1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to scrutinized companies; amending s. 3 215.473, F.S.; providing legislative findings; 4 revising and providing definitions; requiring the 5 State Board of Administration to identify all 6 companies in which public moneys are invested that are 7 doing certain types of business in or with Cuba or 8 Syria; requiring the board to create and maintain 9 certain scrutinized companies lists that name all such 10 companies; requiring the board to periodically contact 11 all scrutinized companies and encourage them to refrain from engaging in certain types of business in 12 or with Cuba or Syria; requiring the board to inform 13 14 scrutinized companies of their status as a scrutinized 15 company and to provide notice of the opportunity to 16 clarify the nature of the company's business 17 activities; providing for removal of a company from the list under certain conditions; requiring the board 18 19 to divest all publicly traded securities of a 20 scrutinized company under certain conditions; 21 providing for reintroduction of a company onto the 22 list; providing exceptions to the divestment 23 requirement; prohibiting the board from acquiring 24 securities of scrutinized companies that have active 25 business operations; providing an exemption to the 26 divestment requirement and investment prohibition; 27 providing an additional exception from the divestment 28 requirement and the investment prohibition for certain Page 1 of 37

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29 indirect holdings in actively managed investment 30 funds; providing procedures of the board with respect 31 to requesting removal of scrutinized companies from 32 actively managed investment funds and defined contribution plans or the creation of a similar fund 33 34 that excludes such companies; providing reporting 35 requirements of the board; providing for cessation of 36 assembly of the Scrutinized Companies with Activities 37 in Cuba List and the Scrutinized Companies with 38 Activities in Syria List, cessation of engagement and 39 divestment of such companies, and restoration of authority to reinvest in such companies under 40 specified conditions; authorizing the board to cease 41 42 divesting or reinvesting in certain companies having 43 scrutinized active business operations under specified 44 conditions; amending s. 287.135, F.S.; prohibiting a 45 state agency or local governmental entity from contracting for goods and services of more than a 46 47 certain amount with a company that is on the 48 Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Cuba List or 49 the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Syria 50 List; requiring a contract provision that allows for 51 termination of the contract if the company is found to 52 have been placed on such list; providing exceptions; 53 requiring certification upon submission of a bid or 54 proposal for a contract, or before a company enters 55 into or renews a contract, with an agency or 56 governmental entity that the company is not on the Page 2 of 37

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57 Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Cuba List or 58 the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Syria 59 List; providing procedures upon determination that a 60 company has submitted a false certification; providing for civil action; providing penalties; providing 61 attorney fees and costs; providing a statute of 62 63 repose; prohibiting a private right of action; 64 requiring the Department of Management Services to 65 notify the Attorney General after the act becomes law; providing an effective date. 66

67

68 WHEREAS, with a population of approximately 11 million,
69 Cuba is a totalitarian communist state that does not tolerate
70 opposition to official policy, and

71 WHEREAS, the current government of Cuba assumed power on72 January 1, 1959, and

73 WHEREAS, although the Cuban constitution recognizes the 74 unicameral National Assembly as the supreme authority in Cuba, 75 the Communist Party is recognized in the constitution as the 76 only legal party and "the superior leading force of society and 77 of the state," and

WHEREAS, elections in January 2008 for the Cuban National Assembly were neither free nor fair, and all of the candidates had to be preapproved by a Communist Party candidacy commission, with the result that the Communist Party candidates and their allies won 98.7 percent of the vote and 607 of 614 seats in the National Assembly, and

84

WHEREAS, the Cuban government continues to deny its Page 3 of 37

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85 citizens their basic human rights, including the right to change 86 their government, and has committed numerous and serious abuses 87 against the citizens of Cuba, and

88 WHEREAS, among the human rights problems reported within 89 Cuba are beatings and abuse of prisoners and detainees, harsh 90 and life-threatening prison conditions, including denial of 91 medical care, harassment, and beatings, and threats against 92 political opponents by government-recruited mobs, police, and 93 state security officials who acted with impunity, and

94 WHEREAS, arbitrary arrest and detention of human rights 95 advocates and members of independent professional organizations, 96 and denial of fair trial for at least 194 political prisoners 97 and as many as 5,000 persons who have been convicted of 98 potential "dangerousness" without being charged with any 99 specific crime are also reported, and

100 WHEREAS, there have also been severe limitations on freedom of speech and the press, denial of peaceful assembly and 101 102 association, restrictions on freedom of movement, including 103 selective denial of exit permits to citizens and the forcible 104 removal of persons from Havana to their hometowns, restrictions 105 on freedom of religion and refusal to recognize domestic human 106 rights groups or permit them to function legally, discrimination 107 against persons of African descent, and severe restrictions on 108 workers' rights, including the right to form independent unions, 109 and

110 WHEREAS, other problems that are prevalent in Cuba include 111 increasing incidences of domestic violence, underage 112 prostitution, and trafficking in human beings, and

Page 4 of 37

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WHEREAS, Cuba is on the United States Department of State's list of State Sponsors of Terrorism, and for nearly half a century the United States has unilaterally imposed an economic, commercial, and financial embargo against Cuba, and

117 WHEREAS, the embargo, partially imposed on Cuba in October 118 1960, was enacted after Cuba nationalized the properties of 119 United States citizens and corporations and it was strengthened 120 to a near-total embargo on February 7, 1962, and

WHEREAS, though the severity and the scope of the sanctions have varied, depending upon political developments in Cuba, the United States, and the rest of the world, the United States Government Accountability Office has stated that "the embargo on Cuba is the most comprehensive set of United States sanctions on any country, including other countries designated by the United States Government to be state sponsors of terrorism," and

128 WHEREAS, also on the Department of State's list of State 129 Sponsors of Terrorism is the nation of Syria, and

WHEREAS, on March 8, 1963, the Baath Party in Syria enacted an emergency law that suspended basic constitutional rights such as freedom of speech and assembly and instituted martial law, and

