A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the enforcement of immigration laws; creating s. 448.081, F.S.; providing a short title; creating s. 448.082, F.S.; providing legislative intent; creating s. 448.083, F.S.; prohibiting the state or its political subdivisions from limiting or restricting the enforcement of federal immigration laws; providing that the state or its political subdivisions may not be prohibited from maintaining or exchanging information regarding immigration status for certain purposes; providing for enforcement and penalties; authorizing a law enforcement officer to determine immigration status under certain circumstances; providing that an alien who is in Florida and is unlawfully present in the United States commits a misdemeanor of the second degree; requiring implementation consistent with federal law; prohibiting law enforcement officers from using race, color or national origin in the enforcement of the act; creating s. 448.084, F.S.; defining terms; requiring every employer to use the federal E-Verify system to verify the employment eligibility of each employee on or after a specified date; prohibiting an employer from knowingly employing an unauthorized alien; requiring that each verification be made in accordance with certain provisions of federal law; authorizing certain persons to file a complaint with the licensing agency alleging that an employer has employed an unauthorized alien; providing for enforcement and penalties; creating a rebuttable presumption for certain

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employers that the employer did not knowingly employ an unauthorized alien; authorizing an employer or employee to seek an injunction under certain circumstances; authorizing certain persons to file a complaint with the state attorney or attorney general alleging that an employer has employed an unauthorized alien; authorizing enforcement by the state attorney and attorney general; providing civil penalties; prohibiting the filing of a complaint based on race, color, or national origin; providing that a person who knowingly files a false and frivolous complaint commits a misdemeanor of the second degree; providing for construction of the act; creating s. 287.135, F.S.; defining terms; requiring public employers to use the federal E-Verify system to verify the employment eligibility of each employee; prohibiting a public employer from knowingly employing an unauthorized alien; creating a rebuttable presumption for certain public employers that the public employer did not knowingly employ an unauthorized alien; prohibiting public employers from entering into a contract for contractual services with contractors that are not registered and participating in the federal E-Verify system; prohibiting certain contractors and subcontractors from knowingly employing an unauthorized alien; providing procedures and requirements; creating a rebuttable presumption that certain contractors and subcontractors did not knowingly employ an unauthorized alien; creating s. 337.163, F.S.; providing definitions; prohibiting the Department of

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Transportation from entering into certain contracts with contractors that are not registered and participating in the federal E-Verify system; prohibiting certain contractors and subcontractors from knowingly employing an unauthorized alien; providing procedures and requirements; creating a rebuttable presumption that certain contractors and subcontractors did not knowingly employ an unauthorized alien; amending s. 901.15, F.S.; providing an additional instance whereby an arrest may be made by a law enforcement officer without a warrant; amending s. 903.046, F.S.; providing additional criteria for the court to consider as to whether to release a defendant on bail or other conditions; creating s. 921.245, F.S.; providing for enhanced criminal penalties when an offense is committed by an alien unlawfully present in the United States; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Section 448.081, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

<u>448.081</u> Short title.—Section 448.081 through s. 448.09 may be cited as the "Florida Immigration Enforcement Act."

Section 2. Section 448.082, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

448.082 Intent.-- The Legislature finds that there is a compelling interest in the cooperative enforcement of federal immigration laws throughout all of Florida. The Legislature

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declares that the intent of this act is to discourage and deter
the unlawful entry and presence of aliens in Florida. The
provisions of this act are intended to work together to
accomplish this purpose.

Section 3. Section 448.083, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

448.083 Cooperation and assistance in enforcement of immigration laws.--

- (1) (a) No official or agency of this state or a county, municipality or other political subdivision of this state may limit or restrict the enforcement of federal immigration laws to less than the full extent permitted by federal law.
- (b) Except as provided in federal law, officials or agencies of this state and counties, municipalities and other political subdivisions of this state may not be prohibited or in any way be restricted from sending, receiving or maintaining information relating to the immigration status, lawful or unlawful, of any individual or exchanging that information with any other federal, state or local governmental entity for the following official purposes:
- 1. Determining eligibility for any public benefit, service or license provided by the federal government, the state, or any county, municipality or other political subdivision of this state.
- 2. Verifying any claim of residence or domicile if determination of residence or domicile is required under federal law, the laws of this state or a judicial order issued pursuant to a civil or criminal proceeding in this state.

