Security may define by rule situations
 30 that would constitute good cause. These situations must
 31 include caring for a disabled family member when the need for

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1 participant due to loss of the subsidy, the employer shall
 2 repay some or all of the subsidy previously provided by the
 3 department and the Department of Labor and Employment
 4 Security.

5 3. Incentive payments.--The department and the
 6 Department of Labor and Employment Security may provide
 7 additional incentive payments to encourage employers to employ
 8 program participants. Incentive payments may include payments
 9 to encourage the employment of hard-to-place participants, in
 10 which case the amount of the payment shall be weighted
 11 proportionally to the extent to which the participant has
 12 limitations associated with the long-term receipt of welfare
 13 and difficulty in sustaining employment. In establishing
 14 incentive payments, the department and the Department of Labor
 15 and Employment Security shall consider the extent of prior
 16 receipt of welfare, lack of employment experience, lack of
 17 education, lack of job skills, and other appropriate factors.

18 A participant who has complied with program requirements and
 19 who is approaching the time limit for receiving temporary cash
 20 assistance may be defined as "hard-to-place." Incentive
 21 payments may include payments in which an initial payment is
 22 made to the employer upon the employment of a participant, and
 23 the majority of the incentive payment is made after the
 24 employer retains the participant as a full-time employee for
 25 at least 12 months. AN The incentive agreement MAY NOT BE
 26 CONTINUED WITH ANY EMPLOYER WHO EXHIBITS A PATTERN OF FAILING
 27 TO PROVIDE PARTICIPANTS WITH CONTINUED EMPLOYMENT AFTER THE
 28 INCENTIVE PAYMENTS CEASE MUST PROVIDE THAT IF THE EMPLOYEE IS
 29 DISMISSED AT ANY TIME WITHIN 12 MONTHS AFTER TERMINATION OF
 30 THE INCENTIVE PAYMENT PERIOD DUE IN ANY PART TO LOSS OF THE
 31 INCENTIVE, THE EMPLOYER SHALL REPLY SOME OR ALL OF THE PAYMENT

1 previously paid as an incentive to the employer under the
 2 WAGES Program.

3 4. Tax credits.--An employer who employs a program
 4 participant may qualify for enterprise zone property tax
 5 credits under s. 220.182, the tax refund program for qualified
 6 target industry businesses under s. 288.106, or other federal
 7 or state tax benefits. The department and the Department of
 8 Labor and Employment Security shall provide information and
 9 assistance, as appropriate, to use such credits to accomplish
 10 program goals.

11 5. WAGES training bonus.--An employer who hires a
 12 WAGES participant who has less than 6 months of eligibility
 13 for temporary cash assistance remaining and who pays the
 14 participant a wage that precludes the participant's
 15 eligibility for temporary cash assistance may receive \$240 for
 16 each full month of employment for a period that may not exceed
 17 3 months. An employer who receives a WAGES training bonus for
 18 an employee may not receive a work supplementation subsidy for
 19 the same employee. Employment is defined as 35 hours per week
 20 at a wage of no less than \$6 per hour.

21 (7) EXCEPTIONS TO NONCOMPLIANCE PENALTIES.--The
 22 situations listed in this subsection shall constitute
 23 exceptions to the penalties for noncompliance with
 24 participation requirements, except that these situations do
 25 not constitute exceptions to the applicable time limit for
 26 receipt of temporary cash assistance:

27 (a) Noncompliance related to child care.--Temporary
 28 cash assistance may not be terminated for refusal to
 29 participate in work activities if the individual is a single
 30 custodial parent caring for a child who has not attained 6
 31 years of age, and the adult proves to the department or to the

1 coordinators designated under chapter 427 regarding the
 2 availability and cost of transportation services through the
 3 coordinated transportation system prior to contracting for
 4 comparable transportation services outside the coordinated
 5 system. Support services funds may also be used to develop
 6 transportation resources to expand transportation options
 7 available to participants. These services may include
 8 cooperative arrangements with local transit authorities or
 9 school districts and small enterprise development:
 10 (2) ANCILLARY EXPENSES.--Ancillary expenses such as
 11 books, tools, clothing, fees, and costs necessary to comply
 12 with work activity requirements or employment requirements may
 13 be provided.

14 (3) MEDICAL SERVICES.--A family that meets the
 15 eligibility requirements for Medicaid shall receive medical
 16 services under the Medicaid program.

17 (4) PERSONAL AND FAMILY COUNSELING AND
 18 THERAPY.--Counseling may be provided to participants who have
 19 a personal or family problem or problems caused by substance
 20 abuse that is a barrier to compliance with work activity
 21 requirements or employment requirements. In providing these
 22 services, the department and the Department of Labor and
 23 Employment Security shall use services that are available in
 24 the community at no additional cost. If these services are not
 25 available, the department and the Department of Labor and
 26 Employment Security may use support services funds. Personal
 27 or family counseling not available through Medicaid may not be
 28 considered a medical service for purposes of the required
 29 statewide implementation plan or use of federal funds.

30 Section 5. Section 414.105, Florida Statutes, is
 31 amended to read:

1 414.105 Time limitations of temporary cash
 2 assistance.--Unless otherwise expressly provided in this
 3 chapter, an applicant or current participant shall receive
 4 temporary cash assistance for episodes of not more than 24
 5 cumulative months in any consecutive 60-month period that
 6 begins with the first month of participation and for not more
 7 than a lifetime cumulative total of 48 months as an adult.

8 (1) The time limitation for episodes of temporary cash
 9 assistance may not exceed 36 cumulative months in any
 10 consecutive 72-month period that begins with the first month
 11 of participation and may not exceed a lifetime cumulative
 12 total of 48 months of temporary cash assistance as an adult,
 13 for cases in which the participant:

14 (a) Has received aid to families with dependent
 15 children or temporary cash assistance for any 36 months of the
 16 preceding 60 months; or

17 (b) Is a custodial parent under the age of 24 who:

18 1. Has not completed a high school education or its
 19 equivalent; or

20 2. Had little or no work experience in the preceding
 21 year.

22 (2) A participant who is not exempt from work activity

23 requirements may earn 1 month of eligibility for extended

24 temporary cash assistance, up to a maximum of 12 additional

25 months, for each month in which the participant is fully

26 complying with all the requirements of the WAGES Program. The

27 period for which extended temporary cash assistance is granted

28 shall be based upon compliance with WAGES Program requirements

29 beginning October 1, 1996. A participant may not receive

30 temporary cash assistance under this subsection, in

31

1 the care has been verified and alternate care is not
2 available.

3 (12) PROTECTION FOR CURRENT EMPLOYEES.--In
4 establishing and contracting for work-experience and community
5 service activities, other work-experience activities,
6 on-the-job training, subsidized employment, and work
7 supplementation under the WAGES Program, an employed worker
8 may not be displaced, either completely or partially. A WAGES
9 participant may not be assigned to an activity or employed in
10 a position if the employer has created the vacancy or
11 terminated an existing employee without good cause in order to
12 fill that position with a WAGES Program participant.

13 Section 4. Section 414.20, Florida Statutes, is
14 amended to read:

15 414.20 Other support services.--Support services shall
16 be provided, if resources permit, to assist participants in
17 complying with work activity requirements outlined in s.
18 414.065. If resources do not permit the provision of needed
19 support services, the department and the Department of Labor
20 and Employment Security may prioritize or otherwise limit
21 provision of support services. This section does not
22 constitute an entitlement to support services. Lack of
23 provision of support services may be considered as a factor in
24 determining whether good cause exists for failing to comply
25 with work activity requirements but does not automatically
26 constitute good cause for failing to comply with work activity
27 requirements, and does not affect any applicable time limit on
28 the receipt of temporary cash assistance or the provision of
29 services under this chapter. Support services shall include,
30 but need not be limited to:

31

1 (1) TRANSPORTATION.--Transportation expenses may be
2 provided to any participant when the assistance is needed to
3 comply with work activity requirements or employment
4 requirements, including transportation to and from a child
5 care provider. Payment may be made in cash or tokens in
6 advance or through reimbursement paid against receipts or
7 invoices. Transportation services may include, but are not
8 limited to, cooperative arrangements with the following:
9 public transit providers; community transportation
10 coordinators designated under chapter 427; school districts,
11 churches and community centers; donated motor vehicle
12 programs, vanpools, and ridesharing programs; small enterprise
13 developments and entrepreneurial programs that encourage WAGES
14 participants to become transportation providers; public and
15 private transportation partnerships; and other innovative
16 strategies to expand transportation options available to
17 program participants.

