1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to criminal rehabilitation; amending 3 s. 921.002, F.S.; revising the legislative intent of the Criminal Punishment Code; specifying that to 4 5 rehabilitate the offender to transition back to the 6 community successfully is one of the primary purposes 7 of sentencing; reducing the minimum sentence that must 8 be served by a defendant from 85 percent of the 9 sentence to 72 percent; amending s. 944.275, F.S.; 10 revising provisions concerning gain-time to provide for outstanding deed gain-time, good behavior time, 11 12 and rehabilitation credits; providing requirements for such gain-time and credits; providing for amounts to 13 14 be awarded; revising limits on the award of gain-time; 15 reducing the minimum sentence that must be served by a 16 defendant from 85 percent of the sentence to 72 percent; amending ss. 316.027, 316.1935, 381.004, 17 775.084, 775.0845, 775.0847, 775.0861, 775.0862, 18 775.087, 775.0875, 777.03, 777.04, 784.07, 794.011, 19 794.0115, 794.023, 810.145, 812.081, 817.568, 831.032, 20 843.22, 874.04, 944.281, 944.473, 944.70, 944.801, and 21 947.005, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made 22 23 by the act; providing an effective date. 24

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

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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

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Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 921.002, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

921.002 The Criminal Punishment Code.—The Criminal Punishment Code shall apply to all felony offenses, except capital felonies, committed on or after October 1, 1998.

- (1) The provision of criminal penalties and of limitations upon the application of such penalties is a matter of predominantly substantive law and, as such, is a matter properly addressed by the Legislature. The Legislature, in the exercise of its authority and responsibility to establish sentencing criteria, to provide for the imposition of criminal penalties, and to make the best use of state prisons so that violent criminal offenders are appropriately punished and rehabilitated incarcerated, has determined that it is in the best interest of the state to develop, implement, and revise a sentencing policy. The Criminal Punishment Code embodies the principles that:
- (a) Sentencing is neutral with respect to race, gender, and social and economic status.
- (b) The <u>dual purposes</u> primary purpose of sentencing <u>in the</u> <u>criminal justice system are is</u> to punish the offender <u>and</u> <u>rehabilitate the offender to transition back to the community successfully. Rehabilitation is a desired goal of the criminal justice system but is subordinate to the goal of punishment.</u>
 - (c) The penalty imposed is commensurate with the severity

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of the primary offense and the circumstances surrounding the primary offense.

- (d) The severity of the sentence increases with the length and nature of the offender's prior record.
- (e) The sentence imposed by the sentencing judge reflects the length of actual time to be served, shortened only by the application of <u>outstanding deed incentive and meritorious</u> gaintime, good behavior time, and rehabilitation credits as provided by law, and may not be shortened if the defendant would consequently serve less than <u>72</u> 85 percent of his or her term of imprisonment as provided in s. 944.275(4). The provisions of Chapter 947, relating to parole, <u>does shall</u> not apply to persons sentenced under the Criminal Punishment Code.
- (f) Departures below the lowest permissible sentence established by the code must be articulated in writing by the trial court judge and made only when circumstances or factors reasonably justify the mitigation of the sentence. The level of proof necessary to establish facts that support a departure from the lowest permissible sentence is a preponderance of the evidence.
- (g) The trial court judge may impose a sentence up to and including the statutory maximum for any offense, including an offense that is before the court due to a violation of probation or community control.
 - (h) A sentence may be appealed on the basis that it

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departs from the Criminal Punishment Code only if the sentence is below the lowest permissible sentence or as enumerated in s. 924.06(1).

(i) Use of incarcerative sanctions is prioritized toward offenders convicted of serious offenses and certain offenders who have long prior records, in order to maximize the finite capacities of state and local correctional facilities.

Section 2. Section 944.275, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 944.275 <u>Outstanding deed gain-time, good behavior time,</u> and rehabilitation credits.—
- (1) The department is authorized to grant deductions from sentences in the form of <u>outstanding deed</u> gain-time, <u>good</u> <u>behavior time</u>, <u>and rehabilitation credits</u> in order to encourage satisfactory prisoner behavior, to provide incentive for prisoners to participate in productive activities, and to reward prisoners who perform outstanding deeds or services.
- (2) (a) The department shall establish for each prisoner sentenced to a term of years a "maximum sentence expiration date," which shall be the date when the sentence or combined sentences imposed on a prisoner will expire. In establishing this date, the department shall reduce the total time to be served by any time lawfully credited.
- (b) When a prisoner with an established maximum sentence expiration date is sentenced to an additional term or terms

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without having been released from custody, the department shall extend the maximum sentence expiration date by the length of time imposed in the new sentence or sentences, less lawful credits.

- (c) When an escaped prisoner or a parole violator is returned to the custody of the department, the maximum sentence expiration date in effect when the escape occurred or the parole was effective shall be extended by the amount of time the prisoner was not in custody plus the time imposed in any new sentence or sentences, but reduced by any lawful credits.
- (3) (a) The department shall also establish for each prisoner sentenced to a term of years a "tentative release date" which shall be the date projected for the prisoner's release from custody by virtue of outstanding deed gain-time, good behavior time, or rehabilitation credits granted or forfeited as described in this section. The initial tentative release date shall be determined by deducting outstanding deed basic gain-time, good behavior time, or rehabilitation credits granted from the maximum sentence expiration date. Outstanding deed Other gain-time, good behavior time, and rehabilitation credits shall be applied when granted or restored to make the tentative release date proportionately earlier; and forfeitures of good behavior time gain-time, when ordered, shall be applied to make the tentative release date proportionately later.
 - (b) When an initial tentative release date is

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reestablished because of additional sentences imposed before the prisoner has completely served all prior sentences, any outstanding deed gain-time, good behavior time, or rehabilitation credits granted during service of a prior sentence and not forfeited shall be applied.

