

## HB 727 – Hazing (Similar SB 1080)

This bill amends s. 1006.63, F.S., expanding the definition of hazing, adding (in bold) “any action or situation that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for purposes including, but not limited to, initiation or admission into or affiliation with, **or the perpetuation or furtherance of a tradition or ritual of**, any organization operating under the sanction of a postsecondary institution.” Additionally, for the current unranked, 3<sup>rd</sup> degree felony, it adds the following (in bold): “a person commits hazing, a third degree felony...when he or she intentionally or recklessly commits, **solicits a person to commit, or is actively involved in the planning of** any act of hazing...upon another person who is a member **or former member** of or an applicant to any type of student organization and the hazing results in **a permanent injury**, serious bodily injury, or death of such other person.” Furthermore, it adds a list of exceptions to prosecution for this felony, including presence at the event, being the first to call to report the need for immediate medical assistance, providing detailed information to emergency services, and remaining at the scene until medical attention arrives. Therefore, while this bill expands the pool of potential offenders, it also creates an exception that would cover current offenders along with the expanded pool.

Per DOC, in FY 17-18, nobody was sentenced for hazing as a felony.

**CONFERENCE ADOPTED ESTIMATE: Positive Insignificant**

**Requested by: House**