

FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES BILL ANALYSIS

This bill analysis was prepared by nonpartisan committee staff and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.

BILL #: [HB 4015](#)

TITLE: Broward County Narcotics and Dangerous Drug Intelligence and Enforcement Unit, Broward County

SPONSOR(S): Woodson

COMPANION BILL: None

LINKED BILLS: None

RELATED BILLS: None

Committee References

[Intergovernmental Affairs](#)

16 Y, 0 N

[Criminal Justice](#)

[State Affairs](#)

SUMMARY

Effect of the Bill:

The bill repeals the special act creating the Broward County Narcotics and Dangerous Drug Intelligence and Enforcement Unit, a specialized interagency unit that appears to have been defunct since the mid-1970s.

Fiscal or Economic Impact:

None

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ANALYSIS

EFFECT OF THE BILL:

The bill repeals ch. 71-574, Laws of Fla., which created the Broward County Narcotics and Dangerous Drug Intelligence and Enforcement Unit. The unit was originally created as an interagency unit to combat narcotic and other drugs, but appears to have been defunct since the mid-1970s. (Section [1](#))

The bill provides an effective date of upon becoming a law. (Section [2](#))

RELEVANT INFORMATION

SUBJECT OVERVIEW:

Broward County Narcotics and Dangerous Drug Intelligence and Enforcement Unit

The Broward County Narcotics and Dangerous Drug Intelligence and Enforcement Unit (unit) was created as a voluntary unit providing county-wide enforcement of narcotics and drug abuse laws through the cooperative participation between all law enforcement agencies within the county.¹ Participating agencies assigned one or more officers, deputies, or investigators to temporary full-time duty with the unit.² Participating police agencies could include municipal police departments, the Broward County School Board's Security Division, and the Broward County Sheriff's Office.³

The Broward County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC), upon a recommendation from the Broward County Sheriff, was responsible for responsible for establishing the budget for the office as a part of the annual budget for the sheriff's office.⁴ This budget contained the salaries for sheriff deputies assigned to the unit and administrative

¹ Ch. 71-574, s. 2, Laws of Fla.

² Ch. 71-574, s. 4, Laws of Fla.

³ *Id.*

⁴ Ch. 71-574, s. 6, Laws of Fla.

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expenses, while the salaries of municipal police officers detailed to the unit remained the responsibility of their employing agency.⁵

The act required the unit supervisor submit a quarterly report on the unit’s accomplishments and financial condition to the Broward County BOCC, the Broward County Chiefs of Police Association, and to participating municipalities.⁶ The most recent record of the unit in BOCC meeting minutes is from November 19, 1974.⁷

Currently, the Broward County Sheriff’s Office (BCSO) Strategic Investigations Division houses two units related to drug enforcement: the Major Narcotics Investigation Unit (Broward County Drug Task Force) and the Narcotic Interdiction Unit.⁸

Local Bill Forms

The Florida Constitution prohibits the passage of any special act unless a notice of intention to seek enactment of the bill has been published as provided by general law or the act is conditioned to take effect only upon approval by referendum vote of the electors in the area affected.⁹ A legal advertisement of the proposed bill must be placed in a newspaper of general circulation or published on a publicly accessible website¹⁰ at least 30 days prior to the introduction of the local bill in the House or Senate.¹¹ The bill was noticed in [Sun-Sentinel on January 11, 2025](#).

The House local bill policy requires a completed and signed Local Bill Certification Form and Economic Impact Statement Form be filed with the Clerk of the House at the time the local bill is filed or as soon thereafter as possible.¹² Under the policy, a committee or subcommittee may not consider a local bill unless these forms have been filed. The following forms have been submitted for the bill:

- [Local Bill Certification Form](#)
- [Economic Impact Statement Form](#)

BILL HISTORY

COMMITTEE REFERENCE	ACTION	DATE	STAFF DIRECTOR/ POLICY CHIEF	ANALYSIS PREPARED BY
Intergovernmental Affairs Subcommittee	16 Y, 0 N	3/12/2025	Darden	Jones
Criminal Justice Subcommittee				
State Affairs Committee				

⁵ Ch. 71-574, ss. 5 and 6, Laws of Fla.

⁶ Ch. 71-574, s. 7, Laws of Fla.

⁷ Broward County, [November 19, 1974 Meeting Minutes](#) (last visited Feb. 17, 2025). These meeting minutes refer to the unit as the Metropolitan Enforcement Group. See Broward County, [March 20, 1973 Meeting Minutes](#) (last visited Mar. 9, 2025) (referring to the Metropolitan Enforcement Group as “[the] formerly titled, Broward County Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Intelligence and Enforcement Unit.”)

⁸ Broward County Sheriff’s Office, [Strategic Investigations](#) (last visited Feb. 17, 2025).

⁹ [Art. III, s. 10, Fla. Const.](#)

¹⁰ S. [50.0311\(2\), F.S.](#)

¹¹ S. [11.02, F.S.](#) If there is no newspaper circulated throughout or published in the county and no publicly accessible website has been designated, notice must be posted for at least 30 days in at least three public places in the county, one of which must be at the courthouse.

¹² Intergovernmental Affairs Subcommittee, [Local Bill Policies and Procedures Manual](#), p. 11 (last visited Mar. 9, 2025).