Florida Senate - 2008

By Senator Ring

32-00565-08

20081082___

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to stalking; amending s. 784.048, F.S.;
3	redefining the terms "harass," "credible threat," and
4	"cyberstalk"; defining the terms "electronic
5	communication," "electronic communication device," and
6	"immediate family"; increasing criminal penalties;
7	providing for reclassification of criminal penalties for
8	certain offenses; providing for a civil cause of action
9	and remedies; providing that the civil remedies are in
10	addition to any other civil, administrative, or criminal
11	remedies provided by law; amending s. 921.0022, F.S.,
12	relating to the offense severity ranking chart; conforming
13	provisions to changes made by the act; providing an
14	effective date.
15	
16	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
17	
18	Section 1. Section 784.048, Florida Statutes, is amended to
19	read:
20	784.048 Stalking; definitions; penalties
21	(1) As used in this section, the term:
22	(a) "Harass" means to engage in a course of conduct <u>, or to</u>
23	cause or encourage another to engage in a course of conduct,
24	directed at a specific person <u>which</u> that causes substantial
25	emotional distress in such person and serves no legitimate
26	purpose.
27	(b) "Course of conduct" means a pattern of conduct composed
28	of a series of acts over a period of time, however short,
29	evidencing a continuity of purpose. Constitutionally protected

Page 1 of 28

32-00565-08

20081082

30 activity is not included within the meaning of "course of 31 conduct." Such constitutionally protected activity includes 32 picketing or other organized protests.

(c) "Credible threat" means <u>any</u> a threat, including a threat delivered by means of an electronic communication device, made with the intent to cause the person who is the target of the threat to reasonably fear <u>bodily injury or death to himself or</u> <u>herself or to a member of his or her immediate family</u> for his or <u>her safety</u>. The threat must be against the life of, or a threat to cause bodily injury to, a person.

(d) "Cyberstalk" means to engage in a course of conduct, or
<u>to cause or encourage another to engage in a course of conduct,</u>
to communicate, or to cause to be communicated, words, images, or
language by or through the use of electronic mail or electronic
communication, directed at a specific person, causing substantial
emotional distress to that person and serving no legitimate
purpose.

47 (e) "Electronic communication" means any transfer of signs,
48 signals, writings, images, sounds, data, or intelligence of any
49 nature transmitted in whole or in part by a wire, radio,
50 electromagnetic, photoelectronic, or photooptical system that
51 affects interstate or foreign commerce.

52 (f) "Electronic communication device" means any type of 53 instrument, device, machine, equipment, or software that is 54 capable of transmitting, acquiring, encrypting, transferring, 55 decrypting, or receiving any signs, signals, writings, data, 56 images, sounds, or intelligence of any nature by wire, radio, 57 optical, or other electromagnetic system. The term includes, but 58 is not limited to, telephones, cellular phones, computers, video

Page 2 of 28

32-00565-08

20081082

59 recorders, fax machines, or pagers. 60 (q) "Immediate family" means spouses, former spouses, persons related by blood or marriage, persons who are presently 61 residing together as if a family or who have resided together in 62 the past as if a family, and persons who are parents of a child 63 64 in common regardless of whether they have been married. With the 65 exception of persons who have a child in common, the immediate 66 family members must be currently residing or have within the 67 previous 6 months resided together in the same single dwelling 68 unit. 69 Any person who willfully, maliciously, and repeatedly (2)70 follows, harasses, or cyberstalks another person commits the 71 offense of stalking, a felony misdemeanor of the third first 72 degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, or s. 775.083, or 73 s. 775.084. 74 Any person who willfully, maliciously, and repeatedly (3) 75 follows, harasses, or cyberstalks another person, and 76 purposefully engages in a course of conduct involving makes a 77 credible threat with the intent to place that person in 78 reasonable fear of death or bodily injury of the person, or the 79 person's immediate family child, sibling, spouse, parent, or 80 dependent, commits the offense of aggravated stalking, a felony 81 of the second third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, 82 s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. 83 Any person who, after an injunction for protection (4) against repeat violence, sexual violence, or dating violence 84 85 pursuant to s. 784.046, or an injunction for protection against

86 domestic violence pursuant to s. 741.30, or after any other 87 court-imposed prohibition of conduct toward the subject person or

Page 3 of 28

32-00565-08

20081082

that person's property, knowingly, willfully, maliciously, and repeatedly follows, harasses, or cyberstalks another person commits the offense of aggravated stalking, a felony of the <u>second third</u> degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

93 (5) Any person who willfully, maliciously, and repeatedly 94 follows, harasses, or cyberstalks a minor under 16 years of age 95 commits the offense of aggravated stalking, a felony of the 96 <u>second third</u> degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 97 775.083, or s. 775.084.