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- 3. If the person is an alien, determining whether the person is in compliance with the federal registration laws prescribed by Title II, Chapter 7 of the Federal Immigration and Nationality Act.
- 4. Pursuant to 8 United States Code s. 1373 and 8 United States Code s. 1644.
- (c)1. The Attorney General may enforce the protections of this subsection if there is reasonable cause to believe that this subsection has been violated and may commence a civil or administrative action and seek such other relief as may be appropriate. If there is a judicial finding that an entity has violated this subsection, the court shall order that the entity pay a civil penalty of not less than five hundred dollars and not more than five thousand dollars for each day that the policy has remained in effect after the filing of an action pursuant to this subsection.
- 2. The court shall collect the civil penalty prescribed in subparagraph 1. and deposit the moneys in the Violent Crime Investigative Emergency and Drug Control Strategy Implementation Account within the Department of Law Enforcement Operating Trust Fund pursuant to s. 943.042.
- (2) (a) 1. For any person who is the subject of a criminal investigation by a law enforcement official or a law enforcement agency of this state or of a county, municipality or other political subdivision of this state where reasonable suspicion exists that the person is an alien and is unlawfully present in the United States, a reasonable attempt may be made to determine the immigration status of the person.

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- 2. For any person who is arrested by a law enforcement official or a law enforcement agency of this state or of a county, municipality or other political subdivision of this state, where reasonable suspicion exists that the person is an alien and is unlawfully present in the United States, a reasonable attempt shall be made to determine the immigration status of the person before release.
- (b) Immigration status shall be verified under this subsection with the federal government pursuant to 8 United States Code s. 1373(c). If the person's status is reported by the federal government as unlawfully present in the United States, the law enforcement official or law enforcement agency must, as soon as practicable, report that person to the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement or the United States Customs and Border Protection.
- in the United States commits a misdemeanor of the second degree punishable as provided in s. 775.082 and by a fine not to exceed \$100. For a first violation of this paragraph the court shall not sentence the person to more than twenty days in jail. For a second or subsequent violation the court shall not sentence the person to more than thirty days in jail.
- (4) A state or local correctional facility shall immediately notify the United States Immigration and Customs

  Enforcement or the United States Customs and Border Protection prior to the discharge from imprisonment of an alien unlawfully present in the United States.

|       | (5)   | In  | the i  | mpler | nent | tation | of   | this  | section | , an | alien's |
|-------|-------|-----|--------|-------|------|--------|------|-------|---------|------|---------|
| immig | ratio | n s | status | may   | be   | determ | nine | ed by | •       |      |         |

- (a) A law enforcement officer who is authorized by the federal government to verify or ascertain an alien's immigration status.
- (b) The United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement or the United States Customs and Border Protection pursuant to 8 United States Code s. 1373(c).
- consistent with federal laws regulating immigration, protecting the civil rights of all persons and respecting the privileges and immunities of United States citizens. A law enforcement official or agency of this state or a county, municipality or other political subdivision of this state may not consider race, color or national origin in the enforcement of this section except to the extent permitted by the United States Constitution or the Florida Constitution.

Section 4. Effective July 1, 2012, section 448.084, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

448.084 Use of E-Verify system required for private employers; licensing enforcement.—

- (1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:
- (a) "Agency" means an agency, department, board, or commission of this state or a county, municipality, or political subdivision issuing a license for the purpose of operating a business in this state.
- (b) "E-Verify system" means the Employment Authorization Program, formerly the "Basic Pilot Program," under Pub. L. No.

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| 196 | 104-208, Div. C, Title IV, Subtitle A, 110 Stat. 3009-655 (Sept. |
|-----|--|
| 197 | 30, 1996), as amended, or any successor program designated by    |
| 198 | the federal government for verification that an employee is an   |
| 199 | employment-authorized alien.                                     |

- (c) "Employee" means any person who performs employment services in this state for an employer pursuant to an employment relationship between the person and employer. An employee does not include an independent contractor.
- (d) "Employer" means any person or entity transacting business in this state that employs individuals. The term does not include:
  - 1. A government employer;
- 2. The occupant or owner of a private residence who hires casual domestic labor to perform work customarily performed by a homeowner entirely within a private residence; or
- 3. That portion of labor and services provided to a person or entity by a licensed independent contractor.
- (e) "License" means a license, permit, certificate, approval, registration, charter, or similar form of authorization required by law and issued by an agency for the purpose of operating a business. A license includes, but is not limited to:
  - 1. Articles of incorporation.
- 2. A certificate of partnership, a partnership
  220 registration, or articles of organization.
- 221 <u>3. A grant of authority issued pursuant to state or</u> 222 federal law.
  - 4. A transaction privilege tax license.

