

CHAPTER 2021-18

House Bill No. 67

An act relating to public defender duties; amending s. 27.51, F.S.; specifying additional circumstances under which a public defender may not be appointed to represent a defendant; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 27.51, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

27.51 Duties of public defender.—

(2) The court may not appoint the public defender to represent, even on a temporary basis, any person who is not indigent. If a defendant has retained private counsel, the court may not appoint the public defender to represent that defendant simultaneously on the same case. The court, however, may appoint private counsel in capital cases as provided in ss. 27.40 and 27.5303.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.

Approved by the Governor May 7, 2021.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 7, 2021.