

By the Committee on Judiciary; and Senator Geller

590-2048-07

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31

A bill to be entitled
An act relating to the practice of law;
amending s. 454.18, F.S.; deleting provisions
prohibiting a sheriff, deputy sheriff, clerk,
or deputy clerk from practicing law; deleting
an exception to the provision prohibiting a
sheriff, deputy sheriff, clerk, or deputy clerk
from practicing law; providing an effective
date.

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

Section 1. Section 454.18, Florida Statutes, is
amended to read:

454.18 Practice of law; self-representation ~~Officers~~
~~not allowed to practice.--No sheriff or clerk of any court, or~~
~~deputy thereof, shall practice in this state, nor shall any~~
~~person not of good moral character, or who has been convicted~~
~~of an infamous crime be entitled to practice. A~~ But no person
may not shall be denied the right to practice law on account
of gender ~~sex~~, race, or color. ~~And~~ Any person, whether an
attorney or not, ~~or whether within the exceptions mentioned~~
~~above or not,~~ may conduct his or her own cause in any court of
this state, or before any public board, committee, or officer,
subject to the lawful rules and discipline of such court,
board, committee, or officer. ~~The provisions of this section~~
~~restricting the practice of law by a sheriff or clerk, or~~
~~deputy thereof, shall not apply in a case where such person is~~
~~representing the office or agency in the course of duties as~~
~~an attorney.~~

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31

STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SB 174

Deletes provisions prohibiting a sheriff, deputy sheriff,
clerk, or deputy clerk from the practice of law.

Deletes a provision prohibiting a person not of good moral
character or who has been convicted of an infamous crime from
the practice of law.

Deletes an exception provision to the prohibition on a
sheriff, deputy sheriff, clerk, or deputy clerk from
practicing law.