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| (f) "Unauthorized alien" means an alien who        | is not       |
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| authorized under federal law to be employed in the | e United     |
| States, as described in 8 United States Code s. 1  | 324a(h)(3).  |
| This term shall be interpreted consistently with   | that section |
| and any applicable federal rules or regulations.   |              |

- (g) "Knowingly employ an unauthorized alien" has the same meaning as prescribed in 8 United States Code s. 1324a. The term shall be interpreted consistently with 8 United States Code s. 1324a and any federal rule or regulation applicable to the unlawful employment of aliens.
- (2) VERIFICATION OF EMPLOYMENT ELIGIBILITY; SUSPENSION OF LICENSE.—
- (a) Every employer shall use the E-Verify system to verify the employment eligibility of all newly hired employees within the period stipulated by federal law or regulations after the hiring of the employee. However, an employer is not required to verify the employment eligibility of a continuing employee hired before the date of the applicability of the verification requirements of this section on the employer.
- (b) A business that has not complied with paragraph (a) shall lose its license to do business in this state until the business has registered with the E-Verify system and provided the agency with a sworn affidavit stating that the business has registered with the E-Verify system.
  - (c) Paragraphs (a) and (b) apply as follows:
- 1. On or after July 1, 2012, with respect to employers employing 100 or more employees.
  - 2. On or after July 1, 2013, with respect to all

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| 252 | employers. |
|-----|------------|
|     | 0          |

- (3) EMPLOYMENT OF UNAUTHORIZED ALIENS; SUSPENSION OF LICENSE.—
- (a) An employer may not knowingly employ an unauthorized alien.
- (b) A person who has actual or constructive knowledge that an employer employs, or has within the last 90 days employed, an unauthorized alien may file a complaint with the agency.
- (c) Upon the receipt of a valid complaint of a violation of paragraph (a), the agency shall notify the employer of the complaint and direct the employer to notify any affected employees named in the complaint.
- (d) The agency shall request that the federal government verify, pursuant to 8 United States Code s. 1373(c), the employment status of any employee named in the complaint.
- (e) If the agency has reasonable cause to believe that the employer has employed an unauthorized alien, the agency shall notify the local law enforcement agency of the presence of the unauthorized alien in the jurisdiction.
- (f)1. Upon finding that an employer has violated paragraph (a), the agency shall order the employer to:
- a. Terminate the employment of all unauthorized aliens; and
- b. File a sworn affidavit with the agency within 10 days after the receipt of the order. The affidavit must state that the employer has corrected the violation by:
  - (I) Terminating the unauthorized alien's employment;
  - (II) Requesting that a second or additional verification

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of the alien's employment status be authorized by using the E-Verify system; or

- (III) Attempting to terminate the unauthorized alien's employment, and such termination has been challenged in a court of competent jurisdiction.
- 2. If the employer fails to file the required affidavit, the agency shall suspend all applicable licenses held by the employer. All such licenses suspended shall remain suspended until the sworn affidavit is filed. Notwithstanding any other law, the suspended licenses shall be deemed to have been reinstated upon the filing of the affidavit. During the pendency of an action, the 10-day period shall be tolled. The 10-day period shall also be tolled for any period during which the federal government allows an alien to challenge the federal government's determination of his or her immigration status or employment authorization.
- 3. Licenses subject to suspension under this subsection include all licenses that are held by the employer and that are necessary to operate the employer's business at the location at which the unauthorized alien performed work. If a license is not necessary to operate the employer's business at the specific location at which the unauthorized alien performed work, but a license is necessary to operate the employer's business in general, the licenses subject to suspension under subparagraph 2. include all licenses held by the employer at the employer's primary place of business.
- (g) Upon finding a second or subsequent violation of paragraph (a) during a 2-year period, the agency shall suspend,

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for at least 30 days, all licenses that are held by the employer and that are necessary to operate the employer's business at the location at which the unauthorized alien performed work. If a license is not necessary to operate the employer's business at the specific location at which the unauthorized alien performed work, but a license is necessary to operate the employer's business in general, the agency shall suspend all licenses held by the employer at the employer's primary place of business for 30 days or upon compliance with paragraph (f), whichever occurs later.

