HB 555 2016

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to driving under the influence; amending s. 316.1939, F.S.; providing for suspension of a driver license for a first-time refusal of a chemical or physical test of a person's breath, blood, or urine; providing additional sanctions for such refusals; providing that such refusal by a person who has previously had a license suspension for such a refusal is a misdemeanor; providing for mandatory ignition interlock devices for persons convicted of such offenses; providing that a court may not suspend, defer, or withhold adjudication of guilt or the imposition of a sentence or penalty for specified offenses; 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 316.1939, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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316.1939 Refusal to submit to testing; penalties.-

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(1) Any person who has refused to submit to a chemical or physical test of his or her breath, blood, or urine, as described in s. 316.1932, and whose driving privilege was previously suspended for a prior refusal to submit to a lawful test of his or her breath, urine, or blood, and:

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(a) Who the arresting law enforcement officer had probable

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cause to believe was driving or in actual physical control of a motor vehicle in this state while under the influence of alcoholic beverages, chemical substances, or controlled substances;

- (b) Who was placed under lawful arrest for a violation of s. 316.193 unless such test was requested pursuant to s. 316.1932(1)(c);
- (c) Who was informed that, if he or she refused to submit to such test, his or her privilege to operate a motor vehicle would be suspended for a period of 1 year or, in the case of a second or subsequent refusal, for a period of 18 months;
- (d) Who was informed that a refusal to submit to a lawful test of his or her breath, urine, or blood, if his or her driving privilege has been previously suspended for a prior refusal to submit to a lawful test of his or her breath, urine, or blood, is a misdemeanor; and
- (e) Who, after having been so informed, refused to submit to any such test when requested to do so by a law enforcement officer or correctional officer shall be punished:
 - 1. By a fine of at least \$500 but not more than \$1,000;
 - 2. By 6 months' probation; and

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- 3. By having 4 points assessed against his or her driver license.
- (2) (a) A person who has refused to submit to a chemical or physical test of his or her breath, blood, or urine, as described in s. 316.1932, and whose driving privilege was

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previously suspended for a prior refusal to submit to a lawful test of his or her breath, urine, or blood, commits a misdemeanor of the first degree and is subject to punishment as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

- (b) The court shall impose mandatory placement, for a period of at least 1 year at the convicted person's sole expense, of an ignition interlock device approved by the department in accordance with s. 316.1938 upon all vehicles that are individually or jointly leased or owned and routinely operated by the convicted person, when the convicted person qualifies for a permanent or restricted license.
- (c) A court may not suspend, defer, or withhold adjudication of guilt or the imposition of a sentence or penalty for an offense under paragraph (a).
- $\underline{(3)}$ (2) The disposition of any administrative proceeding that relates to the suspension of a person's driving privilege does not affect a criminal action under this section.
- $\underline{(4)}$ The disposition of a criminal action under this section does not affect any administrative proceeding that relates to the suspension of a person's driving privilege. The department's records showing that a person's license has been previously suspended for a prior refusal to submit to a lawful test of his or her breath, urine, or blood shall be admissible and shall create a rebuttable presumption of such suspension.
 - Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2016.