

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the statewide legacy communities
3 initiative; providing findings, intent, and definitions;
4 establishing the statewide legacy communities initiative;
5 providing criteria and declarations concerning the
6 initiative; providing criteria governing the services and
7 activities to be supported under the initiative; providing
8 requirements and goals concerning the provision of such
9 services or assistance; creating the Urban Empowerment
10 Corporation within the Department of Community Affairs;
11 providing criteria concerning the creation, purpose, and
12 duties of the corporation; providing that the corporation
13 is an instrumentality of the state for purposes of
14 sovereign immunity; providing that the corporation is not
15 a state agency; providing that the corporation is subject
16 to specified laws concerning open records and meetings
17 requirements; exempting the corporation from a specified
18 law concerning procurement; providing that the corporation
19 is subject to specified laws concerning ethical
20 requirements; prohibiting the corporation from creating
21 subsidiaries; providing that the corporation does not
22 supplant, replace, or direct existing operations or other
23 programs; providing for the department to approve the
24 corporation's articles of incorporation; providing
25 criteria concerning such articles; providing for
26 management of the corporation by a board of directors;
27 providing criteria for appointment and operation of the
28 board of directors; requiring that the board of directors

29 | develop and implement a plan of action; providing criteria
 30 | concerning the plan of action; requiring that the board of
 31 | directors provide annual reports to the Governor, the
 32 | President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
 33 | Representatives; requiring that the corporation establish
 34 | a legacy consulting team that meets specified criteria;
 35 | specifying the deliverables that the team is to provide
 36 | for legacy communities; providing criteria for the funding
 37 | of proposals concerning the legacy community initiative;
 38 | requiring that the corporation issue requests for
 39 | proposals; providing criteria for the issuance of such
 40 | requests; providing criteria for the review and approval
 41 | of proposals; requiring an objective scoring process;
 42 | requiring acceptance by the residents of a legacy
 43 | community; providing requirements for the board of
 44 | directors concerning the revitalization plans of legacy
 45 | communities; designating a pilot legacy community;
 46 | providing objectives concerning the designated community;
 47 | specifying additional communities to be included in the
 48 | initiative; providing criteria concerning the
 49 | revitalization plans of legacy communities; providing an
 50 | appropriation; providing an effective date.

51 |
 52 | Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

53 |
 54 | Section 1. Legacy communities; economic development;
 55 | governance; cultural enlightenment; pilot project; additional
 56 | communities; revitalization plans.--

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57 (1) LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS.--The Legislature finds that:

58 (a) Many historically and culturally rich communities of
59 color throughout this state have contributed significantly to
60 the state's cultural and economic development. Some of these
61 communities developed through the maritime, transportation, and
62 agricultural labor of African-Caribbean immigrants whose
63 descendants are residents of this state. Each such community has
64 a healthy, vibrant, and productive history, replete with
65 contributions in entertainment, art, industry, and trade, and an
66 interactive communal life that attracts families, tourists, and
67 commerce.

68 (b) These communities are now often hidden beneath the
69 debris of many years of blight and disinvestment. These
70 communities have the unique potential to be rediscovered and
71 rebuilt through reinvestment, creating a cultural magnet-
72 industry that will again attract families, tourism, and
73 commerce.

74 (c) Because legacy communities share a similar plight,
75 similar assets, similar risks, and similar opportunities, the
76 approach to their survival and growth should be the same.

77 (d) A single legacy community cannot generate sufficient
78 power to command or leverage resources that are sufficient to
79 address its needs and potentialities. But collectively, legacy
80 communities can create industries that attract and leverage
81 resources on a scale that is large enough to foster the building
82 of economic wealth and to fuel self-sufficiency and
83 sustainability for future generations. By joining forces, the
84 legacy communities and the individuals and businesses of those

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85 communities can avoid becoming extinct through displacement and
86 instead become positioned to revive, prosper, and leave their
87 legacy for future generations.

88 (e) Legacy communities are at risk of massive displacement
89 due to gentrification. Families are at risk, businesses are at
90 risk, and therefore the community is at risk. These communities
91 are being discovered and appreciated by new residents and others
92 who are willing to invest under current conditions and develop
93 the economic potential. The result is escalated land values,
94 higher taxes, and numerous rental conversions that make it
95 difficult to accommodate persons having low incomes, those
96 living on a fixed income, the working poor, and the unemployed.
97 When low-income residents are displaced, the community's culture
98 is also displaced, and there is a change in the community's
99 character, a loss of place, and an erosion of the community's
100 stability and economic foundations. Civic and sacred places are
101 abandoned. Businesses shrink into oblivion. Educational
102 institutions change drastically as the population shifts.
103 Eventually culture, race, and social status are lost to the new
104 community and the history of the place becomes a forgotten
105 memory. In the process, families are devastated.

