HB 549 2024

1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to retail theft; amending s. 812.015, 3 F.S.; defining the term "social media platform"; 4 revising the number of thefts required within a 5 specified aggregation period required to commit a 6 specified violation for retail theft; prohibiting a 7 person from committing retail theft with a specified 8 number of other persons for a specified purpose; 9 providing a criminal penalty; revising the number of thefts required within a specified aggregation period 10 11 required to commit a specified violation for retail 12 theft; prohibiting a person from committing retail 13 theft with a specific number of other persons for a 14 specified purpose when such person uses a social media 15 platform to solicit the participation of other 16 persons; providing a criminal penalty; requiring a court to order a person convicted of retail theft to 17 18 pay specified restitution; amending s. 784.07, F.S.; 19 correcting a cross-reference; amending s. 921.0022, F.S.; ranking offenses on the offense severity ranking 20 chart of the Criminal Punishment Code; providing an 21 effective date. 22 23 24

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

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Section 1. Subsection (11) of section 812.015, Florida Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (12), subsection (1) is amended, paragraphs (e) and (f) of subsection (8) are amended, paragraphs (c) and (d) of subsection (9) are amended, paragraph (g) is added to subsection (8), paragraph (e) is added to subsection (9), and a new subsection (11) is added to that section, to read:

- 812.015 Retail and farm theft; transit fare evasion; mandatory fine; alternative punishment; detention and arrest; exemption from liability for false arrest; resisting arrest; penalties.—
 - (1) As used in this section:

- (a) (h) "Antishoplifting or inventory control device" means a mechanism or other device designed and operated for the purpose of detecting the removal from a mercantile establishment or similar enclosure, or from a protected area within such an enclosure, of specially marked or tagged merchandise. The term includes any electronic or digital imaging or any video recording or other film used for security purposes and the cash register tape or other record made of the register receipt.
- (b) (i) "Antishoplifting or inventory control device countermeasure" means any item or device which is designed, manufactured, modified, or altered to defeat any antishoplifting or inventory control device.
 - (c) (e) "Farm produce" means livestock or any item grown,

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produced, or manufactured by a person owning, renting, or leasing land for the purpose of growing, producing, or manufacturing items for sale or personal use, either part time or full time.

- (d)(g) "Farm theft" means the unlawful taking possession of any items that are grown or produced on land owned, rented, or leased by another person. The term includes the unlawful taking possession of equipment and associated materials used to grow or produce farm products as defined in s. 823.14(3)(e).
- (e)(f) "Farmer" means a person who is engaging in the growing or producing of farm produce, milk products, honey, eggs, or meat, either part time or full time, for personal consumption or for sale and who is the owner or lessee of the land or a person designated in writing by the owner or lessee to act as her or his agent. No person defined as a farm labor contractor pursuant to s. 450.28 shall be designated to act as an agent for purposes of this section.
- <u>(f)(k)</u> "Mass transit vehicle" means buses, rail cars, or fixed-guideway mover systems operated by, or under contract to, state agencies, political subdivisions of the state, or municipalities for the transportation of fare-paying passengers.
- (g)(a) "Merchandise" means any personal property, capable of manual delivery, displayed, held, or offered for retail sale by a merchant.
 - (h) (b) "Merchant" means an owner or operator, or the

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agent, consignee, employee, lessee, or officer of an owner or operator, of any premises or apparatus used for retail purchase or sale of any merchandise.

- (i)(d) "Retail theft" means the taking possession of or carrying away of merchandise, property, money, or negotiable documents; altering or removing a label, universal product code, or price tag; transferring merchandise from one container to another; or removing a shopping cart, with intent to deprive the merchant of possession, use, benefit, or full retail value.
- (j) "Social media platform" has the same meaning as provided in s. 501.2041(1).
- $\underline{\text{(k)}}$ "Transit agency" means any state agency, political subdivision of the state, or municipality which operates mass transit vehicles.
- (1)(j) "Transit fare evasion" means the unlawful refusal to pay the appropriate fare for transportation upon a mass transit vehicle, or to evade the payment of such fare, or to enter any mass transit vehicle or facility by any door, passageway, or gate, except as provided for the entry of fare-paying passengers, and shall constitute petit theft as proscribed by this chapter.
- (m) "Trespass" means the violation as described in s.
 810.08.
- (n) (e) "Value of merchandise" means the sale price of the merchandise at the time it was stolen or otherwise removed,

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depriving the owner of her or his lawful right to ownership and sale of said item.

