

## CHAPTER 2024-109

### Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 86

An act relating to Hope Cards for persons issued orders of protection; creating s. 741.311, F.S.; requiring the clerks of the circuit court, in consultation with the Office of the Attorney General, to develop and implement the Hope Card Program; authorizing certain persons to request a Hope Card after a specified date; specifying when and how a person may request a Hope Card; requiring clerks' offices to create a Hope Card and provide such card to petitioners within a specified time frame; prohibiting the assessment of a fee; providing requirements for the Hope Card; providing criminal penalties for the fraudulent use of a Hope Card; amending ss. 741.30, 784.046, 784.0485, and 825.1035, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; providing an appropriation; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 741.311, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

741.311 Hope Card Program for persons issued orders of protection.—

(1) The clerks of the circuit court, in consultation with the Office of the Attorney General, shall develop and implement the Hope Card Program, which provides for the issuance of a Hope Card to any person who has been issued an order of protection by a county or circuit court in this state.

(2) Beginning October 1, 2024, a person who has been issued a final judgment on injunction for protection under s. 741.30, s. 784.046, s. 784.0485, or s. 825.1035 may request a Hope Card from the clerk of the court of the circuit in which the order for an injunction for protection was entered. A person may request a Hope Card at the time the final judgment on injunction for protection is issued or at any other time before the expiration of the order for protection.

(3) After the court has issued a final judgment on injunction for protection and within 3 business days after receipt of a request for a Hope Card, the clerk of the court shall create the Hope Card and provide it to the petitioner.

(4) The clerk of the court may not assess a fee for the issuance of a Hope Card.

(5) A Hope Card is valid for 2 years after the date of issuance of the final order or the expiration date of the injunction, whichever is earlier. A Hope Card may be renewed after the 2-year period if the injunction is still in effect.

(6) A Hope Card issued under the program may be digital or a durable, wallet-sized card and must contain all of the following information:

(a) The respondent’s name and date of birth.

(b) The name and date of birth of the petitioner or protected person.

(c) Information regarding the issuing court; the case number; the date the order of protection was issued; and the expiration date, if any, of the order of protection.

(d) The telephone number for the statewide domestic violence hotline.

(e) The date of issuance and the expiration date of the Hope Card.

(7) A person who, having actual knowledge that he or she is not protected by an injunction that is currently in force and effect, knowingly and willfully presents to another person a Hope Card or other document purporting to be a Hope Card for the purpose of evidencing the existence of an injunction, commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

Section 2. Paragraph (d) is added to subsection (8) of section 741.30, Florida Statutes, to read:

741.30 Domestic violence; injunction; powers and duties of court and clerk; petition; notice and hearing; temporary injunction; issuance of injunction; statewide verification system; enforcement; public records exemption.—

(8)

(d) The petitioner may request a Hope Card under s. 741.311 after the court has issued a final order of protection.

Section 3. Paragraph (d) is added to subsection (8) of section 784.046, Florida Statutes, to read:

784.046 Action by victim of repeat violence, sexual violence, or dating violence for protective injunction; dating violence investigations, notice to victims, and reporting; pretrial release violations; public records exemption.

(8)

(d) The petitioner may request a Hope Card under s. 741.311 after the court has issued a final order of protection.

Section 4. Paragraph (c) is added to subsection (8) of section 784.0485, Florida Statutes, to read:

784.0485 Stalking; injunction; powers and duties of court and clerk; petition; notice and hearing; temporary injunction; issuance of injunction;

statewide verification system; enforcement.—

(8)

(c) The petitioner may request a Hope Card under s. 741.311 after the court has issued a final order of protection.

Section 5. Paragraph (c) is added to subsection (10) of section 825.1035, Florida Statutes, to read:

825.1035 Injunction for protection against exploitation of a vulnerable adult.—

(10) TRANSMITTAL TO SHERIFF; SERVICE; HOPE CARD.—

(c) The petitioner may request a Hope Card under s. 741.311 after the court has issued a final order of protection.

Section 6. For the 2024-2025 fiscal year, the sum of \$176,000 in nonrecurring funds is appropriated from the General Revenue Fund to the Justice Administrative Commission for distribution to the clerks of the circuit court to implement this act.

Section 7. This act shall take effect October 1, 2024.

Approved by the Governor April 26, 2024.

Filed in Office Secretary of State April 26, 2024.