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A bill to be entitled An act relating to opportunity zones; reviving, readopting, and amending s. 290.001, F.S.; renaming the Florida Enterprise Act as the Florida Opportunity Act; reviving and readopting s. 290.002, F.S.; providing legislative findings; reviving, readopting, and amending s. 290.003, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; reviving, readopting, and amending s. 290.004, F.S.; revising definitions; defining the term "opportunity zones"; creating s. 290.00552, F.S.; providing an approval procedure allowing certain opportunity zones to receive certain state incentives; specifying the documents that a governing body or bodies must provide to the Department of Economic Opportunity; repealing s. 290.0055, F.S., relating to local nominating procedures; reviving, readopting, and amending s. 290.0056, F.S.; requiring the creation of opportunity zone development agencies if an opportunity zone will seek state incentives; specifying procedures for appointing a board of commissioners; specifying how business is to be conducted; specifying powers and responsibilities of the board; providing powers and responsibilities of the governing body as the managing agent; authorizing the agency to invest in community

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49 50 investment corporations under certain circumstances and for specific purposes; requiring the agency to submit an annual report to the department; repealing s. 290.0057, F.S., relating to enterprise zone development plans; repealing s. 290.0058, F.S., relating to the determination of pervasive poverty, unemployment, and general distress; repealing s. 290.0065, F.S., relating to state designation of enterprise zones; reviving, readopting, and amending s. 290.0066, F.S.; specifying conditions under which the department may revoke state incentives authorized for an opportunity zone; specifying conditions under which an automatic revocation may occur; specifying that such decision is subject to chapter 120; repealing s. 290.00677, F.S., relating to rural enterprise zones and special qualifications; reviving, readopting, and amending s. 290.007, F.S.; specifying the state incentives available in opportunity zones; reviving, readopting, and amending s. 290.012, F.S.; specifying that existing enterprise zones cease to exist on a specified date and opportunity zones are authorized for state incentives thereafter; reviving, readopting, and amending s. 290.0135, F.S.; authorizing local governments to review their ordinances to encourage the economic viability and

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profitability of business and commerce in opportunity zones; reviving, readopting, and amending s. 290.014, F.S.; requiring the Department of Revenue to submit an annual report to the department concerning state incentives; repealing s. 290.016, F.S., relating to a repeal date for the Enterprise Zone Act; amending ss. 212.08, 212.096, 220.181, 220.182, 159.803, 163.2514, 163.503, 163.522, 166.522, 166.231, 193.077, 193.085, 195.073, 195.099, 196.012, 196.1995, 205.022, 205.054, 212.02, 220.02, 220.03, 220.13, 288.0659, 288.076, 288.106, 288.907, 288.1089, 288.1175, 339.2821, 339.63, and 624.5105, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; reenacting s. 196.1996, F.S.; relating to specific ad valorem tax exemptions in effect on a specified date; repealing s. 290.06561, F.S., relating to the designation of a rural enterprise zone as catalyst site; providing a directive to the Division of Law Revision; providing an effective date. Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: Section 1. Notwithstanding the repeal scheduled in section

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11 of chapter 2005-287, Laws of Florida, which occurred on

December 31, 2015, section 290.001, Florida Statutes, is

revived, readopted, and amended to read:

290.001 Florida Opportunity Enterprise Zone Act; popular name.—Sections $\underline{290.001-290.014}$ $\underline{290.001-290.016}$ may be cited as the "Florida Opportunity Enterprise Zone Act."

Section 2. Notwithstanding the repeal scheduled in section 11 of chapter 2005-287, Laws of Florida, which occurred on December 31, 2015, section 290.002, Florida Statutes, is revived and readopted to read:

290.002 Legislative findings.—It is hereby found and declared that:

- (1) Within the communities of this state, there exist areas that chronically display extreme and unacceptable levels of unemployment, physical deterioration, and economic disinvestment.
- (2) Each such area is a blight on the community as a whole, tarnishes the image and reputation of the community in the eyes of its residents, and reduces the desirability of the community as a place to visit and live.
- (3) Such severely distressed areas have high crime rates and provide environments detrimental to the physical and emotional health of their residents.
- (4) The revitalization and redevelopment of each such area for the ultimate benefit of its residents and the community as a whole is of critical importance to the individual community and to this state.

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(5) The resources of all levels of government are insufficient, and often inappropriate, to undertake successfully the massive task of restoring the social and economic productivity of such areas.

- (6) The ultimate revitalization of such areas can occur only if the private sector can be induced to invest its own resources in productive enterprises that rebuild the industrial and commercial viability of the areas and provide jobs for residents of the areas.
- (7) In order to provide the private sector with the necessary incentives to invest in such distressed areas, governments at all levels should seek ways to relax or eliminate fiscal and regulatory constraints and should seek to identify supportive actions that facilitate business investment in such distressed areas and overcome business objections to distressed area site locations.
- Section 3. Notwithstanding the repeal scheduled in section 11 of chapter 2005-287, Laws of Florida, which occurred on December 31, 2015, section 290.003, Florida Statutes, is revived, readopted, and amended to read:
- 290.003 Policy and purpose.—It is the policy of this state to provide the necessary means to assist local communities, their residents, and the private sector in creating the proper economic and social environment to induce the investment of private resources in productive business enterprises located in

severely distressed areas and to provide jobs for residents of such areas. In achieving this objective, the state will seek to provide appropriate investments, tax benefits, and regulatory relief of sufficient importance to encourage the business community to commit its financial participation. The purpose of ss. 290.001-290.014 ss. 290.001-290.016 is to establish a process that clearly identifies such severely distressed areas and provides incentives by both the state and local government to induce private investment in such areas. The Legislature, therefore, declares the revitalization of opportunity enterprise zones, through the concerted efforts of government and the private sector, to be a public purpose.

Section 4. Notwithstanding the repeal scheduled in section 11 of chapter 2005-287, Laws of Florida, which occurred on December 31, 2015, section 290.004, Florida Statutes, is revived, readopted, and amended to read:

290.004 Definitions relating to Florida <u>Opportunity</u>

<u>Enterprise</u> Zone Act.—As used in ss. <u>290.001-290.014</u> 290.001-

<u>290.016</u>:

(1) "Community investment corporation" means a black business investment corporation, a certified development corporation, a small business investment corporation, or other similar entity incorporated under Florida law that has limited its investment policy to making investments solely in minority business enterprises.

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151 "Department" means the Department of Economic Opportunity.

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- "Governing body" means the council or other (3) legislative body charged with governing the county or municipality.
- (4)"Minority business enterprise" has the same meaning as provided in s. 288.703.
 - "Opportunity zone" means any low-income census tract in Florida that was certified by the United States Department of the Treasury on June 14, 2018, as a "qualified opportunity zone" under Internal Revenue Code Section 1400Z-1(b)(1)(B).
 - (5) "Rural enterprise zone" means an enterprise zone that is nominated by a county having a population of 75,000 or fewer, or a county having a population of 100,000 or fewer which is contiguous to a county having a population of 75,000 or fewer, or by a municipality in such a county, or by such a county and one or more municipalities. An enterprise zone designated in accordance with s. 290.0065(5)(b) is considered to be a rural enterprise zone.
 - (6) "Small business" has the same meaning as provided in s. 288.703.
- 172 Section 5. Section 290.00552, Florida Statutes, is created to read: 173
 - 290.00552 Approval procedure.
 - (1) Any county or municipality, or a county and one or

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176	more municipalities together, may apply to the department for
177	approval for the zone to receive state incentives under s.
178	290.007. The governing body or bodies must provide the
179	department with the following:

- (a) A copy of a resolution adopted by the governing body or bodies which documents that an opportunity zone development agency has been created pursuant to s. 290.0056.
- (b) A copy of an adopted strategic plan. At a minimum, the plan must:
- 1. Briefly describe each community's goals for revitalizing the area.

- 2. Describe each community approaches to economic development, social and human services, transportation, housing, community development, public safety, and educational and environmental concerns will be addressed in a coordinated fashion, and explain how these linkages support the community's goals.
- 3. Identify and describe key community goals and the barriers that restrict the community from achieving these goals, including a description of poverty and general distress, barriers to economic opportunity and development, and barriers to human development.
- 4. Describe the process by which the communities will be full partners in the process of developing and implementing the plan and the extent to which local institutions and

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organizations have contributed to the planning process.

- 5. Commit the governing body or bodies to enact and maintain local fiscal and regulatory incentives, if approval for the area is received under this section. These incentives may include the municipal public service tax exemption provided by s. 166.231, the economic development ad valorem tax exemption provided by s. 196.1995, the business tax exemption provided by s. 205.054, local impact fee abatement or reduction, or lowinterest or interest-free loans or grants to businesses to encourage the revitalization of the area.
- 6. Identify the amount of local and private resources that will be available in the area and the private-public partnerships to be used, which may include participation by, and cooperation with, universities, community colleges, small business development centers, community investment corporations, certified development corporations, and other private and public entities.
- 7. Indicate how state opportunity zone tax incentives and state, local, and federal resources will be used within the opportunity zone.
- 8. Identify the funding requested under any state or federal program in support of the proposed economic, human, community, and physical development and related activities.
- 9. Identify baselines, methods, and benchmarks for measuring the success of carrying out the strategic plan.

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repealed.

(2) Before adopting the strategic plan, the governing body
or bodies shall submit the plan to the appropriate local
planning agency for review and recommendations as to its
conformity with the comprehensive plan for the development of
the county or municipality or the county and one or more
municipalities as a whole. The local planning agency shall
submit its written recommendations with respect to the
conformity of the proposed strategic plan to the governing body
or bodies within 60 days after receipt of the plan for review.
(3) Before adopting the strategic plan, the governing body
or bodies shall hold a public hearing on the strategic plan
after public notice thereof by publication in a newspaper having
a general circulation in the area of operation of the governing
body or bodies. The notice shall describe the time, date, place,
and purpose of the hearing, identify the opportunity zone
covered by the plan, and outline the general scope of the
strategic plan under consideration.
(4) Once the required documentation has been provided to
the department, it shall approve the opportunity zone for state
incentives as set forth in s. 290.007. The department shall use
the unique identifying number set forth in the certification
used by the United States Treasury in identifying qualified
opportunity zones.

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Section 6. Section 290.0055, Florida Statutes, is

Section 7. Notwithstanding the repeal scheduled in section 11 of chapter 2005-287, Laws of Florida, which occurred on December 31, 2015, section 290.0056, Florida Statutes, is revived, readopted, and amended to read:

290.0056 Opportunity Enterprise zone development agency.-

- (1) For each opportunity zone, Upon adoption of the resolution as provided in s. 290.0055(1)(a), the county or municipality shall create a public body corporate and politic to be known as an "opportunity enterprise zone development agency." For a zone that encompasses an area nominated by a county and one or more municipalities jointly, the county shall create the agency. Each such agency shall be constituted as a public instrumentality, and the exercise by an opportunity enterprise zone development agency of the powers conferred by this act shall be deemed and held to be the performance of an essential public function. The opportunity enterprise zone development agency of a county has the power to function within the corporate limits of a municipality only if the governing body of the municipality has by resolution concurred in the enterprise zone development plan prepared pursuant to s. 290.0057.
- (2) When the governing body creates an <u>opportunity</u> enterprise zone development agency, that body shall appoint a board of commissioners of the agency, which shall consist of not fewer than 8 or more than 13 commissioners. The governing body may appoint at least one representative from each of the

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following: the local chamber of commerce; local financial or insurance entities; local businesses and, where possible, businesses operating within the opportunity zone nominated area; the residents residing within the opportunity zone nominated area; nonprofit community-based organizations operating within the opportunity zone nominated area; the local workforce development board; the local code enforcement agency; and the local law enforcement agency. The terms of office of the commissioners shall be for 4 years each, except that, in making the initial appointments, the governing body shall appoint two members for terms of 3 years each, two members for terms of 2 years each, and one member for a term of 1 year; the remaining initial members shall serve for terms of 4 years each. A vacancy occurring during a term shall be filled for the unexpired term. The importance of including individuals from the opportunity zone nominated area shall be considered in making appointments. Further, the importance of minority representation on the agency shall be considered in making appointments so that the agency generally reflects the gender and ethnic composition of the community as a whole.

(3) A commissioner shall receive no compensation for his or her services, but is entitled to the necessary expenses, including travel expenses, incurred in the discharge of his or her duties. Each commissioner shall hold office until a successor has been appointed and has qualified. A certificate of

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the appointment or reappointment of any commissioner is conclusive evidence of the due and proper appointment of the commissioner.

- (4) The powers of an <u>opportunity enterprise</u> zone development agency shall be exercised by the commissioners. A majority of the commissioners constitutes a quorum for the purpose of conducting business and exercising the powers of the agency and for all other purposes. Action may be taken by the agency upon a vote of a majority of the commissioners present, unless in any case the bylaws require a larger number.
- chair from among the commissioners. An agency may employ an executive director, technical experts, and such other agents and employees, permanent and temporary, as it requires, and determine their qualifications, duties, and compensation. For such legal service as it requires, an agency may employ or retain its own counsel and legal staff. An agency authorized to transact business and exercise powers under this act shall file with the governing body, on or before March 31 of each year, a report of its activities for the preceding fiscal year, which report shall include a complete financial statement setting forth its assets, liabilities, income, and operating expenses as of the end of such fiscal year. The agency shall make the report available for inspection during business hours in the office of the agency.

