

By Senator Harrell

31-00848-26

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to offenses evidencing prejudice;  
3       amending s. 775.085, F.S.; requiring the  
4       reclassification of offenses evidencing prejudice  
5       based on the political ideology of the victim;  
6       providing penalties; providing an effective date.  
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8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
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10       Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section  
11       775.085, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

12       775.085 Evidencing prejudice while committing offense;  
13       reclassification.—

14       (1)(a) The penalty for any felony or misdemeanor shall be  
15       reclassified as provided in this subsection if the commission of  
16       such felony or misdemeanor evidences prejudice based on the  
17       race, color, ancestry, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation,  
18       national origin, homeless status, ~~or~~ advanced age, or political  
19       ideology of the victim:

20       1. A misdemeanor of the second degree is reclassified to a  
21       misdemeanor of the first degree.

22       2. A misdemeanor of the first degree is reclassified to a  
23       felony of the third degree.

24       3. A felony of the third degree is reclassified to a felony  
25       of the second degree.

26       4. A felony of the second degree is reclassified to a  
27       felony of the first degree.

28       5. A felony of the first degree is reclassified to a life  
29       felony.

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Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2026.