

By Senator Sebesta

16-818-05

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

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

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

18 784.062 Misuse of laser lighting devices.--
 19 (1) As used in this section, the term "laser lighting
 20 device" means a hand-held device, not affixed to a firearm,
 21 which emits a laser beam that is designed to be used by the
 22 operator as a pointer or highlighter to indicate, mark, or
 23 identify a specific position, place, item, or object.
 24 (2) Any person who knowingly and willfully shines,
 25 points, or focuses the beam of a laser lighting device at a
 26 law enforcement officer, engaged in the performance of his or
 27 her official duties, in such a manner that would cause a
 28 reasonable person to believe that a firearm is pointed at him
 29 or her commits a noncriminal violation, punishable as
 30 provided in s. 775.083.
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1 (3)(a) Any person who knowingly and willfully shines,
2 points, or focuses the beam of a laser lighting device on an
3 individual operating a motor vehicle, vessel, or airplane
4 commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided
5 in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

6 (b) Any person who knowingly and willfully shines,
7 points, or focuses the beam of a laser lighting device on an
8 individual operating a motor vehicle, vessel, or airplane and
9 such act results in bodily injury commits a felony of the
10 second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s.
11 775.083, or s. 775.084.

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

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15 SENATE SUMMARY

16 Provides that it is a third-degree felony to focus the
17 beam of a laser lighting device on the operator of a
18 motor vehicle, vessel, or airplane. Provides that it is a
19 second-degree felony if bodily harm occurs from the
20 pointing of the laser lighting device.