(6) At any time after the creation of an <u>opportunity</u> enterprise zone development agency, the governing body of the county or municipality may appropriate to the agency such amounts as the governing body deems necessary for the administrative expenses and overhead of the agency.

- (7) The governing body may remove a commissioner for inefficiency, neglect of duty, or misconduct in office only after a hearing and only if the commissioner has been given a copy of the charges at least 10 days prior to the hearing and has had an opportunity to be heard in person or by counsel.
- (8) The <u>opportunity enterprise</u> zone development agency shall have the following powers and responsibilities:
- (a) To assist in the development, implementation, and annual review and update of the strategic plan or measurable goals.
- (b) To oversee and monitor the implementation of the strategic plan or measurable goals. The agency shall make quarterly reports to the governing body of the municipality or county, or the governing bodies of the county and one or more municipalities, evaluating the progress in implementing the strategic plan or measurable goals.
- (c) To identify and recommend to the governing body of the municipality or county, or the governing bodies of the county and one or more municipalities, ways to remove regulatory barriers.

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(d) To identify to the local government or governments the financial needs of, and local resources or assistance available to, eligible businesses in the zone.

- (e) To assist in promoting the <u>opportunity</u> enterprise zone incentives to residents and businesses within the <u>opportunity</u> enterprise zone.
- (f) To recommend boundary changes, as appropriate, in the opportunity enterprise zone to the governing body.
- (g) To work with organizations affiliated with Florida
 Agricultural and Mechanical University, the University of
 Florida, and the University of South Florida, a group of
 universities unofficially named the "University Partnership for
 Community Development," or similar organizations that have
 combined their resources to provide development consulting on a
 nonprofit basis.
- (h) To work with the department and Enterprise Florida, Inc., to ensure that the <u>opportunity enterprise</u> zone coordinator receives training on an annual basis.
- (9) The following powers and responsibilities shall be performed by the governing body creating the <u>opportunity</u> enterprise zone development agency acting as the managing agent of the <u>opportunity</u> enterprise zone development agency, or, contingent upon approval by such governing body, such powers and responsibilities shall be performed by the <u>opportunity</u> enterprise zone development agency:

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(a) To review, process, and certify applications for state opportunity enterprise zone tax incentives pursuant to ss. 212.08(5)(g), (h), and (15); 212.096; 220.181; and 220.182.

(b) To provide assistance to businesses and residents within the opportunity enterprise zone.

- (c) To promote the development of the <u>opportunity</u> enterprise zone, including preparing, purchasing, and distributing by mail or other means of advertising, literature and other material concerning the <u>opportunity</u> enterprise zone and opportunity enterprise zone incentives.
- (d) To borrow money and apply for and accept advances, loans, grants, contributions, and any other form of financial assistance from the Federal Government or the state, county, or other public body or from any sources, public or private, for the purposes of this act, and to give such security as may be required and to enter into and carry out contracts or agreements in connection therewith; and to include in any contract for financial assistance with the Federal Government for or with respect to the development of the opportunity enterprise zone and related activities such conditions imposed pursuant to federal laws as the governing body deems reasonable and appropriate which are not inconsistent with the purposes of this section.
- (e) To appropriate such funds and make such expenditures as are necessary to carry out the purposes of this act.

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(f) To make and execute contracts and other instruments necessary or convenient to the exercise of its powers under this section.

- (g) To procure insurance or require bond against any loss in connection with its property in such amounts and from such insurers as may be necessary or desirable.
- (h) To invest any funds held in reserves or sinking funds, or any funds not required for immediate disbursement, in such investments as may be authorized by this act.
- (i) To purchase, sell, or hold stock, evidences of indebtedness, and other capital participation instruments.
- agency may invest in community investment corporations which conduct, or agree to conduct, loan guarantee programs assisting minority business enterprises located in the opportunity enterprise zone. In making such investments, the agency shall first attempt to invest in existing community investment corporations providing services in the opportunity enterprise zone. Such investments shall be made under conditions required by law and as the agency may require, including, but not limited to:
- (a) The funds invested by the agency shall be used to provide loan guarantees to individuals for minority business enterprises located in the opportunity enterprise zone.
 - (b) The community investment corporation may not approve

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any application for a loan guarantee unless the person applying for the loan guarantee shows that he or she has applied for the loan or loan guarantee through normal banking channels and that the loan or loan guarantee has been refused by at least one bank or other financial institution.

- (11) Before October 1 of each year, the agency shall submit to the department for inclusion in the annual report required under s. 20.60 a complete and detailed written report setting forth:
- (a) Its operations and accomplishments during the fiscal year.
- (b) The accomplishments and progress concerning the implementation of the strategic plan or measurable goals, and any updates to the strategic plan or measurable goals.
- (c) The number and type of businesses assisted by the agency during the fiscal year.
- (d) The number of jobs created within the <u>opportunity</u> enterprise zone during the fiscal year.
- (e) The usage and revenue impact of state and local incentives granted during the calendar year.
 - (f) Any other information required by the department.
- (12) In the event that the nominated area selected by the governing body is not designated a state enterprise zone, the governing body may dissolve the agency after receiving notification from the department that the area was not

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451	designated as an enterprise zone.
452	Section 8. Section 290.0057, Florida Statutes, is
453	repealed.
454	Section 9. Section 290.0058, Florida Statutes, is
455	repealed.
456	Section 10. Section 290.0065, Florida Statutes, is
457	repealed.
458	Section 11. Notwithstanding the repeal scheduled in
459	section 11 of chapter 2005-287, Laws of Florida, which occurred
460	on December 31, 2015, section 290.0066, Florida Statutes, is
461	revived, readopted, and amended to read:
462	290.0066 Revocation of state incentives in an opportunity
463	enterprise zone designation
464	(1) The department may revoke the $\underline{\text{state incentives}}$
465	designation of an opportunity enterprise zone if the department
466	determines that the governing body or bodies:
467	(a) Have failed to make progress in achieving the
468	benchmarks set forth in the strategic plan or measurable goals;
469	or
470	(b) Have not complied substantially with the strategic
471	plan or measurable goals.
472	(2) The failure to enact and maintain the local fiscal and
473	regulatory incentives committed to and adopted by the governing
474	body or bodies pursuant to s. 290.0057(1)(e) for 2 consecutive
475	calendar years shall result in the automatic termination of

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approval to use state incentives in the opportunity enterprise zone designation.

- (3) Any action taken to rescind <u>approval</u> <u>designation</u> is subject to the provisions of chapter 120. Such action may be initiated 90 days after issuing a written letter of warning to the governing body or bodies. Such action shall not act to deny credits or exemptions previously granted or affect any bonds that have been issued.
- Section 12. <u>Section 290.00677</u>, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 13. Notwithstanding the repeal scheduled in section 11 of chapter 2005-287, Laws of Florida, which occurred on December 31, 2015, section 290.007, Florida Statutes, is revived, readopted, and amended to read:

290.007 State incentives available in <u>opportunity</u> enterprise zones.—The following incentives are provided by the state to encourage the revitalization of <u>opportunity</u> enterprise zones:

- (1) The <u>opportunity enterprise</u> zone jobs credit provided in s. 220.181.
- (2) The <u>opportunity enterprise</u> zone property tax credit provided in s. 220.182.
- (3) The community contribution tax credits provided in ss. 212.08, 220.183, and 624.5105.
 - (4) The sales tax exemption for building materials used in

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the rehabilitation of real property in <u>opportunity</u> enterprise zones provided in s. 212.08(5)(g).

- (5) The sales tax exemption for business equipment used in an opportunity enterprise zone provided in s. 212.08(5)(h).
- (6) The sales tax exemption for electrical energy used in an opportunity enterprise zone provided in s. 212.08(15).
- (7) The <u>opportunity</u> enterprise zone jobs credit against the sales tax provided in s. 212.096.
- (8) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the Public Service Commission may allow public utilities and telecommunications companies to grant discounts of up to 50 percent on tariffed rates for services to small businesses located in an opportunity enterprise zone designated pursuant to s. 290.0065. Such discounts may be granted for a period not to exceed 5 years. For purposes of this subsection, the term "public utility" has the same meaning as in s. 366.02(1) and the term "telecommunications company" has the same meaning as in s. 364.02(13).

Section 14. Notwithstanding the repeal scheduled in section 11 of chapter 2005-287, Laws of Florida, which occurred on December 31, 2015, section 290.012, Florida Statutes, is revived, readopted, and amended to read:

290.012 Transition.—The amendments made to this chapter which took effect on July 1, 2019, do not prevent or restrict Any enterprise zone having an effective date on or before

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January 1, 2005, shall continue to exist until December 31, 2005, and shall cease to exist on that date. any enterprise zone designated or redesignated between on or after January 1, 2006, and December 31, 2015, and which continuously received and on July 1, 2019, still receives state incentives under general law, from continuing to receive such state incentives through the duration of time identified in documents approving such incentives. The provisions of law in the 2018 Florida Statutes that granted state incentives shall continue to apply to such enterprise zones must be designated or redesignated in accordance with the Florida Enterprise Zone Act.

Section 15. Notwithstanding the repeal scheduled in section 11 of chapter 2005-287, Laws of Florida, which occurred on December 31, 2015, section 290.0135, Florida Statutes, is revived, readopted, and amended to read:

290.0135 Local government ordinances; encouragements and incentives; review for adverse effects; certain changes prohibited.—

(1) (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that each ordinance adopted by a local government possessing an opportunity approved enterprise zone after January 1, 1995, when applicable, provide encouragements and incentives to increase rehabilitation, renovation, restoration, improvement, or new construction of housing, and to increase the economic viability and profitability of business and commerce, located within

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opportunity enterprise zones designated pursuant to s. 290.0065.

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- Each local government possessing an opportunity approved enterprise zone may review its ordinances to determine which may have a negative impact upon the rehabilitation, renovation, restoration, improvement, or new construction of housing, or upon the economic viability and profitability of business and commerce, located within opportunity enterprise zones designated pursuant to s. 290.0065, and may waive, amend, or otherwise modify such ordinances so as to minimize the adverse impact. Such relief may include recommendations made by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, in its "1987 Cuide for Local Government and Developers," concerning zoning and subdivision ordinances, expedited administrative and processing procedures, site planning, streets, parking, sidewalks and walkways, curbs, gutters, storm drainage systems, sanitary sewers, water supply utilities and utility easements.
- (2) Nothing in this section authorizes any local government to waive, amend, provide exceptions to, or otherwise modify or alter any ordinance:
- (a) Which is expressly required to implement or enforce any statutory provision or the legislative intent thereof;
- (b) Which is designed to protect persons against discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, handicap, or marital status; or

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(c) The waiver, amendment, or modification of which is likely to present a significant risk to the public health, public safety, or the environment of the state.

- (3) The waiver, amendment, or modification of any ordinance pursuant to this section shall be accomplished in accordance with the provisions of chapter 120.
- (4) The provisions of this section $\underline{\text{may}}$ shall not supersede any provision of chapter 163.

Section 16. Notwithstanding the repeal scheduled in section 11 of chapter 2005-287, Laws of Florida, which occurred on December 31, 2015, section 290.014, Florida Statutes, is revived, readopted, and amended to read:

290.014 Annual reports on opportunity enterprise zones.-

- (1) By October 1 of each year, the Department of Revenue shall submit \underline{a} an annual report to the department detailing the usage and revenue impact by county of the state incentives listed in s. 290.007.
- (2) The annual report required under s. 20.60 shall include the information provided by the Department of Revenue pursuant to subsection (1) and the information provided by opportunity enterprise zone development agencies pursuant to s. 290.0056. In addition, the report shall include an analysis of the activities and accomplishments of each opportunity enterprise zone.

Section 17. Section 290.016, Florida Statutes, is

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repealed.

Section 18. Paragraphs (g), (h), and (p) of subsection (5) and subsection (15) of section 212.08, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

212.08 Sales, rental, use, consumption, distribution, and storage tax; specified exemptions.—The sale at retail, the rental, the use, the consumption, the distribution, and the storage to be used or consumed in this state of the following are hereby specifically exempt from the tax imposed by this chapter.