WHEREAS, in February 1982, the Syrian army, under the orders of Syrian President Hafez al-Assad, effectively ended a campaign begun in 1976 by Sunni Islamic groups against the Assad regime with what is now known as "the Hama massacre," the quelling of a revolt by the Sunni Muslim community against the al-Assad regime that resulted in Syrian deaths, the estimates of which range from 10,000 to possibly as many as 40,000 Syrian

Page 5 of 37

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citizens according to the Syrian Human Rights Committee, and 141 142 WHEREAS, the Hama massacre has been described as being 143 among "the single deadliest acts by any Arab government against 144 its own people in the Middle East," and 145 WHEREAS, in 2011 the "Syrian uprising" began in that 146 country, and 147 WHEREAS, the Syrian uprising is an ongoing internal 148 conflict occurring in Syria that began with protests that 149 started on January 26, 2011, and then escalated to an uprising 150 by March 15, 2011, and 151 WHEREAS, the demands of protesters in this sustained 152 campaign of civil resistance include the allowance by the ruling Baath Party of other political parties, the end of President 153 Bashar al-Assad's presidency, equal rights for Kurds, and broad 154

155 political freedoms such as freedom of the press, free speech, 156 and freedom to assemble, and

157 WHEREAS, as protests continued, the Syrian government used 158 tanks and snipers to force Syrian citizens off the streets, 159 water and electricity were shut off, and security forces began 160 confiscating flour and food in various areas of the country, and

161 WHEREAS, violence escalated as the crisis wore on and as a 162 result more than 3,000 people were killed, many more were 163 injured, and thousands of protesters have been detained, with 164 dozens of detainees reportedly having been tortured and killed, 165 and

WHEREAS, since the beginning of the uprising, the Syrian government has made several concessions, including the repeal on April 21, 2011, of the 1963 emergency law which allowed the

Page 6 of 37

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169 government sweeping authority to suspend constitutional rights, 170 though the concessions are widely considered trivial and 171 superficial by protesters demanding more meaningful reform, 172 especially in light of the fact that government crackdowns on 173 protesters have continued to heighten, and

WHEREAS, the oppressive Assad Regime blatantly murders protesters of the regime in mass, regularly detains political and human rights activists and journalists, engages in widespread media censorship, and is associated with the disappearance of citizens opposed to the Assad regime, and

WHEREAS, the United States Government and other nations
throughout the world have openly called for President Assad to
step down from office, and

182 WHEREAS, effective August 18, 2011, President Barack Obama 183 issued a new Executive Order imposing significant new economic 184 sanctions on Syria, and

185 WHEREAS, the action greatly expanded United States 186 international trade restrictions against Syria and its 187 government in certain important respects, representing a more 188 comprehensive unilateral economic embargo, and

WHEREAS, most notably, the sanctions now include a freeze on the property and interests of property of the Government of Syria in the United States or held by United States persons, defined to include entities in the United States and their foreign branch offices, United States citizens or lawful permanent residents, and anyone of any nationality acting or located within the United States, and

Page 7 of 37

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WHEREAS, the sanctions include prohibitions on United States persons engaging in any transactions with the Syrian Government, making new investments in Syria, providing any services to Syria, or conducting business dealings in or related to petroleum or petroleum products of Syrian origin, and

WHEREAS, the sanctions also include a ban on the importation of Syrian-origin petroleum products into the United States and a prohibition against United States persons facilitating, approving, financing, or guaranteeing a transaction or dealing with a foreign person related to any of the prohibitions in place against Syria, and

WHEREAS, both the Government of Cuba and the Government of Syria have repeatedly committed human rights violations through intimidation by military and security forces, through bureaucratic and administrative obstruction, through acts of terrorism and atrocities directed against civilians, and through the displacement of citizens from their homes, and

213 WHEREAS, the Federal Government has imposed sanctions 214 against the Government of Cuba and the Government of Syria, and 215 such sanctions are monitored through the United States Treasury 216 Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), and

217 WHEREAS, according to a former chair of the United States 218 Securities and Exchange Commission, the fact that a foreign 219 company is doing material business with a country, government, 220 or entity on OFAC's sanctions list is, in the SEC staff's view, 221 substantially likely to be significant to a reasonable 222 investor's decision about whether to invest in that company, and 223 WHEREAS, because the United States Secretary of State has

Page 8 of 37

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determined that both Cuba and Syria are countries whose governments have provided support for acts of international terrorism, as a result, the United States has restricted assistance, defense exports, defense sales, financial transactions, and various other transactions with the Government of Cuba and the Government of Syria, and

WHEREAS, a 2006 report by the United States House of Representatives states that "a company's association with sponsors of terrorism and human rights abuses, no matter how large or small, can have a materially adverse result on a public company's operations, financial condition, earnings, and stock prices, all of which can negatively affect the value of an investment," and

WHEREAS, in response to the financial risk posed by investments in companies doing business with a state that sponsors terrorists, the Securities and Exchange Commission established its Office of Global Security Risk to provide for enhanced disclosure of material information regarding such companies, and

WHEREAS, divestment actions precipitated by such sponsorship of terrorism and human rights violations encompass universities, municipalities, states, and private pension plans, and

247 WHEREAS, companies facing such widespread divestment 248 present further material risk to remaining investors, and

249 WHEREAS, it is a fundamental responsibility of the State of 250 Florida to decide where, how, and by whom financial resources in 251 its control should be invested, taking into account numerous

Page 9 of 37

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252 pertinent factors, and

253 WHEREAS, it is the prerogative and desire of the State of 254 Florida, with respect to investment resources in its control and 255 to the extent reasonable, with due consideration for return on 256 investment on behalf of the state and its investment 257 beneficiaries, not to participate in an ownership or capital-258 providing capacity with entities that provide significant 259 practical support for terrorism and human rights violations, 260 including certain non-United States companies presently doing business in such countries, and 261

WHEREAS, while divestiture should be considered with the intent to improve investment performance and by the rules of prudence, fiduciaries must take into account all relevant substantive factors in arriving at an investment decision, and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida is deeply concerned about investments in publicly traded companies that have business activities in and ties to Cuba and Syria as a financial risk to the shareholders, and

