1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to compensation for wrongfully 3 incarcerated persons; amending s. 961.03, F.S.; 4 revising requirements for when a petition seeking 5 compensation must be filed; providing that a deceased 6 person's heirs, successors, or assigns do not have 7 standing to file such a petition; amending s. 961.04, 8 F.S.; revising compensation eligibility requirements; 9 amending s. 961.06, F.S.; revising requirements for awarding compensation; amending s. 961.07, F.S.; 10 11 revising requirements for continuing appropriations; specifying that certain payments are subject to 12 13 specific appropriation; providing an effective date. 14 15 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 16 17 Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 18 961.03, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (c) is added 19 to that subsection, to read: 20 961.03 Determination of status as a wrongfully 21 incarcerated person; determination of eligibility for 22 compensation.-23 (1)24 (b) The person must file the petition with the court: 25 1. Within 2 years 90 days after the order vacating a Page 1 of 12

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26 conviction and sentence becomes final and the criminal charges 27 against the person are dismissed or the person is retried and 28 acquitted if the person's conviction and sentence is vacated on 29 or after July 1, 2023 2008. 2. By July 1, 2025 2010, if the person's conviction and 30 31 sentence was vacated and the criminal charges against the person 32 were dismissed or the person was retried and acquitted on or after January 1, 2006, but before July 1, 2023, and he or she 33 34 previously filed a petition under this section that was dismissed or he or she did not file a petition under this 35 36 section because: 37 a. The date on which the criminal charges against the 38 person were dismissed or the date on which the person was 39 acquitted upon retrial occurred more than 90 days after the date 40 on which the final order vacating the conviction and sentence; 41 or 42 b. The person was convicted of an unrelated felony before 43 or during his or her wrongful conviction and incarceration and was ineligible for compensation under s. 961.04 as it existed 44 45 before July 1, 2023. 46 (c) A deceased person's heirs, successors, or assigns do 47 not have standing to file a petition on the deceased person's 48 behalf under this section by an order that became final prior to 49 July 1, 2008. 50 Section 2. Section 961.04, Florida Statutes, is amended to Page 2 of 12

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51	read:
52	961.04 Eligibility for compensation for wrongful
53	incarceration.—A wrongfully incarcerated person is not eligible
54	for compensation under the act for any period of incarceration
55	during which the person was concurrently serving a sentence for
56	a conviction of another crime for which such person was lawfully
57	incarcerated if:
58	(1) Before the person's wrongful conviction and
59	incarceration, the person was convicted of, or pled guilty or
60	nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, any violent
61	felony, or a crime committed in another jurisdiction the
62	elements of which would constitute a violent felony in this
63	state, or a crime committed against the United States which is
64	designated a violent felony, excluding any delinquency
65	disposition;
66	(2) Before the person's wrongful conviction and
67	incarceration, the person was convicted of, or pled guilty or
68	nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, more than one
69	felony that is not a violent felony, or more than one crime
70	committed in another jurisdiction, the elements of which would
71	constitute a felony in this state, or more than one crime
72	committed against the United States which is designated a
73	felony, excluding any delinquency disposition;
74	(3) During the person's wrongful incarceration, the person
75	was convicted of, or pled guilty or nolo contendere to,

Page 3 of 12

76 regardless of adjudication, any violent felony; 77 (4) During the person's wrongful incarceration, the person 78 was convicted of, or pled guilty or nolo contendere to, 79 regardless of adjudication, more than one felony that is not a 80 violent felony; or (5) During the person's wrongful incarceration, the person 81 82 was also serving a concurrent sentence for another felony for 83 which the person was not wrongfully convicted. 84 Section 3. Section 961.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to 85 read: 961.06 Compensation for wrongful incarceration.-86 (1) Except as otherwise provided in this act and subject 87 to the limitations and procedures prescribed in this section, a 88 89 person who is found to be entitled to compensation under the 90 provisions of this act is entitled to all of the following: 91 (a) Monetary compensation for wrongful incarceration, 92 which shall be calculated at a rate of \$50,000 for each year of 93 wrongful incarceration, prorated as necessary to account for a 94 portion of a year. For persons found to be wrongfully 95 incarcerated after December 31, 2005 2008, the Chief Financial 96 Officer may adjust the annual rate of compensation for inflation 97 using the change in the December-to-December "Consumer Price 98 Index for All Urban Consumers" of the Bureau of Labor Statistics 99 of the Department of Labor.+ (b) A waiver of tuition and fees for up to 120 hours of 100

