

By Senator Harrell

31-00857-26

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to ethics for public employees;
amending s. 112.312, F.S.; revising the definition of
the term "relative" to include foster parents and
foster children; reenacting s. 1001.421, F.S.,
relating to gifts to district school board members, to
incorporate the amendment made to s. 112.312, F.S., in
a reference thereto; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (21) of section 112.312, Florida
Statutes, is amended to read:

112.312 Definitions.—As used in this part and for purposes
of the provisions of s. 8, Art. II of the State Constitution,
unless the context otherwise requires:

(21) "Relative," unless otherwise specified in this part,
means an individual who is related to a public officer or
employee as father, mother, son, daughter, brother, sister,
uncle, aunt, first cousin, nephew, niece, husband, wife, father-
in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-
law, sister-in-law, stepfather, stepmother, stepson,
stepdaughter, stepbrother, stepsister, half brother, half
sister, grandparent, great grandparent, grandchild, great
grandchild, step grandparent, step great grandparent, step
grandchild, or step great grandchild; an individual who, while
the public officer or employee was a minor, was his or her
legally recognized foster parent in the jurisdiction where the
relationship occurred or an individual who is a current or

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30 former legally recognized foster child of the public officer or
31 employee in the jurisdiction where the relationship occurs or
32 occurred; ~~a~~ person who is engaged to be married to the public
33 officer or employee or who otherwise holds himself or herself
34 out as or is generally known as the person whom the public
35 officer or employee intends to marry or with whom the public
36 officer or employee intends to form a household; ~~or~~ or any other
37 natural person having the same legal residence as the public
38 officer or employee.

39 Section 2. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment
40 made by this act to section 112.312, Florida Statutes, in a
41 reference thereto, section 1001.421, Florida Statutes, is
42 reenacted to read:

43 1001.421 Gifts.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law
44 to the contrary, district school board members and their
45 relatives, as defined in s. 112.312(21), may not directly or
46 indirectly solicit any gift, or directly or indirectly accept
47 any gift in excess of \$50, from any person, vendor, potential
48 vendor, or other entity doing business with the school district.
49 The term "gift" has the same meaning as in s. 112.312(12).

50 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.