18 (a) Local WAGES coalitions are authorized to provide
19 payment for vehicle operational and repair expenses, including
20 repair expenditures necessary to make a vehicle functional;
21 vehicle registration fees; driver's license fees; and
22 liability insurance for the vehicle for a period of up to 6
23 months. Request for vehicle repairs must be accompanied by an
24 estimate of the cost prepared by a repair facility registered
25 under s. 559.904.

26 (b) Transportation disadvantaged funds as defined in
27 chapter 427 do not include WAGES support services funds or
28 funds appropriated to assist persons eligible under the Job
29 Training Partnership Act. It is the intent of the Legislature
30 that local WAGES coalitions and regional workforce development
31 boards consult with local community transportation

1 (7)(5) For individuals who have moved from another
2 state and have legally resided in this state for less than 12
3 months, the time limitation for temporary cash assistance
4 shall be the shorter of the respective time limitations used
5 in the two states, and months in which temporary cash
6 assistance was received under a block grant program that
7 provided temporary assistance for needy families in any state
8 shall count towards the cumulative 48-month benefit limit for
9 temporary cash assistance.

10 (8)(6) For individuals subject to a time limitation
11 under the Family Transition Act of 1993, that time limitation
12 shall continue to apply. Months in which temporary cash
13 assistance was received through the family transition program
14 shall count towards the time limitations under this chapter.

15 (9)(7) Except when temporary cash assistance was
16 received through the family transition program, the
17 calculation of the time limitation for temporary cash
18 assistance shall begin with the first month of receipt of
19 temporary cash assistance after the effective date of this
20 act.

21 (10)(6) Child-only cases are not subject to time
22 limitations, and temporary cash assistance received while an
23 individual is a minor child shall not count towards time
24 limitations.

25 (11)(9) An individual who receives benefits under the
26 Supplemental Security Income program or the Social Security
27 Disability Insurance program is not subject to time
28 limitations.

29 (12) A person who is totally responsible for the
30 personal care of a disabled family member is not subject to
31 time limitations if the need for the care is verified and

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1 alternative care is not available for the family member. The
2 department shall annually evaluate an individual's
3 qualifications for this exemption.

4 (13)(10) A member of the WAGES Program staff shall
5 interview and assess the employment prospects and barriers of
6 each participant who is within 6 months of reaching the
7 24-month time limit. The staff member shall assist the
8 participant in identifying actions necessary to become
9 employed prior to reaching the benefit time limit for
10 temporary cash assistance and, if appropriate, shall refer the
11 participant for services that could facilitate employment.

12 Section 6. Present subsections (4), (5), (6), (7),
13 (8), (9), and (10) of section 414.0252, Florida Statutes, are
14 renumbered as subsections (5), (7), (8), (9), (10), (11), and
15 (12) of that section, respectively, and new subsections (4)
16 and (6) are added to that section, to read:

17 414.0252 Definitions.--As used in ss. 414.015-414.45,
18 the term:
19 (4) "domestic violence" means any assault, aggravated
20 assault, battery, aggravated battery, sexual assault, sexual
21 battery, stalking, aggravated stalking, kidnapping, false
22 imprisonment, or any criminal offense that results in the
23 physical injury or death of one family or household member by
24 another.

25 (6) "Family or household member" means spouses, former
26 spouses, noncohabitating partners, persons related by blood or
27 marriage, persons who are presently residing together as if a
28 family or who have resided together in the past as if a
29 family, and persons who have a child in common regardless of
30 whether they have been married or have resided together at any
31 time.

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1 combination with other periods of temporary cash assistance.
 2 for longer than 48 months.
 3 (3)(2) Hardship exemptions to the time limitations of
 4 this chapter shall be limited to 10 percent of participants in
 5 the first year of implementation of this chapter, 15 percent
 6 of participants in the second year of implementation of this
 7 chapter, and 20 percent of participants in all subsequent
 8 years. Criteria for hardship exemptions include:
 9 (a) Diligent participation in activities, combined
 10 with inability to obtain employment.
 11 (b) Diligent participation in activities, combined
 12 with extraordinary barriers to employment, including the
 13 conditions which may result in an exemption to work
 14 requirements.
 15 (c) Significant barriers to employment, combined with
 16 a need for additional time.
 17 (d) Diligent participation in activities and a need by
 18 teen parents for an exemption in order to have 24 months of
 19 eligibility beyond receipt of the high school diploma or
 20 equivalent.
 21 (e) A recommendation of extension for a minor child of
 22 a participating family that has reached the end of the
 23 eligibility period for temporary cash assistance. The
 24 recommendation must be the result of a review which determines
 25 that the termination of the child's temporary cash assistance
 26 would be likely to result in the child being placed into
 27 emergency shelter or foster care. Temporary cash assistance
 28 shall be provided through a protective payee. Staff of the
 29 Children and Families Family-Services Program Office of the
 30 department shall conduct all assessments in each case in which
 31

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1 it appears a child may require continuation of temporary cash
 2 assistance through a protective payee.
 3
 4 At the recommendation of the local WAGES coalition, temporary
 5 cash assistance under a hardship exemption for a participant
 6 who is eligible for work activities and who is not working
 7 shall be reduced by 10 percent. Upon the employment of the
 8 participant, full benefits shall be restored.
 9 (4) In addition to the exemptions listed in subsection
 10 (3), a victim of domestic violence may be granted a hardship
 11 exemption if the effects of such domestic violence delay or
 12 otherwise interrupt or adversely affect the individual's
 13 participation in the program. Hardship exemptions granted
 14 under this subsection shall not be subject to the percentage
 15 limitations in subsection (3).
 16 (5)(3) The department shall establish a procedure for
 17 reviewing and approving hardship exemptions, and the local
 18 WAGES coalitions may assist in making these determinations.
 19 The composition of any review panel must generally reflect the
 20 racial, gender, and ethnic diversity of the community as a
 21 whole. Members of a review panel shall serve without
 22 compensation, but are entitled to receive reimbursement for
 23 per diem and travel expenses as provided in s. 112.016.
 24 (6)(4) The cumulative total of all hardship exemptions
 25 may not exceed 12 months, may include reduced benefits at the
 26 option of the community review panel, and shall, in
 27 combination with other periods of temporary cash assistance as
 28 an adult, total no more than 48 months of temporary cash
 29 assistance. If an individual fails to comply with program
 30 requirements during a hardship exemption period, the hardship
 31 exemption shall be removed.

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1 cooperate with the state agency responsible for administering
 2 the child support enforcement program in establishing,
 3 modifying, or enforcing a support order with respect to a
 4 child of a teen parent or other family member, or a child of a
 5 family member who is in the care of an adult relative,
 6 temporary cash assistance to the entire family shall be denied
 7 until the state agency indicates that cooperation by the
 8 parent or caretaker relative has been satisfactory. To the
 9 extent permissible under federal law, a parent or caretaker
 10 relative shall not be penalized for failure to cooperate with
 11 paternity establishment or with the establishment,
 12 modification, or enforcement of a support order when such
 13 cooperation could subject an individual to a risk of domestic
 14 violence. Such risk shall constitute good cause to the extent
 15 permitted by Title IV-D of the Social Security Act, as
 16 amended, or other federal law.