- (5) EXEMPTIONS; ACCOUNT OF USE.-
- (g) Building materials used in the rehabilitation of real property located in an opportunity enterprise zone.—
- 1. Building materials used in the rehabilitation of real property located in an opportunity enterprise zone are exempt from the tax imposed by this chapter upon an affirmative showing to the satisfaction of the department that the items have been used for the rehabilitation of real property located in an opportunity enterprise zone. Except as provided in subparagraph 2., this exemption inures to the owner, lessee, or lessor at the time the real property is rehabilitated, but only through a refund of previously paid taxes. To receive a refund pursuant to this paragraph, the owner, lessee, or lessor of the rehabilitated real property must file an application under oath with the governing body or opportunity enterprise zone

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development agency having jurisdiction over the <u>opportunity</u> enterprise zone where the business is located, as applicable. A single application for a refund may be submitted for multiple, contiguous parcels that were part of a single parcel that was divided as part of the rehabilitation of the property. All other requirements of this paragraph apply to each parcel on an individual basis. The application must include:

- a. The name and address of the person claiming the refund.
- b. An address and assessment roll parcel number of the rehabilitated real property for which a refund of previously paid taxes is being sought.
- c. A description of the improvements made to accomplish the rehabilitation of the real property.
- d. A copy of a valid building permit issued by the county or municipal building department for the rehabilitation of the real property.
- e. A sworn statement, under penalty of perjury, from the general contractor licensed in this state with whom the applicant contracted to make the improvements necessary to rehabilitate the real property, which lists the building materials used to rehabilitate the real property, the actual cost of the building materials, and the amount of sales tax paid in this state on the building materials. If a general contractor was not used, the applicant, not a general contractor, shall make the sworn statement required by this sub-subparagraph.

Copies of the invoices that evidence the purchase of the building materials used in the rehabilitation and the payment of sales tax on the building materials must be attached to the sworn statement provided by the general contractor or by the applicant. Unless the actual cost of building materials used in the rehabilitation of real property and the payment of sales taxes is documented by a general contractor or by the applicant in this manner, the cost of the building materials is deemed to be an amount equal to 40 percent of the increase in assessed value for ad valorem tax purposes.

- f. The identifying number assigned by the department pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the opportunity enterprise zone in which the rehabilitated real property is located.
- g. A certification by the local building code inspector that the improvements necessary to rehabilitate the real property are substantially completed.
- h. A statement of whether the business is a small business as defined by s. 288.703.
- i. If applicable, the name and address of each permanent employee of the business, including, for each employee who is a resident of an opportunity enterprise zone, the identifying number assigned by the department pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the opportunity enterprise zone in which the employee resides.
- 2. This exemption inures to a municipality, county, other governmental unit or agency, or nonprofit community-based

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organization through a refund of previously paid taxes if the building materials used in the rehabilitation are paid for from the funds of a community development block grant, State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program, or similar grant or loan program. To receive a refund, a municipality, county, other governmental unit or agency, or nonprofit community-based organization must file an application that includes the same information required in subparagraph 1. In addition, the application must include a sworn statement signed by the chief executive officer of the municipality, county, other governmental unit or agency, or nonprofit community-based organization seeking a refund which states that the building materials for which a refund is sought were funded by a community development block grant, State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program, or similar grant or loan program.

3. Within 10 working days after receipt of an application, the governing body or opportunity enterprise zone development agency shall review the application to determine if it contains all the information required by subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2. and meets the criteria set out in this paragraph. The governing body or agency shall certify all applications that contain the required information and are eligible to receive a refund. If applicable, the governing body or agency shall also certify if 20 percent of the employees of the business are residents of an opportunity enterprise zone, excluding temporary

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and part-time employees. The certification must be in writing, and a copy of the certification shall be transmitted to the executive director of the department. The applicant is responsible for forwarding a certified application to the department within the time specified in subparagraph 4.

- 4. An application for a refund must be submitted to the department within 6 months after the rehabilitation of the property is deemed to be substantially completed by the local building code inspector or by November 1 after the rehabilitated property is first subject to assessment.
- 5. Only one exemption through a refund of previously paid taxes for the rehabilitation of real property is permitted for any single parcel of property unless there is a change in ownership, a new lessor, or a new lessee of the real property. A refund may not be granted unless the amount to be refunded exceeds \$500. A refund may not exceed the lesser of 97 percent of the Florida sales or use tax paid on the cost of the building materials used in the rehabilitation of the real property as determined pursuant to sub-subparagraph 1.e. or \$5,000, or, if at least 20 percent of the employees of the business are residents of an opportunity enterprise zone, excluding temporary and part-time employees, the amount of refund may not exceed the lesser of 97 percent of the sales tax paid on the cost of the building materials or \$10,000. A refund shall be made within 30 days after formal approval by the department of the application

726 for the refund.

- 6. The department shall adopt rules governing the manner and form of refund applications and may establish guidelines as to the requisites for an affirmative showing of qualification for exemption under this paragraph.
- 7. The department shall deduct an amount equal to 10 percent of each refund granted under this paragraph from the amount transferred into the Local Government Half-cent Sales Tax Clearing Trust Fund pursuant to s. 212.20 for the county area in which the rehabilitated real property is located and shall transfer that amount to the General Revenue Fund.
- 8. For the purposes of the exemption provided in this paragraph, the term:
- a. "Building materials" means tangible personal property that becomes a component part of improvements to real property.
- b. "Real property" has the same meaning as provided in s. 192.001(12), except that the term does not include a condominium parcel or condominium property as defined in s. 718.103.
- c. "Rehabilitation of real property" means the reconstruction, renovation, restoration, rehabilitation, construction, or expansion of improvements to real property.
- d. "Substantially completed" has the same meaning as provided in s. 192.042(1).
- 9. This paragraph expires on the date specified in s.
 290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act.

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(h) Business property used in an <u>opportunity</u> enterprise zone.

- 1. Business property purchased for use by businesses located in an opportunity enterprise zone which is subsequently used in an opportunity enterprise zone shall be exempt from the tax imposed by this chapter. This exemption inures to the business only through a refund of previously paid taxes. A refund shall be authorized upon an affirmative showing by the taxpayer to the satisfaction of the department that the requirements of this paragraph have been met.
- 2. To receive a refund, the business must file under oath with the governing body or <u>opportunity</u> enterprise zone development agency having jurisdiction over the <u>opportunity</u> enterprise zone where the business is located, as applicable, an application which includes:
- a. The name and address of the business claiming the refund.
- b. The identifying number assigned by the department pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the opportunity enterprise zone in which the business is located.
- c. A specific description of the property for which a refund is sought, including its serial number or other permanent identification number.
 - d. The location of the property.
 - e. The sales invoice or other proof of purchase of the

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property, showing the amount of sales tax paid, the date of purchase, and the name and address of the sales tax dealer from whom the property was purchased.

- f. Whether the business is a small business as defined by $s.\ 288.703.$
- g. If applicable, the name and address of each permanent employee of the business, including, for each employee who is a resident of an opportunity enterprise zone, the identifying number assigned by the department pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the opportunity enterprise zone in which the employee resides.
- 3. Within 10 working days after receipt of an application, the governing body or opportunity enterprise zone development agency shall review the application to determine if it contains all the information required pursuant to subparagraph 2. and meets the criteria set out in this paragraph. The governing body or agency shall certify all applications that contain the information required pursuant to subparagraph 2. and meet the criteria set out in this paragraph as eligible to receive a refund. If applicable, the governing body or agency shall also certify if 20 percent of the employees of the business are residents of an opportunity enterprise zone, excluding temporary and part-time employees. The certification shall be in writing, and a copy of the certification shall be transmitted to the executive director of the Department of Revenue. The business shall be responsible for forwarding a certified application to

the department within the time specified in subparagraph 4.

- 4. An application for a refund pursuant to this paragraph must be submitted to the department within 6 months after the tax is due on the business property that is purchased.
- 5. The amount refunded on purchases of business property under this paragraph shall be the lesser of 97 percent of the sales tax paid on such business property or \$5,000, or, if no less than 20 percent of the employees of the business are residents of an opportunity enterprise zone, excluding temporary and part-time employees, the amount refunded on purchases of business property under this paragraph shall be the lesser of 97 percent of the sales tax paid on such business property or \$10,000. A refund approved pursuant to this paragraph shall be made within 30 days after formal approval by the department of the application for the refund. A refund may not be granted under this paragraph unless the amount to be refunded exceeds \$100 in sales tax paid on purchases made within a 60-day time period.
- 6. The department shall adopt rules governing the manner and form of refund applications and may establish guidelines as to the requisites for an affirmative showing of qualification for exemption under this paragraph.
- 7. If the department determines that the business property is used outside an <u>opportunity</u> enterprise zone within 3 years from the date of purchase, the amount of taxes refunded to the

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business purchasing such business property shall immediately be due and payable to the department by the business, together with the appropriate interest and penalty, computed from the date of purchase, in the manner provided by this chapter.

Notwithstanding this subparagraph, business property used exclusively in:

- a. Licensed commercial fishing vessels,
- b. Fishing guide boats, or

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c. Ecotourism guide boats

that leave and return to a fixed location within an area designated under s. 379.2353, Florida Statutes 2010, are eligible for the exemption provided under this paragraph if all requirements of this paragraph are met. Such vessels and boats must be owned by a business that is eligible to receive the exemption provided under this paragraph. This exemption does not apply to the purchase of a vessel or boat.

- 8. The department shall deduct an amount equal to 10 percent of each refund granted under this paragraph from the amount transferred into the Local Government Half-cent Sales Tax Clearing Trust Fund pursuant to s. 212.20 for the county area in which the business property is located and shall transfer that amount to the General Revenue Fund.
- 9. For the purposes of this exemption, "business property" means new or used property defined as "recovery property" in s.

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851 168(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended, except:

- a. Property classified as 3-year property under s.
- 853 168(c)(2)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended;

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- b. Industrial machinery and equipment as defined in subsubparagraph (b) 6.a. and eligible for exemption under paragraph
 (b);
- c. Building materials as defined in sub-subparagraph (q) 8.a.; and
- d. Business property having a sales price of under \$5,000 per unit.
- 10. This paragraph expires on the date specified in s.
 290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act.
 - (p) Community contribution tax credit for donations.-
- 1. Authorization.—Persons who are registered with the department under s. 212.18 to collect or remit sales or use tax and who make donations to eligible sponsors are eligible for tax credits against their state sales and use tax liabilities as provided in this paragraph:
- a. The credit shall be computed as 50 percent of the person's approved annual community contribution.
- b. The credit shall be granted as a refund against state sales and use taxes reported on returns and remitted in the 12 months preceding the date of application to the department for the credit as required in sub-subparagraph 3.c. If the annual credit is not fully used through such refund because of

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insufficient tax payments during the applicable 12-month period, the unused amount may be included in an application for a refund made pursuant to sub-subparagraph 3.c. in subsequent years against the total tax payments made for such year. Carryover credits may be applied for a 3-year period without regard to any time limitation that would otherwise apply under s. 215.26.

- c. A person may not receive more than \$200,000 in annual tax credits for all approved community contributions made in any one year.
- d. All proposals for the granting of the tax credit require the prior approval of the Department of Economic Opportunity.
- e. The total amount of tax credits which may be granted for all programs approved under this paragraph and ss. 220.183 and 624.5105 is \$12.5 million in the 2018-2019 fiscal year, \$13.5 million in the 2019-2020 fiscal year, and \$10.5 million in each fiscal year thereafter for projects that provide housing opportunities for persons with special needs or homeownership opportunities for low-income households or very-low-income households and \$3.5 million each fiscal year for all other projects. As used in this paragraph, the term "person with special needs" has the same meaning as in s. 420.0004 and the terms "low-income person," "low-income household," "very-low-income person," and "very-low-income household" have the same meanings as in s. 420.9071.

901	f. A person who is eligible to receive the credit provided						
902	in this paragraph, s. 220.183, or s. 624.5105 may receive the						
903	credit only under one section of the person's choice.						
904	2. Eligibility requirements.—						
905	a. A community contribution by a person must be in the						
906	following form:						
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908	(II) Real property, including 100 percent ownership of a						
909	real property holding company;						
910	(III) Goods or inventory; or						
911	(IV) Other physical resources identified by the Department						
912	of Economic Opportunity.						
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914	For purposes of this sub-subparagraph, the term "real property						
915	holding company" means a Florida entity, such as a Florida						
916	limited liability company, that is wholly owned by the person;						
917	is the sole owner of real property, as defined in s.						
918	192.001(12), located in the state; is disregarded as an entity						
919	for federal income tax purposes pursuant to 26 C.F.R. s.						
920	301.7701-3 (b) (1) (ii); and at the time of contribution to an						
921	eligible sponsor, has no material assets other than the real						
922	property and any other property that qualifies as a community						
923	contribution.						
924	b. All community contributions must be reserved						

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exclusively for use in a project. As used in this sub-

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subparagraph, the term "project" means activity undertaken by an eligible sponsor which is designed to construct, improve, or substantially rehabilitate housing that is affordable to lowincome households or very-low-income households; designed to provide housing opportunities for persons with special needs; designed to provide commercial, industrial, or public resources and facilities; or designed to improve entrepreneurial and jobdevelopment opportunities for low-income persons. A project may be the investment necessary to increase access to high-speed broadband capability in a rural community that had an enterprise zone designated pursuant to chapter 290 as of May 1, 2015, including projects that result in improvements to communications assets that are owned by a business. A project may include the provision of museum educational programs and materials that are directly related to a project approved between January 1, 1996, and December 31, 1999, and located in an area which was in an enterprise zone designated pursuant to s. 290.0065 as of May 1, 2015. This paragraph does not preclude projects that propose to construct or rehabilitate housing for low-income households or very-low-income households on scattered sites or housing opportunities for persons with special needs. With respect to housing, contributions may be used to pay the following eligible special needs, low-income, and very-low-income housing-related activities:

(I) Project development impact and management fees for

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special needs, low-income, or very-low-income housing projects;

- (II) Down payment and closing costs for persons with special needs, low-income persons, and very-low-income persons;
- (III) Administrative costs, including housing counseling and marketing fees, not to exceed 10 percent of the community contribution, directly related to special needs, low-income, or very-low-income projects; and
- (IV) Removal of liens recorded against residential property by municipal, county, or special district local governments if satisfaction of the lien is a necessary precedent to the transfer of the property to a low-income person or very-low-income person for the purpose of promoting home ownership. Contributions for lien removal must be received from a nonrelated third party.
- c. The project must be undertaken by an "eligible sponsor," which includes:
 - (I) A community action program;

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- (II) A nonprofit community-based development organization whose mission is the provision of housing for persons with special needs, low-income households, or very-low-income households or increasing entrepreneurial and job-development opportunities for low-income persons;
 - (III) A neighborhood housing services corporation;
 - (IV) A local housing authority created under chapter 421;
 - (V) A community redevelopment agency created under s.