WHEREAS, by investing in publicly traded companies having ties to Cuba and Syria, the Florida State Board of Administration is putting the funds it oversees at substantial financial risk, and

WHEREAS, divestiture from markets that are vulnerable to embargo, loan restrictions, and sanctions from the United States and the international community, including the United Nations Security Council, is in accordance with the rules of prudence, and

279 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that this act should remain Page 10 of 37

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280 in effect only insofar as it continues to be consistent with and 281 does not unduly interfere with the foreign policy of the United 282 States as determined by the Federal Government, and 283 WHEREAS, to protect Florida's assets, it is in the best 284 interest of the state to enact a statutory prohibition regarding 285 the investments managed by the State Board of Administration 286 doing business in Cuba and Syria, NOW, THEREFORE, 287 288 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 289 Section 215.473, Florida Statutes, is amended 290 Section 1. 291 to read: 292 215.473 Divestiture by the State Board of Administration; 293 Sudan; Iran; Cuba; Syria.-294 (1)DEFINITIONS.-As used in this act, the term: "Active business operations" means all business 295 (a) 296 operations that are not inactive business operations. 297 "Business operations" means engaging in commerce in (b) 298 any form in Sudan, or Iran, Cuba, or Syria, including, but not 299 limited to, acquiring, developing, maintaining, owning, selling, 300 possessing, leasing, or operating equipment, facilities, 301 personnel, products, services, personal property, real property, 302 or any other apparatus of business or commerce. 303 "Company" means any sole proprietorship, organization, (C) association, corporation, partnership, joint venture, limited 304 partnership, limited liability partnership, limited liability 305 306 company, or other entity or business association, including all 307 wholly owned subsidiaries, majority-owned subsidiaries, parent Page 11 of 37

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308 companies, or affiliates of such entities or business 309 associations, that exists for the purpose of making profit. 310 "Complicit" means taking actions during any preceding (d) 311 20-month period which have directly supported or promoted: 312 1. The genocidal campaign in Darfur, including, but not limited to, preventing Darfur's victimized population from 313 314 communicating with each other; 315 2. Encouraging Sudanese citizens to speak out against an 316 internationally approved security force for Darfur; 317 3. Actively working to deny, cover up, or alter the record on human rights abuses in Darfur; or 318 4. Other similar actions. 319 320 (e) "Cuba" means the nation of Cuba. 321 (f) (e) "Direct holdings" in a company means all securities of that company that are held directly by the public fund or in 322 323 an account or fund in which the public fund owns all shares or 324 interests. 325 "Government of Cuba" means the government of Cuba, (q) 326 under the control of General Raul Castro and the Cuban Communist Party, its instrumentalities, and companies owned or controlled 327 328 by the government of Cuba. (h) (f) "Government of Iran" means the government of Iran, 329 330 its instrumentalities, and companies owned or controlled by the 331 government of Iran. 332 (i) (g) "Government of Sudan" means the government in 333 Khartoum, Sudan, that is led by the National Congress Party, 334 formerly known as the National Islamic Front, or any successor 335 government formed on or after October 13, 2006, including the Page 12 of 37

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336 coalition National Unity Government agreed upon in the 337 Comprehensive Peace Agreement for Sudan, and does not include 338 the regional government of southern Sudan.

(j) "Government of Syria" means the government of Syria, under the control of President Bashar Al-Assad and the Arab Socialist Baath Party, its instrumentalities, and companies owned or controlled by the government of Syria.

343 <u>(k) (h)</u> "Inactive business operations" means the mere 344 continued holding or renewal of rights to property previously 345 operated for the purpose of generating revenues but not 346 presently deployed for such purpose.

347 <u>(1)(i)</u> "Indirect holdings" in a company means all 348 securities of that company that are held in an account or fund, 349 such as a mutual fund, managed by one or more persons not 350 employed by the public fund, in which the public fund owns 351 shares or interests together with other investors not subject to 352 the provisions of this act.

353

(m) (j) "Iran" means the Islamic Republic of Iran.

354 "Marginalized populations of Sudan" include, but (n)(k) 355 are not limited to, the portion of the population in the Darfur 356 region that has been genocidally victimized; the portion of the 357 population of southern Sudan victimized by Sudan's north-south civil war; the Beja, Rashidiya, and other similarly underserved 358 359 groups of eastern Sudan; the Nubian and other similarly underserved groups in Sudan's Abyei, Southern Blue Nile, and 360 Nuba Mountain regions; and the Amri, Hamadab, Manasir, and other 361 362 similarly underserved groups of northern Sudan.

363

Page 13 of 37

(o) (1) "Military equipment" means weapons, arms, military

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364 supplies, and equipment that may readily be used for military 365 purposes, including, but not limited to, radar systems, 366 military-grade transport vehicles, or supplies or services sold 367 or provided directly or indirectly to any force actively 368 participating in armed conflict in Sudan, Cuba, or Syria.

369 <u>(p)(m)</u> "Mineral-extraction activities" include the 370 exploring, extracting, processing, transporting, or wholesale 371 selling or trading of elemental minerals or associated metal 372 alloys or oxides (ore), including gold, copper, chromium, 373 chromite, diamonds, iron, iron ore, silver, tungsten, uranium, 374 and zinc, as well as facilitating such activities, including 375 providing supplies or services in support of such activities.

376 (q) (n) "Oil-related activities" include, but are not 377 limited to, owning rights to oil blocks; exporting, extracting, 378 producing, refining, processing, exploring for, transporting, 379 selling, or trading of oil; constructing, maintaining, or 380 operating a pipeline, refinery, or other oil-field 381 infrastructure; and facilitating such activities, including 382 providing supplies or services in support of such activities, 383 except that the mere retail sale of gasoline and related 384 consumer products is not considered an oil-related activity.

385 <u>(r) (o)</u> "Petroleum resources" means petroleum, petroleum 386 byproducts, or natural gas.

