

By Senator Laurent

17-1332-99

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to elections; amending s.
3 106.17, F.S.; prohibiting state agencies from
4 soliciting pledges or authorizing or conducting
5 polls or surveys relating to candidacies for
6 public office; exempting polls or surveys
7 conducted by institutions of higher learning
8 for research purposes; providing an effective
9 date.

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

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13 Section 1. Section 106.17, Florida Statutes, is
14 amended to read:15 106.17 Polls and surveys relating to candidacies;
16 prohibitions.--17 (1) Any candidate, political committee, or state or
18 county executive committee of a political party may authorize
19 or conduct a political poll, survey, index, or measurement of
20 any kind relating to candidacy for public office so long as
21 the candidate, political committee, or political party
22 maintains complete jurisdiction over the poll in all its
23 aspects.24 (2) A state agency may not solicit any pledge or
25 authorize or conduct any political poll, survey, index, or
26 measurement of any kind for the purpose of evaluating or
27 rating any candidate for public office. For the purpose of
28 this subsection, the term "state agency" means any official or
29 officer in his or her official capacity, commission,
30 authority, council, committee, department, division, bureau,
31 board, section, or other unit or entity of the executive

1 branch of state government which receives the majority of its
2 funding from the state. However, polls or surveys conducted by
3 institutions of higher learning for research purposes are
4 exempt from the provisions of this subsection.

5 Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 1999.

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SENATE SUMMARY

Prohibits state agencies from soliciting pledges or
authorizing or conducting polls or surveys relating to
candidacies for public office. Exempts certain polls
conducted by institutions of higher learning.