1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to the Lowell Correctional Institution 3 Body Cameras Pilot Program; creating s. 944.145, F.S.; 4 creating the Lowell Correctional Institution Body 5 Cameras Pilot Program within the Department of 6 Corrections; providing purpose; providing definitions; 7 requiring that each correctional officer wear a body 8 camera while acting within the scope of his or her 9 official duties; requiring the department to establish policies and procedures; providing minimum 10 11 requirements; requiring the department to provide 12 training; requiring the audio and video data recorded 13 by such cameras to be maintained in accordance with public records laws; requiring periodic review of 14 15 actual practices; requiring annual reports; providing 16 report requirements; providing for expiration; 17 providing an effective date. 18 19 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 20 21 Section 1. Section 944.145, Florida Statutes, is created to read: 22 23 944.145 Lowell Correctional Institution Body Cameras Pilot 24 Program.-25 (1)The Lowell Correctional Institution Body Cameras Pilot

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Program is created within the department for a period of 3

years. The purpose of the pilot program is to ensure safety and

provide accountability for each person in the institution.

(2) As used in this section, the term:

- (a) "Body camera" means a portable electronic recording device that is worn on a correctional officer's person and that records audio and video data of the correctional officer's prisoner-related encounters and activities.
- (b) "Correctional officer" has the same meaning as in s. 943.10(2).
- (3) Each correctional officer working at the Lowell Correctional Institution shall wear a body camera while acting within the scope of his or her official duties. The department shall establish policies and procedures addressing the proper use, maintenance, and storage of such body cameras and the data recorded by such body cameras. The policies and procedures must, at a minimum, include all of the following:
- (a) General guidelines for the proper use, maintenance, and storage of body cameras.
- (b) Any limitations on a correctional officer's use of the body cameras.
- (c) Any limitations on prisoner-related encounters and activities in which correctional officers are authorized to wear body cameras.
 - (d) A provision allowing a correctional officer using a

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body camera to review the recorded footage from the body camera, upon his or her own initiative or request, before writing a report or providing a statement regarding any event arising within the scope of his or her official duties. Any such provision may not apply to a correctional officer's inherent duty to immediately disclose information necessary to secure an active crime scene or to identify suspects or witnesses.

- (e) General guidelines for the proper storage, retention, and release of audio and video data recorded by body cameras.
 - (4) The department shall:

- (a) Ensure that all personnel at the Lowell Correctional Institution who wear, use, maintain, or store body cameras are trained in the department's policies and procedures concerning the body cameras.
- (b) Ensure that all personnel at the Lowell Correctional Institution who use, maintain, store, or release audio or video data recorded by body cameras are trained in the department's policies and procedures concerning the body cameras.
- (c) Retain audio and video data recorded by body cameras in accordance with the requirements of s. 119.021, except as otherwise provided by law.
- (d) Perform a periodic review of actual agency body camera practices to ensure conformity with the agency's policies and procedures concerning the body cameras.
 - (5) Beginning on June 30, 2025, and annually thereafter,

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the department shall submit a report to the Governor, the

President of the Senate, the Minority Leader of the Senate, the

Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Minority Leader
of the House of Representatives on the operation of the program
during the previous year. The report must include, at a minimum,
findings based on the review of incidents at the Lowell

Correctional Institution and the helpfulness of the body cameras
worn by correctional officers, proposals on changes to existing
policies and procedures concerning the body cameras, and any
other information that the department deems important in
furthering the purpose of the pilot program.

(6) This section expires June 30, 2027.
Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.

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