98 (6) Any law enforcement officer may arrest, without a
99 warrant, any person he or she has probable cause to believe has
100 violated the provisions of this section.

(7) Any person who, after having been sentenced for a violation of s. 794.011 or s. 800.04, and prohibited from contacting the victim of the offense under s. 921.244, willfully, maliciously, and repeatedly follows, harasses, or cyberstalks the victim commits the offense of aggravated stalking, a felony of the <u>second third</u> degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

108 (8) If a person is charged with violating any provision of 109 this section and conceals his or her identification from the 110 person who is the victim of the violation, uses the electronic 111 bandwidth of another person while violating this section, or 112 destroys evidence of a person's violation of this section, the 113 offense for which the person is charged shall be reclassified as 114 follows:

115(a) In the case of aggravated stalking of a minor younger116than 16 years of age, from a felony of the second degree to a

Page 4 of 28

20081082 32-00565-08 117 felony of the first degree. 118 (b) In the case of aggravated stalking, from a felony of 119 the second degree to a felony of the first degree. 120 (c) In the case of stalking, from a felony of the third 121 degree to a felony of the second degree. (9) (8) The punishment imposed under this section shall run 122 123 consecutive to any former sentence imposed for a conviction for 124 any offense under s. 794.011 or s. 800.04. 125 (10) (a) Notwithstanding any other remedy or relief to which 126 a person is entitled, a person suffering damage as a result of a 127 violation of this section may bring an action to recover or 128 obtain actual, punitive, and treble damages, equitable relief, 129 reasonable attorney's fees, investigative costs, court costs, 130 witness costs, deposition expenses, and any other relief a court 131 considers proper. 132 The remedies of this subsection are in addition to any (b) 133 other civil, administrative, or criminal remedies provided by 1.34 law. 135 Section 2. Paragraphs (f) and (g) of subsection (3) of section 921.0022, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 136 137 921.0022 Criminal Punishment Code; offense severity ranking 138 chart.--139 (3) OFFENSE SEVERITY RANKING CHART 140 (f) LEVEL 6 141 Florida Felony Description Statute Degree 142 316.193(2)(b) 3rd Felony DUI, 4th or subsequent

Page 5 of 28

	32-00565-08		20081082
143			conviction.
144	499.0051(3)	2nd	Forgery of pedigree papers.
TTT	499.0051(4)	2nd	Purchase or receipt of legend drug from unauthorized person.
145	499.0051(5)	2nd	Sale of legend drug to unauthorized person.
146	775.0875(1)	3rd	Taking firearm from law enforcement officer.
147	784.021(1)(a)	3rd	Aggravated assault; deadly weapon without intent to kill.
148	784.021(1)(b)	3rd	Aggravated assault; intent to commit felony.
149	784.041	3rd	Felony battery; domestic battery by strangulation.
150	784.048(3)	2nd 3rd	Aggravated stalking; credible threat.
151	784.048(5)	2nd 3rd	Aggravated stalking of person under 16.
152	784.07(2)(c)	2nd	Aggravated assault on law

Page 6 of 28

	32-00565-08		20081082
153			enforcement officer.
154	784.074(1)(b)	2nd	Aggravated assault on sexually violent predators facility staff.
155	784.08(2)(b)	2nd	Aggravated assault on a person 65 years of age or older.
156	784.081(2)	2nd	Aggravated assault on specified official or employee.
157	784.082(2)	2nd	Aggravated assault by detained person on visitor or other detainee.
158	784.083(2)	2nd	Aggravated assault on code inspector.
	787.02(2)	3rd	False imprisonment; restraining with purpose other than those in s. 787.01.
159 160	790.115(2)(d)	2nd	Discharging firearm or weapon on school property.
TOO	790.161(2)	2nd	Make, possess, or throw destructive device with intent

