



782640

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
02/25/2020	.	
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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.

84  
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.