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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
01/15/2026	.	
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The Appropriations Committee on Criminal and Civil Justice
(Leek) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment

Delete lines 34 - 151
and insert:
who is engaged in the performance of his or her official duties
as described in s. 943.10(1) ~~execution of a legal duty~~, if the
law enforcement officer was acting in good faith and he or she
is known, or reasonably appears, to be a law enforcement
officer. As used in this section, the term "acting in good
faith" means to make sincere and reasonable efforts to comply



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with legal requirements, even if the arrest, detention, or other act is later found to have been unlawful.

~~(2) A law enforcement officer, or any person whom the officer has summoned or directed to assist him or her, is not justified in the use of force if the arrest or execution of a legal duty is unlawful and known by him or her to be unlawful.~~

Section 3. Section 782.065, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

782.065 Murder; law enforcement officer, correctional officer, correctional probation officer.—Notwithstanding ss. 775.082, 775.0823, 782.04, 782.051, and chapter 921, a defendant must ~~shall~~ be sentenced to life imprisonment without eligibility for release upon findings by the trier of fact that, beyond a reasonable doubt:

(1) The defendant committed murder in the first degree in violation of s. 782.04(1) and a death sentence was not imposed; murder in the second or third degree in violation of s. 782.04(2), (3), or (4); attempted murder in the first or second degree in violation of s. 782.04(1)(a)1. or (2); ~~or~~ attempted felony murder in violation of s. 782.051; or manslaughter in violation of s. 782.07(1); and

(2) The victim of any offense described in subsection (1) was a law enforcement officer, part-time law enforcement officer, auxiliary law enforcement officer, correctional officer, part-time correctional officer, auxiliary correctional officer, correctional probation officer, part-time correctional probation officer, or auxiliary correctional probation officer, as those terms are defined in s. 943.10, who was engaged in the performance of his or her official duties as described in s.



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943.10 ~~lawful performance of a legal duty.~~

Section 4. Paragraph (e) of subsection (1) and subsection (2) of section 784.07, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

784.07 Assault or battery of law enforcement officers and other specified personnel; reclassification of offenses; minimum sentences.—

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

(e) "Law enforcement officer" includes a law enforcement officer, a correctional officer, a correctional probation officer, a part-time law enforcement officer, a part-time correctional officer, an auxiliary law enforcement officer, and an auxiliary correctional officer, as those terms are respectively defined in s. 943.10, and any county probation officer; an employee or agent of the Department of Corrections who supervises or provides services to inmates; an officer of the Florida Commission on Offender Review; a federal law enforcement officer as defined in s. 901.1505; and law enforcement personnel of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the Department of Environmental Protection, or the Department of Law Enforcement. The duties and responsibilities of these respective positions are described in s. 943.10.

(2) Whenever any person is charged with knowingly committing an assault or battery upon a law enforcement officer, a firefighter, an emergency medical care provider, hospital personnel, a railroad special officer, a traffic accident investigation officer as described in s. 316.640, a nonsworn law enforcement agency employee who is certified as an agency inspector, a blood alcohol analyst, or a breath test operator while such employee is in uniform and engaged in processing,



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testing, evaluating, analyzing, or transporting a person who is detained or under arrest for DUI, a law enforcement explorer, a traffic infraction enforcement officer as described in s. 316.640, a parking enforcement specialist as defined in s. 316.640, a person licensed as a security officer as defined in s. 493.6101 and wearing a uniform that bears at least one patch or emblem that is visible at all times that clearly identifies the employing agency and that clearly identifies the person as a licensed security officer, a security officer employed by the board of trustees of a community college, or a utility worker engaged in work on critical infrastructure as defined in s. 812.141(1), while the officer, firefighter, emergency medical care provider, hospital personnel, railroad special officer, traffic accident investigation officer, traffic infraction enforcement officer, inspector, analyst, operator, law enforcement explorer, parking enforcement specialist, public transit employee or agent, security officer, or utility worker is engaged in the ~~lawful~~ performance of his or her official duties, the offense for which the person is charged shall be reclassified as follows:

(a) In the case of assault, from a misdemeanor of the second degree to a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(b) In the case of battery, from a misdemeanor of the first degree to a felony of the third degree. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a person convicted of battery upon a law enforcement officer committed in furtherance of a riot or an aggravated riot prohibited under s. 870.01 shall be sentenced to a minimum term of imprisonment of 6 months.

(c) In the case of aggravated assault, from a felony of the



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third degree to a felony of the second degree. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any person convicted of aggravated assault upon a law enforcement officer shall be sentenced to a minimum term of imprisonment of 3 years.

(d) In the case of aggravated battery, from a felony of the second degree to a felony of the first degree. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any person convicted of aggravated battery of a law enforcement officer shall be sentenced to a minimum term of imprisonment of 5 years.

Section 5. Subsection (1) of section 843.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

843.01 Resisting, obstructing, or opposing by offering or doing violence to legally authorized person, police canine, or police horse.—

(1) Whoever knowingly and willfully resists, obstructs, or opposes any officer as defined in s. 943.10(1), (2), (3), (6), (7), (8), or (9); member of the Florida Commission on Offender Review or any administrative aide or supervisor employed by the commission; parole and probation supervisor; county probation officer; personnel or representative of the Department of Law Enforcement; or other person legally authorized to execute process in the execution of legal process or engaged in the performance of his or her official duties as described in s. 943.10 ~~lawful execution of any legal duty~~, by offering or