387 <u>(s) (p)</u> "Power-production activities" means any business 388 operation that involves a project commissioned by the National 389 Electricity Corporation (NEC) of Sudan or other similar entity 390 of the government of Sudan whose purpose is to facilitate power 391 generation and delivery, including, but not limited to,

Page 14 of 37

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hb0959-00

392 establishing power-generating plants or hydroelectric dams, 393 selling or installing components for the project, providing 394 service contracts related to the installation or maintenance of 395 the project, as well as facilitating such activities, including 396 providing supplies or services in support of such activities.

397 <u>(t) (q)</u> "Public fund" means all funds, assets, trustee, and 398 other designates under the State Board of Administration 399 pursuant to chapter 121.

400 <u>(u) (r)</u> "Scrutinized active business operations" means 401 active business operations that have resulted in a company 402 becoming a scrutinized company.

403 <u>(v) (s)</u> "Scrutinized business operations" means business 404 operations that have resulted in a company becoming a 405 scrutinized company.

406 <u>(w)(t)</u> "Scrutinized company" means any company that meets 407 any of the following criteria:

1. The company has business operations that involve contracts with or provision of supplies or services to the government of Sudan, companies in which the government of Sudan has any direct or indirect equity share, consortiums or projects commissioned by the government of Sudan, or companies involved in consortiums or projects commissioned by the government of Sudan, and:

a. More than 10 percent of the company's revenues or
assets linked to Sudan involve oil-related activities or
mineral-extraction activities; less than 75 percent of the
company's revenues or assets linked to Sudan involve contracts
with or provision of oil-related or mineral-extracting products

Page 15 of 37

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hb0959-00

420 or services to the regional government of southern Sudan or a 421 project or consortium created exclusively by that regional 422 government; and the company has failed to take substantial 423 action; or

b. More than 10 percent of the company's revenues or
assets linked to Sudan involve power-production activities; less
than 75 percent of the company's power-production activities
include projects whose intent is to provide power or electricity
to the marginalized populations of Sudan; and the company has
failed to take substantial action.

430

2. The company is complicit in the Darfur genocide.

The company supplies military equipment within Sudan, 431 3. unless it clearly shows that the military equipment cannot be 432 433 used to facilitate offensive military actions in Sudan or the 434 company implements rigorous and verifiable safeguards to prevent 435 use of that equipment by forces actively participating in armed 436 conflict. Examples of safeguards include post-sale tracking of 437 such equipment by the company, certification from a reputable 438 and objective third party that such equipment is not being used 439 by a party participating in armed conflict in Sudan, or sale of 440 such equipment solely to the regional government of southern 441 Sudan or any internationally recognized peacekeeping force or 442 humanitarian organization.

443
4. The company has business operations that involve
444 contracts with or provision of supplies or services to the
445 government of Iran, companies in which the government of Iran
446 has any direct or indirect equity share, consortiums, or
447 projects commissioned by the government of Iran, or companies

Page 16 of 37

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hb0959-00

448 involved in consortiums or projects commissioned by the 449 government of Iran and:

450 a. More than 10 percent of the company's total revenues or 451 assets are linked to Iran and involve oil-related activities or 452 mineral-extraction activities; and the company has failed to 453 take substantial action; or

b. The company has, with actual knowledge, on or after
August 5, 1996, made an investment of \$20 million or more, or
any combination of investments of at least \$10 million each,
which in the aggregate equals or exceeds \$20 million in any 12month period, and which directly or significantly contributes to
the enhancement of Iran's ability to develop the petroleum
resources of Iran.

461 <u>5. The company has business operations that involve</u> 462 <u>contracts with or provision of supplies or services to the</u> 463 <u>government of Cuba, companies in which the government of Cuba</u> 464 <u>has any direct or indirect equity share, consortiums or projects</u> 465 <u>commissioned by the government of Cuba, or companies involved in</u> 466 <u>consortiums or projects commissioned by the government of Cuba</u> 467 and:

468 <u>a. More than 10 percent of the company's total revenues or</u> 469 <u>assets are linked to Cuba, and the company has failed to take</u> 470 substantial action; or

b. The company has, with actual knowledge, on or after
January 1, 1959, made an investment of \$20 million or more, or
any combination of investments of at least \$10 million each,
which in the aggregate equals or exceeds \$20 million in any 12-

475 month period.

Page 17 of 37

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476	6. The company supplies military equipment within Cuba,
477	unless it clearly shows that the military equipment cannot be
478	used to facilitate offensive military actions in Cuba or the
479	company implements rigorous and verifiable safeguards to prevent
480	use of that equipment by forces actively participating in armed
481	conflict. Examples of safeguards include post-sale tracking of
482	such equipment by the company, certification from a reputable
483	and objective third party that such equipment is not being used
484	by a party participating in armed conflict in Cuba, or sale of
485	such equipment solely to any internationally recognized
486	peacekeeping force or humanitarian organization.
487	7. The company has business operations that involve
488	contracts with or provision of supplies or services to the
489	government of Syria, companies in which the government of Syria
490	has any direct or indirect equity share, consortiums or projects
491	commissioned by the government of Syria, or companies involved
492	in consortiums or projects commissioned by the government of
493	Syria and:
494	a. More than 10 percent of the company's total revenues or
495	assets are linked to Syria and involve oil-related activities,
496	and the company has failed to take substantial action; or
497	b. The company has, with actual knowledge, on or after
498	March 8, 1963, made an investment of \$20 million or more, or any
499	combination of investments of at least \$10 million each, which
500	in the aggregate equals or exceeds \$20 million in any 12-month
501	period, and which directly or significantly contributes to the
502	enhancement of Syria's ability to develop the petroleum
503	resources of Syria.
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Page 18 of 37

