CS/HB 67

1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to protection of specified personnel; 3 amending s. 836.12, F.S.; providing a definition; 4 requiring a violation to be committed with specified 5 intent; prohibiting specified threats against a 6 justice or judicial assistant or a family member of 7 such person; prohibiting specified harassment of 8 certain personnel with the intent to intimidate or 9 coerce such person to perform or refrain from performing a lawful duty; providing criminal 10 11 penalties; providing an effective date. 12 13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 14 Section 836.12, Florida Statutes, is amended to 15 Section 1. 16 read: 17 836.12 Threats or harassment.-18 (1)As used in this section, the term: "Family member" means: 19 (a) 20 An individual related to another individual by blood or 1. 21 marriage; or 22 2. An individual who stands in loco parentis to another 23 individual. 24 (b) "Judicial assistant" means a court employee assigned 25 to the office of a specific judge or justice responsible for Page 1 of 2

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26	providing administrative, secretarial, and clerical support to
27	the assigned judge or justice.
28	(c) (b) "Law enforcement officer" means:
29	1. A law enforcement officer as defined in s. 943.10; or
30	2. A federal law enforcement officer as defined in s.
31	901.1505.
32	(2) <u>(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b),</u> any person who
33	knowingly and willfully threatens a law enforcement officer, a
34	state attorney, an assistant state attorney, a firefighter, a
35	judge, <u>a justice, a judicial assistant,</u> or an elected official,
36	or a family member of <u>any</u> such <u>person</u> <del>persons</del> , with death or
37	serious bodily harm commits a misdemeanor of the first degree,
38	punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
39	(b)-(3) A person who commits a second or subsequent
40	violation of <u>paragraph (a)</u> subsection (2) commits a felony of
41	the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s.
42	775.083, or s. 775.084.
43	(3) Any person who knowingly and willfully harasses a law
44	enforcement officer, a state attorney, an assistant state
45	attorney, a firefighter, a judge, a justice, a judicial
46	assistant, or an elected official, with the intent to intimidate
47	or coerce such a person to perform or refrain from performing a
48	lawful duty, commits a misdemeanor of the first degree,
49	punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
50	Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2023.
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