- (c) The tentative release date may not be later than the maximum sentence expiration date.
- (4) (a) As a means of encouraging satisfactory behavior and developing character traits necessary for successful reentry, the department shall grant good behavior time basic gain-time at the rate of 10 days for each month of each sentence imposed on a prisoner, subject to the following:
- 1. Portions of any sentences to be served concurrently shall be treated as a single sentence when determining good behavior time basic gain-time.
- 2. Good behavior time Basic gain-time for a partial month shall be prorated on the basis of a 30-day month.
- 3. When a prisoner receives a new maximum sentence expiration date because of additional sentences imposed, good behavior time basic gain-time shall be granted for the amount of time the maximum sentence expiration date was extended.
- (b) For each month in which an inmate works diligently, participates in training or education, uses time constructively, or otherwise engages in positive activities, the department may grant rehabilitation credits incentive gain-time in accordance

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with this paragraph. The rate of <u>rehabilitation credits</u>

incentive gain-time in effect on the date the inmate committed
the offense which resulted in his or her incarceration shall be
the inmate's rate of eligibility to earn <u>rehabilitation credits</u>
incentive gain-time throughout the period of incarceration and
shall not be altered by a subsequent change in the severity
level of the offense for which the inmate was sentenced.

- 1. For sentences imposed for offenses committed <u>before</u>

 prior to January 1, 1994, <u>and after October 1, 1995</u>, up to 20 days of <u>rehabilitation credits</u> <u>incentive gain-time</u> may be granted. If granted, such <u>rehabilitation credits</u> gain-time shall be credited and applied monthly.
- 2. For sentences imposed for offenses committed on or after January 1, 1994, and before October 1, 1995:
- a. For offenses ranked in offense severity levels 1 through 7, under former s. 921.0012 or former s. 921.0013, up to 25 days of rehabilitation credits incentive gain-time may be granted. If granted, such rehabilitation credits gain-time shall be credited and applied monthly.
- b. For offenses ranked in offense severity levels 8, 9, and 10, under former s. 921.0012 or former s. 921.0013, up to 20 days of rehabilitation credits incentive gain-time may be granted. If granted, such gain-time shall be credited and applied monthly.
 - 3. For sentences imposed for offenses committed on or

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after October 1, 1995, the department may grant up to 10 days per month of incentive gain-time.

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- (c) An inmate who performs some outstanding deed, such as saving a life or assisting in recapturing an escaped inmate, or who in some manner performs an outstanding service that would merit the granting of additional deductions from the term of his or her sentence may be granted <u>outstanding deed meritorious</u> gain-time of from <u>30</u> + to 60 days <u>per outstanding deed performed</u>.
- (d) Notwithstanding the monthly maximum awards of rehabilitation credits incentive gain-time under subparagraphs (b) 1. and, 2., and 3., the education program manager shall recommend, and the Department of Corrections shall may grant awards, a one-time award of 60 additional days of rehabilitation credits for successful completion of each of the following: incentive gain-time to an inmate who is otherwise eligible and who successfully completes requirements for and is, or has been during the current commitment, awarded a high school equivalency diploma, college degree, or vocational certificate, drug treatment program, mental health treatment program, life skills program, behavioral modification program, reentry program, or equivalent rehabilitative program. Additionally, the department shall grant 5 additional days of rehabilitation credits for successful completion of any other department-approved program, including inmate-developed programs, or a passing grade in each

online or in-person educational course. Rehabilitation credits awarded under this paragraph shall be retroactive. Under no circumstances may an inmate receive more than 60 days for educational attainment pursuant to this section.

- (e) Notwithstanding the monthly maximum awards of rehabilitation credits under subparagraphs (b)1. and 2., the department may grant 2 additional days per month of good behavior time to prisoners serving sentences for violations of ss. 893.13 and 893.135, and such days granted shall be retroactive.
- (f)1.(e)1. Notwithstanding subparagraph (b)1. (b)3., for sentences imposed for offenses committed on or after October 1, 2014, and before July 1, 2023, the department may not grant rehabilitation credits incentive gain—time if the offense is a violation of s. 782.04(1)(a)2.c.; s. 787.01(3)(a)2. or 3.; s. 787.02(3)(a)2. or 3.; s. 794.011, excluding s. 794.011(10); s. 800.04; s. 825.1025; or s. 847.0135(5).
- 2. Notwithstanding subparagraph (b)1. (b)3., for sentences imposed for offenses committed on or after July 1, 2023, the department may not grant rehabilitation credits incentive gaintime if the offense is for committing or attempting, soliciting, or conspiring to commit a violation of s. 782.04(1)(a)2.c.; s. 787.01(3)(a)2. or 3.; s. 787.02(3)(a)2. or 3.; s. 794.011, excluding s. 794.011(10); s. 800.04; s. 825.1025; or s. 847.0135(5).

