1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to the Department of Highway 3 Safety and Motor Vehicles; amending s. 4 320.08056, F.S.; increasing the fee for the 5 Florida educational license plate; amending s. 6 322.056, F.S.; authorizing the court to direct 7 the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to issue a driver's license restricted 8 9 to business or employment purposes only to certain persons under age 18 found guilty of 10 certain alcohol, drug, or tobacco offenses; 11 12 amending s. 316.003, F.S.; providing that certain vehicles of the Department of Health 13 14 are authorized emergency vehicles; providing that a motorized scooter is not a motor vehicle 15 for traffic control purposes; creating a 16 17 definition of the term motorized scooter; amending s. 316.006, F.S.; authorizing the 18 19 installation of multiparty stop signs on certain roads; providing guidelines for the 20 21 installation of such signage; amending s. 316.1951, F.S.; amending 316.1967, F.S.; 22 23 allowing a fine designated by county ordinance; revising provisions related to parking vehicles 24 to display for sale; amending s. 316.1975, 25 26 F.S.; exempting operators of solid waste and recovered materials vehicles from provisions 27 28 regarding unattended motor vehicles; amending 29 s. 316.2065, F.S.; providing motorized scooter 30 operating regulations; amending s. 316.228, F.S.; requiring strobe lights to be placed on 31

1 the exterior of a commercial vehicle 2 transporting unprocessed forest products 3 extending more than 4 feet beyond the rear of 4 the vehicle; providing an alternate method for 5 placing strobe lights in certain instances; 6 requiring the use of a red flag on the load; 7 amending s. 316.2397, F.S.; authorizing the emergency response vehicles of the Department 8 9 of Health to use red flashing lights; amending s. 316.520, F.S.; clarifying that a violation 10 of a provision governing loads on vehicles is a 11 12 moving rather than a nonmoving violation; exempting certain vehicles carrying 13 14 agricultural products; amending s. 316.640, F.S.; revising the powers and duties of traffic 15 crash investigation officers; authorizing 16 17 university police officers to enforce state 18 traffic laws violated on or adjacent to 19 property under control of the university or its agents; amending s. 316.650, F.S.; requiring 20 21 the issuance of a copy of the traffic school reference guide with traffic citations under 22 23 certain circumstances; amending s. 318.14, F.S.; deleting reference to a restriction on 24 the number of elections a person may make to 25 26 attend a basic driver improvement course; amending s. 318.1451, F.S.; providing traffic 27 school reference guide requirements; amending 28 29 s. 318.18, F.S.; allowing fine amount designated by county ordinance plus court 30 costs; amending the date by which court clerks 31

1 must electronically transmit to the department 2 specified information; amending s. 322.0261, 3 F.S.; deleting reference to a time period and 4 increasing the amount of damage required with 5 respect to a crash for the screening of certain 6 crash reports; requiring the Department of 7 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to approve 8 and regulate certain courses for driver 9 improvement schools; amending s. 322.161, F.S.; increasing the number of points that a driver 10 under a specified age may accumulate before the 11 12 department is required to issue that driver a restricted license; creating s. 322.02615, 13 14 F.S.; providing for mandatory driver 15 improvement courses for certain violations; amending s. 319.001, F.S.; providing 16 17 definitions; amending s. 319.14, F.S.; 18 authorizing the Department of Highway Safety 19 and Motor Vehicles to place a decal on a 20 rebuilt vehicle so as to clarify its identity; 21 providing a penalty for the removal of the 22 decal; amending s. 319.23, F.S.; conforming the 23 requirements for the transfer of ownership on an antique vehicle to that of any other motor 24 25 vehicle; amending s. 319.28, F.S.; deleting the 26 requirement that a copy of a contract for 27 processing an application for title based on a 28 contractual default be provided; amending s. 29 319.30, F.S.; clarifying the major component 30 parts of a motor vehicle; amending s. 320.01, F.S.; conforming the length limitation for a 31

motor home to that established in ch. 316, 1 2 F.S.; providing that a motorized scooter is not 3 a motor vehicle for registration purposes; 4 amending s. 320.02, F.S.; requiring application 5 forms for motor vehicle registration and 6 renewal of registration to include language 7 permitting a voluntary contribution to certain organizations; amending s. 320.023, F.S.; 8 9 requiring certain organizations receiving voluntary check-off contributions to notify the 10 department under certain circumstances and to 11 12 meet specified requirements; conforming the section to the Florida Single Audit Act; 13 14 requiring organizations seeking authorization 15 to establish a voluntary check-off contribution on a motor vehicle registration application to 16 17 conform to the requirements of ch. 496, F.S.; conforming this section to the Florida Single 18 19 Audit Act; amending s. 320.025, Florida Statutes, conforming the vessel registration 20 21 law to the motor vehicle registration law; requiring a decal to be affixed to a vessel 22 23 that is registered under a fictitious name and operated by any law enforcement agency; 24 amending s. 320.05, F.S.; conforming the vessel 25 26 registration law to the motor vehicle registration law; providing instructions for 27 28 the release of information regarding a vessel 29 to the public; amending s. 320.055, F.S.; correcting the registration period for 30 nonapportioned vehicles; amending s. 320.06, 31

F.S.; providing for the placement of only one decal rather than two on a license plate; amending s. 320.072, F.S.; reducing the timeframe a registrant can use a previous license plate for the initial registration fee exemption; amending s. 320.0805, F.S.; reducing the timeframe for a personalized license plate to remain out of circulation prior to reassignment; amending s. 320.08056, F.S.; requiring the department to count annual renewals when determining whether to discontinue a speciality license plate; requiring certain organizations to notify the department under certain circumstances; including two more colleges to the discontinuance exemptions provided for collegiate specialty license plates; amending s. 320.08052, F.S.; providing for a Florida Golf license plate; amending s. 320.08058, F.S.; requiring the department to develop the Florida Golf license plate; providing for distribution of proceeds of the annual use fees; requiring the Florida Sports Foundation to establish a youth golf program; providing for an advisory committee; amending s. 320.08062, F.S.; conforming this section to the Florida Single Audit Act; amending s. 320.083, F.S.; increasing the weight restriction for a private-use vehicle so as to be eligible to apply for the Amateur Radio Operator specialty license plate; amending s. 320.089, F.S.;

