

1 A bill to be entitled  
2 An act relating to career offenders; amending s.  
3 322.141, F.S.; requiring that all licenses for the  
4 operation of motor vehicles or identification cards  
5 issued or reissued by the Department of Highway Safety  
6 and Motor Vehicles to persons designated as career  
7 offenders subject to registration under specified  
8 provisions have a specified marking on the front of  
9 the cards; requiring each career offender to report to  
10 the department during his or her birth month to obtain  
11 an updated or renewed driver license or identification  
12 cars unless previously secured or updated; making  
13 technical changes; amending s. 775.261, F.S.; revising  
14 the definitions of the terms "permanent residence" and  
15 "temporary residence"; defining the term "vehicles  
16 owned"; revising the criteria for having to register  
17 as a career offender; revising the required actions  
18 and the required information that a career offender  
19 must provide upon registration; requiring the  
20 sheriff's office to promptly provide to the Department  
21 of Law Enforcement specified data and information  
22 received from the career offender; revising timeframes  
23 within which a career offender is required to report  
24 to a driver license office of the Department of  
25 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles or report directly

26 to the department; providing an exception; revising  
27 requirements that a career offender must comply with  
28 at the driver license office; requiring that, if a  
29 career offender is in the custody of a local jail, the  
30 custodian of the local jail notify the Department of  
31 Law Enforcement within a specified timeframe after  
32 intake of the career offender for any reason and upon  
33 release; requiring the custodian to take a digitized  
34 photograph of the career offender and provide the  
35 photograph to the department; requiring a career  
36 offender to report in person to a driver license  
37 office within a specified timeframe after any change  
38 in the career offender's permanent or temporary  
39 residence; requiring the Department of Highway Safety  
40 and Motor Vehicles to forward to the Department of Law  
41 Enforcement all photographs and information provided  
42 by a career offender; authorizing the department to  
43 release license reproductions to the department for  
44 the purpose of public notification; requiring a career  
45 offender to report in person to the sheriff's office  
46 after specified occurrences; providing criminal  
47 penalties; revising reporting requirements and  
48 applicable timeframes that a career offender must  
49 comply with if he or she intends to establish a  
50 permanent or temporary residence or to travel;

51 requiring county and local law enforcement agencies,  
52 in conjunction with the Department of Law Enforcement,  
53 to, at a minimum, annually verify the addresses of  
54 certain career offenders; authorizing county and local  
55 law enforcement agencies, in conjunction with the  
56 Department of Law Enforcement, to annually verify the  
57 addresses of certain career offenders; requiring  
58 county and local law enforcement agencies to report to  
59 the department any failures by career offenders to  
60 register; requiring that the department receive notice  
61 of petitions for the removal of the requirement for  
62 registration as career offenders within a specified  
63 timeframe before a hearing on the petition;  
64 authorizing the department to present evidence in  
65 opposition to the requested relief or otherwise  
66 demonstrate reasons to deny the petition; authorizing,  
67 rather than requiring, the department to maintain  
68 online computer access to the current information  
69 regarding each registered career offender; revising  
70 the list of requirements for which failure of a career  
71 offender to comply constitutes a criminal offense;  
72 specifying that each instance of a failure to register  
73 or report changes to specified required information  
74 constitutes a separate offense; expanding the  
75 jurisdictions under which career offender may be

76 prosecuted for violations of specified acts or  
77 omissions; specifying circumstances which constitute  
78 actual notice for a career offender of the duty to  
79 register; increasing the criminal penalties for  
80 existing prohibited acts relating to assisting career  
81 offenders in noncompliance with specified requirements  
82 or withholding or providing false information to law  
83 enforcement agencies; conforming provisions to changes  
84 made by the act; making technical changes; amending s.  
85 944.608, F.S.; defining terms; providing a timeframe  
86 under which certain career offenders are required to  
87 register with the Department of Corrections and  
88 provide specified information; requiring the  
89 department to report to the Department of Law  
90 Enforcement any failures by career offenders to  
91 register; revising the information that the Department  
92 of Corrections must provide to the Department of Law  
93 Enforcement; requiring that, if a career offender is  
94 in the custody of a local jail, the custodian of the  
95 local jail notify the Department of Law Enforcement  
96 within a specified timeframe after intake of the  
97 career offender for any reason and upon release;  
98 requiring the custodian to take a digitized photograph  
99 of the career offender and provide the photograph to  
100 the department; authorizing the supervising federal

101 agency to forward certain information to the  
102 Department of Law Enforcement if a career offender is  
103 under federal supervision and to indicate whether use  
104 of the information is subject to certain restrictions;  
105 specifying the jurisdictions under which a career  
106 offender may be prosecuted for violations of specified  
107 acts or omissions; specifying circumstances which  
108 constitute actual notice for a career offender of the  
109 duty to register; providing criminal penalties for  
110 committing specified prohibited acts relating to  
111 assisting career offenders in noncompliance with  
112 specified requirements or withholding or providing  
113 false information to law enforcement agencies;  
114 providing applicability; conforming cross-references;  
115 making technical changes; amending s. 944.609, F.S.;  
116 defining terms; revising legislative findings;  
117 revising the information that the Department of  
118 Corrections is required to provide regarding career  
119 offenders being released after serving periods of  
120 incarceration for any offense; specifying a timeframe  
121 under which the custodian of a local jail must notify  
122 the Department of Law Enforcement after intake of a  
123 career offender for any reason and upon release;  
124 making technical and clarifying changes; reenacting  
125 ss. 320.02(4) and 322.19(1), F.S., relating to

126 registration required and application for  
 127 registration, and forms and change of address or name,  
 128 respectively, to incorporate the amendment made to s.  
 129 775.261, F.S., in references thereto; reenacting s.  
 130 775.13(4), F.S., relating to registration of convicted  
 131 felons, exemptions, and penalties, to incorporate the  
 132 amendment made to ss. 775.261 and 944.609, F.S., in  
 133 references thereto; providing an effective date.

134

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

136

137 Section 1. Subsections (3) and (4) of section 322.141,  
 138 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

139 322.141 Color or markings of certain licenses or  
 140 identification cards.—

141 (3) All licenses for the operation of motor vehicles or  
 142 identification cards originally issued or reissued by the  
 143 department to persons who are designated as sexual predators  
 144 under s. 775.21, who are ~~or~~ subject to registration as sexual  
 145 offenders under s. 943.0435 or s. 944.607, who are designated as  
 146 career offenders under s. 775.261 or s. 944.608, or who have a  
 147 similar designation or are subject to a similar registration  
 148 under the laws of another jurisdiction, shall have on the front  
 149 of the license or identification card the following:

150 (a) For a person designated as a sexual predator under s.

151 775.21 or who has a similar designation under the laws of  
 152 another jurisdiction, the marking "SEXUAL PREDATOR."

153 (b) For a person subject to registration as a sexual  
 154 offender under s. 943.0435 or s. 944.607, or subject to a  
 155 similar registration under the laws of another jurisdiction, the  
 156 marking "943.0435, F.S."

157 (c) For a person subject to registration as a career  
 158 offender under s. 775.261 or s. 944.608, the marking "CAREER  
 159 OFFENDER."

