

By Senator Bronson

18-398-99

See HB

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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to guidelines for fair
treatment of victims and witnesses in the
justice system; amending s. 960.001, F.S.;
allowing specified state agencies to
participate in crime prevention and educational
activities; providing for use of funds
appropriated for prevention activities;
providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (r) is added to subsection (1) of
section 960.001, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, to read:

960.001 Guidelines for fair treatment of victims and
witnesses in the criminal justice and juvenile justice
systems.--

(1) The Department of Legal Affairs, the state
attorneys, the Department of Corrections, the Department of
Juvenile Justice, the Parole Commission, the State Courts
Administrator and circuit court administrators, the Department
of Law Enforcement, and every sheriff's department, police
department, or other law enforcement agency as defined in s.
943.10(4) shall develop and implement guidelines for the use
of their respective agencies, which guidelines are consistent
with the purposes of this act and s. 16(b), Art. I of the
State Constitution and are designed to implement the
provisions of s. 16(b), Art. I of the State Constitution and
to achieve the following objectives:

(r) Implementing crime prevention efforts to enhance
the protection of individual personal safety and property as

1 prescribed by s. 187.201(7)(b)9., State Comprehensive
2 Plan.--By preventing future crimes that either produce new
3 victims or further harm former victims, crime prevention
4 efforts are an essential part of providing victims and
5 witnesses with effective service; therefore, the agencies
6 identified in this subsection may participate in crime
7 prevention and educational activities. Any funds appropriated
8 for prevention activities may be used to promote public
9 awareness of and public participation in prevention efforts.

10 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 1999.

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12 HOUSE SUMMARY

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14 Revises the guidelines for fair treatment of victims and
15 witnesses in the justice system to allow specified state
16 agencies to participate in crime prevention and
17 educational activities. Provides for use of funds
18 appropriated for prevention activities.
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