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

10

11 12

13 14

15

16 17

18 19

2021

2223

24

2526

2728

29

30

providing for the issuance of Pearl Harbor Survivor and Purple Heart license plates without payment to a disabled veteran; increasing the weight restriction for a private-use vehicle so as to be eligible to apply for the EX-POW or Purple Heart specialty license plate; amending s. 320.18, F.S.; providing for cancellation of license plates and fuel use tax decals for failure to pay motor carrier weight and safety violation penalties; amending s. 320.27, F.S.; redefining the term "motor vehicle auction"; deleting the requirement for a licensee to have the certificate of title or ownership indicia in his or her possession at an auction; deleting a requirement for establishing a pattern of wrongdoing; revising requirements for denial, suspension, or revocation of a motor vehicle dealer license; amending s. 320.60, F.S.; revising definitions used in ss. 320.61-320.70, F.S.; amending s. 320.61, F.S.; amending procedures to be followed when a complaint of unfair cancellation of a dealer agreement has been made by a motor vehicle dealer against a licensee; defining the term "final decision"; amending s. 320.64, F.S.; providing penalties and remedies for violations; deleting subsections (13) and (16); amending subsection (18); creating subsections (22) through (32) and renumbering sections; amending s. 320.641, F.S.; providing procedures relating to

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

10

11

12

13 14

15

16 17

18 19

2021

22

23

24

2526

2728

29

30

discontinuations, cancellations, nonrenewals, modifications, and replacements of franchise agreements; amending s. 320.643, F.S.; amending provisions relating to the transfer, assignment, or sale of franchise agreements; amending s. 320.645, F.S.; amending provisions relating to restrictions upon a licensee's owning a dealership; providing for "dealer development arrangements"; providing exceptions; amending s. 320.699, F.S.; amending procedures for administrative hearings; creating s. 320.6991; providing for severability; amending s. 320.691 F.S.; creating the Automobile Dealers Industry Advisory Board; amending s. 322.01, F.S.; providing that a motorized scooter is not a motor vehicle for drivers' licensing purposes; amending s. 322.05, F.S.; correcting a statutory reference regarding the requirements for an individual under 18 years of age to apply for a driver's license; amending s. 322.081, F.S.; requiring certain organizations receiving voluntary check-off contributions to notify the department under certain circumstances and to meet specified requirements; conforming the section to the Florida Single Audit Act; requiring organizations seeking authorization to establish a voluntary contribution on a motor vehicle registration to register with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13 14

15

16 17

18 19

20

21

22

23

2425

26

2728

29

30

Services; amending s. 322.095, F.S.; requiring the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to approve and regulate certain courses for driver improvement schools; creating s. 322.222, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to hold a hearing when an individual's driver's license has been suspended or revoked due to medical reasons; amending s. 322.25, F.S.; correcting a cross reference; amending s. 322.2615, F.S.; complying with the USDOT's drunk driving prevention incentive program; reducing the timeframe for a temporary permit that is allotted when an individual is charged with driving with an unlawful blood-alcohol level; amending s. 322.27, F.S.; clarifying the time period for a driver's license revocation of a habitual traffic offender; amending s. 322.28, F.S.; deleting obsolete language regarding the revocation of a driver's license; repealing s. 322.282, F.S., relating to the procedure when the court revokes or suspends license or driving privilege and orders reinstatement; amending s. 322.292, F.S.; adding the requirement that DUI programs must be governmental programs or not-for-profit corporations; amending s. 322.61, F.S.; complying with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations; adding two more violations for which a commercial motor vehicle may be disqualified of driving privileges; amending s.

1

2

3

4

5

6 7

8

9

10

11 12

13 14

15

16 17

18 19

20

21

22

23

2425

26

27

28

29

30

1 322.64, F.S.; reducing the timeframe for a 2 temporary permit allotted when an individual 3 holding a commercial driver's license is 4 charged with an unlawful blood-alcohol level; 5 repealing s. 322.331, F.S., relating to the 6 reinstatement of a license of a habitual 7 traffic offender; creating the Driver Licensing 8 Study Commission within the Department of 9 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles; providing for membership and appointment; providing for 10 staff; providing for duties of the commission; 11 12 providing for dissolution of the commission upon submission of a required report; providing 13 14 an appropriation; amending s. 324.091, F.S.; 15 providing for electronic access to vehicle insurance information; amending s. 328.01, 16 17 F.S.; deleting the requirement for a copy of a contract upon which a claim of ownership of a 18 19 vessel is made on a contractual default; 20 amending s. 328.42, F.S.; authorizing the 21 department to deny or cancel any vessel 22 registration, license plate, or fuel use decal 23 when given a dishonored check by the customer; amending s. 328.56, F.S.; deleting the terms 24 25 "commercial" and "recreational" when referring to vessels operated on the waters of this 26 27 state; amending s. 328.72, F.S.; deleting the 28 requirements for the transfer of ownership of 29 an antique vessel; amending s. 328.76, F.S.; 30 providing for the appropriation allotted for fiscal year 2000-2001 to be deposited into the 31

1 Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund; amending 2 s. 713.78, F.S.; adding the insurance company 3 to the list of individuals to be contacted when 4 a vehicle has been towed; providing storage 5 periods before the expiration of which certain 6 salvaged vehicles may not be sold; repealing s. 7 715.05, F.S., relating to the reporting of unclaimed motor vehicles; amending ss. 681.1096 8 9 and 681.1097, F.S.; revising program requirements for the Pilot RV Mediation and 10 Arbitration program; amending s. 681.115, F.S.; 11 12 providing that a motor vehicle sales agreement which prohibits disclosure of its terms is 13 14 void; amending s. 715.07, F.S.; conforming the 15 vessel registration law to the motor vehicle registration law; defining the term "vessel"; 16 authorizing the removal of an undocumented 17 vessel parked on private property; amending s. 18 19 832.09, F.S.; authorizing the department to create a standardized form to be used for 20 notification of satisfaction of a worthless 21 check; amending s. 212.08, F.S.; providing 22 23 additional requirements on vehicle tax assessments; providing effective dates. 24 25 26 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 27 28 Section 1. Subsections (1) and (21) of section 29 316.003, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection (82) is