17 Section 8. Subsection (2) of section 414.115, Florida
 18 Statutes, is amended to read:

19 414.115 Limited temporary cash assistance for children
 20 born to families receiving temporary cash assistance.--

21 (2) Subsection (1) does not apply:

22 (a) To a program participant who is a victim of rape or
 23 incest if the victim files a police report on the rape or
 24 incest within 30 days after the incident;

25 (b) To a program participant who is confirmed by the
 26 Title IV-p child support agency as having been granted an
 27 exemption from participating in requirements for the
 28 enforcement of child support due to circumstances consistent
 29 with the conception of the child as a result of rape, incest,
 30 or sexual exploitation. A child for whom an exemption is
 31 claimed under this paragraph and for whom an application has

1 been made for a good-cause exemption from the requirements of
 2 s. 414.095 shall receive temporary benefits until a
 3 determination is made on the application for a good-cause
 4 exemption from the requirements of s. 414.0951.
 5 (c)(b) To children who are the firstborn, including
 6 all children in the case of multiple birth, of minors included
 7 in a temporary cash assistance group who as minors become
 8 first-time parents;
 9 (d)(e) To a child when parental custody has been
 10 legally transferred; or
 11 (e)(f) To a child who is no longer able to live with
 12 his or her parents as a result of:
 13 1. The death of the child's parent or parents;
 14 2. The incapacity of the child's parent or parents as
 15 documented by a physician, such that the parent or parents are
 16 unable to care for the child;
 17 3. Legal transfer of the custody of the child to
 18 another individual;
 19 4. Incarceration of the child's parent or parents,
 20 except that the child shall not receive temporary cash
 21 assistance if a parent is subsequently released and reunited
 22 with the child; or
 23 5. A situation in which the child's parent's or
 24 parents' institutionalization is expected to be for an
 25 extended period, as defined by the department.
 26 Section 9. Paragraph (g) is added to subsection (1) of
 27 section 234.01, Florida Statutes, to read:
 28 234.01 Purpose; transportation; when provided.--
 29 (1) School boards, after considering recommendations
 30 of the superintendent:
 31

1 Section 7. Paragraph (g) is added to subsection (10)
 2 of section 414.095, Florida Statutes, and subsection (3) and
 3 paragraph (d) of subsection (15) of that section are amended
 4 to read:
 5 414.095 Determining eligibility for the WAGES
 6 Program.--
 7 (3) ELIGIBILITY FOR NONCITIZENS.--A "qualified
 8 noncitizen" is an individual who is lawfully present in the
 9 United States as a refugee or who is granted asylum under ss.
 10 207 and 208 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, an alien
 11 whose deportation is withheld under s. 243(h) of the
 12 Immigration and Nationality Act, or an alien who has been
 13 admitted as a permanent resident and meets specific criteria
 14 under federal law. In addition, a "qualified noncitizen"
 15 includes an individual who has been battered or subject to
 16 extreme cruelty in the United States by a spouse or a parent,
 17 and has applied for or received protection under the federal
 18 Violence Against Women Act of 1994, Pub. L. No. 103-322, if
 19 the need for benefits is related to the abuse. A "nonqualified
 20 noncitizen" is a nonimmigrant alien, including a tourist,
 21 business visitor, foreign student, exchange visitor, temporary
 22 worker, or diplomat. In addition, a "nonqualified noncitizen"
 23 includes an individual paroled into the United States for less
 24 than 1 year. A qualified noncitizen who is otherwise eligible
 25 may receive temporary cash assistance to the extent permitted
 26 by federal law. The income or resources of a sponsor and the
 27 sponsor's spouse shall be included in determining eligibility
 28 to the maximum extent permitted by federal law.

29 (a) A child born in the United States to an illegal or
 30 ineligible alien is eligible for temporary cash assistance
 31

1 under this chapter if the family meets all eligibility
 2 requirements.

3 (b) If the parent may legally work in this country,
 4 the parent must participate in the work activity requirements
 5 provided in s. 414.065, to the extent permitted under federal
 6 law.

7 (c) The department shall participate in the Systematic
 8 Alien Verification for Entitlements Program (SAVE) established
 9 by the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service in
 10 order to verify the validity of documents provided by aliens
 11 and to verify an alien's eligibility.

12 (d) The income of an illegal alien or ineligible
 13 alien, less a pro rata share for the illegal alien or
 14 ineligible alien, counts in determining a family's eligibility
 15 to participate in the program.

16 (e) The entire assets of an ineligible alien or a
 17 disqualified individual who is a mandatory member of a family
 18 shall be included in determining the family's eligibility.

19 (10) PARTICIPANT OPPORTUNITIES AND OBLIGATIONS.--An
 20 applicant or participant in the WAGES Program has the
 21 following opportunities and obligations:

22 (g) To receive information regarding services
 23 available from certified domestic violence centers or
 24 organizations that provide counseling and supportive services
 25 to individuals who are past or present victims of domestic
 26 violence or who are at risk of domestic violence and, upon
 27 request, to be referred to such organizations in a manner
 28 which protects the individual's confidentiality.

29 (15) PROHIBITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS.--

30 (d) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, if a
 31 parent or caretaker relative without good cause does not

1 exceeding performance criteria as described in the contract
 2 shall be continued by the transit provider at the same or a
 3 higher level of service until such time as the department, the
 4 M.P.O., and the service provider, agree to discontinue the
 5 service. The provider may not increase fares for services in
 6 transit corridor projects wholly within one county without the
 7 consent of the department.

8 (c) Costs of public bus transit operations.
 9

10 All projects must ~~shall~~ be consistent, to the maximum extent
 11 feasible, with the approved local government comprehensive
 12 plans of the units of local government comprehensive-plans-of
 13 ~~local-government~~ in which the project is located.

14 Section 13. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section
 15 414.026, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

16 414.026 WAGES Program State Board of Directors.--

17 (2)(a) The board of directors shall be composed of the
 18 following members:

- 19 1. The Commissioner of Education, or the
- 20 commissioner's designee.
- 21 2. The Secretary of Children and Family Services.
- 22 3. The Secretary of Health.
- 23 4. The Secretary of Labor and Employment Security.
- 24 5. The Secretary of Community Affairs.

25 6. The Secretary of Transportation, or the secretary's
 26 designee.

27 7. The ~~director~~ of the Office of Tourism, Trade, and
 28 Economic Development.

29 8.7. The president of the Enterprise Florida workforce
 30 development board, established under s. 289.9620.

31

1 9.9. The chief executive officer of the Florida
 2 Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation, established under s.
 3 289.1226.

4 10.9. Nine members appointed by the Governor, as
 5 follows:

6 a. Six members shall be appointed from a list of ten
 7 nominees, of which five must be submitted by the President of
 8 the Senate and five must be submitted by the Speaker of the
 9 House of Representatives. The list of five nominees submitted
 10 by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
 11 Representatives must each contain at least three individuals
 12 employed in the private sector, two of whom must have
 13 management experience. One of the five nominees submitted by
 14 the President of the Senate and one of the five nominees
 15 submitted by the Speaker of the House of Representatives must
 16 be an elected local government official who shall serve as an
 17 ex officio nonvoting member.

18 b. Three members shall be at-large members appointed
 19 by the Governor.

20 c. Of the nine members appointed by the Governor, at
 21 least six must be employed in the private sector and of these,
 22 at least five must have management experience.

23
 24 The members appointed by the Governor shall be appointed to
 25 4-year, staggered terms. Within 60 days after a vacancy occurs
 26 on the board, the Governor shall fill the vacancy of a member
 27 appointed from the nominees submitted by the President of the
 28 Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives for the
 29 remainder of the unexpired term from one nominee submitted by
 30 the President of the Senate and one nominee submitted by the
 31 Speaker of the House of Representatives. Within 60 days after

1 (g) May provide transportation for WAGES program
 2 participants as defined in s. 414.0252.
 3 Section 10. Present paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of
 4 section 234.211, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as
 5 paragraph (c), and a new paragraph (b) is added to that
 6 subsection to read:
 7 234.211 Use of school buses for public purposes.--
 8 (1)
 9 (b) Each school district may enter into agreements
 10 with local WAGES coalitions for the provision of
 11 transportation services to WAGES program participants as
 12 defined in s. 414.0252. Agreements must provide for
 13 reimbursement in full or in part for the proportionate share
 14 of fixed and operating costs incurred by the school district
 15 attributable to the use of buses in accordance with the
 16 agreement.
 17 Section 11. Subsection (13) is added to section
 18 341.041, Florida Statutes, to read:
 19 341.041 Transit responsibilities of the
 20 department.--The department shall, within the resources
 21 provided pursuant to chapter 216:
 22 (13) Assist local governmental entities and other
 23 transit operators in the planning, development, and
 24 coordination of transit services for WAGES program
 25 participants as defined in s. 414.0252.
 26 Section 12. Subsections (1) and (2) of section
 27 341.052, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
 28 341.052 Public transit block grant program;
 29 administration; eligible projects; limitation.--
 30 (1) There is created a public transit block grant
 31 program which shall be administered by the department. Block

