

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to theft of utility services; amending  
 3           s. 812.14, F.S.; providing additional criminal  
 4           penalties for utility services wrongfully taken;  
 5           providing that the person who unlawfully took utility  
 6           services is liable to the utility for an increased  
 7           civil penalty subject to the amount of the utility  
 8           services unlawfully obtained; providing an effective  
 9           date.

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

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13           Section 1. Subsections (4), (7), (8), and (10) of section  
 14           812.14, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

15           812.14 Trespass and larceny with relation to utility  
 16           fixtures; theft of utility services.—

17           (4) A ~~Any~~ person who willfully violates paragraph (2)(a),  
 18           paragraph (2)(b), or paragraph (2)(c) commits theft ~~a~~  
 19           ~~misdemeanor of the first degree~~, punishable as provided in s.  
 20           812.014 ~~s. 775.082 or s. 775.083~~.

21           (7) A person who willfully violates subsection (5) commits  
 22           a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s.  
 23           775.082 or s. 775.083. Prosecution for a violation of subsection  
 24           (5) does not preclude prosecution for theft pursuant to ~~under~~  
 25           subsection (8) or s. 812.014.

26           (8) Theft of utility services for the purpose of  
 27           facilitating the manufacture of a controlled substance is theft  
 28           ~~a misdemeanor of the first degree~~, punishable as provided in s.

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29 | 812.014 ~~s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.~~

30 | (10) Whoever is found in a civil action to have violated  
31 | ~~the provisions of~~ this section is liable to the utility involved  
32 | in an amount equal to 3 times the amount of services unlawfully  
33 | obtained or \$3,000 ~~\$1,000~~, whichever is greater.

34 | Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2013.