

CHAMBER ACTION

<u>Senate</u>		House
Comm: RCS 3/11/2008	•	
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The Committee on Transportation (Constantine and Baker) recommended the following amendment:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Between line(s) 315 and 316 insert:

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Section 6. Section 316.191, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.191 Racing on highways.--

- (1) As used in this section, the term:
- (a) "Conviction" means a determination of guilt that is the result of a plea or trial, regardless of whether or not adjudication is withheld.

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- (b) "Drag race" means the operation of two or more motor vehicles in competition, arising from a challenge to demonstrate superiority of a motor vehicle or driver and the acceptance or competitive response to that challenge, either through a prior arrangement or in immediate response, from a point side by side at accelerating speeds in a competitive attempt to outdistance each other, or the operation of one or more motor vehicles over a common selected course, from the same point to the same point, for the purpose of comparing the relative speeds or power of acceleration of such motor vehicle or motor vehicles within a certain distance or time limit. A drag race may be prearranged or may occur through a competitive response to conduct on the part of one or more drivers which, under the totality of the circumstances, can reasonably be interpreted as a challenge to participate in a drag race.
- (c) "Exhibition of acceleration" means the use of a motor vehicle in a demonstration to another person or persons, including, but not limited to, any passenger of such motor vehicle or the driver or passenger of another motor vehicle, of the motor vehicle's ability to accelerate by a sudden increase in speed causing a tire to lose firm traction with, or burn, smoke, or squeal against, the road surface which results in the vehicle's continuous acceleration to a final speed that exceeds the posted or lawful speed limit.
- (d) "Exhibition of speed" means the use of a motor vehicle in a demonstration to another person or persons, including, but not limited to, any passenger of such motor vehicle or the driver or passenger of another motor vehicle, of the motor

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vehicle's speed or handling capabilities at a speed of at least double the posted or lawful speed limit or 100 miles per hour, whichever is less.

(e) (c) "Race Racing" means the use of one or more motor vehicles in competition, arising from a challenge to demonstrate superiority of a motor vehicle or driver and the acceptance or competitive response to that challenge, either through a prior arrangement or in immediate response, in which the competitor attempts an attempt to outgain or outdistance another motor vehicle, to prevent another motor vehicle from passing, to arrive at a given destination ahead of another motor vehicle or motor vehicles, or to test the physical stamina or endurance of drivers over long-distance driving routes. A race may be prearranged or may occur through a competitive response to conduct on the part of one or more drivers which, under the totality of the circumstances, can reasonably be interpreted as a challenge to race.

(f) "Spectator" means any person who is knowingly present at and views an illegal race, drag race, or exhibition when such presence is the result of an affirmative choice to attend or participate in the race or exhibition. For purposes of determining whether or not an individual is a spectator, finders of fact shall consider the relationship between the racer and the individual, evidence of gambling or betting on the outcome of the race, and any other factor that would tend to show knowing attendance or participation.

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- (2) (a) A person operating or in actual physical control of a motor vehicle, including any motorcycle, on any street or highway or publicly accessible parking lot may not:
- 1. Drive any motor vehicle, including any motorcycle, in any race; -
- 2. Drive in any speed competition or contest, drag race; or acceleration contest, test of physical endurance, or
 - 3. Drive in any exhibition of speed; or
- 4. Drive in any exhibition of acceleration. or for the purpose of making a speed record on any highway, roadway, or parking lot;
 - (b) A person may not:
- 1.2. In any manner knowingly participate in, coordinate, facilitate, or collect moneys at any location for any such race, drag race competition, contest, test, or exhibition prohibited under paragraph (a);
- 2.3. Knowingly ride as a passenger in any such race, drag race competition, contest, test, or exhibition prohibited under paragraph (a); or
- 3.4. Knowingly Purposefully cause the movement of traffic to slow or stop for any such race, drag race competition, contest, test, or exhibition prohibited under paragraph (a).
- (c) A person may not be a spectator at any such race, drag race, or exhibition prohibited under paragraph (a). A vehicle parked or operated in near proximity to any such race, drag race, or exhibition under circumstances suggesting that the driver or operator of such vehicle is a spectator creates a

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rebuttable presumption that the registered owner of the vehicle is a spectator for all purposes of this section.

