

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to victims of domestic violence and
3 dating violence; providing definitions; requiring the
4 Division of Telecommunications within the Department
5 of Management Services to consult with certain
6 entities to conduct a feasibility study regarding a
7 specified alert system; providing requirements for
8 such alert system; requiring the division to report to
9 the Legislature the results of the feasibility study
10 by a specified date; amending s. 741.401, F.S.;
11 revising legislative findings to include victims of
12 dating violence; amending s. 741.402, F.S.; defining
13 the term "dating violence"; amending s. 741.403, F.S.;
14 authorizing victims of dating violence to apply to
15 participate in the Attorney General's address
16 confidentiality program; amending s. 741.408, F.S.;
17 requiring the Attorney General to designate certain
18 entities to assist victims of dating violence applying
19 to be address confidentiality program participants;
20 amending ss. 741.4651 and 960.001, F.S.; conforming
21 provisions to changes made by the act; providing an
22 effective date.

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

26 **Section 1.** Domestic and dating violence 911 alert system
27 feasibility study.—

28 (1) As used in this section, the term:

29 (a) "Division" means the Division of Telecommunications
30 within the Department of Management Services.

31 (b) "Enhanced 911" has the same meaning as in s.
32 365.172(3), Florida Statutes.

33 (c) "Next Generation 911" has the same meaning as in s.
34 365.172(3), Florida Statutes.

35 (d) "Public safety agency" has the same meaning as in s.
36 365.172(3), Florida Statutes.

37 (e) "Public safety answering point" or "PSAP" has the same
38 meaning as in s. 365.172(3), Florida Statutes.

39 (2) The division shall consult with enhanced 911 and Next
40 Generation 911 service providers; state, county, and municipal
41 PSAPs; and state and local public safety agencies to conduct a
42 feasibility study regarding the creation of a web-based 911
43 alert system for use by victims of domestic violence and dating
44 violence which is capable of:

45 (a) Ensuring real-time data-sharing between PSAPs and law
46 enforcement agencies.

47 (b) Creating a unique telephone number for each user which
48 will connect the user to a PSAP.

49 (c) Creating a user-generated numerical code or phrase
50 that can be utilized by the user after contacting a PSAP which

51 indicates the user's need for immediate law enforcement
52 assistance.

53 (d) Transmitting specified data to law enforcement
54 agencies when a user calls from his or her unique telephone
55 number and enters his or her numerical code or phrase.

56 (3) By January 31, 2026, the division must report to the
57 President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
58 Representatives the results of the feasibility study.

59 **Section 2. Section 741.401, Florida Statutes, is amended**
60 **to read:**

61 741.401 Legislative findings; purpose.—The Legislature
62 finds that persons attempting to escape from actual or
63 threatened domestic violence or dating violence frequently
64 establish new addresses in order to prevent their assailants or
65 probable assailants from finding them. The purpose of ss.
66 741.401–741.409 is to enable state and local agencies to respond
67 to requests for public records without disclosing the location
68 of a victim of domestic violence or dating violence, to enable
69 interagency cooperation with the Attorney General in providing
70 address confidentiality for victims of domestic violence and
71 dating violence, and to enable state and local agencies to
72 accept a program participant's use of an address designated by
73 the Attorney General as a substitute mailing address.

74 **Section 3. Section 741.402, Florida Statutes, is amended**
75 **to read:**

76 741.402 Definitions; ss. 741.401-741.409.—Unless the
 77 context clearly requires otherwise, as used in ss. 741.401-
 78 741.409, the term:

79 (1) "Address" means a residential street address, school
 80 address, or work address of an individual, as specified on the
 81 individual's application to be a program participant under ss.
 82 741.401-741.409.

83 (2) "Dating violence" means an assault, aggravated
 84 assault, battery, aggravated battery, sexual assault, sexual
 85 battery, stalking, aggravated stalking, kidnapping, false
 86 imprisonment, or any criminal offense resulting in physical
 87 injury or death, or the threat of any such act, committed by an
 88 individual who has or has had a continuing and significant
 89 relationship of a romantic or intimate nature as determined by
 90 the factors listed in s. 784.046(1)(d) with the victim,
 91 regardless of whether these acts or threats have been reported
 92 to law enforcement officers.

