By Senator Ring

29-00552-13 2013250\_\_\_ A bill to be entitled

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An act relating to the Florida Law Enforcement Officers' Hall of Fame; creating s. 265.004, F.S.; establishing the Florida Law Enforcement Officers' Hall of Fame; providing for administration by the Department of Law Enforcement; designating location; providing procedures for selection, nomination, and induction; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 265.004, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

- 265.004 Florida Law Enforcement Officers' Hall of Fame.—
  (1) It is the intent of the Legislature to recognize and honor those law enforcement officers who, through their works, service, and exemplary accomplishments during or following their service as law enforcement officers, have dedicated their lives to, and sacrificed their lives for, the safety of the citizens of Florida and have made significant contributions to the state.
- (2) There is established the Florida Law Enforcement Officers' Hall of Fame.
- (a) The Florida Law Enforcement Officers' Hall of Fame is administered by the Department of Law Enforcement without appropriation of state funds.
- (b) The Department of Management Services shall set aside an area on the Plaza Level of the Capitol Building along the northeast front wall and shall consult with the Department of Law Enforcement regarding the design and theme of the area.

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(c) The Department of Law Enforcement shall affix the name of each person inducted into the Florida Law Enforcement

Officers' Hall of Fame on a plaque displayed in the designated area of the Capitol Building.

- (3) (a) The Department of Law Enforcement shall annually accept recommendations of persons to be considered as nominees for induction into the Florida Law Enforcement Officers' Hall of Fame. The department shall accept recommendations of potential nominees from law enforcement organizations that the department deems appropriate, including, but not limited to, the Police Benevolent Association. The department shall choose nominees from among the recommendations submitted and transmit the names of those law enforcement officers to the Governor and Cabinet who will select the nominees to be inducted.
- (b) In making its recommendations to the Governor and Cabinet, the Department of Law Enforcement shall give preference to law enforcement officers who were born in Florida or adopted Florida as their home state.
- (4) The Department of Law Enforcement may establish criteria and set specific time periods for the acceptance of recommendations for nomination and for the process of selecting nominees to forward to the Governor and Cabinet. The department may establish, organize, and conduct a formal induction ceremony.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.