

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



PA 25-27—sSB 1506

Judiciary Committee

AN ACT CONCERNING RACIAL AND ETHNIC IMPACT STATEMENTS

SUMMARY: This act prescribes a new procedure to set the process for legislators to request a racial and ethnic impact statement (REIS) on certain bills and amendments.

Prior law allowed the Government Administration and Elections Committee to make recommendations for a provision in the Joint Rules on the procedure for preparing the statements, their content, and the types of bills and amendments for which they should be prepared.

The act instead requires the legislative Commission on Racial Equity in Public Health to develop the procedures for (1) legislators to make a request and (2) the commission to prepare a REIS. The commission must send a letter with the procedures to the House speaker, Senate president pro tempore, and the House and Senate majority and minority leaders asking for their inclusion in the Joint Rules. The act's new processes and requirements apply beginning with the 2027 legislative session. (The Joint Rules for the 2025-2026 legislative term do not include a provision on these statements. By resetting the date by which they may begin to be requested, the act precludes the legislature from amending the rules to include a process for them that would apply to the 2026 legislative session.)

By law, any legislator may request these statements. For bills favorably reported during the regular session, the request must be made within 10 days after the originating committee's reporting deadline. For amendments, the act decreases the request window by requiring requests to be made at least 15 days before the end of session, instead of at least 10 days before as under prior law.

The act (1) allows the commission to ask any public or quasi-public agency for records or information so it can prepare a REIS and (2) requires the agencies to comply within certain deadlines.

Under the act, an agency that receives this request must submit the records or information within the next five days and in the manner the commission asks. But the act requires the commission to give an agency a reasonable extension to fulfill the request if the agency, within two days after receiving the request, explains why it needs more time to comply. It allows the commission to copy any records or information it obtains so that it can prepare a REIS.

Lastly, the act requires any prepared REIS to be posted on the General Assembly's website.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2025