By Senator Taddeo

20181282 40-01437-18

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to residential property insurance; amending s. 627.7011, F.S.; revising a mandatory homeowner's insurance policy disclosure regarding the absence of flood insurance coverage; requiring the homeowner to place his or her initials on a specified acknowledgment; providing applicability; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Subsection (4) of section 627.7011, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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627.7011 Homeowners' policies; offer of replacement cost coverage and law and ordinance coverage.-

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(4) A homeowner's insurance policy must include in bold type no smaller than 18 points the following statement, and the homeowner must place his or her initials in the space indicated:

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"LAW AND ORDINANCE COVERAGE IS AN IMPORTANT COVERAGE THAT YOU MAY WISH TO PURCHASE. YOU MAY ALSO NEED TO CONSIDER THE PURCHASE OF FLOOD INSURANCE FROM THE NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM. HURRICANE INSURANCE DOES NOT INCLUDE FLOOD INSURANCE. WITHOUT THIS COVERAGE, YOU MAY HAVE UNCOVERED LOSSES. PLEASE DISCUSS THESE COVERAGES WITH YOUR INSURANCE AGENT.

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...(insert initials) ... I UNDERSTAND THAT IF I PURCHASE HURRICANE INSURANCE, IT DOES NOT INCLUDE FLOOD

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INSURANCE."

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The intent of this subsection is to encourage policyholders to purchase sufficient coverage to protect them in case events excluded from the standard homeowners policy, such as law and ordinance enforcement and flood, combine with covered events to produce damage or loss to the insured property. The intent is also to encourage policyholders to discuss these issues with their insurance agent.

Section 2. The amendment made by this act to s. 627.7011, Florida Statutes, applies to policies issued or renewed on or after July 1, 2018.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.