

By Representatives McGriff, Heyman, Jordan, Kravitz,
Romeo, Justice, Fields, Hogan, Davis, Henriquez, Bean,
Stansel, Kendrick, Pickens and Seiler

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

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

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16 Section 1. Section 784.062, Florida Statutes, is
17 created to read:

18 784.062 Misuse of laser lighting devices.--

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

24 (2) Any person who knowingly and willfully shines,
25 points, or focuses the beam of a laser lighting device at a
26 law enforcement officer, engaged in the performance of his or
27 her official duties, in such a manner that would cause a
28 reasonable person to believe that a firearm is pointed at him
29 or her commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable
30 as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

31 Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2001.

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HOUSE SUMMARY

Provides that it is a second degree misdemeanor to knowingly and willfully shine the beam of a laser lighting device, commonly known as a "laser pointer," at a law enforcement officer in such a manner as to cause the law enforcement officer to believe that a firearm is pointed at him or her.