By Senator Simmons

9-01651A-20 202092

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to controlled substances; amending s. 893.13, F.S.; revising age limitations relating to the use and hire of certain persons and the delivery of controlled substances to certain persons; creating s. 893.1355, F.S.; providing for the reclassification of criminal penalties relating to the sale of controlled substances to certain persons; amending s. 893.145, F.S.; expanding the definition of the term "drug paraphernalia"; amending 921.0022, F.S.; providing for application of the severity ranking chart of the Criminal Punishment Code; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (4) of section 893.13, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

893.13 Prohibited acts; penalties.-

- (4) Except as authorized by this chapter, a person  $\underline{21}$   $\underline{18}$  years of age or older may not deliver any controlled substance to a person younger than  $\underline{21}$   $\underline{18}$  years of age, use or hire a person younger than  $\underline{21}$   $\underline{18}$  years of age as an agent or employee in the sale or delivery of such a substance, or use such person to assist in avoiding detection or apprehension for a violation of this chapter. A person who violates this subsection with respect to:
- (a) A controlled substance named or described in s. 893.03(1)(a), (1)(b), (1)(d), (2)(a), (2)(b), or (2)(c)5. commits a felony of the first degree, punishable as provided in

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30 s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

- (b) A controlled substance named or described in s. 893.03(1)(c), (2)(c)1., (2)(c)2., (2)(c)3., (2)(c)6., (2)(c)7., (2)(c)8., (2)(c)9., (2)(c)10., (3), or (4) commits a felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.
- (c) Any other controlled substance, except as lawfully sold, manufactured, or delivered, commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

Imposition of sentence may not be suspended or deferred, and the person so convicted may not be placed on probation.

Section 2. Section 893.1355, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

893.1355 Sale of a controlled substance to a person younger than 21 years of age; reclassification.—

- (1) Whenever a person is charged with committing a violation described in s. 893.13(1)(a) which involves selling, or possessing with intent to sell, a controlled substance to a person younger than 21 years of age, the offense for which the person is charged shall be reclassified as provided in subsection (2).
- (2) The offense described in subsection (1) shall be reclassified in the following manner:
- (a) In the case of a misdemeanor of the first degree, the offense is reclassified as a felony of the third degree.
- (b) In the case of a felony of the third degree, the offense is reclassified as a felony of the second degree.

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(c) In the case of a felony of the second degree, the offense is reclassified as a felony of the first degree.

- (3) For purposes of sentencing under chapter 921, the following offense severity ranking levels apply:
- (a) An offense that is a misdemeanor of the first degree and that is reclassified under this section as a felony of the third degree is ranked in level 2 of the offense severity ranking chart.
- (b) A felony offense that is reclassified under this section is ranked one level above the ranking specified in s. 921.0022 or s. 921.0023 for the offense committed.

Section 3. Paragraph (w) is added to subsection (12) of section 893.145, Florida Statutes, to read:

893.145 "Drug paraphernalia" defined.—The term "drug paraphernalia" means all equipment, products, and materials of any kind which are used, intended for use, or designed for use in planting, propagating, cultivating, growing, harvesting, manufacturing, compounding, converting, producing, processing, preparing, testing, analyzing, packaging, repackaging, storing, containing, concealing, transporting, injecting, ingesting, inhaling, or otherwise introducing into the human body a controlled substance in violation of this chapter or s. 877.111. Drug paraphernalia is deemed to be contraband which shall be subject to civil forfeiture. The term includes, but is not limited to:

(12) Objects used, intended for use, or designed for use in ingesting, inhaling, or otherwise introducing controlled substances, as described in s. 893.03, or substances described in s. 877.111(1) into the human body, such as:

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(w) Vapor-generating electronic devices, as that term is defined in s. 386.203.

Section 4. Subsection (2) of section 921.0022, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

921.0022 Criminal Punishment Code; offense severity ranking chart.—

(2) The offense severity ranking chart has 10 offense

levels, ranked from least severe, which are level 1 offenses, to most severe, which are level 10 offenses, and each felony offense is assigned to a level according to the severity of the offense. For purposes of determining which felony offenses are specifically listed in the offense severity ranking chart and which severity level has been assigned to each of these offenses, the numerical statutory references in the left column of the chart and the felony degree designations in the middle column of the chart are controlling; the language in the right column of the chart is provided solely for descriptive purposes. Reclassification of the degree of the felony through the application of s. 775.0845, s. 775.085, s. 775.0861, s. 775.0862, s. 775.0863, s. 775.087, s. 775.0875, s. 794.023, s. 893.1355, or any other law that provides an enhanced penalty for a felony offense, to any offense listed in the offense severity ranking chart in this section shall not cause the offense to become unlisted and is not subject to the provisions of s. 921.0023.

Section 5. This act shall take effect October 1, 2020.