Florida Senate - 2006

By Senators Campbell and Miller

32-353-06

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to criminal use of personal
3	identification; amending s. 817.568, F.S.;
4	providing that it is a third-degree felony to
5	willfully and without authorization disclose,
б	sell, or transfer, or attempt to disclose,
7	sell, or transfer, personal identification
8	information concerning an individual, including
9	information sent to a foreign country, without
10	first obtaining the consent of the individual;
11	providing criminal penalties; providing that a
12	violation of s. 817.568, F.S., is a deceptive
13	and unfair trade practice and a violation of
14	part II of ch. 501, F.S.; providing civil
15	penalties; providing that the remedies are
16	cumulative and not exclusive; providing an
17	effective date.
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19	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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21	Section 1. Section 817.568, Florida Statutes, is
22	amended to read:
23	817.568 Criminal use of personal identification
24	information
25	(1) As used in this section, the term:
26	(a) "Access device" means any card, plate, code,
27	account number, electronic serial number, mobile
28	identification number, personal identification number, or
29	other telecommunications service, equipment, or instrument
30	identifier, or other means of account access that can be used,
31	alone or in conjunction with another access device, to obtain
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money, goods, services, or any other thing of value, or that 1 2 can be used to initiate a transfer of funds, other than a transfer originated solely by paper instrument. 3 (b) "Authorization" means empowerment, permission, or 4 5 competence to act. б (c) "Harass" means to engage in conduct directed at a 7 specific person that is intended to cause substantial 8 emotional distress to such person and serves no legitimate 9 purpose. "Harass" does not mean to use personal identification information for accepted commercial purposes. The term does 10 not include constitutionally protected conduct such as 11 12 organized protests or the use of personal identification 13 information for accepted commercial purposes. (d) "Individual" means a single human being and does 14 not mean a firm, association of individuals, corporation, 15 16 partnership, joint venture, sole proprietorship, or any other 17 entity. 18 (e) "Person" means a "person" as defined in s. 1.01(3). 19 (f) "Personal identification information" means any 20 21 name or number that may be used, alone or in conjunction with 22 any other information, to identify a specific individual, 23 including any: 1. Name, postal or electronic mail address, telephone 2.4 number, social security number, date of birth, mother's maiden 25 26 name, official state-issued or United States-issued driver's 27 license or identification number, alien registration number, 2.8 government passport number, employer or taxpayer identification number, Medicaid or food stamp account number, 29 bank account number, credit or debit card number, or personal 30 identification number or code assigned to the holder of a

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1 debit card by the issuer to permit authorized electronic use 2 of such card; 2. Unique biometric data, such as fingerprint, voice 3 print, retina or iris image, or other unique physical 4 5 representation; б 3. Unique electronic identification number, address, 7 or routing code; 4. Medical records; 8 5. Telecommunication identifying information or access 9 device; or 10 6. Other number or information that can be used to 11 12 access a person's financial resources. 13 (g) "Counterfeit or fictitious personal identification information" means any counterfeit, fictitious, or fabricated 14 information in the similitude of the data outlined in 15 paragraph (f) that, although not truthful or accurate, would 16 17 in context lead a reasonably prudent person to credit its 18 truthfulness and accuracy. (2)(a) Any person who willfully and without 19 authorization fraudulently uses, or possesses with intent to 20 21 fraudulently use, personal identification information 22 concerning an individual without first obtaining that 23 individual's consent, commits the offense of fraudulent use of personal identification information, which is a felony of the 2.4 third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 25 775.083, or s. 775.084. 26 27 (b) Any person who willfully and without authorization 2.8 fraudulently uses personal identification information concerning an individual without first obtaining that 29 individual's consent commits a felony of the second degree, 30 punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 31

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1 775.084, if the pecuniary benefit, the value of the services received, the payment sought to be avoided, or the amount of 2 the injury or fraud perpetrated is \$5,000 or more or if the 3 person fraudulently uses the personal identification 4 information of 10 or more individuals, but fewer than 20 5 6 individuals, without their consent. Notwithstanding any other 7 provision of law, the court shall sentence any person 8 convicted of committing the offense described in this 9 paragraph to a mandatory minimum sentence of 3 years' 10 imprisonment. (c) Any person who willfully and without authorization 11 12 fraudulently uses personal identification information 13 concerning an individual without first obtaining that individual's consent commits a felony of the first degree, 14 punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 15 775.084, if the pecuniary benefit, the value of the services 16 17 received, the payment sought to be avoided, or the amount of the injury or fraud perpetrated is \$50,000 or more or if the 18 person fraudulently uses the personal identification 19 information of 20 or more individuals, but fewer than 30 20 21 individuals, without their consent. Notwithstanding any other 22 provision of law, the court shall sentence any person 23 convicted of committing the offense described in this paragraph to a mandatory minimum sentence of 5 years' 2.4 imprisonment. If the pecuniary benefit, the value of the 25 26 services received, the payment sought to be avoided, or the 27 amount of the injury or fraud perpetrated is \$100,000 or more, 2.8 or if the person fraudulently uses the personal identification information of 30 or more individuals without their consent, 29 notwithstanding any other provision of law, the court shall 30 sentence any person convicted of committing the offense 31

