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A bill to be entitled
 An act relating to constitutional amendments; amending s.
 16.061, F.S.; requiring the Attorney General to petition
 the Supreme Court regarding compliance of financial impact
 statements; requiring the Supreme Court to render certain
 advisory opinions by April 1 of a general election year;
 amending s. 100.371, F.S.; requiring initiative petitions
 to be filed by February 1 of a general election year in
 order to be placed on the ballot; providing an effective
 date.

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

Section 1. Section 16.061, Florida Statutes, is amended to
 read:

16.061 Initiative petitions.--

(1) The Attorney General shall, within 30 days after
 receipt of a proposed revision or amendment to the State
 Constitution by initiative petition from the Secretary of State,
 petition the Supreme Court, requesting an advisory opinion
 regarding the compliance of the text of the proposed amendment
 or revision with s. 3, Art. XI of the State Constitution and the
 compliance of the proposed ballot title and substance with s.
 101.161. The Attorney General shall, within 30 days after
receipt of an initiative petition's financial impact statement
or revised financial impact statement from the Financial Impact
Estimating Conference, petition the Supreme Court, requesting an
advisory opinion regarding the compliance of the statement with

29 s. 100.371(6). The petitions ~~petition~~ may enumerate any specific
 30 factual issues that the Attorney General believes would require
 31 a judicial determination. A copy of the petitions shall be
 32 provided to the Secretary of State and the principal officer of
 33 the sponsor.

34 (2) The Supreme Court shall render its advisory opinions
 35 pursuant to subsection (1) by April 1 of the year in which the
 36 general election is to be held. If no opinion has been rendered
 37 by this date, the initiative petition shall be deemed valid and
 38 approved for placement on the ballot ~~A copy of the petition~~
 39 ~~shall be provided to the Secretary of State and the principal~~
 40 ~~officer of the sponsor.~~

41 (3) Any financial ~~fiscal~~ impact statement that the court
 42 finds not to be in accordance with s. 100.371 shall be remanded
 43 solely to the Financial Impact Estimating Conference for
 44 redrafting.

45 Section 2. Subsections (1), (2), and (6) of section
 46 100.371, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

47 100.371 Initiatives; procedure for placement on ballot.--

48 (1) Constitutional amendments proposed by initiative shall
 49 be placed on the ballot for the general election provided that
 50 an initiative petition is filed with the Secretary of State by
 51 February 1 of the year in which the general election is to be
 52 held ~~occurring in excess of 90 days from the certification of~~
 53 ~~ballot position by the Secretary of State.~~

54 (2) Certification of ballot position ~~Such certification~~
 55 shall be issued when the Secretary of State has received
 56 verification certificates from the supervisors of elections

57 | indicating that the requisite number and distribution of valid
 58 | signatures of electors have been submitted to and verified by
 59 | the supervisors. Every signature shall be dated when made and
 60 | shall be valid for a period of 4 years following such date,
 61 | provided all other requirements of law are satisfied ~~complied~~
 62 | ~~with~~.

63 | (6)(a) Within 45 days after receipt of a proposed revision
 64 | or amendment to the State Constitution by initiative petition
 65 | from the Secretary of State ~~or, within 30 days after such~~
 66 | ~~receipt if receipt occurs 120 days or less before the election~~
 67 | ~~at which the question of ratifying the amendment will be~~
 68 | ~~presented~~, the Financial Impact Estimating Conference shall
 69 | complete an analysis and financial impact statement to be placed
 70 | on the ballot of the estimated increase or decrease in any
 71 | revenues or costs to state or local governments resulting from
 72 | the proposed initiative. The Financial Impact Estimating
 73 | Conference shall submit the financial impact statement to the
 74 | Attorney General and Secretary of State.

75 | (b)1. The Financial Impact Estimating Conference shall
 76 | provide an opportunity for any proponents or opponents of the
 77 | initiative to submit information and may solicit information or
 78 | analysis from any other entities or agencies, including the
 79 | Office of Economic and Demographic Research. All meetings of the
 80 | Financial Impact Estimating Conference shall be open to the
 81 | public as provided in chapter 286.

