

HB 221 – Recovery of Space Vehicles (Similar SB 936)

This bill creates s. 331.502, F.S., defining “space vehicle” and stating that “a person who finds a space vehicle may not appropriate the space vehicle to his or her own use or refuse to deliver the space vehicle, when required, to law enforcement or to the spaceflight entity that owns the space vehicle.” By committing such a violation, a person would be committing theft as defined in s. 812.014, F.S.

Per DOC, in FY 18-19, there were 1,506 new commitments to prison for general theft offenses. In FY 19-20, there were 1,061 new commitments. It is not known what monetary thresholds theft of space vehicles will fall under, but it is likely that they will tend to have higher monetary values. In FY 18-19, there were 160 new commitments that committed theft of at least \$5,000. In FY 19-20, there were 120 new commitments. It is also not known if theft of space vehicles is already getting captured under the theft statute, but it is likely a rare event and should not have a significant impact on prison beds.

CONFERENCE ADOPTED ESTIMATE: Positive Insignificant

Requested by: House