10

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

added to said section, to read:

30

316.003 Definitions.--The following words and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this section, except where the context otherwise requires:

- (1) AUTHORIZED EMERGENCY VEHICLES.--Vehicles of the fire department (fire patrol), police vehicles, and such ambulances and emergency vehicles of municipal departments, public service corporations operated by private corporations, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Health, and the Department of Transportation as are designated or authorized by their respective department or the chief of police of an incorporated city or any sheriff of any of the various counties.
- (21) MOTOR VEHICLE. -- Any self-propelled vehicle not operated upon rails or guideway, but not including any bicycle, motorized scooter, or moped.
- (82) MOTORIZED SCOOTER.--Any vehicle not having a seat or saddle for the use of the rider, designed to travel on not more than three wheels, and not capable of propelling the vehicle at a speed greater than 30 miles per hour on level ground.

Section 2. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 316.006, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

316.006 Jurisdiction.--Jurisdiction to control traffic is vested as follows:

(2) MUNICIPALITIES. --

(a) Chartered municipalities shall have original jurisdiction over all streets and highways located within their boundaries, except state roads, and may place and maintain such traffic control devices which conform to the manual and specifications of the Department of Transportation

upon all streets and highways under their original jurisdiction as they shall deem necessary to indicate and to carry out the provisions of this chapter or to regulate, warn, or guide traffic.

- (b) A municipality may exercise jurisdiction over any private road or roads, or over any limited access road or roads owned or controlled by a special district, located within its boundaries if the municipality and party or parties owning or controlling such road or roads provide, by written agreement approved by the governing body of the municipality, for municipal traffic control jurisdiction over the road or roads encompassed by such agreement. Pursuant thereto:
- 1. Provision for reimbursement for actual costs of traffic control and enforcement and for liability insurance and indemnification by the party or parties, and such other terms as are mutually agreeable, may be included in such an agreement.
- 2. The exercise of jurisdiction provided for herein shall be in addition to jurisdictional authority presently exercised by municipalities under law, and nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to limit or remove any such jurisdictional authority. Such jurisdiction includes regulation of access to such road or roads by security devices or personnel.
- 3. Any such agreement may provide for the installation of multiparty stop signs by the parties controlling the roads covered by the agreement, if a determination is made by such parties that the signage will enhance traffic safety.

  Multiparty stop signs must conform to the manual and specifications of the Department of Transportation. However, minimum traffic volumes may not be required for the

installation of such signage. Enforcement for the signs shall be as provided in s. 316.123.

This subsection shall not limit those counties which have the charter powers to provide and regulate arterial, toll, and other roads, bridges, tunnels, and related facilities from the proper exercise of those powers by the placement and maintenance of traffic control devices which conform to the manual and specifications of the Department of Transportation on streets and highways located within municipal boundaries.

- (3) COUNTIES.--
- (a) Counties shall have original jurisdiction over all streets and highways located within their boundaries, except all state roads and those streets and highways specified in subsection (2), and may place and maintain such traffic control devices which conform to the manual and specifications of the Department of Transportation upon all streets and highways under their original jurisdiction as they shall deem necessary to indicate and to carry out the provisions of this chapter or to regulate, warn, or guide traffic.
- (b) A county may exercise jurisdiction over any private road or roads, or over any limited access road or roads owned or controlled by a special district, located in the unincorporated area within its boundaries if the county and party or parties owning or controlling such road or roads provide, by written agreement approved by the governing body of the county, for county traffic control jurisdiction over the road or roads encompassed by such agreement. Pursuant thereto:
- 1. Provision for reimbursement for actual costs of traffic control and enforcement and for liability insurance

and indemnification by the party or parties, and such other terms as are mutually agreeable, may be included in such an agreement.

- 2. Prior to entering into an agreement which provides for enforcement of the traffic laws of the state over a private road or roads, or over any limited access road or roads owned or controlled by a special district, the governing body of the county shall consult with the sheriff. No such agreement shall take effect prior to October 1, the beginning of the county fiscal year, unless this requirement is waived in writing by the sheriff.
- 3. The exercise of jurisdiction provided for herein shall be in addition to jurisdictional authority presently exercised by counties under law, and nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to limit or remove any such jurisdictional authority.
- 4. Any such agreement may provide for the installation of multiparty stop signs by the parties controlling the roads covered by the agreement, if a determination is made by such parties that the signage will enhance traffic safety.

  Multiparty stop signs must conform to the manual and specifications of the Department of Transportation. However, minimum traffic volumes may not be required for the installation of such signage. Enforcement for the signs shall be as provided in s. 316.123.

Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (2), each county shall have original jurisdiction to regulate parking, by resolution of the board of county commissioners and the erection of signs conforming to the manual and specifications of the Department of Transportation, in parking areas located

on property owned or leased by the county, whether or not such areas are located within the boundaries of chartered municipalities.

Section 3. Effective July 1, 2001, subsection (4) of section 316.1951, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.1951 Parking for certain purposes prohibited.--

(4) A law enforcement officer, compliance examiner, or license inspector, or supervisor of the department, as authorized in s. 320.58(1)(a), may cause to be removed at the owner's expense any motor vehicle found upon a public street, public parking lot, other public property, or private property, where the public has the right to travel by motor vehicle, which is in violation of subsection (1). Every written notice issued pursuant to this section shall be affixed in a conspicuous place upon a vehicle by a law enforcement officer, compliance examiner, or license inspector, or supervisor of the department. Any vehicle found in violation of subsection (1) within 10 days after a previous violation and written notice shall be subject to immediate removal without an additional waiting period.

