## Florida Senate - 2006

By Senator Rich

34-1354A-06

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to crimes against homeless
3	persons; directing the Office of the Attorney
4	General to develop and provide to the
5	Legislature a report and recommendations
6	regarding crimes against homeless persons;
7	specifying certain contents of the report and
8	recommendations; specifying entities to be
9	consulted in development of the report and
10	recommendations; directing the Department of
11	Law Enforcement, in consultation with the
12	Criminal Justice Standards and Training
13	Commission and the Florida Criminal Justice
14	Executive Institute, to develop a telecourse to
15	instruct state and local law enforcement
16	agencies and operators concerning crimes
17	against homeless persons and ways to deal with
18	such crimes; specifying additional contents of
19	the telecourse; specifying entities to be
20	consulted in developing the telecourse;
21	directing the department and local law
22	enforcement agencies to provide the telecourse
23	to officers; providing an effective date.
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25	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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27	Section 1. <u>(1)(a) The Office of the Attorney General</u>
28	shall assess the extent of the problem of crimes against
29	homeless persons and develop a plan to prevent these crimes
30	and to apprehend and prosecute the perpetrators of these
31	crimes. In developing the assessment and plan, the office
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**CODING:** Words stricken are deletions; words <u>underlined</u> are additions.

1	shall consult homeless persons and their advocates, law
2	enforcement agencies having experience in investigating crimes
3	against the homeless, the Department of Law Enforcement, the
4	Florida Criminal Justice Executive Institute, and the regional
5	domestic task forces created under s. 943.0312, Florida
6	Statutes.
7	(b) The office shall make an initial report to the
8	Legislature by January 7, 2007, and a final report by December
9	1, 2007. Each report must include recommendations for any
10	legislation necessary to carry out the plan and a
11	recommendation on whether to enact additional laws to address
12	hate crimes that are committed in whole or in part because the
13	victim is homeless or is perceived to be homeless.
14	(2) By July 1, 2007, the Department of Law
15	Enforcement, in consultation with the Criminal Justice
16	Standards and Training Commission and the Florida Criminal
17	Justice Executive Institute shall develop a 2-hour telecourse,
18	which shall be made available to all law enforcement agencies
19	in this state and shall address crimes against homeless
20	persons and methods of dealing effectively and humanely with
21	homeless persons, including homeless persons with
22	disabilities. The telecourse must include instruction
23	concerning hate crimes and crimes committed in whole or in
24	part because of the victims' actual or perceived homelessness.
25	In developing the telecourse, the institute shall consult
26	subject-matter experts, including, but not limited to,
27	homeless and formerly homeless persons in this state, service
28	providers and advocates for such persons, experts on the
29	disabilities that homeless persons commonly suffer, Florida
30	Impact, and the National Coalition for the Homeless. The
31	Department of Law Enforcement, and local law enforcement

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SB 2074

1	agencies shall make the telecourse available to all law
2	enforcement officers.
3	Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
4	law.
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7	SENATE SUMMARY
8	Directs the Attorney General to provide the Legislature with a report and recommendations regarding crimes
9	against homeless persons. Provides for the content of the report and recommendations and specifies entities to be
10	consulted in their development. Directs the Department of Law Enforcement, in consultation with the Criminal
11	Justice Standards and Training Commission and the Florida Criminal Justice Executive Institute, to develop a
12	telecourse to instruct state and local law enforcement agencies and operators concerning crimes against homeless
13	persons and ways to deal with such crimes. Provides for contents of the telecourse and specifies entities to be
14	consulted in its development. Directs the department and local law enforcement agencies to provide the telecourse
15	to officers.
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