

By Senator Thurston

33-01836-21

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the duty of law enforcement
3 officers to render medical assistance; creating s.
4 901.44, F.S.; providing that a law enforcement officer
5 has a duty to render first aid to or seek medical
6 assistance for individuals in custody in certain
7 circumstances; providing an effective date.

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

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11 Section 1. Section 901.44, Florida Statutes, is created to
12 read:

13 901.44 Duty to render medical assistance.—A law enforcement
14 officer who becomes aware, or has reason to be aware, that an
15 individual in the custody of a law enforcement agency is
16 injured, is in need of immediate medical attention, or is
17 requesting immediate medical attention has a duty to examine the
18 individual and render first aid to or seek medical attention for
19 that individual, if the individual needs such first aid or
20 further medical attention, to the extent that it is reasonable
21 for the officer to do so based upon the totality of the
22 circumstances.

23 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.