## SB 2: Relief of Patricia Ermini by the Lee County Sheriff's Office

## **Summary:**

This page details the circumstances surrounding an incident where Patricia Ermini was shot by deputies from the Lee County Sheriff's Office during a well-being check. Despite having no prior history of mental illness or suicide threats, the situation escalated quickly, resulting in Ms. Ermini sustaining severe injuries. The bill seeks compensation of \$626,769.93 for Ms. Ermini's injuries and damages, with limitations set on attorney fees.

1) This bill could set a precedent for law enforcement officers to use excessive force in well-being checks, leading to further harm or even fatalities in similar situations. 2) The bill's appropriation of funds to compensate Patricia Ermini may not adequately address the full extent of her injuries and damages, potentially leaving her with ongoing financial burdens related to her recovery. 3) Limiting attorney fees to 25% of the total amount awarded may discourage quality legal representation for victims of similar incidents in the future, hindering their ability to seek appropriate justice and compensation.

Cons

1) This bill aims to provide just compensation to Patricia Ermini for injuries caused by the negligence of the Lee County Sheriff's Office, ensuring that victims of such incidents receive the support they deserve. 2) The bill limits the payment of attorney fees to 25% of the total compensation awarded, ensuring that a significant portion of the funds goes directly towards aiding the victim rather than legal expenses. 3) By passing this bill, the State of Florida can uphold justice by providing additional compensation to cover the excess judgment, interest, and costs awarded to Patricia Ermini, ultimately addressing the harm caused and promoting accountability.

Pros