

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to trust funds; creating s. 445.015,
 3 F.S.; creating the Florida Business and Workforce
 4 Competitiveness Trust Fund; providing the purpose of
 5 the trust fund; requiring trust fund moneys to be
 6 provided to local workforce development boards to
 7 award and administer certain grants; specifying duties
 8 of CareerSource Florida, Inc., with respect to the
 9 trust fund; providing that trust fund moneys are
 10 composed of a specified assessment to be imposed on
 11 certain employers; limiting eligibility of grants to
 12 certain employers; providing requirements and
 13 limitations for the assessment and administrative
 14 costs; providing for future review and termination or
 15 re-creation of the trust fund; providing a directive
 16 to the Division of Law Revision; providing a
 17 contingent effective date.

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

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 21 Section 1. Section 445.015, Florida Statutes, is created
 22 to read:

23 445.015 Florida Business and Workforce Competitiveness
 24 Trust Fund.—

25 (1) The Florida Business and Workforce Competitiveness

26 Trust Fund is created within the State Treasury and is to be
27 administered by the Department of Economic Opportunity.

28 (2) The trust fund is established for use as an additional
29 revenue source to support the growth of businesses in this state
30 and to provide workforce training needed to effectively address
31 changing skill requirements as a result of new technology,
32 retooling, new product lines, and new organizational
33 structuring.

34 (3) Funds credited to the trust fund must be provided to
35 local workforce development boards, appointed under s. 445.007,
36 to award incentive grants to employers to hire unemployment
37 compensation claimants. Each local workforce development board
38 shall determine award recipients and administer grants within
39 the funding available to it.

40 (4) CareerSource Florida, Inc., shall:

41 (a) Establish guidelines governing the administration of
42 the trust fund.

43 (b) Establish criteria to be used by local workforce
44 development boards in evaluating applications for the grants.

45 (c) Allocate to each local workforce development board its
46 share of funds available under the trust fund.

47 (5) Moneys in the trust fund are composed of a quarterly
48 employment and training investment assessment imposed beginning
49 July 1, 2019, on each employer paying contributions under s.
50 443.131 at a rate below the maximum contribution rate of 5.4

51 percent as provided in s. 443.131(3)(e)2.a.(V). The assessment
52 must be a separate assessment of one-tenth of 1 percent of
53 wages, as described under s. 443.1217, paid by the employer.

54 (a) An employer is eligible for a grant award only if the
55 employer is subject to paying contributions under s. 443.131 and
56 is subject to the assessment.

57 (b) The assessment is due at the same time, must be
58 collected in the same manner, and is subject to the same
59 penalties and interest as other contributions assessed under s.
60 443.131.

61 (c) The assessment may not be imposed for any year in
62 which the balance in the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund
63 requires the computation of a positive adjustment factor as
64 provided in s. 443.131(3)(e)2.a.(III).

65 (d) Administrative costs associated with the collection of
66 the trust fund moneys must be paid out of revenue generated from
67 the assessment. The cost of collection and administration of the
68 assessment under this subsection must be allocated based on a
69 plan approved by the United States Department of Labor.

70 (6) In accordance with s. 19(f)(2), Art. III of the State
71 Constitution, the Florida Business and Workforce Competitiveness
72 Trust Fund shall, unless terminated sooner, be terminated 4
73 years after the effective date of this act. Before its scheduled
74 termination, the trust fund shall be reviewed as provided in s.
75 215.3206(1) and (2).

HB 1339

2019

76 Section 2. The Division of Law Revision is directed to
77 replace the phrase "4 years after the effective date of this
78 act" where it occurs in this act with the date the trust fund
79 will terminate.

80 Section 3. This act shall take effect on the same date
81 that HB 1337 or similar legislation takes effect, if such
82 legislation is adopted in the same legislative session or an
83 extension thereof and becomes a law.