160 (4)(a) Unless previously secured or updated, each sexual  
 161 offender and sexual predator shall report to the department  
 162 during the month of his or her reregistration as required under  
 163 s. 775.21(8), s. 943.0435(14), or s. 944.607(13) in order to  
 164 obtain an updated or renewed driver license or identification  
 165 card as required by subsection (3).

166 (b) Unless previously secured or updated, each career  
 167 offender shall report to the department during the month of his  
 168 or her birth in order to obtain an updated or renewed driver  
 169 license or identification card as required by subsection (3).

170 Section 2. Section 775.261, Florida Statutes, is amended  
 171 to read:

172 775.261 The Florida Career Offender Registration Act.—

173 (1) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as "The Florida  
 174 Career Offender Registration Act."

175 (2) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

176 (a) "Career offender" means any person who is designated  
 177 as a habitual violent felony offender, a violent career  
 178 criminal, or a three-time violent felony offender under s.  
 179 775.084 or as a prison releasee reoffender under s. 775.082(9).

180 (b) "Chief of police" means the chief law enforcement  
 181 officer of a municipality.

182 (c) "Community" means any county where the career offender  
 183 lives or otherwise establishes or maintains a permanent or  
 184 temporary ~~or permanent~~ residence.

185 (d) "Department" means the Department of Law Enforcement.

186 (e) "Entering the county" includes being discharged from a  
 187 correctional facility, jail, or secure treatment facility within  
 188 the county or being under supervision within the county with a  
 189 career-offender designation as specified in paragraph (a).

190 (f) "Permanent residence" means a place where the career  
 191 offender abides, lodges, or resides for 5 ~~14~~ or more consecutive  
 192 days. For the purpose of calculating a permanent residence under  
 193 this paragraph, the first day that a person abides, lodges, or  
 194 resides at a place is excluded and each subsequent day is  
 195 counted. A day includes any part of a calendar day.

196 (g) "Temporary residence" means:

197 ~~1.~~ a place where the career offender abides, lodges, or  
 198 resides, including, but not limited to, vacation, business, or  
 199 personal travel destinations in or out of this state for a  
 200 period of 5 ~~14~~ or more days in the aggregate during any calendar

HB 1539

2024

201 | year and which is not the career offender's permanent residence,  
202 | or for a career offender whose permanent residence is not in  
203 | this state, a place where the career offender is employed,  
204 | practices a vocation, or is enrolled as a student for any period  
205 | of time in this state. For the purpose of calculating a  
206 | temporary residence under this paragraph, the first day that a  
207 | person abides, lodges, or resides at a place is excluded and  
208 | each subsequent day is counted. A day includes any part of a  
209 | calendar day address;

210 | ~~2. For a career offender whose permanent residence is not~~  
211 | ~~in this state, a place where the career offender is employed,~~  
212 | ~~practices a vocation, or is enrolled as a student for any period~~  
213 | ~~of time in this state; or~~

214 | ~~3. A place where the career offender routinely abides,~~  
215 | ~~lodges, or resides for a period of 4 or more consecutive or~~  
216 | ~~nonconsecutive days in any month and which is not the career~~  
217 | ~~offender's permanent residence, including any out-of-state~~  
218 | ~~address.~~

219 | (h) "Vehicles owned" means any motor vehicle as defined in  
220 | s. 320.01 which is registered, co-registered, leased, titled, or  
221 | rented by a career offender; a rented vehicle that a career  
222 | offender is authorized to drive; or a vehicle for which a career  
223 | offender is insured as a driver. The term also includes any  
224 | motor vehicle as defined in s. 320.01 which is registered, co-  
225 | registered, leased, titled, or rented by a person or persons

226 residing at a career offender's permanent residence for 5 or  
227 more consecutive days.

228 (3) CRITERIA FOR REGISTRATION AS A CAREER OFFENDER.—

229 (a) A career offender released on or after July 1, 2002,  
230 from a sanction imposed in this state must register as required  
231 under this section ~~subsection (4)~~ and is subject to community  
232 and public notification as provided under subsection (9)  
233 ~~subsection (5)~~. If no sanction is imposed, the person is deemed  
234 to be released upon conviction. For purposes of this section, a  
235 sanction imposed in this state means ~~includes, but is not~~  
236 ~~limited to, a fine,~~ probation, community control, parole,  
237 conditional release, control release, or incarceration in a  
238 state prison, federal prison, private correctional facility, or  
239 local detention facility, and:

240 1. The career offender has not received a pardon for any  
241 felony or other qualified offense that is necessary for the  
242 operation of this paragraph; or

243 2. A conviction of a felony or other qualified offense  
244 necessary to the operation of this paragraph has not been set  
245 aside in any postconviction proceeding.

246 (b) This section does not apply to any person who has been  
247 designated as a sexual predator and is required to register  
248 under s. 775.21 or who is required to register as a sexual  
249 offender under s. 943.0435 or s. 944.607. However, if a person  
250 is no longer required to register as a sexual predator under s.

251 775.21 or as a sexual offender under s. 943.0435 or s. 944.607,  
 252 the person must register as a career offender under this section  
 253 if the person is otherwise designated as a career offender as  
 254 provided in this section.

255 (c) A person subject to registration as a career offender  
 256 is not subject to registration as a convicted felon under s.  
 257 775.13. However, if the person is no longer required to register  
 258 as a career offender under this section, the person must  
 259 register under s. 775.13 if required to do so under that  
 260 section.

261 (d) If a career offender is not sentenced to a term of  
 262 imprisonment, the clerk of the court shall ensure that the  
 263 career offender's fingerprints are taken and forwarded to the  
 264 department within 48 hours after the court renders its finding  
 265 that an offender is a career offender. The fingerprints shall be  
 266 clearly marked, "Career Offender Registration."

267 (4) REGISTRATION.—Upon registration, a career offender  
 268 shall:

269 (a) Report in person at ~~A career offender must register~~  
 270 ~~with the department by providing the following information to~~  
 271 ~~the department, or to~~ the sheriff's office in the county in  
 272 which the career offender establishes or maintains a permanent  
 273 or temporary residence, within 48 hours ~~2 working days~~ after  
 274 establishing a permanent or temporary residence in this state,  
 275 or within 48 hours ~~2 working days~~ after being released from the

276 custody, control, or supervision of the Department of  
 277 Corrections or from the custody of a private correctional  
 278 facility or local detention facility.÷  
 279 (b)1. Provide his or her name; date of birth; social  
 280 security number; age; race; sex; gender, date of birth,  
 281 height; weight; hair and eye color; fingerprints; palm  
 282 prints; photograph; employment information; address of  
 283 permanent or legal residence and address of any current  
 284 temporary residence within the state or out of state, including  
 285 a rural route address and ~~or~~ a post office box; address,  
 286 location or description, and dates of any current or known  
 287 future temporary residence within this state or out of state;  
 288 the make, model, color, vehicle identification number (VIN), and  
 289 license tag number of all vehicles owned; home telephone numbers  
 290 and cellular telephone numbers; ~~date and place of any~~  
 291 ~~employment,~~ date and place of each conviction; fingerprints,  
 292 and a brief description of the crime or crimes committed by the  
 293 career offender. A ~~career offender may not provide a post office~~  
 294 box may not be provided in lieu of a physical residential  
 295 address. If the career offender's place of residence is a motor  
 296 vehicle, trailer, mobile home, or manufactured home, as those  
 297 terms are defined in chapter 320, the career offender shall also  
 298 provide to the department through the sheriff's office written  
 299 notice of the vehicle identification number (VIN); the license  
 300 tag number; the registration number; and a description,

301 including color scheme, of the motor vehicle, trailer, mobile  
302 home, or manufactured home. If a career offender's place of  
303 residence is a vessel, live-aboard vessel, or houseboat, as  
304 those terms are defined in chapter 327, the career offender  
305 shall also provide to the department through the sheriff's  
306 office written notice of the hull identification number; the  
307 manufacturer's serial number; the name of the vessel, live-  
308 aboard vessel, or houseboat; the registration number of the  
309 vessel, live-aboard vessel, or houseboat; and a description,  
310 including color scheme, of the vessel, live-aboard vessel, or  
311 houseboat.