82 | 2. The Financial Impact Estimating Conference is
 83 | established to review, analyze, and estimate the financial
 84 | impact of amendments to or revisions of the State Constitution

85 proposed by initiative. The Financial Impact Estimating
86 Conference shall consist of four principals: one person from the
87 Executive Office of the Governor; the coordinator of the Office
88 of Economic and Demographic Research, or his or her designee;
89 one person from the professional staff of the Senate; and one
90 person from the professional staff of the House of
91 Representatives. Each principal shall have appropriate fiscal
92 expertise in the subject matter of the initiative. A Financial
93 Impact Estimating Conference may be appointed for each
94 initiative.

95 3. Principals of the Financial Impact Estimating
96 Conference shall reach a consensus or majority concurrence on a
97 clear and unambiguous financial impact statement, no more than
98 75 words in length, and immediately submit the statement to the
99 Attorney General. Nothing in this subsection prohibits the
100 Financial Impact Estimating Conference from setting forth a
101 range of potential impacts in the financial impact statement.
102 Any financial impact statement that a court finds not to be in
103 accordance with this section shall be remanded solely to the
104 Financial Impact Estimating Conference for redrafting. The
105 Financial Impact Estimating Conference shall redraft the
106 financial impact statement within 15 days.

107 4. If the members of the Financial Impact Estimating
108 Conference are unable to agree on the statement required by this
109 subsection, or if the Supreme Court has rejected the initial
110 submission by the Financial Impact Estimating Conference and no
111 redraft has been approved by the Supreme Court by April 1 of the
112 year in which the general election is to be held ~~5 p.m. on the~~

113 ~~75th day before the election~~, the following statement shall
 114 appear on the ballot pursuant to s. 101.161(1): "The financial
 115 impact of this measure, if any, cannot be reasonably determined
 116 at this time."

117 (c) The financial impact statement must be separately
 118 contained and be set forth after the ballot summary as required
 119 in s. 101.161(1).

120 (d)1. Any financial impact statement that the Supreme
 121 Court finds not to be in accordance with this subsection shall
 122 be remanded solely to the Financial Impact Estimating Conference
 123 for redrafting, provided the court's advisory opinion is
 124 rendered by April 1 of the year in which the general election is
 125 to be held at least 75 days before the election at which the
 126 question of ratifying the amendment will be presented. The
 127 Financial Impact Estimating Conference shall prepare and adopt a
 128 revised financial impact statement no later than 5 p.m. on the
 129 15th day after the date of the court's opinion.

130 2. If, by 5 p.m. on April 1 of the year in which the
 131 general election is to be held ~~the 75th day before the election~~,
 132 the Supreme Court has not issued an advisory opinion on the
 133 initial financial impact statement prepared by the Financial
 134 Impact Estimating Conference for an initiative amendment that
 135 otherwise meets the legal requirements for ballot placement, the
 136 financial impact statement shall be deemed approved for
 137 placement on the ballot.

138 3. In addition to the financial impact statement required
 139 by this subsection, the Financial Impact Estimating Conference
 140 shall draft an initiative financial information statement. The

141 initiative financial information statement should describe in
142 greater detail than the financial impact statement any projected
143 increase or decrease in revenues or costs that the state or
144 local governments would likely experience if the ballot measure
145 were approved. If appropriate, the initiative financial
146 information statement may include both estimated dollar amounts
147 and a description placing the estimated dollar amounts into
148 context. The initiative financial information statement must
149 include both a summary of not more than 500 words and additional
150 detailed information that includes the assumptions that were
151 made to develop the financial impacts, workpapers, and any other
152 information deemed relevant by the Financial Impact Estimating
153 Conference.

154 4. The Department of State shall have printed, and shall
155 furnish to each supervisor of elections, a copy of the summary
156 from the initiative financial information statements. The
157 supervisors shall have the summary from the initiative financial
158 information statements available at each polling place and at
159 the main office of the supervisor of elections upon request.

160 5. The Secretary of State and the Office of Economic and
161 Demographic Research shall make available on the Internet each
162 initiative financial information statement in its entirety. In
163 addition, each supervisor of elections whose office has a
164 website shall post the summary from each initiative financial
165 information statement on the website. Each supervisor shall
166 include the Internet addresses for the information statements on
167 the Secretary of State's and the Office of Economic and

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168 | Demographic Research's websites in the publication or mailing
169 | required by s. 101.20.

170 | Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.