Page 4 of 12

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101 instruction at any career center established under s. 1001.44, 102 any Florida College System institution as defined in s. 103 1000.21(3), or any state university as defined in s. 1000.21(6), if the wrongfully incarcerated person meets and maintains the 104 105 regular admission requirements of such career center, Florida College System institution, or state university; remains 106 107 registered at such educational institution; and makes satisfactory academic progress as defined by the educational 108 109 institution in which the claimant is enrolled.;

(c) The amount of any fine, penalty, or court costs imposed and paid by the wrongfully incarcerated person.;

(d) The amount of any reasonable <u>attorney</u> attorney's fees and expenses incurred and paid by the wrongfully incarcerated person in connection with all criminal proceedings and appeals regarding the wrongful conviction, to be calculated by the department based upon the supporting documentation submitted as specified in s. 961.05<u>.;and</u>

118 (e) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in s. 119 943.0583 or s. 943.0585, immediate administrative expunction of 120 the person's criminal record resulting from his or her wrongful arrest, wrongful conviction, and wrongful incarceration. The 121 122 Department of Legal Affairs and the Department of Law 123 Enforcement shall, upon a determination that a claimant is 124 entitled to compensation, immediately take all action necessary 125 to administratively expunge the claimant's criminal record

Page 5 of 12

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126 arising from his or her wrongful arrest, wrongful conviction, 127 and wrongful incarceration. All fees for this process shall be 128 waived.

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The total compensation awarded under paragraphs (a), (c), and (d) may not exceed \$2 million. No further award for <u>attorney</u> attorney's fees, lobbying fees, costs, or other similar expenses shall be made by the state.

134 (2) In calculating monetary compensation under paragraph 135 (1) (a), a wrongfully incarcerated person who is placed on parole 136 or community supervision while serving the sentence resulting 137 from the wrongful conviction and who commits no more than one felony that is not a violent felony which results in revocation 138 139 of the parole or community supervision is eligible for 140 compensation for the total number of years incarcerated. A 141 wrongfully incarcerated person who commits one violent felony or 142 more than one felony that is not a violent felony that results 143 in revocation of the parole or community supervision is 144 incligible for any compensation under subsection (1).

145 <u>(2)(3)</u> Except as provided in subsection (9), within 15 146 calendar days after issuing notice to the claimant that his or 147 her claim satisfies all of the requirements under this act, the 148 department shall notify the Chief Financial Officer to draw a 149 warrant from the General Revenue Fund or another source 150 designated by the Legislature in law for the purchase of an

Page 6 of 12

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151 annuity for the claimant based on the total amount determined by 152 the department under this act.

153 (3) (4) The Chief Financial Officer shall issue payment in 154 the amount determined by the department to an insurance company 155 or other financial institution admitted and authorized to issue 156 annuity contracts in this state to purchase an annuity or 157 annuities, selected by the wrongfully incarcerated person, for a 158 term of not less than 10 years. The Chief Financial Officer is 159 directed to execute all necessary agreements to implement this 160 act and to maximize the benefit to the wrongfully incarcerated 161 person. The terms of the annuity or annuities shall:

(a) Provide that the annuity or annuities may not be sold,
discounted, or used as security for a loan or mortgage by the
wrongfully incarcerated person.

(b) Contain beneficiary provisions for the continued disbursement of the annuity or annuities in the event of the death of the wrongfully incarcerated person.

168 (4) (4) (5) If, when monetary compensation is determined under 169 paragraph (1)(a), a court has previously entered a monetary 170 judgment in favor of the claimant in a civil action related to the claimant's wrongful incarceration, or the claimant has 171 172 entered into a settlement agreement with the state or any 173 political subdivision thereof related to the claimant's wrongful 174 incarceration, the amount of the damages in the civil action or settlement agreement, less any sums paid for attorney fees or 175

Page 7 of 12

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2023

176	costs incurred in litigating the civil action or obtaining the
177	settlement agreement, shall be deducted from the total monetary
178	compensation to which the claimant is entitled under this
179	section Before the department approves the application for
180	compensation, the wrongfully incarcerated person must sign a
181	release and waiver on behalf of the wrongfully incarcerated
182	person and his or her heirs, successors, and assigns, forever
183	releasing the state or any agency, instrumentality, or any
184	political subdivision thereof, or any other entity subject to s.
185	768.28, from all present or future claims that the wrongfully
186	incarcerated person or his or her heirs, successors, or assigns
187	may have against such entities arising out of the facts in
188	connection with the wrongful conviction for which compensation
189	is being sought under the act.
190	(5)(a) If subsection (4) does not apply and if, after
191	monetary compensation is determined under paragraph (1)(a):
192	1. The court enters a monetary judgment in favor of the
193	claimant in a civil action related to the claimant's wrongful
194	incarceration; or
195	2. The claimant enters into a settlement agreement with
196	the state or any political subdivision thereof related to the
197	claimant's wrongful incarceration,
198	
199	the claimant shall reimburse the state for the monetary
200	compensation paid under paragraph (1)(a), less any sums paid for
	Page 8 of 12