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subparagraph (b)3. is not eligible to earn or receive outstanding deed gain-time or good behavior time under paragraph (a), paragraph (b), paragraph (c), or paragraph (d) or any other type of gain-time in an amount that would cause a sentence to expire, end, or terminate, or that would result in a prisoner's release, before prior to serving a minimum of 85 percent of the sentence imposed. For purposes of this paragraph, credits awarded by the court for time physically incarcerated shall be credited toward satisfaction of 85 percent of the sentence imposed.

- 2. A prisoner who is subject to this subsection may not accumulate rehabilitation credits as described in paragraph (d) in an amount that would allow a sentence to expire, end, or terminate, or that would result in a prisoner's release, before serving a minimum of 72 percent of the sentence imposed.
- 3. Except as provided by this section, a prisoner may not accumulate further gain-time awards at any point when the tentative release date is the same as that date at which the prisoner will have served 72 85 percent of the sentence imposed. State prisoners sentenced to life imprisonment shall be incarcerated for the rest of their natural lives, unless granted pardon or clemency.
- (5) When a prisoner is found guilty of an infraction of the laws of this state or the rules of the department, good

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behavior time not yet vested gain-time may be forfeited according to law after due process. For purposes of this subsection, good behavior time is deemed vested 2 years after being granted.

- (6) (a) Good behavior time Basic gain-time under this section shall be computed on and applied to all sentences imposed for offenses committed on or after July 1, 1978, and before January 1, 1994.
- (b) All <u>outstanding deed</u> incentive and meritorious gaintime, good behavior time, and rehabilitation credits are is granted according to this section.
- (c) All additional gain-time previously awarded under former subsections (2) and (3) and all forfeitures ordered before prior to the effective date of the act that created this section shall remain in effect and be applied in establishing an initial tentative release date.
- (7) The department shall adopt rules to implement the granting, forfeiture, restoration, and deletion of <u>outstanding</u> deed gain-time, good behavior time, and rehabilitation credits.
- Section 3. Paragraph (f) of subsection (2) of section 316.027, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 316.027 Crash involving death or personal injuries.—
- 273 (2)

(f) For purposes of sentencing under chapter 921 and determining rehabilitation credit incentive gain-time

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eligibility under chapter 944, an offense listed in this subsection is ranked one level above the ranking specified in s. 921.0022 or s. 921.0023 for the offense committed if the victim of the offense was a vulnerable road user.

Section 4. Subsection (6) of section 316.1935, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.1935 Fleeing or attempting to elude a law enforcement officer; aggravated fleeing or eluding.—

(6) Notwithstanding s. 948.01, no court may suspend, defer, or withhold adjudication of guilt or imposition of sentence for any violation of this section. A person convicted and sentenced to a mandatory minimum term of incarceration under paragraph (3)(b) or paragraph (4)(b) is not eligible for statutory gain-time or credits under s. 944.275 or any form of discretionary early release, other than pardon or executive clemency or conditional medical release under s. 947.149, before prior to serving the mandatory minimum sentence.

Section 5. Paragraph (h) of subsection (2) of section 381.004, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

381.004 HIV testing.-

- (2) HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS TESTING; INFORMED CONSENT; RESULTS; COUNSELING; CONFIDENTIALITY.—
 - (h) Paragraph (a) does not apply:
- 1. When testing for sexually transmissible diseases is required by state or federal law, or by rule, including the

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301 following situations:

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- a. HIV testing pursuant to s. 796.08 of persons convicted of prostitution or of procuring another to commit prostitution.
- b. HIV testing of inmates pursuant to s. 945.355 before their release from prison by reason of parole, accumulation of gain-time or other credits, or expiration of sentence.
- c. Testing for HIV by a medical examiner in accordance with s. 406.11.
 - d. HIV testing of pregnant women pursuant to s. 384.31.
- 2. To those exceptions provided for blood, plasma, organs, skin, semen, or other human tissue pursuant to s. 381.0041.
- 3. For the performance of an HIV-related test by licensed medical personnel in bona fide medical emergencies if the test results are necessary for medical diagnostic purposes to provide appropriate emergency care or treatment to the person being tested and the patient is unable to consent, as supported by documentation in the medical record. Notification of test results in accordance with paragraph (c) is required.
- 4. For the performance of an HIV-related test by licensed medical personnel for medical diagnosis of acute illness where, in the opinion of the attending physician, providing notification would be detrimental to the patient, as supported by documentation in the medical record, and the test results are necessary for medical diagnostic purposes to provide appropriate care or treatment to the person being tested. Notification of

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test results in accordance with paragraph (c) is required if it would not be detrimental to the patient. This subparagraph does not authorize the routine testing of patients for HIV infection without notification.

