CHAPTER 2016-12

Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 130

An act relating to discharging a firearm; amending s. 790.15, F.S.; prohibiting the recreational discharge of a firearm in certain residential areas; providing criminal penalties; providing exceptions; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (4) is added to section 790.15, Florida Statutes, to read:

790.15 Discharging firearm in public or on residential property.—

(4) Any person who recreationally discharges a firearm outdoors, including target shooting, in an area that the person knows or reasonably should know is primarily residential in nature and that has a residential density of one or more dwelling units per acre, commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. This subsection does not apply:

(a) To a person lawfully defending life or property or performing official duties requiring the discharge of a firearm;

(b) If, under the circumstances, the discharge does not pose a reasonably foreseeable risk to life, safety, or property; or

(c) To a person who accidentally discharges a firearm.

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor February 24, 2016.

Filed in Office Secretary of State February 24, 2016.