

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Bill No. HB 709 (2026)

Amendment No. 1

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION

ADOPTED	<u> </u> (Y/N)
ADOPTED AS AMENDED	<u> </u> (Y/N)
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION	<u> </u> (Y/N)
FAILED TO ADOPT	<u> </u> (Y/N)
WITHDRAWN	<u> </u> (Y/N)
OTHER	<u> </u>

1 Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Criminal Justice
2 Subcommittee

3 Representative Kincart Jonsson offered the following:

4

5 **Amendment**

6 Remove lines 25-74 and insert:

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

8 (a) "Affiliate" means a local law enforcement agency in
9 this state which has a current memorandum of understanding with
10 an established Internet crimes against children task force or
11 which has been designated by the department as being in good
12 standing.

13 (b) "Good standing" means a local law enforcement agency
14 in this state that receives CyberTips from one of the task
15 forces and follows Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force
16 Program standards in its investigation of Internet crimes

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17 against children.

18 (c) "Internet crimes against children task force" means an
19 Internet crimes against children task force located in this
20 state which is recognized by the United States Department of
21 Justice.

22 (2) There is created within the department the Internet
23 Crimes Against Children Online Sting Operations Grant Program to
24 award grants to local law enforcement affiliates agencies to
25 support their work to combat online child exploitation and
26 creation of sting operations to target individuals online
27 preying upon children or attempting to do so.

28 (3) ~~(2)~~ The department shall annually award to local law
29 enforcement affiliates agencies any funds specifically
30 appropriated for the grant program to cover expenses related to
31 their work to combat Internet crimes against children. The funds
32 may be awarded to cover overtime pay, travel, investigative or
33 digital forensics training, hardware, or computers, electronics,
34 software, and other related necessary supplies. Grants must be
35 provided to local law enforcement agencies if funds are
36 appropriated for that purpose by law. The total amount of grants
37 awarded may not exceed funding appropriated for the grant
38 program.

39 (4) ~~(3)~~ The department may establish criteria and set
40 specific time periods for the acceptance of applications and for
41 the selection process for awarding grant funds.

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42 **Section 2. Section 943.0421, Florida Statutes, is created**
43 **to read:**

44 943.0421 Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force
45 Funding Program.—
46 (1) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the "Florida
47 Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Funding Program
48 Act."

49 (2) LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS.—The Legislature finds that the
50 Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Program administered
51 by the United States Department of Justice helps state and local
52 law enforcement agencies develop an effective response to
53 technology-facilitated child sexual exploitation and Internet
54 crimes against children. This help encompasses forensic and
55 investigative components, training and technical assistance,
56 victim services, and community education. The program is a
57 national network of 61 coordinated task forces representing over
58 5,400 federal, state, and local law enforcement and
59 prosecutorial agencies. The