- (h) For the purposes of this section, compliance with subsection (2) creates a rebuttable presumption that an employer did not knowingly employ an unauthorized alien in violation of paragraph (a). An employer that establishes that it has complied in good faith with the requirements of 8 United States Code s. 1324a(b) establishes an affirmative defense that the employer did not knowingly employ an unauthorized alien. An employer is considered to have complied with the requirements of 8 United States Code s. 1324a(b), notwithstanding an isolated, sporadic or accidental technical or procedural failure to meet the requirements, if there is a good faith attempt to comply with the requirements.
- (4) INJUNCTION.—At any time after a complaint is received, an employer subject to a complaint under this section, or any employee of the employer who is alleged to be an unauthorized alien, may challenge and seek to enjoin the enforcement of this section before a court of competent jurisdiction.

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- (5) (a) A person who has actual or constructive knowledge that an employer employs, or has within the last 90 days employed, an unauthorized alien may file a complaint with the local state attorney or the state attorney general. The state attorney and attorney general may enforce this section if there is reasonable cause to believe that this section has been violated and may commence a civil or administrative action and seek such other relief as may be appropriate. If there is a judicial finding that an employer has violated this section, the court shall order that the employer pay a civil penalty of not less than five hundred dollars and not more than five thousand dollars.
- (b) The court shall collect the civil penalty prescribed in paragraph (a) and deposit the moneys in the Violent Crime Investigative Emergency and Drug Control Strategy Implementation Account within the Department of Law Enforcement Operating Trust Fund pursuant to s. 943.042.
- (6) A complaint made under this section may not be based on race, color, or national origin, except to the extent permitted by the United States Constitution or the Florida Constitution. A person who knowingly files a false and frivolous complaint under this section commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- (7) CONSTRUCTION.—This section shall be enforced without regard to race, color, or national origin and shall be construed in a manner so as to be fully consistent with any applicable provisions of federal law.

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Section 5. Effective January 1, 2012, section 287.135, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

- <u>287.135</u> Verification of immigration status; public employers.—
  - (1) As used in the section, the term:
- (a) "Contractor" means a person who has entered or is attempting to enter into a public contract for services with a public employer.
- (b) "E-Verify system" means the Employment Authorization Program, formerly the "Basic Pilot Program," under Pub. L. No. 104-208, Div. C, Title IV, Subtitle A, 110 Stat. 3009-655 (Sept. 30, 1996), as amended, or any successor program designated by the federal government for verification that an employee is an employment-authorized alien.
- (c) "Knowingly employ an unauthorized alien" has the same meaning as prescribed in 8 United States Code s. 1324a. The term shall be interpreted consistently with 8 United States Code s. 1324a and any federal rule or regulation applicable to the unlawful employment of aliens.
- (d) "Public employer" means any department, agency, county, municipality, or political subdivision of the state.
- (e) "Subcontractor" means any supplier, distributor, vendor, or firm furnishing supplies or services to or for a contractor or another subcontractor.
- (f) "Unauthorized alien" means an alien who is not authorized under federal law to be employed in the United States, as described in 8 United States Code s. 1324a(h)(3). This term shall be interpreted consistently with that section

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and any applicable federal rules or regulations.

- verify the employment eligibility of all newly hired employees within the period stipulated by federal law or regulations after the hiring of the employee. However, a public employer is not required to verify the employment eligibility of a continuing employee hired before the date of the applicability of the verification requirements of this section on the employer.
- (3) (a) A public employer may not knowingly employ an unauthorized alien.
- (b) For the purposes of this subsection, compliance with subsection (2) creates a rebuttable presumption that a public employer did not knowingly employ an unauthorized alien. A public employer that establishes that it has complied in good faith with the requirements of 8 United States Code s. 1324a(b) establishes an affirmative defense that the public employer did not knowingly employ an unauthorized alien. A public employer is considered to have complied with the requirements of 8 United States Code s. 1324a(b), notwithstanding an isolated, sporadic or accidental technical or procedural failure to meet the requirements, if there is a good faith attempt to comply with the requirements.
- (4) (a) A contractor or subcontractor may not knowingly employ an unauthorized alien.
- (b) 1. A public employer may not enter into a contract for the physical performance of services unless the contractor registers and participates in the E-Verify system.
  - 2. A contractor or subcontractor may not enter into a

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contract or subcontract with a public employer in connection
with the physical performance of services unless the contractor
or subcontractor registers with and uses the E-Verify system for
the purpose of verifying information of all newly hired
employees.

