

SB 260 – Conviction Integrity Review Units (Identical HB 299)

This bill creates s. 27.272, F.S., stating that “the state attorney of each judicial circuit shall establish a conviction integrity review unit within the state attorney’s office for the purpose of investigating whether defendants have been wrongly convicted” and “the state attorney shall also create an independent review panel for the purpose of reviewing the conviction integrity review unit’s findings and recommendations.” It adds that “an incarcerated person may submit a petition to the state attorney’s office requesting that a conviction integrity review unit review his or her conviction.” A list of reasons are given for when a conviction integrity review unit may review a conviction. If an investigation takes place, upon its completion the unit shall present its findings and recommendations to the independent review panel, and if the “panel agrees with the findings and recommendations, the unit shall make a final recommendation regarding the petitioner’s conviction to the state attorney.”

CONFERENCE ADOPTED ESTIMATE: Negative Indeterminate

Requested by: Senate