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By the Committee on Children, Families, and Elder Affairs; and Senators Berman, Book, Torres, Harrell, and Taddeo

586-02077-22 20221106c1
A bill to be entitled

An act relating to domestic violence and parental responsibility determinations; providing a short title; amending s. 61.046, F.S.; providing a definition; amending s. 61.13, F.S.; requiring a court to order shared parental responsibility if it is found to be in the best interests of the child based on certain factors; providing that clear and convincing evidence of certain conduct creates a rebuttable presumption that shared parental responsibility is not in the best interests of the child; providing additional conduct that may create a rebuttable presumption against shared parental responsibility; authorizing a parent to rebut such presumption if specified criteria are met; requiring the court to rely upon specific evidence to make required findings that a presumption has been rebutted; requiring the court to consider all time-sharing factors when developing the time-sharing schedule if such presumption is rebutted; providing for sole parental responsibility with specified time-sharing arrangements under certain circumstances; relocating a provision requiring the court to consider certain evidence regardless of whether there is a conviction; providing additional factors that the court must

consider when determining the best interests of the

amending s. 414.0252, F.S.; conforming provisions to

changes made by the act; amending s. 741.28, F.S.;

child; making technical and conforming changes;

providing and revising definitions; amending s. 741.30, F.S.; requiring the instructions for certain petition forms to contain specified information; revising the form for a Petition for Injunction for Protection Against Domestic Violence to require the inclusion of certain information; amending ss. 921.0024, 943.0584, and 943.171, F.S.; conforming

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

cross-references; providing an effective date.

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Section 1. This act may be cited as "Greyson's Law."

Section 2. Present subsections (2) through (23) of section 61.046, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (3) through (24), respectively, and a new subsection (2) is added to that section, to read:

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61.046 Definitions.—As used in this chapter, the term:

(2) "Child" has the same meaning as in s. 39.01(11).

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Section 3. Present paragraph (t) of subsection (3) of section 61.13, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph

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(w), new paragraphs (t), (u), and (v) are added to that subsection, and paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of that section  $\frac{1}{2}$ 

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61.13 Support of children; parenting and time-sharing; powers of court.—

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is amended, to read:

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(c) The court shall determine all matters relating to parenting and time-sharing of each minor child of the parties in accordance with the best interests of the child and in

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accordance with the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act, except that modification of a parenting plan and time-sharing schedule requires a showing of a substantial, material, and unanticipated change of circumstances.

- 1. It is the public policy of this state that each minor child has frequent and continuing contact with both parents after the parents separate or the marriage of the parties is dissolved and to encourage parents to share the rights and responsibilities, and joys, of childrearing. Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, there is no presumption for or against the father or mother of the child or for or against any specific time-sharing schedule when creating or modifying the parenting plan of the child.
- 2. The court shall order that the parental responsibility for a minor child be shared by both parents if determined to be in the best interests of the child based on reasonable factors, including, but not limited to, the time-sharing factors in subsection (3), unless the court finds that shared parental responsibility would be detrimental to the child. There is The following evidence creates a rebuttable presumption that shared parental responsibility is not in the best interests of the child and would be detrimental of detriment to the child if it is proven by clear and convincing evidence that:
- a. A parent has been convicted of a misdemeanor of the first degree or higher involving domestic violence, as defined in s. 741.28 and chapter 775;
  - b. A parent meets the criteria of s. 39.806(1)(d); or
- c. A parent has been convicted of or had adjudication withheld for an offense enumerated in s. 943.0435(1)(h)1.a., and

at the time of the offense:

(I) The parent was 18 years of age or older.