106 (f) Gentrifying communities have a unique opportunity to
107 capture the benefits of change and revitalization efforts
108 without unnecessary and unwanted displacement of a community's
109 residents. Because change is introduced and development is
110 imminent, communities that have been devastated can become
111 renewed for existing residents and for those new residents who
112 are willing to become a contributing part of the community. New

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113 residents can become a healthy part of a gentrifying community
114 if their participation does not result in displacement and if
115 the existing residents, culture, and assets are valued,
116 respected, and empowered. The opportunity is to rebuild the
117 community as a mixed income, diverse, and culturally sound place
118 to live, work, and play, in which the historical character,
119 culture, populace, and assets of the community are recognized as
120 foundational and irreplaceable. In such communities, everyone
121 benefits from the improvements and everyone participates.

122 (2) LEGISLATIVE INTENT.--Through this act, the Legislature
123 intends to:

124 (a) Create a statewide initiative by which the projects
125 and activities of individuals, community organizations, and
126 businesses in a legacy community implement the legacy-community
127 strategies as planned. The statewide approach, to be known as
128 the Legacy Communities Initiative, shall provide the linkages so
129 that each legacy community is able to appropriately publicize
130 the community, share and leverage resources, and reinforce
131 common interests and projects.

132 (b) Enable sustainable funding for the initiative for 10
133 years in order to help ensure that the initiative's activities
134 and strategies are not short-circuited by a lack of funding.

135 (c) Broadly ensure support and accountability and help
136 minimize the challenges within the local community which have
137 traditionally hindered legacy communities in their respective
138 rebuilding efforts.

139 (d) Foster opportunities for participating legacy
140 communities to share information and expertise, collectively use

141 best practices, and benefit from networking with similar
142 communities.

143 (e) Initiate creative financial benefits so that many
144 legacy communities may be served by common resources and shared
145 expertise. Using collective purchasing, the revenue of legacy
146 communities will increase, creating employment that, with
147 increased tourism, will help to sustain the communities'
148 economies.

149 (f) Conserve revered historical places and cultural
150 legacies, recognizing that legacy communities are unique
151 benefactors contributing to the proud and rich heritage of the
152 state and nation.

153 (3) DEFINITIONS.--As used in this act, the term:

154 (a) "Corporation" means the Urban Empowerment Corporation.

155 (b) "Department" means the Department of Community
156 Affairs.

157 (c) "Legacy community" means a historic and culturally
158 distinct community that is established in an area of this state
159 and developed by capturing and cultivating the people's
160 cultures, skills, beliefs, interests, and values.

161 (d) "Pilot legacy community" means the legacy community
162 designated to initiate the legacy communities revitalization
163 plan to develop, implement, and establish a model for subsequent
164 legacy communities to follow.

165 (e) "Revitalization plan" means a written document,
166 developed through stakeholder interaction, which presents a
167 snapshot of a community's priorities, needs, people, places,
168 character, and story; sets forth a strategy to address and

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169 resolve established needs and problems; and describes how the
170 community will preserve, protect, build, and sustain its people
171 and places, its past, and its future.

172 (4) STATEWIDE LEGACY COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE.--There is
173 established the Statewide Legacy Communities Initiative.

174 (a) The statewide initiative is established to support and
175 fund projects and activities undertaken by individuals,
176 community organizations, and businesses in legacy communities
177 implementing the legacy community strategy. The statewide
178 initiative shall provide the linkages that each community needs
179 to be able to appropriately publicize the community, share and
180 leverage resources, and reinforce common interests and projects.

181 (b) The statewide initiative shall provide support and
182 accountability and help to minimize challenges within the local
183 community which have traditionally hindered legacy communities
184 in their respective rebuilding efforts. The statewide initiative
185 shall also serve to standardize the processes and participatory
186 requirements, thereby equalizing the opportunities for all
187 communities involved.

188 (c) The statewide initiative shall provide sustainable
189 funding for a period of years as specified in state
190 appropriations, which must ensure that the activities and
191 strategies of the legacy communities initiative will not be
192 discontinued due to a lack of resources.

