HB 455

1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to traffic offenses; creating s. 3 318.195, F.S.; providing a short title; providing 4 criminal penalties for a person who commits a moving 5 violation that causes serious bodily injury to, or 6 causes the death of, a vulnerable road user; requiring 7 that the person pay a specified fine, serve a minimum 8 period of house arrest, and attend a driver 9 improvement course; requiring that the court revoke 10 the person's driver license for a minimum specified period; defining the term "vulnerable road user"; 11 12 providing that the act does not prohibit the person 13 from being charged with, convicted of, or punished for 14 any other violation of law; providing an effective 15 date. 16 17 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 18 19 Section 1. Section 318.195, Florida Statutes, is created 20 to read: 21 318.195 Enhanced penalties for moving violations causing 22 injury or death.-23 (1)This section may be cited as the "Vulnerable Road User 24 Act." 25 A person who commits a moving violation that causes (2) Page 1 of 3

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2020

HB 455

26 serious bodily injury, as defined in s. 316.1933, to a 27 vulnerable road user commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, 28 punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, and, upon 29 conviction, shall pay a fine of not less than \$1,500, serve a 30 minimum of 30 days of house arrest, and attend a department-31 approved driver improvement course relating to the rights of 32 vulnerable road users relative to vehicles on the roadway as provided in s. 322.0261(2). The court shall also revoke the 33 34 person's driver license for at least 30 days. 35 (3) A person who commits a moving violation that causes 36 the death of a vulnerable road user commits a misdemeanor of the 37 first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, and, upon conviction, shall pay a fine of not less than 38 39 \$5,000, serve a minimum of 180 days of house arrest, and attend 40 a department-approved driver improvement course relating to the 41 rights of vulnerable road users relative to vehicles on the 42 roadway as provided in s. 322.0261(2). The court shall also 43 revoke the person's driver license for at least 1 year. 44 (4) As used in this section, the term "vulnerable road 45 user" means any of the following: (a) A pedestrian, including a person actually engaged in 46 47 work upon a highway, or in work upon utility facilities along a 48 highway, or engaged in the provision of emergency services 49 within the right-of-way. 50 A person lawfully operating a bicycle, motorcycle, (b)

Page 2 of 3

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HB 455

51 scooter, or moped on the roadway. 52 (c) A person riding an animal. 53 (d) A person lawfully operating any of the following on a public right-of-way, crosswalk, or shoulder of the roadway: 54 55 1. A farm tractor or similar vehicle designed primarily 56 for farm use. 2. A skateboard, roller skates, or in-line skates. 57 58 3. A horse-drawn carriage. 59 4. An electric personal assistive mobility device. 60 5. A wheelchair. (5) This section does not prohibit a person from being 61 62 charged with, convicted of, or punished for any other violation 63 of law. Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020. 64

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