- (II) The victim was under 18 years of age or the parent believed the victim to be under 18 years of age;
- d. A parent or child has reasonable cause to believe he or she is in imminent danger of becoming a victim of domestic violence, as defined in s. 741.28, caused by the other parent upon a review of all relevant factors, including, but not limited to, the factors in s. 741.30(6)(b); or
- e. There is domestic violence, as defined in s. 741.28; sexual violence, as defined in s. 784.046(1)(c); child abuse, as defined in s. 39.01(2); child abandonment, as defined in s. 39.01(50), by a parent against the other parent, or against a child or children whom the parents share in common, regardless of whether a cause of action has been brought or is currently pending in the court. Whether or not there is a conviction of any offense of domestic violence or child abuse or the existence of an injunction for protection against domestic violence, the court shall consider evidence of domestic violence or child abuse as evidence of detriment to the child.

A parent may rebut the presumption that shared parental responsibility is not in the best interests of the child upon a specific finding in writing by the court that the parent poses no significant risk of harm to the child and that time-sharing is in the best interests of the child. If the presumption is rebutted, the court shall consider all time-sharing factors in subsection (3) when developing the time-sharing schedule.

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3. If the presumption is not rebutted after the <u>offending</u> or convicted parent is advised by the court that the presumption exists, shared parental responsibility, including time-sharing with the child, and decisions made regarding the child, may not be granted to the <u>offending or</u> convicted parent. However, the <u>offending or</u> convicted parent is not relieved of any obligation to provide financial support.

- 4. If the court determines that shared parental responsibility would be detrimental to the child <u>based on</u> factors other than those in subparagraph 2., it may order sole parental responsibility for the child to one parent and make such arrangements for time-sharing as specified in the parenting plan that as will best protect the child or parent, including, but not limited to, supervised visitation by a third party at the expense of the parent without sole parental responsibility or a designated location in which to pick up and drop off the child abused spouse from further harm. Whether or not there is a conviction of any offense of domestic violence or child abuse or the existence of an injunction for protection against domestic violence, the court shall consider evidence of domestic violence or child abuse as evidence of detriment to the child.
- 5.3. In ordering shared parental responsibility, the court may consider the expressed desires of the parents and may grant to one party the ultimate responsibility over specific aspects of the child's welfare or may divide those responsibilities between the parties based on the best interests of the child. Areas of responsibility may include education, health care, and any other responsibilities that the court finds unique to a particular family.

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 $\underline{6.4.}$  The court shall order sole parental responsibility for a minor child to one parent, with or without time-sharing with the other parent if it is in the best interests of the minor child.

- 7.5. There is a rebuttable presumption against granting time-sharing with a minor child if a parent has been convicted of or had adjudication withheld for an offense enumerated in s. 943.0435(1)(h)1.a., and at the time of the offense:
  - a. The parent was 18 years of age or older.
- b. The victim was under 18 years of age or the parent believed the victim to be under 18 years of age.

A parent may rebut the presumption upon a specific finding in writing by the court that the parent poses no significant risk of harm to the child and that time-sharing is in the best interests of the minor child. If the presumption is rebutted, the court shall consider all time-sharing factors in subsection (3) when developing a time-sharing schedule.

8.6. Access to records and information pertaining to a minor child, including, but not limited to, medical, dental, and school records, may not be denied to either parent. Full rights under this subparagraph apply to either parent unless a court order specifically revokes these rights, including any restrictions on these rights as provided in a domestic violence injunction. A parent having rights under this subparagraph has the same rights upon request as to form, substance, and manner of access as are available to the other parent of a child, including, without limitation, the right to in-person communication with medical, dental, and education providers.

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(3) For purposes of establishing or modifying parental responsibility and creating, developing, approving, or modifying a parenting plan, including a time-sharing schedule, which governs each parent's relationship with his or her minor child and the relationship between each parent with regard to his or her minor child, the best interest of the child shall be the primary consideration. A determination of parental responsibility, a parenting plan, or a time-sharing schedule may not be modified without a showing of a substantial, material, and unanticipated change in circumstances and a determination that the modification is in the best interests of the child. Determination of the best interests of the child shall be made by evaluating all of the factors affecting the welfare and interests of the particular minor child and the circumstances of that family, including, but not limited to:

- (t) Whether and to what extent the child has developed a relationship with either parent and the nature of any bond that has been established between such parent and the child.
- (u) Whether the child has expressed or exhibited behavior which suggests that the child has a well-founded fear of a parent.
- (v) Clear and convincing evidence that a parent has an improper motive for seeking shared parental responsibility, and whether such motive will negatively interfere with that parent's ability to safely and effectively share parental responsibilities.