193 (d) The statewide initiative shall foster opportunities
194 for participating communities to share information and
195 expertise, collectively use best practices, and benefit from
196 networking with similar communities. The Legislature expects

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197 that the participating communities will be served by common
198 resources and shared expertise, will share in collective
199 purchasing, and will help sustain their economies by increased
200 tourism, revenues, and employment. The collective power of
201 revitalized communities and reinstated industry can reverse the
202 effects of years of disinvestment.

203 (5) STATEWIDE LEGACY COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE SUPPORTED
204 SERVICES.--Funding for the statewide legacy community initiative
205 shall support certain designated services and activities for
206 legacy communities. The scope of such services and activities
207 includes:

208 (a) Creating community land trusts. The objective of each
209 community land trust is to ensure that the community property
210 remains under the jurisdiction of the community and to preserve
211 the property for generations in the future. The initiative's
212 land trust specialists shall provide technical assistance to any
213 existing community land trust in a legacy community or help to
214 develop a new community land trust based on the core values of
215 the legacy community initiative.

216 (b) Training, organizing, and supporting faith-based and
217 partner community organizations in fostering a system of
218 communication, community education, advocacy, leadership, and
219 family support in each legacy community. The objective is to
220 increase the capacity of faith-based groups to work with
221 community-based organizations, resident groups, and resource
222 partners in order to achieve the community's goals. Consultants
223 may aid faith-based and community organizations in accessing
224 resources and building cooperation among residents, businesses,

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225 and youth toward building together and protecting their assets,
226 culture, families, land, and legacy.

227 (c) Promoting youth initiatives that help reintroduce
228 traditional values and behavioral mores to the community's
229 youth. The statewide legacy community initiative shall support
230 programs to help youth to improve academically, personally, and
231 socially, at home in the family and in the community. Activities
232 provided under this strategy must foster skill development and
233 opportunities to be constructively involved in community
234 building and career development. The legacy consulting team
235 shall assist the new legacy community in accessing or enhancing
236 programs that mentor, train, and help youths build their
237 community and develop marketable skills that are transferable
238 between communities, help youth become employed in the larger
239 society, and provide youth with investment education, budget and
240 financial counseling, leadership skills, community building
241 opportunities, and home-building training.

242 (d) Preserving the culture of gentrifying communities. The
243 statewide legacy community initiative shall support legacy
244 consultants in assisting each legacy community in developing and
245 marketing cultural programs, festivals, story-telling programs,
246 educational activities, and other activities that preserve and
247 promote the culture of the community and its people. Technical
248 assistance shall be provided to help the legacy community
249 identify its own cultural industry where the existing residents
250 and businesses build on the strength of what they have
251 traditionally had in their hands, their homes, and their hearts.
252 The legacy community shall be coached in marketing natural

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253 assets to create trade that is built on the culture, traditions,
254 and talents of the community.

255 (e) Providing economic development and wealth-building
256 resource programs and activities. The programs shall be designed
257 to help the community develop and access nontraditional economic
258 resources and funds. These programs must involve economic
259 sources other than the government or private foundations to
260 provide self-sustaining and self-generating methods to build
261 wealth and support for the community and put people to work in
262 meaningful ways that keep assets and resources in the
263 communities so that they are shared by families and sustainable
264 through future generations.

265 (f) Involving community residents in the design and
266 development of their own communities. Using professionals, the
267 legacy consulting team shall engage the community in design
268 workshops to build consensus and participation in planning and
269 community design and introduce the community to tools such as
270 community-sponsored ordinances, rezoning, special districts, and
271 other neighborhood conservation processes.

272 (g) Integrating community builders with other contractors
273 to develop a team of local community builders who can continue
274 to carry out the activities and provide leadership in the
275 community to sustain its efforts. The technical assistance team
276 shall coach the community and its nonprofit organizations to
277 develop the programs, fund the efforts, and engage the community
278 in its own revitalization.

279 (h) Providing each legacy community with technical
280 assistance support to identify eligible property, prepare

281 acquisition applications, and physically redesign local
282 properties to reflect the culture of the community and promote
283 mixed-use and mixed-income development through resident
284 ownership mechanisms. Each legacy community shall receive
285 technical assistance to address current and future environmental
286 issues in their communities and to incorporate environmental
287 planning solutions in the design and physical revitalization of
288 their communities.

289 (i) Developing and implementing a marketing strategy that
290 links legacy communities with their cottage industries through a
291 continuous cultural corridor. The strategy shall engage support
292 and promotion by African and Caribbean-American icons and
293 companies willing to underwrite portions of the campaign.

