A bill to be entitled

An act relating to recording custodial interrogations; providing definitions; providing that statements made during custodial interrogations are presumed to be inadmissible in court unless an electronic recording is made; providing requirements for such recordings; providing for rebutting the presumption of inadmissibility for certain nonrecorded statements; providing exceptions for certain statements; providing for use of statements for impeachment purposes; providing for preservation of recordings; providing a finding of important state interest; providing an effective date.

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

- Section 1. Custodial interrogations; recording.--
- (1) As used in this section, the term:
- (a) "Custodial interrogation" means any interrogation
 during which:
- 1. A reasonable person in the subject's position would consider himself or herself to be in custody.
- 2. A question is asked that is reasonably likely to elicit an incriminating response.
- (b) "Place of detention" means a building or a police station that is a place of operation for a police department, sheriff's department, or other law enforcement agency, other than a courthouse, that is owned or operated by a law enforcement agency at which persons are or may be held in

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29 detention in connection with criminal charges against those
30 persons.

- (c) "Electronic recording" means a reproduction of a
 custodial interrogation and may be created by motion picture,
 videotape, audiotape, or digital or other media.
- (2) A statement made by a person during a custodial interrogation shall be presumed to be inadmissible as evidence against that person in a criminal proceeding unless:
- (a) An electronic recording is made of the custodial interrogation.
- (b) The recording is substantially accurate and not intentionally altered.
- (c) Prior to the statement, but during the electronic recording, the person is given all constitutionally required warnings and the person knowingly, intelligently, and voluntarily waives any rights set out in the warnings that would otherwise preclude the admission of the statement absent the waiver of those rights.
- (d) The electronic recording device was capable of making a true, complete, and accurate recording of the interrogation, the operator of such device was competent, and the electronic recording has not been altered.
- (e) All voices that are material to the custodial interrogation are identified on the electronic recording.
- (f) During discovery pursuant to Rule 3.220, Florida Rules of Criminal Procedure, but in no circumstances later than the 20th day before the date of the proceeding in which the prosecution intends to offer the statement, the defense is

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provided with a true, complete, and accurate copy of all electronic recordings of the defendant made pursuant to this section.

- evidence, that the defendant was subjected to a custodial interrogation in violation of this section, any statements made by the defendant during or following that nonrecorded custodial interrogation, even if otherwise in compliance with this section, are presumed to be inadmissible in any criminal proceeding against the defendant except for the purposes of impeachment.
- (4)(a) In the absence of a true, complete, and accurate electronic recording, the prosecution may rebut a presumption of inadmissibility through clear and convincing evidence that:
 - 1. The statement was both voluntary and reliable.
- 2. Law enforcement officers had good cause not to electronically record all or part of the interrogation.
- (b) For purposes of paragraph (a), "good cause" includes, but is not limited to, the following:
- 1. The person refused to have the interrogation electronically recorded and such refusal was electronically recorded;
- 2. The failure to electronically record an entire interrogation was the result of equipment failure and obtaining replacement equipment was not feasible; or
- 3. The statement was obtained in the course of electronic eavesdropping that was being conducted pursuant to a properly obtained and issued warrant or that required no warrant.

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(5) This section does not apply to a statement made by the person:

- (a) At the person's trial or other hearing held in open court.
 - (b) Before a grand jury.

- (c) That is the res gestae of the arrest or the offense.
- (d) That is a spontaneous statement that was not made in response to a question.
- (e) During questioning that is routinely asked during the processing of the arrest of a person.
- (f) That does not arise from a custodial interrogation, as defined by this section.
- (g) That was obtained in another state by investigative personnel of such state, acting independently of law enforcement personnel of this state, in compliance with the laws of such state.
- (h) That was obtained by a federal officer in this state or another state during a lawful federal investigation and was obtained in compliance with the laws of the United States.
- (6) Nothing in this section precludes the admission of a statement, otherwise inadmissible under this section, that is used only for impeachment and not as substantive evidence.
- interrogation made pursuant to this section must be preserved until the person's conviction for any offense relating to the interrogation is final and all direct appeals and collateral challenges are exhausted, the prosecution of such offenses is barred by law, or the state irrevocably waives in writing any

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future prosecution of the person for any offense relating to the interrogation.

Section 2. The Legislature finds that many innocent persons are imprisoned and later released due to false confessions; there are many reasons innocent people confess ranging from coercion to mental illness; electronic recording of interrogations protects the innocent and provides the best evidence against the guilty; a number of other states and local jurisdictions now require recording of interrogations; and the benefits of electronic recording of interrogations outweigh its cost. Therefore, the Legislature determines and declares that this act fulfills an important state interest.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.