Page 7 of 28

	32-00565-08		20081082
161			to do bodily harm or damage property.
162	790.164(1)	2nd	False report of deadly explosive, weapon of mass destruction, or act of arson or violence to state property.
163	790.19	2nd	Shooting or throwing deadly missiles into dwellings, vessels, or vehicles.
164	794.011(8)(a)	3rd	Solicitation of minor to participate in sexual activity by custodial adult.
165	794.05(1)	2nd	Unlawful sexual activity with specified minor.
166	800.04(5)(d)	3rd	Lewd or lascivious molestation; victim 12 years of age or older but less than 16 years; offender less than 18 years.
167	800.04(6)(b)	2nd	Lewd or lascivious conduct; offender 18 years of age or older.

	32-00565-08		20081082
168	806.031(2)	2nd	Arson resulting in great bodily harm to firefighter or any other person.
169	810.02(3)(c)	2nd	Burglary of occupied structure; unarmed; no assault or battery.
170	812.014(2)(b)1.	2nd	Property stolen \$20,000 or more, but less than \$100,000, grand theft in 2nd degree.
	812.014(6)	2nd	Theft; property stolen \$3,000 or more; coordination of others.
171	812.015(9)(a)	2nd	Retail theft; property stolen \$300 or more; second or subsequent conviction.
172	812.015(9)(b)	2nd	Retail theft; property stolen \$3,000 or more; coordination of others.
173 174	812.13(2)(c)	2nd	Robbery, no firearm or other weapon (strong-arm robbery).
± / ±	817.034(4)(a)1.	1st	Communications fraud, value greater than \$50,000.

Page 9 of 28

	32-00565-08		20081082
175	817.4821(5)	2nd	Possess cloning paraphernalia with intent to create cloned cellular telephones.
177	825.102(1)	3rd	Abuse of an elderly person or disabled adult.
178	825.102(3)(c)	3rd	Neglect of an elderly person or disabled adult.
	825.1025(3)	3rd	Lewd or lascivious molestation of an elderly person or disabled adult.
179	825.103(2)(c)	3rd	Exploiting an elderly person or disabled adult and property is valued at less than \$20,000.
181	827.03(1)	3rd	Abuse of a child.
182	827.03(3)(c)	3rd	Neglect of a child.
183	827.071(2)&(3)	2nd	Use or induce a child in a sexual performance, or promote or direct such performance.
	836.05	2nd	Threats; extortion.

Page 10 of 28

32-00565-08 20081082 184 836.10 2nd Written threats to kill or do bodily injury. 185 843.12 3rd Aids or assists person to escape. 186 Facilitates sexual conduct of 847.0135(2) 3rd or with a minor or the visual depiction of such conduct. 187 914.23 2nd Retaliation against a witness, victim, or informant, with bodily injury. 188 944.35(3)(a)2. 3rd Committing malicious battery upon or inflicting cruel or inhuman treatment on an inmate or offender on community supervision, resulting in great bodily harm. 189 944.40 2nd Escapes. 190 944.46 3rd Harboring, concealing, aiding escaped prisoners. 191 944.47(1)(a)5. 2nd Introduction of contraband (firearm, weapon, or

Page 11 of 28

	32-00565-08		20081082
192			explosive) into correctional facility.
192	951.22(1)	3rd	Intoxicating drug, firearm, or weapon introduced into county facility.
193			
194	(g) LEVEL 7		
195			
	Florida	Felony	Description
	Statute	Degree	
196			
	316.027(1)(b)	1st	Accident involving death,
			failure to stop; leaving
			scene.
197			
	316.193(3)(c)2.	3rd	DUI resulting in serious
			bodily injury.
198			
	316.1935(3)(b)	1st	Causing serious bodily injury
			or death to another person;
			driving at high speed or with
			wanton disregard for safety
			while fleeing or attempting to
			elude law enforcement officer
			who is in a patrol vehicle
			with siren and lights
			activated.
199			

Page 12 of 28

	32-00565-08		20081082
200	327.35(3)(c)2.	3rd	Vessel BUI resulting in serious bodily injury.
201	402.319(2)	2nd	Misrepresentation and negligence or intentional act resulting in great bodily harm, permanent disfiguration, permanent disability, or death.
201	409.920(2)	3rd	Medicaid provider fraud.
202	456.065(2)	3rd	Practicing a health care profession without a license.
203	456.065(2)	2nd	Practicing a health care profession without a license which results in serious bodily injury.
204	458.327(1)	3rd	Practicing medicine without a license.
	459.013(1)	3rd	Practicing osteopathic medicine without a license.
206 207	460.411(1)	3rd	Practicing chiropractic medicine without a license.

