

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to juvenile civil citations within Broward County;
3 requiring each law enforcement agency within Broward County to
4 implement a civil citation process; requiring that a Law Enforcement
5 Officer within Broward County upon making contact with a juvenile
6 who is a first time offender who admits to having committed a
7 misdemeanor, issue a civil citation, or not arrest said juvenile
8 providing for exceptions; providing an effective date

9 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

10 Section 1. Each law enforcement agency within Broward County shall implement a civil citation
11 process pursuant to F.S. 985.12. Any law enforcement officer, upon making contact with a juvenile, who
12 is a first time offender, who admits having committed a misdemeanor, and agrees to participate in the
13 civil citation program, shall issue a civil citation with approval of a parent or guardian. (The approval of a
14 parent or guardian may be attained subsequent to an arrest where upon the juvenile will be released to
15 the custody of the parent or guardian), which shall provide such penalty and participation in
16 intervention services, as provided in F.S. 985.12. Only a first-time juvenile misdemeanor offender with
17 no history of prior delinquency shall be eligible for the issuance of a civil citation.

18 Section 2. Notwithstanding the previous section, a law enforcement officer within Broward
19 County shall have the option not to issue a civil citation; however a law enforcement officer within
20 Broward County may not arrest a juvenile who is a first-time misdemeanor offender with no history of
21 prior delinquency and has agreed to participate in a civil citation program for the admitted
22 misdemeanor offense. However a law enforcement officer within Broward County shall arrest a juvenile
23 in the case of a domestic violence incident and, a law enforcement officer within Broward County may
24 arrest a juvenile in exceptional circumstances articulated by the law enforcement officer that makes
25 issuance of a civil citation inappropriate due to a risk of the public safety.

26 Section 3. A provider agency accepting referrals of, or providing intervention services to,
27 juveniles pursuant to a civil citation process, shall report the participation and performance progress of
28 the juvenile to Broward County, as the Department of Juvenile Justice's coordinating agency, in the form
29 and manner required by the County.

Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014.