Section 4. Subsection (4) of section 316.1967, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.1967 Liability for payment of parking ticket violations and other parking violations.--

(4) Any person who elects to appear before a designated official to present evidence waives his or her right to pay the civil penalty provisions of the ticket. The official, after a hearing, shall make a determination as to whether a parking violation has been committed and may impose a civil penalty not to exceed \$100 or the fine amount designated by county ordinance, plus court costs. Any person

who fails to pay the civil penalty within the time allowed by the court is deemed to have been convicted of a parking ticket violation, and the court shall take appropriate measures to enforce collection of the fine.

Section 5. Subsection (2) of section 316.1975, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.1975 Unattended motor vehicle.--

- (2) This section does not apply to the operator of:
- (a) An authorized emergency vehicle while in the performance of official duties and the vehicle is equipped with an activated antitheft device that prohibits the vehicle from being driven; or
- (b) A licensed delivery truck or other delivery vehicle while making deliveries; or  $\overline{\cdot}$
- (c) A solid waste or recovered materials vehicle while collecting such items.

Section 6. Section 316.2065, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.2065 Bicycle and motorized scooter regulations.--

- or operating a motorized scooter as defined in s. 316.003, has all of the rights and all of the duties applicable to the driver of any other vehicle under this chapter, except as to special regulations in this chapter, and except as to provisions of this chapter which by their nature can have no application.
- (2) A person operating a bicycle may not ride other than upon or astride a permanent and regular seat attached thereto.
- (3)(a) A bicycle may not be used to carry more persons at one time than the number for which it is designed or

equipped, except that an adult rider may carry a child securely attached to his or her person in a backpack or sling.

- (b) Except as provided in paragraph (a), a bicycle rider must carry any passenger who is a child under 4 years of age, or who weighs 40 pounds or less, in a seat or carrier that is designed to carry a child of that age or size and that secures and protects the child from the moving parts of the bicycle.
- (c) A bicycle rider may not allow a passenger to remain in a child seat or carrier on a bicycle when the rider is not in immediate control of the bicycle.
- of age must wear a bicycle helmet that is properly fitted and is fastened securely upon the passenger's head by a strap, and that meets the standards of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI Z 90.4 Bicycle Helmet Standards), the standards of the Snell Memorial Foundation (1984 Standard for Protective Headgear for Use in Bicycling), or any other nationally recognized standards for bicycle helmets adopted by the department. As used in this subsection, the term "passenger" includes a child who is riding in a trailer or semitrailer attached to a bicycle.
- (e) Law enforcement officers and school crossing guards may issue a bicycle safety brochure and a verbal warning to a bicycle rider or passenger who violates this subsection. A bicycle rider or passenger who violates this subsection may be issued a citation by a law enforcement officer and assessed a fine for a pedestrian violation, as provided in s. 318.18. The court shall dismiss the charge against a bicycle rider or passenger for a first violation of

paragraph (d) upon proof of purchase of a bicycle helmet that complies with this subsection.

## (f) A person operating a motorized scooter may not carry passengers.

- (4) No person riding upon any bicycle, coaster, roller skates, sled, motorized scooter, or toy vehicle may attach the same or himself or herself to any vehicle upon a roadway. This subsection does not prohibit attaching a bicycle trailer or bicycle semitrailer to a bicycle if that trailer or semitrailer is commercially available and has been designed for such attachment.
- (5)(a) Any person operating a bicycle upon a roadway at less than the normal speed of traffic at the time and place and under the conditions then existing shall ride as close as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway except under any of the following situations:
- 1. When overtaking and passing another bicycle, motorized scooter, or vehicle proceeding in the same direction.
- 2. When preparing for a left turn at an intersection or into a private road or driveway.
- 3. When reasonably necessary to avoid any condition, including, but not limited to, a fixed or moving object, parked or moving vehicle, bicycle, motorized scooter, pedestrian, animal, surface hazard, or substandard-width lane, that makes it unsafe to continue along the right-hand curb or edge. For the purposes of this subsection, a "substandard-width lane" is a lane that is too narrow for a bicycle or motorized scooter and another vehicle to travel safely side by side within the lane.

- (b) Any person operating a bicycle <u>or motorized</u>

  <u>scooter</u> upon a one-way highway with two or more marked traffic lanes may ride as near the left-hand curb or edge of such roadway as practicable.
- (6) Persons riding bicycles <u>or motorized scooters</u> upon a roadway may not ride more than two abreast except on paths or parts of roadways set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles. Persons riding two abreast may not impede traffic when traveling at less than the normal speed of traffic at the time and place and under the conditions then existing and shall ride within a single lane.
- (7) Any person operating a bicycle <u>or motorized</u> scooter shall keep at least one hand upon the handlebars.
- (8) Every bicycle <u>or motorized scooter</u> in use between sunset and sunrise shall be equipped with a lamp on the front exhibiting a white light visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the front and a lamp and reflector on the rear each exhibiting a red light visible from a distance of 600 feet to the rear. A bicycle or <u>motorized scooter</u> its rider may be equipped with lights or reflectors in addition to those required by this section.
- (9) No parent of any minor child and no guardian of any minor ward may authorize or knowingly permit any such minor child or ward to violate any of the provisions of this section.
- (10) A person propelling a vehicle by human power <u>or</u> <u>operating a motorized scooter</u>, upon and along a sidewalk, or across a roadway upon and along a crosswalk, has all the rights and duties applicable to a pedestrian under the same circumstances.

- (11) A person propelling a bicycle upon and along a sidewalk, or across a roadway upon and along a crosswalk, shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian and shall give an audible signal before overtaking and passing such pedestrian.
- (12) No person upon roller skates, or riding in or by means of any coaster, toy vehicle, or similar device, may go upon any roadway except while crossing a street on a crosswalk; and, when so crossing, such person shall be granted all rights and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to pedestrians.
- (13) This section shall not apply upon any street while set aside as a play street authorized herein or as designated by state, county, or municipal authority.
- (14) Every bicycle <u>and motorized scooter</u> shall be equipped with a brake or brakes which will enable its rider to stop the bicycle <u>or motorized scooter</u> within 25 feet from a speed of 10 miles per hour on dry, level, clean pavement.
- (15) A person engaged in the business of selling bicycles or motorized scooters at retail shall not sell such any bicycle or motorized scooter unless it the bicycle has an identifying number permanently stamped or cast on its frame.
- (16)(a) A person may not knowingly rent or lease any bicycle to be ridden by a child who is under the age of 16 years unless:
  - 1. The child possesses a bicycle helmet; or
- 2. The lessor provides a bicycle helmet for the child to wear.
- (b) A violation of this subsection is a nonmoving violation, punishable as provided in s. 318.18.

