CS/HB 1653

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to duties and prohibited acts
3	associated with death; amending s. 406.12, F.S.;
4	authorizing a report regarding specified deaths and
5	circumstances to be made to a law enforcement agency
6	in addition to the medical examiner; increasing the
7	criminal penalty for failing or refusing to report a
8	death or for refusing to make available certain
9	information with the intent to conceal the death or
10	alter the evidence and circumstances surrounding the
11	death; increasing the criminal penalty for willfully
12	touching, removing, or disturbing a body without an
13	order from the office of the district medical examiner
14	with the intent to conceal the death or alter the
15	evidence and circumstances surrounding the death;
16	providing an effective date.
17	
18	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
19	
20	Section 1. Section 406.12, Florida Statutes, is amended to
21	read:
22	406.12 Duty to report; prohibited acts
23	(1) It is the duty of any person in the district where a
24	death occurs, including all municipalities and unincorporated
25	and federal areas, who becomes aware of the death of any person
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26	occurring under the circumstances described in s. 406.11 to
27	report such death and circumstances forthwith to the district
28	medical examiner or to a law enforcement agency having
29	jurisdiction over the location.
30	(2) Any person who knowingly fails or refuses to report
31	such death and circumstances as required under subsection (1)
32	$\mathrm{\underline{or}}_{m{ au}}$ who refuses to make available prior medical or other
33	information pertinent to the death investigation commits a
34	misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s.
35	775.082 or s. 775.083.
36	(3) Any person, or who, with the intent to conceal such
37	death or to alter the evidence or circumstances surrounding such
38	death:
39	(a) Violates subsection (2); or
40	(b) Without an order from the office of the district
41	medical examiner, willfully touches, removes, or disturbs the
42	body, clothing, or any article upon or near the body, with the
43	intent to alter the evidence or circumstances surrounding the
44	death, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the first
45	
46	commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in
47	s. 775.082 <u>,</u> or s. 775.083 <u>, or s. 775.084</u> .
48	Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.
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