

SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based only on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

BILL: SB 2200

SPONSOR: Senator Laurent

SUBJECT: Elections; soliciting candidate pledges

DATE: March 16, 1999 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Fox</u>	<u>Bradshaw</u>	<u>EE</u>	<u>Favorable</u>
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____

I. Summary:

Senate Bill 2200 prohibits a state agency, defined broadly, from soliciting any pledge, or authorizing/conducting any poll or survey, for the purpose of evaluating candidates for public office. The bill specifically excludes polls or surveys conducted by institutes of higher learning for research purposes.

This bill substantially amends section 106.17, Florida Statutes.

II. Present Situation:

There is currently no prohibition against a state agency soliciting candidate pledges on issues or conducting a poll to evaluate a candidate for public office.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The bill provides that a state agency may not solicit any pledge or authorize or conduct any political poll, survey, index, or measurement of any kind for the purpose of evaluating or rating any candidate for public office. The bill defines "state agency" for the purposes of this act as any: official or officer in his or her official capacity, commission, authority, council, committee, department, division, bureau, board, section, or other unit or entity of the executive branch of state government that receives the majority of its funding from the state. The bill specifically exempts polls or surveys conducted by institutions of higher learning for research purposes.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Amendments:

None.