

ENROLLED
 HB 21, Engrossed 1

2006 Legislature

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A bill to be entitled
 An act relating to the social status of black men and boys; creating the Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys; providing for the appointment and qualification of members; providing for the appointment of members to fill vacant positions; requiring the council to make a systematic study of conditions affecting black men and boys; requiring the Office of the Attorney General to provide administrative support; requiring the council to submit an annual report to the Governor and Legislature; providing for reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses; providing that the council and any subcommittees it forms are subject to public records and meetings requirements; providing financial disclosure requirements for council members; requiring the Attorney General to organize the initial meeting of the council; providing for the expiration of the council; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys.--

(1) The Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys is established within the Department of Legal Affairs and shall consist of 19 members appointed as follows:

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27 (a) Two members of the Senate who are not members of the
 28 same political party, appointed by the President of the Senate
 29 with the advice of the Minority Leader of the Senate.

30 (b) Two members of the House of Representatives who are
 31 not members of the same political party, appointed by the
 32 Speaker of the House of Representatives with the advice of the
 33 Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.

34 (c) The Secretary of Children and Family Services or his
 35 or her designee.

36 (d) The director of the Mental Health Program Office
 37 within the Department of Children and Family Services or his or
 38 her designee.

39 (e) The Secretary of Health or his or her designee.

40 (f) The Commissioner of Education or his or her designee.

41 (g) The Secretary of Corrections or his or her designee.

42 (h) The Attorney General or his or her designee.

43 (i) The Secretary of Management Services or his or her
 44 designee.

45 (j) The director of the Agency for Workforce Innovation or
 46 his or her designee.

47 (k) A businessperson of black origin appointed by the
 48 Governor.

49 (l) Two persons appointed by the President of the Senate
 50 who are not members of the Legislature or employed by state
 51 government. One of the appointees must be a clinical
 52 psychologist.

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53 (m) Two persons appointed by the Speaker of the House of
54 Representatives who are not members of the Legislature or
55 employed by state government. One of the appointees must be an
56 Africana studies professional.

57 (n) The deputy secretary for Medicaid in the Agency for
58 Health Care Administration or his or her designee.

59 (o) The Secretary of Juvenile Justice or his or her
60 designee.

61 (2) Each member of the council shall be appointed to a 4-
62 year term; however, for the purpose of providing staggered
63 terms, of the initial appointments, 9 members shall be appointed
64 to 2-year terms and 10 members shall be appointed to 4-year
65 terms. A member of the council may be removed at any time by the
66 member's appointing authority who shall fill the vacancy on the
67 council.

68 (3) (a) At the first meeting of the council each year, the
69 members shall elect a chair and a vice chair.

70 (b) A vacancy in the office of chair or vice chair shall
71 be filled by vote of the remaining members.

72 (4) (a) The council shall make a systematic study of the
73 conditions affecting black men and boys, including, but not
74 limited to, homicide rates, arrest and incarceration rates,
75 poverty, violence, drug abuse, death rates, disparate annual
76 income levels, school performance in all grade levels including
77 postsecondary levels, and health issues.

78 (b) The council shall propose measures to alleviate and
79 correct the underlying causes of the conditions described in

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80 paragraph (a). These measures may consist of changes to the law
81 or systematic changes that can be implemented without
82 legislative action.

83 (c) The council may study other topics suggested by the
84 Legislature or as directed by the chair of the council.

85 (d) The council shall receive suggestions or comments
86 pertinent to the applicable issues from members of the
87 Legislature, governmental agencies, public and private
88 organizations, and private citizens.

89 (5) The Office of the Attorney General shall provide staff
90 and administrative support to the council.

91 (6) The council shall meet quarterly and at other times at
92 the call of the chair or as determined by a majority of council
93 members and approved by the Attorney General.

94 (7) Eleven of the members of the council shall constitute
95 a quorum, and an affirmative vote of a majority of the members
96 present is required for final action.

97 (8) (a) The council shall issue its first annual report by
98 December 15, 2007, and by December 15 each following year,
99 stating the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the
100 council. The council shall submit the report to the Governor,
101 the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of
102 Representatives, and the chairpersons of the standing committees
103 of jurisdiction in each chamber.

104 (b) The initial report must include the findings of an
105 investigation into factors causing black-on-black crime from the
106 perspective of public health related to mental health, other

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107 health issues, cultural disconnection, and cultural identity
108 trauma.

109 (9) Members of the council shall serve without
110 compensation. Members are entitled to reimbursement for per diem
111 and travel expenses as provided in s. 112.061, Florida Statutes.
112 State officers and employees shall be reimbursed from the budget
113 of the agency through which they serve. Other members may be
114 reimbursed by the Department of Legal Affairs.

115 (10) The council and any subcommittees it forms shall be
116 subject to the provisions of chapter 119, Florida Statutes,
117 related to public records, and the provisions of chapter 286,
118 Florida Statutes, related to public meetings.

119 (11) Each member of the council who is not otherwise
120 required to file a financial disclosure statement pursuant to s.
121 8, Art. II of the State Constitution or s. 112.3144, Florida
122 Statutes, must file a disclosure of financial interests pursuant
123 to s. 112.3145, Florida Statutes.

124 (12) Notwithstanding subsection (6), the Attorney General
125 shall:

126 (a) Within 60 days after the effective date of this act,
127 fix a date for the initial meeting of the council.

128 (b) Notify each member of the council of the time, date,
129 and place where the initial meeting will be held.

130 (c) Make any other arrangements concerning the initial
131 meeting of the council.

132 (d) Serve as the presiding officer at the initial meeting
133 of the council until a chair is elected.

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134 (13) This section expires July 1, 2012, unless reenacted
135 by the Legislature.

136 Section 2. This act shall take effect January 1, 2007.