

BILL

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1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to military base closures; creating s.
 3 288.984, F.S.; establishing the Florida Council on
 4 Military Base and Mission Support; providing for the
 5 mission of the council; providing for membership;
 6 providing for terms of appointment; providing for
 7 reappointment of members; providing for election of a
 8 council chair and vice chair; providing for reimbursement
 9 of members for expenses; requiring the Office of Tourism,
 10 Trade, and Economic Development to provide administrative
 11 support; providing for council workgroups and tasks
 12 thereof; requiring an annual report to the Legislature and
 13 Governor; providing an effective date.

14
 15 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 17 Section 1. Section 288.984, Florida Statutes, is created
 18 to read:

19 288.984 Florida Council on Military Base and Mission
 20 Support.--The Florida Council on Military Base and Mission
 21 Support is established. The council shall provide oversight and
 22 direction for initiatives, claims, and actions taken on behalf
 23 of the state, its agencies, and political subdivisions under
 24 this part.

25 (1) MISSION.--The mission of the council is to:

26 (a) Support and strengthen all United States Department of
 27 Defense missions and bases located in this state.

28 (b) Know the capabilities of all state military

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29 installations in order to understand and be supportive of future
 30 military growth opportunities in this state.

31 (c) Support local community efforts relating to mission
 32 support of a military base by acting as a liaison between the
 33 local communities and the Legislature.

34 (2) MEMBERSHIP.--

35 (a) The council shall be composed of nine members. The
 36 President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of
 37 Representatives, and the Governor shall each appoint three
 38 members as follows:

39 1. The President of the Senate shall appoint one member of
 40 the Senate, one community representative from a community-based
 41 defense support organization, and one member who is a retired
 42 military general or flag-rank officer residing in this state or
 43 an executive officer of a defense contracting firm doing
 44 significant business in this state.

45 2. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall
 46 appoint one member of the House of Representatives, one
 47 community representative from a community-based defense support
 48 organization, and one member who is a retired military general
 49 or flag-rank officer residing in this state or an executive
 50 officer of a defense contracting firm doing significant business
 51 in this state.

52 3. The Governor shall appoint the director or designee of
 53 the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development, the vice
 54 chairperson or designee of Enterprise Florida, Inc., and one at-
 55 large member.

56 (b) Each of the appointed legislative members shall serve

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57 for a term of 2 years, commencing July 1 of each odd-numbered
 58 year. Each of the other appointed members shall serve for a term
 59 of 4 years, commencing July 1 in the year of appointment. A
 60 vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term
 61 in the same manner as the initial appointment. All members of
 62 the council are eligible for reappointment.

63 (c) Members of the council shall elect a chair and vice
 64 chair to serve for terms of 2 years. The chair and vice chair
 65 are eligible to succeed themselves.

66 (d) The members of the council shall serve without
 67 compensation but are entitled to reimbursement for per diem and
 68 travel expenses in accordance with s. 112.061, which shall be
 69 paid by the appointing legislative chamber or the Executive
 70 Office of the Governor, as appropriate.

71 (e) The Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development
 72 shall provide administrative support to the council.

73 (f) The Secretary of Community Affairs or his or her
 74 designee, the Secretary of Environmental Protection or his or
 75 her designee, and the Secretary of Transportation or his or her
 76 designee shall attend meetings held by the council and provide
 77 assistance, information, and support as requested by the
 78 council.

79 (3) WORKGROUPS.--The council shall establish the following
 80 workgroups:

81 (a) The Intrastate Activities Workgroup.--The task of the
 82 workgroup is to:

83 1. Collect information about and become familiar with the
 84 concerns and activities of local communities in enhancing and

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85 supporting their respective military bases.

86 2. Conduct an analysis of the strengths of each military
 87 base and share the evaluation with the council and the affected
 88 community.

89 3. In partnership with the Florida Defense Alliance and
 90 local communities, conduct ongoing analyses of current and
 91 proposed changes to the mission and military force structure and
 92 alignment of the United States Department of Defense.

93 4. Identify the most effective methods and practices used
 94 by local communities to address the issue of military base
 95 support and enhancement and disseminate such best practices
 96 among affected communities.

97 5. Ensure that affected communities and stakeholders are
 98 informed of and invited to assist and support state-level
 99 efforts to affect statewide coordination of information
 100 gathering, strategy development, and the sharing of best
 101 practices.

102 6. Educate the Legislature on the importance of supporting
 103 legislation relating to the state's military bases.

104 (b) The Federal Activities Workgroup.--The task of the
 105 workgroup is to ensure that the council has a presence at the
 106 Pentagon and has ongoing dialogue with key Department of Defense
 107 officials concerning the state's military bases.

108 (c) The Competitive Advantages Workgroup.--The task of the
 109 workgroup is to research and identify best practices and
 110 strategies throughout the country with respect to other military
 111 communities in order to leverage the state's competitive
 112 advantage.

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113 (d) The Public Communications Workgroup.--The task of the
 114 workgroup is to increase public awareness of the presence and
 115 value of United States military installations and their missions
 116 in Florida and public investment in supporting the state's
 117 military bases.

118 (4) ANNUAL REPORT.--The council shall prepare and submit a
 119 report to the Legislature and the Governor by January 1 of each
 120 year. The report shall summarize the current status of the
 121 state's military bases, the council's activities, and any
 122 recommendations for legislative or executive action.

123 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.