House

Florida Senate - 2023 Bill No. CS/HB 543, 1st Eng.



LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

Floor: 7/F/2R 03/29/2023 05:28 PM

Senator Stewart moved the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Between lines 965 and 966

insert:

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Section 14. Section 790.174, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

790.174 Safe storage of firearms required.-

(1) A person who stores or leaves, on a premise <u>or in a</u> <u>conveyance</u> under his or her control, a loaded firearm, as defined in s. 790.001, <u>or an unloaded firearm within close</u> <u>proximity of ammunition</u>, and who knows or reasonably should know

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12 that a minor is likely to gain access to the firearm without the lawful permission of the minor's parent or the person having 13 14 charge of the minor, or without the supervision required by law, 15 shall keep the firearm in a securely locked box or container or 16 in a location which a reasonable person would believe to be secure or shall secure it with a trigger lock, except when the 17 18 person is carrying the firearm on his or her body or within such 19 close proximity thereto that he or she can retrieve and use it 20 as easily and quickly as if he or she carried it on his or her 21 body.

22 (2) It is a misdemeanor of the first second degree, 23 punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, if a person 24 violates subsection (1) by failing to store or leave a firearm in the required manner and as a result thereof a minor gains 25 26 access to the firearm, without the lawful permission of the 27 minor's parent or the person having charge of the minor, and possesses or exhibits it, without the supervision required by 28 29 law:

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32 33 (a) In a public place; or

(b) In a rude, careless, angry, or threatening manner in violation of s. 790.10.

34 This subsection does not apply if the minor obtains the firearm 35 as a result of an unlawful entry by any person.

36 (3) <u>It is a felony of the third degree, punishable as</u>
37 provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, if a person
38 violates subsection (2) by failing to store or leave a firearm
39 in the required manner and a minor gains access to the firearm
40 without the lawful permission of the minor's parent or the

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41	person having charge of the minor, and the minor:
42	(a) Discharges such firearm, not in self-defense, and
43	causes bodily harm to himself or herself or another person; or
44	(b) Gives the firearm to another person who discharges the
45	firearm, not in self-defense, and causes bodily harm to any
46	person.
47	(4)(a) A person who unsafely stores or leaves, in a
48	conveyance, a firearm in such a manner that he or she knows or
49	reasonably should know exposes the firearm to a heightened
50	likelihood of theft commits a misdemeanor of the second degree,
51	punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
52	(b) There is a presumption of safe storage that does not
53	expose the firearm to heightened likelihood of theft under the
54	following circumstances:
55	1. The firearm is stored in a lockbox or locked safe or has
56	a trigger lock engaged.
57	2. The firearm is stored in a locked conveyance, and, if
58	the firearm is a handgun, the firearm is outside of the plain
59	view of a person outside of the conveyance.
60	3. The firearm is on the person or under the immediate
61	control of the person lawfully allowed to possess the firearm.
62	(5) As used in this <u>section</u> act, the term "minor" means any
63	person under the age of 16.
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65	======== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ===========
66	And the title is amended as follows:
67	Between lines 57 and 58
68	insert:
69	790.174, F.S.; revising provisions related to the

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70 requirements for the safe storage of firearms; 71 increasing the criminal penalties related to the safe storage provisions; providing criminal penalties for 72 73 the failure to store or leave firearms in the required 74 manner under specified circumstances; providing 75 criminal penalties for the unsafe storing or leaving 76 of a firearm in a conveyance under specified 77 circumstances; providing for a presumption of safe 78 storage under certain circumstances; amending s.