

1 State of Arkansas
2 91st General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2017
4

As Engrossed: S2/1/17 H3/29/17

A Bill

SENATE BILL 237

5 By: Senator Elliott
6 By: Representative Tucker
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT *CONCERNING* THE PREPARATION OF A RACIAL IMPACT
10 STATEMENT FOR CERTAIN BILLS FILED WITH THE SENATE AND
11 *THE HOUSE* OF REPRESENTATIVES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

15 *CONCERNING THE PREPARATION OF A RACIAL*
16 *IMPACT STATEMENT FOR CERTAIN BILLS FILED*
17 *WITH THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF*
18 *REPRESENTATIVES.*
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21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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23 *SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 10, Chapter 2, Subchapter 1, is amended*
24 *to add an additional section to read as follows:*

25 *10-2-133. Racial impact statement.*

26 *(a)(1) A racial impact statement may be prepared as provided in this*
27 *section for any bill filed in the Senate or the House of Representatives that*
28 *will:*

29 *(A) Create a new misdemeanor or felony offense;*

30 *(B) Substantively change an element of an existing*
31 *misdemeanor or felony offense;*

32 *(C) Change the penalty for an existing misdemeanor or*
33 *felony offense; or*

34 *(D) Change existing sentencing, parole, or probation*
35 *procedures.*

36 *(2) A racial impact statement may be:*



1 (A) Filed with the chair of a committee of the Senate or
2 the House of Representatives considering a bill under subdivision (a)(1) of
3 this section; and

4 (B) Shared with the members of a committee of the Senate
5 or House of the Representatives considering a bill under subdivision (a)(1)
6 of this section when the bill is considered.

7 (b)(1)(A) The Office of Economic and Tax Policy, with the assistance
8 of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock William H. Bowen School of Law
9 and with the faculty and students of the Arkansas Policy Program of Hendrix
10 College, shall prepare a racial impact statement under this section.

11 (B) The Arkansas Sentencing Commission, the Department of
12 Correction, the Department of Community Correction, the Administrative Office
13 of the Courts, and the Arkansas Crime Information Center shall cooperate
14 fully with the Office of Economic and Tax Policy, the University of Arkansas
15 at Little Rock William H. Bowen School of Law, and the faculty and students
16 of the Arkansas Policy Program of Hendrix College by providing data possessed
17 by those agencies that is requested to complete the racial impact statement
18 under this section.

19 (2) The racial impact statement shall include without
20 limitation:

21 (A) The estimated number of criminal cases per year that
22 the bill will affect;

23 (B) The impact of the bill on a minority group as defined
24 in § 1-2-503;

25 (C) The impact of the bill upon correctional facilities
26 and services; and

27 (D) Other matters deemed relevant to the bill at issue.

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29 /s/Elliott
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