

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to reimbursement of assessments;
 3 creating s. 295.24, F.S.; prohibiting an agent or
 4 attorney representing a claimant from directly or
 5 indirectly requesting, receiving, or obtaining
 6 reimbursement from the claimant for assessments
 7 charged to the agent or attorney by the United States
 8 Department of Veterans Affairs; providing penalties;
 9 providing an effective date.

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

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 13 Section 1. Section 295.24, Florida Statutes, is created to
 14 read:

15 295.24 Prohibited reimbursement of assessments; penalty.—A
 16 person who is recognized as an agent or attorney pursuant to 38
 17 U.S.C. s. 5904 and representing a claimant may not, directly or
 18 indirectly, request, receive, or obtain reimbursement from the
 19 claimant for assessments charged to the agent or attorney by the
 20 United States Department of Veterans Affairs pursuant to 38
 21 U.S.C. s. 5904(6) (A). A person who violates this section commits
 22 a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s.
 23 775.082 or s. 775.083.

24 Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2016.