

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to persons authorized to visit state
 3 correctional institutions; amending s. 944.23, F.S.;
 4 authorizing legislators visiting state correctional
 5 institutions to be accompanied by specified persons;
 6 providing an effective date.

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

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 10 Section 1. Section 944.23, Florida Statutes, is amended to
 11 read:

12 944.23 Persons authorized to visit state prisons.—

13 (1) The following persons shall be authorized to visit at
 14 their pleasure all state correctional institutions:

15 (a) The Governor.

16 (b) All Cabinet members.

17 (c) Members of the Legislature. A member of the
 18 Legislature may choose to be accompanied on a visit by another
 19 elected official, an ordained minister, or a member of the
 20 legislator's staff.

21 (d) Judges of state courts.

22 (e) State attorneys.

23 (f) Public defenders. ~~and~~

24 (g) Authorized representatives of the commission.

25 (2) No other person not otherwise authorized by law shall

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26 | be permitted to enter a state correctional institution except
27 | under such regulations as the department may prescribe.
28 | Permission shall not be unreasonably withheld from those who
29 | give sufficient evidence to the department that they are bona
30 | fide reporters or writers.

31 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.