- 5. If HIV testing is performed as part of an autopsy for which consent was obtained pursuant to s. 872.04.
- 6. For the performance of an HIV test upon a defendant pursuant to the victim's request in a prosecution for any type of sexual battery where a blood sample is taken from the defendant voluntarily, pursuant to court order for any purpose, or pursuant to s. 775.0877, s. 951.27, or s. 960.003; however, the results of an HIV test performed shall be disclosed solely to the victim and the defendant, except as provided in ss. 775.0877, 951.27, and 960.003.
 - 7. If an HIV test is mandated by court order.
- 8. For epidemiological research pursuant to s. 381.0031, for research consistent with institutional review boards created by 45 C.F.R. part 46, or for the performance of an HIV-related test for the purpose of research, if the testing is performed in a manner by which the identity of the test subject is not known and may not be retrieved by the researcher.
- 9. If human tissue is collected lawfully without the consent of the donor for corneal removal as authorized by s. 765.5185 or enucleation of the eyes as authorized by s. 765.519.
 - 10. For the performance of an HIV test upon an individual

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who comes into contact with medical personnel in such a way that a significant exposure has occurred during the course of employment, within the scope of practice, or during the course of providing emergency medical assistance to the individual. The term "medical personnel" includes a licensed or certified health care professional; an employee of a health care professional or health care facility; employees of a laboratory licensed under chapter 483; personnel of a blood bank or plasma center; a medical student or other student who is receiving training as a health care professional at a health care facility; and a paramedic or emergency medical technician certified by the department to perform life-support procedures under s. 401.23.

- a. The occurrence of a significant exposure shall be documented by medical personnel under the supervision of a licensed physician and recorded only in the personnel record of the medical personnel.
- b. Costs of an HIV test shall be borne by the medical personnel or the employer of the medical personnel. However, costs of testing or treatment not directly related to the initial HIV tests or costs of subsequent testing or treatment may not be borne by the medical personnel or the employer of the medical personnel.
- c. In order to use the provisions of this subparagraph, the medical personnel must be tested for HIV pursuant to this section or provide the results of an HIV test taken within 6

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months before the significant exposure if such test results are negative.

- d. A person who receives the results of an HIV test pursuant to this subparagraph shall maintain the confidentiality of the information received and of the persons tested. Such confidential information is exempt from s. 119.07(1).
- e. If the source of the exposure is not available and will not voluntarily present himself or herself to a health facility to be tested for HIV, the medical personnel or the employer of such person acting on behalf of the employee may seek a court order directing the source of the exposure to submit to HIV testing. A sworn statement by a physician licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459 that a significant exposure has occurred and that, in the physician's medical judgment, testing is medically necessary to determine the course of treatment constitutes probable cause for the issuance of an order by the court. The results of the test shall be released to the source of the exposure and to the person who experienced the exposure.
- 11. For the performance of an HIV test upon an individual who comes into contact with nonmedical personnel in such a way that a significant exposure has occurred while the nonmedical personnel provides emergency medical assistance during a medical emergency. For the purposes of this subparagraph, a medical emergency means an emergency medical condition outside of a hospital or health care facility that provides physician care.

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The test may be performed only during the course of treatment for the medical emergency.

- a. The occurrence of a significant exposure shall be documented by medical personnel under the supervision of a licensed physician and recorded in the medical record of the nonmedical personnel.
- b. Costs of any HIV test shall be borne by the nonmedical personnel or the employer of the nonmedical personnel. However, costs of testing or treatment not directly related to the initial HIV tests or costs of subsequent testing or treatment may not be borne by the nonmedical personnel or the employer of the nonmedical personnel.
- c. In order to use the provisions of this subparagraph, the nonmedical personnel shall be tested for HIV pursuant to this section or shall provide the results of an HIV test taken within 6 months before the significant exposure if such test results are negative.
- d. A person who receives the results of an HIV test pursuant to this subparagraph shall maintain the confidentiality of the information received and of the persons tested. Such confidential information is exempt from s. 119.07(1).
- e. If the source of the exposure is not available and will not voluntarily present himself or herself to a health facility to be tested for HIV, the nonmedical personnel or the employer of the nonmedical personnel acting on behalf of the employee may

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seek a court order directing the source of the exposure to submit to HIV testing. A sworn statement by a physician licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459 that a significant exposure has occurred and that, in the physician's medical judgment, testing is medically necessary to determine the course of treatment constitutes probable cause for the issuance of an order by the court. The results of the test shall be released to the source of the exposure and to the person who experienced the exposure.

- 12. For the performance of an HIV test by the medical examiner or attending physician upon an individual who expired or could not be resuscitated while receiving emergency medical assistance or care and who was the source of a significant exposure to medical or nonmedical personnel providing such assistance or care.
- a. HIV testing may be conducted only after appropriate medical personnel under the supervision of a licensed physician documents in the medical record of the medical personnel or nonmedical personnel that there has been a significant exposure and that, in accordance with the written protocols based on the National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines on HIV postexposure prophylaxis and in the physician's medical judgment, the information is medically necessary to determine the course of treatment for the medical personnel or nonmedical personnel.
 - b. Costs of an HIV test performed under this subparagraph

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may not be charged to the deceased or to the family of the deceased person.

