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Rep. Chambliss' and Rep. Plakon's Bipartisan Anti-Recidivism Bill Passes House Floor Unanimously

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Today, **CS/HB 133**, Criminal History of Licensees and Employees, filed by **Representative Kevin Chambliss (D-Homestead)** and prime co-sponsored by **Representative Rachel Plakon (R-Lake Mary)**, unanimously passed the House floor.

HB 133 reduces the timeframe that an applicant for a barbering or cosmetology license can have their criminal history considered by an application board from five years to three years. The individuals that this change does not apply to are sexual predators and those that commit forcible felonies. By reducing this time frame to three years, reformed individuals will have more employment opportunities upon their release from prison.

The Representatives issued the following statements in response:

“When individuals seek to reform and improve their lives, it is our duty as elected officials to offer them our support,” said **Representative Chambliss**. “The passing of CS/HB 133 signals that we in the Florida House of Representatives stand with returning citizens who are committed to restoring their place in a productive society.”

“I'm proud to have worked with Representative Chambliss on this important legislation. This bill will reduce recidivism and encourage redemption when appropriate. It will respect our hard-working taxpayers as well by reducing dependence on our social safety net programs,” said **Representative Plakon**.

“Eliminating barriers to employment for people with past convictions is good for everyone,” said **Neil Volz**, Deputy Director of the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition. “It strengthens public safety, grows the economy, and allows people and families to pursue happiness. We applaud Representative Chambliss and the legislature for taking another important step in reducing barriers to economic mobility for people all across the state. This bill will have a tangible impact on the lives of people with past convictions, their families and their communities.”

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