- (8) Except as provided in subsection (9), a person who commits retail theft commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, if the person:
- (e) Commits the offense through the purchase of merchandise in a package or box that contains merchandise other than, or in addition to, the merchandise purported to be contained in the package or box and such value is \$750 or more;
- (f) Individually, or in concert with 1 or more other persons, commits 3 5 or more retail thefts within a 365-day 30-day period and in committing such thefts obtains or uses 10 or more items of merchandise, and the number of items stolen during each theft is aggregated within the 365-day 30-day period to determine the total number of items stolen, regardless of the value of such merchandise, and 2 or more of the thefts occur at different physical merchant locations; or
- (g) Acts in concert with five or more other persons within one or more establishments for the purpose of overwhelming the response of a merchant, merchant's employee, or law enforcement officer in order to carry out the offense or avoid detection or apprehension for the offense.
 - (9) A person commits a felony of the second degree,

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126 punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, 127 if the person:

- (c) Conspires with another person to commit retail theft with the intent to sell the stolen property for monetary or other gain, and subsequently takes or causes such property to be placed in control of another person in exchange for consideration, in which the stolen property taken or placed within a 30-day period is aggregated to have a value in excess of \$3,000; or
- (d) Individually, or in concert with 1 or more other persons, commits 3 5 or more retail thefts within a 365-day 30-day period and in committing such thefts obtains or uses 20 or more items of merchandise, and the number of items stolen during each theft is aggregated within the 365-day 30-day period to determine the total number of items stolen, regardless of the value of such merchandise, and 2 or more of the thefts occur at a different physical retail merchant location; or
- (e) Acts in concert with five or more other persons within one or more establishments for the purpose of overwhelming the response of a merchant, merchant's employee, or law enforcement officer in order to carry out the offense or avoid detection or apprehension for the offense and, in the course of organizing or committing the offense, solicits the participation of another person in the offense through the use of a social media platform.

151	(11) A court must order a person convicted of violating					
152	this section to pay restitution, which must include the value of					
153	merchandise that was damaged or stolen and the cost of repairing					
154	or replacing any other property that was damaged in the course					
155	of committing the offense.					
156	Section 2. Paragraph (f) of subsection (1) of section					
157	784.07, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:					
158	784.07 Assault or battery of law enforcement officers and					
159	other specified personnel; reclassification of offenses; minimum					
160	sentences					
161	(1) As used in this section, the term:					
162	(f) "Public transit employees or agents" means bus					
163	operators, train operators, revenue collectors, security					
164	personnel, equipment maintenance personnel, or field					
165	supervisors, who are employees or agents of a transit agency as					
166	described in <u>s. 812.015(1)</u> s. $812.015(1)(1)$.					
167	Section 3. Paragraphs (e) and (f) of subsection (3) of					
168	section 921.0022, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:					
169	921.0022 Criminal Punishment Code; offense severity					
170	ranking chart.—					
171	(3) OFFENSE SEVERITY RANKING CHART					
172	(e) LEVEL 5					
173						
	Florida Felony					
	Statute Degree Description					

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174			
	316.027(2)(a)	3rd	Accidents involving personal
			injuries other than serious
			bodily injury, failure to stop;
			leaving scene.
175			
	316.1935(4)(a)	2nd	Aggravated fleeing or eluding.
176			
	316.80(2)	2nd	Unlawful conveyance of fuel;
			obtaining fuel fraudulently.
177			
	322.34(6)	3rd	Careless operation of motor
			vehicle with suspended license,
			resulting in death or serious
			bodily injury.
178			
	327.30(5)	3rd	Vessel accidents involving
			personal injury; leaving scene.
179			
	379.365(2)(c)1.	3rd	Violation of rules relating to:
			willful molestation of stone
			crab traps, lines, or buoys;
			illegal bartering, trading, or
			sale, conspiring or aiding in
			such barter, trade, or sale, or

