By the Committee on Criminal Justice; and Senator Crist

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to detention by licensed security officers; amending s. 493.6305, F.S.; authorizing certain licensed security officers to detain certain individuals until the arrival of a law enforcement officer; providing limits on such detention; requiring that such security officers notify the appropriate law enforcement agency as quickly as possible; requiring the transfer of an alleged offender to the custody of the officer; authorizing limited searches of certain persons when a licensed security officer has probable cause to believe that the person is armed with a dangerous weapon; requiring that seized weapons be provided to a responding law enforcement officer; amending s. 493.6118, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 493.6305, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

493.6305 Uniforms, required wear; <u>authority; limitations</u> exceptions.--

(1) Class "D" and Class "MB" licensees shall perform duties regulated under this chapter in a uniform which bears at least one patch or emblem visible at all times clearly identifying the employing agency. A licensed security officer who also possesses a valid Class "G" license, or a licensed security agency manager who also possess a valid Class "G" license, who is on duty, in uniform, and on the premises of the client, who encounters any

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person under circumstances that reasonably indicate that the person has committed, is committing, or is about to commit a crime of which the client or patrons thereof would be victims, may temporarily detain the person for the purpose of ascertaining his or her identity. Upon resignation or termination of employment, a Class "D" licensee shall immediately return to the employer any uniform and any other equipment issued to her or him by the employer.

- (2) When temporarily detaining any person, the licensed security officer or security agency manager shall notify the appropriate law enforcement agency as soon as reasonably possible. Temporary detention of a person by a licensed security officer or security agency manager must be done solely for the purpose of detaining the person prior to the arrival of a law enforcement officer and custody of any person being temporarily detained shall be immediately transferred to the responding law enforcement officer for determination of appropriate disposition.
- (3) A person may not be further detained under this section upon the arrival of a law enforcement officer without the authority of the responding law enforcement officer. The temporary detention by a licensed security officer or security agency manager may not extend beyond the place where it was first affected or the immediate vicinity thereof.
- (4) A person may not be temporarily detained under subsection (2) longer than is reasonably necessary to effect the purposes of that section. The temporary detention may not extend beyond the place where it was first affected or the immediate vicinity thereof.
 - (5) If a licensed security officer or security agency

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manager who is authorized to temporarily detain any person under subsection (1) has probable cause to believe that any person whom the security officer has temporarily detained, or is about to temporarily detain, is armed with a firearm, concealed weapon, or any destructive device that poses a threat to the safety of the security officer or any person for whom the security officer is responsible for providing protection, the security officer or security agency manager may conduct a search of the person and his or her belongings only to the extent necessary to disclose, and for the purpose of disclosing, the presence of a weapon. If the search reveals such a weapon, the weapon may be seized and shall be provided to the responding law enforcement officer.

- (6)(2) Class "D" licensees may perform duties regulated under this chapter in nonuniform status on a limited special assignment basis, and only when duty circumstances or special requirements of the client necessitate such dress.
- $\underline{(7)}$ Class "D" licensees who are also Class "G" licensees and who are performing limited, special assignment duties may carry their authorized firearm concealed in the conduct of such duties.
- (8) Upon resignation or termination of employment, a Class
 "D" licensee shall immediately return to the employer any uniform
 and any other equipment issued to her or him by the employer.
- Section 2. Paragraph (j) of subsection (1) of section 493.6118, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 493.6118 Grounds for disciplinary action. --
- (1) The following constitute grounds for which disciplinary action specified in subsection (2) may be taken by the department against any licensee, agency, or applicant regulated by this

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chapter, or any unlicensed person engaged in activities regulated under this chapter.

- (j) Commission of an act of violence or the use of force on any person except in the lawful protection of one's self or another from physical harm or in the process of a lawful detention of a suspect while awaiting the arrival of a law enforcement officer.
 - Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.