

By Senator Clemens

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to minority impact statements;
3 creating s. 11.63, F.S.; requiring that bills that
4 create a new criminal offense, modify an existing
5 criminal offense, or modify the penalty for an
6 existing criminal offense be referred, upon filing and
7 before consideration, by the Office of Legislative
8 Services to the Office of Economic and Demographic
9 Research for preparation of a minority impact
10 statement; authorizing the Office of Economic and
11 Demographic Research to request the assistance of an
12 executive agency in preparing the statement; requiring
13 the executive agency to provide such assistance upon
14 request; specifying requirements for the statement;
15 requiring the Office of Economic and Demographic
16 Research to issue a finding as to whether the bill has
17 a disparate impact on members of racial minority
18 groups; requiring that the bill sponsor take certain
19 action if the Office of Economic and Demographic
20 Research finds a disparate impact on racial minority
21 groups; requiring that, if a statement is required of
22 the sponsor, it be included as an appendix to the
23 minority impact statement; providing an effective
24 date.

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

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28 Section 1. Section 11.63, Florida Statutes, is created to
29 read:

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30 11.63 Minority impact statements.-

31 (1) Upon filing, and before it may be considered, any bill
32 that creates a new criminal offense, modifies an existing
33 criminal offense, or modifies the penalty for an existing
34 criminal offense shall be referred by the Office of Legislative
35 Services to the Office of Economic and Demographic Research for
36 preparation of a minority impact statement. The Office of
37 Economic and Demographic Research may request the assistance of
38 an executive agency in preparing the required statement, and the
39 agency shall promptly provide all necessary information to the
40 Office of Economic and Demographic Research.

41 (2) The minority impact statement must include an estimate
42 of the number of criminal cases per year that the bill will
43 affect, the effect of the bill on members of racial minority
44 groups and on the operations of correctional institutions, and
45 any other matter that the Office of Economic and Demographic
46 Research considers appropriate. In preparing the minority impact
47 statement, the Office of Economic and Demographic Research shall
48 issue a finding as to whether the bill has a disparate impact on
49 members of racial minority groups.

50 (3) If the minority impact statement indicates a disparate
51 impact on members of racial minority groups, the sponsor of the
52 bill shall consider whether to amend it to achieve its purpose
53 with a lessened impact on members of racial minority groups. If
54 the sponsor of the bill elects not to amend the bill, he or she
55 shall provide in writing his or her reasons for advancing the
56 bill without amendment despite the findings of the statement.
57 The sponsor's statement shall be included as an appendix to the
58 minority impact statement.

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Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.