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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the offense of sexting; providing that a minor commits the offense of sexting if he or she knowingly uses a computer, or any other device capable of electronic data transmission or distribution, to transmit or distribute to another minor any photograph or video of himself or herself which depicts nudity and is harmful to minors; providing noncriminal and criminal penalties; providing that the act does not prohibit prosecution of a minor for conduct relating to material that includes the depiction of sexual conduct or sexual excitement or for stalking; defining the term "found to have committed a misdemeanor"; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Sexting; prohibited acts; penalties.-

- (1) A minor commits the offense of sexting if he or she knowingly uses a computer, or any other device capable of electronic data transmission or distribution, to transmit or distribute to another minor any photograph or video of himself or herself which depicts nudity as defined in s. 847.001(9), Florida Statutes, and is harmful to minors as defined in s. 847.001(6), Florida Statutes.
 - (2) A minor who violates subsection (1):
- (a) Commits a noncriminal violation for a first violation of sexting, punishable by 8 hours of community service or, if

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ordered by the court in lieu of community service, a \$60 fine.

The court may also order the minor to participate in suitable training or instruction in lieu of, or in addition to, community service or a fine.

- (b) Commits a misdemeanor of the second degree for a violation that occurs after being found to have committed a noncriminal violation for sexting, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, Florida Statutes.
- (c) Commits a misdemeanor of the first degree for a violation that occurs after being found to have committed a misdemeanor of the second degree for sexting, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, Florida Statutes.
- (d) Commits a felony of the third degree for a violation that occurs after being found to have committed a misdemeanor of the first degree for sexting, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, Florida Statutes.
- (3) This section does not prohibit the prosecution of a minor for a violation of any law of this state if the photograph or video that depicts nudity also includes the depiction of sexual conduct or sexual excitement, and does not prohibit the prosecution of a minor for stalking under s. 784.048, Florida Statutes.
- (4) For purposes of this section, "conviction" means a determination of guilt that is the result of a plea or trial, or a finding of delinquency that is the result of a plea or adjudicatory hearing, regardless of whether adjudication is withheld.
 - Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2010.