312 (c)2- Provide any other information determined necessary  
313 by the department, including criminal and corrections records;  
314 nonprivileged personnel and treatment records; and evidentiary  
315 genetic markers, when available.

316 ~~(b)~~ When ~~if~~ a career offender registers with the sheriff's  
317 office, the sheriff shall take a photograph, and a set of  
318 fingerprints, and palm prints of the career offender and forward  
319 the photographs, ~~and~~ fingerprints, and palm prints to the  
320 department, along with the information that the career offender  
321 is required to provide pursuant to this section. The sheriff  
322 shall promptly provide to the department the information  
323 received from the career offender.

324 (d)(e) Within 48 hours ~~2 working days~~ after the reporting  
325 ~~registration~~ required under this subsection ~~paragraph (a)~~, a

326 career offender who is not incarcerated and who resides in the  
327 community, including a career offender under the supervision of  
328 the Department of Corrections pursuant to s. 944.608, shall  
329 report ~~register~~ in person at a driver license office of the  
330 Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, unless a driver  
331 license or identification card that complies with s. 322.141(3)  
332 was previously secured or updated under s. 944.608 ~~and shall~~  
333 ~~present proof of registration~~. At the driver license office, the  
334 career offender shall:

335 1. If otherwise qualified, secure a Florida driver  
336 license, renew a Florida driver license, or secure an  
337 identification card. The career offender shall identify himself  
338 or herself as a career offender who is required to comply with  
339 this section and shall provide proof that the career offender  
340 reported as required in this subsection. The career offender  
341 shall provide any of the information specified in this  
342 subsection, if requested. The career offender shall submit to  
343 the taking of a photograph for use in issuing a driver license,  
344 renewed license, or identification card, and for use by the  
345 department in maintaining current records of career offenders,  
346 ~~provide his or her place of permanent or temporary residence,~~  
347 ~~including a rural route address or a post office box, and submit~~  
348 ~~to the taking of a photograph for use in issuing a driver~~  
349 ~~license, renewed license, or identification card, and for use by~~  
350 ~~the department in maintaining current records of career~~

351 ~~offenders. The career offender may not provide a post office box~~  
352 ~~in lieu of a physical residential address. If the career~~  
353 ~~offender's place of residence is a motor vehicle, trailer,~~  
354 ~~mobile home, or manufactured home, as defined in chapter 320,~~  
355 ~~the career offender shall also provide to the Department of~~  
356 ~~Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles the vehicle identification~~  
357 ~~number; the license tag number; the motor vehicle registration~~  
358 ~~number; and a description, including color scheme, of the motor~~  
359 ~~vehicle, trailer, mobile home, or manufactured home. If a career~~  
360 ~~offender's place of residence is a vessel, live-aboard vessel,~~  
361 ~~or houseboat, as defined in chapter 327, the career offender~~  
362 ~~shall also provide to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor~~  
363 ~~Vehicles the hull identification number; the manufacturer's~~  
364 ~~serial number; the name of the vessel, live-aboard vessel, or~~  
365 ~~houseboat; the registration number; and a description, including~~  
366 ~~color scheme, of the vessel, live-aboard vessel, or houseboat.~~

367 2. Pay the costs assessed by the Department of Highway  
368 Safety and Motor Vehicles for issuing or renewing a driver  
369 license or identification card as required by this section. The  
370 driver license or identification card issued must be in  
371 compliance with s. 322.141(3).

372 3. Provide, upon request, any additional information  
373 necessary to confirm the identity of the career offender,  
374 including a set of fingerprints.

375 (e) A career offender shall report in person to a driver

376 license office and is subject to the requirements specified in  
 377 this subsection:

378 1. ~~(d)~~ Each time a career offender's driver license or  
 379 identification card is subject to renewal; and

380 2. Without regard to the status of the offender's driver  
 381 license or identification card, and within 48 hours ~~2 working~~  
 382 days after any change of the career offender's residence or  
 383 change in the career offender's name by reason of marriage or  
 384 other legal process, the career offender must report in person  
 385 to a driver license office, and shall be subject to the  
 386 requirements specified in paragraph (c).

387 (f) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles  
 388 shall forward to the department and to the Department of  
 389 Corrections all photographs and information provided by career  
 390 offenders. Notwithstanding the restrictions set forth in s.  
 391 322.142, the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles may  
 392 release a reproduction of a color-photograph or digital-image  
 393 license to the department for purposes of public notification of  
 394 career offenders as provided in this section and ss. 775.26 and  
 395 944.609.

396 (g) A career offender who is unable to secure or update a  
 397 driver license or an identification card with the Department of  
 398 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles as provided in this subsection  
 399 shall also report any change in the career offender's name by  
 400 reason of marriage or other legal process within 48 hours after

401 the change to the sheriff's office in the county where the  
402 offender resides or is located and provide confirmation that he  
403 or she reported such information to the Department of Highway  
404 Safety and Motor Vehicles. The reporting requirements under this  
405 paragraph do not negate the requirement for a career offender to  
406 obtain a Florida driver license or an identification card as  
407 required in this section.

408 (h) If the career offender is in the custody of a local  
409 jail, the custodian of the local jail shall notify the  
410 department within 3 business days after intake of the career  
411 offender for any reason and upon release. The custodian of the  
412 local jail shall also take a digitized photograph of the career  
413 offender while the career offender remains in custody and shall  
414 provide the digitized photograph to the department. The  
415 custodian shall notify the department if the career offender  
416 escapes from custody or dies.

417 ~~(c) If the career offender registers at an office of the~~  
418 ~~department, the department must notify the sheriff and, if~~  
419 ~~applicable, the police chief of the municipality, where the~~  
420 ~~career offender maintains a residence within 48 hours after the~~  
421 ~~career offender registers with the department.~~

422 (5) ESTABLISHING A RESIDENCE WITHIN THIS STATE AFTER  
423 REGISTRATION.—

424 (a) A career offender shall report in person to a driver  
425 license office and is subject to the requirements specified in

426 subsection (4):

427 1. Each time a career offender's driver license or  
428 identification card is subject to renewal; and

429 2. Without regard to the status of the offender's driver  
430 license or identification card, within 48 hours after any change  
431 in the offender's permanent or temporary residence.

432 (b) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles  
433 shall forward to the department and to the Department of  
434 Corrections all photographs and information provided by career  
435 offenders. Notwithstanding the restrictions set forth in s.  
436 322.142, the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles may  
437 release a reproduction of a color-photograph or digital-image  
438 license to the department for purposes of public notification of  
439 career offenders as provided in this section and ss. 775.26 and  
440 944.609.

