1   A bill to be entitled
2   An act relating to taking of bears; providing a short
3   title; creating s. 379.40411, F.S.; providing for the
4   taking of bears without certain penalties under
5   specified conditions; requiring the disposal of such
6   bears by the Fish and Wildlife Conservation
7   Commission; prohibiting certain possession, sale, and
8   disposal of such bears or their parts; requiring the
9   commission to adopt rules; providing an effective
10   date.
11
12   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
13
14   Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Self Defense
15   Act."
16   Section 2. Section 379.40411, Florida Statutes, is created
17   to read:
18   379.40411 Taking of bears; use of lethal force in defense
19   of person or certain property.—
20   (1) A person is not subject to any administrative, civil,
21   or criminal penalty for taking a bear with lethal force if:
22   (a) The person reasonably believed that his or her action
23   was necessary to avoid an imminent threat of death or serious
24   bodily injury to himself or herself or to another, an imminent
25   threat of death or serious bodily injury to a pet, or

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26 substantial damage to a dwelling as defined in s. 776.013(5);

27   (b) The person did not lure the bear with food or

28 attractants for an illegal purpose, including, but not limited

29 to, training dogs to hunt bears;

30   (c) The person did not intentionally or recklessly place

31 himself or herself or a pet in a situation in which he or she

32 would be likely to need to use lethal force as described in

33 paragraph (a); and

34   (d) The person notified the commission within 24 hours

35 after he or she used lethal force to take the bear.

36   (2) A bear taken under this section must be disposed of by

37 the commission. A person who takes a bear under this section may

38 not possess, sell, or dispose of the bear or its parts.

39   (3) The commission shall adopt rules to implement this

40 section.

41   Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.

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