Section 4. Subsection (4) of section 414.0252, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

414.0252 Definitions.—As used in ss. 414.025-414.55, the

term:

(4) "Domestic violence" means <u>coercive control or</u> any assault, aggravated assault, battery, aggravated battery, sexual assault, sexual battery, stalking, aggravated stalking, kidnapping, false imprisonment, or <u>other any</u> criminal offense that results in the physical injury or death of one family or household member by another.

Section 5. Present subsections (1) through (4) of section 741.28, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (2) through (5), respectively, a new subsection (1) is added to that section, and present subsection (2) of that section is amended, to read:

741.28 Domestic violence; definitions.—As used in ss. 741.28-741.31:

- (1) "Coercive control" means a pattern of threatening, humiliating, or intimidating actions by one family or household member against another family or household member, which actions are used to harm, punish, or frighten the family or household member and make him or her dependent on the other family or household member by isolating, exploiting, or regulating him or her. The term includes, but is not limited to:
- (a) Isolating the family or household member from his or her friends or family.
- (b) Controlling the amount of money accessible to the family or household member and how he or she spends such money.
- (c) Monitoring the family or household member's activities, communications, or movements.
- (d) Frequently engaging in conduct meant to demean, degrade, dehumanize, or embarrass the family or household

member.

(e) Threatening to cause physical harm to or kill a child or relative of the family or household member.

- (f) Threatening to publish false information or make false reports to a law enforcement officer or other law enforcement personnel about the family or household member.
- (g) Damaging the family or household member's property, household goods, or personal effects.
- (h) Forcing the family or household member to participate in criminal activity.
- (3) (2) "Domestic violence" means coercive control or any assault, aggravated assault, battery, aggravated battery, sexual assault, sexual battery, stalking, aggravated stalking, kidnapping, false imprisonment, or other any criminal offense resulting in physical injury or death of one family or household member by another family or household member.
- Section 6. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) and paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 741.30, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
- 741.30 Domestic violence; injunction; powers and duties of court and clerk; petition; notice and hearing; temporary injunction; issuance of injunction; statewide verification system; enforcement; public records exemption.—

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- (c)1. The clerk of the court shall assist petitioners in seeking both injunctions for protection against domestic violence and enforcement for a violation thereof as specified in this section.
  - 2. All clerks' offices shall provide simplified petition

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forms for the injunction, any modifications, and the enforcement thereof, including instructions for completion. The instructions must inform the petitioner that if he or she intends to seek an injunction that prohibits or limits time-sharing between the respondent and the child of the parties, he or she must state with specificity details regarding the circumstances that give rise to the petitioner fearing that the respondent imminently will abuse, remove, or hide the child from the petitioner.

- 3. The clerk of the court shall advise petitioners of the opportunity to apply for a certificate of indigence in lieu of prepayment for the cost of the filing fee, as provided in paragraph (a).
- 4. The clerk of the court shall ensure the petitioner's privacy to the extent practical while completing the forms for injunctions for protection against domestic violence.
- 5. The clerk of the court shall provide petitioners with a minimum of two certified copies of the order of injunction, one of which is serviceable and will inform the petitioner of the process for service and enforcement.
- 6. Clerks of court and appropriate staff in each county shall receive training in the effective assistance of petitioners as provided or approved by the Florida Association of Court Clerks.
- 7. The clerk of the court in each county shall make available informational brochures on domestic violence when such brochures are provided by local certified domestic violence centers.
- 8. The clerk of the court in each county shall distribute a statewide uniform informational brochure to petitioners at the

