1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to restorative justice; amending s. 3 945.71, F.S.; revising legislative intent for inmate 4 training programs; amending s. 945.73, F.S.; requiring 5 the Department of Corrections to develop and implement 6 training about restorative justice practices; amending 7 s. 960.001, F.S.; requiring notice to victims if 8 restorative justice is available; defining the term 9 "restorative justice"; providing an effective date. 10 11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 12 Section 1. Section 945.71, Florida Statutes, is amended to 13 14 read: 15 945.71 Inmate training programs; intent and purposes.—It 16 is the intent of ss. 945.71-945.74 to authorize the establishment of structured disciplinary training programs 17 18 within the Department of Corrections expressly intended to 19 instill self-discipline, improve work habits, increase 20 accountability and reparative behavior, and improve selfconfidence for inmates. 21 22 Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 945.73, Florida 23 Statutes, is amended to read: 24 945.73 Inmate training program operation. -The department shall, subject to specific legislative 25

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appropriation, develop and implement training programs for eligible inmates which include, but are not limited to, marching drills, calisthenics, a rigid dress code, work assignments, physical training, training in decisionmaking and personal development, drug counseling, education, training about restorative justice practices, and rehabilitation.

Section 3. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 960.001, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

960.001 Guidelines for fair treatment of victims and witnesses in the criminal justice and juvenile justice systems.—

- (1) The Department of Legal Affairs, the state attorneys, the Department of Corrections, the Department of Juvenile Justice, the Florida Commission on Offender Review, the State Courts Administrator and circuit court administrators, the Department of Law Enforcement, and every sheriff's department, police department, or other law enforcement agency as defined in s. 943.10(4) shall develop and implement guidelines for the use of their respective agencies, which guidelines are consistent with the purposes of this act and s. 16(b), Art. I of the State Constitution and are designed to implement s. 16(b), Art. I of the State Constitution and to achieve the following objectives:
- (a) Information concerning services available to victims of adult and juvenile crime.—As provided in s. 27.0065, state attorneys and public defenders shall gather information regarding the following services in the geographic boundaries of

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their respective circuits and shall provide such information to each law enforcement agency with jurisdiction within such geographic boundaries. Law enforcement personnel shall ensure, through distribution of a victim's rights information card or brochure at the crime scene, during the criminal investigation, and in any other appropriate manner, that victims are given, as a matter of course at the earliest possible time, information about:

- 1. The availability of crime victim compensation, if applicable;
- 2. Crisis intervention services, supportive or bereavement counseling, social service support referrals, and community-based victim treatment programs;
- 3. The role of the victim in the criminal or juvenile justice process, including what the victim may expect from the system as well as what the system expects from the victim;
- 4. The stages in the criminal or juvenile justice process which are of significance to the victim and the manner in which information about such stages can be obtained;
- 5. The right of a victim, who is not incarcerated, including the victim's parent or guardian if the victim is a minor, the lawful representative of the victim or of the victim's parent or guardian if the victim is a minor, and the next of kin of a homicide victim, upon request, to be informed, to be present, and to be heard at all stages of a criminal or

juvenile proceeding as provided by s. 16(b), Art. I of the State Constitution;

- 6. In the case of incarcerated victims, the right, upon request, to be informed and to submit written statements at all stages of the criminal proceedings, parole proceedings, or juvenile proceedings;
- 7. The right of a victim to a prompt and timely disposition of the case in order to minimize the period during which the victim must endure the responsibilities and stress involved; and
- 8. The right of a victim to employ private counsel. The Florida Bar is encouraged to develop a registry of attorneys who are willing to serve on a pro bono basis as advocates for crime victims.
- 9.a. The right of a victim to be notified of restorative justice if it is available in the jurisdiction. The victim or their next of kin shall be advised that restorative justice may be considered as a voluntary option, or a part of a deferred prosecution or pretrial intervention. A notice shall be posted on each waiting room floor of the lobbies of the State Attorney and shall contain the location and contact information concerning restorative justice programs which serve the county or circuit.
- b. As used in this subparagraph, the term "restorative justice" means a gathering, in which parties who have caused

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harm or who have been harmed and community stakeholders choose
to collectively meet to identify and repair harm inflicted to
the extent possible, address trauma, reduce the likelihood of
further harm, and strengthen community ties by focusing on the
needs and obligations of all parties involved through a
voluntary and participatory process.
Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.

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