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504	8. The company supplies military equipment within Syria,
505	unless it clearly shows that the military equipment cannot be
506	used to facilitate offensive military actions in Syria or the
507	company implements rigorous and verifiable safeguards to prevent
508	use of that equipment by forces actively participating in armed
509	conflict. Examples of safeguards include post-sale tracking of
510	such equipment by the company, certification from a reputable
511	and objective third party that such equipment is not being used
512	by a party participating in armed conflict in Syria, or sale of
513	such equipment solely to any internationally recognized
514	peacekeeping force or humanitarian organization.
515	<u>(x)</u> "Social-development company" means a company whose
516	primary purpose in Sudan is to provide humanitarian goods or
517	services, including medicine or medical equipment; agricultural
518	supplies or infrastructure; educational opportunities;
519	journalism-related activities; information or information
520	materials; spiritual-related activities; services of a purely
521	clerical or reporting nature; food, clothing, or general
522	consumer goods that are unrelated to oil-related activities;
523	mineral-extraction activities; or power-production activities.
524	(y) "Substantial action specific to Cuba" means adopting,
525	publicizing, and implementing a formal plan to cease scrutinized
526	business operations within 1 year and to refrain from any such
527	new business operations.
528	<u>(z)</u> "Substantial action specific to Iran" means
529	adopting, publicizing, and implementing a formal plan to cease
530	scrutinized business operations within 1 year and to refrain
531	from any such new business operations.
ļ	Page 10 of 37

Page 19 of 37

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532 (aa) (w) "Substantial action specific to Sudan" means 533 adopting, publicizing, and implementing a formal plan to cease 534 scrutinized business operations within 1 year and to refrain 535 from any such new business operations; undertaking humanitarian 536 efforts in conjunction with an international organization, the 537 government of Sudan, the regional government of southern Sudan, 538 or a nonprofit entity evaluated and certified by an independent 539 third party to be substantially in a relationship to the 540 company's Sudan business operations and of benefit to one or 541 more marginalized populations of Sudan; or, through engagement 542 with the government of Sudan, materially improving conditions 543 for the genocidally victimized population in Darfur.

544 (bb) "Substantial action specific to Syria" means 545 adopting, publicizing, and implementing a formal plan to cease 546 scrutinized business operations within 1 year and to refrain 547 from any such new business operations.

(cc) "Syria" means the nation of Syria.

549

548

(2) IDENTIFICATION OF COMPANIES.-

(a) Within 90 days after the effective date of this act,
the public fund shall make its best efforts to identify all
scrutinized companies in which the public fund has direct or
indirect holdings or could possibly have such holdings in the
future. Such efforts include:

555 1. Reviewing and relying, as appropriate in the public 556 fund's judgment, on publicly available information regarding 557 companies having business operations in Sudan, including 558 information provided by nonprofit organizations, research firms, 559 international organizations, and government entities;

Page 20 of 37

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560 2. Contacting asset managers contracted by the public fund561 that invest in companies having business operations in Sudan; or

3. Contacting other institutional investors that have
divested from or engaged with companies that have business
operations in Sudan.

4. Reviewing the laws of the United States regarding the levels of business activity that would cause application of sanctions for companies conducting business or investing in countries that are designated state sponsors of terror.

By the first meeting of the public fund following the 569 (b) 90-day period described in paragraph (a), the public fund shall 570 571 assemble all scrutinized companies that fit criteria specified in subparagraphs (1)(w)1., 2., and 3. (1)(t)1., 2., and 3. into 572 573 a "Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List," and shall assemble all scrutinized companies that fit criteria 574 575 specified in subparagraph (1) (w) 4. (1)(t)4. into a "Scrutinized 576 Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector 577 List, -" shall assemble all scrutinized companies that fit criteria specified in subparagraphs (1)(w)5. and 6. into a 578 579 "Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Cuba List," and shall 580 assemble all scrutinized companies that fit criteria specified in subparagraphs (1)(w)7. and 8. into a "Scrutinized Companies 581 582 with Activities in Syria List."

(c) The public fund shall update and make publicly available quarterly the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List, and the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List, the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Cuba List, and the Scrutinized Companies with

Page 21 of 37

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588 <u>Activities in Syria List</u> based on evolving information from, 589 among other sources, those listed in paragraph (a).

(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of this act, a socialdevelopment company that is not complicit in the Darfur genocide is not considered a scrutinized company under subparagraph (1)(w)1. (1)(t)1., subparagraph (1)(w)2. (1)(t)2., or subparagraph (1)(w)3. (1)(t)3.

(3) REQUIRED ACTIONS.—The public fund shall adhere to the
following procedure for assembling companies on the Scrutinized
Companies with Activities in Sudan List, and the Scrutinized
Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector
List, the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Cuba List,
and the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Syria List:

601

(a) Engagement.-

1. The public fund shall immediately determine the companies on the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List, and the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List, the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Cuba List, and the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Syria List in which the public fund owns direct or indirect holdings.

609 2. For each company identified in this paragraph that has 610 only inactive business operations, the public fund shall send a 611 written notice informing the company of this act and encouraging 612 it to continue to refrain from initiating active business 613 operations in Sudan, or Iran, <u>Cuba</u>, <u>or Syria</u> until it is able to 614 avoid scrutinized business operations. The public fund shall 615 continue such correspondence semiannually.

Page 22 of 37

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616 For each company newly identified under this paragraph 3. 617 that has active business operations, the public fund shall send a written notice informing the company of its scrutinized 618 619 company status and that it may become subject to divestment by 620 the public fund. The notice must inform the company of the 621 opportunity to clarify its Sudan-related, or Iran-related, Cuba-622 related, or Syria-related activities and encourage the company, 623 within 90 days, to cease its scrutinized business operations or 624 convert such operations to inactive business operations in order to avoid qualifying for divestment by the public fund. 625 If, within 90 days after the public fund's first 626 4. 627 engagement with a company pursuant to this paragraph, that company ceases scrutinized business operations, the company 628 629 shall be removed from the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List, and the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in 630 631 the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List, the Scrutinized Companies 632 with Activities in Cuba List, and the Scrutinized Companies with 633 Activities in Syria List, and the provisions of this act shall 634 cease to apply to that company unless that company resumes 635 scrutinized business operations. If, within 90 days after the 636 public fund's first engagement, the company converts its 637 scrutinized active business operations to inactive business 638 operations, the company is subject to all provisions relating to 639 inactive business operations. A company may be removed from one list but remain on the other list, in which case the company 640 shall be subject to the provisions applicable to the list on 641 642 which the company remains.

