By Senator Detert

28-00281-16 2016214

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to offenses committed on real estate agents; creating s. 775.0863, F.S.; providing definitions; providing applicability; providing for reclassification of specified offenses committed on real estate brokers, broker associates, or sales associates; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Section 775.0863, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

13 <u>775.0863 Assault or battery on a real estate broker, broker</u> 14 associate, or sales associate; reclassification of offenses.—

- (1) For purposes of this section, the terms "broker,"
 "broker associate," and "sales associate" shall have the same
 meanings as provided in s. 475.01. This section applies to a
 broker, broker associate, or sales associate while he or she is
 engaged in the act of showing or holding an open house of real
 property.
- (2) Whenever a person is charged with knowingly committing an assault, a battery, or a sexual battery in violation of s.

 794.011 on a broker, broker associate, or sales associate, the offense for which the person is charged shall be reclassified as follows:
- (a) A misdemeanor of the second degree shall be reclassified as a misdemeanor of the first degree.
- (b) A misdemeanor of the first degree shall be reclassified as a felony of the third degree.

28-00281-16 2016214 30 (c) A felony of the third degree shall be reclassified as a 31 felony of the second degree. (d) A felony of the second degree shall be reclassified as 32 33 a felony of the first degree. 34 (e) A felony of the first degree shall be reclassified as a 35 life felony. 36 37 For purposes of sentencing under chapter 921 and determining incentive gain-time eligibility under chapter 944, a felony 38 39 offense that is reclassified under this subsection is ranked one 40 level above the ranking under s. 921.0022 or s. 921.0023 of the 41 offense committed. Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2016. 42