

By the Committee on Rules, Resolutions, & Ethics and  
Representatives Thrasher and Crady

1                                    House Concurrent Resolution

2                    A concurrent resolution authorizing the  
3                    creation of an interim task force study for  
4                    review and improvement of the provisions of  
5                    Florida's ethics laws.

6

7 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of  
8 Florida, the Senate Concurring:

9

10                    Section 1. The President of the Senate and the Speaker  
11 of the House of Representatives are hereby authorized to  
12 create an interim task force study for review and improvement  
13 of the provisions of Florida's ethics laws. The President of  
14 the Senate shall appoint a member of the Senate as chair of  
15 the task force and two other members of the Senate as members  
16 of the task force, at least one of whom shall be a member from  
17 the minority party. The Speaker of the House of  
18 Representatives shall appoint a member of the House of  
19 Representatives as vice chair of the task force and two other  
20 members of the House of Representatives as members of the task  
21 force, at least one of whom shall be a member from the  
22 minority party.

23                    Section 2. The members of the task force are requested  
24 to invite representatives from the Florida Commission on  
25 Ethics, the Florida League of Cities, the Florida Association  
26 of Counties, and the Executive Branch of Florida Government,  
27 as well as interested members of the public, to assist the  
28 task force in such review.

29                    Section 3. The task force is directed to review and  
30 make recommendations concerning issues on ethics, including,  
31 but not limited to, the following:

- 1           (1) The scope of personnel and officials covered by  
2 the financial disclosure components of Florida's ethics laws.
- 3           (2) The criteria and methods for calculating the  
4 information required on financial disclosure forms.
- 5           (3) The requirements and procedures for filing amended  
6 financial disclosure forms and the appropriate repository for  
7 such disclosure filings.
- 8           (4) The appropriate requirements for gift reporting  
9 and for the time periods within which reimbursement for gifts  
10 or benefits received by a reporting official must be made.
- 11           (5) The appropriate degree of confidentiality, if any,  
12 for disclosure filings under Florida's ethics laws;
- 13           (6) The appropriate designated filing dates for  
14 disclosure forms.
- 15           (7) Clarification of Florida's ethics laws when more  
16 than one agency has jurisdiction over alleged ethics  
17 violations.
- 18           (8) The options to consider prevailing party  
19 attorney's fees and methods to improve the investigatory  
20 powers of the Commission on Ethics in conjunction with alleged  
21 violations of ethics laws.
- 22           (9) The appropriate standard of conduct of a reporting  
23 official after an official leaves the public sector.
- 24           (10) Clarification of ambiguities in the law relating  
25 to former reporting officials.
- 26           (11) The appropriate disclosure requirements  
27 concerning subsidiary business organizations and related  
28 business activities of a reporting official.
- 29           (12) The circumstances under which voting conflicts  
30 arise in which a special gain may inure to the benefit of  
31 reporting official.

1           (13) The circumstances under which the use of inside  
2 information should not inure to the benefit of a reporting  
3 official.

4           Section 4. The subject matters set forth in section 3  
5 shall be illustrative and shall not be intended to limit the  
6 analysis of the task force. The task force shall make such  
7 recommendations as it deems appropriate to resolve  
8 ambiguities, close loopholes, and otherwise improve the  
9 provisions of Florida's ethics laws.

10          Section 5. Staffing assistance and support to the task  
11 force shall be provided by the Florida Senate and the Florida  
12 House of Representatives.

13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31