CHAPTER 2008-251

Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 622

An act relating to orders of no contact; amending s. 921.244, F.S.; requiring that offenders convicted of specified violent offenses be prohibited from having any contact with the victim; providing penalties; providing that the penalty for violation of such an order run consecutive to the sentence for the original violation; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 921.244, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

921.244 Order of no contact; penalties.—

(1) At the time of sentencing an offender convicted of a violation of s. 794.011 or s. 800.04 <u>or any offense in s. 775.084(1)(b)1.a.-o.</u>, the court shall order that the offender be prohibited from having any contact with the victim, directly or indirectly, including through a third person, for the duration of the sentence imposed. The court may reconsider the order upon the request of the victim if the request is made at any time after the victim has attained 18 years of age. In considering the request, the court shall conduct an evidentiary hearing to determine whether a change of circumstances has occurred which warrants a change in the court order prohibiting contact and whether it is in the best interest of the victim that the court order be modified or rescinded.

(2) Any offender who violates a court order issued under this section commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

(3) The punishment imposed under this section shall run consecutive to any former sentence imposed for a conviction for any offense under s. 794.011 or s. 800.04 or any offense in s. 775.084(1)(b)1.a.-o.

Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2008.

Approved by the Governor July 2, 2008.

Filed in Office Secretary of State July 2, 2008.