

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

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to criminal justice
3 information; amending s. 943.053, F.S.;
4 providing each office of the Public Defender
5 on-line access to criminal records which are
6 not exempt from disclosure and not confidential
7 under law; providing an effective date.

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

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11 Section 1. Subsections (6), (7), and (8) of section
12 943.053, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, are renumbered as
13 subsections (7), (8), and (9), respectively, and a new
14 subsection (6) is added to said section, to read:

15 943.053 Dissemination of criminal justice information;
16 fees.--

17 (6) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the
18 department shall provide to each office of the Public Defender
19 on-line access to criminal records of this state which are not
20 exempt from disclosure under chapter 119 or confidential under
21 law. Such access shall be used solely in support of the duties
22 of a public defender as provided in s. 27.51 or of any
23 attorney specially assigned as authorized in s. 27.53 in the
24 representation of any person who is determined indigent as
25 provided in s. 27.52. The costs of establishing and
26 maintaining such on-line access shall be borne by the office
27 to which the access has been provided.

28 Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 1999.

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HOUSE SUMMARY

Requires the Department of Law Enforcement to provide to public defenders on-line access to criminal records not exempt from disclosure or confidential under law, such access to be used only in support of the duties of a public defender or of any attorney specially assigned in the representation of any person who is determined indigent. Requires the costs of such access to be borne by the office provided access. See bill for details.