

Committee on Children, Families, and Elder Affairs

CS/SB 70 — Domestic Violence Centers

by Children, Families, and Elder Affairs and Senator Garcia

The bill creates s. 39.9057, F.S., making it a criminal offense for any person to maliciously publish, disseminate, or disclose any descriptive information or image that may identify the location of a domestic violence center certified under s. 39.905, F.S., or to otherwise maliciously disclose the location of a center.

A person commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable by up to one year imprisonment and a \$1,000 fine for a first violation of this offense. The bill reclassifies the penalty from a first degree misdemeanor to a third degree felony for a second or subsequent violation. A third degree felony is punishable by up to five years imprisonment and a \$5,000 fine.

To the extent the bill creates a new first degree misdemeanor or third degree felony which results in persons being sentenced to jail or prison, it will likely have a positive insignificant jail or prison bed impact (i.e. an increase of 10 or fewer beds).

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2021.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House 117-0