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1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to the Florida Council on Poverty;
3	establishing the council within the Department of
4	Economic Opportunity; specifying the membership of the
5	council and the duration of members' terms; providing
6	for organization of the council; authorizing
7	reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses;
8	prescribing the scope of the council's activities;
9	requiring the council to annually submit a report to
10	the Governor and Legislature; providing an effective
11	date.
12	
13	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
14	
15	Section 1. Florida Council on Poverty
16	(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COUNCILThe Florida Council on
17	Poverty is established and assigned to the Department of
18	Economic Opportunity as an advisory council, as defined in s.
19	20.03, Florida Statutes. The council shall be administratively
20	housed within the Department of Economic Opportunity.
21	(2) COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP
22	(a) The council shall consist of five members who shall be
23	residents of this state. The members shall be appointed as
24	follows:
25	1. The Governor shall appoint two members, one of whom
26	must be from the Florida Association for Community Action, Inc.
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27	2. The Chief Financial Officer shall appoint one member.
28	3. The President of the Senate shall appoint one member.
29	4. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall
30	appoint one member.
31	(b) Members of the council shall serve 4-year terms. For
32	purposes of ensuring staggered terms, the council members
33	appointed by the Governor and the Chief Financial Officer shall
34	be appointed to 4-year terms beginning on January 1 of the year
35	of appointment, and the council members appointed by the
36	President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
37	Representatives shall be appointed to 2-year terms beginning on
38	January 1 of the year of appointment. After the initial
39	appointments, all appointees shall be appointed to 4-year terms.
40	(c) A vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of the
41	unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointment.
42	(3) MEETINGS; ORGANIZATION
43	(a) The first meeting of the council shall be held no
44	later than August 1, 2016. Thereafter, the council shall meet at
45	least twice each year. Meetings may be held via teleconference
46	or other electronic means.
47	(b) Members of the council shall annually elect from its
48	membership a chair and vice chair. The council shall meet at the
49	call of the chair or at such times as may be prescribed by the
50	council.
51	(c) Three members of the council constitute a quorum, and
52	a meeting may not be held unless a quorum is present. The
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53	affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the council
54	present is necessary for any official action by the council.
55	(d) Members of the council shall serve without
56	compensation but may be reimbursed for per diem and travel
57	expenses in accordance with s. 112.061, Florida Statutes.
58	(4) SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES-The council shall:
59	(a) Conduct a review of policies and programs that work to
60	move people out of poverty.
61	(b) Develop strategies to address the causes of poverty in
62	the state.
63	(c) Develop recommendations to reduce the percentage of
64	people living in poverty in the state.
65	(d) Study the academic outcomes for children in poverty
66	and develop recommendations on how to improve such outcomes.
67	(5) REPORT.—By January 15 of each year, beginning in 2018,
68	the council shall submit an annual report to the Governor, the
69	President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
70	Representatives containing an accounting of its activities and
71	recommendations for legislative, administrative, and regulatory
72	reforms to facilitate efforts in mitigating the existence of
73	poverty in this state.
74	Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.

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