- 1 2 3 4
- 5 6 7
- 9 10 11

- 12 13 14
- 15 16
- 17 18
- 19 20
- 21 22 23
- 24 25
- 26 27
- 28 29
- 30 31

- (17) The court may waive, reduce, or suspend payment of any fine imposed under subsection (3) or subsection (16) and may impose any other conditions on the waiver, reduction, or suspension. If the court finds that a person does not have sufficient funds to pay the fine, the court may require the performance of a specified number of hours of community service or attendance at a safety seminar.
- (18) Notwithstanding s. 318.21, all proceeds collected pursuant to s. 318.18 for violations under paragraphs (3)(e) and (16)(b) shall be deposited into the State Transportation Trust Fund.
- (19) The failure of a person to wear a bicycle helmet or the failure of a parent or guardian to prevent a child from riding a bicycle without a bicycle helmet may not be considered evidence of negligence or contributory negligence.
- (20) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a violation of this section is a noncriminal traffic infraction, punishable as a pedestrian violation as provided in chapter 318. A law enforcement officer may issue traffic citations for a violation of subsection (3) or subsection (16) only if the violation occurs on a bicycle path or road, as defined in s. 334.03. However, they may not issue citations to persons on private property, except any part thereof which is open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular traffic.
- Section 7. Subsection (2) of section 316.228, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
  - 316.228 Lamps or flags on projecting load.--
- (2) Any commercial motor vehicle or trailer, except as stated in s. 316.515(7), transporting a load of unprocessed logs or, long pulpwood, poles, or posts which load extends extend more than 4 feet beyond the rear of the body or bed of

such vehicle, must have securely fixed as close as practical 2 to the end of any such projection one amber strobe-type lamp 3 equipped with a multidirectional type lens so mounted as to be 4 visible from the rear and both sides of the projecting load. 5 If the mounting of one strobe lamp cannot be accomplished so 6 that it is visible from the rear and both sides of the 7 projecting load, multiple strobe lights shall be utilized so 8 as to meet the visibility requirements of this subsection. The 9 strobe lamp must flash at a rate of at least 60 flashes per minute and must be plainly visible from a distance of at least 10 11 500 feet to the rear and sides of the projecting load at any 12 time of the day or night. The lamp must be operating at any time of the day or night when the vehicle is operated on any 13 14 highway or parked on the shoulder or immediately adjacent to 15 the traveled portion of any public roadway. The projecting 16 load shall also be marked with a red flag as described in 17 subsection (1).

Section 8. Subsection (9) of section 316.2397, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.2397 Certain lights prohibited; exceptions.--

(9) Flashing red lights may be used by emergency response vehicles of the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Health when responding to an emergency in the line of duty.

Section 9. Section 316.520, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.520 Loads on vehicles.--

18

19

20

21

22

23

2425

26

2728

29

30

31

(1) A vehicle may not be driven or moved on any highway unless the vehicle is so constructed or loaded as to prevent any of its load from dropping, shifting, leaking, blowing, or otherwise escaping therefrom, except that sand may

be dropped only for the purpose of securing traction or water or other substance may be sprinkled on a roadway in cleaning or maintaining the roadway.

- (2) It is the duty of every owner and driver, severally, of any vehicle hauling, upon any public road or highway open to the public, dirt, sand, lime rock, gravel, silica, or other similar aggregate or trash, garbage, or any similar material that could fall or blow from such vehicle, to prevent such materials from falling, blowing, or in any way escaping from such vehicle. Covering and securing the load with a close-fitting tarpaulin or other appropriate cover is required.
- (3) A violation of this section is a noncriminal traffic infraction, punishable as a <u>moving</u> nonmoving violation as provided in chapter 318.
- (4) This section does not apply to vehicles carrying agricultural products locally from a field harvest site to a farm storage site or to a farm feed lot on roads where the posted speed limit is 60 miles per hour or less and the distance driven on public roads is less than 20 miles.

Section 10. Subsections (1), (2), and (3) of section 316.640, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

316.640 Enforcement.--The enforcement of the traffic laws of this state is vested as follows:

(1) STATE.--

(a)1.a. The Division of Florida Highway Patrol of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, the Division of Law Enforcement of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the Division of Law Enforcement of the Department of Environmental Protection, and law enforcement officers of the Department of Transportation each have authority to

enforce all of the traffic laws of this state on all the streets and highways thereof and elsewhere throughout the state wherever the public has a right to travel by motor vehicle. The Division of the Florida Highway Patrol may employ as a traffic accident investigation officer any individual who successfully completes at least 200 hours of instruction in traffic accident investigation and court presentation through the Selective Traffic Enforcement Program as approved by the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission and funded through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration or a similar program approved by the commission, but who does not necessarily meet the uniform minimum standards established by the commission for law enforcement officers or auxiliary law enforcement officers under chapter 943. Any such traffic accident investigation officer who makes an investigation at the scene of a traffic accident may issue traffic citations, based upon personal investigation, when he or she has reasonable and probable grounds to believe that a person who was involved in the accident committed an offense under this chapter, chapter 319, chapter 320, or chapter 322 in connection with the accident. This paragraph does not permit the carrying of firearms or other weapons, nor do such officers have arrest authority other than for the issuance of a traffic citation as authorized in this paragraph.

2

3

5

6 7

8

9

10

1112

13 14

15

16 17

18 19

20

21

2223

24

2526

27

28

29

30

31

b. University police officers shall have authority to enforce all of the traffic laws of this state when such violations occur on or about any property or facilities that are under the guidance, supervision, regulation, or control of a state university, a direct support organization of such state university, or any other organization controlled by the state university or a direct support organization of the state

1 2 3

4 5

6 7 8

9 10 11

12 13

14

15 16 17

18 19

20 21

23 24

22

26 27 28

25

29 30

31

university the State University System, except that traffic laws may be enforced off-campus when hot pursuit originates on-campus on or adjacent to any such property or facilities.

