

HB 1441

2021

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the duty of law enforcement
3 officers to render medical assistance; creating s.
4 901.44, F.S.; providing that a law enforcement officer
5 has a duty to render first aid or immediately seek
6 medical assistance for persons in custody in certain
7 situations; requiring that violations be reported to
8 the Criminal Justice Standards and Training
9 Commission; providing an effective date.

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

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13 Section 1. Section 901.44, Florida Statutes, is created to
14 read:

15 901.44 Duty to render medical assistance.—A law
16 enforcement officer who becomes aware, or has reason to be
17 aware, that a person in the custody of a law enforcement officer
18 is injured, is in need of medical attention, or is requesting
19 medical attention, has a duty to provide first aid or
20 immediately seek medical attention, if the individual needs such
21 first aid or immediate medical attention, to the extent that it
22 is reasonable for the officer to do so based upon the totality
23 of the circumstances, without jeopardizing the officer's own
24 health and safety. An officer's failure to render aid as
25 required by this section shall be reported by the officer's

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26 | employing agency to the Criminal Justice Standards and Training
27 | Commission for investigation and possible disciplinary sanctions
28 | under s. 943.1395.

29 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.