

1. 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39  
SLC Committee

LR 58  
L Caswell

1 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

2 Sec. 1. 2 MRSA c. 7 is enacted to read:

3 CHAPTER 7

4 RACIAL IMPACT STATEMENTS

5 §201. Information regarding racial impact statements

6 1. Definitions. As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the  
7 following terms have the following meanings:

8 A. "Legislative committee" means a joint standing committee of the Legislature, a  
9 joint select committee of the Legislature, a task force, commission or council or any  
10 other committee established by the Legislature and composed wholly or partly of  
11 Legislators for the purpose of conducting legislative business.

12 B. "Racial impact statement" means an assessment of the potential impact that  
13 legislation could have on historically disadvantaged racial populations.

14 C. "State agency" means a state department, agency, office, board or commission or a  
15 quasi-independent agency, board, commission, authority or institution.

16 2. Racial impact statement information. Upon the request of a legislative  
17 committee, a commissioner or director of a state agency or the commissioner's or director's  
18 designee shall provide to that legislative committee data, analysis and other information  
19 necessary to prepare a racial impact statement for legislation before that legislative  
20 committee or legislation being prepared by that legislative committee. The racial impact  
21 statement information must be provided in a timely manner.

22 Sec. 2. Implementation of racial impact statement process pilot project.  
23 The Legislative Council or its delegate shall perform a study to determine the best method  
24 to establish and implement a system of using racial impact statements for legislation. For  
25 purposes of this section, "racial impact statement" means an assessment of the potential  
26 impact that legislation could have on historically disadvantaged racial populations.

27 1. Study. In making the determination required by this section, the Legislative Council  
28 shall study and consider:

29 A. What has been done in other states to accomplish the development and use of racial  
30 impact statements;

31 B. What data, analysis or other information is needed to produce a racial impact  
32 statement and what the best source of that data, analysis or other information is, such  
33 as, but not limited to, an executive branch department or agency;

34 C. Specific policy areas that would benefit from the use of racial impact statements,  
35 including, but not limited to, education; health care; employment, including wages;  
36 housing, including home ownership; and criminal justice and public safety;

37 D. The costs of implementing the use of racial impact statements, either on a limited  
38 basis, such as for certain committees, policy areas or instruments, such as committee  
39 or floor amendments, or for all joint standing committees and all legislation; and

for the legislature

within the agency's possession

1 This bill also requires the Legislative Council to conduct a study to determine the best  
2 method to establish and implement a system of using racial impact statements for  
3 legislation. Based on its findings, the Legislative Council is directed to establish a limited  
4 pilot project for the use of racial impact statements for the Second Regular Session of the  
5 130th Legislature. A joint standing committee that participates in the pilot project is  
6 required to report to the Legislative Council regarding the use of racial impact statements  
7 and, based on that report, the Legislative Council is required to make a recommendation  
8 for the use of racial impact statements in the 131st Legislature.

### Summary

This amendment clarifies that state agencies need to provide information, data and analysis in its possession. This amendment limits the request for data, analysis and other information to that necessary for the legislature to prepare a racial impact statement.