

ENROLLED

CS/HB 1653

2024 Legislature

1
 2 An act relating to duties and prohibited acts
 3 associated with death; amending s. 406.12, F.S.;
 4 authorizing a report regarding specified deaths and
 5 circumstances to be made to a law enforcement agency
 6 in addition to the medical examiner; increasing the
 7 criminal penalty for failing or refusing to report a
 8 death or for refusing to make available certain
 9 information with the intent to conceal the death or
 10 alter the evidence and circumstances surrounding the
 11 death; increasing the criminal penalty for willfully
 12 touching, removing, or disturbing a body without an
 13 order from the office of the district medical examiner
 14 with the intent to conceal the death or alter the
 15 evidence and circumstances surrounding the death;
 16 providing an effective date.

17
 18 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

19
 20 Section 1. Section 406.12, Florida Statutes, is amended to
 21 read:

22 406.12 Duty to report; prohibited acts.—

23 (1) It is the duty of any person in the district where a
 24 death occurs, including all municipalities and unincorporated
 25 and federal areas, who becomes aware of the death of any person

ENROLLED

CS/HB 1653

2024 Legislature

26 | occurring under the circumstances described in s. 406.11 to
 27 | report such death and circumstances forthwith to the district
 28 | medical examiner or to a law enforcement agency having
 29 | jurisdiction over the location.

30 | (2) Any person who knowingly fails or refuses to report
 31 | such death and circumstances as required under subsection (1)
 32 | or, who refuses to make available prior medical or other
 33 | information pertinent to the death investigation commits a
 34 | misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s.
 35 | 775.082 or s. 775.083.

36 | (3) Any person, ~~or~~ who, with the intent to conceal such
 37 | death or to alter the evidence or circumstances surrounding such
 38 | death:

39 | (a) Violates subsection (2); or

40 | (b) Without an order from the office of the district
 41 | medical examiner, willfully touches, removes, or disturbs the
 42 | body, clothing, or any article upon or near the body, with the
 43 | intent to alter the evidence or circumstances surrounding the
 44 | death, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the first
 45 | commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in
 46 | s. 775.082, ~~or s. 775.083,~~ or s. 775.084.

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