- c. For this subparagraph to be applicable, the medical personnel or nonmedical personnel must be tested for HIV under this section or must provide the results of an HIV test taken within 6 months before the significant exposure if such test results are negative.
- d. A person who receives the results of an HIV test pursuant to this subparagraph shall comply with paragraph (e).
- 13. For the performance of an HIV-related test medically indicated by licensed medical personnel for medical diagnosis of a hospitalized infant as necessary to provide appropriate care and treatment of the infant if, after a reasonable attempt, a parent cannot be contacted to provide consent. The medical records of the infant must reflect the reason consent of the parent was not initially obtained. Test results shall be provided to the parent when the parent is located.
- 14. For the performance of HIV testing conducted to monitor the clinical progress of a patient previously diagnosed to be HIV positive.
- 15. For the performance of repeated HIV testing conducted to monitor possible conversion from a significant exposure.
- Section 6. Paragraph (k) of subsection (4) of section 775.084, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 775.084 Violent career criminals; habitual felony

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offenders and habitual violent felony offenders; three-time violent felony offenders; definitions; procedure; enhanced penalties or mandatory minimum prison terms.—

(4)

- (k)1. A defendant sentenced under this section as a habitual felony offender, a habitual violent felony offender, or a violent career criminal is eligible for rehabilitation credits gain-time granted by the Department of Corrections as provided in s. 944.275(4)(b).
- 2. For an offense committed on or after October 1, 1995, a defendant sentenced under this section as a violent career criminal is not eligible for any form of discretionary early release, other than pardon or executive clemency, or conditional medical release granted pursuant to s. 947.149.
- 3. For an offense committed on or after July 1, 1999, a defendant sentenced under this section as a three-time violent felony offender shall be released only by expiration of sentence and shall not be eligible for parole, control release, or any form of early release.

Section 7. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and subsection (2) of section 775.0845, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

775.0845 Wearing mask while committing offense; reclassification.—The felony or misdemeanor degree of any criminal offense, other than a violation of ss. 876.12-876.15, shall be reclassified to the next higher degree as provided in

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this section if, while committing the offense, the offender was wearing a hood, mask, or other device that concealed his or her identity.

(1)

- (b) In the case of a misdemeanor of the first degree, the offense is reclassified to a felony of the third degree. For purposes of sentencing under chapter 921 and determining rehabilitation credit incentive gain-time eligibility under chapter 944, such offense is ranked in level 2 of the offense severity ranking chart.
- (2) (a) In the case of a felony of the third degree, the offense is reclassified to a felony of the second degree.
- (b) In the case of a felony of the second degree, the offense is reclassified to a felony of the first degree.

For purposes of sentencing under chapter 921 and determining rehabilitation credit incentive gain-time eligibility under chapter 944, a felony offense that is reclassified under this subsection is ranked one level above the ranking under former s. 921.0012, former s. 921.0013, s. 921.0022, or s. 921.0023 of the offense committed.

Section 8. Subsection (3) of section 775.0847, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (2) of that section is republished, to read:

775.0847 Possession or promotion of certain images of

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526 child pornography; reclassification.

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- (2) A violation of s. 827.071, s. 847.0135, s. 847.0137, or s. 847.0138 shall be reclassified to the next higher degree as provided in subsection (3) if:
- (a) The offender possesses 10 or more images of any form of child pornography regardless of content; and
- (b) The content of at least one image contains one or more of the following:
 - 1. A child who is younger than the age of 5.
 - 2. Sadomasochistic abuse involving a child.
 - 3. Sexual battery involving a child.
 - 4. Sexual bestiality involving a child.
- 5. Any motion picture, film, video, or computer-generated motion picture, film, or video involving a child, regardless of length and regardless of whether the motion picture, film, video, or computer-generated motion picture, film, or video contains sound.
- (3) (a) In the case of a felony of the third degree, the offense is reclassified to a felony of the second degree.
- (b) In the case of a felony of the second degree, the offense is reclassified to a felony of the first degree.

For purposes of sentencing under chapter 921 and determining rehabilitation credit incentive gain-time eligibility under chapter 944, a felony offense that is reclassified under this

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section is ranked one level above the ranking under s. 921.0022 or s. 921.0023 of the offense committed.

Section 9. Subsection (3) of section 775.0861, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

775.0861 Offenses against persons on the grounds of religious institutions; reclassification.—

- (3) (a) In the case of a misdemeanor of the second degree, the offense is reclassified to a misdemeanor of the first degree.
- (b) In the case of a misdemeanor of the first degree, the offense is reclassified to a felony of the third degree. For purposes of sentencing under chapter 921, such offense is ranked in level 2 of the offense severity ranking chart.
- (c) In the case of a felony of the third degree, the offense is reclassified to a felony of the second degree.
- (d) In the case of a felony of the second degree, the offense is reclassified to a felony of the first degree.
- (e) In the case of a felony of the first degree, the offense is reclassified to a life felony.

For purposes of sentencing under chapter 921 and determining rehabilitation credit incentive gain-time eligibility under chapter 944, a felony offense that is reclassified under this subsection is ranked one level above the ranking under s. 921.0022 or s. 921.0023 of the offense committed.

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Secti	lon	10.	Subsec	ction	(3)	of	section	775.	0862,	Florida
Statutes,	is	amend	led to	read:						

775.0862 Sexual offenses against students by authority figures; reclassification.—

- (3) (a) In the case of a felony of the third degree, the offense is reclassified to a felony of the second degree.
- (b) In the case of a felony of the second degree, the offense is reclassified to a felony of the first degree.
- (c) In the case of a felony of the first degree, the offense is reclassified to a life felony.

For purposes of sentencing under chapter 921 and determining rehabilitation credit incentive gain-time eligibility under chapter 944, a felony offense that is reclassified under this subsection is ranked one level above the ranking under s. 921.0022 or s. 921.0023 of the offense committed.