- (c) If a contractor uses a subcontractor, the subcontractor shall certify to the contractor that the subcontractor, at the time of certification, does not employ or contract with an unauthorized alien.
- (d) A contractor shall maintain a copy of the certification of a subcontractor throughout the duration of the term of a contract with the subcontractor.
- (e) If a contractor knows that a subcontractor is in violation of this subsection, the contractor shall terminate a contract with the subcontractor for the violation.
- violation of this subsection, the public employer shall immediately terminate the contract with the contractor and the contractor is not eligible for public contracts for 1 year after the date of termination. If the public employer has knowledge that a subcontractor has violated this subsection, and the contractor has otherwise complied with this subsection, the public employer shall promptly notify the contractor and order the contractor to terminate the contract with the noncompliant subcontractor.
- (g) A contract terminated pursuant to paragraphs (e) or (f) is not a breach of contract and may not be considered as such by the contractor or subcontractor.

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| (h) A contractor or subcontractor may file an action with        |
|--|
| a circuit or county court having jurisdiction in the county to   |
| challenge a termination of a contract under this subsection no   |
| later than 20 days after the date on which the contract or       |
| subcontract was terminated.                                      |
| (i) For the purposes of this subsection, compliance with         |
| subparagraphs (b)1. or (b)2. creates a rebuttable presumption    |
| that a contractor or subcontractor did not knowingly employ an   |
| unauthorized alien. A contractor or subcontractor that           |
| establishes that it has complied in good faith with the          |
| requirements of 8 United States Code s. 1324a(b) establishes an  |
| affirmative defense that the contractor or subcontractor did not |
| knowingly employ an unauthorized alien. A contractor or          |
| subcontractor is considered to have complied with the            |
| requirements of 8 United States Code s. 1324a(b),                |
| notwithstanding an isolated, sporadic or accidental technical or |
| procedural failure to meet the requirements, if there is a good  |
| faith attempt to comply with the requirements.                   |
| (5) The provisions of this section shall be construed in a       |
| manner so as to be fully consistent with any applicable federal  |
| law and shall be enforced without regard to race, color, or      |
| national origin.   |
| Section 6. Effective January 1, 2012, section 337.163,           |
| Florida Statutes, is created to read:                            |
| 337.163 Compliance with federal work-authorization               |

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

(a) "Contractor" means a person who has entered or is

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program.-

attempting to enter into a contract with the department for services under this chapter.

- (b) "E-Verify system" means the Employment Authorization
  Program, formerly the "Basic Pilot Program," under Pub. L. No.
  104-208, Div. C, Title IV, Subtitle A, 110 Stat. 3009-655 (Sept.
  30, 1996), as amended, or any successor program designated by
  the federal government for verification that an employee is an
  employment-authorized alien.
- (c) "Knowingly employ an unauthorized alien" has the same meaning as prescribed in 8 United States Code s. 1324a. The term shall be interpreted consistently with 8 United States Code s. 1324a and any federal rule or regulation applicable to the unlawful employment of aliens.
- (d) "Subcontractor" means any supplier, distributor, vendor, or firm furnishing supplies or services to or for a contractor or another subcontractor under this chapter.
- (e) "Unauthorized alien" means an alien who is not authorized under federal law to be employed in the United States, as described in 8 United States Code s. 1324a(h)(3). This term shall be interpreted consistently with that section and any applicable federal rules or regulations.
- (2) (a) A contractor or subcontractor may not knowingly employ an unauthorized alien.
- (b) The department may not enter into a contract under this chapter for contractual services unless the contractor registers and participates in the E-Verify system.
- (c) A contractor who receives a contract award under this chapter for contractual services may not execute a contract,

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purchase order, or subcontract in connection with the award unless the contractor and all subcontractors providing services for the contractor registers and participates in the E-Verify system. The contractor shall certify in writing to the department that it is in compliance with this section.