Page 13 of 28

	32-00565-08		20081082
208	461.012(1)	3rd	Practicing podiatric medicine without a license.
	462.17	3rd	Practicing naturopathy without a license.
209	463.015(1)	3rd	Practicing optometry without a license.
210	464.016(1)	3rd	Practicing nursing without a license.
211	465.015(2)	3rd	Practicing pharmacy without a license.
212	466.026(1)	3rd	Practicing dentistry or dental hygiene without a license.
213	467.201	3rd	Practicing midwifery without a license.
214	468.366	3rd	Delivering respiratory care services without a license.
215	483.828(1)	3rd	Practicing as clinical laboratory personnel without a
216	483.901(9)	3rd	license. Practicing medical physics

Page 14 of 28

	32-00565-08		20081082
217			without a license.
218	484.013(1)(c)	3rd	Preparing or dispensing optical devices without a prescription.
210	484.053	3rd	Dispensing hearing aids without a license.
	494.0018(2)	lst	Conviction of any violation of ss. 494.001-494.0077 in which the total money and property unlawfully obtained exceeded \$50,000 and there were five or more victims.
220	560.123(8)(b)1.	3rd	Failure to report currency or payment instruments exceeding \$300 but less than \$20,000 by money transmitter.
221	560.125(5)(a)	3rd	Money transmitter business by unauthorized person, currency or payment instruments exceeding \$300 but less than \$20,000.
	655.50(10)(b)1.	3rd	Failure to report financial transactions exceeding \$300

Page 15 of 28

	32-00565-08		20081082
223			but less than \$20,000 by financial institution.
224	775.21(10)(a)	3rd	Sexual predator; failure to register; failure to renew driver's license or identification card; other registration violations.
225	775.21(10)(b)	3rd	Sexual predator working where children regularly congregate.
226	775.21(10)(g)	3rd	Failure to report or providing false information about a sexual predator; harbor or conceal a sexual predator.
227	782.051(3)	2nd	Attempted felony murder of a person by a person other than the perpetrator or the perpetrator of an attempted felony.
228	782.07(1)	2nd	Killing of a human being by the act, procurement, or culpable negligence of another (manslaughter).
	782.071	2nd	Killing of a human being or

Page 16 of 28

	32-00565-08		20081082
			viable fetus by the operation of a motor vehicle in a reckless manner (vehicular homicide).
229	782.072	2nd	Killing of a human being by the operation of a vessel in a reckless manner (vessel homicide).
230	784.045(1)(a)1.	2nd	Aggravated battery; intentionally causing great bodily harm or disfigurement.
231 232	784.045(1)(a)2.	2nd	Aggravated battery; using deadly weapon.
202	784.045(1)(b)	2nd	Aggravated battery; perpetrator aware victim pregnant.
233	784.048(4)	<u>2nd</u>	Aggravated stalking; violation of injunction or court order.
234	784.048(7)	2nd 3rd	Aggravated stalking; violation of court order.
235	784.07(2)(d)	1st	Aggravated battery on law enforcement officer.

Page 17 of 28

	32-00565-08		20081082
236	784.074(1)(a)	lst	Aggravated battery on sexually violent predators facility staff.
238	784.08(2)(a)	1st	Aggravated battery on a person 65 years of age or older.
239	784.081(1)	1st	Aggravated battery on specified official or employee.
240	784.082(1)	lst	Aggravated battery by detained person on visitor or other detainee.
241	784.083(1)	lst	Aggravated battery on code inspector.
2 1 1	790.07(4)	lst	Specified weapons violation subsequent to previous conviction of s. 790.07(1) or (2).
242	790.16(1)	lst	Discharge of a machine gun under specified circumstances.
243	790.165(2)	2nd	Manufacture, sell, possess, or deliver hoax bomb.