Section 11. Subsection (1) and paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 775.087, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

775.087 Possession or use of weapon; aggravated battery; felony reclassification; minimum sentence.—

(1) Unless otherwise provided by law, whenever a person is charged with a felony, except a felony in which the use of a weapon or firearm is an essential element, and during the commission of such felony the defendant carries, displays, uses, threatens to use, or attempts to use any weapon or firearm, or

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during the commission of such felony the defendant commits an aggravated battery, the felony for which the person is charged shall be reclassified as follows:

- (a) In the case of a felony of the first degree, to a life felony.
- (b) In the case of a felony of the second degree, to a felony of the first degree.
- (c) In the case of a felony of the third degree, to a felony of the second degree.

For purposes of sentencing under chapter 921 and determining rehabilitation credit incentive gain-time eligibility under chapter 944, a felony offense which is reclassified under this section is ranked one level above the ranking under s. 921.0022 or s. 921.0023 of the felony offense committed.

(2)

(b) Subparagraph (a)1., subparagraph (a)2., or subparagraph (a)3. does not prevent a court from imposing a longer sentence of incarceration as authorized by law in addition to the minimum mandatory sentence, or from imposing a sentence of death pursuant to other applicable law. Subparagraph (a)1., subparagraph (a)2., or subparagraph (a)3. does not authorize a court to impose a lesser sentence than otherwise required by law.

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Notwithstanding s. 948.01, adjudication of quilt or imposition

of sentence shall not be suspended, deferred, or withheld, and the defendant is not eligible for statutory gain-time or credits under s. 944.275 or any form of discretionary early release, other than pardon or executive clemency, or conditional medical release under s. 947.149, before prior to serving the minimum sentence.

Section 12. Subsection (2) of section 775.0875, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

775.0875 Unlawful taking, possession, or use of law enforcement officer's firearm; crime reclassification; penalties.—

- (2) If a person violates subsection (1) and commits any other crime involving the firearm taken from the law enforcement officer, such crime shall be reclassified as follows:
- (a)1. In the case of a felony of the first degree, to a life felony.
- 2. In the case of a felony of the second degree, to a felony of the first degree.
- 3. In the case of a felony of the third degree, to a felony of the second degree.

For purposes of sentencing under chapter 921 and determining rehabilitation credit incentive gain-time eligibility under chapter 944, a felony offense that is reclassified under this paragraph is ranked one level above the ranking under s.

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921.0022 or s. 921.0023 of the felony offense committed.

(b) In the case of a misdemeanor, to a felony of the third degree. For purposes of sentencing under chapter 921 and determining rehabilitation credit incentive gain-time eligibility under chapter 944, such offense is ranked in level 2 of the offense severity ranking chart.

Section 13. Subsection (3) of section 777.03, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

777.03 Accessory after the fact.-

(3) Except as otherwise provided in s. 921.0022, for purposes of sentencing under chapter 921 and determining rehabilitation credit incentive gain-time eligibility under chapter 944, the offense of accessory after the fact is ranked two levels below the ranking under s. 921.0022 or s. 921.0023 of the felony offense committed.

Section 14. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section 777.04, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

777.04 Attempts, solicitation, and conspiracy.

(4) (a) Except as otherwise provided in ss. 104.091(2), 379.2431(1), 828.125(2), 849.25(4), 893.135(5), and 921.0022, the offense of criminal attempt, criminal solicitation, or criminal conspiracy is ranked for purposes of sentencing under chapter 921 and determining rehabilitation credit incentive gain-time eligibility under chapter 944 one level below the ranking under s. 921.0022 or s. 921.0023 of the offense

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attempted, solicited, or conspired to. If the criminal attempt, criminal solicitation, or criminal conspiracy is of an offense ranked in level 1 or level 2 under s. 921.0022 or s. 921.0023, such offense is a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

Section 15. Subsection (3) of section 784.07, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 784.07 Assault or battery of law enforcement officers and other specified personnel; reclassification of offenses; minimum sentences.—
- (3) Any person who is convicted of a battery under paragraph (2)(b) and, during the commission of the offense, such person possessed:
- (a) A "firearm" or "destructive device" as those terms are defined in s. 790.001, shall be sentenced to a minimum term of imprisonment of 3 years.
- (b) A semiautomatic firearm and its high-capacity detachable box magazine, as defined in s. 775.087(3), or a machine gun as defined in s. 790.001, shall be sentenced to a minimum term of imprisonment of 8 years.

Notwithstanding s. 948.01, adjudication of guilt or imposition of sentence shall not be suspended, deferred, or withheld, and the defendant is not eligible for statutory gain-time or credits under s. 944.275 or any form of discretionary early release,

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other than pardon or executive clemency, or conditional medical release under s. 947.149, <u>before</u> prior to serving the minimum sentence.

Section 16. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (7) of section 794.011, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

794.011 Sexual battery.-

- (7)(a) A person who is convicted of committing a sexual battery on or after October 1, 1992, is not eligible for basic gain-time or credits under s. 944.275.
- (b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), for sentences imposed for offenses committed on or after July 1, 2023, a person who is convicted of committing or attempting, soliciting, or conspiring to commit a sexual battery in violation of this section is not eligible for basic gain-time or credits under s. 944.275.

