1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to Hope Cards for persons issued 3 orders of protection; creating s. 741.311, F.S.; 4 requiring the Office of the State Courts 5 Administrator, in consultation with others, to develop 6 the Hope Card Program; requiring the clerks of the 7 circuit courts to implement the program; authorizing 8 certain persons to apply for a Hope Card after a 9 specified date; requiring applications for a Hope Card to be available online and in the clerks' offices; 10 11 requiring clerks' offices to mail, by certified mail, 12 a Hope Card to petitioners within a specified time 13 frame; prohibiting the assessment of a fee; providing requirements for the Hope Card; providing criminal 14 15 penalties for the fraudulent use of a Hope Card; 16 amending s. 741.315, F.S.; authorizing a person 17 protected by an injunction for protection issued by a 18 court of a foreign state to apply for and receive a 19 Hope Card even if the person does not register the order for protection in this state; amending ss. 20 21 741.30, 784.046, 784.0485, and 825.1035, F.S.; 22 conforming provisions to changes made by the act; 23 providing an effective date. 24

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

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Section 1. Section 741.311, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

741.311 Hope Card Program for persons issued orders of protection.—

(1) The Office of the State Courts Administrator, in consultation with the Office of the Attorney General and the clerks of the circuit courts through their association, shall develop the Hope Card Program, which provides for the issuance of a Hope Card to any person who has been issued an order of protection by a county or circuit court in this state, or by a court of a foreign state pursuant to s. 741.315. The clerks of the circuit courts shall implement the Hope Card Program.

(2) Beginning July 1, 2024, a person who has been issued a final judgment on injunction for protection under s. 741.30, s. 784.046, s. 784.0485, or s. 825.1035 may apply for a Hope Card with the clerk of the court of the circuit where the petition for an injunction for protection was initially filed. A person

protected by a foreign protection order under s. 741.315 may submit an application for a Hope Card to any clerk of court in

the state. A person may apply for a Hope Card at the time the

final judgment on injunction for protection is issued or at any

(3) Hope Card applications must be available on the website of each clerk of the court and paper applications must

other time before the expiration of the order of protection.

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also be available at the clerk's office. After the court has issued an injunction for protection and within 24 hours after receipt of an application, the clerk of the court shall mail the Hope Card to the petitioner by certified mail.

- (4) The clerk of the court may not assess a fee for the issuance of a Hope Card.
- (5) A Hope Card is valid for 2 years after the date of issuance or the expiration date of the injunction for protection, whichever is earlier. A Hope Card may be renewed after the 2-year period if the injunction for protection is still in effect.
- (6) A Hope Card issued under the program must be a durable, laminated, wallet-sized card containing all of the following information:
- (a) The respondent's name, date of birth, height, weight, sex, race, eye color, hair color, and any other distinguishing features or characteristics of the respondent.
- (b) The petitioner's name and date of birth and the names and dates of birth of any minor children protected under the order.
- (c) The name and date of birth, if applicable, of any other person or animal protected under the order.
- (d) Pertinent information about the order of protection, including, but not limited to, the issuing court; the case number; the date the order of protection was issued; the

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expiration date, if any, of the order of protection; the
locations from which the respondent is restrained; and any other
relevant details of the order.

- (e) A statement providing that the Hope Card is valid for 2 years after the date of issuance or until the expiration date of the injunction for protection, whichever is earlier.
- is not protected by an injunction that is currently in full force and effect, knowingly and willfully presents to another person a Hope Card or other document purporting to be a Hope Card for the purpose of evidencing the existence of an injunction for protection, commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- Section 2. Paragraph (d) is added to subsection (8) of section 741.30, Florida Statutes, 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.—

(8)

(d) If the petitioner applies for a Hope Card under s.

741.311, after the court has issued a final order of protection,
the clerk of the court must mail the Hope Card to the petitioner
by certified mail within 24 hours after receipt of the
petitioner's application for the card.

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101	Section 3. Subsections $(4)$ , $(5)$ , and $(6)$ of section
102	741.315, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (5),
103	(6), and (7), respectively, and a new subsection (4) is added to
104	that section, to read:
105	741.315 Recognition of foreign protection orders
106	(4) A person protected by an injunction for protection
107	issued by a court of a foreign state may apply for a Hope Card
108	under s. 741.311, as if the order of protection was issued by a
109	Florida court. Failure to register a foreign order does not
110	preclude a protected person from applying and receiving a Hope
111	Card.
112	Section 4. Paragraph (d) is added to subsection (8) of
113	section 784.046, Florida Statutes, to read:
114	784.046 Action by victim of repeat violence, sexual
115	violence, or dating violence for protective injunction; dating
116	violence investigations, notice to victims, and reporting;
117	pretrial release violations; public records exemption.—
118	(8)
119	(d) If the petitioner applies for a Hope Card under s.
120	741.311, after the court has issued a final order of protection,
121	the clerk of the court must mail the Hope Card to the petitioner
122	by certified mail within 24 hours after receipt of the
123	petitioner's application for the card.
124	Section 5. Paragraph (c) is added to subsection (8) of
125	section 784.0485, Florida Statutes, to read:

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126	784.0485 Stalking; injunction; powers and duties of court
127	and clerk; petition; notice and hearing; temporary injunction;
128	issuance of injunction; statewide verification system;
129	enforcement
130	(8)
131	(c) If the petitioner applies for a Hope Card under s.
132	741.311, after the court has issued a final order of protection,
133	the clerk of the court must mail the Hope Card to the petitioner
134	by certified mail within 24 hours after receipt of the
135	petitioner's application for the card.
136	Section 6. Paragraph (c) is added to subsection (10) of
137	section 825.1035, Florida Statutes, to read:
138	825.1035 Injunction for protection against exploitation of
139	a vulnerable adult.—
L40	(10) TRANSMITTAL TO SHERIFF; SERVICE; HOPE CARD.
141	(c) If the petitioner applies for a Hope Card under s.
142	741.311, after the court has issued a final order of protection,
143	the clerk of the court must mail the Hope Card to the petitioner
L 4 4	by certified mail within 24 hours after receipt of the
L45	petitioner's application for the card.
146	Section 7 This act shall take effect July 1 2024

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