Page 18 of 28

32-00565-08 20081082 244 790.165(3) 2nd Possessing, displaying, or threatening to use any hoax bomb while committing or attempting to commit a felony. 245 790.166(3) 2nd Possessing, selling, using, or attempting to use a hoax weapon of mass destruction. 246 2nd 790.166(4) Possessing, displaying, or threatening to use a hoax weapon of mass destruction while committing or attempting to commit a felony. 247 794.08(4) 3rd Female genital mutilation; consent by a parent, guardian, or a person in custodial authority to a victim younger than 18 years of age. 248 796.03 2nd Procuring any person under 16 years for prostitution. 249 Lewd or lascivious 800.04(5)(c)1. 2nd molestation; victim less than 12 years of age; offender less than 18 years.

Page 19 of 28

SB 1082

	32-00565-08		20081082
250			
	800.04(5)(c)2.	2nd	Lewd or lascivious molestation; victim 12 years of age or older but less than 16 years; offender 18 years or older.
251	806.01(2)	2nd	Maliciously damage structure
	000.01(2)	2110	by fire or explosive.
252			
	810.02(3)(a)	2nd	Burglary of occupied dwelling; unarmed; no assault or battery.
253			
	810.02(3)(b)	2nd	Burglary of unoccupied dwelling; unarmed; no assault or battery.
254			
	810.02(3)(d)	2nd	Burglary of occupied conveyance; unarmed; no assault or battery.
255			
	810.02(3)(e)	2nd	Burglary of authorized
			emergency vehicle.
256	812.014(2)(a)1.	lst	Property stolen, valued at \$100,000 or more or a semitrailer deployed by a law enforcement officer; property

Page 20 of 28

	32-00565-08		20081082
257			stolen while causing other property damage; 1st degree grand theft.
258	812.014(2)(b)2.	2nd	Property stolen, cargo valued at less than \$50,000, grand theft in 2nd degree.
259	812.014(2)(b)3.	2nd	Property stolen, emergency medical equipment; 2nd degree grand theft.
	812.014(2)(b)4.	2nd	Property stolen, law enforcement equipment from authorized emergency vehicle.
260	812.0145(2)(a)	lst	Theft from person 65 years of age or older; \$50,000 or more.
	812.019(2)	1st	Stolen property; initiates, organizes, plans, etc., the theft of property and traffics in stolen property.
262 263	812.131(2)(a)	2nd	Robbery by sudden snatching.
264	812.133(2)(b)	1st	Carjacking; no firearm, deadly weapon, or other weapon.

Page 21 of 28

	32-00565-08		20081082
265	817.234(8)(a)	2nd	Solicitation of motor vehicle accident victims with intent to defraud.
266	817.234(9)	2nd	Organizing, planning, or participating in an intentional motor vehicle collision.
267	817.234(11)(c)	lst	Insurance fraud; property value \$100,000 or more.
	817.2341(2)(b)&(3)(b)	lst	Making false entries of material fact or false statements regarding property values relating to the solvency of an insuring entity which are a significant cause of the insolvency of that entity.
268	825.102(3)(b)	2nd	Neglecting an elderly person or disabled adult causing great bodily harm, disability, or disfigurement.
	825.103(2)(b)	2nd	Exploiting an elderly person or disabled adult and property is valued at \$20,000 or more,

Page 22 of 28

	32-00565-08		20081082
270			but less than \$100,000.
0.7.1	827.03(3)(b)	2nd	Neglect of a child causing great bodily harm, disability, or disfigurement.
271	827.04(3)	3rd	Impregnation of a child under 16 years of age by person 21 years of age or older.
272	837.05(2)	3rd	Giving false information about alleged capital felony to a law enforcement officer.
273			
274	838.015	2nd	Bribery.
275	838.016	2nd	Unlawful compensation or reward for official behavior.
275	838.021(3)(a)	2nd	Unlawful harm to a public servant.
276	838.22	2nd	Bid tampering.
277	847.0135(3)	3rd	Solicitation of a child, via a computer service, to commit an unlawful sex act.
278	847.0135(4)	2nd	Traveling to meet a minor to

