

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate House

Comm: RCS 04/27/2011

The Committee on Rules (Siplin) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete lines 318 - 332 and insert:

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Section 9. Subsection (1) of section 838.022, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (4) is added to that section, to read:

838.022 Official misconduct.

- (1) It is unlawful for a public servant, to knowingly with corrupt intent to obtain a benefit for any person or to cause harm to another, to:
- (a) Falsify, or cause another person to falsify, any official record or official document. +

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- (b) Conceal, cover up, destroy, mutilate, or alter any official record or official document or cause another person to perform such an act.; or
- (c) Obstruct, delay, or prevent the communication of information relating to the commission of a felony that directly involves or affects the public agency or public entity served by the public servant.
- (d) Render any ruling, order or opinion, action or inaction adversely or contrary to the doctrine of stare decisis, binding precedent, the Supremacy Clause of the United States Constitution, or oath of office when clearly informed of such evidence or information, unless having the authority to overrule or recede from such rule of law, or distinguish such rule of law or set forth some other intervening or superseding evidence or information, and does so by such ruling, order, or opinion, or action or inaction.
- (e) Commit or cause any act in violation of 18 U.S.C. 241 or 18 U.S.C. 242 under federal law.
- (4) This section must be strictly enforced by law enforcement and state attorneys without discretion.

Section 10. Section 839.24, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

839.24 Penalty for failure to perform duty required of officer.—A sheriff, judicial officer, quasi-judicial officer, county court judge, prosecuting officer, court reporter, stenographer, interpreter, or other officer required to perform any duty under any provision of the Rules of Court or chapter 120 the criminal procedure law who willfully or negligently fails or knowingly refuses to perform his or her duty is shall

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be guilty of a misdemeanor of the first second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. This section must be strictly enforced by law enforcement and state attorney's without discretion.

Section 11. Subsection (4) of section 843.0855, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

843.0855 Criminal actions under color of law or through use of simulated legal process.-

- (4)(a) Any person who falsely under color of law attempts in any way to influence, intimidate, or hinder a public officer or law enforcement officer in the discharge of his or her official duties by means of, but not limited to, threats of or actual physical abuse or harassment, or through the use of simulated legal process, commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- (b) Any public servant or employee who, under color of law, in any manner intentionally obstructs or attempts to obstruct the due execution of the law, or with the intent to intimidate, hinder, deprive, or interrupt any officer, beverage enforcement agent, or other person or party in the legal performance of his or her duty or the exercise of his or her rights under the constitution or laws of this state or the United States, in connection with or relating to any legal process, whether such intent is effected or not, commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- (c) Any public servant or employee who, under color of law, in any manner intentionally renders any ruling, order or opinion, or action or inaction adverse or contrary to the doctrines of stare decisis, binding precedent, the Supremacy

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Clause of the United States Constitution, or oath of office, in connection with or relating to any legal process affecting persons or property, when clearly informed of such evidence or information, unless having the authority to overrule or recede from such rule of law, or distinguish such rule of law or set forth some other intervening or superseding evidence or information, and does so by such ruling, order or opinion, or action or inaction, commits a felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

- (d) Any public servant or employee or person who commits or causes any act in violation of 18 U.S.C. 241 or 18 U.S.C. 242 under federal law, in connection with or relating to any legal process affecting a person or property, is guilty of a felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- (e) This section must be strictly enforced by law enforcement and state attorneys without discretion.

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

Delete lines 74 - 78

and insert:

of bribery; amending s. 838.016, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the requisite mental state for the offenses of unlawful compensation and reward for official behavior and official misconduct, to conform to changes made by the act; amending s. 838.022, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the requisite mental state for the offenses of unlawful compensation and

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reward for official behavior and official misconduct, to conform to changes made by the act; adding actions by a public servant that are illegal; requiring the section be strictly enforced without discretion; amending s. 839.24, F.S.; revising the public servants who are affected and duties for which failure of performance is a misdemeanor of the first degree; requiring the section be strictly enforced without discretion; amending s. 843.0855, F.S.; adding certain actions under color of law by a public servant or employee to be unlawful; providing penalties; requiring the section be strictly enforced without discretion; providing an