294 (j) Advocating leadership and empowerment efforts. Such
295 efforts shall, through screening, selection, and support of
296 community representatives who are knowledgeable about community
297 concerns and responsive to residents' needs, be proactive in
298 creating opportunities for families in the community. The legacy
299 consulting team shall educate the community through small group
300 discussions and family-based dialogue on the importance and
301 process of participating in civic activities.

302 (k) Reclaiming underemployed men and bringing them back
303 into wholeness and leadership in the legacy community and in
304 their families. This is an imperative that the statewide legacy
305 community initiative must address. A principal goal of the
306 statewide legacy community initiative is for all legacy
307 communities to focus on the reversal of crime and substance
308 abuse, emphasizing intervention and diversion from crime. Each

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309 local legacy community shall place a strong emphasis on
310 supporting black men who are displaced from the home and
311 disproportionately represented in institutions. The statewide
312 legacy community initiative shall support local legacy
313 communities in developing a variety of strategies to help
314 prevent youth from becoming involved in gangs, crime, and
315 substance abuse. The statewide legacy community initiative shall
316 also support efforts to strengthen families and build healthy
317 marriages, emphasizing rites-of-passage activities, constructive
318 counseling, and mentoring programs. Male role models must be
319 actively recruited from fraternities, faith-based groups, black
320 civic organizations, elders, trade groups, male celebrities, and
321 neighborhood male activists. The legacy consulting team shall
322 work with existing organizations and assist them in accessing
323 resources and links to other similar programs to maximize their
324 efforts in this area.

325 (l) Empowering women, the seniors, and families to work
326 with existing organizations and assisting them to access
327 resources and links to other similar programs. Legacy community
328 consultants shall work with nonprofit organizations to help
329 women cope with the issues that most affect them and their
330 children, including, but not limited to, domestic violence,
331 economic development, women's health care, child-rearing, and
332 support for single mothers.

333 (m) Fostering traditional cultural values. The statewide
334 legacy community initiative shall train families to implement
335 historically known spiritual principles and principles of
336 Kwanzaa every day and to remember the values taught by the

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337 ancestors which spiritually guide and keep people healthy,
338 cohesive, wise, and compassionate. Consultants shall work with
339 existing organizations and assist them in accessing resources
340 that link them with proponents of community culture and
341 traditions to help re-teach these values and to help incorporate
342 them into the daily behavior and traditions of the legacy
343 community.

344 (6) STATEWIDE LEGACY COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE; URBAN
345 EMPOWERMENT CORPORATION; ORGANIZATION.--

346 (a) There is created within the Department of Community
347 Affairs the Urban Empowerment Corporation.

348 (b) The corporation shall be a not-for-profit corporation
349 registered, incorporated, and operated in accordance with
350 chapter 617, Florida Statutes.

351 (c) The corporation shall serve as the coordinating
352 organization for the development and implementation of the
353 Statewide Legacy Community Initiative. The purpose of the
354 corporation is to assist in carrying out the duties and
355 responsibilities set forth in this section. The corporation
356 shall operate to fulfill its purpose and, in the best interests
357 of the state, the corporation:

358 1. Shall be a corporation primarily acting as an
359 instrumentality of the state pursuant to s. 768.28(2), Florida
360 Statutes, for the purposes of sovereign immunity;

361 2. Is not an agency within the meaning of s. 20.03(11),
362 Florida Statutes;

363 3. Is subject to the open records and meetings
364 requirements of s. 24, Art. I of the State Constitution, chapter

365 119, Florida Statutes, and s. 286.011, Florida Statutes;
 366 4. Is not subject to the provisions of chapter 287,
 367 Florida Statutes;
 368 5. Is governed by the code of ethics for public officers
 369 and employees as set forth in part III of chapter 112, Florida
 370 Statutes;
 371 6. Is not authorized to create corporate subsidiaries; and
 372 7. Does not supplant, replace, or direct existing
 373 operations or other programs.
 374 (d) The articles of incorporation of the corporation must
 375 be approved in a written agreement with the Department of
 376 Community Affairs. The articles of incorporation must provide
 377 that:
 378 1. The corporation shall provide equal employment
 379 opportunities for all persons regardless of race, color,
 380 religion, gender, national origin, age, handicap, or marital
 381 status;
 382 2. The corporation is subject to the public-records and
 383 public-meetings requirements of s. 24, Art. I of the State
 384 Constitution;
 385 3. All officers, directors, and employees of the
 386 corporation are governed by the code of ethics for public
 387 officers and employees as set forth in part III of chapter 112,
 388 Florida Statutes;
 389 4. Members of the board of directors of the corporation
 390 are responsible for the prudent use of all public and private
 391 funds and that they will ensure that the use of funds is in
 392 accordance with all applicable laws, bylaws, and contractual

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393 requirements; and

394 5. The fiscal year of the corporation is from July 1
395 through June 30.