441 (c) A career offender who is unable to secure or update a  
442 driver license or an identification card with the Department of  
443 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles as provided in subsection (4)  
444 and this subsection shall also report any change in the career  
445 offender's permanent or temporary residence within 48 hours  
446 after the change to the sheriff's office in the county where the  
447 offender resides or is located and provide confirmation that he  
448 or she reported such information to the Department of Highway  
449 Safety and Motor Vehicles. The reporting requirements under this  
450 paragraph do not negate the requirement for a career offender to

451 obtain a Florida driver license or an identification card as  
452 required in this section.

453 (d) A career offender who vacates a permanent or temporary  
454 residence and fails to establish or maintain another permanent  
455 or temporary residence shall, within 48 hours after vacating the  
456 permanent or temporary residence, report in person to the  
457 sheriff's office of the county in which he or she is located.  
458 The career offender shall specify the date upon which he or she  
459 intends to or did vacate such residence. The career offender  
460 must provide or update all of the registration information  
461 required under paragraph (4) (b). The career offender must  
462 provide an address for the residence or other place where he or  
463 she is or will be located during the time in which he or she  
464 fails to establish or maintain a permanent or temporary  
465 residence.

466 (e) A career offender who remains at a permanent or  
467 temporary residence after reporting his or her intent to vacate  
468 such residence shall, within 48 hours after the date upon which  
469 the offender indicated he or she would or did vacate such  
470 residence, report in person to the agency to which he or she  
471 reported pursuant to paragraph (d) for the purpose of reporting  
472 his or her address at such residence. When the sheriff receives  
473 the report, the sheriff shall promptly convey the information to  
474 the department. An offender who makes a report as required under  
475 paragraph (d) but fails to make a report as required under this

476 paragraph commits a felony of the second degree, punishable as  
477 provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

478 (6) ESTABLISHING A NON-FLORIDA RESIDENCE.—

479 (a)~~(f)~~ A career offender who intends to establish a  
480 permanent or temporary residence in another state or  
481 jurisdiction other than the State of Florida shall report in  
482 person to the sheriff of the county of current residence at  
483 least 48 hours ~~or the department within 2 working days~~ before  
484 the date he or she intends to leave this state to establish  
485 residence in another state or jurisdiction other than the State  
486 of Florida. Any travel that is not known by the career offender  
487 48 hours before he or she intends to establish a residence in  
488 another state or jurisdiction must be reported in person to the  
489 sheriff's office as soon as possible before departure. If the  
490 career offender is under the supervision of the Department of  
491 Corrections, the career offender shall notify the supervising  
492 probation officer of his or her intent to transfer supervision,  
493 satisfy all transfer requirements pursuant to the Interstate  
494 Compact for Supervision of Adult Offenders, as provided in s.  
495 949.07, and abide by the decision of the receiving jurisdiction  
496 to accept or deny transfer. The career offender must provide to  
497 the sheriff ~~or department~~ the address, municipality, county, and  
498 state or jurisdiction of intended residence. The sheriff shall  
499 promptly provide to the department the information received from  
500 the career offender. The failure of a career offender to provide

501 his or her intended place of residence is punishable as provided  
502 in subsection (11) ~~subsection (8)~~.

503 ~~(b)(g)~~ A career offender who indicates his or her intent  
504 to establish a permanent or temporary residence ~~reside~~ in  
505 another ~~a~~ state or jurisdiction other than the State of Florida  
506 and later decides to remain in this state shall, within 48 hours  
507 ~~2 working days~~ after the date upon which the career offender  
508 indicated he or she would leave this state, report in person to  
509 the sheriff's office ~~sheriff or the department, whichever agency~~  
510 ~~is the agency~~ to which the career offender reported the intended  
511 change of permanent or temporary residence ~~and report~~, ~~of~~ his or  
512 her intent to remain in this state. ~~If the sheriff is notified~~  
513 ~~by the career offender that he or she intends to remain in this~~  
514 ~~state~~, The sheriff shall promptly report this information to the  
515 department. A career offender who reports his or her intent to  
516 establish a permanent or temporary residence ~~reside~~ in another ~~a~~  
517 state or jurisdiction other than the State of Florida, but who  
518 remains in this state without reporting to the sheriff ~~or the~~  
519 ~~department~~ in the manner required by this subsection ~~paragraph~~,  
520 commits a felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in  
521 s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

522 ~~(h)1. The department shall maintain online computer access~~  
523 ~~to the current information regarding each registered career~~  
524 ~~offender. The department must maintain hotline access so that~~  
525 ~~state, local, and federal law enforcement agencies may obtain~~

526 ~~instantaneous locator file and criminal characteristics~~  
527 ~~information on release and registration of career offenders for~~  
528 ~~purposes of monitoring, tracking, and prosecution. The~~  
529 ~~photograph and fingerprints need not be stored in a computerized~~  
530 ~~format.~~

531 ~~2. The department's career offender registration list,~~  
532 ~~containing the information described in subparagraph (a)1., is a~~  
533 ~~public record. The department may disseminate this public~~  
534 ~~information by any means deemed appropriate, including operating~~  
535 ~~a toll-free telephone number for this purpose. When the~~  
536 ~~department provides information regarding a career offender to~~  
537 ~~the public, department personnel must advise the person making~~  
538 ~~the inquiry that positive identification of a person believed to~~  
539 ~~be a career offender cannot be established unless a fingerprint~~  
540 ~~comparison is made, and that it is illegal to use public~~  
541 ~~information regarding a career offender to facilitate the~~  
542 ~~commission of a crime.~~

543 ~~3. The department shall adopt guidelines as necessary~~  
544 ~~regarding the registration of a career offender and the~~  
545 ~~dissemination of information regarding a career offender as~~  
546 ~~required by this section.~~

547 (7) VERIFICATION.—County and local law enforcement  
548 agencies, in conjunction with the department, shall, at a  
549 minimum, annually verify the addresses of career offenders who  
550 are not under the care, custody, control, or supervision of the

551 Department of Corrections, and may verify the addresses of  
552 career offenders who are under the care, custody, control, or  
553 supervision of the Department of Corrections. Local law  
554 enforcement agencies shall report to the department any failure  
555 by a career offender to comply with registration requirements.

556 (8)-(i) RELIEF FROM REGISTRATION.—A career offender must  
557 maintain registration with the department for the duration of  
558 his or her life, unless the career offender has received a full  
559 pardon or has had a conviction set aside in a postconviction  
560 proceeding for any offense or offenses that meet ~~meets~~ the  
561 criteria for classifying the person as a career offender for  
562 purposes of registration. However, a ~~registered~~ career offender  
563 shall be considered for removal of the requirement to register  
564 as a career offender only if he or she ~~who~~ has been lawfully  
565 released from confinement, supervision, or sanction, whichever  
566 is later, for at least 20 years and has not been arrested for  
567 any felony or misdemeanor offense since release.

568 (a) If the career offender meets the criteria in this  
569 subsection, the career offender may, for the purpose of removing  
570 the requirement for registration as a career offender, petition  
571 the criminal division of the circuit court of the circuit in  
572 which the registered career offender resides for the purpose of  
573 removing the requirement for registration as a career offender.

