HB 589 2020

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to offenses against firefighters;

amending s. 782.065, F.S.; providing enhanced

penalties for certain offenses committed against

firefighters engaged in the performance of their

lawful duties; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 782.065, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

782.065 Murder; law enforcement officer, correctional officer, correctional probation officer, firefighter.—
Notwithstanding ss. 775.082, 775.0823, 782.04, 782.051, and chapter 921, a defendant shall be sentenced to life imprisonment without eligibility for release upon findings by the trier of fact that, beyond a reasonable doubt:

- (1) The defendant committed murder in the first degree in violation of s. 782.04(1) and a death sentence was not imposed; murder in the second or third degree in violation of s. 782.04(2), (3), or (4); attempted murder in the first or second degree in violation of s. 782.04(1)(a)1. or (2); or attempted felony murder in violation of s. 782.051; and
- (2) The victim of any offense described in subsection (1) was a law enforcement officer, part-time law enforcement

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officer, auxiliary law enforcement officer, correctional officer, part-time correctional officer, auxiliary correctional officer, correctional probation officer, part-time correctional probation officer, or auxiliary correctional probation officer, as those terms are defined in s. 943.10, or firefighter, as defined in s. 633.102, engaged in the lawful performance of a legal duty.

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