396 (e) The affairs of the corporation shall be managed by a
397 board of directors who shall serve without compensation. Each
398 director shall have one vote. The chair of the board of
399 directors shall be selected by a majority vote of the directors,
400 a quorum being present. The board of directors shall consist of
401 five members appointed by the Governor. The Governor shall
402 appoint the members by September 1, 2009.

403 (f) The board of directors shall provide a copy of the
404 corporation's annual report to the Governor, the President of
405 the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the
406 Secretary of Community Affairs.

407 (g) The corporation shall develop and implement a plan of
408 action that:

409 1. Facilitates meetings between prospective investors and
410 eligible organizations in the corporation;

411 2. Provides for hiring full-time staff members, including
412 an executive director, who understand relevant community
413 development issues needed to ensure that appropriate services
414 are provided to each legacy community participating in this
415 initiative and who can promote legacy communities to investors
416 who respect the community's efforts to preserve its heritage;
417 and

418 3. Develops cooperative relationships with publicly
419 supported organizations, private corporations, and private
420 foundations that work together to provide resources or special

421 knowledge helpful to the legacy community's economic and social
422 growth.

423 (h) By December 1 of each year, the corporation shall
424 issue an annual report of its activities. The report shall
425 include:

426 1. An assessment of compliance with its plan of action and
427 information on any assistance and activities provided by the
428 corporation to assist legacy communities.

429 2. A description of the benefits, economic and social, to
430 this state resulting from the corporation's work.

431 3. Independently audited financial statements, including
432 statements that show receipts and expenditures during the
433 preceding fiscal year for personnel, administration, and
434 operational costs of the corporation.

435 (i)1. The corporation shall establish a legacy consulting
436 team to ensure that appropriate resources, services, and
437 programs are provided to each legacy community participating in
438 the statewide legacy community initiative.

439 2. The corporation shall consist of experts who shall
440 assist legacy communities in developing a revitalization plan to
441 bring together residents, property owners, and business persons
442 to plan for a long-term investment in the legacy community. The
443 legacy consulting team shall work to identify community needs,
444 develop specific strategies for revitalization in each
445 respective legacy community, and engage resources to meet the
446 needs. The legacy consulting team shall provide deliverables for
447 each legacy community which include:

448 a. Assessment of needs and capacity.

449 b. Consultation and advisement.

450 c. Community and board education.

451 d. Community builders training.

452 e. Development or enhancement of existing programs and
453 services that embrace the legacy community initiative
454 strategies.

455 f. Resource development.

456 g. Revitalization plan assistance.

457 h. Establishment of linkages within the legacy communities
458 network.

459 i. Establishment of linkages to resources and potential
460 partners outside the legacy communities network.

461 j. Liaison and interface activities with the Legislature.

462 k. Expertise and technical assistance in the funding
463 application and awards process.

464 l. Troubleshooting, mediation, and facilitation of local
465 processes.

466 m. Promotion of legacy communities and the initiative.

467 n. Assistance with evaluation and corrective actions.

468 (7) STATEWIDE LEGACY COMMUNITY INITIATIVE; APPLICATIONS;
469 REVIEW; FUNDING.--

470 (a) The corporation shall issue requests for proposals to
471 fulfill the purposes of the statewide legacy community
472 initiative as described in this section. The corporation shall
473 review the proposals in a committee appointed by its board of
474 directors, which shall make a recommendation for final selection
475 based on an objective scoring process, with published criteria
476 developed by the board of directors of the corporation before

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477 issuance of the request for proposals. A proposal may be
478 approved in three phases: prestartup and development,
479 implementation, and sustainability and replication. Final
480 approval of the selected proposal must be by the board of
481 directors of the corporation and consistent with the published
482 criteria it developed before issuing the request for proposals.

483 (b)1. In order to be eligible for assistance, a proposed
484 legacy community seeking to implement the statewide legacy
485 community initiative must demonstrate acceptance of the
486 initiative by the community's residents.

487 2. The corporation shall review the revitalization plan of
488 each legacy community. For those communities accepted into the
489 initiative, the corporation shall act as a mentor for the legacy
490 community, develop marketing information concerning the
491 community, and use its local resources to attract capital
492 investment, government grants, and foundation assistance.

