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594-04140-16

Proposed Committee Substitute by the Committee on Fiscal Policy  
(Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and  
Economic Development)

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the Florida Council on Poverty;  
establishing the council within the Department of  
Economic Opportunity; specifying the membership of the  
council; providing for organization of the council;  
authorizing reimbursement for per diem and travel  
expenses; prescribing the scope of the council's  
activities; requiring the council to annually submit a  
report to the Governor and Legislature; requiring the  
council's abolition by a specific date; providing an  
effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Florida Council on Poverty.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COUNCIL.—The Florida Council on  
Poverty is established and assigned to the Department of  
Economic Opportunity as an advisory council, as defined in s.  
20.03, Florida Statutes. The council shall be administratively  
housed within the Department of Economic Opportunity.

(2) COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP.—The council shall consist of five  
members who shall be residents of this state. The members shall  
be appointed as follows:

(a) The Governor shall appoint one member who must be from  
the Florida Association for Community Action, Inc.

(b) The Chief Financial Officer shall appoint one member.



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27 (c) The Commissioner of Agriculture shall appoint one  
28 member.

29 (d) The President of the Senate shall appoint one member.

30 (e) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall  
31 appoint one member.

32 (3) MEETINGS; ORGANIZATION.—

33 (a) The first meeting of the council shall be held no later  
34 than August 1, 2016. Thereafter, the council shall meet at least  
35 twice each year. Meetings may be held via teleconference or  
36 other electronic means.

37 (b) Members of the council shall annually elect from its  
38 membership a chair and vice chair. The council shall meet at the  
39 call of the chair or at such times as may be prescribed by the  
40 council.

41 (c) Three members of the council constitute a quorum, and a  
42 meeting may not be held unless a quorum is present. The  
43 affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the council  
44 present is necessary for any official action by the council.

45 (d) Members of the council shall serve without compensation  
46 but may be reimbursed for per diem and travel expenses in  
47 accordance with s. 112.061, Florida Statutes.

48 (4) SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES.—The council shall:

49 (a) Conduct a review of policies and programs that work to  
50 move people out of poverty.

51 (b) Develop strategies to address the causes of poverty in  
52 the state.

53 (c) Develop recommendations to reduce the percentage of  
54 people living in poverty in the state.

55 (d) Study the academic outcomes for children in poverty and



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56 develop recommendations on how to improve such outcomes.

57 (5) REPORT.—By January 15 of each year, beginning in 2018,  
58 the council shall submit an annual report to the Governor, the  
59 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of  
60 Representatives containing an accounting of its activities and  
61 recommendations for legislative, administrative, and regulatory  
62 reforms to facilitate efforts in mitigating the existence of  
63 poverty in this state.

64 (6) TERMINATION.—The Florida Council on Poverty shall be  
65 abolished on July 1, 2019.

66 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.