

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to protection of specified personnel;  
 3           amending s. 836.12, F.S.; providing a definition;  
 4           requiring a violation to be committed with specified  
 5           intent; prohibiting specified threats against a  
 6           justice or judicial assistant or a family member of  
 7           such person; prohibiting specified threats against  
 8           specified personnel with the intent to intimidate or  
 9           coerce such person to perform or refrain from  
 10          performing a lawful duty; providing a criminal  
 11          penalty; providing an effective date.

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

14           Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 836.12, Florida  
 15 Statutes is renumbered to subsection (4), subsections (1) and  
 16 (2) are amended, and new subsection (3) is created to read:

17           836.12 Threats.—

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

19           (a) "Family member" means:

20           1. An individual related to another individual by blood or  
 21 marriage; or

22           2. An individual who stands in loco parentis to another  
 23 individual.

24           (b) "Judicial assistant" means a court employee assigned  
 25 to the office of a specific judge or justice responsible for

26 providing administrative, secretarial, and clerical support to  
 27 the assigned judge or justice.

28 ~~(c)-(b)~~ "Law enforcement officer" means:

- 29 1. A law enforcement officer as defined in s. 943.10; or
- 30 2. A federal law enforcement officer as defined in s.
- 31 901.1505.

32 (2) Any person who knowingly and willfully threatens a law  
 33 enforcement officer, a state attorney, an assistant state  
 34 attorney, a firefighter, a judge, a justice, a judicial  
 35 assistant, or an elected official, or a family member of any  
 36 such person persons, with death or serious bodily harm commits a  
 37 misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s.  
 38 775.082 or s. 775.083.

39 (3) Any person who knowingly and willfully threatens to  
 40 use force or violence against a law enforcement officer, a state  
 41 attorney, an assistant state attorney, a firefighter, a judge, a  
 42 justice, a judicial assistant, or an elected official, with the  
 43 intent to intimidate or coerce such a person to perform or  
 44 refrain from performing a lawful duty, commits a misdemeanor of  
 45 the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s.  
 46 775.083.

47 Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2023.