

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas
91st General Assembly
Regular Session, 2017

As Engrossed: S2/1/17 H3/29/17
A Bill

SENATE BILL 237

By: Senator Elliott
By: Representative Tucker

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT *CONCERNING* THE PREPARATION OF A RACIAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR CERTAIN BILLS FILED WITH THE SENATE AND *THE HOUSE* OF REPRESENTATIVES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

CONCERNING THE PREPARATION OF A RACIAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR CERTAIN BILLS FILED WITH THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 10, Chapter 2, Subchapter 1, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

10-2-133. Racial impact statement.

(a)(1) A racial impact statement may be prepared as provided in this section for any bill filed in the Senate or the House of Representatives that will:

(A) Create a new misdemeanor or felony offense;

(B) Substantively change an element of an existing misdemeanor or felony offense;

(C) Change the penalty for an existing misdemeanor or felony offense; or

(D) Change existing sentencing, parole, or probation procedures.

(2) A racial impact statement may be:



(A) Filed with the chair of a committee of the Senate or the House of Representatives considering a bill under subdivision (a)(1) of this section; and

(B) Shared with the members of a committee of the Senate or House of the Representatives considering a bill under subdivision (a)(1) of this section when the bill is considered.

(b)(1)(A) The Office of Economic and Tax Policy, with the assistance of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock William H. Bowen School of Law and with the faculty and students of the Arkansas Policy Program of Hendrix College, shall prepare a racial impact statement under this section.

(B) The Arkansas Sentencing Commission, the Department of Correction, the Department of Community Correction, the Administrative Office of the Courts, and the Arkansas Crime Information Center shall cooperate fully with the Office of Economic and Tax Policy, the University of Arkansas at Little Rock William H. Bowen School of Law, and the faculty and students of the Arkansas Policy Program of Hendrix College by providing data possessed by those agencies that is requested to complete the racial impact statement under this section.

(2) The racial impact statement shall include without limitation:

(A) The estimated number of criminal cases per year that the bill will affect;

(B) The impact of the bill on a minority group as defined in § 1-2-503;

(C) The impact of the bill upon correctional facilities and services; and

(D) Other matters deemed relevant to the bill at issue.

/s/Elliott