- (d) A contractor shall ensure that each subcontractor providing services for the contractor registers and participates in the E-Verify system. Each subcontractor shall certify in writing to the contractor that it is in compliance with this section. A contractor shall maintain a copy of the certification of a subcontractor throughout the duration of the term of a contract with the subcontractor.
- (e) If a contractor knows that a subcontractor is in violation of this subsection, the contractor shall terminate a contract with the subcontractor for the violation.
- (f) If the department knows that a contractor is in violation of this section, the department shall immediately terminate the contract with the contractor and the contractor is not eligible for public contracts for 1 year after the date of termination. If the department has knowledge that a subcontractor has violated this section, and the contractor has otherwise complied with this section, the department shall promptly notify the contractor and order the contractor to terminate the contract with the noncompliant subcontractor.
- (g) A contract terminated pursuant to paragraphs (e) or (f) is not a breach of contract and may not be considered as such by the contractor or subcontractor.
  - (h) A contractor or subcontractor may file an action with

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| a cir                       | cuit | or   | county | cour cour | t ha | ving | juri | sdicti | on i | n the | COU  | ınty | to |
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| challe                      | enge | a te | ermina | ation     | of a | cont | ract | under  | thi  | s sub | sect | ion  | no |
| later                       | thar | n 20 | days   | after     | the  | date | on   | which  | the  | contr | act  | or   |    |
| subcontract was terminated. |      |      |        |           |      |      |      |        |      |       |      |      |    |

- (i) For the purposes of this subsection, compliance with paragraphs (b) or (c) creates a rebuttable presumption that a contractor or subcontractor did not knowingly employ an unauthorized alien. A contractor or subcontractor that establishes that it has complied in good faith with the requirements of 8 United States Code s. 1324a(b) establishes an affirmative defense that the contractor or subcontractor did not knowingly employ an unauthorized alien. A contractor or subcontractor is considered to have complied with the requirements of 8 United States Code s. 1324a(b), notwithstanding an isolated, sporadic or accidental technical or procedural failure to meet the requirements, if there is a good faith attempt to comply with the requirements.
- (3) The provisions of this section shall be construed in a manner so as to be fully consistent with any applicable federal law and shall be enforced without regard to race, color, or national origin.
- Section 7. Subsection (16) is added to section 901.15, Florida Statutes, to read:
- 901.15 When arrest by officer without warrant is lawful.—A law enforcement officer may arrest a person without a warrant when:

(16) The officer has probable cause to believe that the person to be arrested is unlawfully in the United States in violation of state and federal law.

Section 8. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section 903.046, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 903.046 Purpose of and criteria for bail determination.-
- (2) When determining whether to release a defendant on bail or other conditions, and what that bail or those conditions may be, the court shall consider:
- (c) The defendant's family ties, length of residence in the community, <u>legal residency status in the United States</u>, employment history, financial resources, and mental condition.
- Section 9. Section 921.245, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

921.245 Illegal alien multiplier; enhanced penalties.—
Upon a finding by the fact finder that the defendant committed
the charged offense while the defendant is an alien and is
unlawfully present in the United States, the penalty for any
felony or misdemeanor, or any delinquent act or violation of law
that would be a felony or misdemeanor if committed by an adult,
may be enhanced. Penalty enhancement affects the applicable
statutory maximum penalty only. Each of the findings required
as a basis for such sentence shall be found beyond a reasonable
doubt. The enhancement will be as follows:

- (1) (a) A misdemeanor of the second degree may be punished as if it were a misdemeanor of the first degree.
- (b) A misdemeanor of the first degree may be punished as if it were a felony of the third degree. For purposes of

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ORIGINAL

| 585 | sentencing under ch. 921 and determining incentive gain-time     |
|-----|--|
| 586 | eligibility under ch. 944, such offense is ranked in level 1 of  |
| 587 | the offense severity ranking chart.                              |
| 588 | (2)(a) A felony of the third degree may be punished as if        |
| 589 | it were a felony of the second degree.                           |
| 590 | (b) A felony of the second degree may be punished as if it       |
| 591 | were a felony of the first degree.                               |
| 592 | (c) A felony of the first degree may be punished as if it        |
| 593 | were a life felony.  |
| 594 |  |
| 595 | For purposes of sentencing under ch. 921 and determining         |
| 596 | incentive gain-time eligibility under ch. 944, such felony       |
| 597 | offense is ranked as provided in s. 921.0022 or s. 921.0023, and |
| 598 | without regard to the penalty enhancement in this subsection.    |
| 599 | Section 10. Except as otherwise provided herein, this act        |
| 600 | shall take effect October 1, 2011.                               |

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2011