93 (3) "Domestic violence" means an act as defined in s.
 94 741.28 and includes a threat of such acts committed against an
 95 individual in a domestic situation, regardless of whether these
 96 acts or threats have been reported to law enforcement officers.

97 ~~(4)~~ ~~(2)~~ "Program participant" means a person certified as a
 98 program participant under s. 741.403.

99 **Section 4. Paragraphs (a) and (d) of subsection (1) of**
 100 **section 741.403, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

101 741.403 Address confidentiality program; application;
 102 certification.—

103 (1) An adult person, a parent or guardian acting on behalf
 104 of a minor, or a guardian acting on behalf of a person
 105 adjudicated incapacitated under chapter 744 may apply to the
 106 Attorney General to have an address designated by the Attorney
 107 General serve as the person's address or the address of the
 108 minor or incapacitated person. To the extent possible within
 109 funds appropriated for this purpose, the Attorney General shall
 110 approve an application if it is filed in the manner and on the
 111 form prescribed by the Attorney General and if it contains all
 112 of the following:

113 (a) A sworn statement by the applicant that the applicant
 114 has good reason to believe that the applicant, or the minor or
 115 incapacitated person on whose behalf the application is made, is
 116 a victim of domestic violence or dating violence, and that the
 117 applicant fears for his or her safety or his or her children's
 118 safety or the safety of the minor or incapacitated person on
 119 whose behalf the application is made.

120 (d) A statement that the new address or addresses that the
 121 applicant requests must not be disclosed for the reason that
 122 disclosure will increase the risk of domestic violence or dating
 123 violence.

124 **Section 5. Section 741.408, Florida Statutes, is amended**
 125 **to read:**

126 741.408 Assistance for program applicants.—The Attorney
 127 General shall designate state and local agencies and nonprofit
 128 agencies that provide counseling and shelter services to victims
 129 of domestic violence and dating violence to assist persons
 130 applying to be program participants. Assistance and counseling
 131 rendered by the Office of the Attorney General or its designees
 132 to applicants does not constitute legal advice.

133 **Section 6. Section 741.4651, Florida Statutes, is amended**
 134 **to read:**

135 741.4651 Public records exemption; victims of stalking or
 136 aggravated stalking.—The names, addresses, and telephone numbers
 137 of persons who are victims of stalking or aggravated stalking
 138 are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State
 139 Constitution in the same manner that the names, addresses, and
 140 telephone numbers of participants in the Address Confidentiality
 141 Program for Victims of Domestic and Dating Violence which are
 142 held by the Attorney General under s. 741.465 are exempt from
 143 disclosure, provided that the victim files a sworn statement of
 144 stalking with the Office of the Attorney General and otherwise
 145 complies with the procedures in ss. 741.401-741.409.

146 **Section 7. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section**
 147 **960.001, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

148 960.001 Guidelines for fair treatment of victims and
 149 witnesses in the criminal justice and juvenile justice systems.—

150 (1) The Department of Legal Affairs, the state attorneys,

151 the Department of Corrections, the Department of Juvenile
152 Justice, the Florida Commission on Offender Review, the State
153 Courts Administrator and circuit court administrators, the
154 Department of Law Enforcement, and every sheriff's department,
155 police department, or other law enforcement agency as defined in
156 s. 943.10(4) shall develop and implement guidelines for the use
157 of their respective agencies, which guidelines are consistent
158 with the purposes of this act and s. 16(b), Art. I of the State
159 Constitution and are designed to implement s. 16(b), Art. I of
160 the State Constitution and to achieve the following objectives:

161 (c) Information concerning protection available to victim
162 or witness.—A victim or witness shall be furnished, as a matter
163 of course, with information on steps that are available to law
164 enforcement officers and state attorneys to protect victims and
165 witnesses from intimidation. Victims of domestic violence and
166 dating violence shall also be given information about the
167 address confidentiality program provided under s. 741.403.

168 **Section 8.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.