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1 grant funds shall only be provided to "Section 9" providers
 2 and "Section 16" providers designated by the United States
 3 Department of Transportation and community transportation
 4 coordinators as defined in chapter 427. Eligible providers
 5 must establish public transportation development plans
 6 consistent, to the maximum extent feasible, with approved
 7 local government comprehensive plans of the units of local
 8 government in which the provider is located. In developing
 9 public transportation development plans, eligible providers
 10 must solicit comments from local WAGES coalitions established
 11 under chapter 414. The development plans must address how the
 12 public transit provider will work with the appropriate local
 13 WAGES coalition to provide services to WAGES participants.
 14 Eligible providers must review program and financial plans
 15 established under s. 414.028 and provide information to the
 16 local WAGES coalition serving the county in which the provider
 17 is located regarding the availability of transportation
 18 services to assist WAGES program participants.
 19 (2) Costs for which public transit block grant program
 20 funds may be expended include:
 21 (a) Costs of public bus transit and local public fixed
 22 guideway capital projects.
 23 (b) Costs of public bus transit service development
 24 and transit corridor projects. Whenever block grant funds are
 25 used for a service development project or a transit corridor
 26 project, the use of such funds is governed by s. 341.051.
 27 Local transit service development projects and transit
 28 corridor projects currently operating under contract with the
 29 department shall continue to receive state funds according to
 30 the contract until such time as the contract expires. Transit
 31 corridor projects, wholly within one county, meeting or

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1 (7) Work cooperatively with local WAGES coalitions
 2 established in chapter 414 to provide assistance in the
 3 development of innovative transportation services for WAGES
 4 participants.
 5 Section 16. Section 414.80, Florida Statutes, is
 6 created to read:
 7 414.80 Short title.--Sections 414.80-414.860 may be
 8 cited as the "WAGES Emergency Response Act."
 9 Section 19. Section 414.810, Florida Statutes, is
 10 created to read:
 11 414.810 Legislative findings and intent.--
 12 (1) The Legislature finds that the success of the Work
 13 and Gain Economic Self-sufficiency (WAGES) Program depends
 14 upon the existence of sufficient employment opportunities
 15 compatible with the education and skill levels of participants
 16 in the WAGES Program.
 17 (2) The Legislature finds that in several identifiable
 18 regions of the state there is an alarmingly inadequate supply
 19 of entry-level jobs in relation to the number of WAGES Program
 20 participants who are exhausting statutory limitations on the
 21 receipt of temporary cash assistance under the WAGES Program.
 22 (3) The Legislature finds that the disparity between
 23 employment opportunities and the number of WAGES Program
 24 participants in these areas of critical state economic concern
 25 constitutes an economic development emergency with significant
 26 fiscal and social implications for these areas and for the
 27 state as a whole.
 28 (4) The Legislature finds that there is an immediate
 29 need to facilitate the location and expansion of businesses
 30 and the creation of jobs in these areas of critical state
 31 economic concern, but that such activities may be hampered by

1 existing budgetary, statutory, regulatory, or programmatic
 2 requirements.
 3 (5) It is the intent of the Legislature to provide for
 4 a WAGES Emergency Response Program in order to ensure that the
 5 resources of state and local government are marshaled in a
 6 coordinated, effective, and timely manner to promote economic
 7 development and job creation integral to the success of the
 8 WAGES Program.
 9 Section 20. Section 414.811, Florida Statutes, is
 10 created to read:
 11 414.811 Policy and purpose.--Because the Legislature
 12 has determined that the state must take extraordinary measures
 13 to meet the employment needs of its residents who are
 14 transitioning from dependence on welfare to self-reliance
 15 through employment and to ensure that adequate employment
 16 opportunities exist for such residents, it is hereby found and
 17 declared necessary:
 18 (1) To create a State WAGES Emergency Response Team to
 19 be composed of a state director and appointed agency WAGES
 20 Emergency Response Team Coordinators.
 21 (a) The state director shall be appointed by the
 22 Governor, and for administrative purposes, shall be housed in
 23 the Executive Office of the Governor.
 24 (b) Staffing for the State WAGES Emergency Response
 25 Team shall be provided by the Department of Community Affairs.
 26 The department shall coordinate the use of state facilities
 27 and resources in ensuring the successful completion of the
 28 team's objectives.
 29 (2) To empower the State WAGES Emergency Response Team
 30 to facilitate the creation of employment opportunities in
 31 areas of critical state economic concern.

1 a vacancy of a member appointed at-large by the Governor
 2 occurs on the board, the Governor shall fill the vacancy for
 3 the remainder of the unexpired term. The composition of the
 4 board must generally reflect the racial, gender, and ethnic
 5 diversity of the state as a whole.

6 Section 14. Section 414.225, Florida Statutes, is
 7 created to read:

8 414.225 Transitional transportation.--In order to
 9 assist former WAGES participants in maintaining and sustaining
 10 employment, transportation may be provided, if funds are
 11 available, for up to 1 year after the participant is no longer
 12 eligible to participate in the program due to earnings. This
 13 does not constitute an entitlement to transitional
 14 transportation. If funds are not sufficient to provide
 15 services under this section, the department may limit or
 16 otherwise prioritize transportation services.

17 (1) Transitional transportation must be job related.
 18 (2) Transitional transportation may include expenses
 19 identified in s. 414.20.

20 Section 15. Subsection (27) is added to section
 21 427.013, Florida Statutes, to read:

22 427.013 The Commission for the Transportation
 23 Disadvantaged; purpose and responsibilities.--The purpose of
 24 the commission is to accomplish the coordination of
 25 transportation services provided to the transportation
 26 disadvantaged. The goal of this coordination shall be to
 27 assure the cost-effective provision of transportation by
 28 qualified community transportation coordinators or
 29 transportation operators for the transportation disadvantaged
 30 without any bias or presumption in favor of multioperator
 31 systems or not-for-profit transportation operators over single

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1 operator systems or for-profit transportation operators. In
 2 carrying out this purpose, the commission shall:

3 (27) Ensure that local community transportation
 4 coordinators work cooperatively with local WAGES coalitions
 5 established in chapter 414 to provide assistance in the
 6 development of innovative transportation services for WAGES
 7 participants.

8 Section 16. Subsection (9) is added to section
 9 427.0155, Florida Statutes, to read:
 10 427.0155 Community transportation coordinators; powers
 11 and duties.--Community transportation coordinators shall have
 12 the following powers and duties:

13 (9) Work cooperatively with local WAGES coalitions
 14 established in chapter 414 to provide assistance in the
 15 development of innovative transportation services for WAGES
 16 participants.

17 Section 17. Subsection (7) is added to section
 18 427.0157, Florida Statutes, to read:

19 427.0157 Coordinating boards; powers and duties.--The
 20 purpose of each coordinating board is to develop local service
 21 needs and to provide information, advice, and direction to the
 22 community transportation coordinators on the coordination of
 23 services to be provided to the transportation disadvantaged.
 24 The commission shall, by rule, establish the membership of
 25 coordinating boards. The members of each board shall be
 26 appointed by the metropolitan planning organization or
 27 designated official planning agency. The appointing authority
 28 shall provide each board with sufficient staff support and
 29 resources to enable the board to fulfill its responsibilities
 30 under this section. Each board shall meet at least quarterly
 31 and shall:

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1 limit or are receiving cash assistance under a period of
 2 hardship extension to the time limit;
 3 (g) Areas with unusually high unemployment, and
 4 (h) Areas identified as labor surplus areas using the
 5 criteria established by the U.S. Department of Labor
 6 Employment and Training Administration.
 7 (3) Subcounty areas determined to have the greatest
 8 need for job creation as determined by the Workforce
 9 Development Board of Enterprise Florida, Inc., based upon the
 10 criteria in subsection (2) shall qualify for designation by
 11 the Governor under the authority provided by this section.
 12 Section 24. Section 414.030, Florida Statutes, is
 13 created to read:
 14 414.030. WAGES Emergency Response Program.--
 15 (1)(a) By July 1, 1998, the heads of the Departments
 16 of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Labor and Employment
 17 Security, Community Affairs, Children and Family Services,
 18 Revenue, Business and Professional Regulation, Management
 19 Services, Military Affairs, Transportation, and Environmental
 20 Protection shall select from within each such department a
 21 person to be designated as the WAGES Emergency Response
 22 Coordinator for the department and a person to serve as an
 23 alternate.
 24 (b) By July 1, 1998, the Controller, the Auditor
 25 General, the executive director of each water management
 26 district, and the heads of the Office of Tourism, Trade, and
 27 Economic Development, Enterprise Florida, Inc., State WAGES
 28 Board of Directors, Institute of Food and Agricultural
 29 Science, Florida Chamber of Commerce, the Florida Home
 30 Builders Association, the State Board of Community Colleges,
 31 Division of Workforce Development of the Department of

