

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to impeding, provoking, or harassing  
 3           law enforcement officers; creating s. 843.31, F.S.;  
 4           providing a definition; prohibiting approaching a law  
 5           enforcement officer or remaining within a specified  
 6           distance of such officer with specified intent after  
 7           receiving a warning not to approach; providing  
 8           criminal penalties; providing an effective date.

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

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 12           Section 1. Section 843.31, Florida Statutes, is created to  
 13 read:

14           843.31 Approaching a law enforcement officer after a  
 15 warning with intent to impede, provoke, or harass.-

16           (1) As used in this section, the term "law enforcement  
 17 officer" has the same meaning as in s. 943.10(1).

18           (2)(a) It is unlawful for any person, after receiving a  
 19 warning from a law enforcement officer not to approach, to  
 20 violate such warning and approach or remain within 30 feet of a  
 21 law enforcement officer who is engaged in the lawful performance  
 22 of any legal duty with the intent to:

23           1. Interrupt, disrupt, hinder, impede, or interfere with  
 24 the law enforcement officer's ability to perform such duty;

25           2. Provoke a physical response from the law enforcement

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26 officer; or

27 3. Directly or indirectly harass the law enforcement  
28 officer.

29 (b) A person who violates this subsection commits a  
30 misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s.  
31 775.082 or s. 775.083.

32 Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2023.