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CS/HB 479, "Leaving the Scene" Signed into Law

TALLAHASSEE, FL – <u>CS/HB 479</u> sponsored by **Senator Kristen Arrington (D-Kissimmee)** and **Representative Dan Daley (D-Coral Springs)** has been signed into law by Governor Ron DeSantis this week.

The bill authorizes a court to order a driver who is convicted for leaving the scene of a crash that resulted in damage to an attended vehicle or other property to make restitution to the vehicle or property owner for any damage caused by the driver's vehicle, when such driver caused or otherwise contributed to the crash.

"This legislation helps everyday Floridians who are unfairly stuck with the bill. I am grateful to have been able to work on this legislation to ensure that those who leave the scene are held accountable. It's about responsibility, fairness, and doing the right thing," said **Senator Arrington**.

Representative Daley added, "CS/HB 479 makes it clear—if you leave the scene, you will be held responsible and are required to pay for the damage you caused. This legislation ensures that every day Floridians are no longer the victim. I am beyond proud to see this legislation signed into law."

The effective date of the bill is October 1, 2025.