

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to environmental equity and
3 justice; creating s. 760.854, F.S.; creating
4 the Center for Environmental Equity and
5 Justice; providing purpose of the center;
6 creating s. 381.101, F.S.; creating the
7 Community Environmental Health Program;
8 providing purposes of the program; providing
9 for a Community Environmental Health Advisory
10 Board; providing an appropriation; providing an
11 effective date.

12
13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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15 Section 1. Section 760.854, Florida Statutes, is
16 created to read:

17 760.854 Center for Environmental Equity and Justice.--

18 (1) There is hereby established the Center for
19 Environmental Equity and Justice.

20 (2) The purpose of the center is to conduct and
21 facilitate research, develop policies, and engage in
22 education, training, and community outreach with respect to
23 environmental equity and justice issues.

24 (3) The Center for Environmental Equity and Justice
25 shall be established at the Florida Agricultural and
26 Mechanical University within the Environmental Sciences
27 Institute.

28 (4) The Center for Environmental Equity and Justice
29 shall sponsor students to serve as interns at the Department
30 of Health, the Department of Environmental Protection, the
31 Department of Community Affairs, and other relevant state

1 agencies. The Center may enter into a memorandum of
2 understanding with these agencies to address environmental
3 equity and justice issues.

4 Section 2. There is hereby appropriated \$672,000 from
5 the General Revenue Fund to the Florida Agricultural and
6 Mechanical University to implement the provisions of this act.

7 Section 3. Section 381.101, Florida Statutes, is
8 created to read:

9 381.101 Community Environmental Health Program;
10 creation; purposes.--

11 (1) There is created the Community Environmental
12 Health Program. The primary purpose of the program is to
13 ensure the availability of public health services to members
14 of low-income communities that may be adversely affected by
15 contaminated sites located in or near the community. These
16 services extend beyond health services that are currently
17 provided pursuant to chapter 154 and include measures to
18 address the health effects that are associated with exposure
19 to environmental contamination.

20 (2) The Department of Health shall establish a
21 Community Environmental Health Advisory Board. The majority
22 of board members shall be low-income residents. The board
23 must also include representatives from the respective county
24 health departments, health care professionals and providers,
25 and elected officials. The board shall identify the community
26 environmental health needs and types of services which should
27 be provided.

28 (3) As used in this section:

29 (a) "Low-income community" means a contiguous grouping
30 of residences with a significant portion of occupants who have
31 a family income equal to or below 100 percent of the most

1 recent federal poverty level and who are exposed to multiple
2 sources of environmental contamination.

3 (b) "Contaminated site" means any contiguous land,
4 surface water, or groundwater areas that contain contaminants
5 that may be harmful to human health or the environment and
6 includes federal Superfund sites and state or federally
7 designated Brownfield areas.

8 Section 4. The sum of \$100,000 is appropriated from
9 the General Revenue Fund during the 1998-1999 fiscal year for
10 the Community Environmental Health Program.

11 Section 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming
12 law.