

New Fla. Trade Secrets Law Seen As Too Easy To Abuse

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James Gale was quoted in *Law360* discussing how attorneys fear a new Florida trade secrets law that aims to target China and other foreign agents looking to steal intellectual property casts too wide a net and could catch employees in run-of-the-mill trade secrets disputes. H.B. 1523, the Combating Corporate Espionage in Florida Act, is billed as a new tool that will help prosecutors fight foreign governments and their agents who steal trade secrets. And while it certainly does that, it also could have unintended consequences that legislators — who passed the bill on unanimous votes in both houses — may have overlooked, according to Jim. "The legislature is not wrong that China is ripping off Americans on a daily basis," he said. "But I think they just used a bazooka to kill a fly."

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