2023

201	attorney fees or costs incurred in litigating the civil action
202	or obtaining the settlement agreement.
203	(b) A reimbursement required under this subsection may not
204	exceed the amount of the monetary award the claimant received
205	for damages in a civil action or settlement agreement.
206	(c) In the order of judgment, the court shall award to the
207	state any amount required to be deducted under this subsection.
208	(6)(a) The claimant shall notify the department upon
209	filing a civil action against the state or any political
210	subdivision thereof in which the claimant is seeking monetary
211	damages related to the claimant's wrongful incarceration for
212	which he or she previously received or is applying to receive
213	compensation under paragraph (1)(a).
214	(b) Upon notice of the claimant's civil action, the
215	department shall file in the case a notice of payment of
216	monetary compensation to the claimant under paragraph (1)(a).
217	The notice shall constitute a lien upon any monetary judgment or
218	settlement recovered under the civil action which is equal to
219	the sum of monetary compensation paid to the claimant under
220	paragraph (1)(a), less any attorney fees and costs incurred in
221	litigating the civil action or obtaining the settlement
222	agreement A wrongfully incarcerated person may not submit an
223	application for compensation under this act if the person has a
224	lawsuit pending against the state or any agency,
225	instrumentality, or any political subdivision thereof, or any
	Page 9 of 12

226 other entity subject to the provisions of s. 768.28, in state or 227 federal court requesting compensation arising out of the facts 228 in connection with the claimant's conviction and incarceration.

(7) (a) (b) A wrongfully incarcerated person may not submit an application for compensation under this act if the person is the subject of a claim bill pending for claims arising out of the facts in connection with the claimant's conviction and incarceration.

234 <u>(b)(c)</u> Once an application is filed under this act, a 235 wrongfully incarcerated person may not pursue recovery under a 236 claim bill until the final disposition of the application.

237 <u>(c)</u>(d) Any amount awarded under this act is intended to 238 provide the sole compensation for any and all present and future 239 claims arising out of the facts in connection with the 240 claimant's conviction and incarceration. Upon notification by 241 the department that an application meets the requirements of 242 this act, a wrongfully incarcerated person may not recover under 243 a claim bill.

244 <u>(d) (e)</u> Any compensation awarded under a claim bill shall 245 be the sole redress for claims arising out of the facts in 246 connection with the claimant's conviction and incarceration and, 247 upon any award of compensation to a wrongfully incarcerated 248 person under a claim bill, the person may not receive 249 compensation under this act.

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(8) (7) Any payment made under this act does not constitute

Page 10 of 12

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2.51 a waiver of any defense of sovereign immunity or an increase in 252 the limits of liability on behalf of the state or any person 253 subject to the provisions of s. 768.28 or any other law. 254 (9) (a) The Chief Financial Officer may not draw a warrant 255 to purchase an annuity for a claimant who is currently 256 incarcerated: 257 1. In a county, city, or federal jail or other 258 correctional facility or an institution operated by the 259 Department of Corrections for a felony conviction other than a 260 crime for which the claimant was wrongfully convicted; or 261 2. Due to the revocation of parole or probation for a 262 felony conviction other than a crime for which the claimant was 263 wrongfully convicted. 264 (b) After a term of imprisonment described in subparagraph 265 (a)1. or subparagraph (a)2. has concluded, the Chief Financial 266 Officer shall commence with the drawing of a warrant as 267 described in this section. 268 Section 4. Section 961.07, Florida Statutes, is amended to 269 read: 270 961.07 Continuing appropriation.-271 (1) Beginning in the 2023-2024 2008-2009 fiscal year and 272 continuing each fiscal year thereafter, a sum sufficient to pay 273 the approved payments under s. 961.03(1)(b)1. this act is 274 appropriated from the General Revenue Fund to the Chief 275 Financial Officer, which sum is further appropriated for Page 11 of 12

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FLORIDA	HOUSE	OF REP	RESENTA	A T I V E S
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276	expenditure pursuant to the provisions of this act.
277	(2) Payments for petitions filed pursuant to s.
278	961.03(1)(b)2. are subject to specific appropriation.
279	Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.

Page 12 of 12