

By Senator Hutson

7-00602-20

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1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to unlawful use of uniforms, medals,
 3 or insignia; amending s. 817.312, F.S.; prohibiting
 4 certain misrepresentations concerning military service
 5 when made for specified purposes; providing criminal
 6 penalties; providing an effective date.

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

9
 10 Section 1. Section 817.312, Florida Statutes, is amended to
 11 read:

12 817.312 Unlawful use of uniforms, medals, or insignia.—

13 (1) (a) A person may not:

14 1. Misrepresent himself or herself as a member or veteran
 15 of the United States Air Force, United States Army, United
 16 States Coast Guard, United States Marine Corps, United States
 17 Navy, or National Guard; or

18 2. Wear the uniform of or any medal or insignia authorized
 19 for use by members or veterans of the United States Air Force,
 20 United States Army, United States Coast Guard, United States
 21 Marine Corps, United States Navy, or ~~the~~ National Guard which he
 22 or she is not authorized to wear,

23
 24 while soliciting for charitable contributions, ~~or~~ for the
 25 purpose of material gain, or for professional or political
 26 benefit.

27 (b) This subsection ~~section~~ does not prohibit persons in
 28 the theatrical profession from wearing such uniforms, medals, or
 29 insignia while actually engaged in such profession.

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30 (2) A person who violates subsection (1) commits a felony
31 of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s.
32 775.083, or s. 775.084.

33 Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2020.