Senate



## LEGISLATIVE ACTION House

Comm: RCS 03/18/2025

The Committee on Criminal Justice (Martin) recommended the following:

## Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

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Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Present paragraphs (d), (e), and (f) of subsection (1) of section 784.049, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as paragraphs (e), (f), and (g), respectively, present subsections (4) through (7) are redesignated as subsections (5) through (8), respectively, a new paragraph (d) is added to subsection (1) and a new subsection (4) is added to

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that section, and paragraph (a) of subsection (1), subsections (2) and (3), and present subsection (5) of that section are amended, to read:

784.049 Sexual cyberharassment.-

- (1) The Legislature finds that:
- (a) A person depicted in a sexually explicit image taken with the person's consent retains may retain a reasonable expectation that the image will remain private despite sharing the image with another person, such as an intimate partner.
- (d) A person depicted in a digitally forged intimate image created by or with the consent of the depicted person retains a reasonable expectation of privacy despite sharing the image with another person.
  - (2) As used in this section, the term:
- (a) "Digitally forged intimate image" means an image that has been created, altered, adopted, or modified by electronic, mechanical, or other computer-generated means; depicts nudity of an identifiable individual as defined in s. 847.001; and appears to a reasonable person to be indistinguishable from an authentic visual depiction of the individual, regardless of whether the visual depiction indicates, through a label or some other form of information published with the visual depiction, that the visual depiction is not authentic.
- (b) "Image" includes, but is not limited to, any photograph, picture, motion picture, film, video, or representation.
- (c) "Nudity" means the showing of the human male or female genitals, pubic area, or buttocks with less than a fully opaque covering; the showing of the female breast with less than a

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fully opaque covering of any portion thereof below the top of the nipple; or the depiction of covered male genitals in a discernibly turgid state. A mother's breastfeeding of her baby does not, under any circumstance, constitute nudity, regardless of whether the nipple is covered during or incidental to feeding.

(d) (b) "Personal identification information" means any information that identifies an individual, and includes, but is not limited to, any name, postal or electronic mail address, telephone number, social security number, date of birth, or any unique physical representation.

(e) (c) "Sexually cyberharass" means to publish to an Internet website or disseminate through electronic means to another person a sexually explicit image of a person that contains or conveys the personal identification information of the depicted person without the depicted person's consent, contrary to the depicted person's reasonable expectation that the image would remain private, for no legitimate purpose, with the intent of causing substantial emotional distress to the depicted person. Evidence that the depicted person sent a sexually explicit image to another person does not, on its own, remove his or her reasonable expectation of privacy for that image. Absent affirmative consent to disseminate, the depicted person retains his or her reasonable expectation of privacy.

(f) (d) "Sexually explicit image" means a digitally forged intimate image or an any image depicting nudity, as defined in  $s. 847.001_{T}$  or depicting a person engaging in sexual conduct<sub>T</sub> as defined in s. 847.001.

(3)(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), a person who

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willfully and maliciously sexually cyberharasses another person commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

- (b) Upon a second or subsequent a person who has one prior conviction for a violation of paragraph (a), a person sexual cyberharassment and who commits a second or subsequent sexual eyberharassment commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.
- (4) (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), a person who violates paragraph (3)(a) with the intent to cause physical, mental, economic, or reputational harm to an individual portrayed in the image, or for the purpose of profit or pecuniary gain, commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.
- (b) Upon a second or subsequent conviction for a violation of paragraph (a), a person commits a felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, or s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.
- (6) An aggrieved person may initiate a civil action against a person who violates this section to obtain all appropriate relief in order to prevent or remedy a violation of this section, including all of the following:
  - (a) Injunctive relief.
- (b) Monetary damages to include \$10,000 or actual damages incurred as a result of a violation of this section, whichever is greater.
  - (c) Punitive damages.
  - (d) (c) Reasonable attorney fees and costs.
  - Section 2. Subsection (22) is added to section 775.15,

Florida Statutes, to read:

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99 775.15 Time limitations; general time limitations; 100 exceptions.-101 (22) (a) A prosecution for a misdemeanor violation of s. 102 784.049 must be commenced within 5 years after the commission of 103 the offense or within 3 years after the date on which the victim 104 obtains knowledge of the offense or should have obtained such 105 knowledge by the exercise of due diligence. 106 (b) A prosecution for a felony violation of s. 784.049 must 107 be commenced within 7 years after the commission of the offense 108 or within 3 years after the date on which the victim obtains 109 knowledge of the offense or should have obtained such knowledge 110 by the exercise of due diligence. 111 Section 3. This act shall take effect October 1, 2025. 112 113 ======= T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ========= 114 And the title is amended as follows: 115 Delete everything before the enacting clause 116 and insert: 117 A bill to be entitled 118 An act relating to sexual cyberharassment; amending s. 119 784.049, F.S.; providing and revising legislative 120 findings; defining terms and revising definitions of 121 terms; providing criminal penalties for persons who 122 sexually cyberharass other persons with specified 123 intent or purpose; providing criminal penalties for 124 persons who commit the offense of sexual 125 cyberharassment with a specified intent or purpose; providing enhanced criminal penalties for second or 126



subsequent violations; authorizing an aggrieved person
to initiate a civil action to recover punitive
damages; making technical changes; amending s. 775.15,
F.S.; providing time limitations for commencing
prosecution for violations of sexual cyberharassment;
providing an effective date.