HB 79 2026

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to water safety requirements for the rental of residential property; amending ss. 83.51 and 515.27, F.S.; requiring that certain dwelling units, premises, and residential property be equipped with specified pool safety requirements; providing a criminal penalty; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (4) of section 83.51, Florida
Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (5), and a new subsection
(4) is added to that section, to read:

83.51 Landlord's obligation to maintain premises.-

(4) If a dwelling unit has a residential swimming pool or the premises have access to a standing body of water within 150 yards of the dwelling unit, the landlord must ensure that the dwelling unit is equipped with at least one of the safety features required under s. 515.27(1) at all times when the dwelling unit is being rented. A landlord who violates this subsection commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

Section 2. Subsection (3) is added to section 515.27, Florida Statutes, to read:

515.27 Residential swimming pool safety feature options;

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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

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penalties.-

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(3) A person who offers his or her residential property for rent and such property has a residential swimming pool or access to a standing body of water within 150 yards of the property must ensure that the property is equipped with at least one of the safety features required by subsection (1) at all times when the property is being rented. A person who violates this subsection commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

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