

Sponsor Statement

Senate Bill 200

A Peron's Right To Defend With Force

Senate Bill 200 is generally based on Florida's recently codified "Castle Law".

The right to defend life and property needs to be clear. Senate Bill 200 not only recognizes that right to protect one's self at their home ("castle"), but in other specific places a person also has a legal right to be.

In this time of ever increasing child abduction, car jacking, and random threats to life and property it is incumbent that we have clear and concise laws securing the rights of individuals to protect themselves or children from would-be perpetrators.

SB 200 relieves victims of the need to flee and legally empowers them when confronted by force in situation involving kidnapping, sexual assault, sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree, car jacking, to "stand their ground" and meet and overcome such threats with force or deadly force if necessary.

A special provision is included to protect peace officers, firemen, and other emergency personnel.