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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

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House

Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and
Economic Development (Cruz) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete lines 95 - 170

and insert:

(h) One member of the Senate, appointed by the President of
the Senate.

(i) One member of the House of Representatives, appointed
by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

(j) One elected official from a local government, appointed



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10 by the Secretary of State.

11 (3) The task force shall hold its first meeting by August
12 1, 2020. The task force may meet as many times as it deems
13 necessary to complete the duties prescribed in this section.

14 (4) The task force shall:

15 (a) Review the findings and recommendations made by the
16 Task Force on Abandoned and Neglected Cemeteries created
17 pursuant to chapter 98-268, Laws of Florida, and any legislative
18 or administrative action that was taken in response to the task
19 force's findings and recommendations.

20 (b) Examine the adequacy of current practices regarding the
21 preservation of unmarked and abandoned African-American
22 cemeteries and burial grounds and identify any challenges unique
23 to African-American cemeteries and burial grounds.

24 (c) Identify locations of unmarked and abandoned African-
25 American cemeteries and burial grounds throughout the state and
26 propose strategies, including any proposed legislation, for the
27 preservation and evaluation of such sites.

28 (d) Make recommendations regarding standards for the
29 creation, placement, and maintenance of a memorial at any
30 identified locations of unmarked and abandoned African-American
31 cemetery or burial ground throughout the state.

32 (5) By March 1, 2021, the task force shall submit a report
33 detailing its findings and recommendations to the Governor, the
34 President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of
35 Representatives, the Minority Leader of the Senate, and the
36 Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.

37 (6) This section expires July 1, 2021.

38 Section 2. (1) (a) Upon receiving consent of the property



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39 owners at the former Zion Cemetery site in Tampa, the Department
40 of State shall partner with the University of South Florida, the
41 Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, and the Zion
42 Cemetery Archaeological Committee formed under the auspices of
43 the Tampa Housing Authority, to continue an investigation to
44 determine how many graves remain at the site.

45 (b) Any historical resource, record, archive, artifact,
46 public research, or medical record that is recovered through the
47 course of the investigation by the University of South Florida
48 or the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University shall
49 remain in the custody of either university for archiving and
50 preservation until the Department of State requests custody of
51 such resource, record, archive, artifact, public research, or
52 medical record.

53 (2) (a) The Department of State shall contract with the
54 University of South Florida and the Florida Agricultural and
55 Mechanical University for the identification and location of
56 eligible next of kin of those buried at the site.

57 (b) No later than January 1, 2021, the universities shall
58 provide the Department of State with a list of possible
59 descendants of those buried at the site and, to the extent
60 possible, their contact information.

61 (c) For any identification of next of kin occurring on or
62 after January 1, 2021, the universities must provide contact
63 information of the next of kin to the Department of State.

64 Section 3. The Division of Historical Resources of the
65 Department of State shall ensure that any abandoned African-
66 American cemetery identified by the Task Force on Abandoned
67 African-American Cemeteries is listed in the Florida Master Site



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68 File. Upon such a cemetery's listing in the Florida Master Site
69 File and in lieu of the normal application process for
70 historical markers, the division must seek placement of an
71 Official Florida Historical Marker at a site so long as the
72 approval of the owner of the property where the marker will be
73 placed has been obtained. A person or an organization affiliated
74 with an abandoned cemetery may assist the division in
75 researching the history of such a site in the preparation of a
76 historical marker's creation and placement. The costs for the
77 creation and placement of a historical marker authorized
78 pursuant to this section shall be borne by the division.

79 Section 4. Subject to specific appropriation, the
80 Department of State shall create, place, and maintain a memorial
81 at the site of the former Zion Cemetery in Tampa and at the site
82 of the former Ridgewood Cemetery at C. Leon King High School in
83 Tampa.

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85 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

86 And the title is amended as follows:

87 Delete lines 31 - 32

88 and insert:

89 historical markers be borne by the division; subject
90 to legislative appropriation, requiring the department
91 to create, place, and maintain memorials at certain
92 sites; providing an effective date.