574 (b) The court may grant or deny such relief if the  
575 registered career offender demonstrates to the court that he or

576 she has not been arrested for any crime since release and the  
577 court is otherwise satisfied that the registered career offender  
578 is not a current or potential threat to public safety. The  
579 department and the state attorney in the circuit in which the  
580 petition is filed must be given notice of the petition at least  
581 3 weeks before the hearing on the matter. The department and the  
582 state attorney may present evidence in opposition to the  
583 requested relief or may otherwise demonstrate the reasons why  
584 the petition should be denied. If the court denies the petition,  
585 the court may set a future date at which the registered career  
586 offender may again petition the court for relief, subject to the  
587 standards for relief provided in this subsection ~~paragraph~~.

588 (c) The department shall remove a person from  
589 classification as a career offender for purposes of registration  
590 if the person provides to the department a certified copy of the  
591 court's written findings or order that indicates that the person  
592 is no longer required to comply with the requirements for  
593 registration as a career offender.

594 (9) ~~(5)~~ COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC NOTIFICATION.—

595 (a) Law enforcement agencies may inform the community and  
596 the public of the presence of a career offender in the  
597 community. Upon notification of the presence of a career  
598 offender, the sheriff of the county or the chief of police of  
599 the municipality where the career offender establishes or  
600 maintains a permanent or temporary residence may notify the

601 community and the public of the presence of the career offender  
602 in a manner deemed appropriate by the sheriff or the chief of  
603 police.

604 (b) The sheriff or the police chief may coordinate the  
605 community and public notification efforts with the department.  
606 Statewide notification to the public is authorized, as deemed  
607 appropriate by local law enforcement personnel and the  
608 department.

609 (c)1. The department may maintain online computer access  
610 to the current information regarding each registered career  
611 offender. The department must maintain hotline access so that  
612 state, local, and federal law enforcement agencies may obtain  
613 instantaneous locator file and criminal characteristics  
614 information on release and registration of career offenders for  
615 the purposes of monitoring, tracking, and prosecution. The  
616 photograph and fingerprints need not be stored in a computerized  
617 format.

618 2. The department's career offender registration list is a  
619 public record. The department may disseminate this public  
620 information by any means deemed appropriate, including operating  
621 a toll-free telephone number for this purpose. When the  
622 department provides information regarding a career offender to  
623 the public, department personnel must advise the person making  
624 the inquiry that positive identification of a person believed to  
625 be a career offender cannot be established unless a fingerprint

626 comparison is made, and that it is illegal to use public  
 627 information regarding a career offender to facilitate the  
 628 commission of a crime.

629 3. The department shall adopt guidelines as necessary  
 630 regarding the registration of a career offender and the  
 631 dissemination of information regarding a career offender as  
 632 required by this section.

633 ~~(6) VERIFICATION. The department and the Department of~~  
 634 ~~Corrections shall implement a system for verifying the addresses~~  
 635 ~~of career offenders. The sheriff of each county shall annually~~  
 636 ~~verify the addresses of career offenders who are not under the~~  
 637 ~~care, custody, control, or supervision of the Department of~~  
 638 ~~Corrections. The sheriff shall promptly provide the address~~  
 639 ~~verification information to the department in an electronic~~  
 640 ~~format. The address verification information must include the~~  
 641 ~~verifying person's name, agency, and phone number, the date of~~  
 642 ~~verification, and the method of verification, and must specify~~  
 643 ~~whether the address information was verified as correct,~~  
 644 ~~incorrect, or unconfirmed.~~

645 (10)(7) IMMUNITY.—The department, the Department of  
 646 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, the Department of  
 647 Corrections, any law enforcement agency in this state, and the  
 648 personnel of those departments; an elected or appointed  
 649 official, public employee, or school administrator; or an  
 650 employee, agency, or any individual or entity acting at the

HB 1539

2024

651 request or upon the direction of any law enforcement agency is  
652 immune from civil liability for damages for good faith  
653 compliance with the requirements of this section or for the  
654 release of information under this section, and shall be presumed  
655 to have acted in good faith in compiling, recording, reporting,  
656 or releasing the information. The presumption of good faith is  
657 not overcome if a technical or clerical error is made by the  
658 department, the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles,  
659 the Department of Corrections, the personnel of those  
660 departments, or any individual or entity acting at the request  
661 or upon the direction of any of those departments in compiling  
662 or providing information, or if information is incomplete or  
663 incorrect because a career offender fails to report or falsely  
664 reports his or her current place of permanent or temporary  
665 residence.

666 ~~(11)(8)~~ PENALTIES.—

667 (a) Except as otherwise specifically provided, a career  
668 offender who fails to register; who fails, after registration,  
669 to maintain, acquire, or renew a driver license or an  
670 identification card; who fails to provide required location  
671 information or change-of-name information; who fails to make a  
672 required report in connection with vacating a permanent  
673 residence; who fails to respond to any address verification  
674 correspondence from the department or from county or local law  
675 enforcement agencies within 3 weeks after the date of the

676 correspondence; who knowingly provides false registration  
677 information by act or omission; or who otherwise fails, by act  
678 or omission, to comply with the requirements of this section,  
679 commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in  
680 s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. Each instance of failure  
681 to register or report changes to the required information  
682 specified herein constitutes a separate offense.

683 (b) A career offender who commits any act or omission in  
684 violation of this section, s. 944.608, or s. 944.609 may be  
685 prosecuted for the act or omission in the county in which the  
686 act or omission was committed, in the county of the last  
687 registered address of the career offender, in the county in  
688 which the conviction occurred for the offense or offenses that  
689 meet the criteria for designating a person as a career offender,  
690 in the county in which he or she was designated a career  
691 offender, in the county where the career offender was released  
692 from incarceration, or in the county of the intended address of  
693 the career offender as reported by the offender before his or  
694 her release from incarceration.

695 (c) An arrest on charges of failure to register when the  
696 offender has been provided and advised of his or her statutory  
697 obligations to register under this section, the service of an  
698 information or a complaint for a violation of this section, or  
699 an arraignment on charges for a violation of this section  
700 constitutes actual notice of the duty to register. A career

701 offender's failure to register immediately as required by this  
702 section following such arrest, service, or arraignment  
703 constitutes grounds for a subsequent charge of failure to  
704 register. A career offender charged with the crime of failure to  
705 register who asserts, or intends to assert, a lack of notice of  
706 the duty to register as a defense to a charge of failure to  
707 register shall register immediately as required by this section.  
708 A career offender who is charged with a subsequent failure to  
709 register may not assert the defense of a lack of notice of the  
710 duty to register. Registration following such arrest, service,  
711 or arraignment is not a defense and does not relieve the career  
712 offender of criminal liability for the failure to register.

713 (d)-(b) Any person who misuses public records information  
714 concerning a career offender, as defined in this section, or a  
715 career offender, as defined in s. 944.608 or s. 944.609, to  
716 secure a payment from such career offender; who knowingly  
717 distributes or publishes false information concerning such a  
718 career offender which the person misrepresents as being public  
719 records information; or who materially alters public records  
720 information with the intent to misrepresent the information,  
721 including documents, summaries of public records information  
722 provided by law enforcement agencies, or public records  
723 information displayed by law enforcement agencies on websites or  
724 provided through other means of communication, commits a  
725 misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s.

