By Senator Lynn

7-173-05

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to the restoration of civil
3	rights of persons exonerated of felony
4	convictions; amending s. 940.05, F.S.;
5	providing automatic restoration of the civil
6	rights of a person convicted of a felony who is
7	subsequently exonerated of the offense;
8	amending s. 97.041, F.S., relating to
9	qualifications to register or vote, s. 499.012,
10	F.S., relating to the wholesale distribution of
11	prescription drugs, s. 499.067, F.S., relating
12	to denial, suspension, or revocation of a
13	permit, certification, or registration to deal
14	in prescription drugs, s. 499.64, F.S.,
15	relating to issuance of licenses and permits to
16	deal in prescription drugs, s. 944.292, F.S.,
17	relating to suspension of civil rights, and s.
18	944.293, F.S., relating to initiation of
19	restoration of civil rights, to conform;
20	providing a contingent effective date.
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22	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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24	Section 1. Section 940.05, Florida Statutes, is
25	amended to read:
26	940.05 Restoration of civil rights
27	(1) The civil rights of a person who has been
28	convicted of one or more felonies are automatically restored
29	by operation of law if the person is subsequently exonerated
30	of the conviction or convictions, whether as the result of a
31	postsentence DNA test or for any other reason.

1	(2) Any other person who has been convicted of a
2	felony may be entitled to the restoration of all the rights of
3	citizenship enjoyed by him or her prior to conviction if the
4	person has:
5	$\frac{(a)}{(1)}$ Received a full pardon from the board of
6	pardons;
7	$\underline{\text{(b)}(2)}$ Served the maximum term of the sentence imposed
8	upon him or her; or
9	(c) Been granted his or her final release by the
10	Parole Commission.
11	Section 2. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section
12	97.041, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
13	97.041 Qualifications to register or vote
14	(2) The following persons, who might be otherwise
15	qualified, are not entitled to register or vote:
16	(b) A person who has been convicted of any felony by
17	any court of record and who:
18	1. Has not had his or her civil rights restored as a
19	matter of law under s. 940.05; or
20	2. Has not had his or her right to vote restored
21	pursuant to law.
22	Section 3. Paragraph (n) of subsection (5) of section
23	499.012, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
24	499.012 Wholesale distribution; definitions; permits;
25	applications; general requirements
26	(5) The department may deny an application for a
27	permit or refuse to renew a permit for a prescription drug
28	wholesaler or an out-of-state prescription drug wholesaler if:
29	(n) The applicant or any affiliated party receives,
30	directly or indirectly, financial support and assistance from
31	a person who has been found guilty of any violation of ss.

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499.001-499.081 or chapter 465, chapter 501, or chapter 893,
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    any rules adopted under any of those sections or chapters, any
    federal or state drug law, or any felony where the underlying
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   facts related to drugs, regardless of whether the person has
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   been pardoned, had her or his civil rights restored, or had
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    adjudication withheld, other than through the ownership of
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    stock in a publicly traded company or a mutual fund. However,
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    this paragraph does not apply to a person whose civil rights
    have been restored by operation of law under s. 940.05.
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           Section 4. Subsection (5) of section 499.067, Florida
    Statutes, is amended to read:
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           499.067 Denial, suspension, or revocation of permit,
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    certification, or registration .--
           (5) The department may deny, suspend, or revoke a
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   permit issued under ss. 499.001-499.081 which authorizes the
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   permittee to purchase prescription drugs, if any owner,
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    officer, employee, or other person who participates in
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    administering or operating the establishment has been found
    guilty of any violation of ss. 499.001-499.081 or chapter 465,
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    chapter 501, or chapter 893, any rules adopted under any of
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    those sections or chapters, or any federal or state drug law,
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   regardless of whether the person has been pardoned, had her or
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    his civil rights restored, or had adjudication withheld.
    However, this subsection does not apply to a person whose
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    civil rights have been restored by operation of law under s.
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    940.05.
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           Section 5. Paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (3) of
    section 499.64, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
           499.64 Issuance of licenses and permits;
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   prohibitions.--
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- (3) No license or permit shall be issued, renewed, or allowed to remain in effect for any natural person, or for any corporation which has any corporate officer:
- (b) Who has been convicted of a felony under the prescription drug or controlled substance laws of this state or any other state or federal jurisdiction, regardless of whether he or she has been pardoned or had his or her civil rights restored. However, this paragraph does not apply to a person whose civil rights have been restored by operation of law under s. 940.05.
- (c) Who has been convicted of any felony other than a felony under the prescription drug or controlled substance laws of this state or any other state or federal jurisdiction and has not been pardoned or had his or her civil rights restored. However, this paragraph does not apply to a person whose civil rights have been restored by operation of law under s. 940.05.
- Section 6. Subsection (1) of section 944.292, Florida

 19 Statutes, is amended to read:
- 20 944.292 Suspension of civil rights.--
- (1) Upon conviction of a felony as defined in s. 10,
 Art. X of the State Constitution, the civil rights of the
 person convicted shall be suspended in Florida until such
 rights are restored by operation of law under s. 940.05 or by
 a full pardon, conditional pardon, or restoration of civil
 rights granted pursuant to s. 8, Art. IV of the State
 Constitution.
- 28 Section 7. Section 944.293, Florida Statutes, is 29 amended to read:
- 30 944.293 Initiation of restoration of civil 31 rights.--With respect to those persons convicted of a felony,

the following procedure shall apply: Prior to the time an 2 offender other than a person whose civil rights are restored 3 as a matter of law under s. 940.05 is discharged from 4 supervision, an authorized agent of the department shall obtain from the Governor the necessary application and other 5 forms required for the restoration of civil rights. The authorized agent shall assist the offender in completing these 8 forms and shall ensure that the application and all necessary material are forwarded to the Governor before the offender is 9 10 discharged from supervision. Section 8. This act shall take effect upon the 11 12 effective date of Senate Joint Resolution No. or 13 substantially similar legislation adopted during the Regular Session or a special session of the Legislature in 2005. 14 15 16 17 SENATE SUMMARY 18 Contingent upon the adoption of a proposed constitutional amendment, automatically restores the civil rights of a person who has been convicted of a felony and 19 subsequently exonerated of that felony, whether by DNA 2.0 testing or otherwise. 21 22 23 2.4 2.5 26 27 28 29 30 31