

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to veterans' charitable organizations
 3 or sponsors; amending s. 496.415, F.S.; providing that
 4 is it unlawful for a person in connection with the
 5 planning, conduct, or execution of a solicitation or
 6 charitable or sponsor sales promotion to falsely state
 7 that he or she is a member of or represents a
 8 veterans' charitable organization or sponsor in
 9 certain circumstances or is a member of or represents
 10 a law enforcement or emergency service organization;
 11 subjecting violators to penalties; providing an
 12 effective date.

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

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 16 Section 1. Subsections (7) through (17) of section
 17 496.415, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (8)
 18 through (18), respectively, a new subsection (7) is added to
 19 that section, and subsection (6) of that section is amended, to
 20 read:

21 496.415 Prohibited acts.—It is unlawful for any person in
 22 connection with the planning, conduct, or execution of any
 23 solicitation or charitable or sponsor sales promotion to:

24 (6) Falsely state that he or she is a member of or
 25 represents a veterans' charitable organization or sponsor that
 26 exists primarily for the benefit of veterans or their families
 27 if:

28 (a) The organization is not registered with the department

29 as required under s. 496.405;

30 (b) Having registered under s. 496.405, the organization
 31 did not describe in its registration statement a manner of
 32 applying 51 percent or more of its contributions to benefit
 33 veterans or their families, including a general description of
 34 the benefit provided to veterans and their families; or

35 (c) Having registered under s. 496.405 and having
 36 described in its registration statement a manner of applying 51
 37 percent or more of its contributions to benefit veterans or
 38 their families, including a general description of the benefit
 39 to veterans and their families, the organization failed to apply
 40 the contributions received in a manner consistent with the
 41 description in the registration statement.

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 43 For purposes of this subsection, to solicit contributions from
 44 another person or organization while wearing the uniform,
 45 regardless of whether rank insignia is displayed, of a member of
 46 the United States Air Force, United States Army, United States
 47 Coast Guard, United States Marine Corps, United States Navy, or
 48 the National Guard, if such person is not, or has never been
 49 entitled to wear such uniform either through enlistment or
 50 commission in any branch of the United States Armed Forces, with
 51 the intent to deceive persons that he or she is a member of or
 52 represents a veterans' charitable organization or sponsor,
 53 constitutes a false statement.

54 (7) Falsely state that he or she is a member of or
 55 represents a law enforcement or emergency service organization,
 56 ~~or falsely state or represent that he or she is a member of or~~

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57 | ~~represents the United States Air Force, United States Army,~~
58 | ~~United States Coast Guard, United States Marine Corps, United~~
59 | ~~States Navy, the National Guard, or a law enforcement or~~
60 | ~~emergency service organization.~~

61 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.