



Agenda Report

2725 Judge Fran Jamieson
Way
Viera, FL 32940

Consent

F.11.

7/11/2023

Subject:

Approval, Re: Agreements with the newly formed Florida Department of Commerce

Fiscal Impact:

There is no impact to the General Fund.

Dept/Office:

Housing and Human Services

Requested Action:

It is requested that the Board of County Commissioners authorize:

1. the Housing and Human Services Department Director to endorse (including electronically if requested by the State) agreements with the Florida Department of Commerce upon approval of the County Attorney and Risk Management offices;
2. the Housing and Human Services Department Director to sign future agreements, amendments, and modifications upon approval of the County Attorney and Risk Management offices; and,
3. the County Manager to execute all necessary budget change requests.

Summary Explanation and Background:

Since 2011, Brevard County's Housing and Human Services Department (Department) has received funding through the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) to support services through the Community Action Agency (*Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)*, *Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)*, *Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program - Weatherizing Assistance Program (LIHEAP-WAP)*) and our Housing Assistance Program (*Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)*). Most recently, the Department received American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) pass through funds from DEO for a Low Income Home Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP).

On May 31, 2023, Governor DeSantis signed House Bill 5. This bill creates a singular Department of Commerce in Florida to streamline and modernize Florida's economic development agencies. Among other things, it renames the Department of Economic Opportunity as the Department of Commerce. This requested action allows for the transition of agreements/contracts to the Department of Commerce.

Clerk to the Board Instructions:

None



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July 12, 2023

MEMORANDUM

TO: Ian Golden, Housing and Human Services Director

RE: Item F.11., Approval of Agreements with the Newly Formed Florida Department of Commerce

The Board of County Commissioners, in regular session on July 11, 2023, authorized you to endorse (including electronically if requested by the State) agreements with the Florida Department of Commerce upon approval of the County Attorney and Risk Management offices; authorized you to sign future agreements, amendments, and modifications upon approval of the County Attorney and Risk Management offices; and authorized the County Manager to execute all necessary Budget Change Requests.

Your continued cooperation is always appreciated.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
RACHEL M. SADOFF, CLERK

Kimberly Powell
Kimberly Powell, Clerk to the Board

/tr

cc: Contracts Administration



Ron DeSantis

46th Governor of Florida



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[Governor DeSantis Signs Consumer Protection Legislation to Support Florida Policyholders When Disaster Strikes](#)
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Governor DeSantis Signs Legislation to Streamline Economic Development in Florida

On May 31, 2023, in [News Releases](#), by Staff

Governor DeSantis also announced his intent to appoint J. Alex Kelly to lead the newly created Florida Department of Commerce

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Today, Governor Ron DeSantis signed House Bill 5, creating a singular Department of Commerce in Florida to streamline and modernize Florida's economic development agencies to meet the needs of today's businesses. The bill:

- Consolidates the responsibilities and resources of Enterprise Florida, Inc. (EFI) into the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO), which the bill also renames as the Department of Commerce;
- Creates a new direct-support organization (DSO) responsible for international economic development within the Department of Commerce;
- Reconstitutes VISIT FLORIDA and the Florida Sports Foundation also as DSOs of the Department of Commerce; and
- Repeals several underutilized and duplicative economic incentive programs that often create more confusion than answers for business and industry.

To lead the newly created Department of Commerce, Governor DeSantis has announced his intent to appoint J. Alex Kelly, who currently serves as Deputy Chief of Staff for the Governor.

"Florida continues to be the nation's top destination for new businesses, workforce development, and tourism, and streamlining our economic development programs in the Florida Department of Commerce will further support Florida's thriving economy," said **Governor Ron DeSantis**.

"Floridians deserve a level playing field that empowers local entrepreneurs to thrive," said **House Speaker Paul Renner**. "Governor DeSantis is championing good stewardship of taxpayer's hard-earned money by eliminating wasteful entities like Enterprise Florida. By establishing the new Department of Commerce, we will embark on a revitalized mission to strategically pave the way towards an even brighter future."

Florida's economy continues to thrive under the leadership of Governor DeSantis. Earlier this month, Governor DeSantis announced that Florida has the lowest unemployment rate of the nation's 10 largest states, experienced record tourism in the first quarter of 2023, and outpaced nationwide job growth for the 25th consecutive month.

The Department of Commerce will continue to support Florida's robust economic development and growth through performance-driven job creation and capital investment grant programs, infrastructure grants, rural county and small city grants, broadband grants, small business and rural loan programs, and other small business programs.

Moreover, the Department of Commerce will continue to support and collaborate with Florida's family of economic development and workforce development partners, including Space Florida, CareerSource, Florida Housing Finance Corporation, VISIT FLORIDA, the Florida Sports Foundation, the Florida Defense Support Task Force, the REACH Office, the Florida Department of Education, and the State University System Board of Governors.