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976	163.356;					
977	(VI) A historic preservation district agency or					
978	organization;					
979	(VII) A local workforce development board;					
980	(VIII) A direct-support organization as provided in s.					
981	1009.983;					
982	(IX) An opportunity enterprise zone development agency					
983	created under s. 290.0056;					
984	(X) A community-based organization incorporated under					
985	chapter 617 which is recognized as educational, charitable, or					
986	scientific pursuant to s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code					
987	and whose bylaws and articles of incorporation include					
988	affordable housing, economic development, or community					
989	development as the primary mission of the corporation;					
990	(XI) Units of local government;					
991	(XII) Units of state government; or					
992	(XIII) Any other agency that the Department of Economic					
993	Opportunity designates by rule.					
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995	A contributing person may not have a financial interest in the					
996	eligible sponsor.					
997	d. The project must be located in an area which was in an					
998	enterprise zone designated pursuant to chapter 290 as of May 1 ,					
999	2015, or a Front Porch Florida Community, unless the project					
1000	increases access to high-speed broadband capability in a rural					

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community that had an enterprise zone designated pursuant to chapter 290 as of May 1, 2015, but is physically located outside the designated rural zone boundaries. Any project designed to construct or rehabilitate housing for low-income households or very-low-income households or housing opportunities for persons with special needs is exempt from the area requirement of this sub-subparagraph.

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- e.(I) If, during the first 10 business days of the state fiscal year, eligible tax credit applications for projects that provide housing opportunities for persons with special needs or homeownership opportunities for low-income households or verylow-income households are received for less than the annual tax credits available for those projects, the Department of Economic Opportunity shall grant tax credits for those applications and grant remaining tax credits on a first-come, first-served basis for subsequent eligible applications received before the end of the state fiscal year. If, during the first 10 business days of the state fiscal year, eligible tax credit applications for projects that provide housing opportunities for persons with special needs or homeownership opportunities for low-income households or very-low-income households are received for more than the annual tax credits available for those projects, the Department of Economic Opportunity shall grant the tax credits for those applications as follows:
 - (A) If tax credit applications submitted for approved

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projects of an eligible sponsor do not exceed \$200,000 in total, the credits shall be granted in full if the tax credit applications are approved.

- (B) If tax credit applications submitted for approved projects of an eligible sponsor exceed \$200,000 in total, the amount of tax credits granted pursuant to sub-sub-sub-subparagraph (A) shall be subtracted from the amount of available tax credits, and the remaining credits shall be granted to each approved tax credit application on a pro rata basis.
- (II) If, during the first 10 business days of the state fiscal year, eligible tax credit applications for projects other than those that provide housing opportunities for persons with special needs or homeownership opportunities for low-income households or very-low-income households are received for less than the annual tax credits available for those projects, the Department of Economic Opportunity shall grant tax credits for those applications and shall grant remaining tax credits on a first-come, first-served basis for subsequent eligible applications received before the end of the state fiscal year. If, during the first 10 business days of the state fiscal year, eligible tax credit applications for projects other than those that provide housing opportunities for persons with special needs or homeownership opportunities for low-income households or very-low-income households are received for more than the

annual tax credits available for those projects, the Department of Economic Opportunity shall grant the tax credits for those applications on a pro rata basis.

3. Application requirements.-

- a. An eligible sponsor seeking to participate in this program must submit a proposal to the Department of Economic Opportunity which sets forth the name of the sponsor, a description of the project, and the area in which the project is located, together with such supporting information as is prescribed by rule. The proposal must also contain a resolution from the local governmental unit in which the project is located certifying that the project is consistent with local plans and regulations.
- b. A person seeking to participate in this program must submit an application for tax credit to the Department of Economic Opportunity which sets forth the name of the sponsor, a description of the project, and the type, value, and purpose of the contribution. The sponsor shall verify, in writing, the terms of the application and indicate its receipt of the contribution, and such verification must accompany the application for tax credit. The person must submit a separate tax credit application to the Department of Economic Opportunity for each individual contribution that it makes to each individual project.
 - c. A person who has received notification from the

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Department of Economic Opportunity that a tax credit has been approved must apply to the department to receive the refund. Application must be made on the form prescribed for claiming refunds of sales and use taxes and be accompanied by a copy of the notification. A person may submit only one application for refund to the department within a 12-month period.

4. Administration.-

- a. The Department of Economic Opportunity may adopt rules necessary to administer this paragraph, including rules for the approval or disapproval of proposals by a person.
- b. The decision of the Department of Economic Opportunity must be in writing, and, if approved, the notification shall state the maximum credit allowable to the person. Upon approval, the Department of Economic Opportunity shall transmit a copy of the decision to the department.
- c. The Department of Economic Opportunity shall periodically monitor all projects in a manner consistent with available resources to ensure that resources are used in accordance with this paragraph; however, each project must be reviewed at least once every 2 years.
- d. The Department of Economic Opportunity shall, in consultation with the statewide and regional housing and financial intermediaries, market the availability of the community contribution tax credit program to community-based organizations.

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	(15)	ELECTRICAL	ENERGY	USED	IN	AN	<u>OPPORTUNITY</u>	ENTERPRISE
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- Beginning July 1, 1995, charges for electrical energy used by a qualified business at a fixed location in an opportunity enterprise zone in a municipality which has enacted an ordinance pursuant to s. 166.231(8) which provides for exemption of municipal utility taxes on such businesses or in an opportunity enterprise zone jointly authorized by a county and a municipality which has enacted an ordinance pursuant to s. 166.231(8) which provides for exemption of municipal utility taxes on such businesses shall receive an exemption equal to 50 percent of the tax imposed by this chapter, or, if no less than 20 percent of the employees of the business are residents of an opportunity enterprise zone, excluding temporary and part-time employees, the exemption shall be equal to 100 percent of the tax imposed by this chapter. A qualified business may receive such exemption for a period of 5 years from the billing period beginning not more than 30 days following notification to the applicable utility company by the department that an exemption has been authorized pursuant to this subsection and s. 166.231(8).
- (b) To receive this exemption, a business must file an application, with the <u>opportunity enterprise</u> zone development agency having jurisdiction over the <u>opportunity enterprise</u> zone where the business is located, on a form provided by the

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department for the purposes of this subsection and s.

1127 166.231(8). The application shall be made under oath and shall include:

- 1. The name and location of the business.
- 2. The identifying number assigned by the department pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the opportunity enterprise zone in which the business is located.
- 3. The date on which electrical service is to be first initiated to the business.
- 4. The name and mailing address of the entity from which electrical energy is to be purchased.
 - 5. The date of the application.

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- 6. The name of the city in which the business is located.
- 7. If applicable, the name and address of each permanent employee of the business including, for each employee who is a resident of an opportunity enterprise zone, the identifying number assigned by the department pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the opportunity enterprise zone in which the employee resides.
- 8. Whether the business is a small business as defined by s. 288.703.
- (c) Within 10 working days after receipt of an application, the <u>opportunity enterprise</u> zone development agency shall review the application to determine if it contains all information required pursuant to paragraph (b) and meets the criteria set out in this subsection. The agency shall certify

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all applications that contain the information required pursuant to paragraph (b) and meet the criteria set out in this subsection as eligible to receive an exemption. If applicable, the agency shall also certify if 20 percent of the employees of the business are residents of an opportunity enterprise zone, excluding temporary and part-time employees. The certification shall be in writing, and a copy of the certification shall be transmitted to the executive director of the Department of Revenue. The applicant shall be responsible for forwarding a certified application to the department within 6 months after the occurrence of the appropriate qualifying provision set out in paragraph (f).

- (d) If, in a subsequent audit conducted by the department, it is determined that the business did not meet the criteria mandated in this subsection, the amount of taxes exempted shall immediately be due and payable to the department by the business, together with the appropriate interest and penalty, computed from the due date of each bill for the electrical energy purchased as exempt under this subsection, in the manner prescribed by this chapter.
- (e) The department shall adopt rules governing applications for, issuance of, and the form of applications for the exemption authorized in this subsection and provisions for recapture of taxes exempted under this subsection, and the department may establish guidelines as to qualifications for

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1176 exemption.

- (f) For the purpose of the exemption provided in this subsection, the term "qualified business" means a business which is:
- 1. First occupying a new structure to which electrical service, other than that used for construction purposes, has not been previously provided or furnished;
- 2. Newly occupying an existing, remodeled, renovated, or rehabilitated structure to which electrical service, other than that used for remodeling, renovation, or rehabilitation of the structure, has not been provided or furnished in the three preceding billing periods; or
- 3. Occupying a new, remodeled, rebuilt, renovated, or rehabilitated structure for which a refund has been granted pursuant to paragraph (5)(g).
- (g) This subsection expires on the date specified in s. 290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act, except that:
 - 1. Paragraph (d) shall not expire; and
- 2. Any qualified business which has been granted an exemption under this subsection prior to that date shall be allowed the full benefit of this exemption as if this subsection had not expired on that date.
- 1199 Section 19. Section 212.096, Florida Statutes, is amended 1200 to read:

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212.096 Sales, rental, storage, use tax; opportunity enterprise zone jobs credit against sales tax.—

- (1) For the purposes of the credit provided in this section:
- (a) "Eligible business" means any sole proprietorship, firm, partnership, corporation, bank, savings association, estate, trust, business trust, receiver, syndicate, or other group or combination, or successor business, located in an opportunity enterprise zone. The business must demonstrate to the department that, on the date of application, the total number of full-time jobs defined under paragraph (d) is greater than the total was 12 months prior to that date. An eligible business does not include any business which has claimed the credit permitted under s. 220.181 for any new business employee first beginning employment with the business after July 1, 2019 1995.
- (b) "Month" means either a calendar month or the time period from any day of any month to the corresponding day of the next succeeding month or, if there is no corresponding day in the next succeeding month, the last day of the succeeding month.
- (c) "New employee" means a person residing in an opportunity enterprise zone or a participant in the welfare transition program who begins employment with an eligible business after July 1, 2019 1995, and who has not been previously employed full time within the preceding 12 months by

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the eligible business, or a successor eligible business, claiming the credit allowed by this section.

- (d) "Job" means a full-time position, as consistent with terms used by the Department of Economic Opportunity and the United States Department of Labor for purposes of reemployment assistance tax administration and employment estimation resulting directly from a business operation in this state. This term does not include a temporary construction job involved with the construction of facilities or any job that has previously been included in any application for tax credits under s. 220.181(1). The term also includes employment of an employee leased from an employee leasing company licensed under chapter 468 if such employee has been continuously leased to the employer for an average of at least 36 hours per week for more than 6 months.
- (e) "New job has been created" means that, on the date of application, the total number of full-time jobs is greater than the total was 12 months prior to that date, as demonstrated to the department by a business located in the <u>opportunity</u> enterprise zone.

1247 A person shall be deemed to be employed if the person performs
1248 duties in connection with the operations of the business on a
1249 regular, full-time basis, provided the person is performing such

duties for an average of at least 36 hours per week each month.

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The person must be performing such duties at a business site located in the opportunity enterprise zone.

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- (2) (a) Upon an affirmative showing by an eligible business to the satisfaction of the department that the requirements of this section have been met, the business shall be allowed a credit against the tax remitted under this chapter.
- The credit shall be computed as 20 percent of the actual monthly wages paid in this state to each new employee hired when a new job has been created, unless the business is located within a rural enterprise zone pursuant to s. in which case the credit shall be 30 percent of the actual monthly wages paid. If no less than 20 percent of the employees of the business are residents of an opportunity enterprise zone, excluding temporary and part-time employees, the credit shall be computed as 30 percent of the actual monthly wages paid in this state to each new employee hired when a new job has been created, unless the business is located within a rural enterprise zone, in which case the credit shall be 45 percent of the actual monthly wages paid. If the new employee hired when a new job is created is a participant in the welfare transition program, the following credit shall be a percent of the actual monthly wages paid: 40 percent for \$4 above the hourly federal minimum wage rate; 41 percent for \$5 above the hourly federal minimum wage rate; 42 percent for \$6 above the hourly federal minimum wage rate; 43 percent for \$7 above the hourly federal

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minimum wage rate; and 44 percent for \$8 above the hourly federal minimum wage rate. For purposes of this paragraph, monthly wages shall be computed as one-twelfth of the expected annual wages paid to such employee. The amount paid as wages to a new employee is the compensation paid to such employee that is subject to reemployment assistance tax. The credit shall be allowed for up to 24 consecutive months, beginning with the first tax return due pursuant to s. 212.11 after approval by the department.