643 (b) Divestment.-

Page 23 of 37

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hb0959-00

644 If, after 90 days following the public fund's first 1. 645 engagement with a company pursuant to paragraph (a), the company 646 continues to have scrutinized active business operations, and 647 only while such company continues to have scrutinized active 648 business operations, the public fund shall sell, redeem, divest, or withdraw all publicly traded securities of the company, 649 650 except as provided in paragraph (d), from the public fund's 651 assets under management within 12 months after the company's 652 most recent appearance on the Scrutinized Companies with 653 Activities in Sudan List, or on the Scrutinized Companies with 654 Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List, the 655 Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Cuba List, or the 656 Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Syria List.

If a company that ceased scrutinized active business 657 2. 658 operations following engagement pursuant to paragraph (a) 659 resumes such operations, this paragraph immediately applies, and 660 the public fund shall send a written notice to the company. The 661 company shall also be immediately reintroduced onto the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List, or on the 662 663 Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum 664 Energy Sector List, the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in 665 Cuba List, or the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Syria 666 List, as applicable.

(c) Prohibition.-The public fund may not acquire
securities of companies on the Scrutinized Companies with
Activities in Sudan List, or the Scrutinized Companies with
Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List, the
Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Cuba List, or the

Page 24 of 37

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672 <u>Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Syria List</u> that have 673 active business operations, except as provided in paragraph (d).

(d) Exemption.-A company that the United States Government
affirmatively declares to be excluded from its present or any
future federal sanctions regime relating to Sudan, or Iran,
<u>Cuba, or Syria</u> is not subject to divestment or the investment
prohibition pursuant to paragraphs (b) and (c).

679 Excluded securities .- Notwithstanding the provisions of (e) 680 this act, paragraphs (b) and (c) do not apply to indirect 681 holdings in actively managed investment funds. However, the 682 public fund shall submit letters to the managers of such 683 investment funds containing companies that have scrutinized active business operations requesting that they consider 684 685 removing such companies from the fund or create a similar 686 actively managed fund having indirect holdings devoid of such 687 companies. If the manager creates a similar fund, the public 688 fund shall replace all applicable investments with investments 689 in the similar fund in an expedited timeframe consistent with 690 prudent investing standards. For the purposes of this section, a 691 private equity fund is deemed to be an actively managed 692 investment fund.

(f) Further exclusions.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this act, the public fund, when discharging its responsibility for operation of a defined contribution plan, shall engage the manager of the investment offerings in such plans requesting that they consider removing scrutinized companies from the investment offerings or create an alternative investment offering devoid of scrutinized companies. If the

Page 25 of 37

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hb0959-00

700 manager creates an alternative investment offering and the 701 offering is deemed by the public fund to be consistent with 702 prudent investor standards, the public fund shall consider 703 including such investment offering in the plan.

704

(4) REPORTING.-

705 The public fund shall file a report with each member (a) 706 of the Board of Trustees of the State Board of Administration, 707 the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of 708 Representatives that includes the Scrutinized Companies with 709 Activities in Sudan List, and the Scrutinized Companies with 710 Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List, the 711 Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Cuba List, and the 712 Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Syria List within 30 713 days after the list is created. This report shall be made 714 available to the public.

715 (b) At each quarterly meeting of the Board of Trustees 716 thereafter, the public fund shall file a report, which shall be 717 made available to the public and to each member of the Board of 718 Trustees of the State Board of Administration, the President of 719 the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and 720 send a copy of that report to the United States Presidential 721 Special Envoy to Sudan, and the United States Presidential 722 Special Envoy to Iran, the United States Presidential Special 723 Envoy to Cuba, and the United States Presidential Special Envoy 724 to Syria, or an appropriate designee or successor, which 725 includes:

726 1. A summary of correspondence with companies engaged by727 the public fund under subparagraphs (3) (a) 2. and 3.;

Page 26 of 37

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728 2. All investments sold, redeemed, divested, or withdrawn729 in compliance with paragraph (3) (b);

730

3. All prohibited investments under paragraph (3)(c);

731

4. Any progress made under paragraph (3)(e); and

732 5. A list of all publicly traded securities held directly

733 by this state.

(5) EXPIRATION.—This act expires upon the occurrence ofall of the following:

736 If any of the following occur, the public fund shall (a) 737 no longer scrutinize companies according to subparagraphs (1) (w) 1., 2., and 3. (1) (t) 1., 2., and 3. and shall no longer 738 739 assemble the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan 740 List, shall cease engagement and divestment of such companies, 741 and may reinvest in such companies as long as such companies do not satisfy the criteria for inclusion in the Scrutinized 742 743 Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector 744 List, the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Cuba List, or 745 the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Syria List:

746 1. The Congress or President of the United States, 747 affirmatively and unambiguously states, by means including, but 748 not limited to, legislation, executive order, or written 749 certification from the President to Congress, that the Darfur 750 genocide has been halted for at least 12 months;

751 2. The United States revokes all sanctions imposed against752 the government of Sudan;

3. The Congress or President of the United States
affirmatively and unambiguously states, by means including, but
not limited to, legislation, executive order, or written

Page 27 of 37

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756 certification from the President to Congress, that the 757 government of Sudan has honored its commitments to cease attacks 758 on civilians, demobilize and demilitarize the Janjaweed and 759 associated militias, grant free and unfettered access for 760 deliveries of humanitarian assistance, and allow for the safe 761 and voluntary return of refugees and internally displaced 762 persons; or

4. The Congress or President of the United States
affirmatively and unambiguously states, by means including, but
not limited to, legislation, executive order, or written
certification from the President to Congress, that mandatory
divestment of the type provided for in this act interferes with
the conduct of United States foreign policy.

