## Florida Senate - 2007

CS for SB 1794

By the Committee on Criminal Justice

591-2138-07

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to probation; amending s.
3	948.06, F.S.; authorizing the court to issue a
4	notice to appear for certain violators;
5	providing for service of notices to appear;
6	providing for tolling of the probationary
7	period; providing for the use of a notification
8	letter of a technical violation of a term of
9	probation or community control; authorizing the
10	court to allow the submission of certain
11	documents electronically or by facsimile;
12	requiring the Department of Corrections to
13	provide the court with recommendations as to
14	disposition by the court; requiring the
15	Department of Corrections to conduct a study
16	and submit a report; providing an effective
17	date.
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19	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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21	Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 948.06, Florida
22	Statutes, is amended and paragraph (h) is added to subsection
23	(2) of that section, to read:
24	948.06 Violation of probation or community control;
25	revocation; modification; continuance; failure to pay
26	restitution or cost of supervision
27	(1)(a) Whenever within the period of probation or
28	community control there are reasonable grounds to believe that
29	a probationer or offender in community control has violated
30	his or her probation or community control in a material
31	respect, any law enforcement officer who is aware of the
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1	probationary or community control status of the probationer o			
2	offender in community control or any parole or probation			
3	supervisor may arrest or request any county or municipal law			
4	enforcement officer to arrest such probationer or offender			
5	without warrant wherever found and forthwith return him or her			
б	to the court granting such probation or community control.			
7	(b) Any committing trial court judge may issue a			
8	warrant, upon the facts being made known to him or her by			
9	affidavit of one having knowledge of such facts, for the			
10	arrest of the probationer or offender, returnable forthwith			
11	before the court granting such probation or community control.			
12	In lieu of issuing a warrant for arrest, the committing trial			
13	court judge may issue a notice to appear if the probationer or			
14	offender in community control has never been convicted of			
15	committing, and is not currently alleged to have committed, a			
16	qualifying offense as defined in this section.			
17	(c) Any parole or probation supervisor, any officer			
18	authorized to serve criminal process, or any peace officer of			
19	this state is authorized to serve and execute such warrant.			
20	Any parole or probation supervisor is authorized to serve such			
21	notice to appear.			
22	(d) Upon the filing of an affidavit alleging a			
23	violation of probation or community control and following			
24	issuance of a warrant under s. 901.02, <u>a warrantless arrest</u>			
25	under this section, or a notice to appear under this section,			
26	the probationary period is tolled until the court enters a			
27	ruling on the violation. Notwithstanding the tolling of			
28	probation as provided in this subsection, the court shall			
29	retain jurisdiction over the offender for any violation of the			
30	conditions of probation or community control that is alleged			
31	to have occurred during the tolling period. The probation			
	<b>a</b>			

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1 officer is permitted to continue to supervise any offender who 2 remains available to the officer for supervision until the supervision expires pursuant to the order of probation or 3 4 community control or until the court revokes or terminates the 5 probation or community control, whichever comes first. б (e) The chief judge of each judicial circuit shall 7 direct the department to use a notification letter of a 8 technical violation in appropriate cases in lieu of a violation report, affidavit, and warrant when the alleged 9 10 violation is not a new felony or misdemeanor offense. Such direction must be in writing and must specify the types of 11 12 specific violations which are to be reported by a notification letter of a technical violation, any exceptions to those 13 violations, and the required process for submission. At the 14 direction of the chief judge, the department shall send the 15 notification letter of a technical violation to the court. 16 17 (f) The court may allow the department to file an 18 affidavit, notification letter, violation report, or other report under this section by facsimile or electronic 19 20 submission. 21 (2) 2.2 (h)1. For each case in which the offender admits to 23 committing a violation or is found to have committed a violation the department shall provide the court with a 2.4 25 recommendation as to disposition by the court. The department shall provide the reasons for its recommendation and include 26 27 an evaluation of: 2.8 a. The appropriateness or inappropriateness of community facilities, programs, or services for treating or 29 30 supervising the offender; 31

1	b. The ability or inability of the department to			
2	provide an adequate level of supervision of the offender in			
3	the community and a statement of what constitutes an adequate			
4	level of supervision; and			
5	c. The existence of treatment modalities that the			
6	offender could use but that do not currently exist in the			
7	community.			
8	2. The report must also include a summary of the			
9	offender's prior supervision history, including the offender's			
10	prior participation in treatment, educational, and vocational			
11	programs, and any other actions by or circumstances concerning			
12	the offender which are relevant.			
13	3. The court may specify whether the recommendation or			
14	report must be oral or written and may waive the requirement			
15	for a report in an individual case or a class of cases. This			
16	paragraph does not prohibit the department from making any			
17	other report or recommendation that is provided for by law or			
18	requested by the court.			
19	Section 2. <u>The Department of Corrections shall conduct</u>			
20	a caseload and risk-assessment study to determine management			
21	caseload ratios for probation and community control and			
22	provide supervision based on an offender's level of risk. The			
23	department shall submit a final report to the Governor, the			
24	<u>President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of</u>			
25	Representatives by December 31, 2007.			
26	Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a			
27	law.			
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1		STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
2		<u>Senate Bill 1794</u>
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4	who are alleged control, rather of a notice to a have committed o offenses. The no	Authorizes judges to issue notices to appear to offenders who are alleged to have violated probation or community control, rather than having them arrested and jailed. Use of a notice to appear is not authorized for offenders who
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6 7		have committed one of the Anti-Murder Act qualifying offenses. The notices are to be served by probation officers.
8	_	Provides for tolling of the period of probation or
9	community control when a notice to appear is i	community control when a notice to appear is issued or a
10	-	Provides that the chief judge of the circuit "shall,"
11		rather than "may," direct the Department of Corrections to use a notification letter of technical violation to
12	re ju	report violations that are not new crimes. The chief judge determines the details of the process, including the types of violations and offenders who may be included
and how the letter is to be submitted.	and how the letter is to be submitted.	
14	related to probation violations by e-mail or facsim	Allows the department to submit affidavits and reports related to probation violations by e-mail or facsimile if
15		authorized by the court.
16 - Deletes the bill's provision that wor	Deletes the bill's provision that would have repealed statutory restrictions on probation officer caseloads for	
17		certain offense categories, and directs the Department of Corrections to study and report on using a
18		risk-assessment based caseload management system.
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