

HB 11 — Crimes Against Homeless Persons

by Reps. Porth, Rogers, and others (SB 506 by Senator Ring)

The bill amends Florida's hate crimes statute, s. 775.085, F.S., to reclassify the felony or misdemeanor degree of an offense in which prejudice based on the homeless status of the victim is evidenced in its commission.

The bill defines "homeless status" to mean that the victim:

- Lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; or
- Has a primary nighttime residence that is:
 - A supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations; or
 - A public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect October 1, 2010.

Vote: Senate 25-10; House 80-28