HB 279 2018

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to state investments; amending ss. 215.471 and 215.472, F.S.; requiring the State Board of Administration to divest investments of any institution or company doing business with the government of Venezuela; prohibiting the State Board of Administration and state agencies from investing in any institution or company that does business with or invests in the government of Venezuela; authorizing the Governor to waive the investment prohibitions if certain conditions exist; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 215.471, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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215.471 Divestiture by the State Board of Administration; reporting requirements.—

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(1) The State Board of Administration shall divest any investment under s. 121.151 and ss. 215.44-215.53, and is prohibited from investment in stocks, securities, or other obligations of:

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(a) Any institution or company domiciled in the United States, or foreign subsidiary of a company domiciled in the United States, doing business in or with Cuba, or with agencies

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or instrumentalities thereof in violation of federal law.

- (b) Any institution or company domiciled outside of the United States if the President of the United States has applied sanctions against the foreign country in which the institution or company is domiciled pursuant to s. 4 of the Cuban Democracy Act of 1992.
- (c) Any institution or company that conducts business with the government of Venezuela, or any agency or instrumentality thereof, regardless of whether the investment is made directly to the government of Venezuela or indirectly through the services of a broker or other intermediary. The Governor may waive the requirements of this paragraph if the existing regime in Venezuela collapses and there is a need for immediate aid to Venezuela before the convening of the Legislature or for humanitarian reasons as a result of a natural disaster in Venezuela.
- Section 2. Section 215.472, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 215.472 Prohibited investments.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, each state agency, as defined in s. 216.011, is prohibited from investing in:
- (1) Any financial institution or company domiciled in the United States, or foreign subsidiary of a company domiciled in the United States, which directly or through a United States or foreign subsidiary makes any loan, extends credit of any kind or

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character, advances funds in any manner, or purchases or trades any goods or services with Cuba, the government of Cuba, or any company doing business in or with Cuba in violation of federal law.

- (2) Any financial institution or company domiciled outside of the United States if the President of the United States has applied sanctions against the foreign country in which the institution or company is domiciled pursuant to s. 4 of the Cuban Democracy Act of 1992.
- (3) Any financial institution or company that extends credit of any kind or character, advances funds in any manner, or purchases or trades any goods or services with the government of Venezuela, or with any agency or instrumentality thereof, regardless of whether the investment is made directly to the government of Venezuela or indirectly through the services of a broker or other intermediary. The Governor may waive the requirements of this subsection if the existing regime in Venezuela collapses and there is a need for immediate aid to Venezuela before the convening of the Legislature or for humanitarian reasons as a result of a natural disaster in Venezuela.
 - Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.