

Bill No. SB 66

Amendment No. 1 Barcode 034392

	<u>Senate</u>	CHAMBER ACTION	<u>House</u>
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11	The Committee on Criminal Justice recommended the following		
12	amendment:		
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14	Senate Amendment (with title amendment)		
15	Delete everything after the enacting clause		
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17	and insert:		
18	Section 1. <u>The facts stated in the preamble to this</u>		
19	<u>act are found and declared to be true.</u>		
20	Section 2. <u>The City of St. Petersburg is authorized</u>		
21	<u>and directed to appropriate from funds of the city not</u>		
22	<u>otherwise appropriated and to draw a warrant in the sum of</u>		
23	<u>\$655,346.97 payable to Alfred Brinkley Roberts to compensate</u>		
24	<u>him for injuries and damages sustained. After payment of</u>		
25	<u>Alfred Brinkley Roberts' outstanding medical bills, medical</u>		
26	<u>liens, and attorney's fees, the remaining proceeds shall be</u>		
27	<u>used to provide for the care of Alfred Brinkley Roberts for</u>		
28	<u>the duration of his life.</u>		
29	Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a		
30	law.		
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1 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

2 And the title is amended as follows:

3 Delete everything before the enacting clause

4

5 and insert:

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A bill to be entitled

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An act relating to the City of St. Petersburg;

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providing for the relief of Alfred Brinkley

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Roberts; authorizing and directing the City of

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St. Petersburg to compensate him for injuries

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suffered due to the negligence of an employee

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of the city; providing an effective date.

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WHEREAS, on August 31, 1991, Alfred Brinkley Roberts

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was walking across Ninth Avenue South, near 15th Street, in

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St. Petersburg, when he was struck by a police cruiser that

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had been traveling at a speed in excess of 65 miles per hour

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in a 35-mile-per-hour zone, and

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WHEREAS, due to its sliding wheels, the cruiser could

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not be steered and left more than 200 feet of skid marks as

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it, in effect, followed Alfred Brinkley Roberts out of the

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travel lane and into an unmarked parking zone, where the

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actual impact took place, and

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WHEREAS, Alfred Brinkley Roberts' injuries were extreme

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and included massive brain and orthopedic injuries,

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incontinence, and confinement for the rest of his life to a

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wheelchair, and

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WHEREAS, the police officer operating the cruiser was

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investigated by the St. Petersburg Police Department's

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Internal Affairs, which found the officer to be at fault for

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causing the accident, and

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1 WHEREAS, at the time of the accident, Alfred Brinkley
2 Roberts had alcohol present in his system; however, it was
3 shown at trial that it would have been impossible for any
4 person to have avoided the swerving, out-of-control cruiser,
5 and

6 WHEREAS, after a lengthy trial, the jury awarded Alfred
7 Brinkley Roberts \$1,267,735.05, which was reduced by 20
8 percent to \$1,014,188.04, for comparative negligence, and

9 WHEREAS, following the trial, the parties entered into
10 a settlement agreement in October 2000 that provides for a
11 total payment of \$764,958.37, less amounts previously paid by
12 the City of St. Petersburg, for a net additional amount of
13 \$655,346.97, and

14 WHEREAS, Alfred Brinkley Roberts has outstanding
15 medical bills and liens that include, but are not limited to,
16 \$230,239.86 to Bayfront Medical Center, \$6,235 to Dr. Clinton
17 B. Davis, II, and \$153,621 to the Veterans Administration, and

18 WHEREAS, Alfred Brinkley Roberts also owes his attorney
19 for legal services rendered during the 9 years that he has
20 been pursuing compensation for his injuries and also needs
21 funds for his care for the duration of his life, NOW,
22 THEREFORE,

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