- Community college police officers shall have the authority to enforce all the traffic laws of this state only when such violations occur on any property or facilities that are under the guidance, supervision, regulation, or control of the community college system.
- d. Police officers employed by an airport authority shall have the authority to enforce all of the traffic laws of this state only when such violations occur on any property or facilities that are owned or operated by an airport authority.
- (I) An airport authority may employ as a parking enforcement specialist any individual who successfully completes a training program established and approved by the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission for parking enforcement specialists but who does not otherwise meet the uniform minimum standards established by the commission for law enforcement officers or auxiliary or part-time officers under s. 943.12. Nothing in this sub-sub-subparagraph shall be construed to permit the carrying of firearms or other weapons, nor shall such parking enforcement specialist have arrest authority.
- (II) A parking enforcement specialist employed by an airport authority is authorized to enforce all state, county, and municipal laws and ordinances governing parking only when such violations are on property or facilities owned or operated by the airport authority employing the specialist, by appropriate state, county, or municipal traffic citation.
- The Office of Agricultural Law Enforcement of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall have the

authority to enforce traffic laws of this state only as authorized by the provisions of chapter 570. However, nothing in this section shall expand the authority of the Office of Agricultural Law Enforcement at its agricultural inspection stations to issue any traffic tickets except those traffic tickets for vehicles illegally passing the inspection station.

- f. School safety officers shall have the authority to enforce all of the traffic laws of this state when such violations occur on or about any property or facilities which are under the guidance, supervision, regulation, or control of the district school board.
- 2. An agency of the state as described in subparagraph 1. is prohibited from establishing a traffic citation quota. A violation of this subparagraph is not subject to the penalties provided in chapter 318.
- 3. Any disciplinary action taken or performance evaluation conducted by an agency of the state as described in subparagraph 1. of a law enforcement officer's traffic enforcement activity must be in accordance with written work-performance standards. Such standards must be approved by the agency and any collective bargaining unit representing such law enforcement officer. A violation of this subparagraph is not subject to the penalties provided in chapter 318.
- (b)1. The Department of Transportation has authority to enforce on all the streets and highways of this state all laws applicable within its authority.
- 2.a. The Department of Transportation shall develop training and qualifications standards for toll enforcement officers whose sole authority is to enforce the payment of tolls pursuant to s. 316.1001. Nothing in this subparagraph shall be construed to permit the carrying of firearms or other

weapons, nor shall a toll enforcement officer have arrest authority.

- b. For the purpose of enforcing s. 316.1001, governmental entities, as defined in s. 334.03, which own or operate a toll facility may employ independent contractors or designate employees as toll enforcement officers; however, any such toll enforcement officer must successfully meet the training and qualifications standards for toll enforcement officers established by the Department of Transportation.
  - (2) COUNTIES.--

- (a) The sheriff's office of each of the several counties of this state shall enforce all of the traffic laws of this state on all the streets and highways thereof and elsewhere throughout the county wherever the public has the right to travel by motor vehicle. In addition, the sheriff's office may be required by the county to enforce the traffic laws of this state on any private or limited access road or roads over which the county has jurisdiction pursuant to a written agreement entered into under s. 316.006(3)(b).
- (b) The sheriff's office of each county may employ as a traffic crash investigation officer any individual who successfully completes at least 200 hours of instruction in traffic crash investigation and court presentation through the Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) as approved by the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission and funded through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) or a similar program approved by the commission, but who does not necessarily otherwise meet the uniform minimum standards established by the commission for law enforcement officers or auxiliary law enforcement officers under chapter 943. Any such traffic crash investigation

officer who makes an investigation at the scene of a traffic crash may issue traffic citations when, based upon personal investigation, he or she has reasonable and probable grounds to believe that a person who was involved in the crash has committed an offense under this chapter, chapter 319, chapter 320, or chapter 322 in connection with the crash accident. This paragraph does not permit the carrying of firearms or other weapons, nor do such officers have arrest authority other than for the issuance of a traffic citation as authorized in this paragraph.

- (c) The sheriff's office of each of the several counties of this state may employ as a parking enforcement specialist any individual who successfully completes a training program established and approved by the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission for parking enforcement specialists, but who does not necessarily otherwise meet the uniform minimum standards established by the commission for law enforcement officers or auxiliary or part-time officers under s. 943.12.
- 1. A parking enforcement specialist employed by the sheriff's office of each of the several counties of this state is authorized to enforce all state and county laws, ordinances, regulations, and official signs governing parking within the unincorporated areas of the county by appropriate state or county citation and may issue such citations for parking in violation of signs erected pursuant to s.

  316.006(3) at parking areas located on property owned or leased by a county, whether or not such areas are within the boundaries of a chartered municipality.

- 2. A parking enforcement specialist employed pursuant to this subsection shall not carry firearms or other weapons or have arrest authority.
  - (3) MUNICIPALITIES. --

- (a) The police department of each chartered municipality shall enforce the traffic laws of this state on all the streets and highways thereof and elsewhere throughout the municipality wherever the public has the right to travel by motor vehicle. In addition, the police department may be required by a municipality to enforce the traffic laws of this state on any private or limited access road or roads over which the municipality has jurisdiction pursuant to a written agreement entered into under s. 316.006(2)(b). However, nothing in this chapter shall affect any law, general, special, or otherwise, in effect on January 1, 1972, relating to "hot pursuit" without the boundaries of the municipality.
- (b) The police department of a chartered municipality may employ as a traffic crash investigation officer any individual who successfully completes at least 200 hours of instruction in traffic crash investigation and court presentation through the Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) as approved by the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission and funded through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) or a similar program approved by the commission, but who does not otherwise meet the uniform minimum standards established by the commission for law enforcement officers or auxiliary law enforcement officers under chapter 943. Any such traffic crash investigation officer who makes an investigation at the scene of a traffic crash is authorized to issue traffic citations when, based upon personal investigation, he or she has

reasonable and probable grounds to believe that a person involved <u>in the crash</u> has committed an offense under the provisions of this chapter, <u>chapter 319</u>, <u>chapter 320</u>, <u>or chapter 322</u> in connection with the crash. <del>Nothing in This paragraph <u>does not shall be construed to permit the carrying of firearms or other weapons, nor <u>do shall such officers have arrest authority other than for the issuance of a traffic citation as authorized above.</del></u></u>