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		supplying, agreeing to supply,
		aiding in supplying, or giving
		away stone crab trap tags or
		certificates; making, altering,
		forging, counterfeiting, or
		reproducing stone crab trap
		tags; possession of forged,
		counterfeit, or imitation stone
		crab trap tags; and engaging in
		the commercial harvest of stone
		crabs while license is
		suspended or revoked.
379.367(4)	3rd	Willful molestation of a
		commercial harvester's spiny
		lobster trap, line, or buoy.
379.407(5)(b)3.	3rd	Possession of 100 or more
		undersized spiny lobsters.
381.0041(11)(b)	3rd	Donate blood, plasma, or organs
		knowing HIV positive.
440.10(1)(g)	2nd	Failure to obtain workers'
		compensation coverage.
	379.407(5)(b)3. 381.0041(11)(b)	379.407(5)(b)3. 3rd 381.0041(11)(b) 3rd

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184			
	440.105(5)	2nd	Unlawful solicitation for the
			purpose of making workers'
			compensation claims.
185			
	440.381(2)	3rd	Submission of false,
			misleading, or incomplete
			information with the purpose of
			avoiding or reducing workers'
			compensation premiums.
186			
	624.401(4)(b)2.	2nd	Transacting insurance without a
			certificate or authority;
			premium collected \$20,000 or
1.00			more but less than \$100,000.
187	606 000 (1) ()	0 1	
	626.902(1)(c)	2nd	Representing an unauthorized
188			insurer; repeat offender.
100	790.01(3)	3rd	Unlawful carrying of a
	790.01(3)	31 d	concealed firearm.
189			Conceated lifearm.
100	790.162	2nd	Threat to throw or discharge
	. 30.202		destructive device.
190			

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	790.163(1)	2nd	False report of bomb,
			explosive, weapon of mass
			destruction, or use of firearms
			in violent manner.
191			
	790.221(1)	2nd	Possession of short-barreled
			shotgun or machine gun.
192			
	790.23	2nd	Felons in possession of
			firearms, ammunition, or
			electronic weapons or devices.
193			
	796.05(1)	2nd	Live on earnings of a
			prostitute; 1st offense.
194			
	800.04(6)(c)	3rd	Lewd or lascivious conduct;
			offender less than 18 years of
			age.
195			
	800.04(7)(b)	2nd	Lewd or lascivious exhibition;
			offender 18 years of age or
			older.
196		_	
	806.111(1)	3rd	Possess, manufacture, or
			dispense fire bomb with intent
l			

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197			to damage any structure or property.
	812.0145(2)(b)	2nd	Theft from person 65 years of age or older; \$10,000 or more but less than \$50,000.
198			
	812.015	3rd	Retail theft; property stolen
	(8) (a) & (c) -		is valued at \$750 or more and
	(e)		one or more specified acts.
199			
	812.015(8)(f)	3rd	Retail theft; multiple thefts
			within specified period.
200			
	812.015(8)(g)	<u>3rd</u>	Retail theft; committed with
			specified number of other
			persons.
201	0.1.0		
	812.019(1)	2nd	Stolen property; dealing in or
			trafficking in.
202	010 001 /0	0 1	mus 66 i alai a ar i ar bas de
202	812.081(3)	2nd	Trafficking in trade secrets.
203	010 101 (0) (1-)	21	Dobbons by guddon gratabina
201	812.131(2)(b)	3rd	Robbery by sudden snatching.
204			
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	812.16(2)	3rd	Owning, operating, or
			conducting a chop shop.
205			
	817.034(4)(a)2.	2nd	Communications fraud, value
			\$20,000 to \$50,000.
206			
	817.234(11)(b)	2nd	Insurance fraud; property value
			\$20,000 or more but less than
			\$100,000.
207			
	817.2341(1),	3rd	Filing false financial
	(2)(a) &		statements, making false
	(3)(a)		entries of material fact or
			false statements regarding
			property values relating to the
			solvency of an insuring entity.
208			
	817.568(2)(b)	2nd	Fraudulent use of personal
			identification information;
			value of benefit, services
			received, payment avoided, or
			amount of injury or fraud,
			\$5,000 or more or use of
			personal identification
			information of 10 or more

