

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to law enforcement officers; amending
 3 s. 775.085, F.S.; including service as a law
 4 enforcement officer as a ground for reclassification
 5 of certain criminal offenses on the basis of prejudice
 6 against the victim; defining the term "law enforcement
 7 officer"; amending s. 943.1729, F.S.; authorizing
 8 crisis intervention training for law enforcement
 9 officers to obtain initial certification or for
 10 continued employment; providing an effective date.

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

13
 14 Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 775.085, Florida
 15 Statutes, is amended to read:

16 775.085 Evidencing prejudice while committing offense;
 17 reclassification.—

18 (1) (a) The penalty for any felony or misdemeanor shall be
 19 reclassified as provided in this subsection if the commission of
 20 such felony or misdemeanor evidences prejudice based on the
 21 race, color, ancestry, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation,
 22 national origin, homeless status, service as a law enforcement
 23 officer, or advanced age of the victim:

24 1. A misdemeanor of the second degree is reclassified to a
 25 misdemeanor of the first degree.

26 2. A misdemeanor of the first degree is reclassified to a
27 felony of the third degree.

28 3. A felony of the third degree is reclassified to a
29 felony of the second degree.

30 4. A felony of the second degree is reclassified to a
31 felony of the first degree.

32 5. A felony of the first degree is reclassified to a life
33 felony.

34 (b) As used in paragraph (a), the term:

35 1. "Advanced age" means that the victim is older than 65
36 years of age.

37 2. "Homeless status" means that the victim:

38 a. Lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime
39 residence; or

40 b. Has a primary nighttime residence that is:

41 (I) A supervised publicly or privately operated shelter
42 designed to provide temporary living accommodations; or

43 (II) A public or private place not designed for, or
44 ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human
45 beings.

46 3. "Law enforcement officer" has the same meaning as
47 provided in s. 784.07(1).

48 Section 2. Section 943.1729, Florida Statutes, is amended
49 to read:

50 943.1729 Skills training relating to community policing

51 | and crisis intervention.—

52 | (1) DEFINITION.—As used in this section, "community
53 | policing" means a policing technique or strategy as defined in
54 | s. 163.340.

55 | (2) BASIC SKILLS COURSE.—The Criminal Justice Standards
56 | and Training Commission may incorporate community policing
57 | concepts and training in crisis intervention into the course
58 | curriculum required in order for law enforcement officers to
59 | obtain initial certification.

60 | (3) CONTINUING TRAINING.—The commission may establish a
61 | continued employment training components ~~component~~ related to
62 | community policing techniques and crisis intervention ~~before~~
63 | ~~January 1, 1999~~. Completion of the training components ~~component~~
64 | shall count toward the 40 hours of required instruction for
65 | continued employment or appointment as a law enforcement
66 | officer.

67 | Section 3. This act shall take effect October 1, 2021.