

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to the Florida Commission on African-
 3 American Affairs; amending s. 14.27, F.S.; providing
 4 additional duties of the commission; expanding the scope
 5 of areas to be included in a study and report to the
 6 Governor; providing an effective date.

7
 8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
 9

10 Section 1. Subsection (4) of section 14.27, Florida
 11 Statutes, is amended to read:

12 14.27 Florida Commission on African-American Affairs.--

13 (4) It shall be the role of the commission to develop
 14 specific strategies and plans to address the economic, social,
 15 educational, health, and welfare needs of African Americans in
 16 the state. Pursuant thereto, the commission's duties shall
 17 include, but not be limited to:

18 (a) Studying the changing and developing roles of African
 19 Americans in American society. The study shall be ongoing, with
 20 reports submitted periodically as needed with the annual report
 21 submitted to the Governor under paragraph (b), and shall
 22 include, but not be limited to, the following areas:

23 1. The socioeconomic factors that influence the status of
 24 African Americans.

25 2. The encouragement of African Americans to utilize their
 26 existing resources and abilities to strive for leadership roles.

HB 539

2007

27 3. The coordination of efforts of numerous African-
28 American organizations interested in the welfare of African
29 Americans.

30 4. The identification and recognition of contributions
31 made by African Americans to the community, state, and nation.

32 5. The coordination of efforts of the medical community,
33 social service agencies, and African-American organizations
34 interested in the welfare of women and children to reduce the
35 instances of low birth weight, premature births, and infant and
36 maternal mortality rates and to offer pregnant women assistance
37 with a range of services, including transportation, counseling,
38 drug treatment programs, meals programs, housing programs, job
39 assistance programs, and information and referral services.

40 (b) Submitting an annual report to the Governor on the
41 status of African Americans in the state which includes, but is
42 not limited to, an assessment of the following areas: education,
43 economic development, criminal justice, housing, and health.

44 (c) Reviewing state agency functional plans, legislative
45 budget requests, and the master plans and policies of the State
46 Board of Education, other educational boards, panels, and
47 commissions appointed by the Governor, and local school boards
48 for their impact on African Americans.

49 (d) Reviewing various judicial matters that are affecting
50 African Americans.

51 (e) Reviewing past and current legislation that may have a
52 significant impact on African Americans.

HB 539

2007

53 | (f) Examining any other issues relevant to African
54 | Americans that are presented by the Governor or that are a
55 | result of findings made by the commission.

56 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.