493 (8) DESIGNATING PILOT LEGACY COMMUNITY.--That portion of
494 Miami-Dade county known as Coconut Grove is designated as the
495 initial statewide pilot legacy community.

496 (a) Coconut Grove is the epicenter for promoting Caribbean
497 culture in this state. The Coconut Grove area celebrates the
498 contributions of Caribbean immigrant populations from Key West
499 to Tallahassee. The legacy communities initiative shall identify
500 and empower the immigrant Caribbean communities. In Miami-Dade
501 county, Coconut Grove was the first such settlement for these
502 populations, the largest of which were Bahamians. It is
503 historically and culturally the first Caribbean community in
504 Florida, and its recent increasing diversity adds to the

505 richness of this community as a Caribbean Epicenter.

506 (b) In Coconut Grove, the objectives are to:

507 1. Preserve the Bahamian-Island culture and character in
 508 the businesses, community places and events, daily life, and the
 509 built environment;

510 2. Promote and support the Island District Merchant's
 511 Association and wealth-building strategies;

512 3. Support home ownership and protect residents from
 513 displacement;

514 4. Protect and support community-based organizations and
 515 strategies that assist families, youth, elders, and individuals;
 516 and

517 5. Facilitate cohesiveness, effective advocacy, and
 518 community involvement in the revitalization process.

519 (9) SPECIFYING ADDITIONAL COMMUNITIES.--Additional
 520 communities that must be included in the Legacy Communities
 521 Statewide Initiative along with the pilot project in Coconut
 522 Grove include Brownsville, Little Haiti, Liberty City, Overtown,
 523 Lemon City, Opa Locka, Carol City, Cooper City, South Miami, Key
 524 West, Bahama Village, Del Ray, West Palm Beach, Belle Glade,
 525 Riviera Beach, Pleasant City, Eatonville, Orlando, Port St. Joe,
 526 and Jacksonville.

527 (10) REVITALIZATION PLANS OF LEGACY COMMUNITIES.--Each
 528 legacy community's revitalization plan must:

529 (a) Set out assumptions and objectives and serve as the
 530 framework for the revitalization of the community.

531 (b) Be usable as a communication and marketing tool.

532 (c) Be formulated by a diverse team of professionals and

533 stakeholders to address the many different complex issues facing
534 the Coconut Grove pilot project and other legacy communities.

535 (d) Describe the legacy community's history.

536 (e) Set forth statistics and current conditions with
537 respect to family status, income, jobs and employment
538 opportunities in the community, current zoning issues, public
539 transportation, conditions in local education, social services,
540 housing, economic development, community cohesion, the culture
541 of the community, environmental justice issues, visual themes in
542 the community, historical and preservation issues, community
543 involvement, key community interest areas, community relations
544 challenges, and the community's social and economic history,
545 culture, collective character, current composition, and assets.

546 (f) Describe the process for community involvement which
547 provides a forum for residents to become informed about civic
548 affairs and actively involved in making decisions that
549 ultimately affect their community, and define ways in which the
550 process must be improved or changed to make members of the
551 community equal partners in the dialog concerning revitalization
552 projects in their neighborhoods.

553 (g) Be developed in response to needs of the community as
554 indicated by empirical data, surveys, focus group feedback,
555 economic indicators, prior studies, community input, historical
556 background, community asset mapping, stakeholder input, resource
557 partnership input, and demographic profiles.

558 (h) Define strategies concerning the services and
559 activities described in subsection (5) and identify standards
560 for effective delivery of such services and activities.

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561 (i) Be reviewed and receive comments from each identified
562 stakeholder.

563 (j) Set forth the community's needs and opportunities, the
564 need for revitalization and its importance to the community,
565 partnerships, resources and assets, goals for revitalization,
566 proposed projects and activities, the process and essential
567 strategies for addressing needs, timeframes and benchmarks for
568 various phases of developing the local legacy community,
569 committed or potential resources, budget projections, benefits
570 and returns on investments, deliverables, local recommendations,
571 an evaluation process, anticipated outcomes and results, and
572 proof of sustainability.

573 Section 2. The sum of \$ _____ is appropriated from the
574 General Revenue Fund to the Department of Community Affairs for
575 the purpose of paying salaries and other administrative expenses
576 necessary to carry out the provisions of this act relating to
577 the statewide legacy community initiative during the 2009-2010
578 fiscal year.

579 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.