By Senator Garcia

39-691-01

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1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to discriminatory practices; 3 prohibiting certain business establishments from publishing a statement that certain 4 5 privileges are denied to any individual on the 6 basis of specified factors; expanding the list 7 of factors that may not be the basis for 8 discrimination to include an individual's 9 recreational clothing and mode of 10 transportation; providing an effective date. 11 12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 13 Section 1. Section 760.60, Florida Statutes, is 14 15 amended to read: 760.60 Discriminatory practices of certain clubs or 16 17 business establishments prohibited; remedies .--18 It is unlawful for a person to discriminate (1)against any individual because of race, color, religion, 19 20 gender, national origin, handicap, age above the age of 21, or 21 marital status in evaluating an application for membership in 22 a club that has more than 400 members, that provides regular 23 meal service, and that regularly receives payment for dues, 24 fees, use of space, facilities, services, meals, or beverages directly or indirectly from nonmembers for business purposes. 25 26 It is unlawful for a person, on behalf of such a club or on behalf of a business establishment serving the public, to 27 publish, circulate, issue, display, post, or mail any 28 29 advertisement, notice, or solicitation that contains a

statement to the effect that the accommodations, advantages,

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30 31 are denied to any individual because of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, handicap, age above the age of 21, recreational clothing, mode of transportation, or marital status. This subsection does not apply to fraternal or benevolent organizations, ethnic clubs, or religious organizations where business activity is not prevalent.

- (2) A person who has been discriminated against in violation of this act may file a complaint with the Commission on Human Relations or with the Attorney General's Office of Civil Rights. A complaint must be in writing and must contain such information and be in such form as the commission requires. Upon receipt of a complaint, the commission or the Attorney General shall provide a copy to the person who represents the club or business. Within 30 days after receiving a complaint, the commission or the Attorney General shall investigate the alleged discrimination and give notice in writing to the person who filed the complaint if it intends to resolve the complaint. If the commission or the Attorney General decides to resolve the complaint, it shall attempt to eliminate or correct the alleged discriminatory practices of a club or business by informal methods of conference, conciliation, and persuasion.
- (3) If the commission or the Attorney General fails, within 30 days after receiving a complaint filed pursuant to subsection (2), to give notice of its intent to eliminate or correct the alleged discriminatory practices of a club or business, or if the commission or the Attorney General fails to resolve the complaint within 30 days after giving such notice, the person or the Attorney General on behalf of the person filing the complaint may commence a civil action in a court against the club or business, its officers, its owners,

or its members to enforce this section. If the court finds that a discriminatory practice occurs at the club or business, the court may enjoin the club, its officers, its owners, or its members from engaging in such practice or may order other appropriate action. Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001. \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* SENATE SUMMARY Prohibits certain business establishments, as well as certain clubs, from publishing a statement that certain privileges are denied to any individual on the basis of specified factors. Expands the list of factors that may not be used as the basis for discriminating to include an individual's recreational clothing and mode of transportation.