

## CHAMBER ACTION

Senate House Comm: RCS 3/6/2008

The Committee on Community Affairs (Geller) recommended the following amendment:

## Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Section 193.133, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

## 193.133 Effect of mortgage fraud on property assessments.--

(1) Upon the finding of probable cause of any person for the crime of mortgage fraud, as defined in s. 817.545 or any other fraud involving real property which may have artificially

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inflated or could artificially inflate the value of property affected by the fraud, the arresting agency shall promptly notify the property appraiser of the county in which the property or properties are located of the nature of the alleged fraud and the property or properties affected. If notification as required in this section would jeopardize or negatively affect a continuing investigation, notification may be delayed until such time as notice may be made without such affect.

- (2) The property appraiser may adjust the assessment of any affected real property.
- (3) Upon a conviction of fraud as defined in subsection (1), the property appraiser of the county in which the property or properties are located shall, if necessary, reassess the property or properties affected by the fraud.
- Section 2. Subsection (5) of section 817.545, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
  - 817.545 Mortgage fraud.--
- (5)(a) Any person who violates subsection (2) commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.
- (b) Any person who violates subsection (2) commits a felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, if the loan value stated on documents used in the mortgage lending process exceeds \$100,000.
  - Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.

======= T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ========== And the title is amended as follows:



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Delete everything before the enacting clause and insert:

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53 54 An act relating to mortgage fraud; creating s. 193.133, F.S.; requiring law enforcement agencies to notify property appraisers of incidents of mortgage fraud; authorizing property appraisers to reconsider property assessments under certain circumstances; amending s. 817.545, F.S.; increasing penalties for certain types of mortgage fraud; providing an effective date.

A bill to be entitled