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			persons.
209	017 (11 (2) (-)	01	Tue 66 in in an arrange 5 to 14
	817.611(2)(a)	2nd	Traffic in or possess 5 to 14
			counterfeit credit cards or
			related documents.
210			
	817.625(2)(b)	2nd	Second or subsequent fraudulent
			use of scanning device,
			skimming device, or reencoder.
211			
	825.1025(4)	3rd	Lewd or lascivious exhibition
			in the presence of an elderly
			person or disabled adult.
212			
	827.071(4)	2nd	Possess with intent to promote
			any photographic material,
			motion picture, etc., which
			includes child pornography.
213			
	827.071(5)	3rd	Possess, control, or
			intentionally view any
			photographic material, motion
			picture, etc., which includes
			child pornography.
214			
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	828.12(2)	3rd	Tortures any animal with intent
			to inflict intense pain,
			serious physical injury, or
			death.
215			
	836.14(4)	2nd	Person who willfully promotes
			for financial gain a sexually
			explicit image of an
			identifiable person without
			consent.
216			
	839.13(2)(b)	2nd	Falsifying records of an
			individual in the care and
			custody of a state agency
			involving great bodily harm or
			death.
217			
	843.01(1)	3rd	Resist officer with violence to
			person; resist arrest with
			violence.
218			
	847.0135(5)(b)	2nd	Lewd or lascivious exhibition
			using computer; offender 18
			years or older.
219			
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	847.0137	3rd	Transmission of pornography by
	(2) & (3)		electronic device or equipment.
220			
	847.0138	3rd	Transmission of material
	(2) & (3)		harmful to minors to a minor by
			electronic device or equipment.
221			
	874.05(1)(b)	2nd	Encouraging or recruiting
			another to join a criminal
			gang; second or subsequent
			offense.
222			
	874.05(2)(a)	2nd	Encouraging or recruiting
			person under 13 years of age to
			join a criminal gang.
223			
	893.13(1)(a)1.	2nd	Sell, manufacture, or deliver
			cocaine (or other s.
			893.03(1)(a), (1)(b), (1)(d),
			(2)(a), (2)(b), or (2)(c)5.
			drugs).
224			
	893.13(1)(c)2.	2nd	Sell, manufacture, or deliver
			cannabis (or other s.
			893.03(1)(c), (2)(c)1.,
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(2)(c)2., (2)(c)3., (2)(c)6.,
                                 (2)(c)7., (2)(c)8., (2)(c)9.,
                                 (2)(c)10., (3), or (4) drugs)
                                 within 1,000 feet of a child
                                 care facility, school, or
                                 state, county, or municipal
                                 park or publicly owned
                                 recreational facility or
                                 community center.
225
                                 Sell, manufacture, or deliver
     893.13(1)(d)1.
                          1st
                                 cocaine (or other s.
                                 893.03(1)(a), (1)(b), (1)(d),
                                 (2)(a), (2)(b), or (2)(c)5.
                                 drugs) within 1,000 feet of
                                 university.
226
                          2nd
                                 Sell, manufacture, or deliver
     893.13(1)(e)2.
                                 cannabis or other drug
                                 prohibited under s.
                                 893.03(1)(c), (2)(c)1.,
                                 (2)(c)2., (2)(c)3., (2)(c)6.,
                                 (2)(c)7., (2)(c)8., (2)(c)9.,
                                 (2)(c)10., (3), or (4) within
                                 1,000 feet of property used for
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			religious services or a
			specified business site.
227			
	893.13(1)(f)1.	1st	Sell, manufacture, or deliver
			cocaine (or other s.
			893.03(1)(a), (1)(b), (1)(d),
			or (2)(a), (2)(b), or (2)(c)5.
			drugs) within 1,000 feet of
			public housing facility.
228			
	893.13(4)(b)	2nd	Use or hire of minor; deliver
			to minor other controlled
			substance.
229			
	893.1351(1)	3rd	Ownership, lease, or rental for
	093.1331(1)	JIU	_
			trafficking in or manufacturing
			of controlled substance.
230			
231	(f) LEVEL 6		
232			
	Florida	Felony	
	Statute	Degree	Description
233			
	316.027(2)(b)	2nd	Leaving the scene of a crash
	010.02/(2/(2)	2110	
			involving serious bodily