1 Education, State University System, Florida Ports Council, and
 2 the Office of Planning and Budgeting shall select from within
 3 such organizations a person to be designated as the WAGES
 4 Emergency Response Coordinator for the organization and a
 5 person to serve as an alternate.
 6 (c) By designation, the WAGES Emergency Response
 7 Coordinators are empowered to commit and coordinate those
 8 resources applicable to the organization that the coordinator
 9 represents. The WAGES Emergency Response Coordinators together
 10 with the state director comprise the WAGES Emergency Response
 11 Team, and are responsible for providing various resources
 12 dictated by need as determined by project teams.
 13 (d) The head of each organization identified in
 14 paragraphs (a) and (b) shall notify the Governor and the state
 15 director in writing of the person initially designated as the
 16 WAGES Emergency Response Coordinator for such organization and
 17 his or her alternate and of any changes in persons so
 18 designated thereafter. The Governor may add individuals to the
 19 WAGES Emergency Response Team as deemed necessary.
 20 (2) The State WAGES Emergency Response Team shall
 21 encourage state and local agencies to cooperatively solve all
 22 barriers for attracting and committing potential employers to
 23 locate in areas of critical state economic concern and to
 24 facilitate expansion of existing businesses in those areas.
 25 Once a local project leader or regional response team has
 26 identified a barrier that cannot be overcome through
 27 traditional means, the State WAGES Emergency Response Team
 28 may:
 29 (a) By contract with the potential employer, waive any
 30 criteria, requirement or similar provision of any economic
 31 development incentive. Such incentives shall include, but not

1 (3) To provide for coordination with local government
 2 of state designated projects.
 3 Section 21. Section 414.812, Florida Statutes, is
 4 created to read:
 5 414.812 Limitations.--
 6 (1) The existence of the State WAGES Emergency
 7 Response Team is not designed to disrupt the orderly economic
 8 development of the state. Rather, it is created to coordinate
 9 state resources and rapidly eliminate barriers that prevent
 10 the creation of employment opportunities in designated regions
 11 and communities of the state.
 12 (2) Nothing in ss. 414.80-414.860 shall be construed
 13 to:
 14 (a) Interfere with the responsibilities of the
 15 Division of Community Affairs relative to the State Emergency
 16 Management Act under chapter 252;
 17 (b) Interfere with military and defense obligations of
 18 the Florida National Guard; or
 19 (c) Authorize the destruction of wetlands or other
 20 ecologically or environmentally sensitive lands.
 21 Section 22. Section 414.813, Florida Statutes, is
 22 created to read:
 23 414.813 Liberal construction.--Sections 414.80-414.860
 24 shall be construed liberally in order to effectuate their
 25 purposes.
 26 Section 23. Section 414.820, Florida Statutes, is
 27 created to read:
 28 414.820 Designation of Areas of Critical State
 29 Economic Concern.--
 30
 31

1 (1) The Legislature declares the following workforce
 2 Development Regions to be areas of critical state economic
 3 concern:
 4 (a) Region 5--Gadsden, Leon, and Wakulla counties;
 5 (b) Region 6--Hamilton, Jefferson, Lafayette, Madison,
 6 Suwannee, and Taylor counties;
 7 (c) Region 7--Baker, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, and
 8 Union counties;
 9 (d) Region 19--DeSoto, Hardee, and Highlands counties;
 10 and
 11 (e) Region 23--Dade and Monroe counties.
 12 (2) By Executive Order, the Governor shall declare no
 13 more than 4 additional areas of the state as areas of critical
 14 state economic concern based upon the following criteria:
 15 (a) Areas with a high proportion of families who had
 16 already received cash assistance in three out of the previous
 17 five years at the time their time limit was established;
 18 (b) Areas with a high proportion of families subject
 19 to the WAGES time limit headed by a parent who was under age
 20 24 at the time the time limit was established and who lacked
 21 high school or GED completion;
 22 (c) Areas with a high proportion of families subject
 23 to the time limit who have used all of the available months of
 24 cash assistance since October 1996;
 25 (d) Areas with a low ratio of new jobs per WAGES
 26 client;
 27 (e) Areas with a low ratio of job openings requiring
 28 less than a high school degree per WAGES client;
 29 (f) Areas with a high proportion of families subject
 30 to the time limit who are either within six months of the time
 31

1 that may require the assistance of the state response team.
 2 The teams shall also identify underutilized local resources.
 3 (b) Regional response teams shall be responsible for
 4 coordinating the efforts of local government and local
 5 agencies to attract potential new employers and shall work in
 6 conjunction with local economic development councils.
 7 Enterprise Florida, Inc., shall assist the regional response
 8 teams by providing research and advice in fulfilling their
 9 charge.
 10 (c) A regional response team may propose any local
 11 opportunity for the expansion of an existing business or for
 12 the relocation to the region of an existing employer to the
 13 State WAGES Emergency Response Team to exercise the powers
 14 vested in the state team.
 15 (d) It is the desire of the Legislature that local
 16 resources and local solutions shall be used first as the
 17 economic development resulting from the efforts of the teams
 18 will be felt greatest by local communities.
 19 Section 26. Section 414.845, Florida Statutes, is
 20 created to read:
 21 414.845 Local Project Teams.--
 22 (1) Recognizing that significant job creation efforts
 23 often focus on development of specific sites and may include
 24 multiple employers, not more than 10 local project districts
 25 may be designated by the State WAGES Emergency Response Team.
 26 Not more than 3 of the local project districts may be created
 27 in Dade County. Not more than 7 may be located in
 28 legislatively designated areas of critical state economic
 29 concern, including those designated in Dade County. Such sites
 30 must be contiguous and capable of supporting businesses
 31 creating a total of 500 jobs or more.

1 (2) Upon designation of a local project district, a
 2 local project team shall be assembled and approved by the
 3 State WAGES Emergency Response Team, after consultation with
 4 the regional response team. Local project leaders should look
 5 first to the regional response teams for assistance, but may
 6 directly appeal to the State WAGES Emergency Response Team for
 7 assistance.
 8 (3) Local project teams shall have the following
 9 powers and responsibilities:
 10 (a) Local project teams are to aggressively solicit
 11 potential businesses for site specific projects.
 12 (b) Local project teams shall assist potential
 13 employers in identifying and applying for all relevant
 14 incentives and permits.
 15 (c) Local project teams, with permission of the State
 16 WAGES Emergency Response Team, may negotiate specific terms of
 17 agreement with potential employers, and
 18 (d) Local project teams shall identify and assist in
 19 the elimination of local barriers to the location or expansion
 20 of a business at the site.
 21 (4) In selecting potential projects, the State WAGES
 22 Emergency Response Team shall consider all projects submitted,
 23 and shall pay particular attention to projects which include
 24 elements relating to transportation distribution centers,
 25 warehousing facilities, agricultural processing and packaging,
 26 and the aquaculture industry. While traditional economic
 27 development does not usually focus on retail establishments,
 28 the team shall consider projects which provide retail
 29 employment opportunities and may select retail projects if
 30 the projects provide significant employment opportunities for
 31 WAGES Program participants; the project developers either have

