

## **SB 1528 – Illicit Drugs (Identical HB 1347)**

“The bill adds class descriptions to the top designer drugs of concern in Florida: synthetic cannabinoids, substituted cathinones, substituted phenethylamines, N-benzyl Phenethylamines, substituted tryptamines and substituted phencyclidines to Schedule I of Florida’s controlled substance schedules. The class descriptions define certain groups of compounds of concern by the core structure that they share and limits the modifications that can be made to the core structure while staying within the group. As well, each class includes examples of compounds that are covered by the class description. The descriptions and the limitations are in keeping with other states well-developed description methodology, as well as the advanced descriptions put forth by the United Kingdom, but are scientifically accurate to cover emerging compounds observed in the illicit market through the Fall of 2015. As a result, the criminal penalties relating to the possession, sale, manufacture, and delivery of controlled substances will apply to these synthetic substances. The bill also provides a definition to “substantially similar” as to chemical structure in the existing controlled substance analog sections. The bill corrects errors in existing substances listings and double entries of substances, and updates the listed chemicals and paraphernalia sections to reflect modern clandestine manufacturing practices of designer drugs.” The number of future synthetic drug variations, and the resulting offenses connected to them, is unknown.

Per DOC, in FY 14-15, 183 offenders were admitted to prison with offenses related to synthetic drugs. However, it should be noted that several of the statutes encompass the entirety of the synthetic drugs list, which also includes cannabis, and synthetic drugs listed under Schedule II.

**CONFERENCE ADOPTED ESTIMATE: Positive Indeterminate**

**Requested by: House**