

By Senator Burgess

23-00274-23

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Special Persons Registry;
3 providing a short title; creating s. 402.88, F.S.;
4 authorizing local law enforcement agencies to develop
5 and maintain a database, to be known as the "Special
6 Persons Registry," for a specified purpose; providing
7 for enrollment in and removal from the registry;
8 specifying information the registry may include;
9 authorizing local law enforcement agencies to provide
10 relevant information from the registry to law
11 enforcement officers under certain circumstances;
12 providing an effective date.

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

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16 Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Protect Our Loved
17 Ones Act."

18 Section 2. Section 402.88, Florida Statutes, is created to
19 read:

20 402.88 Special Persons Registry in interactions with law
21 enforcement.-

22 (1) (a) A local law enforcement agency may develop and
23 maintain a database, to be known as the "Special Persons
24 Registry," listing persons who have developmental,
25 psychological, or other disabilities or conditions that may be
26 relevant to their interactions with law enforcement officers.
27 Persons with any type of confirmed developmental, psychological,
28 or other disability or condition, including, but not limited to,
29 autism spectrum disorder, Alzheimer's disease or a dementia-

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30 related disorder, bipolar disorder, or Down syndrome, may be
31 enrolled in the registry. The confirmation of the disability or
32 condition must be certified by a physician or physician
33 assistant licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459 or an
34 advanced practice registered nurse licensed under chapter 464.
35 In the case of psychological conditions, the confirmation of the
36 condition must be certified by a psychologist licensed under
37 chapter 490, a mental health counselor licensed under chapter
38 491, or a psychiatrist as defined in s. 394.455(37). An adult
39 with a disability may enroll himself or herself in the registry.
40 If a person with a disability has been declared incapacitated
41 under chapter 744, a parent or legal guardian of the person may
42 enroll him or her in the registry.

43 (b) A minor with a disability or condition may be enrolled
44 in the registry by his or her parent or legal guardian. An
45 incapacitated adult enrolled by another person must be notified
46 of that enrollment by the local law enforcement agency in
47 writing at his or her address of record within 5 business days
48 after enrollment in the registry. A minor who was enrolled by
49 another person must be notified by the agency in writing of that
50 enrollment at his or her address of record within 5 business
51 days after his or her 18th birthday.

52 (c) A registration is valid until the person is removed
53 from the registry. A minor or an incapacitated adult may be
54 removed from the registry by the minor's parent or legal
55 guardian or the adult's legal guardian, respectively. A
56 competent person who has reached 18 years of age may also choose
57 to have his or her name removed from the registry. Upon a valid
58 verbal or written request for removal of a person from the

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59 registry, the local law enforcement agency must remove the
60 person's information from the registry within 5 business days
61 after the request is made.

62 (2) The registry may include, but need not be limited to,
63 any of the following information:

64 (a) The listed person's name, contact information, personal
65 identifying information, and disability or condition that may be
66 relevant to interactions with law enforcement officers.

67 (b) If a person did not enroll himself or herself, the
68 name, contact information, and personal identifying information
69 of the person who enrolled the listed person in the registry.

70 (c) Any additional information provided by the enrollee or
71 the person who enrolled the listed person in the registry,
72 including the certification of the condition or disability.

73 (3) A local law enforcement agency may provide relevant
74 information from the registry to a law enforcement officer
75 engaged in his or her official duties.

76 Section 3. This act shall take effect January 1, 2024.