1   A bill to be entitled
2   An act relating to taking of bears; providing a short
3   title; creating s. 379.40411, F.S.; providing an
4   exemption from penalties for the taking of bears
5   without permits or authorizations under specified
6   conditions; requiring the disposal of such bears by
7   the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission;
8   prohibiting certain possession, sale, and disposal of
9   such bears; requiring the commission to adopt rules;
10   providing an effective date.
11
12   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
13
14   Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Self Defense
15   Act."
16   Section 2. Section 379.40411, Florida Statutes, is created
17   to read:
18   379.40411 Taking of bears; use of lethal force in defense
19   of person or certain property.—
20   (1) A person is not subject to any administrative, civil,
21   or criminal penalties for taking a bear with lethal force if:
22   (a) The person reasonably believed that his or her action
23   was necessary to avoid an imminent threat of death or serious
24   bodily injury to himself or herself or another, an imminent
25   threat of death or serious bodily injury to a pet, or

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26 substantial damage to a dwelling as defined in s. 776.013(5);

27   (b) The person did not intentionally or recklessly place

28 himself or herself or the pet in a situation in which he or she

29 would be likely to need to use lethal force as described in

30 paragraph (a); and

31   (c) The person notified the commission within 24 hours

32 after using lethal force to take the bear.

33   (2) A bear taken under this section must be disposed of by

34 the commission. A person who takes a bear under this section may

35 not possess, sell, or dispose of the bear or its parts.

36   (3) The commission shall adopt rules to implement this

37 section.

38   Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.

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