769 (b) If any of the following occur, the public fund shall 770 no longer scrutinize companies according to subparagraph 771 (1) (w) 4. (1) (t) 4. and shall no longer assemble the Scrutinized 772 Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector 773 List and shall cease engagement, investment prohibitions, and 774 divestment. The public fund may reinvest in such companies as 775 long as such companies do not satisfy the criteria for inclusion 776 in the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List, the 777 Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Cuba List, or the 778 Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Syria List:

1. The Congress or President of the United States affirmatively and unambiguously states, by means including, but not limited to, legislation, executive order, or written certification from the President to Congress, that the government of Iran has ceased to acquire weapons of mass

Page 28 of 37

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hb0959-00

destruction and support international terrorism; 784 785 2. The United States revokes all sanctions imposed against 786 the government of Iran; or The Congress or President of the United States 787 3. 788 affirmatively and unambiguously declares, by means including, 789 but not limited to, legislation, executive order, or written certification from the President to Congress, that mandatory 790 791 divestment of the type provided for in this act interferes with 792 the conduct of United States foreign policy. 793 (c) If any of the following occur, the public fund shall 794 no longer scrutinize companies according to subparagraphs 795 (1) (w) 5. and 6. and shall no longer assemble the Scrutinized 796 Companies with Activities in Cuba List and shall cease 797 engagement, investment prohibitions, and divestment. The public 798 fund may reinvest in such companies as long as such companies do 799 not satisfy the criteria for inclusion in the Scrutinized 800 Companies with Activities in Sudan List, the Scrutinized 801 Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector 802 List, or the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Syria 803 List: 804 1. The Congress or President of the United States 805 affirmatively and unambiguously states, by means including, but 806 not limited to, legislation, executive order, or written 807 certification from the President to Congress, that the 808 government of Cuba has ceased to acquire weapons of mass 809 destruction and support international terrorism; 810 2. The United States revokes all sanctions imposed against 811 the government of Cuba; or

Page 29 of 37

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812	3. The Congress or President of the United States
813	affirmatively and unambiguously declares, by means including,
814	but not limited to, legislation, executive order, or written
815	certification from the President to Congress, that mandatory
816	divestment of the type provided for in this act interferes with
817	the conduct of United States foreign policy.
818	(d) If any of the following occur, the public fund shall
819	no longer scrutinize companies according to subparagraphs
820	(1) (w)7. and 8. and shall no longer assemble the Scrutinized
821	Companies with Activities in Syria List and shall cease
822	engagement, investment prohibitions, and divestment. The public
823	fund may reinvest in such companies as long as such companies do
824	not satisfy the criteria for inclusion in the Scrutinized
825	Companies with Activities in Sudan List, the Scrutinized
826	Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector
827	List, or the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Cuba List:
828	1. The Congress or President of the United States
829	affirmatively and unambiguously states, by means including, but
830	not limited to, legislation, executive order, or written
831	certification from the President to Congress, that the
832	government of Cuba has ceased to acquire weapons of mass
833	destruction and support international terrorism;
834	2. The United States revokes all sanctions imposed against
835	the government of Syria; or
836	3. The Congress or President of the United States
837	affirmatively and unambiguously declares, by means including,
838	but not limited to, legislation, executive order, or written
839	certification from the President to Congress, that mandatory
I	Page 30 of 37

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840 <u>divestment of the type provided for in this act interferes with</u> 841 the conduct of United States foreign policy.

(6) INVESTMENT POLICY STATEMENT OBLIGATIONS.—The public
fund's actions taken in compliance with this act, including all
good faith determinations regarding companies as required by
this act, shall be adopted and incorporated into the public
fund's investment policy statement (the IPS) as set forth in s.
215.475.

REINVESTMENT IN CERTAIN COMPANIES HAVING SCRUTINIZED 848 (7) 849 ACTIVE BUSINESS OPERATIONS.-Notwithstanding any other provision 850 of this act to the contrary, the public fund may cease divesting 851 from certain scrutinized companies pursuant to paragraph (3) (b) 852 or reinvest in certain scrutinized companies from which it 853 divested pursuant to paragraph (3) (b) if clear and convincing 854 evidence shows that the value of all assets under management by 855 the public fund becomes equal to or less than 99.50 percent, or 856 50 basis points, of the hypothetical value of all assets under 857 management by the public fund assuming no divestment for any 858 company had occurred under paragraph (3) (b). Cessation of 859 divestment, reinvestment, or any subsequent ongoing investment 860 authorized by this act is limited to the minimum steps necessary 861 to avoid the contingency set forth in this subsection or that no 862 divestment of any company is required for less than fair value. For any cessation of divestment, reinvestment, or subsequent 863 ongoing investment authorized by this act, the public fund shall 864 865 provide a written report to each member of the Board of Trustees 866 of the State Board of Administration, the President of the 867 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives in

Page 31 of 37

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advance of initial reinvestment, updated semiannually thereafter as applicable, setting forth the reasons and justification, supported by clear and convincing evidence, for its decisions to cease divestment, reinvest, or remain invested in companies having scrutinized active business operations. This act does not apply to reinvestment in companies on the grounds that they have ceased to have scrutinized active business operations.

875 Section 2. Section 287.135, Florida Statutes, is amended 876 to read:

877 287.135 Prohibition against contracting with scrutinized878 companies.-

879 (1) In addition to the terms defined in ss. 287.012 and880 215.473, as used in this section, the term:

(a) "Awarding body" means, for purposes of state
contracts, an agency or the department, and for purposes of
local contracts, the governing body of the local governmental
entity.

(b) "Local governmental entity" means a county,
municipality, special district, or other political subdivision
of the state.

