

**The Florida Senate**  
**HOUSE MESSAGE SUMMARY**

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Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Children, Families, and Elder Affairs

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**BILL:** CS/CS/CS/HB 1224, 1<sup>st</sup> Eng.

**INTRODUCER:** Committee on Fiscal Policy, Appropriations Committee on Criminal and Civil Justice, Committee on Children, Families, and Elder Affairs, and Senator Burton

**SUBJECT:** Protection of Children and Victims of Crime

**DATE:** March 4, 2024

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**I. Amendments Contained in Message:**

House Amendment — 114061 (body with title)

**II. Summary of Amendments Contained in Message:**

House Amendment — 114061 (body with title)

The amendment alters some of the requirements of the domestic violence lethality assessment. Specifically, the amendment:

- Requires consultation with the Florida Sheriffs Association, the Florida Police Chiefs Association, the Partnership to End Domestic Violence, and at least two domestic violence advocacy organizations to develop the policies, procedures, and training necessary for implementation of a statewide evidence-based lethality assessment.
- Requires an analysis of the questions of the lethality assessment placed in statute by the bill, and recommendations as to whether they should be included in a statewide lethality assessment instrument and form; if questions are eliminated from the assessment, the DCF must confirm that the remaining or altered questions constitute an evidence-based lethality assessment.
- Requires a report by the DCF to the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House detailing the results and recommendations, including proposed statutory changes, of the creation of the lethality assessment instrument and form and report on the availability of additional evidence-based assessments that have been reviewed and approved by the Office on Violence Against Women within the US Department of Justice.
- Removes the requirement for an agency to make an officer's certification inactive if the officer fails to complete the lethality assessment training.
- Requires the head of each law enforcement agency to provide written certification verifying the agency has complied with new training requirements, by November 1, 2026; and requires a report to the Governor, President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House identifying each law enforcement agency not in compliance with the training requirements by January 1, 2027.
- Conforming changes.