1 be limited to: the Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund
 2 Program under s. 288.106, the Quick-Response Training Program
 3 under s. 288.047, the WAGES Quick-Response Training Program,
 4 contracts for transportation projects under s. 288.063, the
 5 Qualified Defense contractor Tax Refund Program under s.
 6 288.1045, the brownfield redevelopment bonus refunds under s.
 7 288.107, the urban high-crime area and rural job tax credit
 8 programs under ss. 212.097, 212.098, and 220.1895;
 9 (b) By contract with the potential employer, provide
 10 training and educational opportunities for new employees,
 11 develop training programs, and pay tuition or training
 12 expenses for employees;
 13 (c) Contract with any Florida based provider of
 14 employment training services or educational services for the
 15 provision of services related to the team's responsibilities;
 16 (d) Contract with potential employers to provide any
 17 service or product over which the team has control;
 18 (e) Recommend emergency issues to the Governor for his
 19 consideration as matters requiring an executive order;
 20 (f) Waive transportation provider preferences and
 21 exclusions provided to the Transportation Disadvantage
 22 Commission and associated providers; and
 23 (g) Authorize the use of funds appropriated for the
 24 WAGES Emergency Response Program for the staffing expenses of
 25 the Department of Community Affairs.
 26 (3) The State WAGES Emergency Response Team shall meet
 27 at a minimum on a monthly basis.
 28 (4) In order to accomplish the goals of the State
 29 WAGES Emergency Response Team, the Governor may, by executive
 30 order, effective for a period of no longer than one year, and
 31

1 subject to legislative review and approval at the next regular
 2 legislative session;
 3 (a) Exercise any power enumerated under s. 252.361 and
 4 (b) Require, at the recommendation of the State WAGES
 5 Emergency Response Team, minimum hiring requirements of
 6 participants of the WAGES Program for contracts entered into
 7 by the Florida Department of Transportation or any school
 8 district entering into contract for capital construction.
 9 (5) The Legislature by concurrent resolution may at
 10 any time terminate an executive order issued for purposes
 11 described in this section.
 12 (6) The State WAGES Emergency Response Team is
 13 directed to use local resources and financing whenever
 14 possible and to petition the Governor to use the powers
 15 granted in this act to finance local projects.
 16 Section 25. Section 414.840, Florida Statutes, is
 17 created to read:
 18 414.840 Regional WAGES Emergency Response Teams.--
 19 (1) Enterprise Florida, Inc., in cooperation with the
 20 Department of Community Affairs, is responsible for initial
 21 organization of the regional response teams. Regional response
 22 teams shall be composed of representatives of cities and
 23 counties that have governing responsibilities for a given
 24 area. In addition to representatives of local government, a
 25 representative from the local WAGES coalition, the regional
 26 workforce development board, local economic development
 27 councils, and a representative of each school board in the
 28 region shall also be included on the regional response team.
 29 The team leader shall be selected by the team members.
 30 (2)(a) Regional response teams shall assess businesses
 31 located in the region to identify potential expansion projects

1 Section 30. Paragraph (h) of subsection (5) of section
2 212.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
3 212.06 Sales, rental, use, consumption, distribution,
4 and storage tax; specified exemptions.--The sale at retail,
5 the rental, the use, the consumption, the distribution, and
6 the storage to be used or consumed in this state of the
7 following are hereby specifically exempt from the tax imposed
8 by this chapter.
9 (5) EXEMPTIONS; ACCOUNT OF USE.--
10 (h) Business property used in an enterprise zone.--
11 1. Beginning July 1, 1995, business property purchased
12 for use by businesses located in an enterprise zone which is
13 subsequently used in an enterprise zone shall be exempt from
14 the tax imposed by this chapter. This exemption inures to the
15 business only through a refund of previously paid taxes. A
16 refund shall be authorized upon an affirmative showing by the
17 taxpayer to the satisfaction of the department that the
18 requirements of this paragraph have been met.
19 2. To receive a refund, the business must file under
20 oath with the governing body or enterprise zone development
21 agency having jurisdiction over the enterprise zone where the
22 business is located, as applicable, an application which
23 includes:
24 a. The name and address of the business claiming the
25 refund.
26 b. The identifying number assigned pursuant to s.
27 290.0065 to the enterprise zone in which the business is
28 located.
29 c. A specific description of the property for which a
30 refund is sought, including its serial number or other
31 permanent identification number.

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1 d. The location of the property.
2 e. The sales invoice or other proof of purchase of the
3 property, showing the amount of sales tax paid, the date of
4 purchase, and the name and address of the sales tax dealer
5 from whom the property was purchased.
6 f. Whether the business is a small business as defined
7 by s. 288.703(1).
8 9. If applicable, the name and address of each
9 permanent employee of the business, including, for each
10 employee who is a resident of an enterprise zone, the
11 identifying number assigned pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the
12 enterprise zone in which the employee resides.
13 3. Within 10 working days after receipt of an
14 application, the governing body or enterprise zone development
15 agency shall review the application to determine if it
16 contains all the information required pursuant to subparagraph
17 2. and meets the criteria set out in this paragraph. The
18 governing body or agency shall certify all applications that
19 contain the information required pursuant to subparagraph 2.
20 and meet the criteria set out in this paragraph as eligible to
21 receive a refund. If applicable, the governing body or agency
22 shall also certify if 20 percent of the employees of the
23 business are residents of an enterprise zone, excluding
24 temporary and part-time employees. The certification shall be
25 in writing, and a copy of the certification shall be
26 transmitted to the executive director of the Department of
27 Revenue. The business shall be responsible for forwarding a
28 certified application to the department within the time
29 specified in subparagraph 4.
30
31

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1 or can obtain the necessary permits to begin construction of
 2 the project on or before December 1, 1998, and the sponsors of
 3 the project are willing to enter into a contract with the
 4 state to deliver the commitments required under this
 5 subsection. The team shall give priority attention to any
 6 retail development project if such a project is located in an
 7 area of critical state economic concern, is designed to
 8 provide for more than 5,000 permanent jobs, provides for the
 9 right of first refusal for at least 3,000 construction jobs to
 10 WAGES Program participants, provides a program for the
 11 transportation of WAGES Program participants employed in the
 12 construction of the project to and from the construction site,
 13 provides on-the-job training for WAGES Program participants at
 14 the project site, provides for multiple job fairs for WAGES
 15 Program participants, provides that a substantial portion of
 16 operational and clerical positions hired directly by the
 17 project be WAGES Program participants, and provides for rent
 18 and lease incentive programs for businesses renting or leasing
 19 space in project facilities based upon the employment of WAGES
 20 Program participants. The team may consider any other contract
 21 provision designed to increase employment opportunities for
 22 WAGES Program participants. The Department of Community
 23 Affairs, on behalf of the team, shall develop a contract in
 24 consultation with the Department of Labor and Employment
 25 Security, the Department of Children and Family Services, and
 26 the Department of Transportation, which will utilize state
 27 resources such as the Department of Agriculture's Florida
 28 Adventures Program, the Department of Community Affairs'
 29 Community Development Block Grant Loan Guarantee Program, the
 30 Department of Labor's Welfare-to-Work Program, additional
 31 federal funds provided to the Department of Transportation in

1 fiscal year 1998-99, through the reauthorization of the
 2 Federal Highway Act, the Department of Environmental
 3 Protection's Sewage Treatment Facilities Revolving Loan
 4 Program, and WAGES Program support funds to facilitate
 5 projects meeting the requirements under this subsection.
 6 Section 27. Section 414.850, Florida Statutes, is
 7 created to read:
 8 414.850 Expiration and review of WAGES Emergency
 9 Response Program.--Sections 414.80-414.860, expire June 30,
 10 2002, and shall be reviewed by the Legislature and Enterprise
 11 Florida, Inc., prior to that date. In its review, the
 12 Legislature shall determine if the continued use of the WAGES
 13 Emergency Response Program fulfills a state need. Enterprise
 14 Florida, Inc., shall assess the usefulness and applicability
 15 of the WAGES Emergency Response Program for economic
 16 development projects.
 17 Section 28. Section 414.860, Florida Statutes, is
 18 created to read:
 19 414.860 Legislative oversight.--The President of the
 20 Senate shall appoint 2 members of the Senate and the Speaker
 21 of the House of Representatives shall appoint 2 members of the
 22 House of Representatives to serve as a legislative oversight
 23 committee to monitor and advise the State WAGES Emergency
 24 Response Team.
 25 Section 29. The State WAGES Emergency Response Team
 26 shall, from funds appropriated for the use of the team,
 27 contract with the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences
 28 for job creation and training activities related to the
 29 Institute's Job Start, Care Giver Education, Aquaculture of
 30 High Value Species, and New Technologies in Plasticulture for
 31 Vegetable Producers programs.