(3) (a) Any person who violates any provision of this paragraph (2)(a) or paragraph (2)(b) commits a misdemeanor of the second first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. Any person who violates any provision of this paragraph (2)(a) or paragraph (2)(b) shall pay a fine of not less than \$250 \$500 and not more than \$500 \$1,000, and the court shall revoke the driver's license of a person so convicted for 2 years regardless of whether or not adjudication is withheld and the department shall revoke the driver license of a person so convicted for 1 year. A hearing may be requested pursuant to s. 322.271.

(b) Any person who violates the provisions of paragraph (2) (c) commits a noncriminal violation, punishable as provided in s. 775.083, and must be cited to appear before a county judge for disposition of the violation. Any person who violates the provisions of paragraph (2)(c) shall pay a fine of not less than \$250 and not more than \$500.

(c) (b) Any person who violates any provision of paragraph (2)(a) or paragraph (2)(b) within 5 years after the date of a prior violation that resulted in a conviction for a violation of paragraph (2)(a) or paragraph (2)(b) this subsection commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, and shall pay a fine of not less than \$500 and not more than \$1,000. In any second or subsequent conviction, the court may not withhold adjudication of guilt and shall revoke the driver's license of that person for 5 years.

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The department shall also revoke the driver license of that person for 2 years. A hearing may be requested pursuant to s. 322.271.

- (d) Any person who violates any provision of paragraph (2) (a) or paragraph (2) (b) and by reason of such violation causes or in any way contributes to causing damage to the property or person of another commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, and shall pay a fine of not less than \$500 and not more than \$1,000, and the court shall revoke the driver's license of a person so convicted for 2 years regardless of whether or not adjudication is withheld. A hearing may be requested pursuant to s. 322.271.
- (e) Any person who violates any provision of paragraph (2) (a) or paragraph (2) (b) and by reason of such violation causes or in any way contributes to causing serious bodily injury to another, as defined in s. 316.1933, commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, and shall pay a fine of not less than \$1,000.
- (f) Any person who violates any provision of paragraph (2) (a) or paragraph (2) (b) and by reason of such violation causes or in any way contributes to causing the death of any human being or unborn quick child commits the crime of racing manslaughter. In any conviction under this paragraph, the court may not withhold adjudication of guilt and shall permanently revoke the driver's license of a person so convicted. A hearing may be requested pursuant to s. 322.271. A person so convicted commits:

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- 152 1. A felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, and shall pay a fine 153 154 of not less than \$5,000; or
 - 2. A felony of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, and shall pay a fine of not less than \$5,000, if:
 - a. At the time of the crash, the person knew, or should have known, that the crash occurred; and
 - b. The person failed to give information and render aid as required by s. 316.062.

For purposes of this paragraph, the definition of the term "unborn quick child" shall be determined in accordance with the definition of viable fetus as set forth in s. 782.071. A person who is convicted of racing manslaughter shall be sentenced to a mandatory minimum term of imprisonment of 4 years.

(4) (c) In any case charging a violation of paragraph (2) (a) or paragraph (2) (b), the court shall be provided a copy of the driving record of the person charged and may obtain any records from any other source to determine if one or more prior convictions of the person for violation of paragraph (2)(a) or paragraph (2) (b) have occurred within 5 years prior to the charged offense; however, at trial, proof of such prior conviction must be made by certified copy of any prior judgment of conviction or judgment withholding adjudication of guilt.

(5) (a) (3) Whenever a law enforcement officer determines that a person has committed a violation of paragraph (2) (a) or paragraph (2) (b) was engaged in a drag race or race, as

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described in subsection (1), the officer may immediately arrest and take such person into custody, consistent with constitutional requirements, regardless of whether or not the offense was committed in the presence of the officer or whether the officer's determination is based upon information provided by anonymous tipsters, citizen informants, or any other source. The court may enter an order of impoundment or immobilization as a condition of incarceration or probation. Within 7 business days after the date the court issues the order of impoundment or immobilization, the clerk of the court must send notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the registered owner of the motor vehicle, if the registered owner is a person other than the defendant, and to each person of record claiming a lien against the motor vehicle.

(b) A law enforcement officer who determines that, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (2)(c), the driver of a motor vehicle parked or operated in near proximity to any such race, drag race, or exhibition is a spectator, the officer may file a uniform traffic citation with the clerk of court of the jurisdiction wherein the offense was committed charging the registered owner of such vehicle with the proscribed offense. The clerk shall issue a notice to appear to the registered owner's last known address maintained by the department and shall schedule a mandatory court appearance before a county judge within 30 days after the filing of the citation. The failure of such person to appear as required or to comply with any fine imposed under this paragraph shall be subject to the procedures of s. 318.15 governing failures to appear or to pay.

