

By the Committee on Law Enforcement & Crime Prevention and Representative Ball

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to guidelines for fair  
3           treatment of victims and witnesses in the  
4           justice system; amending s. 960.001, F.S.;  
5           allowing specified state agencies to  
6           participate in crime prevention, public  
7           awareness, and educational activities;  
8           providing for use of funds appropriated for  
9           such activities; providing an effective date.

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

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

15           960.001 Guidelines for fair treatment of victims and  
16 witnesses in the criminal justice and juvenile justice  
17 systems.--

18           (1) The Department of Legal Affairs, the state  
19 attorneys, the Department of Corrections, the Department of  
20 Juvenile Justice, the Parole Commission, the State Courts  
21 Administrator and circuit court administrators, the Department  
22 of Law Enforcement, and every sheriff's department, police  
23 department, or other law enforcement agency as defined in s.  
24 943.10(4) shall develop and implement guidelines for the use  
25 of their respective agencies, which guidelines are consistent  
26 with the purposes of this act and s. 16(b), Art. I of the  
27 State Constitution and are designed to implement the  
28 provisions of s. 16(b), Art. I of the State Constitution and  
29 to achieve the following objectives:

30           (r) Implementing crime prevention efforts to enhance  
31 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 and expend  
7 funds for crime prevention, public awareness, public  
8 participation, and educational activities.

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

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11 HOUSE SUMMARY

12 Revises the guidelines for fair treatment of victims and  
13 witnesses in the justice system to allow specified state  
14 agencies to participate in crime prevention, public  
15 awareness, and educational activities. Provides for use  
16 of funds appropriated for such activities.