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			injury.
234	316.193(2)(b)	3rd	Felony DUI, 4th or subsequent conviction.
235	400.9935(4)(c)	2nd	Operating a clinic, or offering
236			services requiring licensure, without a license.
	499.0051(2)	2nd	Knowing forgery of transaction history, transaction information, or transaction
237			statement.
	499.0051(3)	2nd	Knowing purchase or receipt of prescription drug from unauthorized person.
238	499.0051(4)	2nd	Knowing sale or transfer of prescription drug to
239			unauthorized person.
	775.0875(1)	3rd	Taking firearm from law enforcement officer.
240			

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	784.021(1)(a)	3rd	Aggravated assault; deadly weapon without intent to kill.
241			
	784.021(1)(b)	3rd	Aggravated assault; intent to commit felony.
242			
212	784.041	3rd	Felony battery; domestic
			battery by strangulation.
243			
	784.048(3)	3rd	Aggravated stalking; credible
			threat.
244	704 040 (5)	2 1	
	784.048 (5)	3rd	Aggravated stalking of person
0.45			under 16.
245	784.07(2)(c)	2nd	Aggravated assault on law
	704.07(2)(0)	2110	enforcement officer.
246			enforcement officer.
240	784.074(1)(b)	2nd	Aggravated assault on sexually
	, , , , ,		violent predators facility
			staff.
247			
	784.08(2)(b)	2nd	Aggravated assault on a person
			65 years of age or older.
248			
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	784.081(2)	2nd	Aggravated assault on specified official or employee.
249			
	784.082(2)	2nd	Aggravated assault by detained
			person on visitor or other
			detainee.
250			
	784.083(2)	2nd	Aggravated assault on code
			inspector.
251			
	787.02(2)	3rd	False imprisonment; restraining
			with purpose other than those
			in s. 787.01.
252			
	790.115(2)(d)	2nd	Discharging firearm or weapon
			on school property.
253			
	790.161(2)	2nd	Make, possess, or throw
			destructive device with intent
			to do bodily harm or damage
			property.
254			
	790.164(1)	2nd	False report concerning bomb,
			explosive, weapon of mass
			destruction, act of arson or
			David 04 af 00

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Î			violence to state property, or
			use of firearms in violent
			manner.
255			
	790.19	2nd	Shooting or throwing deadly
			missiles into dwellings,
			vessels, or vehicles.
256			
	794.011(8)(a)	3rd	Solicitation of minor to
			participate in sexual activity
			by custodial adult.
257			
	794.05(1)	2nd	Unlawful sexual activity with
			specified minor.
258			
	800.04(5)(d)	3rd	Lewd or lascivious molestation;
			victim 12 years of age or older
			but less than 16 years of age;
			offender less than 18 years.
259			
	800.04(6)(b)	2nd	Lewd or lascivious conduct;
			offender 18 years of age or
			older.
260			
	806.031(2)	2nd	Arson resulting in great bodily
			Page 22 of 28