726 775.082 or s. 775.083.

727 ~~(9) PROSECUTIONS FOR ACTS OR OMISSIONS. A career offender~~  
 728 ~~who commits any act or omission in violation of this section, s.~~  
 729 ~~944.608, or s. 944.609 may be prosecuted for the act or omission~~  
 730 ~~in the county in which the act or omission was committed, the~~  
 731 ~~county of the last registered address of the career offender,~~  
 732 ~~the county in which the conviction occurred for the offense or~~  
 733 ~~offenses that meet the criteria for designating a person as a~~  
 734 ~~career offender, or in the county in which he or she was~~  
 735 ~~designated a career offender.~~

736 (12) ~~(10)~~ PENALTIES FOR ASSISTING CAREER OFFENDER IN  
 737 NONCOMPLIANCE. ~~Any~~ It is a misdemeanor of the first degree,  
 738 ~~punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, for a person~~  
 739 ~~who has reason to believe that a career offender is not~~  
 740 ~~complying, or has not complied, with the requirements of this~~  
 741 ~~section and who, with the intent to assist the career offender~~  
 742 ~~in eluding a law enforcement agency that is seeking to find the~~  
 743 ~~career offender to question the career offender about, or to~~  
 744 ~~arrest the career offender for, his or her noncompliance with~~  
 745 ~~the requirements of this section, to:~~

746 (a) Withholds ~~Withhold~~ information from, or does not fail  
 747 ~~to~~ notify, the law enforcement agency about the career  
 748 offender's noncompliance with the requirements of this section,  
 749 and, if known, the whereabouts of the career offender;

750 (b) Harbors ~~Harbor~~ or attempts ~~attempt~~ to harbor, or

751 assists ~~assist~~ another person in harboring or attempting to  
 752 harbor, the career offender;

753 (c) Conceals ~~Conceal~~ or attempts ~~attempt~~ to conceal, or  
 754 assists ~~assist~~ another person in concealing or attempting to  
 755 conceal, the career offender; or

756 (d) Provides ~~Provide~~ information to the law enforcement  
 757 agency regarding the career offender which the person knows to  
 758 be false information,

759  
 760 commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in  
 761 s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

762 Section 3. Section 944.608, Florida Statutes, is amended  
 763 to read:

764 944.608 Notification to Department of Law Enforcement of  
 765 information on career offenders.—

766 (1) As used in this section, the term:

767 (a) "Career offender" means a person who is in the custody  
 768 or control of, or under the supervision of, the department or is  
 769 in the custody or control of, or under the supervision of, a  
 770 private correctional facility, and who is designated as a  
 771 habitual violent felony offender, a violent career criminal, or  
 772 a three-time violent felony offender under s. 775.084 or as a  
 773 prison releasee reoffender under s. 775.082(9).

774 (b) "Permanent residence" and "temporary residence" have  
 775 the same meaning as provided in s. 775.261.

776 (c) "Vehicles owned" has the same meaning as provided in  
 777 s. 775.261.

778 (2) If a career offender is not sentenced to a term of  
 779 imprisonment, the clerk of the court shall ensure that the  
 780 career offender's fingerprints are taken and forwarded to the  
 781 Department of Law Enforcement within 48 hours after the court  
 782 sentences the career offender. The fingerprints shall be clearly  
 783 marked "Career Offender Registration."

784 (3) A career offender, as described in this section, who  
 785 is under the supervision of the department but is not  
 786 incarcerated shall ~~must~~ register with the department within 3  
 787 business days after sentencing and provide his or her name; date  
 788 of birth; social security number; race; sex ~~gender~~; height;  
 789 weight; hair and eye color; tattoos or other identifying marks;  
 790 employment information required to be provided pursuant to s.  
 791 775.261; all home telephone numbers and cellular telephone  
 792 numbers required to be provided pursuant to s. 775.261; the  
 793 make, model, color, vehicle identification number (VIN), and  
 794 license tag number of all vehicles owned; ~~and~~ permanent or legal  
 795 residence and address of temporary residence within the state or  
 796 out of state while the career offender is under supervision in  
 797 this state, including any rural route address or post office  
 798 box; and address, location or description, and dates of any  
 799 current or known future temporary residence within this state or  
 800 out of state. The department shall verify the address of each

801 | career offender in the manner described in s. 775.261. The  
 802 | department shall report to the Department of Law Enforcement any  
 803 | failure by a career offender to comply with any registration  
 804 | requirements.

805 |         (4) In addition to notification and transmittal  
 806 | requirements imposed by any other provision of law, the  
 807 | department shall compile information on any career offender and  
 808 | provide the information to the Department of Law Enforcement.  
 809 | The information shall be made available electronically to the  
 810 | Department of Law Enforcement as soon as this information is in  
 811 | the department's database and must be in a format that is  
 812 | compatible with the requirements of the Florida Crime  
 813 | Information Center.

814 |         (5) The information provided to the Department of Law  
 815 | Enforcement must include:

816 |             (a) The information obtained from the career offender  
 817 | under subsection (3);

818 |             (b) The career offender's most current address; ~~and~~ place  
 819 | of permanent or ~~and~~ temporary residence within this ~~the~~ state or  
 820 | out of state; and address, location or description, and dates of  
 821 | any current or known future temporary residence within this  
 822 | state or out of state, while the career offender is under  
 823 | supervision in this state, including the name of the county or  
 824 | municipality in which the career offender permanently or  
 825 | temporarily resides, and address, location or description, and

826 | dates of any current or known future temporary residence within  
 827 | this state or out of state, and, if known, the intended place of  
 828 | permanent or temporary residence, and address, location or  
 829 | description, and dates of any current or known future temporary  
 830 | residence within this state or out of state upon satisfaction of  
 831 | all sanctions;

832 | (c) The legal status of the career offender and the  
 833 | scheduled termination date of that legal status;

834 | (d) The location of, and local telephone number for, any  
 835 | Department of Corrections' office that is responsible for  
 836 | supervising the career offender; and

837 | (e) A digitized photograph of the career offender, which  
 838 | must have been taken within 60 days before the career offender  
 839 | is released from the custody of the department or a private  
 840 | correctional facility or within 60 days after the onset of the  
 841 | department's supervision of any career offender who is on  
 842 | probation, community control, conditional release, parole,  
 843 | provisional release, or control release. If the career offender  
 844 | is in the custody ~~or control of, or under the supervision of,~~ a  
 845 | private correctional facility, the facility shall take a  
 846 | digitized photograph of the career offender within the time  
 847 | period provided in this paragraph and shall provide the  
 848 | photograph to the department.

849 | (6) (a) The department shall notify the Department of Law  
 850 | Enforcement if the career offender escapes, absconds, or dies

851 while in the custody or control of, or under the supervision of,  
852 the department.

853 (b) If any information provided by the department changes  
854 during the time the career offender is under the department's  
855 custody, control, or supervision, including any change in the  
856 career offender's name by reason of marriage or other legal  
857 process, the department shall, in a timely manner, update the  
858 information and provide it to the Department of Law Enforcement  
859 in the manner prescribed in subsection (4).

