

October 16, 2025

**REPRESENTATIVE JACQUES FILES E-VERIFY BILL TO HOLD ALL STATEWIDE
BUSINESSES ACCOUNTABLE IN HIRING PRACTICES**

“It is common sense that employees working for businesses in Florida be legally authorized to work in the United States.”

- *Representative Berny Jacques*

TALLAHASSEE, FL— Today, Representative Jacques filed HB 197, a vital piece of legislation ensuring that businesses are held accountable in hiring eligible employees and not illegal aliens, which puts American workers first.

HB 197 requires that all private businesses, regardless of size, use the national E-Verify system for the purpose of screening a new employee’s eligibility to work in the United States. Additionally, the bill requires that all businesses certify that they are in compliance with the law on the first tax return of the calendar year.

“We have seen so many instances where businesses subvert the law to avoid investing in American workers.” said Representative Jacques. “It is common sense that employees working for businesses in Florida be legally authorized to work in the United States.”

This legislation makes it clear: Florida will not be a state that allows our businesses to disregard American workers for the sake of illegal alien labor. Representative Jacques is fully committed to putting American workers first, and this legislation provides a reasonable avenue in doing so.

Representative Jacques asks his colleagues to stand with him in supporting this legislation and reinforcing Florida’s commitment towards discouraging businesses from hiring illegal aliens. Holding businesses accountable to the standards of E-Verify will ultimately put Americans and Floridians first.

Please direct all press inquiries for Representative Jacques to Ajay.Kumar@FLHouse.gov

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