HB 87 2011

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to judicial opinions; providing a short title; creating s. 25.079, F.S.; providing legislative intent; requiring that an opinion of the Supreme Court or a district court of appeal that has any of certain specified holdings be provided to specified offices in the other branches of government; requiring offices receiving such an opinion to acknowledge receipt within a specified period; allowing the acknowledgment to include a statement of any action to be taken in response; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Judicial Opinion Communications Act."

Section 2. Section 25.079, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

25.079 Opinions with certain holdings; communication to other branches.—

(1) This section is specifically intended to create a communication process between the three branches of government with regard to judicial opinions and may not be construed to provide the legislative or executive branches with any powers regarding the Supreme Court or appellate courts that are not granted under the State Constitution.

(2) A court opinion rendered by the Florida Supreme Court or any of the district courts of appeal which:

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(a) Declares a Florida statute, regulation, or government practice unconstitutional;

- (b) Recommends any statutory or regulatory changes to the current law; or
 - (c) Identifies drafting issues

- shall be submitted by the court rendering the opinion to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives within 30 days after being published by the court.
- (3) The Office of the Governor, the Office of the President of the Senate, and the Office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall serve an acknowledgment of receipt upon the chief judge or chief justice of the court rendering an opinion submitted to that office under subsection (2) within 30 days after the receipt of the opinion and may state in the acknowledgment any and all action to be taken in response to the opinion.
 - Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.