860 (7) If the career offender is in the custody of a local  
861 jail, the custodian of the local jail shall notify the  
862 Department of Law Enforcement within 3 business days after  
863 intake of the offender for any reason and upon release, and  
864 shall forward the information to the Department of Law  
865 Enforcement. The custodian of the local jail shall also take a  
866 digitized photograph of the career offender while the offender  
867 remains in custody and shall provide the digitized photograph to  
868 the Department of Law Enforcement.

869 (8) If the career offender is under federal supervision,  
870 the federal agency responsible for supervising the career  
871 offender may forward to the Department of Law Enforcement any  
872 information regarding the career offender which is consistent  
873 with the information provided by the department under this  
874 section, and may indicate whether use of the information is  
875 restricted to law enforcement purposes only or may be used by

876 | the Department of Law Enforcement for purposes of public  
877 | notification.

878 |     ~~(9)-(7)~~ A career offender, as described in this section,  
879 | who is under the supervision of the department but who is not  
880 | incarcerated shall, in addition to the registration requirements  
881 | provided in subsection (3), register in the manner provided in  
882 | s. 775.261(4)(d) ~~s. 775.261(4)(e)~~, unless the career offender is  
883 | a sexual predator, in which case he or she shall register as  
884 | required under s. 775.21, or is a sexual offender, in which case  
885 | he or she shall register as required in s. 943.0435 or s.  
886 | 944.607. A career offender who fails to comply with all of the  
887 | requirements of s. 775.261 ~~s. 775.261(4)~~ is subject to the  
888 | penalties provided in s. 775.261(11) ~~s. 775.261(8)~~.

889 |     ~~(10)(a)-(8)~~ The failure of a career offender to submit to  
890 | the taking of a digitized photograph, or to otherwise comply  
891 | with the requirements of this section, is a felony of the third  
892 | degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s.  
893 | 775.084.

894 |     (b) A career offender who commits any act or omission in  
895 | violation of this section may be prosecuted for the act or  
896 | omission in the county in which the act or omission was  
897 | committed, in the county of the last registered address of the  
898 | career offender, in the county in which the conviction occurred  
899 | for the offense or offenses that meet the criteria for  
900 | designating a person as a career offender, in the county in

901 which he or she was designated a career offender, in the county  
 902 where the career offender was released from incarceration, or in  
 903 the county of the intended address of the career offender as  
 904 reported by the offender before his or her release from  
 905 incarceration.

906 (c) An arrest on charges of failure to register when the  
 907 offender has been provided and advised of his or her statutory  
 908 obligations to register under s. 775.261, the service of an  
 909 information or a complaint for a violation of this section, or  
 910 an arraignment on charges for a violation of this section  
 911 constitutes actual notice of the duty to register. A career  
 912 offender's failure to register immediately as required by this  
 913 section following such arrest, service, or arraignment  
 914 constitutes grounds for a subsequent charge of failure to  
 915 register. A career offender charged with the crime of failure to  
 916 register who asserts, or intends to assert, a lack of notice of  
 917 the duty to register as a defense to a charge of failure to  
 918 register shall register immediately as required by this section.  
 919 A career offender who is charged with a subsequent failure to  
 920 register may not assert the defense of a lack of notice of the  
 921 duty to register.

922 (d) Registration following such arrest, service, or  
 923 arraignment is not a defense and does not relieve the career  
 924 offender of criminal liability for the failure to register.

925 (11)-(9) The department, the Department of Highway Safety

926 and Motor Vehicles, the Department of Law Enforcement, personnel  
927 of those departments, and any individual or entity acting at the  
928 request or upon the direction of those departments are immune  
929 from civil liability for damages for good faith compliance with  
930 this section, and shall be presumed to have acted in good faith  
931 in compiling, recording, reporting, or providing information.  
932 The presumption of good faith is not overcome if technical or  
933 clerical errors are made by the department, the Department of  
934 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, the Department of Law  
935 Enforcement, personnel of those departments, or any individual  
936 or entity acting at the request or upon the direction of those  
937 departments in compiling, recording, reporting, or providing  
938 information, or, if the information is incomplete or incorrect  
939 because the information has not been provided by a person or  
940 agency required to provide the information, or because the  
941 information was not reported or was falsely reported.

942 (12) A person who has reason to believe that a career  
943 offender is not complying, or has not complied, with the  
944 requirements of this section and who, with the intent to assist  
945 the career offender in eluding a law enforcement agency that is  
946 seeking to find the career offender to question the career  
947 offender about, or to arrest the career offender for, his or her  
948 noncompliance with the requirements of this section:

949 (a) Withholds information from, or does not notify, the  
950 law enforcement agency about the career offender's noncompliance

951 with the requirements of this section, and, if known, the  
 952 whereabouts of the career offender;

953 (b) Harbors or attempts to harbor, or assists another  
 954 person in harboring or attempting to harbor, the career  
 955 offender;

956 (c) Conceals or attempts to conceal, or assists another  
 957 person in concealing or attempting to conceal, the career  
 958 offender; or

959 (d) Provides information to the law enforcement agency  
 960 regarding the career offender which the person knows to be false  
 961 information,

962

963 commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in  
 964 s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. This subsection does not  
 965 apply if the career offender is incarcerated in or is in the  
 966 custody of a state correctional facility, a private correctional  
 967 facility, a local jail, or a federal correctional facility.

968 Section 4. Section 944.609, Florida Statutes, is amended  
 969 to read:

970 944.609 Career offenders; notification upon release.—

971 (1) As used in this section, the term:

972 (a) "Career offender" means a person who is in the custody  
 973 or control of, or under the supervision of, the department or is  
 974 in the custody or control of, or under the supervision of a  
 975 private correctional facility, who is designated as a habitual

976 violent felony offender, a violent career criminal, or a three-  
977 time violent felony offender under s. 775.084 or as a prison  
978 releasee reoffender under s. 775.082(9).

979 (b) "Permanent residence" and "temporary residence" have  
980 the same meaning as provided in s. 775.261.

981 (c) "Vehicles owned" has the same meaning as provided in  
982 s. 775.261.

983 (2) The Legislature finds that certain career offenders,  
984 by virtue of their histories of offenses, present a threat to  
985 the public and to communities. Career offenders have a reduced  
986 expectation of privacy because of the public's interest in  
987 public safety and in the effective operation of government. The  
988 Legislature finds that requiring these career offenders to  
989 register for the purpose of tracking the career offenders and  
990 providing for notifying the public and a community of the  
991 presence of a career offender are important aids to law  
992 enforcement agencies, the public, and communities if the career  
993 offender engages again in criminal conduct. Registration is  
994 intended to aid law enforcement agencies in timely apprehending  
995 a career offender. Registration is not a punishment, but merely  
996 a status. Notification to the public and communities of the  
997 presence of a career offender aids the public and communities in  
998 avoiding being victimized by the career offender. The  
999 Legislature intends to require the registration of career  
1000 offenders and to authorize law enforcement agencies to notify

