HB 221, Engrossed 1 2004

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to self-murder; creating s. 782.081, F.S.; defining the terms "deliberately assisting," "self-murder," and "simulated self-murder"; prohibiting conducting an event or providing a location for an event that the person knows or reasonably should know includes the act of self-murder; prohibiting deliberately assisting in a self-murder; providing an exception for events in which simulated self-murder is conducted; providing that a violation of the act is a third-degree felony; authorizing the Attorney General and state attorneys to enforce the act through civil proceedings; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Section 782.081, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

782.081 Commercial exploitation of self-murder.--

- (1) As used in this section, the term:
- (a) "Deliberately assisting" means carrying out a public act that is intended to:
 - 1. Aid, abet, facilitate, permit, advocate, or encourage;
- 2. Publicize, promote, advertise, operate, stage,
 schedule or conduct;
- 3. Provide or secure a venue, transportation, or security; or
 - 4. Result in the collection of an admission or fee.
 - (b) "Self-murder" means the voluntary and intentional

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taking of one's own life. As used in this section, the term
includes attempted self-murder.

- (c) "Simulated self-murder" means the artistic depiction or portrayal of self-murder which is not an actual self-murder.

 The term includes, but is not limited to, an artistic depiction or portrayal of self-murder in a script, play, movie, or story presented to the public or during an event.
- (2) A person may not for commercial or entertainment purposes:
- (a) Conduct any event that the person knows or reasonably should know includes an actual self-murder as a part of the event or deliberately assist in an actual self-murder.
- (b) Provide a theater, auditorium, club, or other venue or location for any event that the person knows or reasonably should know includes an actual self-murder as a part of the event.
- (3) This section does not prohibit any event during which simulated self-murder will occur.
- (4) It is not a defense to a prosecution under this section that an attempted self-murder did not result in a self-murder.
- (5) A person who violates this section commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 774.084.
- (6) The Attorney General or any state attorney may bring a civil proceeding for declaratory, injunctive, or other relief to enforce the provisions of this section.
- Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.