By Senator Joyner

19-00533-16 2016476

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to driver license or driving privilege suspensions; amending s. 322.34, F.S.; revising penalties for certain persons whose driver license or driving privilege has been suspended and who drive a motor vehicle upon the highways of this state knowing of such suspension; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 322.34, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

322.34 Driving while license suspended, revoked, canceled, or disqualified.—

(2) (a) Any person whose driver license or driving privilege has been suspended as provided by law, except habitual traffic offenders as defined in s. 322.264, who, knowing of such suspension, drives a motor vehicle on the highways of this state while such license or privilege is suspended, upon:

1. A first conviction, is guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

2. A second or subsequent conviction, is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

(b) Any person whose driver license or driving privilege has been canceled, suspended, or revoked as provided by law, except habitual traffic offenders as persons defined in s. 322.264, who, knowing of such cancellation, suspension, or

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revocation, drives <u>a</u> any motor vehicle <u>on</u> upon the highways of this state while such license or privilege is canceled, suspended, or revoked, upon:

- $\frac{1.(a)}{(a)}$ A first conviction, is guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- $\frac{2.(b)}{A}$ A second conviction, is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- 3.(c) A third or subsequent conviction, is guilty of a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

The element of knowledge is satisfied if the person has been previously cited as provided in subsection (1); or the person admits to knowledge of the cancellation, suspension, or revocation; or the person received notice as provided in subsection (4). There shall be a rebuttable presumption that the knowledge requirement is satisfied if a judgment or order as provided in subsection (4) appears in the department's records for any case except for one involving a suspension by the department for failure to pay a traffic fine or for a financial responsibility violation.

Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2016.