1001 the public and communities of the presence of a career offender.  
 1002 (3)(a) The department must provide information regarding  
 1003 any career offender who is being released after serving a period  
 1004 of incarceration for any offense, as follows:  
 1005 1. The department must provide the career offender's name,  
 1006 any change in the career offender's name by reason of marriage  
 1007 or other legal process, and any alias, if known; the  
 1008 correctional facility from which the career offender is  
 1009 released; the career offender's social security number, race,  
 1010 sex ~~gender~~, date of birth, height, weight, and hair and eye  
 1011 color; address of any planned permanent residence or temporary  
 1012 residence, within this state or out of state, including a rural  
 1013 route address and a post office box; address, location or  
 1014 description, and dates of any current or known future temporary  
 1015 residence within this state or out of state; date and county of  
 1016 sentence and each crime for which the career offender was  
 1017 sentenced; a copy of the career offender's fingerprints, palm  
 1018 prints, and a digitized photograph taken within 60 days before  
 1019 release; the date of release of the career offender; employment  
 1020 information, if known, required to be provided pursuant to s.  
 1021 775.261; and all home telephone numbers and cellular telephone  
 1022 numbers required to be provided pursuant to s. 775.261 ~~and the~~  
 1023 ~~career offender's intended residence address, if known.~~ The  
 1024 department shall notify the Department of Law Enforcement if the  
 1025 career offender escapes, absconds, or dies. If the career

1026 offender is in the custody of a private correctional facility,  
1027 the facility shall take the digitized photograph of the career  
1028 offender within 60 days before the career offender's release and  
1029 provide this photograph to the Department of Corrections and  
1030 also place it in the career offender's file. If the career  
1031 offender is in the custody of a local jail, the custodian of the  
1032 local jail shall notify the Department of Law Enforcement within  
1033 3 business days after intake of the offender for any reason and  
1034 upon ~~of the career offender's~~ release, and provide to the  
1035 Department of Law Enforcement the information specified in this  
1036 paragraph and any information specified in subparagraph 2. which  
1037 the Department of Law Enforcement requests.

1038 2. The department may provide any other information deemed  
1039 necessary, including criminal and corrections records and  
1040 nonprivileged personnel and treatment records, when available.

1041 (b) The department must provide the information described  
1042 in subparagraph (a)1. to:

1043 1. The sheriff of the county from where the career  
1044 offender was sentenced;

1045 2. The sheriff of the county and, if applicable, the  
1046 police chief of the municipality, where the career offender  
1047 plans to reside;

1048 3. The Department of Law Enforcement;

1049 4. When requested, the victim of the offense, the victim's  
1050 parent or legal guardian if the victim is a minor, the lawful

1051 representative of the victim or of the victim's parent or  
 1052 guardian if the victim is a minor, or the next of kin if the  
 1053 victim is a homicide victim; and

1054         5. Any person who requests such information,  
 1055  
 1056 either within 6 months prior to the anticipated release of a  
 1057 career offender, l or as soon as possible if a career offender is  
 1058 released earlier than anticipated. All such information provided  
 1059 to the Department of Law Enforcement must be available  
 1060 electronically as soon as the information is in the agency's  
 1061 database and must be in a format that is compatible with the  
 1062 requirements of the Florida Crime Information Center.

1063         (c) Upon request, the department must provide the  
 1064 information described in subparagraph (a)2. to:

1065             1. The sheriff of the county from where the career  
 1066 offender was sentenced; and

1067             2. The sheriff of the county and, if applicable, the  
 1068 police chief of the municipality, where the career offender  
 1069 plans to reside,

1070  
 1071 either within 6 months prior to the anticipated release of a  
 1072 career offender, l or as soon as possible if a career offender is  
 1073 released earlier than anticipated.

1074         (d) Upon receiving information regarding a career offender  
 1075 from the department, the Department of Law Enforcement, the

1076 sheriff, or the chief of police shall provide the information  
1077 described in subparagraph (a)1. to any individual who requests  
1078 such information and may release the information to the public  
1079 in any manner deemed appropriate, unless the information is  
1080 confidential or exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of  
1081 the State Constitution.

1082 (4) This section authorizes the department or any law  
1083 enforcement agency to ~~may~~ notify the community and the public of  
1084 a career offender's presence in the community. However, with  
1085 respect to a career offender who has been found to be a sexual  
1086 predator under s. 775.21, the Department of Law Enforcement or  
1087 any other law enforcement agency must inform the community and  
1088 the public of the sexual predator's ~~career offender's~~ presence  
1089 in the community, as provided in s. 775.21.

1090 (5) An elected or appointed official, public employee,  
1091 school administrator or employee, or agency, or any individual  
1092 or entity acting at the request or upon the direction of any law  
1093 enforcement agency, is immune from civil liability for damages  
1094 resulting from the good faith compliance with the requirements  
1095 of this section or the release of information under this  
1096 section.

1097 Section 5. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment  
1098 made by this act to section 775.261, Florida Statutes, in a  
1099 reference thereto, subsection (4) of section 320.02, Florida  
1100 Statutes, is reenacted to read:

1101           320.02 Registration required; application for  
 1102 registration; forms.—

1103           (4) Except as provided in ss. 775.21, 775.261, 943.0435,  
 1104 944.607, and 985.4815, the owner of any motor vehicle registered  
 1105 in the state shall notify the department in writing of any  
 1106 change of address within 30 days of such change. The  
 1107 notification shall include the registration license plate  
 1108 number, the vehicle identification number (VIN) or title  
 1109 certificate number, year of vehicle make, and the owner's full  
 1110 name.

1111           Section 6. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment  
 1112 made by this act to section 775.261, Florida Statutes, in a  
 1113 reference thereto, subsection (1) of section 322.19, Florida  
 1114 Statutes, is reenacted to read:

1115           322.19 Change of address or name.—

1116           (1) Except as provided in ss. 775.21, 775.261, 943.0435,  
 1117 944.607, and 985.4815, whenever any person, after applying for  
 1118 or receiving a driver license or identification card, changes  
 1119 his or her legal name, that person must within 30 days  
 1120 thereafter obtain a replacement license or card that reflects  
 1121 the change.

1122           Section 7. For the purpose of incorporating the amendments  
 1123 made by this act to sections 775.261 and 944.609, Florida  
 1124 Statutes, in references thereto, subsection (4) of section  
 1125 775.13, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

1126           775.13 Registration of convicted felons, exemptions;  
 1127 penalties.—

1128           (4) This section does not apply to an offender:

1129           (a) Who has had his or her civil rights restored;

1130           (b) Who has received a full pardon for the offense for  
 1131 which convicted;

1132           (c) Who has been lawfully released from incarceration or  
 1133 other sentence or supervision for a felony conviction for more  
 1134 than 5 years prior to such time for registration, unless the  
 1135 offender is a fugitive from justice on a felony charge or has  
 1136 been convicted of any offense since release from such  
 1137 incarceration or other sentence or supervision;

1138           (d) Who is a parolee or probationer under the supervision  
 1139 of the United States Parole Commission if the commission knows  
 1140 of and consents to the presence of the offender in Florida or is  
 1141 a probationer under the supervision of any federal probation  
 1142 officer in the state or who has been lawfully discharged from  
 1143 such parole or probation;

1144           (e) Who is a sexual predator and has registered as  
 1145 required under s. 775.21;

1146           (f) Who is a sexual offender and has registered as  
 1147 required in s. 943.0435 or s. 944.607; or

1148           (g) Who is a career offender who has registered as  
 1149 required in s. 775.261 or s. 944.609.

1150           Section 8. This act shall take effect October 1, 2024.