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An officer may use any photographic or recording equipment in determining the tag number or registered owner of any vehicle pursuant to this paragraph.

(c) (a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the impounding agency shall release a motor vehicle under the conditions provided in s. 316.193(6)(e) and, (f), (q), and (h), if the owner or agent presents a valid driver license at the time of pickup of the motor vehicle.

(d) (b) All costs and fees for the impoundment or immobilization, including the cost of notification, must be paid by the owner of the motor vehicle or, if the motor vehicle is leased or rented, by the person leasing or renting the motor vehicle, unless the impoundment or immobilization order is dismissed. All provisions of s. 713.78 shall apply.

(e) (c) Any motor vehicle used in violation of subsection (2) may be impounded for a period of 30 10 business days if a law enforcement officer has arrested and taken a person into custody pursuant to this subsection and the person being arrested is the registered owner or coowner of the motor vehicle. If the arresting officer finds that the criteria of this paragraph are met, the officer may immediately impound the motor vehicle. The law enforcement officer shall notify the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles of any impoundment for violation of this subsection in accordance with procedures established by the department. The provisions of paragraphs (c) (a) and (d) (b) shall be applicable to such impoundment.



(6) (4) Any motor vehicle used in violation of subsection (2) by any person within 5 years after the date of a prior conviction of that person for a violation under subsection (2) may be seized and forfeited as provided by the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act. This subsection shall be applicable to all owners of the motor vehicle who are charged with a criminal violation of subsection (2) or who negligently entrusted their vehicle to the person charged with a criminal violation of subsection (2), and the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act applies regardless of whether or not the violation is a misdemeanor or felony. The element of negligent entrustment is satisfied if the owner of a motor vehicle entrusts his or her vehicle to a person knowing that such person has previously been cited or charged with any violation of this section, whether or not such charge or citation resulted in a conviction only be applicable if the owner of the motor vehicle is the person charged with violation of subsection (2).

(7) This section does not apply to licensed or duly authorized racetracks, drag strips, or other designated areas set aside by proper authorities for such purposes.

(8) If any provision of this section is deemed unconstitutional by any court, such unconstitutional provision shall be deemed severable and such determination shall not affect the enforceability of all remaining constitutional provisions of this section.

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(Redesignate subsequent sections.)

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======== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ============



amending s. 316.191, F.S.; revising provisions prohibiting

certain speed competitions and exhibitions; revising the

"race"; defining the terms "exhibition of acceleration,"

driving in any race, drag race, exhibition of speed, or

exhibition of acceleration; prohibiting certain acts in

association with a race, drag race, exhibition of speed,

providing for a rebuttable presumption that a person is a

spectator; providing criminal and noncriminal penalties;

definition of the terms "conviction," "drag race," and

"exhibition of speed," and "spectator"; prohibiting

or exhibition of acceleration; prohibiting being a

spectator at any such race, drag race, or exhibition;

providing for revocation of the driver's license upon

conviction; providing for disposition of citation for

being a spectator; providing penalties for a second or

is a felony of the third degree; providing that a

subsequent offense; providing that a violation that causes

or contributes to causing serious bodily injury to another

violation that causes or contributes to causing the death

of any human being or unborn quick child is the crime of

racing manslaughter; providing penalties; providing for a

determination of the definition of the term "unborn quick

263 And the title is amended as follows:

> On line(s) 24, after the first semicolon, insert:

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charged be provided to the court; providing criteria for

child"; requiring that the driving record of a person

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arrest; providing procedures for charging the owner of a motor vehicle as a spectator if the owner's vehicle is parked or operated in near proximity to any such race, drag race, or exhibition; providing for citations, disposition procedures, and enforcement; providing procedures for impoundment or immobilization of a motor vehicle under a court order; providing for release from impoundment under specified exceptions; requiring costs and fees of impoundment to be paid by the owner or lessee of the motor vehicle; providing procedures for an arresting officer to immediately impound a motor vehicle used in a violation; providing for the period of impoundment; removing a requirement for impoundment that the person being arrested is the registered owner or coowner of the motor vehicle; providing for seizure and forfeiture of a motor vehicle used in a violation; removing provisions for application only after a prior conviction and only if the owner of the motor vehicle is the person charged with the violation; providing for a motor vehicle used in violation to be seized and forfeited under the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act regardless of whether the violation is a misdemeanor or felony; providing for satisfaction of the element of negligent entrustment; providing for severability;