

By Senator Taddeo

40-00094-21

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1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to release from confinement during an
3 epidemic or a pandemic; creating s. 944.614, F.S.;
4 authorizing the Secretary of Corrections to release
5 prisoners from the correctional system during an
6 epidemic or a pandemic if they meet specified
7 criteria; creating s. 951.30, F.S.; authorizing each
8 sheriff to release from detention county and municipal
9 prisoners during an epidemic or a pandemic if they
10 meet specified criteria; creating s. 985.261, F.S.;
11 authorizing the secretary of the Department of
12 Juvenile Justice to release persons it is detaining
13 during an epidemic or a pandemic if they meet
14 specified criteria; providing an effective date.

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

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18 Section 1. Section 944.614, Florida Statutes, is created to
19 read:

20 944.614 Release from incarceration during an epidemic or a
21 pandemic.—The secretary may release a prisoner from the
22 correctional system during an epidemic or a pandemic if the
23 prisoner meets all of the following criteria:

24 (1) Is nonviolent.

25 (2) Is of an age or has a preexisting health condition that
26 makes him or her more susceptible to serious illness, permanent
27 disability, or death.

28 (3) Poses no risk or a low risk to himself or herself or to
29 the public.

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30 Section 2. Section 951.30, Florida Statutes, is created to
31 read:

32 951.30 Release from detention during an epidemic or a
33 pandemic.—Each sheriff may release from detention any county
34 prisoner or municipal prisoner, as those terms are defined in s.
35 951.23, during an epidemic or a pandemic if the prisoner meets
36 all of the following criteria:

37 (1) Is nonviolent.

38 (2) Is of an age or has a preexisting health condition that
39 makes him or her more susceptible to serious illness, permanent
40 disability, or death.

41 (3) Poses no risk or a low risk to himself or herself or to
42 the public.

43 Section 3. Section 985.261, Florida Statutes, is created to
44 read:

45 985.261 Release from detention during an epidemic or a
46 pandemic.—The secretary of the department may release any person
47 detained by the department during an epidemic or a pandemic if
48 the person meets all of the following criteria:

49 (1) Is nonviolent.

50 (2) Is of an age or has a preexisting health condition that
51 makes him or her more susceptible to serious illness, permanent
52 disability, or death.

53 (3) Poses no risk or a low risk to himself or herself or to
54 the public.

55 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.