1 10. The provisions of this paragraph shall expire and
 2 be void on December 31, 2005.
 3 Section 31. Subsection (1) and paragraph (a) of
 4 subsection (3) of section 212.096, Florida Statutes, are
 5 amended to read:
 6 212.096 Sales, rental, storage, use tax; enterprise
 7 zone jobs credit against sales tax.--
 8 (1) For the purposes of the credit provided in this
 9 section:
 10 (a) "Eligible business" means any sole proprietorship,
 11 firm, partnership, corporation, bank, savings association,
 12 estate, trust, business trust, receiver, syndicate, or other
 13 group or combination, or successor business, located in an
 14 enterprise zone. An eligible business does not include any
 15 business which has claimed the credit permitted under s.
 16 220.181 for any new business employee first beginning
 17 employment with the business after July 1, 1995.
 18 (b) "Month" means either a calendar month or the time
 19 period from any day of any month to the corresponding day of
 20 the next succeeding month or, if there is no corresponding day
 21 in the next succeeding month, the last day of the succeeding
 22 month.
 23 (c) "New employee" means a person residing in an
 24 enterprise zone, a qualified Job Training Partnership Act
 25 classroom training participant, or a WAGES Program participant
 26 who begins employment with an eligible business after July 1,
 27 1995, and who has not been previously employed within the
 28 preceding 12 months by the eligible business, or a successor
 29 eligible business, claiming the credit allowed by this
 30 section.
 31

1 A person shall be deemed to be employed if the person performs
 2 duties in connection with the operations of the business on a
 3 regular, full-time basis, provided the person is performing
 4 such duties for an average of at least 36 hours per week each
 5 month, or a part-time basis, provided the person is performing
 6 such duties for an average of at least 20 hours per week each
 7 month throughout the year. The person must be performing such
 8 duties at a business site located in the enterprise zone.
 9 (3) In order to claim this credit, an eligible
 10 business must file under oath with the governing body or
 11 enterprise zone development agency having jurisdiction over
 12 the enterprise zone where the business is located, as
 13 applicable, a statement which includes:
 14 (a) For each new employee for whom this credit is
 15 claimed, the employee's name and place of residence, including
 16 the identifying number assigned pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the
 17 enterprise zone in which the employee resides if the new
 18 employee is a person residing in an enterprise zone, and, if
 19 applicable, documentation that the employee is a qualified Job
 20 Training Partnership Act classroom training participant or a
 21 WAGES Program participant.
 22 Section 32. Paragraph (q) of subsection (1) of section
 23 220.03, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 24 220.03 Definitions.--
 25 (1) SPECIFIC TERMS.--When used in this code, and when
 26 not otherwise distinctly expressed or manifestly incompatible
 27 with the intent thereof, the following terms shall have the
 28 following meanings:
 29 (q) "New employee," for the purposes of the enterprise
 30 zone jobs credit, means a person residing in an enterprise
 31 zone, a qualified Job Training Partnership Act classroom

1 4. An application for a refund pursuant to this
 2 paragraph must be submitted to the department within 6 months
 3 after the business property is purchased.
 4 5. The provisions of s. 212.095 do not apply to any
 5 refund application made pursuant to this paragraph. The amount
 6 refunded on purchases of business property under this
 7 paragraph shall be the lesser of 97 percent of the sales tax
 8 paid on such business property or \$5,000, or, if no less than
 9 20 percent of the employees of the business are residents of
 10 an enterprise zone, excluding temporary and part-time
 11 employees, the amount refunded on purchases of business
 12 property under this paragraph shall be the lesser of 97
 13 percent of the sales tax paid on such business property or
 14 \$10,000. A refund approved pursuant to this paragraph shall be
 15 made within 30 days of formal approval by the department of
 16 the application for the refund. No refund shall be granted
 17 under this paragraph unless the amount to be refunded exceeds
 18 \$100 in sales tax paid on purchases made within a 60-day time
 19 period.
 20 6. The department shall adopt rules governing the
 21 manner and form of refund applications and may establish
 22 guidelines as to the requisites for an affirmative showing of
 23 qualification for exemption under this paragraph.
 24 7. If the department determines that the business
 25 property is used outside an enterprise zone within 3 years
 26 from the date of purchase, the amount of taxes refunded to the
 27 business purchasing such business property shall immediately
 28 be due and payable to the department by the business, together
 29 with the appropriate interest and penalty, computed from the
 30 date of purchase, in the manner provided by this chapter.
 31 Notwithstanding this subparagraph, in order to provide greater

1 employment opportunities in areas of critical state economic
 2 concern, business property used exclusively in:
 3 a. Licensed commercial fishing vessels,
 4 b. Fishing guide boats, or
 5 c. Ecotourism guide boats
 6
 7 that leave and return to a fixed location within an area
 8 designated under s. 370.28 are eligible for the exemption
 9 provided under this paragraph if all requirements of this
 10 paragraph are met. Such vessels and boats must be owned by a
 11 business that is eligible to receive the exemption provided
 12 under this paragraph. This exemption does not apply to the
 13 purchase of a vessel or boat.
 14 8. The department shall deduct an amount equal to 10
 15 percent of each refund granted under the provisions of this
 16 paragraph from the amount transferred into the Local
 17 Government Half-cent Sales Tax Clearing Trust Fund pursuant to
 18 s. 212.20 for the county area in which the business property
 19 is located and shall transfer that amount to the General
 20 Revenue Fund.
 21 9. For the purposes of this exemption, "business
 22 property" means new or used property defined as "recovery
 23 property" in s. 168(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954,
 24 as amended, except:
 25 a. Property classified as 3-year property under s.
 26 168(c)(2)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended;
 27 b. Industrial machinery and equipment as defined in
 28 sub-subparagraph (b)6.a. and eligible for exemption under
 29 paragraph (b); and
 30 c. Building materials as defined in sub-subparagraph
 31 (g)8.a.

1 Section 35. Subsection (4) of section 370.26, Florida
 2 Statutes, is amended, and subsection (5) is added to that
 3 section to read:
 4 370.26 Enterprise zone designation; communities
 5 adversely impacted by net limitations.--
 6 (4) Notwithstanding the enterprise zone residency
 7 requirements set out in ss. 212.096(1)(c) and 220.03(1)(q),
 8 businesses located in enterprise zones designated pursuant to
 9 this section may receive the credit provided under s. 212.096
 10 or s. 220.181 for hiring any person within the jurisdiction of
 11 the county within which nominating community-of such
 12 enterprise zone is located. All other provisions of ss.
 13 212.096, 220.03(1)(q), and 220.181 apply to such businesses.
 14 To increase employment opportunities for WAGES clients and
 15 prevent other persons from reliance on WAGES benefits,
 16 notwithstanding the requirement specified in ss.
 17 212.08(5)(g)5. and (h)5. and (15)(a) and 220.182(1)(b) that no
 18 less than 20 percent of a business's employees, excluding
 19 temporary and part-time employees, must be residents of an
 20 enterprise zone for the business to qualify for the maximum
 21 exemption or credit provided in ss. 212.08(5)(g) and (h) and
 22 (15) and 220.182, a business that is located in an enterprise
 23 zone designated pursuant to this section shall be qualified
 24 for those maximum exemptions or credits if no less than 20
 25 percent of such employees of the business are residents of the
 26 jurisdiction of the county within which the enterprise zone is
 27 located. All other provisions of ss. 212.08(5)(g) and (h) and
 28 (15) and 220.182 apply to such business.
 29 (5) Notwithstanding the time limitations contained in
 30 chapters 212 and 220, a business eligible to receive tax
 31 credits under this section from January 1, 1997, to June 1,