- (3) In order to claim this credit, an eligible business must file under oath with the governing body or <u>opportunity</u> enterprise zone development agency having jurisdiction over the <u>opportunity</u> enterprise zone where the business is located, as applicable, a statement which includes:
- (a) For each new employee for whom this credit is claimed, the employee's name and place of residence, including the identifying number assigned by the department pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the opportunity enterprise zone in which the employee resides if the new employee is a person residing in an opportunity enterprise zone, and, if applicable, documentation that the employee is a welfare transition program participant.
- (b) If applicable, the name and address of each permanent employee of the business, including, for each employee who is a resident of an opportunity enterprise zone, the identifying number assigned by the department pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the

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opportunity enterprise zone in which the employee resides.

- (c) The name and address of the eligible business.
- (d) The starting salary or hourly wages paid to the new employee.
- (e) Demonstration to the department that, on the date of application, the total number of full-time jobs defined under paragraph (1)(d) is greater than the total was 12 months prior to that date.
- (f) The identifying number assigned by the department pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the opportunity enterprise zone in which the business is located.
- (g) Whether the business is a small business as defined by $s.\ 288.703(6)$.
- (h) Within 10 working days after receipt of an application, the governing body or opportunity enterprise zone development agency shall review the application to determine if it contains all the information required pursuant to this subsection and meets the criteria set out in this section. The governing body or agency shall certify all applications that contain the information required pursuant to this subsection and meet the criteria set out in this section as eligible to receive a credit. If applicable, the governing body or agency shall also certify if 20 percent of the employees of the business are residents of an opportunity enterprise zone, excluding temporary and part-time employees. The certification shall be in writing,

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and a copy of the certification shall be transmitted to the executive director of the Department of Revenue. The business shall be responsible for forwarding a certified application to the department within the time specified in paragraph (i).

- (i) All applications for a credit pursuant to this section must be submitted to the department within 6 months after the new employee is hired, except applications for credit for leased employees. Applications for credit for leased employees must be submitted to the department within 7 months after the employee is leased.
- (4) Within 10 working days after receipt of a completed application for a credit authorized in this section, the department shall inform the business that the application has been approved. The credit may be taken on the first return due after receipt of approval from the department.
- (5) In the event the application is incomplete or insufficient to support the credit authorized in this section, the department shall deny the credit and notify the business of that fact. The business may reapply for this credit.
 - (6) The credit provided in this section does not apply:
- (a) For any new employee who is an owner, partner, or majority stockholder of an eligible business.
- (b) For any new employee who is employed for any period less than 3 months.
 - (7) The credit provided in this section shall not be

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allowed for any month in which the tax due for such period or the tax return required pursuant to s. 212.11 for such period is delinquent.

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- (8) In the event an eligible business has a credit larger than the amount owed the state on the tax return for the time period in which the credit is claimed, the amount of the credit for that time period shall be the amount owed the state on that tax return.
- (9) Any business which has claimed this credit shall not be allowed any credit under the provisions of s. 220.181 for any new employee beginning employment after July 1, 2019 1995.
- (10) It shall be the responsibility of each business to affirmatively demonstrate to the satisfaction of the department that it meets the requirements of this section.
- (11) Any person who fraudulently claims this credit is liable for repayment of the credit plus a mandatory penalty of 100 percent of the credit plus interest at the rate provided in this chapter, and such person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- (12) This section, except for subsection (11), expires on the date specified in s. 290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act.
- Section 20. Section 220.181, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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Opportunity Enterprise zone jobs credit.-There shall be allowed a credit against the tax imposed by this chapter to any business located in an opportunity enterprise zone which demonstrates to the department that, on the date of application, the total number of full-time jobs is greater than the total was 12 months before that date. The credit shall be computed as 20 percent of the actual monthly wages paid in this state to each new employee hired when a new job has been created, as defined under s. 220.03(1)(ee), unless the business is located in a rural enterprise s. 290.004, in which case the credit shall be 30 percent of the actual monthly wages paid. If no less than 20 percent of the employees of the business are residents of an opportunity enterprise zone, excluding temporary and part-time employees, the credit shall be computed as 30 percent of the actual monthly wages paid in this state to each new employee hired when a new job has been created, unless the business is located in a rural enterprise zone, in which case the credit shall be 45 percent of the actual monthly wages paid, for a period of up to 24 consecutive months. If the new employee hired when a new job is created is a participant in the welfare transition program, the following credit shall be a percent of the actual monthly wages paid: 40 percent for \$4 above the hourly federal minimum wage rate; 41 percent for \$5 above the hourly federal minimum wage rate; 42 percent for \$6 above the hourly federal minimum wage

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rate; 43 percent for \$7 above the hourly federal minimum wage rate; and 44 percent for \$8 above the hourly federal minimum wage rate.

- (b) This credit applies only with respect to wages subject to reemployment assistance tax. The credit provided in this section does not apply:
- 1. For any employee who is an owner, partner, or majority stockholder of an eligible business.
- 2. For any new employee who is employed for any period less than 3 months.
- (c) If this credit is not fully used in any one year, the unused amount may be carried forward for a period not to exceed 5 years. The carryover credit may be used in a subsequent year when the tax imposed by this chapter for such year exceeds the credit for such year after applying the other credits and unused credit carryovers in the order provided in s. 220.02(8).
- (2) When filing for an <u>opportunity enterprise</u> zone jobs credit, a business must file under oath with the governing body or <u>opportunity enterprise</u> zone development agency having jurisdiction over the <u>opportunity enterprise</u> zone where the business is located, as applicable, a statement which includes:
- (a) For each new employee for whom this credit is claimed, the employee's name and place of residence during the taxable year, including the identifying number assigned by the department pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the opportunity enterprise

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zone in which the new employee resides if the new employee is a person residing in an <u>opportunity enterprise</u> zone, and, if applicable, documentation that the employee is a welfare transition program participant.

- (b) If applicable, the name and address of each permanent employee of the business, including, for each employee who is a resident of an opportunity enterprise zone, the identifying number assigned by the department pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the opportunity enterprise zone in which the employee resides.
 - (c) The name and address of the business.

- (d) The identifying number assigned by the department pursuant to $s.\ 290.0065$ to the opportunity enterprise zone in which the eligible business is located.
- (e) The salary or hourly wages paid to each new employee claimed.
- (f) Demonstration to the department that, on the date of application, the total number of full-time jobs is greater than the total was 12 months prior to that date.
- (g) Whether the business is a small business as defined by $s.\ 288.703.$
- (3) Within 10 working days after receipt of an application, the governing body or <u>opportunity enterprise</u> zone development agency shall review the application to determine if it contains all the information required pursuant to subsection (2) and meets the criteria set out in this section. The

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governing body or agency shall certify all applications that contain the information required pursuant to subsection (2) and meet the criteria set out in this section as eligible to receive a credit. If applicable, the governing body or agency shall also certify if 20 percent of the employees of the business are residents of an opportunity enterprise zone, excluding temporary and part-time employees. The certification shall be in writing, and a copy of the certification shall be transmitted to the executive director of the Department of Revenue. The business shall be responsible for forwarding a certified application to the department.

- (4) It shall be the responsibility of the taxpayer to affirmatively demonstrate to the satisfaction of the department that it meets the requirements of this act.
- (5) For the purpose of this section, the term "month" means either a calendar month or the time period from any day of any month to the corresponding day of the next succeeding month or, if there is no corresponding day in the next succeeding month, the last day of the succeeding month.
- (6) No business which files an amended return for a taxable year shall be allowed any amount of credit or credit carryforward pursuant to this section in excess of the amount claimed by such business on its original return for the taxable year. The provisions of this subsection do not apply to increases in the amount of credit claimed under this section on

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an amended return due to the use of any credit amount previously carried forward for the taxable year on the original return or any eligible prior year under paragraph (1)(c).

- (7) Any business which has claimed this credit shall not be allowed any credit under the provision of s. 212.096 for any new employee beginning employment after July 1, 2019 1995. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply when a corporation converts to an S corporation for purposes of compliance with the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended; however, no corporation shall be allowed the benefit of this credit and the credit under s. 212.096 either for the same new employee or for the same taxable year. In addition, such a corporation shall not be allowed any credit under s. 212.096 until it has filed notice of its intent to change its status for tax purposes and until its final return under this chapter for the taxable year prior to such change has been filed.
- (8) (a) Any person who fraudulently claims this credit is liable for repayment of the credit, plus a mandatory penalty in the amount of 200 percent of the credit, plus interest at the rate provided in s. 220.807, and commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.
- (b) Any person who makes an underpayment of tax as a result of a grossly overstated claim for this credit is guilty of a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s.

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775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. For purposes of this paragraph, a grossly overstated claim means a claim in an amount in excess of 100 percent of the amount of credit allowable under this section.

(9) This section, except paragraph (1)(c) and subsection (8), expires on the date specified in s. 290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act, and a business may not begin claiming the enterprise zone jobs credit after that date; however, the expiration of this section does not affect the operation of any credit for which a business has qualified under this section before that date, or any carryforward of unused credit amounts as provided in paragraph (1)(c).

Section 21. Section 220.182, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

(1) (a) Beginning July 1, 1995, there shall be allowed a credit against the tax imposed by this chapter to any business which establishes a new business as defined in s. 220.03(1)(p), expands an existing business as defined in s. 220.03(1)(k), or rebuilds an existing business as defined in s. 220.03(1)(u) in this state. The credit shall be computed annually as ad valorem taxes paid in this state, in the case of a new business; the additional ad valorem tax paid in this state resulting from assessments on additional real or tangible personal property

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acquired to facilitate the expansion of an existing business; or the ad valorem taxes paid in this state resulting from assessments on property replaced or restored, in the case of a rebuilt business, including pollution and waste control facilities, or any part thereof, and including one or more buildings or other structures, machinery, fixtures, and equipment.

- (b) If the credit granted pursuant to this section is not fully used in any one year, the unused amount may be carried forward for a period not to exceed 5 years. The carryover credit may be used in a subsequent year when the tax imposed by this chapter for such year exceeds the credit for such year under this section after applying the other credits and unused credit carryovers in the order provided in s. 220.02(8). The amount of credit taken under this section in any one year, however, shall not exceed \$25,000 for each eligible location, or, if no less than 20 percent of the employees of the business at that location are residents of an opportunity enterprise zone, excluding temporary employees, the amount shall not exceed \$50,000 for each eligible location.
- (2) To be eligible to receive an expanded <u>opportunity</u> enterprise zone property tax credit of up to \$50,000 for each eligible location, the business must provide a statement, under oath, on the form prescribed by the department for claiming the credit authorized by this section, that no less than 20 percent

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of its employees at that location, excluding temporary and parttime employees, are residents of an opportunity enterprise zone.

It shall be a condition precedent to the granting of each annual
tax credit that such employment requirements be fulfilled
throughout each year during the 5-year period of the credit. The
statement shall set forth the name and place of residence of
each permanent employee on the last day of business of the tax
year for which the credit is claimed or, if the employee is no
longer employed or eligible for the credit on that date, the
last calendar day of the last full calendar month the employee
was employed or eligible for the credit at the relevant site.

- (3) The credit shall be available to a new business for a period not to exceed the year in which ad valorem taxes are first levied against the business and the 4 years immediately thereafter. The credit shall be available to an expanded existing business for a period not to exceed the year in which ad valorem taxes are first levied on additional real or tangible personal property acquired to facilitate the expansion or rebuilding and the 4 years immediately thereafter. No business shall be entitled to claim the credit authorized by this section, except any amount attributable to the carryover of a previously earned credit, for more than 5 consecutive years.
- (4) To be eligible for an <u>opportunity enterprise</u> zone property tax credit, a new, expanded, or rebuilt business shall file a notice with the property appraiser of the county in which

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the business property is located or to be located. The notice shall be filed no later than April 1 of the year in which new or additional real or tangible personal property acquired to facilitate such new, expanded, or rebuilt facility is first subject to assessment. The notice shall be made on a form prescribed by the department and shall include separate descriptions of:

- (a) Real and tangible personal property owned or leased by the business prior to expansion, if any.
- (b) Net new or additional real and tangible personal property acquired to facilitate the new, expanded, or rebuilt facility.
- (5) When filing for an <u>opportunity</u> enterprise zone property tax credit as a new business, a business shall include a copy of its receipt indicating payment of ad valorem taxes for the current year.
- (6) When filing for an <u>opportunity</u> enterprise zone property tax credit as an expanded or rebuilt business, a business shall include copies of its receipts indicating payment of ad valorem taxes for the current year for prior existing property and for expansion-related or rebuilt property.
- (7) The receipts described in subsections (5) and (6) shall indicate the assessed value of the property, the property taxes paid, a brief description of the property, and an indication, if applicable, that the property was separately

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assessed as expansion-related or rebuilt property.

