

By Senator Pizzo

38-00337-21

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to visiting county and municipal
3 detention facilities; creating s. 951.225, F.S.;
4 authorizing specified persons to visit at their
5 pleasure county and municipal detention facilities;
6 prohibiting persons not otherwise authorized by law
7 from entering such facilities; providing exceptions;
8 prohibiting the unreasonable withholding of permission
9 to enter such facilities from professional journalists
10 or writers; providing an effective date.

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

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14 Section 1. Section 951.225, Florida Statutes, is created to
15 read:

16 951.225 Persons authorized to visit county and municipal
17 detention facilities.-

18 (1) All of the following persons are authorized to visit at
19 their pleasure any county or municipal detention facility:

20 (a) The Governor.

21 (b) Cabinet members.

22 (c) Members of the Legislature.

23 (d) State court judges.

24 (e) State attorneys.

25 (f) Public defenders.

26 (2) A person not otherwise authorized by law may not enter
27 a county or municipal detention facility except under such rules
28 or regulations as the county and municipal detention facilities
29 may prescribe. Permission may not be unreasonably withheld from

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30 a person who gives sufficient evidence to the facility that he
31 or she is a professional journalist, as defined in s. 90.5015,
32 or a writer.

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