1 1998, must submit an application for the tax credits by
 2 December 1, 1998. All other requirements of the enterprise
 3 zone program apply to such a business.
 4 Section 36. There is appropriated \$32 million from
 5 federal funds received by the state pursuant to Public Law
 6 104-193, The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act,
 7 to the Employment Security Administration Trust Fund in the
 8 Department of Labor and Employment Security, to support the
 9 activities of local WAGES Coalitions directed toward
 10 preparing, placing, and supporting WAGES program participants
 11 in jobs or other approved work related activities.
 12 Section 37. Section 414.155, Florida Statutes, is
 13 created to read:
 14 414.155 Relocation assistance program.--
 15 (1) The Legislature recognizes that the need for
 16 public assistance may arise because a family is located in an
 17 area with limited employment opportunities, because of
 18 geographic isolation, because of formidable transportation
 19 barriers, because of isolation from their extended family, or
 20 because domestic violence interferes with the ability of a
 21 parent to maintain self-sufficiency. Accordingly there is
 22 established a voluntary program to assist families in
 23 relocating to communities with greater opportunities for
 24 self-sufficiency.
 25 (2) The relocation assistance program shall involve
 26 five steps by the Department of Children and Family Services
 27 and the Department of Labor and Employment Security.
 28 (a) A determination that the family is a WAGES Program
 29 participant or that all requirements of eligibility for the
 30 WAGES Program would likely be met.
 31

1 training participant, or a WAGES Program participant employed
 2 at a business located in an enterprise zone who begins
 3 employment in the operations of the business after July 1,
 4 1995, and who has not been previously employed within the
 5 preceding 12 months by the business or a successor business
 6 claiming the credit pursuant to s. 220.181. A person shall be
 7 deemed to be employed by such a business if the person
 8 performs duties in connection with the operations of the
 9 business on a full-time basis, provided she or he is
 10 performing such duties for an average of at least 36 hours per
 11 week each month, or a part-time basis, provided she or he is
 12 performing such duties for an average of at least 20 hours per
 13 week each month throughout the year. The person must be
 14 performing such duties at a business site located in an
 15 enterprise zone. The provisions of this paragraph shall expire
 16 and be void on June 30, 2005.

17 Section 33. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section
 18 220.181, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

19 220.181 Enterprise zone jobs credit.--

20 (2) When filing for an enterprise zone jobs credit, a
 21 business must file under oath with the governing body or
 22 enterprise zone development agency having jurisdiction over
 23 the enterprise zone where the business is located, as
 24 applicable, a statement which includes:

25 (a) For each new employee for whom this credit is
 26 claimed, the employee's name and place of residence during the
 27 taxable year, including the identifying number assigned
 28 pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the enterprise zone in which the
 29 new employee resides if the new employee is a person residing
 30 in an enterprise zone, and, if applicable, documentation that
 31

1 the employee is a qualified Job Training Partnership Act
 2 classroom training participant or a WAGES Program participant.

3 Section 34. Subsection (10) is added to section
 4 288.047, Florida Statutes, to read:

5 288.047 Quick-response training for economic
 6 development.--

7 (10) There is created a Quick-response Training
 8 Program for Work and Gain Economic Self-sufficiency (WAGES)
 9 participants. Enterprise Florida, Inc., may, at the discretion
 10 of the State WAGES Emergency Response Team, award
 11 quick-response training grants and develop applicable
 12 guidelines for the training of participants in the WAGES
 13 Program. In addition to a local economic development
 14 organization, grants must be endorsed by the applicable local
 15 WAGES coalition and regional workforce development board.

16 (a) Training funded pursuant to this subsection may
 17 not exceed 12 months, and may be provided by the local
 18 community college, school district, regional workforce
 19 development board, or the business employing the participant,
 20 including on-the-job training. Training will provide
 21 entry-level skills to new workers, including those employed in
 22 install, who are participants in the WAGES Program.

23 (b) WAGES participants trained pursuant to this
 24 subsection must be employed at a wage not less than \$6.00 per
 25 hour.

26 (c) Funds made available pursuant to this subsection
 27 may be expended in connection with the relocation of a
 28 business from one community to another community if approved
 29 by the State WAGES Emergency Response Team.

1 (1) Up to \$25,000,000 of funds designated for WAGES
 2 reserve is to be expended for WAGES Program job development in
 3 areas of critical state economic concern.
 4 (2) A total of \$15,000,000 is to be transferred from
 5 Employment Security Administration Trust Fund amounts
 6 associated with JTPA IIB, IIC and III allocations to the
 7 Economic Development Trust Fund administered by the Office of
 8 Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development to be used to fund
 9 programs and projects that produce jobs for WAGES Program
 10 participants in areas of critical state economic concern.
 11 (3) Up to \$7,500,000 from Employment Security
 12 Administration Trust Fund amounts associated with the
 13 Welfare-to-work grant is to be reserved for activities that
 14 lead to employment of WAGES Program participants in areas of
 15 critical state economic concern as defined by the WAGES
 16 Emergency Response Program. Of the \$7,500,000 reserved,
 17 \$2,500,000 is to be provided to the Institute of Food and
 18 Agricultural Sciences of the University of Florida for WAGES
 19 job opportunities, and \$1,000,000 is to be provided to the
 20 Department of Military Affairs to provide job readiness
 21 services for WAGES Program participants as approved by the
 22 State WAGES Board.
 23 (4) Contingent upon passage of federal legislation
 24 reauthorizing the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency
 25 Act or similar legislation that provides Florida more than 70
 26 percent of its federal transportation tax contribution or that
 27 increases revenue to Florida, up to \$25,000,000 is to be
 28 committed to transportation projects in areas of critical
 29 state economic concern that produce jobs for WAGES Program
 30 participants.
 31

1 Section 39. A total of \$1.9 million is appropriated
 2 from the Employment Security Administration Trust Fund to
 3 establish a life preparation program with the National Guard
 4 for children of WAGES participants and economically
 5 disadvantaged youths in concert with neighborhood
 6 revitalization efforts.
 7 Section 40. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
 8 law.
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1 (b) A determination that there is a basis for
 2 believing that relocation will contribute to the ability of
 3 the applicant to achieve self-sufficiency. For example, the
 4 applicant:
 5 1. Is unlikely to achieve independence at the current
 6 community of residence;
 7 2. Has secured a job that requires relocation to
 8 another community;
 9 3. Has a family support network in another community;
 10 or
 11 4. Is determined pursuant to criteria or procedures
 12 established by the WAGES Program State Board of Directors to
 13 be a victim of domestic violence who would experience reduced
 14 probability of further incidents through relocation.
 15 (c) Establishment of a relocation plan, including a
 16 budget and such requirements as are necessary to prevent abuse
 17 of the benefit and to provide an assurance that the applicant
 18 will relocate. The plan may require that expenditures be made
 19 on behalf of the recipient; however, the plan must include
 20 provisions to protect the safety of victims of domestic
 21 violence and avoid provisions that place them in anticipated
 22 danger. The payment to defray relocation expenses shall be
 23 limited to an amount not to exceed 4 months' temporary cash
 24 assistance, based on family size, and will not count towards
 25 the time limitations stated in s. 414.105. The Department of
 26 Children and Family Services may adopt rules necessary to
 27 administer this section.

28 (d) A determination, pursuant to criteria adopted by
 29 the WAGES Program State Board of Directors, that a Florida
 30 community receiving a relocated family has the capacity to
 31 provide needed services and employment opportunities. The

1 Department of Labor and Employment Security may adopt rules
 2 necessary to establish criteria to be used by the WAGES
 3 Program State Board of Directors in administering this
 4 paragraph.
 5 (e) Monitoring the relocation.
 6 (3) A family receiving relocation assistance for
 7 reasons other than domestic violence must sign an agreement
 8 restricting the family from applying for temporary cash
 9 assistance for 6 months, unless an emergency is demonstrated
 10 to the department. If a demonstrated emergency forces the
 11 family to reapply for temporary cash assistance within 6
 12 months after receiving a relocation assistance payment,
 13 repayment must be made on a prorated basis over an 8-month
 14 period and subtracted from any regular payment of temporary
 15 cash assistance for which the applicant may be eligible. The
 16 Department of Children and Family Services may adopt rules
 17 necessary to administer this section.
 18 (4) Nothing herein shall be construed to allow any
 19 WAGES Coalition or state agency to require relocation of a
 20 WAGES participant for the purposes of this section or any
 21 other.

22 (5) When the relocation plan for a WAGES participant
 23 involves relocating the participant within the state, the plan
 24 must be approved by the local WAGES coalition in the district
 25 from which the participant is moving and the local WAGES
 26 Coalition in the district to which the participant is moving
 27 before the effective date of the move.

28 Section 38. The following resources are designated for
 29 support of the WAGES Emergency Response Program: