

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to climate change; creating the Florida
 3 Climate Action Partnership for the purpose of developing a
 4 plan and making policy recommendations addressing global
 5 warming; providing for membership; providing for meetings
 6 and reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses;
 7 directing that the partnership be staffed by the Executive
 8 Office of the Governor; requiring interim recommendations
 9 and a report; providing for the expiration of the
 10 partnership; providing an effective date.

11
 12 WHEREAS, man-made carbon dioxide produced by the burning of
 13 fossil fuels is a leading contributor to global climate change
 14 and the leading global-warming pollutant released in this
 15 country, and

16 WHEREAS, the potential effects of global climate change in
 17 this state and the Southeastern United States - including more
 18 frequent and severe storm events and flooding; the rising of sea
 19 levels; drought conditions, water supply disruption, agricultural
 20 crop-yield changes, and forest productivity shifts; water and
 21 air-quality degradation; and threats to coastal areas, tourism,
 22 and local infrastructure - could significantly affect the state's
 23 economy, the level of public expenditures, and quality of life,
 24 and

25 WHEREAS, this state is particularly vulnerable to the
 26 possible effects of global climate change due to the low
 27 elevation of its 1,300 miles of coastline, susceptibility to more
 28 intense hurricanes, the effect of drought conditions on the
 29 state's unique environment, and the spread of infectious disease

30 | to vulnerable populations, and

31 | WHEREAS, the Century Commission for a Sustainable Florida
 32 | released its first annual report to the Governor and Legislature
 33 | and prominently recommended that: "There may be no more pressing
 34 | issue in our state than the impact of our country's current level
 35 | of use of fossil fuels on the state and global environment. The
 36 | relationship between our energy sources and our security,
 37 | economy, and environment demand a bold vision. Of all the states,
 38 | Florida has the most at stake - and must take a leadership role,"
 39 | and

40 | WHEREAS, the State Legislature in 2006 adopted a number of
 41 | clean-energy initiatives, such as chapter 2006-230, Laws of
 42 | Florida, establishing the Florida Energy Commission, encouraging
 43 | energy conservation and efficiency, the development of renewable
 44 | energy, strengthening clean energy industries, and recommending
 45 | development of a state climate-mitigation action plan, and

46 | WHEREAS, actions that make our homes and workplaces more
 47 | energy-efficient enhance energy security and affordability,
 48 | reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases, spur greater resource
 49 | productivity and business innovation, provide cost savings,
 50 | improve air quality and public health, and enhance economic
 51 | development, job creation, and the quality of life in this state,
 52 | and

53 | WHEREAS, the President of the United States has called for a
 54 | reduction in the use of fossil fuels and has asked Congress to
 55 | enact a mandatory requirement that makers of fuel increase the
 56 | production of renewable and alternative fuels in 2017, and

57 | WHEREAS, this state is almost totally dependent on energy
 58 | imports to fund its energy needs, and

59 WHEREAS, this state, as a major agricultural producer, is
 60 capable of producing large quantities of biofuels in order to
 61 help meet the President's goal of replacing fossil fuels with
 62 ethanol-based alternative fuels but currently lacks the
 63 infrastructure to convert to that system, and

64 WHEREAS, bills have been filed in the United States Congress
 65 which seek to address the issue of climate change and global
 66 warming, including placing a limit on the amount of carbon
 67 emitted into the atmosphere in this country, and

68 WHEREAS, this state seeks to develop market-based and other
 69 private-sector emissions-reduction approaches, such as a "cap and
 70 trade" system that creates a financial incentive for lowering
 71 carbon emissions, and

72 WHEREAS, a deliberative stakeholder process to address
 73 possible solutions to the risks of climate change will enable the
 74 state to have a greater influence in eventual climate-change
 75 policy determinations at the regional and national level and
 76 ensure that industry in this state is in the best position to
 77 benefit from future actions addressing climate change, NOW,
 78 THEREFORE,

79

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

81

82 Section 1. Florida Climate Action Partnership.--

83 (1) PURPOSE.--There is created the Florida Climate Action
 84 Partnership (FCAP) to serve as a catalyst for facilitating a
 85 cooperative dialogue about what needs to be done within our state
 86 to comply with proposed federal limits that would lower carbon
 87 emissions in the atmosphere over time. The partnership shall seek

PCB ENRC 07-05

ORIGINAL

2007

88 partners from all sectors and levels of state industry, academia,
89 and government to be part of this effort. Those sectors include,
90 but are not limited to, residential users, commercial users,
91 industry and manufacturing, the tourism and hospitality industry,
92 agriculture, the transportation industry, the construction
93 industry, the ports and shipping industry, marine industries, and
94 others. As part of this process, the partnership shall seek to
95 identify and create incentives for technology innovation, take
96 advantage of economic opportunities for the state as part of the
97 effort to find new sources of energy, and seek private-sector
98 solutions and market-based mechanisms to help solve problems
99 related to reducing carbon emissions. To that effect, the
100 partnership shall identify a range of opportunities to reduce
101 carbon emissions in all sectors of Florida's economy, including
102 the trading of carbon emission credits and the creation of
103 offsets for energy savings.

104 (2) MEMBERSHIP.--

105 (a) The partnership shall be composed of 25 members
106 including:

107 1. The Governor, or designee, who shall serve as the
108 chair;

109 2. The President of the Senate, or designee;

110 3. The Speaker of the House of Representatives, or
111 designee;

112 4. The Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services,
113 or designee;

114 5. The Chief Financial Officer, or designee;

115 6. Eight members appointed by the Governor;

116 7. Five members appointed by the President of the Senate,

PCB ENRC 07-05

ORIGINAL

2007

117 one of whom shall be the Chair of the Senate Committee on
118 Environmental Preservation and Conservation;

119 8. Five members appointed by the Speaker of the House of
120 Representatives, one of whom shall be the Chair of the House
121 Committee on Environmental Protection; and

122 9. Two members appointed by the Commissioner of
123 Agriculture and Consumer Services.

124 (b) Members appointed to the partnership must occupy
125 positions of leadership within their respective fields.

126 (c) Members of the partnership shall serve without
127 compensation. The Executive Office of the Governor and the
128 Legislature shall support the travel, per diem, and other
129 expenses of its representatives, and nonlegislative members are
130 entitled to reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses from
131 partnership funding in accordance with s. 112.061, Florida
132 Statutes.

133 (3) MEETINGS.--The partnership shall hold a minimum of
134 four public meetings in locations throughout the state to be
135 determined by the chair for the purpose of taking public
136 testimony and seeking input from interested parties.

137 (4) ACTION PLAN.--The goal of the partnership is to
138 develop a comprehensive Florida Climate Mitigation Action Plan
139 that includes a full range of policy recommendations addressing
140 all state economic sectors, as well as recommendations for
141 meeting short- and long-term greenhouse gas-reduction goals. The
142 plan must be fact based and developed through a statewide
143 stakeholder consensus process. In developing plan
144 recommendations, the partnership shall consider the findings of a
145 statewide inventory and forecast of energy use and greenhouse gas

146 emissions, by sector, from all sources. Specifically, the
147 partnership shall develop policy recommendations that address,
148 but are not limited to:

149 (a) Clean, low-emitting, and renewable energy sources,
150 including advanced energy and power-generation technologies.

151 (b) Energy efficiency and conservation for buildings,
152 equipment, and appliances and other key building design
153 considerations.

154 (c) Greater energy efficiency in the state's
155 transportation system and land use within the growth management
156 system which decreases travel and energy consumption.

157 (d) Agricultural and forestry conservation that promotes
158 carbon sequestration and bioenergy.

159 (e) Waste management and recovery and waste-energy
160 recycling.

161 (f) The management of, and alternatives to, high global-
162 warming-potential refrigerants and the identification and
163 sequestration of high global-warming-potential gases used in
164 industrial processes.

165 (g) The possibility that the federal government or the
166 state may choose to limit by law the amount of carbon emitted
167 into the atmosphere in order to reduce the build-up of greenhouse
168 gases which produces climate change.

169 (h) The use of market mechanisms including a "cap and
170 trade" system and other means to reduce the build up of
171 greenhouse gases.

172 (i) Responses to climate change which can have a positive
173 effect on the price and availability of property and casualty
174 insurance.

PCB ENRC 07-05

ORIGINAL

2007

175 | (j) The continuation of the partnership beyond 2008 for
176 | the purpose of responding to future climate-change effects as
177 | well as evolving national policies, and assisting with the long-
178 | term implementation of the climate mitigation action plan.

179 | (5) STAFFING.--The partnership shall be staffed by the
180 | Executive Office of the Governor.

181 | (6) REPORT.--The partnership shall provide a list of
182 | policy recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature by
183 | February 1, 2008, for consideration during the 2008 legislative
184 | session. A final report which includes the Florida Climate
185 | Mitigation Action Plan shall be submitted no later than October
186 | 1, 2008.

187 | (7) EXPIRATION.--Unless renewed by the Legislature, the
188 | partnership shall be dissolved December 31, 2008.

189 | Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.