- (c)1. A chartered municipality or its authorized agency or instrumentality may employ as a parking enforcement specialist any individual who successfully completes a training program established and approved by the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission for parking enforcement specialists, but who does not otherwise meet the uniform minimum standards established by the commission for law enforcement officers or auxiliary or part-time officers under s. 943.12.
- 2. A parking enforcement specialist employed by a chartered municipality or its authorized agency or instrumentality is authorized to enforce all state, county, and municipal laws and ordinances governing parking within the boundaries of the municipality employing the specialist, by appropriate state, county, or municipal traffic citation.

  Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to permit the carrying of firearms or other weapons, nor shall such a parking enforcement specialist have arrest authority.
- 3. A parking enforcement specialist employed pursuant to this subsection may not carry firearms or other weapons or have arrest authority.

Section 11. Subsection (3) of section 316.650, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.650 Traffic citations.--

traffic citation to an alleged violator of any provision of the motor vehicle laws of this state or of any traffic ordinance of any city or town, shall deposit the original and one copy of such traffic citation or, in the case of a traffic enforcement agency which has an automated citation issuance system, shall provide an electronic facsimile with a court having jurisdiction over the alleged offense or with its traffic violations bureau within 5 days after issuance to the violator. If a law enforcement officer distributes additional information, such information shall be a copy of the traffic school reference guide.

Section 12. Subsection (9) of section 318.14, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 318.14 Noncriminal traffic infractions; exception; procedures.--
- (9) Any person who is cited for an infraction under this section other than a violation of s. 320.0605, s. 320.07(3)(a) or (b), s. 322.065, s. 322.15(1), s. 322.61, or s. 322.62 may, in lieu of a court appearance, elect to attend in the location of his or her choice within this state a basic driver improvement course approved by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. In such a case, adjudication must be withheld; points, as provided by s. 322.27, may not be assessed; and the civil penalty that is imposed by s. 318.18(3) must be reduced by 18 percent; however, a person may not make an election under this subsection if the person has made an election under this subsection in the preceding 12 months. A person may make no more than five elections under this subsection. The

requirement for community service under s. 318.18(8) is not waived by a plea of nolo contendere or by the withholding of adjudication of guilt by a court.

Section 13. Subsection (6) and paragraph (a) of subsection (8) of section 318.18, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1

2

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11 12

13 14

15

16 17

18

19

20

21

2223

24

2526

2728

29

30

- 318.18 Amount of civil penalties.--The penalties required for a noncriminal disposition pursuant to s. 318.14 are as follows:
- (6) One hundred dollars or the fine amount designated by county ordinance, plus court costs for illegally parking, under s. 316.1955, in a parking space provided for people who have disabilities. However, this fine will be waived if a person provides to the law enforcement agency that issued the citation for such a violation proof that the person committing the violation has a valid parking permit or license plate issued pursuant to s. 316.1958, s. 320.0842, s. 320.0843, s. 320.0845, or s. 320.0848 or a signed affidavit that the owner of the disabled parking permit or license plate was present at the time the violation occurred, and that such a parking permit or license plate was valid at the time the violation occurred. The law enforcement officer, upon determining that all required documentation has been submitted verifying that the required parking permit or license plate was valid at the time of the violation, must sign an affidavit of compliance. Upon provision of the affidavit of compliance and payment of a \$5 dismissal fee to the clerk of the circuit court, the clerk shall dismiss the citation.
- (8)(a) Any person who fails to comply with the court's requirements or who fails to pay the civil penalties specified in this section within the 30-day period provided for in s.

318.14 must pay an additional civil penalty of \$12, \$2.50 of which must be deposited into the General Revenue Fund, and \$9.50 of which must be deposited in the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund. There is hereby appropriated from the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund for fiscal year 1996-1997 the amount of \$4 million. From this appropriation the department shall contract with the Florida Association of Court Clerks, Inc., to design, establish, operate, upgrade, and maintain an automated statewide Uniform Traffic Citation Accounting System to be operated by the clerks of the court which shall include, but not be limited to, the accounting for traffic infractions by type, a record of the disposition of the citations, and an accounting system for the fines assessed and the subsequent fine amounts paid to the clerks of the court. On or before December 1, 2002 2001, the clerks of the court must provide the information required by this chapter to be transmitted to the department by electronic transmission pursuant to the contract.

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11 12

13 14

15

16 17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

2526

27

2829

30

31

(b) Any person who fails to comply with the court's requirements as to civil penalties specified in this section due to demonstrable financial hardship shall be authorized to satisfy such civil penalties by public works or community service. Each hour of such service shall be applied, at the rate of the minimum wage, toward payment of the person's civil penalties; provided, however, that if the person has a trade or profession for which there is a community service need and application, the rate for each hour of such service shall be the average standard wage for such trade or profession. Any person who fails to comply with the court's requirements as to such civil penalties who does not demonstrate financial hardship may also, at the discretion of the court, be

authorized to satisfy such civil penalties by public works or community service in the same manner.

(c) If the noncriminal infraction has caused or resulted in the death of another, the person who committed the infraction may perform 120 community service hours under s. 316.027(4), in addition to any other penalties.

