

SB 1544 – Complaints Against Law Enforcement and Correctional Officers (Similar HB 1283)

This bill amends s. 112.532, F.S., adding that all complaints against law enforcement officers or correctional officers be provided to the officers, with the names of all complainants, “signed by the complainant under oath.” It also adds that “if a complaint is accompanied by corroborating evidence, the complainant names and a signature are not required.” It then amends s. 112.533, F.S., stating the following: “A complaint against a law enforcement or correctional officer must be in writing and be signed under oath as provided in s. 92.525(2), F.S. by the person filing the complaint, except as provided in s. 112.532(1)(d), F.S. A complainant who makes a false complaint is subject to the penalties in s. 92.525(3), F.S. Therefore, this expands the scope of the current Level 1, 3rd degree felony for committing perjury.

Per DOC, in FY 24-25, there were no new commitments to prison for the offense of perjury. Per FDLE, there were 369 discipline cases resolved in FY 24-25. However, it does not include citizen complaints, so it is not known how many complaints or complainants there were last fiscal year.

CONFERENCE ADOPTED ESTIMATE: Positive Insignificant

Requested by: Senate