STATE OF OKLAHOMA
1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)

SENATE BILL 253
By: Young

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to legislation; requiring preparation of racial impact statement for certain legislation; specifying procedures for filing racial impact statement; directing certain agencies to prepare racial impact statements; specifying contents of statements; requiring filing of racial impact statement before a bill may receive a floor hearing; defining term; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 456.2a of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. 1. A racial impact statement shall be prepared as provided in this section for any bill filed in the Senate or House of Representatives that will:
   a. create a new offense,
   b. significantly change an existing offense,
   c. change the penalty for an existing offense, or
   d. change existing sentencing, parole, or probation procedures.
2. A racial impact statement shall be prepared and filed with the chair of the committee to which the bill is referred before the bill is heard in the committee during a regular or special session of the Legislature.

3. If a bill requiring a racial impact statement is amended, a revised racial impact statement shall be prepared for the bill as amended.

B. 1. Except as provided in paragraph 2 of this subsection, the Oklahoma Statistical Analysis Center at the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation, with the assistance of the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, shall prepare the racial impact statement required by this section.

2. The Oklahoma Statistical Analysis Center at the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation, with the assistance of the Oklahoma Office of Juvenile Affairs, shall prepare a racial impact statement for a bill pursuant to subsection A of this section that has an impact on minors.

3. The racial impact statement shall include without limitation:

   a. the estimated number of criminal cases per year that the bill will affect,

   b. the impact of the bill on a minority, as defined in subsection E of this section,
c. the impact of the bill upon correctional facilities and services, and
d. other matters deemed relevant to the bill at issue.

C. 1. If a racial impact statement indicates a disparate impact on a minority, as defined in subsection E of this section, the sponsor of the bill shall consider whether the bill may be amended to achieve its purpose with a lessened impact on minorities.

2. If a bill is amended to lessen its impact on minorities the sponsor of the bill shall identify in writing, in the bill and the racial impact statement, the methodology used to lessen the impact on minorities in the amended proposal.

3. If the sponsor of the bill elects not to amend the bill or if the racial impact statement for an amended bill continues to indicate a disparate impact on a minority, the sponsor of the bill shall:
   a. withdraw the bill, or
   b. identify in writing, in the bill and the racial impact statement, his or her reasoning for proceeding with the bill despite the disparate impact.

D. 1. If a bill is scheduled for a floor hearing in the Senate or House of Representatives and a racial impact statement is required by this section and has not been provided by the author of the bill or by the committee to which the bill was referred, the presiding officer of the Senate or House of Representatives shall
cause the bill to be referred for the preparation of a racial impact statement, which shall be filed with the presiding officer at least five (5) days prior to the bill again being scheduled for a floor hearing.

2. The bill shall not be called back up for consideration until a racial impact statement has been filed with the presiding officer.

E. For purposes of this section, "minority" shall mean African American, Hispanic American, American Indian or Native American, Asian and Pacific Islander.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019.