2015 CS/HB 493

1 A bill to be entitled

> An act relating to carrying a concealed weapon or a concealed firearm; amending s. 790.01, F.S.; providing an exemption from criminal penalties for carrying a concealed weapon or a concealed firearm when evacuating pursuant to a mandatory evacuation order during a declared state of emergency; defining the term "in the act of evacuating"; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Section 790.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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790.01 Unlicensed carrying of concealed weapons or concealed firearms.-

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Except as provided in subsection (3) (4), a person who is not licensed under s. 790.06 and who carries a concealed weapon or electric weapon or device on or about his or her person commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

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Except as provided in subsection (3), a person who is not licensed under s. 790.06 and who carries a concealed firearm on or about his or her person commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

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(3) This section does not apply to: a person licensed to carry a concealed weapon or a concealed firearm pursuant to the provisions of s. 790.06.

- (a) A person who carries a concealed weapon, or a person who may lawfully possess a firearm and who carries a concealed firearm, on or about his or her person while in the act of evacuating during a mandatory evacuation order issued during a state of emergency declared by the Governor pursuant to chapter 252 or declared by a local authority pursuant to chapter 870. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "in the act of evacuating" means the immediate and urgent movement of a person away from the evacuation zone within 48 hours after a mandatory evacuation is ordered. This 48-hour period may be extended by executive order of the Governor.
- (b) (4) It is not a violation of this section for A person who carries to carry for purposes of lawful self-defense, in a concealed manner:
  - 1.<del>(a)</del> A self-defense chemical spray.
- 2.(b) A nonlethal stun gun or dart-firing stun gun or other nonlethal electric weapon or device that is designed solely for defensive purposes.
- (4)(5) This section does not preclude any prosecution for the use of an electric weapon or device, a dart-firing stun gun, or a self-defense chemical spray during the commission of any criminal offense under s. 790.07, s. 790.10, s. 790.23, or s. 790.235, or for any other criminal offense.

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Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.

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