

2013338er

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2 An act relating to theft of utility services; amending
3 s. 812.14, F.S.; providing additional criminal
4 penalties for utility services wrongfully taken;
5 providing that the person who unlawfully took utility
6 services is liable to the utility for an increased
7 civil penalty subject to the amount of the utility
8 services unlawfully obtained; providing an effective
9 date.

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

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13 Section 1. Subsections (4), (7), (8), and (10) of section
14 812.14, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

15 812.14 Trespass and larceny with relation to utility
16 fixtures; theft of utility services.—

17 (4) A ~~Any~~ person who willfully violates paragraph (2)(a),
18 paragraph (2)(b), or paragraph (2)(c) commits theft a
19 ~~misdemeanor of the first degree~~, punishable as provided in s.
20 812.014 ~~s. 775.082 or s. 775.083~~.

21 (7) A person who willfully violates subsection (5) commits
22 a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s.
23 775.082 or s. 775.083. Prosecution for a violation of subsection
24 (5) does not preclude prosecution for theft pursuant to ~~under~~
25 subsection (8) or s. 812.014.

26 (8) Theft of utility services for the purpose of
27 facilitating the manufacture of a controlled substance is theft
28 ~~a misdemeanor of the first degree~~, punishable as provided in s.
29 812.014 ~~s. 775.082 or s. 775.083~~.

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30 (10) Whoever is found in a civil action to have violated
31 ~~the provisions of~~ this section is liable to the utility involved
32 in an amount equal to 3 times the amount of services unlawfully
33 obtained or \$3,000 ~~\$1,000~~, whichever is greater.

34 Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2013.