

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to duties and prohibited acts
 3 associated with death; amending s. 406.12, F.S.;
 4 increasing the offense severity ranking for failing or
 5 refusing to report certain death, circumstances
 6 surrounding the death, and other pertinent information
 7 or for altering the evidence or circumstances
 8 surrounding the death; 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 406.12, Florida Statutes, is amended to
 13 read:

14 406.12 Duty to report; prohibited acts.—It is the duty of
 15 any person in the district where a death occurs, including all
 16 municipalities and unincorporated and federal areas, who becomes
 17 aware of the death of any person occurring under the
 18 circumstances described in s. 406.11 to report such death and
 19 circumstances forthwith to the district medical examiner. Any
 20 person who knowingly fails or refuses to report such death and
 21 circumstances, who refuses to make available prior medical or
 22 other information pertinent to the death investigation, or who,
 23 without an order from the office of the district medical
 24 examiner, willfully touches, removes, or disturbs the body,
 25 clothing, or any article upon or near the body, with the intent

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26 | to alter the evidence or circumstances surrounding the death,
27 | commits a felony ~~shall be guilty of a misdemeanor~~ of the third
28 | ~~first~~ degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s.
29 | 775.083.

30 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.