

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate Comm: RCS 04/01/2025 House

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

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Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

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

within the Department of Management Services.

Delete everything after the enacting clause

and insert:

Section 1. Domestic and dating violence 911 alert system feasibility study.-

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(b) "Enhanced 911" has the same meaning as in s.

(a) "Division" means the Division of Telecommunications

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11	365.172(3), Florida Statutes.
12	(c) "Next Generation 911" has the same meaning as in s.
13	365.172(3), Florida Statutes.
14	(d) "Public safety agency" has the same meaning as in s.
15	365.172(3), Florida Statutes.
16	(e) "Public safety answering point" or "PSAP" has the same
17	meaning as in s. 365.172(3), Florida Statutes.
18	(2) The division shall consult with enhanced 911 and Next
19	Generation 911 service providers; state, county, and municipal
20	PSAPs; and state and local public safety agencies to conduct a
21	feasibility study regarding the creation of a web-based 911
22	alert system for use by victims of domestic violence and dating
23	violence which is capable of:
24	(a) Ensuring real-time data-sharing between PSAPs and law
25	enforcement agencies.
26	(b) Creating a unique telephone number for each user which
27	will connect the user to a PSAP.
28	(c) Creating a user-generated numerical code or phrase that
29	can be utilized by the user after contacting a PSAP which
30	indicates the user's need for immediate law enforcement
31	assistance.
32	(d) Transmitting specified data to law enforcement agencies
33	when a user calls from his or her unique telephone number and
34	enters his or her numerical code or phrase.
35	(3) By January 31, 2026, the division must report to the
36	President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
37	Representatives the results of the feasibility study.
38	Section 2. Section 741.401, Florida Statutes, is amended to
39	read:

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40 741.401 Legislative findings; purpose.-The Legislature 41 finds that persons attempting to escape from actual or threatened domestic violence or dating violence frequently 42 43 establish new addresses in order to prevent their assailants or probable assailants from finding them. The purpose of ss. 44 45 741.401-741.409 is to enable state and local agencies to respond to requests for public records without disclosing the location 46 47 of a victim of domestic violence or dating violence, to enable 48 interagency cooperation with the Attorney General in providing 49 address confidentiality for victims of domestic violence and 50 dating violence, and to enable state and local agencies to 51 accept a program participant's use of an address designated by 52 the Attorney General as a substitute mailing address. 53 Section 3. Section 741.402, Florida Statutes, is reordered 54 and amended to read: 55 741.402 Definitions; ss. 741.401-741.409.-Unless the 56 context clearly requires otherwise, as used in ss. 741.401-57 741.409, the term: 58 (1) "Address" means a residential street address, school 59 address, or work address of an individual, as specified on the 60 individual's application to be a program participant under ss. 741.401-741.409. 61 62 (4) (2) "Program participant" means a person certified as a 63 program participant under s. 741.403. (2) "Dating violence" means an assault, aggravated assault, 64 65 battery, aggravated battery, sexual assault, sexual battery, 66 stalking, aggravated stalking, kidnapping, false imprisonment, 67 or any criminal offense resulting in physical injury or death, or the threat of any such act, committed by an individual who 68

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has or has had a continuing and significant relationship of a romantic or intimate nature as determined by the factors listed in s. 784.046(1)(d) with the victim, regardless of whether these acts or threats have been reported to law enforcement officers.

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

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

741.403 Address confidentiality program; application; certification.-

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

91 (a) A sworn statement by the applicant that the applicant 92 has good reason to believe that the applicant, or the minor or 93 incapacitated person on whose behalf the application is made, is 94 a victim of domestic violence <u>or dating violence</u>, and that the 95 applicant fears for his or her safety or his or her children's 96 safety or the safety of the minor or incapacitated person on 97 whose behalf the application is made.

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98 (d) A statement that the new address or addresses that the 99 applicant requests must not be disclosed for the reason that 100 disclosure will increase the risk of domestic violence or dating 101 violence.

Section 5. Section 741.408, Florida Statutes, is amended to 103 read:

104 741.408 Assistance for program applicants.-The Attorney 105 General shall designate state and local agencies and nonprofit 106 agencies that provide counseling and shelter services to victims 107 of domestic violence and dating violence to assist persons 108 applying to be program participants. Assistance and counseling 109 rendered by the Office of the Attorney General or its designees 110 to applicants does not constitute legal advice.

Section 6. Section 741.4651, Florida Statutes, is amended 112 to read:

113 741.4651 Public records exemption; victims of stalking or aggravated stalking.-The names, addresses, and telephone numbers 114 115 of persons who are victims of stalking or aggravated stalking 116 are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State 117 Constitution in the same manner that the names, addresses, and 118 telephone numbers of participants in the Address Confidentiality 119 Program for Victims of Domestic and Dating Violence which are 120 held by the Attorney General under s. 741.465 are exempt from 121 disclosure, provided that the victim files a sworn statement of 122 stalking with the Office of the Attorney General and otherwise 123 complies with the procedures in ss. 741.401-741.409.

124 Section 7. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section 125 960.001, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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960.001 Guidelines for fair treatment of victims and

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127 witnesses in the criminal justice and juvenile justice systems.-128 (1) The Department of Legal Affairs, the state attorneys, the Department of Corrections, the Department of Juvenile 129 130 Justice, the Florida Commission on Offender Review, the State 131 Courts Administrator and circuit court administrators, the 132 Department of Law Enforcement, and every sheriff's department, 133 police department, or other law enforcement agency as defined in 134 s. 943.10(4) shall develop and implement guidelines for the use 135 of their respective agencies, which guidelines are consistent 136 with the purposes of this act and s. 16(b), Art. I of the State Constitution and are designed to implement s. 16(b), Art. I of 137 138 the State Constitution and to achieve the following objectives:

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

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

Delete everything before the enacting clause and insert:

A bill to be entitled An act relating to victims of domestic violence and dating violence; defining terms; requiring the Division of Telecommunications within the Department

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156 of Management Services to consult with certain 157 entities to conduct a feasibility study regarding a 158 specified alert system; providing requirements for 159 such alert system; requiring the division to report to 160 the Legislature the results of the feasibility study 161 by a specified date; amending s. 741.401, F.S.; 162 revising legislative findings to include victims of 163 dating violence; reordering and amending s. 741.402, F.S.; defining the term "dating violence"; amending s. 164 165 741.403, F.S.; authorizing victims of dating violence 166 to apply to participate in the Attorney General's 167 address confidentiality program; amending s. 741.408, 168 F.S.; requiring the Attorney General to designate 169 certain entities to assist victims of dating violence 170 applying to be address confidentiality program 171 participants; amending ss. 741.4651 and 960.001, F.S.; 172 conforming provisions to changes made by the act; providing an effective date. 173