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A bill to be entitled
 An act relating to the social status of African-American men and boys; creating the Council on the Social Status of African-American Men and Boys; providing for the appointment and qualification of members; providing for the appointment of members to fill vacant positions; requiring the council to make a systematic study of conditions affecting African-American men and boys; requiring the Office of the Attorney General to provide administrative support; requiring the council to submit an annual report to the Governor and Legislature; providing for reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses; requiring the Attorney General to organize the initial meeting of the council; providing for the expiration of the council; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Council on the Social Status of African-American Men and Boys.--

(1) The Council on the Social Status of African-American Men and Boys is established and shall consist of 19 members appointed as follows:

(a) Two members of the Senate who are not members of the same political party, appointed by the President of the Senate with the advice of the Minority Leader of the Senate.

(b) Two members of the House of Representatives who are not members of the same political party, appointed by the

29 Speaker of the House of Representatives with the advice of the
 30 Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.

31 (c) The Secretary of Children and Family Services or his
 32 or her designee.

33 (d) The director of the Mental Health Program Office
 34 within the Department of Children and Family Services or his or
 35 her designee.

36 (e) The Secretary of Health or his or her designee.

37 (f) The Commissioner of Education or his or her designee.

38 (g) The Secretary of Corrections or his or her designee.

39 (h) The Attorney General or his or her designee.

40 (i) The Secretary of Management Services or his or her
 41 designee.

42 (j) The director of the Agency for Workforce Innovation or
 43 his or her designee.

44 (k) A businessperson of African-American origin appointed
 45 by the Governor.

46 (l) Two persons appointed by the President of the Senate
 47 who are not members of the Legislature or employed by state
 48 government. One of the appointees must be a clinical
 49 physiologist.

50 (m) Two persons appointed by the Speaker of the House of
 51 Representatives who are not members of the Legislature or
 52 employed by state government. One of the appointees must be an
 53 Africana studies professional.

54 (n) The deputy secretary for Medicaid in the Agency for
 55 Health Care Administration or his or her designee.

56 (o) The Secretary of Juvenile Justice or his or her

57 designee.

58 (2) A member of the council may be removed at any time by
 59 the member's appointing authority who shall fill the vacancy on
 60 the council.

61 (3)(a) At the first meeting of the council each year, the
 62 members shall elect a chair and a vice chair.

63 (b) A vacancy in the office of chair or vice chair shall
 64 be filled by vote of the remaining members.

65 (4)(a) The council shall make a systematic study of the
 66 conditions affecting African-American men and boys, including,
 67 but not limited to, homicide rates, arrest and incarceration
 68 rates, poverty, violence, drug abuse, death rates, disparate
 69 annual income levels, school performance in all grade levels
 70 including postsecondary levels, and health issues.

71 (b) The council shall propose measures to alleviate and
 72 correct the underlying causes of the conditions described in
 73 paragraph (a). These measures may consist of changes to the law
 74 or systematic changes that can be implemented without
 75 legislative action.

76 (c) The council may study other topics suggested by the
 77 Legislature or as directed by the chair of the council.

78 (d) The council shall receive suggestions or comments
 79 pertinent to the applicable issues from members of the
 80 Legislature, governmental agencies, public and private
 81 organizations, and private citizens.

82 (5) The Office of the Attorney General shall provide staff
 83 and administrative support to the council.

84 (6) The council shall meet quarterly and at other times at

85 the call of the chair or as determined by a majority of council
 86 members.

87 (7) Ten of the members of the council shall constitute a
 88 quorum, and an affirmative vote of a majority of the members
 89 present is required for final action.

90 (8) The council shall issue its first annual report by
 91 December 15, 2007, and by December 15 each following year,
 92 stating the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the
 93 council. The council shall submit the report to the Governor,
 94 the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of
 95 Representatives, and the chairpersons of the standing committees
 96 of jurisdiction in each chamber.

97 (9) Members of the council shall serve without
 98 compensation, but members who are not government employees are
 99 entitled to reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses as
 100 provided in s. 112.061, Florida Statutes.

101 (10) Notwithstanding subsection (6), the Attorney General
 102 shall:

103 (a) Within 60 days after the effective date of this act,
 104 fix a date for the initial meeting of the council.

105 (b) Notify each member of the council of the time, date,
 106 and place where the initial meeting will be held.

107 (c) Make any other arrangements concerning the initial
 108 meeting of the council.

109 (d) Serve as the presiding officer at the initial meeting
 110 of the council until a chair is elected.

111 (11) This section expires July 1, 2012, unless reenacted
 112 by the Legislature.

HB 21

2006

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Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.