Section 17. Subsection (7) of section 794.0115, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 794.0115 Dangerous sexual felony offender; mandatory sentencing.—
- (7) A defendant sentenced to a mandatory minimum term of imprisonment under this section is not eligible for statutory gain-time or credits under s. 944.275 or any form of discretionary early release, other than pardon or executive clemency, or conditional medical release under s. 947.149, before serving the minimum sentence.
 - Section 18. Subsection (2) of section 794.023, Florida

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726	Statutes,	is	amended	to	read
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- 794.023 Sexual battery by multiple perpetrators; reclassification of offenses.—
- (2) A violation of s. 794.011 shall be reclassified as provided in this subsection if it is charged and proven by the prosecution that, during the same criminal transaction or episode, more than one person committed an act of sexual battery on the same victim.
- (a) A felony of the second degree is reclassified to a felony of the first degree.
- (b) A felony of the first degree is reclassified to a life felony.

This subsection does not apply to life felonies or capital felonies. For purposes of sentencing under chapter 921 and determining rehabilitation credit incentive gain-time eligibility under chapter 944, a felony offense that is reclassified under this subsection is ranked one level above the ranking under s. 921.0022 or s. 921.0023 of the offense committed.

Section 19. Subsection (7) of section 810.145, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 810.145 Digital voyeurism.—
- (7)(a) A person who violates this section and who has previously been convicted of or adjudicated delinquent for any

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violation of this section commits a felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

- (b) If a person who is 19 years or age or older commits a violation of this section and is a family or household member of the victim or holds a position of authority or trust with the victim, the court shall reclassify the felony to the next higher degree as follows:
- 1. A felony of the third degree is reclassified as a felony of the second degree.
- 2. A felony of the second degree is reclassified as a felony of the first degree.

For purposes of sentencing under chapter 921 and incentive gaintime or credit eligibility under chapter 944, a felony that is reclassified under this subsection is ranked one level above the ranking under s. 921.0022 of the felony offense committed.

Section 20. Subsection (4) of section 812.081, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 812.081 Theft of or trafficking in trade secrets; definitions; penalties; providing to foreign entities; restitution.—
- (4) Whenever a person is charged with a violation of this section which was committed with the intent to benefit a foreign government, a foreign agent, or a foreign instrumentality, the offense for which the person is charged shall be reclassified as

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776 follows:

- (a) In the case of theft of a trade secret, from a felony of the third degree to a felony of the second degree.
- (b) In the case of trafficking in trade secrets, from a felony of the second degree to a felony of the first degree.

For purposes of sentencing under chapter 921 and determining incentive gain-time or credit eligibility under chapter 944, a felony offense that is reclassified under this subsection is ranked one level above the ranking under s. 921.0022 of the offense committed.

Section 21. Subsection (5) of section 817.568, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

817.568 Criminal use of personal identification information.—

- (5) If an offense prohibited under this section was facilitated or furthered by the use of a public record, as defined in s. 119.011, the offense is reclassified to the next higher degree as follows:
- (a) A misdemeanor of the first degree is reclassified as a felony of the third degree.
- (b) A felony of the third degree is reclassified as a felony of the second degree.
- (c) A felony of the second degree is reclassified as a felony of the first degree.

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For purposes of sentencing under chapter 921 and rehabilitation credit incentive gain-time eligibility under chapter 944, a felony offense that is reclassified under this subsection is ranked one level above the ranking under s. 921.0022 of the felony offense committed, and a misdemeanor offense that is reclassified under this subsection is ranked in level 2 of the offense severity ranking chart in s. 921.0022.

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Section 22. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 831.032, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

811 812 831.032 Offenses involving forging or counterfeiting private labels.—

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(3)

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(b) For any person who, having previously been convicted for an offense under this section, is subsequently convicted for another offense under this section, such subsequent offense shall be reclassified as follows:

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1. In the case of a felony of the second degree, to a felony of the first degree.

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2. In the case of a felony of the third degree, to a felony of the second degree.

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3. In the case of a misdemeanor of the first degree, to a felony of the third degree. For purposes of sentencing under chapter 921 and determining rehabilitation credit incentive gain-time eligibility under chapter 944, such offense is ranked

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826 in level 4 of the offense severity ranking chart.

For purposes of sentencing under chapter 921 and determining rehabilitation credit incentive gain-time eligibility under chapter 944, a felony offense that is reclassified under this paragraph is ranked one level above the ranking under s. 921.0022 or s. 921.0023 of the felony offense committed.

Section 23. Subsection (2) of section 843.22, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 843.22 Traveling across county lines with intent to commit a burglary.—
- distance with the intent to commit the burglary in a county in this state other than the person's county of residence, the degree of the burglary shall be reclassified to the next higher degree. For purposes of sentencing under chapter 921 and determining rehabilitation credit incentive gain-time eligibility under chapter 944, a burglary that is reclassified under this section is ranked one level above the ranking specified in s. 921.0022 or s. 921.0023 for the burglary committed.