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261			harm to firefighter or any other person.
262	810.02(3)(c)	2nd	Burglary of occupied structure; unarmed; no assault or battery.
202	810.145(8)(b)	2nd	Video voyeurism; certain minor victims; 2nd or subsequent offense.
263	812.014(2)(b)1.	2nd	Property stolen \$20,000 or
	, , , , ,		more, but less than \$100,000, grand theft in 2nd degree.
264			
265	812.014(2)(c)5.	3rd	Grand theft; third degree; firearm.
	812.014(6)	2nd	Theft; property stolen \$3,000 or more; coordination of others.
266			o chers.
	812.015(9)(a)	2nd	Retail theft; property stolen \$750 or more; second or subsequent conviction.
267			

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	812.015(9)(b)	2nd	Retail theft; aggregated
			property stolen within 30 days
			is \$3,000 or more; coordination
			of others.
268			
	812.015(9)(d)	2nd	Retail theft; multiple thefts
			within specified period.
269			
	812.015(9)(e)	<u>2nd</u>	Retail theft; committed with
			specified number of other
			persons and use of social media
			platform.
270			
	812.13(2)(c)	2nd	Robbery, no firearm or other
			weapon (strong-arm robbery).
271			
	817.4821(5)	2nd	Possess cloning paraphernalia
			with intent to create cloned
			cellular telephones.
272			
	817.49(2)(b)2.	2nd	Willful making of a false
			report of a crime resulting in
			death.
273			
	817.505(4)(b)	2nd	Patient brokering; 10 or more
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			patients.
274			
	817.5695(3)(b)	2nd	Exploitation of person 65 years
			of age or older, value \$10,000
			or more, but less than \$50,000.
275			
	825.102(1)	3rd	Abuse of an elderly person or
0.7.6			disabled adult.
276	005 100 (2) (-)	21	Naulast of an aldaula name
	825.102(3)(c)	3rd	Neglect of an elderly person or disabled adult.
277			disabled adult.
211	825.1025(3)	3rd	Lewd or lascivious molestation
			of an elderly person or
			disabled adult.
278			
	825.103(3)(c)	3rd	Exploiting an elderly person or
			disabled adult and property is
			valued at less than \$10,000.
279			
	827.03(2)(c)	3rd	Abuse of a child.
280			
	827.03(2)(d)	3rd	Neglect of a child.
281			
	827.071(2) & (3)	2nd	Use or induce a child in a
			D 05 100

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			sexual performance, or promote or direct such performance.
282	828.126(3)	3rd	Sexual activities involving animals.
283			
	836.05	2nd	Threats; extortion.
284			
	836.10	2nd	Written or electronic threats
			to kill, do bodily injury, or
			conduct a mass shooting or an
			act of terrorism.
285			
	843.12	3rd	Aids or assists person to
			escape.
286			
	847.011	3rd	Distributing, offering to
			distribute, or possessing with
			intent to distribute obscene
			materials depicting minors.
287			
	847.012	3rd	Knowingly using a minor in the
			production of materials harmful
			to minors.
288			
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	847.0135(2)	3rd	Facilitates sexual conduct of
			or with a minor or the visual
			depiction of such conduct.
289			
	893.131	2nd	Distribution of controlled
			substances resulting in
			overdose or serious bodily
			injury.
290			
	914.23	2nd	Retaliation against a witness,
			victim, or informant, with
			bodily injury.
291			
	918.13(2)(b)	2nd	Tampering with or fabricating
			physical evidence relating to a
			capital felony.
292			
	944.35(3)(a)2.	3rd	Committing malicious battery
			upon or inflicting cruel or
			inhuman treatment on an inmate
			or offender on community
			supervision, resulting in great
			bodily harm.
293			
	944.40	2nd	Escapes.
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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

294			
	944.46	3rd	Harboring, concealing, aiding
			escaped prisoners.
295			
	944.47(1)(a)5.	2nd	Introduction of contraband
			(firearm, weapon, or explosive)
			into correctional facility.
296			
	951.22(1)(i)	3rd	Firearm or weapon introduced
			into county detention facility.
297			
298	Section 4.	This act	shall take effect October 1, 2024.

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