- (8) The department has authority to adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement the provisions of this act.
- (9) It shall be the responsibility of the taxpayer to affirmatively demonstrate to the satisfaction of the department that he or she meets the requirements of this act.
- (10) When filing for an opportunity enterprise zone property tax credit as an expansion of an existing business or as a new business, it shall be a condition precedent to the granting of each annual tax credit that there have been, throughout each year during the 5-year period, no fewer than five more employees than in the year preceding the initial granting of the credit.
- (11) To apply for an <u>opportunity enterprise</u> zone property tax credit, a new, expanded, or rebuilt business must file under oath with the governing body or <u>opportunity enterprise</u> zone development agency having jurisdiction over the <u>opportunity enterprise</u> zone where the business is located, as applicable, an application prescribed by the department for claiming the credit authorized by this section. Within 10 working days after receipt of an application, the governing body or <u>opportunity enterprise</u> zone development agency shall review the application to determine if it contains all the information required pursuant to this section and meets the criteria set out in this section.

The governing body or agency shall certify all applications that contain the information required pursuant to this section and meet the criteria set out in this section as eligible to receive a credit. If applicable, the governing body or agency shall also certify if 20 percent of the employees of the business are residents of an opportunity enterprise zone, excluding temporary and part-time employees. The certification shall be in writing, and a copy of the certification shall be transmitted to the executive director of the Department of Revenue. The business shall be responsible for forwarding all certified applications to the department.

- (12) When filing for an <u>opportunity</u> enterprise zone property tax credit, a business shall include the identifying number assigned by the department under chapter 290 pursuant to s. 290.0065 to the <u>opportunity</u> enterprise zone in which the business is located.
- (13) When filing for an <u>opportunity enterprise</u> zone property tax credit, a business shall indicate whether the business is a small business as defined by s. 288.703.
- (14) This section expires on the date specified in s.
 290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act,
 and a business may not begin claiming the enterprise zone
 property tax credit after that date; however, the expiration of
 this section does not affect the operation of any credit for
 which a business has qualified under this section before that

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1651 date, or any carryforward of unused credit amounts as provided

1652 in paragraph (1) (b).

Section 22. Subsection (5) of section 159.803, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

159.803 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:

- (5) "Priority project" means a solid waste disposal facility or a sewage facility, as such terms are defined in s. 142 of the Code, or a water facility, as defined in s. 142 of the Code, which is operated by a member-owned, not-for-profit utility, or any project which is to be located in an area which is an opportunity enterprise zone designated pursuant to s. 290.0065.
- Section 23. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 163.2514, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 163.2514 Growth Policy Act; definitions.—As used in ss. 163.2511-163.2520, the term:
- (2) "Urban infill and redevelopment area" means an area or areas designated by a local government where:
- (b) The area, or one or more neighborhoods within the area, suffers from pervasive poverty, unemployment, and general distress. In determining whether an area suffers from pervasive poverty, unemployment, and general distress, the governing body and the department shall use data from the most current decennial census and from information published by the Bureau of the Census and the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The data must be

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1676	comparable in point or period of time and methodology employed
1677	as defined by s. 290.0058;
1678	Section 24. Subsection (8) of section 163.503, Florida
1679	Statutes, is amended to read:
1680	163.503 Definitions.—
1681	(8) "Opportunity Enterprise zone" means an area identified
1682	in chapter 290 designated pursuant to s. 290.0065.
1683	Section 25. Subsection (1) of section 163.522, Florida
1684	Statutes, is amended to read:
1685	163.522 State redevelopment programs.—
1686	(1) Any county or municipality which has nominated an area
1687	as an opportunity enterprise zone as set forth in chapter 290,
1688	pursuant to s. 290.0055 which has been so designated pursuant to
1689	$s.\ 290.0065$ is directed to give consideration to the creation of
1690	a neighborhood improvement district within said area.
1691	Section 26. Subsection (8) of section 166.231, Florida
1692	Statutes, is amended to read:
1693	166.231 Municipalities; public service tax
1694	(8) (a) Beginning July 1, 1995, a municipality may by
1695	ordinance exempt not less than 50 percent of the tax imposed
1696	under this section on purchasers of electrical energy who are
1697	determined to be eligible for the exemption provided by s.
1698	212.08(15) by the Department of Revenue. The exemption shall be
1699	administered as provided in that section. A copy of any
1700	ordinance adopted pursuant to this subsection shall be provided

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to the Department of Revenue not less than 14 days prior to its effective date.

- (b) If an area that is nominated as an enterprise zone pursuant to s. 290.0055 has not yet been designated pursuant to s. 290.0065, a municipality may enact an ordinance for such exemption; however, the ordinance shall not be effective until such area is designated pursuant to s. 290.0065.
- (c) This subsection expires on the date specified in s. 290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act, except that any qualified business that has satisfied the requirements of this subsection before that date shall be allowed the full benefit of the exemption allowed under this subsection as if this subsection had not expired on that date.
- Section 27. Subsections (1), (3), and (4) of section 193.077, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
 - 193.077 Notice of new, rebuilt, or expanded property.-
- (1) The property appraiser shall accept notices on or before April 1 of the year in which the new or additional real or personal property acquired to establish a new business or facilitate a business expansion or restoration is first subject to assessment. The notice shall be filed, on a form prescribed by the department, by any business seeking to qualify for an opportunity enterprise zone property tax credit as a new or expanded business pursuant to s. 220.182(4).
 - (3) Within 10 days of extension or recertification of the

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assessment rolls pursuant to s. 193.122, whichever is later, the property appraiser shall forward to the department a list of all property of new businesses and property separately assessed as expansion-related or rebuilt property pursuant to s. 193.085(5) 193.085(5)(a). The list shall include the name and address of the business to which the property is assessed, the assessed value of the property, the total taxes levied against the property, the identifying number for the property as shown on the assessment roll, and a description of the property.

(4) This section expires on the date specified in s.

290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act.

Section 28. Subsection (5) of section 193.085, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

193.085 Listing all property.-

(5) (a) Beginning in the year in which a notice of new, rebuilt, or expanded property is accepted and certified pursuant to s. 193.077 and for the 4 years immediately thereafter, the property appraiser shall separately assess the prior existing property and the expansion-related or rebuilt property, if any, of each business having submitted said notice pursuant to s. 220.182(4). The listing of expansion-related or rebuilt property on an assessment roll shall immediately follow the listing of prior existing property for each expanded business. However, beginning with the first assessment roll following receipt of a notice from the department that a business has been disallowed

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an <u>opportunity</u> enterprise zone property tax credit, the property appraiser shall singly list the property of such business.

(b) This subsection expires on the date specified in s. 290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act.

Section 29. Subsection (4) of section 195.073, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

195.073 Classification of property.—All items required by law to be on the assessment rolls must receive a classification based upon the use of the property. The department shall promulgate uniform definitions for all classifications. The department may designate other subclassifications of property. No assessment roll may be approved by the department which does not show proper classifications.

(4) (a) Rules adopted pursuant to this section shall provide for the separate identification of property as prior existing property of an expanded or rebuilt business, as expansion-related property of an expanded or rebuilt business, and as property of a new business, in the event the business qualifies for an opportunity enterprise zone property tax credit pursuant to s. 220.182, in addition to classification according to use.

(b) This subsection expires on the date specified in s. 290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act.

Section 30. Subsection (1) of section 195.099, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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1776 195.099 Periodic review.—

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- (1) (a) The department may review the assessments of new, rebuilt, and expanded business reported according to s. 193.077(3), to ensure parity of level of assessment with other classifications of property.
- 1781 (b) This subsection shall expire on the date specified in
 1782 s. 290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone
 1783 Act.
 - Section 31. Paragraph (b) of subsection (15) and subsection (18) of section 196.012, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
 - 196.012 Definitions.—For the purpose of this chapter, the following terms are defined as follows, except where the context clearly indicates otherwise:
 - (15) "Expansion of an existing business" means:
 - (b) Any business or organization located in an area that was designated as an enterprise zone pursuant to chapter 290 as of December 30, 2015, an opportunity zone pursuant to chapter 290 after July 1, 2019, or a brownfield area that increases operations on a site located within the same zone or area colocated with a commercial or industrial operation owned by the same business or organization under common control with the same business or organization.
 - (18) "Opportunity Enterprise zone" means an area designated as an opportunity enterprise zone pursuant to chapter

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1801 290 s. 290.0065. This subsection expires on the date specified

1802 in s. 290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone

1803 Act.

Section 32. Subsections (3) and (5) of section 196.1995, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

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196.1995 Economic development ad valorem tax exemption.-

The board of county commissioners or the governing authority of the municipality that calls a referendum within its total jurisdiction to determine whether its respective jurisdiction may grant economic development ad valorem tax exemptions may vote to limit the effect of the referendum to authority to grant economic development tax exemptions for new businesses and expansions of existing businesses located in an opportunity enterprise zone or a brownfield area, as defined in s. 376.79(5). If an area nominated to be an enterprise zone pursuant to s. 290.0055 has not yet been designated pursuant to s. 290.0065, The board of county commissioners or the governing authority of the municipality may call such referendum prior to such designation; however, the authority to grant economic development ad valorem tax exemptions does not apply until such area is designated pursuant to s. 290.0065. The ballot question in such referendum shall be in substantially the following form and shall be used in lieu of the ballot question prescribed in subsection (2): Shall the board of county commissioners of this county (or the

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governing authority of this municipality, or both) be authorized to grant, pursuant to s. 3, Art. VII of the State Constitution, property tax exemptions for new businesses and expansions of existing businesses that are located in an <u>opportunity</u> enterprise zone or a brownfield area and that are expected to create new, full-time jobs in the county (or municipality, or both)?

....Yes-For authority to grant exemptions.

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-No-Against authority to grant exemptions.
- Upon a majority vote in favor of such authority, the board of county commissioners or the governing authority of the municipality, at its discretion, by ordinance may exempt from ad valorem taxation up to 100 percent of the assessed value of all improvements to real property made by or for the use of a new business and of all tangible personal property of such new business, or up to 100 percent of the assessed value of all added improvements to real property made to facilitate the expansion of an existing business and of the net increase in all tangible personal property acquired to facilitate such expansion of an existing business. To qualify for this exemption, the improvements to real property must be made or the tangible personal property must be added or increased after approval by motion or resolution of the local governing body, subject to ordinance adoption or on or after the day the ordinance is adopted. However, if the authority to grant exemptions is

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approved in a referendum in which the ballot question contained in subsection (3) appears on the ballot, the authority of the board of county commissioners or the governing authority of the municipality to grant exemptions is limited solely to new businesses and expansions of existing businesses that are located in an area which was designated as an enterprise zone pursuant to chapter 290 as of December 30, 2015, in an opportunity zone as defined in chapter 290 as of July 1, 2019, or in a brownfield area. New businesses and expansions of existing businesses located in an area that was designated as an enterprise zone pursuant to chapter 290 as of December 30, 2015, or is in an opportunity zone as defined in chapter 290 as of July 1, 2019, but is not in a brownfield area, may qualify for the ad valorem tax exemption only if approved by motion or resolution of the local governing body, subject to ordinance adoption, or by ordinance, enacted before December 31, 2015. Property acquired to replace existing property shall not be considered to facilitate a business expansion. All data center equipment for a data center shall be exempt from ad valorem taxation for the term of the approved exemption. The exemption applies only to taxes levied by the respective unit of government granting the exemption. The exemption does not apply, however, to taxes levied for the payment of bonds or to taxes authorized by a vote of the electors pursuant to s. 9(b) or s. 12, Art. VII of the State Constitution. Any such exemption shall

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remain in effect for up to 10 years with respect to any particular facility, or up to 20 years for a data center, regardless of any change in the authority of the county or municipality to grant such exemptions or the expiration of the Enterprise Zone Act pursuant to chapter 290, Florida Statutes 2018. The exemption shall not be prolonged or extended by granting exemptions from additional taxes or by virtue of any reorganization or sale of the business receiving the exemption.

Section 33. Section 196.1996, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

196.1996 Economic development ad valorem tax exemption; effect of ch. 94-136.—Nothing contained in chapter 94-136, Laws of Florida, shall be deemed to require any board of county commissioners or a governing body of any municipality to reenact any resolution or ordinance to authorize the board of county commissioners or the governing body to grant economic development ad valorem tax exemptions in an enterprise zone that was in effect on December 31, 1994. Economic development ad valorem tax exemptions may be granted pursuant to such resolution or ordinance which was previously approved and a referendum, beginning July 1, 1995.

