

CS/HB 1493 — Career Offenders

by Public Safety and Domestic Security Policy Committee and Rep. Cruz and others (SB 2750 by Senators Dean and Crist)

The bill provides that it is a first degree misdemeanor for a person to:

- Withhold information from, or fail to notify, a law enforcement agency about a career offender's noncompliance with the requirements of the Florida Career Offender Registration Act (s. 775.261, F.S.) and, if known, the whereabouts of the career offender;
- Harbor or attempt to harbor, or assist another in harboring or attempting to harbor, the career offender;
- Conceal or attempt to conceal, or assist another in concealing or attempting to conceal, the career offender; or
- Provide information to the law enforcement agency regarding the career offender which the person knows to be false.

Each specified act is only unlawful if the person has reason to believe that a career offender is not complying, or has not complied, with the requirements of s. 775.261, F.S., and commits the act with the intent to assist the career offender in eluding a law enforcement agency that is seeking to find the career offender to question the career offender about, or to arrest the career offender for, his or her noncompliance with the requirements of s. 775.261, F.S.

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

Vote: Senate 34-0; House 113-0