

By Senator Crist

12-01109A-09

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the registration of career
3 offenders; amending s. 775.261, F.S.; providing that
4 it is a third-degree felony for a person who has
5 reason to believe that a career offender is or has not
6 complied with the registration requirements for career
7 offenders to assist the career offender elude a law
8 enforcement agency, to withhold information from the
9 law enforcement agency about the career offender's
10 noncompliance, to harbor or attempt to harbor the
11 career offender, to conceal or attempt to conceal the
12 career offender, or to provide information to a law
13 enforcement agency which the person knows to be false;
14 providing criminal penalties; reenacting s.
15 944.608(7), F.S., relating to notifying the Department
16 of Law Enforcement of information concerning career
17 offenders, to incorporate the amendments made to s.
18 775.261 F.S., in a reference thereto; providing an
19 effective date.

20
21 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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23 Section 1. Paragraph (c) is added to subsection (8) of
24 section 775.261, Florida Statutes, to read:

25 775.261 The Florida Career Offender Registration Act.—

26 (8) PENALTIES.—

27 (c) Any person who has reason to believe that a career
28 offender is not complying, or has not complied, with the
29 requirements of this section and who, with the intent to assist

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30 the career offender in eluding a law enforcement agency that is
31 seeking to find the career offender to question the career
32 offender about, or to arrest the career offender for, his or her
33 noncompliance with the requirements of this section:

34 1. Withholds information from, or does not notify, the law
35 enforcement agency about the career offender's noncompliance
36 with the requirements of this section and, if known, the
37 whereabouts of the career offender;

38 2. Harbors or attempts to harbor, or assists another person
39 in concealing or attempting to harbor, the career offender;

40 3. Conceals or attempts to conceal, or assists another
41 person in concealing or attempting to conceal, the career
42 offender; or

43 4. Provides information to the law enforcement agency
44 regarding the career offender which the person knows to be false
45 information,

46
47 commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in
48 s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

49 Section 2. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment
50 made by this act to section 775.261, Florida Statutes, in a
51 reference thereto, subsection (7) of section 944.608, Florida
52 Statutes, is reenacted to read:

53 944.608 Notification to Department of Law Enforcement of
54 information on career offenders.—

55 (7) A career offender who is under the supervision of the
56 department but who is not incarcerated shall, in addition to the
57 registration requirements provided in subsection (3), register
58 in the manner provided in s. 775.261(4)(c), unless the career

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59 offender is a sexual predator, in which case he or she shall
60 register as required under s. 775.21, or is a sexual offender,
61 in which case he or she shall register as required in s.
62 944.607. A career offender who fails to comply with the
63 requirements of s. 775.261(4) is subject to the penalties
64 provided in s. 775.261(8).

65 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.