Florida House of Representatives - 1997

CS/HB 307

By the Committee on Crime & Punishment and Representatives Villalobos, Ball, Feeney, Fasano, Crist, Byrd, Heyman, Saunders and Culp

1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to stalking; creating the 3 "Jennifer Act"; amending s. 784.048, F.S.; 4 defining the offense of aggravated stalking of 5 a minor under age 16; providing penalties; 6 amending s. 921.0012, F.S.; providing for 7 classification of such offense within the 8 offense severity ranking chart; providing an 9 effective date. 10 11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 12 13 Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Jennifer 14 Act." 15 Section 2. Section 784.048, Florida Statutes, is 16 amended to read: 784.048 Stalking; definitions; penalties.--17 18 (1) As used in this section, the term: 19 (a) "Harass" "Harasses" means to engage in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that causes substantial 20 21 emotional distress in such person and serves no legitimate 22 purpose. "Course of conduct" means a pattern of conduct 23 (b) 24 composed of a series of acts over a period of time, however short, evidencing a continuity of purpose. Constitutionally 25 26 protected activity is not included within the meaning of 27 "course of conduct." Such constitutionally protected activity 28 includes picketing or other organized protests. (C) 29 "Credible threat" means a threat made with the 30 intent to cause the person who is the target of the threat to 31 reasonably fear for his or her safety. The threat must be 1

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1 against the life of, or a threat to cause bodily injury to, a person. 2 (2) Any person who willfully, maliciously, and 3 4 repeatedly follows or harasses another person commits the 5 offense of stalking, a misdemeanor of the first degree, 6 punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. 7 (3) Any person who willfully, maliciously, and 8 repeatedly follows or harasses another person, and makes a 9 credible threat with the intent to place that person in reasonable fear of death or bodily injury, commits the offense 10 of aggravated stalking, a felony of the third degree, 11 punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 12 13 775.084. (4) Any person who, after an injunction for protection 14 15 against repeat violence pursuant to s. 784.046, or an injunction for protection against domestic violence pursuant 16 17 to s. 741.30, or after any other court-imposed prohibition of 18 conduct toward the subject person or that person's property, knowingly, willfully, maliciously, and repeatedly follows or 19 20 harasses another person commits the offense of aggravated stalking, a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided 21 22 in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. 23 (5) Any person who willfully, maliciously, and repeatedly follows or harasses a minor under 16 years of age 24 25 commits the offense of aggravated stalking, a felony of the 26 third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 27 775.083, or s. 775.084. 28 (6)(5) Any law enforcement officer may arrest, without 29 a warrant, any person he or she has probable cause to believe 30 has violated the provisions of this section. 31 2

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1 Section 3. Paragraph (f) of subsection (3) of section 2 921.0012, Florida Statutes, 1996 Supplement, is amended to 3 read: 921.0012 Sentencing guidelines offense levels; offense 4 5 severity ranking chart .--(3) OFFENSE SEVERITY RANKING CHART 6 7 Florida Felony 8 Statute Degree Description 9 10 (f) LEVEL 6 11 316.027(1)(b) 2nd Accident involving death, failure 12 to stop; leaving scene. 13 316.193(2)(b) 3rd Felony DUI, 4th or subsequent 14 conviction. 15 775.0875(1) 3rd Taking firearm from law enforcement officer. 16 784.021(1)(a) Aggravated assault; deadly weapon 17 3rd 18 without intent to kill. 19 784.021(1)(b) 3rd Aggravated assault; intent to 20 commit felony. 21 784.048(3) 3rd Aggravated stalking; credible 22 threat. 23 784.048(5) Aggravated stalking of person 3rd 24 under 16. 25 784.07(2)(c)Aggravated assault on law 2nd enforcement officer. 26 27 784.08(2)(b) 2nd Aggravated assault on a person 65 28 years of age or older. 784.081(2) 29 Aggravated assault on specified 2nd 30 official or employee. 31

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1	784.082(2)	2nd	Aggravated assault by detained
2			person on visitor or other
3			detainee.
4	787.02(2)	3rd	False imprisonment; restraining
5			with purpose other than those in
6			s. 787.01.
7	790.115(2)(d)	2nd	Discharging firearm or weapon on
8			school property.
9	790.161(2)	2nd	Make, possess, or throw
10			destructive device with intent to
11			do bodily harm or damage
12			property.
13	790.164(1)	2nd	False report of deadly explosive
14			or act of arson or violence to
15			state property.
16	790.19	2nd	Shooting or throwing deadly
17			missiles into dwellings, vessels,
18			or vehicles.
19	794.011(8)(a)	3rd	Solicitation of minor to
20			participate in sexual activity by
21			custodial adult.
22	794.05(1)	2nd	Unlawful sexual activity with
23			specified minor.
24	806.031(2)	2nd	Arson resulting in great bodily
25			harm to firefighter or any other
26			person.
27	810.02(3)(c)	2nd	Burglary of occupied structure;
28			unarmed; no assault or battery.
29	812.014(2)(b)	2nd	Property stolen \$20,000 or more,
30			but less than \$100,000, grand
31			theft in 2nd degree.
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812.13(2)(c) 1 Robbery, no firearm or other 2nd 2 weapon (strong-arm robbery). 3 Communications fraud, value 817.034(4)(a)1. 1st greater than \$50,000. 4 5 817.4821(5) Possess cloning paraphernalia 2nd with intent to create cloned 6 7 cellular telephones. 8 825.102(1) 3rd Abuse of an elderly person or 9 disabled adult. 10 825.102(3)(c) 3rd Neglect of an elderly person or disabled adult. 11 12 825.1025(3) Lewd or lascivious molestation of 3rd 13 an elderly person or disabled 14 adult. 825.103(2)(c) 15 3rd Exploiting an elderly person or 16 disabled adult and property is valued at \$100 or more, but less 17 18 than \$20,000. 19 827.03(1) 3rd Abuse of a child. Neglect of a child. 20 827.03(3)(c)3rd 21 827.071(2)&(3)Use or induce a child in a sexual 2nd 22 performance, or promote or direct 23 such performance. 24 836.05 Threats; extortion. 2nd 25 836.10 Written threats to kill or do 2nd 26 bodily injury. 27 843.12 3rd Aids or assists person to escape. 28 914.23 2nd Retaliation against a witness, 29 victim, or informant, with bodily 30 injury. 31

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1	944.35(3)(a)2.	3rd	Committing malicious battery upon
2			or inflicting cruel or inhuman
3			treatment on an inmate or
4			offender on community
5			supervision, resulting in great
6			bodily harm.
7	944.40	2nd	Escapes.
8	944.46	3rd	Harboring, concealing, aiding
9			escaped prisoners.
10	944.47(1)(a)5.	2nd	Introduction of contraband
11			(firearm, weapon, or explosive)
12			into correctional facility.
13	951.22(1)	3rd	Intoxicating drug, firearm, or
14			weapon introduced into county
15			facility.
16	Section 4.	This act	shall take effect October 1, 1997.
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