586-02077-22 20221106c1 291 time of filing for an injunction for protection against domestic 292 or repeat violence when such brochures become available. The brochure must include information about the effect of giving the 293 294 court false information about domestic violence. 295 (3) 296 (b) The sworn petition shall be in substantially the 297 following form: 298 299 PETITION FOR 300 INJUNCTION FOR PROTECTION 301 AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE 302 303 Before me, the undersigned authority, personally appeared 304 Petitioner ... (Name) ..., who has been sworn and says that the 305 following statements are true: 306 (a) Petitioner resides at: ... (address) ... 307 (Petitioner may furnish address to the court in a separate 308 confidential filing if, for safety reasons, the petitioner 309 requires the location of the current residence to be 310 confidential.) 311 (b) Respondent resides at: ...(last known address)... 312 (c) Respondent's last known place of employment: ... (name 313 of business and address) ... 314 (d) Physical description of respondent:...... 315 Race..... Sex..... 316 317 Date of birth..... 318 Height.... 319 Weight....

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320	Eye color
321	Hair color
322	Distinguishing marks or scars
323	(e) Aliases of respondent:
324	(f) Respondent is the spouse or former spouse of the
325	petitioner or is any other person related by blood or marriage
326	to the petitioner or is any other person who is or was residing
327	within a single dwelling unit with the petitioner, as if a
328	family, or is a person with whom the petitioner has a child in
329	common, regardless of whether the petitioner and respondent are
330	or were married or residing together, as if a family.
331	(g) The following describes any other cause of action
332	currently pending between the petitioner and respondent:
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334	The petitioner should also describe any previous or pending
335	attempts by the petitioner to obtain an injunction for
336	protection against domestic violence in this or any other
337	circuit, and the results of that attempt:
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339	Case numbers should be included if available.
340	(h) Petitioner is either a victim of domestic violence or
341	has reasonable cause to believe he or she is in imminent danger
342	of becoming a victim of domestic violence because respondent
343	has: (mark all sections that apply and describe in the spaces
344	below the incidents of violence or threats of violence,
345	specifying when and where they occurred, including, but not
346	limited to, locations such as a home, school, place of
347	employment, or visitation exchange)
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586-02077-22 20221106c1 349 350 ....committed or threatened to commit domestic violence 351 defined in s. 741.28, Florida Statutes, as coercive control or 352 any assault, aggravated assault, battery, aggravated battery, 353 sexual assault, sexual battery, stalking, aggravated stalking, 354 kidnapping, false imprisonment, or other any criminal offense 355 resulting in physical injury or death of one family or household 356 member by another. With the exception of persons who are parents 357 of a child in common, the family or household members must be 358 currently residing or have in the past resided together in the 359 same single dwelling unit. 360 ....previously threatened, harassed, stalked, or physically 361 abused the petitioner. 362 ....attempted to harm the petitioner or family members or 363 individuals closely associated with the petitioner. 364 ....threatened to conceal, kidnap, or harm the petitioner's 365 child or children (provide details in paragraph (i) below). 366 ....intentionally injured or killed a family pet. 367 ....used, or has threatened to use, against the petitioner 368 any weapons such as guns or knives. 369 ....physically restrained the petitioner from leaving the 370 home or calling law enforcement. 371 ....a criminal history involving violence or the threat of 372 violence (if known). 373 ....another order of protection issued against him or her 374 previously or from another jurisdiction (if known). 375 ....destroyed personal property, including, but not limited 376 to, telephones or other communication equipment, clothing, or

other items belonging to the petitioner.

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....engaged in any other behavior or conduct that leads the petitioner to have reasonable cause to believe he or she is in imminent danger of becoming a victim of domestic violence.

- (i) Petitioner alleges the following additional specific facts: ... (mark appropriate sections)...
- ....A minor child or minor children reside with the petitioner whose names and ages are as follows:

....Petitioner needs the exclusive use and possession of the dwelling that the parties share.

