

CHAPTER 2016-228

Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 821

An act relating to reimbursement of assessments; creating s. 295.24, F.S.; prohibiting an agent or attorney representing a claimant from directly or indirectly requesting, receiving, or obtaining reimbursement from the claimant for assessments charged to the agent or attorney by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs; providing penalties; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 295.24, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

295.24 Prohibited reimbursement of assessments; penalty.—A person who is recognized as an agent or attorney pursuant to 38 U.S.C. s. 5904 and representing a claimant may not, directly or indirectly, request, receive, or obtain reimbursement from the claimant for assessments charged to the agent or attorney by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs pursuant to 38 U.S.C. s. 5904(6)(A). A person who violates this section commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2016.

Approved by the Governor April 14, 2016.

Filed in Office Secretary of State April 14, 2016.