## Florida Senate - 2007

By Senator Hill

1-180-07

	1-100-07
1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to education; creating the
3	Minority or Underrepresented Student
4	Achievement Council; providing for the
5	appointment and qualification of members;
6	providing requirements for meetings; providing
7	for reimbursement for per diem and travel
8	expenses; providing the duties of the council;
9	requiring the Commissioner of Education to
10	organize the initial meeting of the council;
11	requiring the council to submit an annual
12	report to the Governor and Legislature;
13	requiring the Department of Education to
14	provide administrative support; requiring each
15	school board to discuss the number of high
16	school students taking advanced-placement
17	courses; providing an appropriation; providing
18	an effective date.
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20	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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22	Section 1. Minority or Underrepresented Student
23	Achievement Council
24	(1) There is created the Minority or Underrepresented
25	Student Achievement Council for the purpose of identifying and
26	recruiting minority or underrepresented high school students
27	who are eligible to participate in advanced-placement courses.
28	(a) The council shall consist of the following
29	members:
30	1. The Commissioner of Education or his or her
31	designee.
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**CODING:** Words stricken are deletions; words <u>underlined</u> are additions.

1 2. One public high school teacher. 2 One community-based representative. 3. 4. One representative from a school district. 3 4 5. One representative from a community college. 5 One representative from a college or university. 6. б 7. A parent. 7 (b) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall jointly appoint the members of 8 the council described in subparagraphs (a)2.-7. by July 15, 9 10 2007. Four of the seven members must be persons of African-American or Hispanic origin. 11 12 (c) The council shall hold its first meeting by August 13 1, 2007, at which time the members shall select by majority vote a chairperson from among the council members. 14 (d) All recommendations of the council shall be by 15 16 majority vote. 17 (e) The council shall meet quarterly and additional 18 meetings may be held at the call of the chairperson and at other times as determined by a majority of members of the 19 20 council. 21 (f) Members of the council shall serve without 2.2 compensation, but are entitled to reimbursement for per diem 23 and travel expenses in accordance with s. 112.061, Florida 2.4 Statutes. (2) The members of the council shall: 25 (a) Work to recruit minority or underrepresented high 26 27 school students who are eligible to participate in 2.8 advanced-placement courses by identifying students who perform above average academically according to their grades or SAT or 29 ACT scores and whose assessments indicate the potential to 30 earn a bachelor's degree in 4 years or less. 31

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1	(b) Identify each minority or underrepresented student
2	who receives the grade of "A" or "B" in the majority of his or
3	her core courses during the first semester of the student's
4	freshman year and notify his or her parents in writing that
5	the student is eligible to take advanced-placement courses
6	beginning in the second semester of the student's freshman
7	year.
8	(c) Examine best practices from high-performing public
9	high schools across the United States to learn how to close
10	the achievement gap between minority or underrepresented
11	students and nonminority students.
12	(3) The Commissioner of Education or his or her
13	designee shall:
14	(a) Notify each member of the council of the time,
15	date, and place where the initial meeting will be held;
16	(b) Make any other arrangements concerning the initial
17	meeting of the council; and
18	(c) Serve as the presiding officer at the initial
19	meeting of the council until a chairperson is elected.
20	(4) The council shall issue its initial annual report
21	by December 15, 2008, and by December 15th of each following
22	year, stating the findings, conclusions, and recommendations
23	of the council. This report shall be submitted to the
24	Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the
25	House of Representatives and placed on the Department of
26	Education's website.
27	(5) The Department of Education shall provide staff
28	and administrative support to the council.
29	Section 2. <u>Each school board in this state shall</u>
30	annually discuss during a meeting of the school board the
31	number of students, by ethnicity, gender, and zip code, who

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1	have taken two or more advanced-placement courses by their
2	junior year in high school.
3	Section 3. The sum of \$50,000 is appropriated from the
4	General Revenue Fund for the Minority or Underrepresented
5	Student Achievement Council.
6	Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.
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9	SENATE SUMMARY
10	Creates the Minority or Underrepresented Student Achievement Council. Requires the Commissioner of
Education to organize the initial meeting of the council Requires the Department of Education to provide administrative support. Requires each school board to	Education to organize the initial meeting of the council.
	administrative support. Requires each school board to discuss the number of high school students taking
13	advanced-placement courses. Provides an appropriation.
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