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1 described in this paragraph to a mandatory minimum sentence of 2 10 years' imprisonment. 3 (3) Neither paragraph (2)(b) nor paragraph (2)(c) prevents a court from imposing a greater sentence of 4 incarceration as authorized by law. If the minimum mandatory 5 6 terms of imprisonment imposed under paragraph (2)(b) or 7 paragraph (2)(c) exceed the maximum sentences authorized under 8 s. 775.082, s. 775.084, or the Criminal Punishment Code under 9 chapter 921, the mandatory minimum sentence must be imposed. If the mandatory minimum terms of imprisonment under paragraph 10 (2)(b) or paragraph (2)(c) are less than the sentence that 11 12 could be imposed under s. 775.082, s. 775.084, or the Criminal 13 Punishment Code under chapter 921, the sentence imposed by the court must include the mandatory minimum term of imprisonment 14 as required by paragraph (2)(b) or paragraph (2)(c). 15 (4) Any person who willfully and without authorization 16 17 possesses, uses, or attempts to use personal identification information concerning an individual without first obtaining 18 that individual's consent, and who does so for the purpose of 19 harassing that individual, commits the offense of harassment 20 21 by use of personal identification information, which is a 22 misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 23 775.082 or s. 775.083. (5) If an offense prohibited under this section was 2.4 facilitated or furthered by the use of a public record, as 25 26 defined in s. 119.011, the offense is reclassified to the next 27 higher degree as follows: 2.8 (a) A misdemeanor of the first degree is reclassified 29 as a felony of the third degree. 30 (b) A felony of the third degree is reclassified as a felony of the second degree. 31

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1 (c) A felony of the second degree is reclassified as a 2 felony of the first degree. 3 4 For purposes of sentencing under chapter 921 and incentive gain-time eligibility under chapter 944, a felony offense that 5 6 is reclassified under this subsection is ranked one level 7 above the ranking under s. 921.0022 of the felony offense committed, and a misdemeanor offense that is reclassified 8 under this subsection is ranked in level 2 of the offense 9 severity ranking chart in s. 921.0022. 10 (6) Any person who willfully and without authorization 11 12 fraudulently uses personal identification information 13 concerning an individual who is less than 18 years of age without first obtaining the consent of that individual or of 14 his or her legal guardian commits a felony of the second 15 degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or 16 17 s. 775.084. 18 (7) Any person who is in the relationship of parent or legal guardian, or who otherwise exercises custodial authority 19 over an individual who is less than 18 years of age, who 2.0 21 willfully and fraudulently uses personal identification 22 information of that individual commits a felony of the second 23 degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. 2.4 (8)(a) Any person who willfully and fraudulently uses, 25 or possesses with intent to fraudulently use, personal 26 27 identification information concerning a deceased individual 2.8 commits the offense of fraudulent use or possession with intent to use personal identification information of a 29 deceased individual, a felony of the third degree, punishable 30 as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. 31

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1	(b) Any person who willfully and fraudulently uses
2	personal identification information concerning a deceased
3	individual commits a felony of the second degree, punishable
4	as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, if the
5	pecuniary benefit, the value of the services received, the
б	payment sought to be avoided, or the amount of injury or fraud
7	perpetrated is \$5,000 or more, or if the person fraudulently
8	uses the personal identification information of 10 or more but
9	fewer than 20 deceased individuals. Notwithstanding any other
10	provision of law, the court shall sentence any person
11	convicted of committing the offense described in this
12	paragraph to a mandatory minimum sentence of 3 years'
13	imprisonment.
14	(c) Any person who willfully and fraudulently uses
15	personal identification information concerning a deceased
16	individual commits the offense of aggravated fraudulent use of
17	the personal identification information of multiple deceased
18	individuals, a felony of the first degree, punishable as
19	provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, if the
20	pecuniary benefit, the value of the services received, the
21	payment sought to be avoided, or the amount of injury or fraud
22	perpetrated is \$50,000 or more, or if the person fraudulently
23	uses the personal identification information of 20 or more but
24	fewer than 30 deceased individuals. Notwithstanding any other
25	provision of law, the court shall sentence any person
26	convicted of the offense described in this paragraph to a
27	minimum mandatory sentence of 5 years' imprisonment. If the
28	pecuniary benefit, the value of the services received, the
29	payment sought to be avoided, or the amount of the injury or
30	fraud perpetrated is \$100,000 or more, or if the person
31	fraudulently uses the personal identification information of
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1 30 or more deceased individuals, notwithstanding any other 2 provision of law, the court shall sentence any person convicted of an offense described in this paragraph to a 3 mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years' imprisonment. 4 (9) Any person who willfully and fraudulently creates 5 б or uses, or possesses with intent to fraudulently use, 7 counterfeit or fictitious personal identification information 8 concerning a fictitious individual, or concerning a real 9 individual without first obtaining that real individual's consent, with intent to use such counterfeit or fictitious 10 personal identification information for the purpose of 11 12 committing or facilitating the commission of a fraud on 13 another person, commits the offense of fraudulent creation or use, or possession with intent to fraudulently use, 14 counterfeit or fictitious personal identification information, 15 a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 16 17 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. (10) Any person who commits an offense described in 18 this section and for the purpose of obtaining or using 19 personal identification information misrepresents himself or 20 21 herself to be a law enforcement officer; an employee or 22 representative of a bank, credit card company, credit 23 counseling company, or credit reporting agency; or any person who wrongfully represents that he or she is seeking to assist 2.4 the victim with a problem with the victim's credit history 25 26 shall have the offense reclassified as follows: 27 (a) In the case of a misdemeanor, the offense is 2.8 reclassified as a felony of the third degree. 29 (b) In the case of a felony of the third degree, the 30 offense is reclassified as a felony of the second degree. 31

