By Senators Villalobos and Miller

38-800A-03

1   A bill to be entitled

2   An act relating to the Florida Civil Rights Act

3   of 1992; creating s. 760.021, F.S.; authorizing

4   the Attorney General to commence a civil action

5   against a person or group perpetuating

6   discriminatory practices; providing for

7   damages, injunctive relief, and civil

8   penalties; providing for attorney's fees and

9   costs; providing an effective 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 760.021, Florida Statutes, is

14   created to read:

15   760.021   Enforcement.--If the Attorney General has

16   reasonable cause to believe that any person or group:

17   (1)   Has engaged in a pattern or practice of

18   discrimination as defined by state law; or

19   (2)   Has been discriminated against as defined by state

20   law and such discrimination raises an issue of general public

21   importance,

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23   the Attorney General may commence a civil action for damages,

24   injunctive relief, civil penalties not to exceed $10,000 per

25   violation, or any other relief that may be appropriate under

26   law. Any damages recovered under this section shall accrue to

27   the injured party. The Attorney General is entitled to an

28   award of reasonable attorney's fees and costs if the

29   Department of Legal Affairs prevails in an action brought

30   under this section.

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1   Section 2.   This act shall take effect upon becoming a

2   law.

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5   SENATE SUMMARY

6   Provides that the Attorney General may commence a civil
     action against a person or group engaging in
7   discriminatory practices and obtain damages, attorney's
     fees and costs, and other relief.

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