Section 34. Subsection (4) of section 205.022, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

205.022 Definitions.—When used in this chapter, the following terms and phrases shall have the meanings ascribed to

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them in this section, except when the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

- (4) "Opportunity Enterprise zone" means an area designated as an opportunity enterprise zone pursuant to chapter 290 s. 290.0065. This subsection expires on the date specified in s. 290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act.
- Section 35. Section 205.054, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 205.054 Business tax; partial exemption for engaging in business or occupation in opportunity enterprise zone.—
- (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 205.033(1)(a) or s. 205.043(1)(a), the governing body of a county or municipality may authorize by appropriate resolution or ordinance, adopted pursuant to the procedure established in s. 205.032 or s. 205.042, the exemption of 50 percent of the business tax levied for the privilege of engaging in or managing any business, profession, or occupation in the respective jurisdiction of the county or municipality when such privilege is exercised at a permanent business location or branch office located in an opportunity enterprise zone.
- (2) Such exemption applies to each classification for which a business tax receipt is required in the jurisdiction. Classifications shall be the same in an <u>opportunity enterprise</u> zone as elsewhere in the jurisdiction. Each county or municipal business tax receipt issued with the exemption authorized in

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this section shall be in the same general form as the other county or municipal business tax receipts and shall expire at the same time as those other receipts expire as fixed by law. Any receipt issued with the exemption authorized in this section is nontransferable. The exemption authorized in this section does not apply to any penalty authorized in s. 205.053.

- (3) Each tax collecting authority of a county or municipality which provides the exemption authorized in this section shall issue to each person who may be entitled to the exemption a receipt pursuant to the provisions contained in this section. Before a receipt with such exemption is issued to an applicant, the tax collecting authority must, in each case, be provided proof that the applicant is entitled to such exemption. Such proof shall be made by means of a statement filed under oath with the tax collecting authority, which statement indicates that the permanent business location or branch office of the applicant is located in an opportunity enterprise zone of a jurisdiction which has authorized the exemption permitted in this section.
- (4) Any receipt obtained with the exemption authorized in this subsection by the commission of fraud upon the issuing authority is void. Any person who has fraudulently obtained such exemption and thereafter engages, under color of the receipt, in any business, profession, or occupation requiring the business tax receipt is subject to prosecution for engaging in a

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business, profession, or occupation without having the required receipt under the laws of the state.

- (5) If an area nominated as an enterprise zone pursuant to s. 290.0055 has not yet been designated pursuant to s. 290.0065, The governing body of a county or municipality may enact an the appropriate ordinance or resolution authorizing the exemption permitted in this section; however, such ordinance or resolution will not be effective until such area is designated pursuant to s. 290.0065.
- (6) This section expires on the date specified in s. 290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act; and a receipt may not be issued with the exemption authorized in this section for any period beginning on or after that date.

Section 36. Subsection (4) of section 195.073, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 195.073 Classification of property.—All items required by law to be on the assessment rolls must receive a classification based upon the use of the property. The department shall promulgate uniform definitions for all classifications. The department may designate other subclassifications of property. No assessment roll may be approved by the department which does not show proper classifications.
- (4) (a) Rules adopted pursuant to this section shall provide for the separate identification of property as prior existing property of an expanded or rebuilt business, as

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L976	expansion-related property of an expanded or rebuilt business,
L977	and as property of a new business, in the event the business
L978	qualifies for an opportunity enterprise zone property tax credit
L979	pursuant to s. 220.182, in addition to classification according
L980	to use.
L981	(b) This subsection expires on the date specified in s.
L982	290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act.
L983	Section 37. Subsection (1) of section 195.099, Florida
L984	Statutes, is amended to read:
L985	195.099 Periodic review.—
L986	(1) $\frac{1}{1}$ The department may review the assessments of new,
L987	rebuilt, and expanded business reported according to s.
L988	193.077(3), to ensure parity of level of assessment with other
L989	classifications of property.
L990	(b) This subsection shall expire on the date specified in
L991	s. 290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone
L992	Act.
L993	Section 38. Paragraph (b) of subsection (15) and
L994	subsection (18) of section 196.012, Florida Statutes, is amended
L995	to read:
L996	196.012 Definitions.—For the purpose of this chapter, the
L997	following terms are defined as follows, except where the context
L998	clearly indicates otherwise:
L999	(15) "Expansion of an existing business" means:

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(b) Any business or organization located in an area that

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was designated as an enterprise zone pursuant to chapter 290 as of December 30, 2015, is an opportunity zone as set forth in chapter 290, or is a brownfield area that increases operations on a site located within the same zone or area colocated with a commercial or industrial operation owned by the same business or organization under common control with the same business or organization.

- (18) "Opportunity Enterprise zone" means an area designated as an opportunity enterprise zone pursuant to chapter 290 s. 290.0065. This subsection expires on the date specified in s. 290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act.
- Section 39. Subsection (6) of section 212.02, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 212.02 Definitions.—The following terms and phrases when used in this chapter have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:
- (6) "Opportunity Enterprise zone" means an area of the state as set forth in chapter 290 designated pursuant to s. 290.0065. This subsection expires on the date specified in s. 290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act.
- Section 40. Subsections (6) and (7) of section 220.02, 2024 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
 - 220.02 Legislative intent.-

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- (6)(a) It is the intent of the Legislature that the opportunity enterprise zone jobs credit provided by s. 220.181 be applicable only to those businesses located in an opportunity enterprise zone. It is further the intent of the Legislature to provide an incentive for the increased provision of employment opportunities leading to the improvement of the quality of life of those employed and the positive expansion of the economy of the state as well as the economy of present opportunity enterprise zones.
- (b) Any person charged with any criminal offense arising from a civil disorder associated with an emergency, as defined in s. 220.03(1)(i), and found guilty, whether or not adjudication of guilt or imposition of sentence is suspended, deferred, or withheld, is not eligible to make application for, receive, or in any other manner enjoy the benefits or any form of assistance available under chapter 80-247, Laws of Florida.
- (c) This subsection expires on the date specified in s. 290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act.
- (7) (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that the enterprise zone property tax credit provided by s. 220.182 be applicable only to those new or expanded businesses located in opportunity enterprise zones which make a positive expansionary contribution to the economy of this state and to the economy of their local communities in terms of new jobs for residents of enterprise zones and improvements to real and personal property

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2051 located in enterprise zones.

- (b) Any person charged with any criminal offense arising from a civil disorder associated with an emergency, as defined in s. 220.03(1)(i), and found guilty, whether or not adjudication of guilt or imposition of sentence is suspended, deferred, or withheld, is not eligible to make application for, receive, or in any other manner enjoy the benefits or any form of assistance available under chapter 80-248, Laws of Florida.
- (c) This subsection expires on the date specified in s. 290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act.

Section 41. Paragraphs (a), (c), (i), (j), (k), (o), (p), (q), (t), (u), and (ee) of subsection (1) of section 220.03, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

220.03 Definitions.-

- (1) SPECIFIC TERMS.—When used in this code, and when not otherwise distinctly expressed or manifestly incompatible with the intent thereof, the following terms shall have the following meanings:
- (a) "Ad valorem taxes paid" means 96 percent of property taxes levied for operating purposes and does not include interest, penalties, or discounts foregone. In addition, the term "ad valorem taxes paid," for purposes of the credit in s. 220.182, means the ad valorem tax paid on new or additional real or personal property acquired to establish a new business or facilitate a business expansion, including pollution and waste

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control facilities, or any part thereof, and including one or more buildings or other structures, machinery, fixtures, and equipment. This paragraph expires on the date specified in s. 290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act.

- (c) "Business" or "business firm" means any business entity authorized to do business in this state as defined in paragraph (e), and any bank or savings and loan association as defined in s. 220.62, subject to the tax imposed by the provisions of this chapter. This paragraph expires on the date specified in s. 290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act.
- (i) "Emergency," as used in s. 220.02 and in paragraph (u) of this subsection, means occurrence of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property proclaimed pursuant to s. 14.022 or declared pursuant to s. 252.36. This paragraph expires on the date specified in s. 290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act.
- (j) "Opportunity Enterprise zone" means an area in the state as set forth in chapter 290 designated pursuant to s. 290.0065. This paragraph expires on the date specified in s. 290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act.
- (k) "Expansion of an existing business," for the purposes of the <u>opportunity enterprise</u> zone property tax credit, means any business entity authorized to do business in this state as defined in paragraph (e), and any bank or savings and loan

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association as defined in s. 220.62, subject to the tax imposed by the provisions of this chapter, located in an <u>opportunity</u> enterprise zone, which expands by or through additions to real and personal property and which establishes five or more new jobs to employ five or more additional full-time employees at such location. This paragraph expires on the date specified in s. 290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act.

- (o) "Local government" means any county or incorporated municipality in the state. This paragraph expires on the date specified in s. 290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act.
- (p) "New business," for the purposes of the <u>opportunity</u> enterprise zone property tax credit, means any business entity authorized to do business in this state as defined in paragraph (e), or any bank or savings and loan association as defined in s. 220.62, subject to the tax imposed by the provisions of this chapter, first beginning operations on a site located in an <u>opportunity enterprise</u> zone and clearly separate from any other commercial or industrial operations owned by the same entity, bank, or savings and loan association and which establishes five or more new jobs to employ five or more additional full-time employees at such location. This paragraph expires on the date specified in s. 290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act.

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- "New employee," for the purposes of the enterprise zone jobs credit, means a person residing in an opportunity enterprise zone or a participant in the welfare transition program who is employed at a business located in an enterprise zone who begins employment in the operations of the business after July 1, 2019 July 1, 1995, and who has not been previously employed full time within the preceding 12 months by the business or a successor business claiming the credit pursuant to s. 220.181. A person shall be deemed to be employed by such a business if the person performs duties in connection with the operations of the business on a full-time basis, provided she or he is performing such duties for an average of at least 36 hours per week each month. The person must be performing such duties at a business site located in an opportunity enterprise zone. This paragraph expires on the date specified in s. 290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act.
- (t) "Project" means any activity undertaken by an eligible sponsor, as defined in s. 220.183(2)(c), which is designed to construct, improve, or substantially rehabilitate housing that is affordable to low-income or very-low-income households as defined in s. 420.9071(19) and (28); designed to provide housing opportunities for persons with special needs as defined in s. 420.0004; designed to provide commercial, industrial, or public resources and facilities; or designed to improve entrepreneurial and job-development opportunities for low-income persons. A

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project may be the investment necessary to increase access to high-speed broadband capability in a rural community that had an enterprise zone designated pursuant to chapter 290 as of May 1, 2015, or is an opportunity zone as set forth in chapter 290, including projects that result in improvements to communications assets that are owned by a business. A project may include the provision of museum educational programs and materials that are directly related to any project approved between January 1, 1996, and December 31, 1999, and located in an area that was in an enterprise zone designated pursuant to s. 290.0065 as of May 1, 2015 or is an opportunity zone as set forth in chapter 290. This paragraph does not preclude projects that propose to construct or rehabilitate low-income or very-low-income housing on scattered sites or housing opportunities for persons with special needs as defined in s. 420.0004. With respect to housing, contributions may be used to pay the following eligible project-related activities:

- 1. Project development, impact, and management fees for special needs, low-income, or very-low-income housing projects;
- 2. Down payment and closing costs for eligible persons, as defined in s. 420.9071(19) and (28);
- 3. Administrative costs, including housing counseling and marketing fees, not to exceed 10 percent of the community contribution, directly related to special needs, low-income, or very-low-income projects; and

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4. Removal of liens recorded against residential property by municipal, county, or special-district local governments when satisfaction of the lien is a necessary precedent to the transfer of the property to an eligible person, as defined in s. 420.9071(19) and (28), for the purpose of promoting home ownership. Contributions for lien removal must be received from a nonrelated third party.

- (u) "Rebuilding of an existing business" means replacement or restoration of real or tangible property destroyed or damaged in an emergency, as defined in paragraph (i), after July 1, 1995, in an enterprise zone or after July 1, 2019, in an opportunity zone, by a business entity authorized to do business in this state as defined in paragraph (e), or a bank or savings and loan association as defined in s. 220.62, subject to the tax imposed by the provisions of this chapter, located in the enterprise zone. This paragraph expires on the date specified in s. 290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act.
- (ee) "New job has been created" means that, on the date of approval application, the total number of full-time jobs is greater than the total was 12 months prior to that date, as demonstrated to the department by a business located in the opportunity enterprise zone.
- Section 42. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 220.13, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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2201 220.13 "Adjusted federal income" defined.-

- (1) The term "adjusted federal income" means an amount equal to the taxpayer's taxable income as defined in subsection (2), or such taxable income of more than one taxpayer as provided in s. 220.131, for the taxable year, adjusted as follows:
- (a) Additions.—There shall be added to such taxable income:
- 1.a. The amount of any tax upon or measured by income, excluding taxes based on gross receipts or revenues, paid or accrued as a liability to the District of Columbia or any state of the United States which is deductible from gross income in the computation of taxable income for the taxable year.
- b. Notwithstanding sub-subparagraph a., if a credit taken under s. 220.1875 is added to taxable income in a previous taxable year under subparagraph 11. and is taken as a deduction for federal tax purposes in the current taxable year, the amount of the deduction allowed shall not be added to taxable income in the current year. The exception in this sub-subparagraph is intended to ensure that the credit under s. 220.1875 is added in the applicable taxable year and does not result in a duplicate addition in a subsequent year.
- 2. The amount of interest which is excluded from taxable income under s. 103(a) of the Internal Revenue Code or any other federal law, less the associated expenses disallowed in the

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computation of taxable income under s. 265 of the Internal Revenue Code or any other law, excluding 60 percent of any amounts included in alternative minimum taxable income, as defined in s. 55(b)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, if the taxpayer pays tax under s. 220.11(3).

