HB 49 2008

A bill to be entitled

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An act relating to use of deadly force; amending s. 776.013, F.S.; requiring an overt act to support a belief that the use of deadly force for specified purposes is necessary; amending s. 776.032, F.S.; providing that immunity from civil and criminal liability for certain uses of deadly force does not apply to injuries to children and bystanders who are not affiliated with the overt act; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 776.013, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

776.013 Home protection; use of deadly force; presumption of fear of death or great bodily harm.--

(3) A person who is not engaged in <u>criminal</u> an unlawful activity and who is attacked in any other place where he or she has a right to be has no duty to retreat and has the right to stand his or her ground and meet force with force, including deadly force if he or she reasonably believes <u>due to an overt</u> act that it is necessary to do so to prevent death or great bodily harm to himself or herself or another or to prevent the commission of a forcible felony.

Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 776.032, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

776.032 Immunity from criminal prosecution and civil action for justifiable use of force.--

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(1) A person who uses force as permitted in s. 776.012, s. 776.013, or s. 776.031 is justified in using such force and is immune from criminal prosecution and civil action for the use of such force; however, such immunity shall not apply to injuries to children and bystanders who are not affiliated with the overt act. Immunity will be granted, unless the person against whom force was used is a law enforcement officer, as defined in s. 943.10(14), who was acting in the performance of his or her official duties and the officer identified himself or herself in accordance with any applicable law or the person using force knew or reasonably should have known that the person was a law enforcement officer. As used in this subsection, the term "criminal prosecution" includes arresting, detaining in custody, and charging or prosecuting the defendant.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.