

By Senator Saunders

25-258-00

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to the misuse of hand-held  
 3           laser pointers; creating s. 784.062, F.S.;  
 4           defining the term "laser lighting device";  
 5           providing that it is a second-degree  
 6           misdemeanor for a person to knowingly and  
 7           willfully shine the beam of a laser lighting  
 8           device with the intent to harass or in such a  
 9           manner as to cause a person to believe that a  
 10          firearm is pointed at him or her; providing  
 11          that it is a third-degree felony to knowingly  
 12          and willfully shine the beam of a laser  
 13          lighting device at a law enforcement officer in  
 14          such a manner as to cause the law enforcement  
 15          officer to believe that a firearm is pointed at  
 16          him or her; providing penalties; providing an  
 17          effective date.

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

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 21           Section 1. Section 784.062, Florida Statutes, is  
 22           created to read:

23           784.062 Misuse of laser lighting devices.--

24           (1) As used in this section, the term "laser lighting  
 25           device" means a hand-held device, not affixed to a firearm,  
 26           which emits a laser beam that is designed to be used by the  
 27           operator as a pointer or highlighter to indicate, mark, or  
 28           identify a specific position, place, item, or object.

29           (2) Any person who knowingly and willfully shines,  
 30           points, or focuses the beam of a laser lighting device at  
 31           another person with the intent to harass that person commits a

1 misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s.  
2 775.082 or s. 775.083.

3 (3) Any person who knowingly and willfully shines,  
4 points, or focuses the beam of a laser lighting device at  
5 another person in a manner that would cause a reasonable  
6 person to believe that a firearm is pointed at him or her  
7 commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as  
8 provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

9 (4) Any person who knowingly and willfully shines,  
10 points, or focuses the beam of a laser lighting device at a  
11 law enforcement officer, engaged in the performance of his or  
12 her official duties, in such a manner that would cause a  
13 reasonable person to believe that a firearm is pointed at him  
14 or her commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as  
15 provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

16 Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2000.

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19 SENATE SUMMARY

20 Provides that it is a second-degree misdemeanor for a  
21 person to knowingly and willfully shine the beam of a  
22 laser pointer with the intent to harass or in such a  
23 manner as to cause a person to believe that a firearm is  
24 pointed at him or her. Providing that it is a  
25 third-degree felony to knowingly and willfully shine the  
26 beam of a laser pointer at a law enforcement officer in  
27 such a manner as to cause the law enforcement officer to  
28 believe that a firearm is pointed at him or her.  
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