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1 (c) In the case of a felony of the second degree, the 2 offense is reclassified as a felony of the first degree. 3 In the case of a felony of the first degree or a (d) 4 felony of the first degree punishable by a term of imprisonment not exceeding life, the offense is reclassified 5 6 as a life felony. 7 For purposes of sentencing under chapter 921, a felony offense 8 that is reclassified under this subsection is ranked one level 9 10 above the ranking under s. 921.0022 or s. 921.0023 of the felony offense committed, and a misdemeanor offense that is 11 12 reclassified under this subsection is ranked in level 2 of the 13 offense severity ranking chart. (11) A person who willfully and without authorization 14 discloses, sells, or transfers, or attempts to disclose, sell, 15 or transfer, personal identification information concerning an 16 17 individual, including personal identification information sent 18 to a foreign country, without first obtaining the consent of the individual commits the offense of fraudulent disclosure, 19 sale, or transfer of personal identification information, a 2.0 21 felony of the third degree. 22 (12) A person who violates this section commits a 23 deceptive and unfair trade practice in violation of part II of chapter 501 and is subject to the penalties and remedies 2.4 25 provided under that chapter, in addition to remedies otherwise available for such conduct. 26 27 (13) (11) The prosecutor may move the sentencing court 2.8 to reduce or suspend the sentence of any person who is convicted of a violation of this section and who provides 29 substantial assistance in the identification, arrest, or 30 conviction of any of that person's accomplices, accessories, 31

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in fraudulent possession or use of personal identification information. The arresting agency shall be given an opportunity to be heard in aggravation or mitigation in reference to any such motion. Upon good cause shown, the motion may be filed and heard in camera. The judge hearing the motion may reduce or suspend the sentence if the judge finds that the defendant rendered such substantial assistance. (14)(12) This section does not prohibit any lawfully authorized investigative, protective, or intelligence activity of a law enforcement agency of this state or any of its political subdivisions, of any other state or its political subdivisions, or of the Federal Government or its political subdivisions. (15)(13)(a) In sentencing a defendant convicted of an offense under this section, the court may order that the defendant make restitution under s. 775.089 to any victim of the offense. In addition to the victim's out-of-pocket costs, restitution may include payment of any other costs, including attorney's fees incurred by the victim in clearing the victim's credit history or credit rating, or any costs

coconspirators, or principals or of any other person engaged

22 incurred in connection with any civil or administrative 23 proceeding to satisfy any debt, lien, or other obligation of 24 the victim arising as the result of the actions of the 25 defendant.

(b) The sentencing court may issue such orders as are
necessary to correct any public record that contains false
information given in violation of this section.

29 <u>(16)(14)</u> Prosecutions for violations of this section 30 may be brought on behalf of the state by any state attorney or 31 by the statewide prosecutor.

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1	(17)(15) The Legislature finds that, in the absence of
2	evidence to the contrary, the location where a victim gives or
3	fails to give consent to the use of personal identification
4	information is the county where the victim generally resides.
5	(18)(16) Notwithstanding any other provision of law,
6	venue for the prosecution and trial of violations of this
7	section may be commenced and maintained in any county in which
8	an element of the offense occurred, including the county where
9	the victim generally resides.
10	(19)(17) A prosecution of an offense prohibited under
11	subsection (2), subsection (6), or subsection (7) must be
12	commenced within 3 years after the offense occurred. However,
13	a prosecution may be commenced within 1 year after discovery
14	of the offense by an aggrieved party, or by a person who has a
15	legal duty to represent the aggrieved party and who is not a
16	party to the offense, if such prosecution is commenced within
17	5 years after the violation occurred.
18	Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.
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21	SENATE SUMMARY
22	Provides that it is a third-degree felony to willfully and without authorization disclose, sell, or transfer, or
23	attempt to disclose, sell, or transfer, personal identification information concerning an individual,
24	including information sent to a foreign country, without first obtaining the consent of the individual. Provides
25	criminal penalties. Provides that a violation of the act is a deceptive and unfair trade practice. Provides civil
26	penalties. Provides that the remedies are cumulative and not exclusive.
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