- 3. In the case of a regulated investment company or real estate investment trust, an amount equal to the excess of the net long-term capital gain for the taxable year over the amount of the capital gain dividends attributable to the taxable year.
- 4. That portion of the wages or salaries paid or incurred for the taxable year which is equal to the amount of the credit allowable for the taxable year under s. 220.181. This subparagraph shall expire on the date specified in s. 290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act.
- 5. That portion of the ad valorem school taxes paid or incurred for the taxable year which is equal to the amount of the credit allowable for the taxable year under s. 220.182. This subparagraph shall expire on the date specified in s. 290.016 for the expiration of the Florida Enterprise Zone Act.
- 6. The amount taken as a credit under s. 220.195 which is deductible from gross income in the computation of taxable income for the taxable year.
- 7. That portion of assessments to fund a guaranty association incurred for the taxable year which is equal to the amount of the credit allowable for the taxable year.

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2251 8. In the case of a nonprofit corporation which holds a
2252 pari-mutuel permit and which is exempt from federal income tax
2253 as a farmers' cooperative, an amount equal to the excess of the
2254 gross income attributable to the pari-mutuel operations over the
2255 attributable expenses for the taxable year.

- 9. The amount taken as a credit for the taxable year under $s.\ 220.1895.$
- 10. Up to nine percent of the eligible basis of any designated project which is equal to the credit allowable for the taxable year under s. 220.185.
- 11. The amount taken as a credit for the taxable year under s. 220.1875. The addition in this subparagraph is intended to ensure that the same amount is not allowed for the tax purposes of this state as both a deduction from income and a credit against the tax. This addition is not intended to result in adding the same expense back to income more than once.
- 12. The amount taken as a credit for the taxable year under $s.\ 220.192.$
- 13. The amount taken as a credit for the taxable year under s. 220.193.
- 14. Any portion of a qualified investment, as defined in s. 288.9913, which is claimed as a deduction by the taxpayer and taken as a credit against income tax pursuant to s. 288.9916.
- 15. The costs to acquire a tax credit pursuant to s.
 288.1254(5) that are deducted from or otherwise reduce federal

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2276 taxable income for the taxable year.

- 16. The amount taken as a credit for the taxable year pursuant to s. 220.194.
- 17. The amount taken as a credit for the taxable year under s. 220.196. The addition in this subparagraph is intended to ensure that the same amount is not allowed for the tax purposes of this state as both a deduction from income and a credit against the tax. The addition is not intended to result in adding the same expense back to income more than once.
- Section 43. Paragraph (a) of subsection (5) of section 288.0659, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 288.0659 Local Government Distressed Area Matching Grant Program.—
- (5) To qualify for a grant, the business being targeted by a local government must create at least 15 full-time jobs, must be new to this state, must be expanding its operations in this state, or would otherwise leave the state absent state and local assistance, and the local government applying for the grant must expedite its permitting processes for the target business by accelerating the normal review and approval timelines. In addition to these requirements, the department shall review the grant requests using the following evaluation criteria, with priority given in descending order:
- (a) The presence and degree of pervasive poverty, unemployment, and general distress as determined pursuant to s.

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2301	290.0058 in the area where the business will locate, with
2302	priority given to locations with greater degrees of poverty,
2303	unemployment, and general distress. In determining whether an
2304	area suffers from pervasive poverty, unemployment, and general
2305	distress, the department shall use data from the most current
2306	decennial census and from information published by the Bureau of
2307	the Census and the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The data shall be
2308	comparable in point or period of time and methodology employed.
2309	Section 44. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section
2310	288.076, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
2311	288.076 Return on investment reporting for economic
2312	development programs.—
2313	(1) As used in this section, the term:
2314	(a) "Jobs" has the same meaning as provided in s.
2315	288.106(2) 288.106(2)(i) .
2316	Section 45. Paragraphs (g) through (l) of subsection (2)
2317	of section 288.106, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as
2318	paragraphs (f) through (k), respectively, present paragraph (f)
2319	is amended, and a new paragraph (1) is added to that subsection,
2320	to read:
2321	288.106 Tax refund program for qualified target industry
2322	businesses.—
2323	(2) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section:
2324	(f) "Enterprise zone" means an area designated as an
2325	enterprise zone pursuant to s. 290.0065.

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2326	(1) "Opportunity zone" means an area as set forth in
2327	chapter 290.
2328	Section 46. Subsection (7) of section 288.907, Florida
2329	Statutes, is amended to read:
2330	288.907 Annual incentives report.—By December 30 of each
2331	year, Enterprise Florida, Inc., in conjunction with the
2332	department, shall provide the Governor, the President of the
2333	Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a
2334	detailed incentives report quantifying the economic benefits for
2335	all of the economic development incentive programs marketed by
2336	Enterprise Florida, Inc. The annual incentives report must
2337	include:
2338	(7) The amount of tax refunds, tax credits, or other
2339	payments made to projects locating or expanding in state
2340	opportunity enterprise zones, rural communities, brownfield
2341	areas, or distressed urban communities. The report must include
2342	a separate analysis of the impact of such tax refunds on state
2343	opportunity enterprise zones designated under s. 290.0065, rural
2344	communities, brownfield areas, and distressed urban communities.
2345	Section 47. Paragraph (e) of subsection (2), subsection
2346	(4), and paragraph (1) of subsection (5) of section 288.1089,
2347	Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
2348	288.1089 Innovation Incentive Program
2349	(2) As used in this section, the term:
2350	(e) "Opportunity Enterprise zone" means an area designated

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as an <u>opportunity enterprise</u> zone pursuant to <u>chapter 290 s.</u>
2352 290.0065.

- (4) To qualify for review by the department, the applicant must, at a minimum, establish the following to the satisfaction of the department:
- (a) The jobs created by the project must pay an estimated annual average wage equaling at least 130 percent of the average private sector wage. The department may waive this average wage requirement at the request of Enterprise Florida, Inc., for a project located in a rural area, a brownfield area, or an opportunity enterprise zone, when the merits of the individual project or the specific circumstances in the community in relationship to the project warrant such action. A recommendation for waiver by Enterprise Florida, Inc., must include a specific justification for the waiver and be transmitted to the department in writing. If the department elects to waive the wage requirement, the waiver must be stated in writing and the reasons for granting the waiver must be explained.
 - (b) A research and development project must:
- 1. Serve as a catalyst for an emerging or evolving technology cluster.
- 2. Demonstrate a plan for significant higher education collaboration.
 - 3. Provide the state, at a minimum, a cumulative break-

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2376 even economic benefit within a 20-year period.

- 4. Be provided with a one-to-one match from the local community. The match requirement may be reduced or waived in rural areas of opportunity or reduced in rural areas, brownfield areas, and opportunity enterprise zones.
- (c) An innovation business project in this state, other than a research and development project, must:
- 1.a. Result in the creation of at least 1,000 direct, new jobs at the business; or
- b. Result in the creation of at least 500 direct, new jobs if the project is located in a rural area, a brownfield area, or an opportunity enterprise zone.
- 2. Have an activity or product that is within an industry that is designated as a target industry business under s. 288.106 or a designated sector under s. 288.108.
- 3.a. Have a cumulative investment of at least \$500 million within a 5-year period; or
- b. Have a cumulative investment that exceeds \$250 million within a 10-year period if the project is located in a rural area, brownfield area, or an opportunity enterprise zone.
- 4. Be provided with a one-to-one match from the local community. The match requirement may be reduced or waived in rural areas of opportunity or reduced in rural areas, brownfield areas, and opportunity enterprise zones.
 - (d) For an alternative and renewable energy project in

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2401 this state, the project must:

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- 1. Demonstrate a plan for significant collaboration with an institution of higher education;
- 2. Provide the state, at a minimum, a cumulative breakeven economic benefit within a 20-year period;
- 3. Include matching funds provided by the applicant or other available sources. The match requirement may be reduced or waived in rural areas of opportunity or reduced in rural areas, brownfield areas, and opportunity enterprise zones;
 - 4. Be located in this state; and
- 5. Provide at least 35 direct, new jobs that pay an estimated annual average wage that equals at least 130 percent of the average private sector wage.
- (5) The department shall review proposals pursuant to s. 288.061 for all three categories of innovation incentive awards. Before making a recommendation to the executive director, the department shall solicit comments and recommendations from the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. For each project, the evaluation and recommendation to the department must include, but need not be limited to:
- (1) Additional evaluative criteria for a research and development facility project, including:
- 1. A description of the extent to which the project has the potential to serve as catalyst for an emerging or evolving cluster.

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2. A description of the extent to which the project has or could have a long-term collaborative research and development relationship with one or more universities or community colleges in this state.

- 3. A description of the existing or projected impact of the project on established clusters or targeted industry sectors.
- 4. A description of the project's contribution to the diversity and resiliency of the innovation economy of this state.
- 5. A description of the project's impact on special needs communities, including, but not limited to, rural areas, distressed urban areas, and opportunity enterprise zones.

Section 48. Paragraph (c) of subsection (5) of section 288.1175, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

288.1175 Agriculture education and promotion facility.-

- (5) The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall competitively evaluate applications for funding of an agriculture education and promotion facility. If the number of applicants exceeds three, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall rank the applications based upon criteria developed by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, with priority given in descending order to the following items:
 - (c) The location of the facility in a brownfield site as

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2451	defined in s. $376.79(4)$, a rural enterprise zone as defined in
2452	s. 290.004, Florida Statutes 2018, an opportunity zone as
2453	defined in chapter 290, an agriculturally depressed area as
2454	defined in s. 570.74 , or a county that has lost its agricultural
2455	land to environmental restoration projects.
2456	Section 49. Section 290.06561, Florida Statutes, is
2457	repealed.
2458	Section 50. Paragraph (f) of subsection (2) of section
2459	339.2821, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
2460	339.2821 Economic development transportation projects.
2461	(2) The department, in consultation with the Department of
2462	Economic Opportunity, shall review each transportation project
2463	for approval and funding. In the review, the department must
2464	consider:
2465	(f) The location of the transportation project in an
2466	opportunity enterprise zone as set forth in chapter 290
2467	designated in s. 290.0055;
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2469	The department may contact any agency it deems appropriate for
2470	additional information regarding the approval of a
2471	transportation project. A transportation project must be
2472	approved by the department to be eligible for funding.
2473	Section 51. Paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section
2474	339.63, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
2475	339.63 System facilities designated; additions and

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2476 deletions.-

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- (b) A facility designated part of the Strategic Intermodal System pursuant to paragraph (a) that is within the jurisdiction of a local government that maintains a transportation concurrency system shall receive a waiver of transportation concurrency requirements applicable to Strategic Intermodal System facilities in order to accommodate any development at the facility which occurs pursuant to a building permit issued on or before December 31, 2017, but only if such facility is located:
- 1. Within an area designated pursuant to s. 288.0656(7) as a rural area of opportunity;
- 2. Within an opportunity a rural enterprise zone as defined in chapter 290 s. 290.004(5); or
- 3. Within 15 miles of the boundary of a rural area of opportunity or an opportunity $\frac{1}{2}$ a rural enterprise zone.
- Section 52. Paragraph (d) of subsection (2) of section 624.5105, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 624.5105 Community contribution tax credit; authorization; limitations; eligibility and application requirements; administration; definitions; expiration.—
 - (2) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.-
- (d) The project shall be located in an area that was designated as an enterprise zone pursuant to chapter 290 <u>between</u> as of May 1, 2015, and July 1, 2015; an opportunity zone after

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2501 July 1, 2019; or a Front Porch Florida Community. Any project 2502 designed to provide housing opportunities for persons with 2503 special needs as defined in s. 420.0004 or to construct or 2504 rehabilitate housing for low-income or very-low-income 2505 households as defined in s. 420.9071(19) and (28) is exempt from 2506 the area requirement of this paragraph. 2507 Section 53. Enterprise zone boundaries identified in s. 2508 290.00710, s. 290.0072, s. 290.00725, s. 290.00726, s. 2509 290.00727, s. 290.00728, s. 290.00729, s. 290.0073, s. 2510 290.00731, s. 290.0074, or s. 290.0077, Florida Statutes, that 2511 were in existence before December 31, 2015, are preserved for 2512 the purpose of allowing local governments to administer local 2513 incentive programs within these boundaries through December 31, 2514 2020, except for eligible contiguous multi-phase projects in 2515 which at least one certificate of use or occupancy has been 2516 issued before December 31, 2020, and which project will then 2517 vest the remaining project phases until completion, but no later 2518 than December 31, 2025. 2519 Section 54. The Division of Law Revision is directed to 2520 prepare a reviser's bill for the 2020 Regular Session to substitute the term "opportunity zone" for "enterprise zone," 2521 2522 substitute the term "opportunity zones" for "enterprise zones," 2523 and substitute the term "Florida Opportunity Zone Act" for 2524 "Florida Enterprise Zone Act" wherever those terms appear in the 2525 Florida Statutes, except where such terms appear in this act.

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2526 Section 55. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.

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