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Representative Joseph's Bill Empowering Victims to Record Abusers Violating No-Contact Order Passes the Florida House Unanimously

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. - Today, State **Representative Dotie Joseph (D-Miami-Dade)** presented **HB 583** which passed unanimously in the House. If signed into law, **HB 583** allows domestic violence, sexual violence, stalking, and other victims to legally record their abuser who contacts them in violation of an active no-contact order.

“Currently, in cases of domestic violence or stalking, for example, when a court has ordered one party not to contact another, if the perpetrator violates the court order and the victim records it, that recording is illegal and cannot be used as evidence in a court of law,” said **Representative Joseph**. “This legislation reaffirms Florida’s commitment to protect survivors of abuse, and empowers them to seek justice and hold their abusers accountable.”

HB 583 helps empower victims of abuse--like domestic violence, sexual violence, dating violence, stalking, and others--by eliminating the “he said, she said” arguments in court with actual evidence. “I would like to thank the Legal Services of Greater Miami, who brought this issue to my attention through former State **Representative Cynthia Stafford**,” said **Representative Joseph**.

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