....Petitioner is unable to obtain safe alternative housing because:

....Petitioner genuinely fears that respondent imminently will abuse, remove, or hide the minor child or children from petitioner because: ...(describe any actions taken or threats made by the respondent to cause such fear, including where and when the actions were taken or the threats were made, directly or indirectly; whether and how the respondent failed to comply with an existing parenting plan or time-sharing schedule; and any actions taken or comments made by the child or children that suggest the respondent has caused the child or children to fear for his or her or their safety)...

- (j) Petitioner genuinely fears imminent domestic violence by respondent.
- (k) Petitioner seeks an injunction: ... (mark appropriate section or sections)...
  - ....Immediately restraining the respondent from committing

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586-02077-22 20221106c1 any acts of domestic violence. .... Restraining the respondent from committing any acts of domestic violence. .... Awarding to the petitioner the temporary exclusive use and possession of the dwelling that the parties share or excluding the respondent from the residence of the petitioner. ....Providing a temporary parenting plan, including a temporary time-sharing schedule, with regard to the minor child or children of the parties which might involve prohibiting or limiting time-sharing or requiring that it be supervised by a third party. ....Providing a temporary time-sharing schedule that prohibits time-sharing between the respondent and the child or children of the parties. .... Establishing temporary support for the minor child or children or the petitioner. ....Directing the respondent to participate in a batterers' intervention program. .... Providing any terms the court deems necessary for the protection of a victim of domestic violence, or any minor children of the victim, including any injunctions or directives to law enforcement agencies. Section 7. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 921.0024, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 921.0024 Criminal Punishment Code; worksheet computations; scoresheets.-(1)(b) WORKSHEET KEY:

Legal status points are assessed when any form of legal status existed at the time the offender committed an offense before the court for sentencing. Four (4) sentence points are assessed for an offender's legal status.

Community sanction violation points are assessed when a community sanction violation is before the court for sentencing. Six (6) sentence points are assessed for each community sanction violation and each successive community sanction violation, unless any of the following apply:

- 1. If the community sanction violation includes a new felony conviction before the sentencing court, twelve (12) community sanction violation points are assessed for the violation, and for each successive community sanction violation involving a new felony conviction.
- 2. If the community sanction violation is committed by a violent felony offender of special concern as defined in s. 948.06:
- a. Twelve (12) community sanction violation points are assessed for the violation and for each successive violation of felony probation or community control where:
- I. The violation does not include a new felony conviction; and
- II. The community sanction violation is not based solely on the probationer or offender's failure to pay costs or fines or make restitution payments.
- b. Twenty-four (24) community sanction violation points are assessed for the violation and for each successive violation of felony probation or community control where the violation

includes a new felony conviction.

Multiple counts of community sanction violations before the sentencing court shall not be a basis for multiplying the assessment of community sanction violation points.

 Prior serious felony points: If the offender has a primary offense or any additional offense ranked in level 8, level 9, or level 10, and one or more prior serious felonies, a single assessment of thirty (30) points shall be added. For purposes of this section, a prior serious felony is an offense in the offender's prior record that is ranked in level 8, level 9, or level 10 under s. 921.0022 or s. 921.0023 and for which the offender is serving a sentence of confinement, supervision, or other sanction or for which the offender's date of release from confinement, supervision, or other sanction, whichever is later, is within 3 years before the date the primary offense or any additional offense was committed.

Prior capital felony points: If the offender has one or more prior capital felonies in the offender's criminal record, points shall be added to the subtotal sentence points of the offender equal to twice the number of points the offender receives for the primary offense and any additional offense. A prior capital felony in the offender's criminal record is a previous capital felony offense for which the offender has entered a plea of nolo contendere or guilty or has been found guilty; or a felony in another jurisdiction which is a capital felony in that jurisdiction, or would be a capital felony if the offense were

committed in this state.

Possession of a firearm, semiautomatic firearm, or machine gun: If the offender is convicted of committing or attempting to commit any felony other than those enumerated in s. 775.087(2) while having in his or her possession: a firearm as defined in s. 790.001(6), an additional eighteen (18) sentence points are assessed; or if the offender is convicted of committing or attempting to commit any felony other than those enumerated in s. 775.087(3) while having in his or her possession a semiautomatic firearm as defined in s. 775.087(3) or a machine gun as defined in s. 790.001(9), an additional twenty-five (25) sentence points are assessed.