Page 23 of 28

	32-00565-08		20081082
279			commit an unlawful sex act.
280	872.06	2nd	Abuse of a dead human body.
	893.13(1)(c)1.	1st	Sell, manufacture, or deliver cocaine (or other drug prohibited under s. 893.03(1)(a), (1)(b), (1)(d), (2)(a), (2)(b), or (2)(c)4.) within 1,000 feet of a child care facility, school, or state, county, or municipal park or publicly owned recreational facility or community center.
281	893.13(1)(e)1.	1st	Sell, manufacture, or deliver cocaine or other drug prohibited under s. 893.03(1)(a), (1)(b), (1)(d), (2)(a), (2)(b), or (2)(c)4., within 1,000 feet of property used for religious services or a specified business site.
282	893.13(4)(a)	1st	Deliver to minor cocaine (or other s. 893.03(1)(a), (1)(b), (1)(d), (2)(a), (2)(b), or (2)(c)4. drugs).

Page 24 of 28

	32-00565-08		20081082
283			
284	893.135(1)(a)1.	1st	Trafficking in cannabis, more than 25 lbs., less than 2,000 lbs.
285	893.135(1)(b)1.a.	1st	Trafficking in cocaine, more than 28 grams, less than 200 grams.
286	893.135(1)(c)1.a.	lst	Trafficking in illegal drugs, more than 4 grams, less than 14 grams.
287	893.135(1)(d)1.	1st	Trafficking in phencyclidine, more than 28 grams, less than 200 grams.
	893.135(1)(e)1.	lst	Trafficking in methaqualone, more than 200 grams, less than 5 kilograms.
288	893.135(1)(f)1.	1st	Trafficking in amphetamine, more than 14 grams, less than 28 grams.
289 290	893.135(1)(g)1.a.	1st	Trafficking in flunitrazepam, 4 grams or more, less than 14 grams.

Page 25 of 28

	32-00565-08		20081082
291	893.135(1)(h)1.a.	lst	Trafficking in gamma- hydroxybutyric acid (GHB), 1 kilogram or more, less than 5 kilograms.
292	893.135(1)(j)1.a.	lst	Trafficking in 1,4-Butanediol, 1 kilogram or more, less than 5 kilograms.
292	893.135(1)(k)2.a.	lst	Trafficking in Phenethylamines, 10 grams or more, less than 200 grams.
294	896.101(5)(a)	3rd	Money laundering, financial transactions exceeding \$300 but less than \$20,000.
294	896.104(4)(a)1.	3rd	Structuring transactions to evade reporting or registration requirements, financial transactions exceeding \$300 but less than \$20,000.
295	943.0435(4)(c)	2nd	Sexual offender vacating permanent residence; failure to comply with reporting requirements.

Page 26 of 28

	32-00565-08		20081082
297	943.0435(8)	2nd	Sexual offender; remains in state after indicating intent to leave; failure to comply with reporting requirements.
298	943.0435(9)(a)	3rd	Sexual offender; failure to comply with reporting requirements.
	943.0435(13)	3rd	Failure to report or providing false information about a sexual offender; harbor or conceal a sexual offender.
299	943.0435(14)	3rd	Sexual offender; failure to report and reregister; failure to respond to address verification.
300	944.607(9)	3rd	Sexual offender; failure to comply with reporting requirements.
301	944.607(10)(a)	3rd	Sexual offender; failure to submit to the taking of a digitized photograph.
502	944.607(12)	3rd	Failure to report or providing false information about a

Page 27 of 28

	32-00565-08		20081082
			sexual offender; harbor or
			conceal a sexual offender.
303			
	944.607(13)	3rd	Sexual offender; failure to
			report and reregister; failure
			to respond to address
			verification.
304			
	985.4815(10)	3rd	Sexual offender; failure to
			submit to the taking of a
205			digitized photograph.
305	985.4815(12)	3rd	Failure to report or providing
	905.4015(12)	510	false information about a
			sexual offender; harbor or
			conceal a sexual offender.
306			
	985.4815(13)	3rd	Sexual offender; failure to
			report and reregister; failure
			to respond to address
			verification.
307			
308	Section 3.	This act shall	take effect October 1, 2008.

Page 28 of 28