

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to the misuse of laser lighting devices;  
3 amending s. 784.062, F.S.; revising the definition of  
4 "laser lighting device"; providing that any person who  
5 knowingly and willfully aims a laser lighting device at a  
6 person operating a motor vehicle, vessel, or aircraft  
7 commits a felony of the third degree; providing that any  
8 person who causes bodily harm while improperly pointing  
9 the laser lighting device at the operator of a motor  
10 vehicle, vessel, or aircraft commits a felony of the  
11 second degree; providing penalties; providing an effective  
12 date.

13  
14 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

15  
16 Section 1. Section 784.062, Florida Statutes, is amended  
17 to read:

18 784.062 Misuse of laser lighting devices.--

19 (1) As used in subsection (2) ~~this section~~, the term  
20 "laser lighting device" means a hand-held device, not affixed to  
21 a firearm, which emits a laser beam that is designed to be used  
22 by the operator as a pointer or highlighter to indicate, mark,  
23 or identify a specific position, place, item, or object. As used  
24 in subsection (3), the term "laser lighting device" means any  
25 device designed or used to amplify electromagnetic radiation by  
26 stimulated emission.

27 (2) Any person who knowingly and willfully shines, points,  
28 or focuses the beam of a laser lighting device at a law

29 enforcement officer, engaged in the performance of his or her  
30 official duties, in such a manner that would cause a reasonable  
31 person to believe that a firearm is pointed at him or her  
32 commits a noncriminal violation, punishable as provided in s.  
33 775.083.

34 (3) (a) Any person who knowingly and willfully shines,  
35 points, or focuses the beam of a laser lighting device on an  
36 individual operating a motor vehicle, vessel, or aircraft  
37 commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in  
38 s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

39 (b) Any person who knowingly and willfully shines, points,  
40 or focuses the beam of a laser lighting device on an individual  
41 operating a motor vehicle, vessel, or aircraft and such act  
42 results in bodily injury commits a felony of the second degree,  
43 punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

44 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.