Florida House of Representatives - 2000

By the Committee on Juvenile Justice and Representatives Merchant, Fiorentino, Barreiro, C. Green, Tullis, Bainter, Patterson, Ryan, Ritchie, Suarez and Lawson

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to child pornography and
3	exploitation; amending s. 847.001, F.S.;
4	defining "child pornography"; conforming a
5	cross reference; amending s. 847.0135, F.S.;
6	requiring any person who knows, or has
7	reasonable cause to believe, that a computer
8	contains images of child pornography or
9	evidence of violations of certain provisions of
10	the "Computer Pornography and Child
11	Exploitation Prevention Act of 1986," to report
12	such knowledge or belief to the Florida
13	Department of Law Enforcement; providing a
14	penalty for failure to make such report;
15	providing immunity from civil liability for
16	persons making disclosures in compliance with
17	the act; providing a penalty for making a false
18	report; requiring the Florida Department of Law
19	Enforcement to promulgate rules; providing an
20	effective date.
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22	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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24	Section 1. Subsections (1) through (13) of section
25	847.001, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (2)
26	through (14), respectively, present subsection (13) is
27	amended, and a new subsection (1) is added to said section to
28	read:
29	847.001 DefinitionsWhen used in this chapter:
30	(1) "Child pornography" means any image depicting, or
31	intending to depict, a minor engaged in sexual conduct as
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defined in subsection (12). An image of a mother's 1 2 breastfeeding of her baby does not under any circumstance 3 constitute "child pornography." 4 (14)(13) "Simulated" means the explicit depiction of 5 conduct described in subsection(12)(11)which creates the appearance of such conduct and which exhibits any uncovered 6 7 portion of the breasts, genitals, or buttocks. 8 Section 2. Section 847.0135, Florida Statutes, is 9 amended to read: 10 847.0135 Computer pornography; penalties.--(1) SHORT TITLE. -- This section shall be known and may 11 12 be cited as the "Computer Pornography and Child Exploitation 13 Prevention Act of 1986." 14 (2) COMPUTER PORNOGRAPHY. -- A person who: 15 (a) Knowingly compiles, enters into, or transmits by 16 means of computer; 17 (b) Makes, prints, publishes, or reproduces by other 18 computerized means; 19 (c) Knowingly causes or allows to be entered into or 20 transmitted by means of computer; or 21 (d) Buys, sells, receives, exchanges, or disseminates, 22 any notice, statement, or advertisement of, or any minor's 23 name, telephone number, place of residence, physical 24 25 characteristics, or other descriptive or identifying 26 information, for purposes of facilitating, encouraging, 27 offering, or soliciting sexual conduct of or with any minor, 28 or the visual depiction of such conduct, commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 29 775.083, or s. 775.084. The fact that an undercover operative 30 31 or law enforcement officer was involved in the detection and

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investigation of an offense under this section shall not 1 2 constitute a defense to a prosecution under this section. Any 3 person who violates the provisions of this subsection commits 4 a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided for in s. 5 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. (3) CERTAIN USES OF COMPUTER SERVICES PROHIBITED. -- Any 6 7 person who knowingly utilizes a computer on-line service, 8 Internet service, or local bulletin board service to seduce, 9 solicit, lure, or entice, or attempt to seduce, solicit, lure, or entice, a child or another person believed by the person to 10 11 be a child, to commit any illegal act described in chapter 794, relating to sexual battery; chapter 800, relating to 12 13 lewdness and indecent exposure; or chapter 827, relating to child abuse, commits a felony of the third degree, punishable 14 as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. 15 (4) OWNERS OR OPERATORS OF COMPUTER SERVICES 16 LIABLE.--It is unlawful for any owner or operator of a 17 computer on-line service, Internet service, or local bulletin 18 board service knowingly to permit a subscriber to utilize the 19 20 service to commit a violation of this section. Any person who violates this section commits a misdemeanor of the first 21 22 degree, punishable by a fine not exceeding \$2,000. (5) MANDATORY REPORTING REQUIREMENTS. -- Any person, 23 including, but not limited to, any computer repair technician, 24 25 computer system administrator, or Internet service provider, 26 who knows, or has reasonable cause to believe, that a computer 27 contains images of child pornography as defined in s. 847.001, 28 or evidence of violations of subsections (2) or (3), shall 29 immediately report such knowledge or belief to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. Any person failing to comply 30 with the provisions of this subsection commits a misdemeanor 31

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of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or 1 s. 775.083. No person shall be held civilly liable for making 2 3 disclosures in good faith to the Florida Department of Law 4 Enforcement required under this subsection. Any person who 5 knowingly and willfully makes a false report under this subsection commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as 6 7 provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. The Florida 8 Department of Law Enforcement shall promulgate rules pursuant 9 to ss. 120.54 and 120.536(1) necessary to catalog and document 10 reports of information pursuant to this subsection. 11 (6) (5) STATE CRIMINAL JURISDICTION. -- A person is 12 subject to prosecution in this state pursuant to chapter 910 13 for any conduct proscribed by this section which the person 14 engages in, while either within or outside this state, if by 15 such conduct the person commits a violation of this section 16 involving a child residing in this state, or another person 17 believed by the person to be a child residing in this state. Section 3. This act shall take effect October 1, 2000. 18 19 20 21 HOUSE SUMMARY 22 Requires any person who knows, or has reasonable cause to 23 believe, that a computer contains images of child pornography or evidence of violations of specified provisions of the "Computer Pornography and Child Exploitation Prevention Act of 1986" to report such knowledge or belief to the Florida Department of Law 24 25 Enforcement. Provides a second degree misdemeanor penalty for failure to make such report and a third degree felony penalty for making a false report. Provides immunity from civil liability for persons making disclosures in compliance with the act. Defines "child pornography" for purposes of the act. 26 27 28 29 30 31

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