

1 A bill to be entitled  
2 An act relating to Hope Cards for persons issued  
3 orders of protection; creating s. 741.311, F.S.;  
4 requiring the Office of the State Courts  
5 Administrator, in consultation with others, to develop  
6 the Hope Card Program; requiring state courts to  
7 implement the program; authorizing the Office of the  
8 State Courts Administrator to adopt rules; authorizing  
9 certain persons to apply for a Hope Card after a  
10 specified date; requiring applications for a Hope Card  
11 to be available online and in the clerks' offices;  
12 requiring clerks' offices to mail, by certified mail,  
13 a Hope Card to petitioners within a specified time  
14 frame; prohibiting the assessment of a fee; providing  
15 requirements for the Hope Card; amending s. 741.315,  
16 F.S.; authorizing a person protected by an injunction  
17 for protection issued by a court of a foreign state to  
18 apply for and receive a Hope Card even if the person  
19 does not register the order for protection in this  
20 state; amending ss. 741.30, 784.046, 784.0485, and  
21 825.1035, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made  
22 by the act; providing an effective date.

23  
24 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
25

26 Section 1. Section 741.311, Florida Statutes, is created  
 27 to read:

28 741.311 Hope Card Program for persons issued orders of  
 29 protection.-

30 (1) The Office of the State Courts Administrator shall  
 31 develop and all district, county, and circuit courts shall  
 32 implement the Hope Card Program, which provides for the issuance  
 33 of a Hope Card to any person who has been issued an order of  
 34 protection by a district, county, or circuit court in this  
 35 state, or by a court of a foreign state pursuant to s. 741.315.  
 36 The Office of the State Courts Administrator may consult with  
 37 the Attorney General, the Secretary of State, and the clerks of  
 38 court to develop and implement the program. The Office of the  
 39 State Courts Administrator may adopt rules to implement this  
 40 section.

41 (2) Beginning July 1, 2024, a person who has been issued a  
 42 final judgment on injunction for protection under s. 741.30, s.  
 43 784.046, s. 784.0485, or s. 825.1035 may apply for a Hope Card  
 44 with the clerk of the court of the circuit where the petition  
 45 for an injunction for protection was initially filed. A person  
 46 protected by a foreign protection order under s. 741.315 may  
 47 submit an application for a Hope Card to any clerk of court in  
 48 the state. A person may apply for a Hope Card at the time the  
 49 final judgment on injunction for protection is issued or at any  
 50 other time before the expiration of the order of protection.

51       (3) Hope Card applications must be available on the  
52 website of each clerk of the court and paper applications must  
53 also be available at the clerk's office. After the court has  
54 issued an injunction for protection and within 24 hours after  
55 receipt of an application, the clerk of the court shall mail the  
56 Hope Card to the petitioner by certified mail.

57       (4) The clerk of the court may not assess a fee for the  
58 issuance of a Hope Card.

59       (5) A Hope Card issued under the program must be a  
60 durable, laminated, wallet-sized card containing all of the  
61 following information:

62       (a) The respondent's name, date of birth, height, weight,  
63 sex, race, eye color, hair color, and any other distinguishing  
64 features or characteristics of the respondent.

65       (b) The petitioner's name and date of birth and the names  
66 and dates of birth of any minor children protected under the  
67 order.

68       (c) The name and date of birth, if applicable, of any  
69 other person or animal protected under the order.

70       (d) Pertinent information about the order of protection,  
71 including, but not limited to, the issuing court; the case  
72 number; the date the order of protection was issued; the  
73 expiration date, if any, of the order of protection; the  
74 locations from which the respondent is restrained; and any other  
75 relevant details of the order.

76 Section 2. Paragraph (d) is added to subsection (8) of  
 77 section 741.30, Florida Statutes, to read:

78 741.30 Domestic violence; injunction; powers and duties of  
 79 court and clerk; petition; notice and hearing; temporary  
 80 injunction; issuance of injunction; statewide verification  
 81 system; enforcement; public records exemption.—

82 (8)

83 (d) If the petitioner applies for a Hope Card under s.  
 84 741.311, after the court has issued a final order of protection,  
 85 the clerk of the court must mail the Hope Card to the petitioner  
 86 by certified mail within 24 hours after receipt of the  
 87 petitioner's application for the card.

88 Section 3. Subsections (4), (5), and (6) of section  
 89 741.315, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (5),  
 90 (6), and (7), respectively, and a new subsection (4) is added to  
 91 that section, to read:

92 741.315 Recognition of foreign protection orders.—

93 (4) A person protected by an injunction for protection  
 94 issued by a court of a foreign state may apply for a Hope Card  
 95 under s. 741.311, as if the order of protection was issued by a  
 96 Florida court. Failure to register a foreign order does not  
 97 preclude a protected person from applying and receiving a Hope  
 98 Card.

99 Section 4. Paragraph (d) is added to subsection (8) of  
 100 section 784.046, Florida Statutes, to read:

101           784.046 Action by victim of repeat violence, sexual  
 102 violence, or dating violence for protective injunction; dating  
 103 violence investigations, notice to victims, and reporting;  
 104 pretrial release violations; public records exemption.—

105           (8)

106           (d) If the petitioner applies for a Hope Card under s.  
 107 741.311, after the court has issued a final order of protection,  
 108 the clerk of the court must mail the Hope Card to the petitioner  
 109 by certified mail within 24 hours after receipt of the  
 110 petitioner's application for the card.

111           Section 5. Paragraph (c) is added to subsection (8) of  
 112 section 784.0485, Florida Statutes, to read:

113           784.0485 Stalking; injunction; powers and duties of court  
 114 and clerk; petition; notice and hearing; temporary injunction;  
 115 issuance of injunction; statewide verification system;  
 116 enforcement.—

117           (8)

118           (c) If the petitioner applies for a Hope Card under s.  
 119 741.311, after the court has issued a final order of protection,  
 120 the clerk of the court must mail the Hope Card to the petitioner  
 121 by certified mail within 24 hours after receipt of the  
 122 petitioner's application for the card.

123           Section 6. Paragraph (c) is added to subsection (10) of  
 124 section 825.1035, Florida Statutes, to read:

125           825.1035 Injunction for protection against exploitation of

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126 | a vulnerable adult.—

127 |       (10) TRANSMITTAL TO SHERIFF; SERVICE; HOPE CARD.—

128 |       (c) If the petitioner applies for a Hope Card under s.  
129 | 741.311, after the court has issued a final order of protection,  
130 | the clerk of the court must mail the Hope Card to the petitioner  
131 | by certified mail within 24 hours after receipt of the  
132 | petitioner's application for the card.

133 |       Section 7. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.