A company that, at the time of bidding or submitting a 888 (2) proposal for a new contract or renewal of an existing contract, 889 890 is on the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List, 891 or the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran 892 Petroleum Energy Sector List, the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Cuba List, or the Scrutinized Companies with 893 894 Activities in Syria List, created pursuant to s. 215.473, is 895 ineligible for, and may not bid on, submit a proposal for, or

Page 32 of 37

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hb0959-00

896 enter into or renew a contract with an agency or local 897 governmental entity for goods or services of \$1 million or more. 898 (3) (a) Any contract with an agency or local governmental 899 entity for goods or services of \$1 million or more entered into 900 or renewed on or after July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2012, must 901 contain a provision that allows for the termination of such 902 contract at the option of the awarding body if the company is 903 found to have submitted a false certification as provided under 904 subsection (5) or been placed on the Scrutinized Companies with 905 Activities in Sudan List or the Scrutinized Companies with 906 Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List. 907 (b) Any contract with an agency or local governmental 908 entity for goods or services of \$1 million or more entered into 909 or renewed on or after July 1, 2012, must contain a provision 910 that allows for the termination of such contract at the option 911 of the awarding body if the company is found to have submitted a 912 false certification as provided under subsection (5) or been 913 placed on the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan 914 List, the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List, the Scrutinized Companies with 915 916 Activities in Cuba List, or the Scrutinized Companies with 917 Activities in Syria List. 918 Notwithstanding subsection (2) or subsection (3), an (4) 919 agency or local governmental entity, on a case-by-case basis, 920 may permit a company on the Scrutinized Companies with 921 Activities in Sudan List, or the Scrutinized Companies with 922 Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List, the 923 Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Cuba List, or the Page 33 of 37

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hb0959-00

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924	Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Syria List to be
925	eligible for, bid on, submit a proposal for, or enter into or
926	renew a contract for goods or services of \$1 million or more
927	under either of the following conditions <u>set forth in paragraph</u>
928	(a) or the conditions set forth in paragraph (b):
929	(a) 1. With respect to a company on the Scrutinized
930	Companies with Activities in Sudan List or the Scrutinized
931	Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector
932	List, all of the following occur:
933	a.1. The scrutinized business operations were made before
934	July 1, 2011.
935	b.2. The scrutinized business operations have not been
936	expanded or renewed after July 1, 2011.
937	c.3. The agency or local governmental entity determines
938	that it is in the best interest of the state or local community
939	to contract with the company.
940	d.4. The company has adopted, has publicized, and is
941	implementing a formal plan to cease scrutinized business
942	operations and to refrain from engaging in any new scrutinized
943	business operations.
944	2. With respect to a company on the Scrutinized Companies
945	with Activities in Cuba List or the Scrutinized Companies with
946	Activities in Syria List, all of the following occur:
947	a. The scrutinized business operations were made before
948	July 1, 2012.
949	b. The scrutinized business operations have not been
950	expanded or renewed after July 1, 2012.
951	c. The agency or local governmental entity determines that
Į	Page 34 of 37

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952 <u>it is in the best interest of the state or local community to</u> 953 contract with the company.

954 <u>d. The company has adopted, has publicized, and is</u>
 955 <u>implementing a formal plan to cease scrutinized business</u>
 956 <u>operations and to refrain from engaging in any new scrutinized</u>
 957 business operations.

958

(b) One of the following occurs:

959 1. The local governmental entity makes a public finding 960 that, absent such an exemption, the local governmental entity 961 would be unable to obtain the goods or services for which the 962 contract is offered.

963 2. For a contract with an executive agency, the Governor 964 makes a public finding that, absent such an exemption, the 965 agency would be unable to obtain the goods or services for which 966 the contract is offered.

967 3. For a contract with an office of a state constitutional 968 officer other than the Governor, the state constitutional 969 officer makes a public finding that, absent such an exemption, 970 the office would be unable to obtain the goods or services for 971 which the contract is offered.

972 At the time a company submits a bid or proposal for a (5) 973 contract or before the company enters into or renews a contract 974 with an agency or governmental entity for goods or services of 975 \$1 million or more, the company must certify that the company is not on the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List, 976 or the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran 977 978 Petroleum Energy Sector List, the Scrutinized Companies with 979 Activities in Cuba List, or the Scrutinized Companies with

Page 35 of 37

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980 Activities in Syria List.

981 If, after the agency or the local governmental entity (a) 982 determines, using credible information available to the public, 983 that the company has submitted a false certification, the agency 984 or local governmental entity shall provide the company with 985 written notice of its determination. The company shall have 90 986 days following receipt of the notice to respond in writing and 987 to demonstrate that the determination of false certification was 988 made in error. If the company does not make such demonstration within 90 days after receipt of the notice, the agency or the 989 990 local governmental entity shall bring a civil action against the 991 company. If a civil action is brought and the court determines 992 that the company submitted a false certification, the company 993 shall pay the penalty described in subparagraph 1. and all 994 reasonable attorney attorney's fees and costs, including any 995 costs for investigations that led to the finding of false 996 certification.

997 1. A civil penalty equal to the greater of \$2 million or
998 twice the amount of the contract for which the false
999 certification was submitted shall be imposed.

1000 2. The company is ineligible to bid on any contract with 1001 an agency or local governmental entity for 3 years after the 1002 date the agency or local governmental entity determined that the 1003 company submitted a false certification.

(b) A civil action to collect the penalties described in paragraph (a) must commence within 3 years after the date the false certification is submitted.

1007

(6) Only the agency or local governmental entity that is a Page 36 of 37

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hb0959-00

party to the contract may cause a civil action to be brought under this section. This section does not create or authorize a private right of action or enforcement of the penalties provided in this section. An unsuccessful bidder, or any other person other than the agency or local governmental entity, may not protest the award of a contract or contract renewal on the basis of a false certification.

1015 (7) This section preempts any ordinance or rule of any 1016 agency or local governmental entity involving public contracts 1017 for goods or services of \$1 million or more with a company 1018 engaged in scrutinized business operations.

1019 (8) The department shall submit to the Attorney General of 1020 the United States a written notice:

1021 <u>(a)</u> Describing this section within 30 days after July 1, 1022 2011.

(b) Within 30 days after July 1, 2012, apprising the
Attorney General of the United States of the inclusion of
companies on the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Cuba
List and the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Syria List
within the provisions of this section.

1028 (9) This section becomes inoperative on the date that 1029 federal law ceases to authorize the states to adopt and enforce 1030 the contracting prohibitions of the type provided for in this 1031 section.

1032

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.

Page 37 of 37

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