

CHAPTER 2020-82

Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 205

An act relating to unlawful use of uniforms, medals, or insignia; amending s. 817.312, F.S.; prohibiting certain misrepresentations concerning military service when made for specified purposes; providing criminal penalties; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 817.312, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

817.312 Unlawful use of uniforms, medals, or insignia.—

(1)(a) A person may not:

1. Misrepresent himself or herself as a member or veteran of the United States Air Force, United States Army, United States Coast Guard, United States Marine Corps, United States Navy, or National Guard; or

2. Wear the uniform of or any medal or insignia authorized for use by members or veterans of the United States Air Force, United States Army, United States Coast Guard, United States Marine Corps, United States Navy, or the National Guard which he or she is not authorized to wear

while soliciting for charitable contributions or for the purpose of material gain, including, but not limited to, obtaining employment or public office resulting in receiving compensation.

(b) This subsection ~~section~~ does not prohibit persons in the theatrical profession from wearing such uniforms, medals, or insignia while actually engaged in such profession.

(2) A person who violates subsection (1) commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2020.

Approved by the Governor June 23, 2020.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 23, 2020.