Sentencing multipliers:

Drug trafficking: If the primary offense is drug trafficking under s. 893.135, the subtotal sentence points are multiplied, at the discretion of the court, for a level 7 or level 8 offense, by 1.5. The state attorney may move the sentencing court to reduce or suspend the sentence of a person convicted of a level 7 or level 8 offense, if the offender provides substantial assistance as described in s. 893.135(4).

Law enforcement protection: If the primary offense is a violation of the Law Enforcement Protection Act under s.

775.0823(2), (3), or (4), the subtotal sentence points are multiplied by 2.5. If the primary offense is a violation of s.

775.0823(5), (6), (7), (8), or (9), the subtotal sentence points

are multiplied by 2.0. If the primary offense is a violation of 524 s. 784.07(3) or s. 775.0875(1), or of the Law Enforcement 525 Protection Act under s. 775.0823(10) or (11), the subtotal

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Grand theft of a motor vehicle: If the primary offense is grand theft of the third degree involving a motor vehicle and in the offender's prior record, there are three or more grand thefts of the third degree involving a motor vehicle, the subtotal

sentence points are multiplied by 1.5.

sentence points are multiplied by 1.5.

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Offense related to a criminal gang: If the offender is convicted of the primary offense and committed that offense for the purpose of benefiting, promoting, or furthering the interests of a criminal gang as defined in s. 874.03, the subtotal sentence points are multiplied by 1.5. If applying the multiplier results in the lowest permissible sentence exceeding the statutory maximum sentence for the primary offense under chapter 775, the court may not apply the multiplier and must sentence the defendant to the statutory maximum sentence.

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Domestic violence in the presence of a child: If the offender is convicted of the primary offense and the primary offense is a crime of domestic violence, as defined in s. 741.28, which was committed in the presence of a child under 16 years of age who is a family or household member as defined in  $\frac{1}{100} \cdot \frac{1}{100} \cdot \frac{1}{$ 

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Adult-on-minor sex offense: If the offender was 18 years of age or older and the victim was younger than 18 years of age at the time the offender committed the primary offense, and if the primary offense was an offense committed on or after October 1, 2014, and is a violation of s. 787.01(2) or s. 787.02(2), if the violation involved a victim who was a minor and, in the course of committing that violation, the defendant committed a sexual battery under chapter 794 or a lewd act under s. 800.04 or s. 847.0135(5) against the minor; s. 787.01(3)(a)2. or 3.; s. 787.02(3)(a)2. or 3.; s. 794.011, excluding s. 794.011(10); s. 800.04; or s. 847.0135(5), the subtotal sentence points are multiplied by 2.0. If applying the multiplier results in the lowest permissible sentence exceeding the statutory maximum sentence for the primary offense under chapter 775, the court may not apply the multiplier and must sentence the defendant to the statutory maximum sentence.

Section 8. Paragraph (f) of subsection (2) of section 943.0584, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

943.0584 Criminal history records ineligible for court-ordered expunction or court-ordered sealing.—

- (2) A criminal history record is ineligible for a certificate of eligibility for expunction or a court-ordered expunction pursuant to s. 943.0585 or a certificate of eligibility for sealing or a court-ordered sealing pursuant to s. 943.059 if the record is a conviction for any of the following offenses:
- (f) Assault or battery, as defined in ss. 784.011 and 784.03, respectively, of one family or household member by another family or household member, as defined in s. 741.28 s.

586-02077-22 20221106c1 581 741.28(3);582 Section 9. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 943.171, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 583 584 943.171 Basic skills training in handling domestic violence 585 cases.-586 (2) As used in this section, the term: 587 (b) "Household member" has the meaning set forth in s.  $741.28 \cdot \frac{5.741.28(3)}{1.28(3)}$ 588 589 Section 10. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.