Section 24. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and subsection (2) of section 874.04, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

874.04 Gang-related offenses; enhanced penalties.—Upon a finding by the factfinder that the defendant committed the

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charged offense for the purpose of benefiting, promoting, or furthering the interests of a criminal gang, the penalty for any felony or misdemeanor, or any delinquent act or violation of law which would be a felony or misdemeanor if committed by an adult, may be enhanced. Penalty enhancement affects the applicable statutory maximum penalty only. Each of the findings required as a basis for such sentence shall be found beyond a reasonable doubt. The enhancement will be as follows:

(1)

- (b) A misdemeanor of the first degree may be punished as if it were a felony of the third degree. For purposes of sentencing under chapter 921 and determining rehabilitation credit incentive gain-time eligibility under chapter 944, such offense is ranked in level 1 of the offense severity ranking chart. The criminal gang multiplier in s. 921.0024 does not apply to misdemeanors enhanced under this paragraph.
- (2) (a) A felony of the third degree may be punished as if it were a felony of the second degree.
- (b) A felony of the second degree may be punished as if it were a felony of the first degree.
- (c) A felony of the first degree may be punished as if it were a life felony.

For purposes of sentencing under chapter 921 and determining rehabilitation credit incentive gain-time eligibility under

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chapter 944, such felony offense is ranked as provided in s. 921.0022 or s. 921.0023, and without regard to the penalty enhancement in this subsection.

Section 25. Section 944.281, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

944.281 Ineligibility to earn gain-time due to disciplinary action.—The department may declare that a prisoner who commits a violation of any law of the state or rule or regulation of the department or institution on or after January 1, 1996, and who is found guilty pursuant to s. 944.28(2), shall not be eligible to earn rehabilitation credits incentive gaintime for up to 6 months following the month in which the violation occurred. The department shall adopt rules to administer the provisions of this section.

Section 26. Subsection (1) of section 944.473, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

944.473 Inmate substance abuse testing program.-

(1) RULES AND PROCEDURES.—The department shall establish programs for random and reasonable suspicion drug and alcohol testing by urinalysis or other noninvasive procedure for inmates to effectively identify those inmates abusing drugs, alcohol, or both. The department shall also adopt rules relating to fair, economical, and accurate operations and procedures of a random inmate substance abuse testing program and a reasonable suspicion substance abuse testing program by urinalysis or other

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901	noninvasive procedure which enumerate penalties for positive
902	test results, including but not limited to the forfeiture of
903	rehabilitation credits both basic and incentive gain-time, and
904	which do not limit the number of times an inmate may be tested
905	in any one fiscal or calendar year.
906	Section 27. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section
907	944.70, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
808	944.70 Conditions for release from incarceration.—
909	(1)
910	(b) A person who is convicted of a crime committed on or
911	after January 1, 1994, may be released from incarceration only:
912	1. Upon expiration of the person's sentence;
913	2. Upon expiration of the person's sentence as reduced by
914	accumulated outstanding deed meritorious or rehabilitation
915	<pre>credit incentive gain-time;</pre>
916	3. As directed by an executive order granting clemency;
917	4. Upon placement in a conditional release program
918	pursuant to s. 947.1405 or a conditional medical release program
919	pursuant to s. 947.149; or
920	5. Upon the granting of control release, including

emergency control release, pursuant to s. 947.146.

Section 28. Paragraphs (i) and (j) of subsection (3) of section 944.801, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

944.801 Education for state prisoners.—

(3) The responsibilities of the Correctional Education

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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

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926 Program shall be to:

- (i) Ensure that every inmate who has 2 years or more remaining to serve on his or her sentence at the time that he or she is received at an institution and who lacks basic and functional literacy skills as defined in s. 1004.02 attends not fewer than 150 hours of sequential instruction in a correctional adult basic education program. The basic and functional literacy level of an inmate shall be determined by the average composite test score obtained on a test approved for this purpose by the State Board of Education.
- 1. Upon completion of the 150 hours of instruction, the inmate shall be retested and, if a composite test score of functional literacy is not attained, the department is authorized to require the inmate to remain in the instructional program.
- 2. Highest priority of inmate participation shall be focused on youthful offenders and those inmates nearing release from the correctional system.
- 3. An inmate shall be required to attend the 150 hours of adult basic education instruction unless such inmate:
- a. Is serving a life sentence or is under sentence of death.
- b. Is specifically exempted for security or health reasons.
 - c. Is housed at a community correctional center, road

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951 prison, work camp, or vocational center.

- d. Attains a functional literacy level after attendance in fewer than 150 hours of adult basic education instruction.
- e. Is unable to enter such instruction because of insufficient facilities, staff, or classroom capacity.
- 4. The Department of Corrections shall provide classes to accommodate those inmates assigned to correctional or public work programs after normal working hours. The department shall develop a plan to provide academic and vocational classes on a more frequent basis and at times that accommodate the increasing number of inmates with work assignments, to the extent that resources permit.
- 5. If an inmate attends and actively participates in the 150 hours of instruction, the Department of Corrections may grant a one-time award of up to 6 additional days of rehabilitation credit incentive gain-time, which must be credited and applied as provided by law. Active participation means, at a minimum, that the inmate is attentive, responsive, cooperative, and completes assigned work.
- (j) Recommend the award of additional <u>rehabilitation</u>

 <u>credit incentive gain-time</u> for inmates who receive a high school equivalency diploma or a vocational certificate.
- Section 29. Subsection (15) of section 947.005, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 947.005 Definitions.—As used in this chapter, unless the

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context clearly indicates otherwise:

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(15) "Tentative release date" means the date projected for the prisoner's release from custody by virtue of gain-time and credits granted or forfeited pursuant to s. 944.275(3)(a).

Section 30. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

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