

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to the unlicensed practice of law;
 3 amending s. 454.23, F.S.; creating exceptions;
 4 providing an effective date.

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

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 8 Section 1. Section 454.23, Florida Statutes, is amended to
 9 read:

10 454.23 Unlicensed practice of law; prohibition; penalties;
 11 exceptions.—

12 (1) Any person not licensed or otherwise authorized to
 13 practice law in this state who practices law in this state or
 14 holds himself or herself out to the public as qualified to
 15 practice law in this state, or who willfully pretends to be, or
 16 willfully takes or uses any name, title, addition, or
 17 description implying that he or she is qualified, or recognized
 18 by law as qualified, to practice law in this state, commits a
 19 felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s.
 20 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

21 (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), the following
 22 activities are not prohibited by this section:

23 (a) Pro se representation by an individual;

24 (b) Serving as a mediator or arbitrator;

25 (c) Providing services under the supervision of a lawyer in
 26 compliance with the Rules of Professional Conduct;

- 27 | (d) Providing services authorized by court rule;
28 | (e) Acting within the lawful scope of practice of a
29 | business or profession regulated by the state;
30 | (f) The giving of a legal notice in the form and manner
31 | required by law; or
32 | (g) Representation before a legislative body, committee,
33 | commission or board.

34 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014.