Florida Senate - 2005

 $\mathbf{B}\mathbf{y}$ the Committee on Justice Appropriations; and Senators Sebesta and Lynn

604-2206-05

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to the misuse of laser lighting
3	devices; amending s. 784.062, F.S.; redefining
4	the term "laser lighting device"; providing
5	that any person who knowingly and willingly
б	aims a laser lighting device at a person
7	operating a motor vehicle, vessel, or aircraft
8	commits a felony of the third degree; providing
9	that any person who causes bodily harm while
10	improperly pointing the laser lighting device
11	at the operator of a motor vehicle, vessel, or
12	aircraft commits a felony of the second degree;
13	providing an effective date.
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15	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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17	Section 1. Section 784.062, Florida Statutes, is
18	amended to read:
19	784.062 Misuse of laser lighting devices
20	(1) As used in this section, the term "laser lighting
21	device" means a hand-held device, not affixed to a firearm,
22	which emits a laser beam that is designed to be used by the
23	operator as a pointer or highlighter to indicate, mark, or
24	identify a specific position, place, item, or object. <u>However,</u>
25	as used in subsection (3), the term "laser lighting device"
26	means any device designed or used to amplify electromagnetic
27	radiation by stimulated emission.
28	(2) Any person who knowingly and willfully shines,
29	points, or focuses the beam of a laser lighting device at a
30	law enforcement officer, engaged in the performance of his or
31	her official duties, in such a manner that would cause a
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1	reasonable person to believe that a firearm is pointed at him
2	or her commits a noncriminal violation, punishable as
3	provided in s. 775.083.
4	(3)(a) Any person who knowingly and willfully shines,
5	points, or focuses the beam of a laser lighting device on an
6	individual operating a motor vehicle, vessel, or aircraft
7	commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided
8	<u>in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.</u>
9	(b) Any person who knowingly and willfully shines,
10	points, or focuses the beam of a laser lighting device on an
11	individual operating a motor vehicle, vessel, or aircraft and
12	such act results in bodily injury commits a felony of the
13	second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s.
14	<u>775.083, or s. 775.084.</u>
15	Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.
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17	STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
18	Senate Bill 830
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20	Changes the word "airplane" to "aircraft" to make the bill inclusive of helicopters and certain airplanes.
21	Redefines the term "laser lighting device", relative to its
22	use on persons operating a motor vehicle, vessel, or aircraft, to include all lasers and not merely the kind designed to be
23	used as a pointing device.
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