Section 14. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and subsection (2) of section 322.0261, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

322.0261 Mandatory driver improvement course; certain crashes.--

- (1) The department shall screen crash reports received under s. 316.066 or s. 324.051 to identify crashes involving the following:
- (b) A second crash by the same operator within the previous 2-year period involving property damage in an apparent amount of at least\$2,500\$500.
- (2) With respect to an operator convicted of, or who pleaded nolo contendere to, a traffic offense giving rise to a crash identified pursuant to subsection (1), the department shall require that the operator, in addition to other applicable penalties, attend a departmentally approved <a href="mailto:basic">basic</a> driver improvement course in order to maintain driving privileges. If the operator fails to complete the course within 90 days of receiving notice from the department, the operator's driver's license shall be canceled by the department until the course is successfully completed.

Section 15. Section 322.02615, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

322.02615 Mandatory driver improvement course; certain violations.--

(1) The department shall screen reports of convictions for violations of chapter 316 to identify operators who:

- (a) Are less than 21 years of age and have been convicted of, or pleaded nolo contendere to, a noncriminal moving infraction and have also been convicted of, or pleaded nolo contendere to, another noncriminal moving infraction since initial license issuance.
- (b) Have been convicted of, or pleaded nolo contendere to, more than one noncriminal moving infraction in a 12-month period.
- (2) With respect to an operator convicted of, or who has pleaded nolo contendere to, a noncriminal traffic offense identified under subsection (1), the department shall require that the operator, in addition to other applicable penalties, attend a departmentally approved basic driver improvement course in order to maintain driving privileges. If the operator fails to complete the course within 90 days after receiving notice from the department, the operator's driver's license shall be suspended by the department until the course is successfully completed.
- (3) Attendance of a course approved by the department as a driver improvement course for purposes of s. 318.14(9) shall satisfy the requirements of this section. However, attendance of a course as required by this section is not included in the limitation on course elections under s. 318.14(9).
- Section 16. Subsection (5) of section 318.1451, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
  - 318.1451 Driver improvement schools.--
- (5)(a) No governmental entity or court shall provide,issue, or maintain any information or orders regarding driver

improvement schools or course providers, with the exception of the traffic school reference guide or course provider list referred to in paragraph (b)directing inquiries or requests to the local telephone directory heading of driving instruction or the traffic school reference guide. However, the department is authorized to maintain the information and records necessary to administer its duties and responsibilities for driver improvement courses. Where such information is a public record as defined in chapter 119, it shall be made available to the public upon request pursuant to s. 119.07(1). Course providers receiving requests for information about traffic schools from geographic areas that they do not serve shall provide a telephone number for a course provider that they believe services such geographic area.

(b) The department shall prepare for any governmental entity or court to distribute a traffic school reference guide which shall list the benefits of attending a driver improvement school and contain the names of the fully approved course providers with a single telephone number for each such provider, as furnished by the provider. The cost of producing the traffic school reference guide must be assumed equally by providers electing to have their course included in the guide. Clerks of court may reproduce the traffic school reference guide course provider list, provided that each name is rotated on each reproduction so that each provider occupies each position on the list in a equitable manner, but under no circumstance may any list of course providers or schools be included, and shall refer further inquiries to the telephone directory under driving instruction.

Section 17. Section 319.001, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

319.001 Definitions.--As used in this chapter, the term:

- (1) "Department" means the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.
- (2) "Front-end assembly" means fenders, hood, grill, and bumper.
- (3)(2) "Licensed dealer," unless otherwise specifically provided, means a motor vehicle dealer licensed under s. 320.27, a mobile home dealer licensed under s. 320.77, or a recreational vehicle dealer licensed under s. 320.771.
- $\underline{\mbox{(4)}}$  "Motorcycle body assembly" means frame, fenders, and gas tanks.
- (5) "Motorcycle engine" means cylinder block, heads, engine case, and crank case.
  - (6) "Motorcycle transmission" means drive train.
- (7) "New mobile home" means a mobile home the equitable or legal title to which has never been transferred by a manufacturer, distributor, importer, or dealer to an ultimate purchaser.
- (8)(4) "New motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle the equitable or legal title to which has never been transferred by a manufacturer, distributor, importer, or dealer to an ultimate purchaser; however, when legal title is not transferred but possession of a motor vehicle is transferred pursuant to a conditional sales contract or lease and the conditions are not satisfied and the vehicle is returned to the motor vehicle dealer, the motor vehicle may be resold by the motor vehicle dealer as a new motor vehicle, provided the

selling motor vehicle dealer gives the following written notice to the purchaser: "THIS VEHICLE WAS DELIVERED TO A PREVIOUS PURCHASER." The purchaser shall sign an acknowledgment, a copy of which is kept in the selling dealer's file.

(9) "Rear body section" means both quarter panels, decklid, bumper, and floor pan.

(10)(5) "Satisfaction of lien" means full payment of a debt or release of a debtor from a lien by the lienholder.

(11) "Used motor vehicle" means any motor vehicle that is not a "new motor vehicle" as defined in subsection (8)(4).

Section 18. Subsections (1), (2), and (3) of section 319.14, Florida Statutes, are amended, subsections (6), (7), and (8) are renumbered as subsections (7), (8), and (9), respectively, and a new subsection (6) is added to said section, to read:

319.14 Sale of motor vehicles registered or used as taxicabs, police vehicles, lease vehicles, or rebuilt vehicles and nonconforming vehicles.--

(1)(a) No person shall knowingly offer for sale, sell, or exchange any vehicle that has been licensed, registered, or used as a taxicab, police vehicle, or short-term-lease vehicle, or a vehicle that has been repurchased by a manufacturer pursuant to a settlement, determination, or decision under chapter 681, until the department has stamped in a conspicuous place on the certificate of title of the vehicle, or its duplicate, words stating the nature of the previous use of the vehicle or the title has been stamped "Manufacturer's Buy Back" to reflect that the vehicle is a nonconforming vehicle. If the certificate of title or

duplicate was not so stamped upon initial issuance thereof or if, subsequent to initial issuance of the title, the use of the vehicle is changed to a use requiring the notation provided for in this section, the owner or lienholder of the vehicle shall surrender the certificate of title or duplicate to the department prior to offering the vehicle for sale, and the department shall stamp the certificate or duplicate as required herein. When a vehicle has been repurchased by a manufacturer pursuant to a settlement, determination, or decision under chapter 681, the title shall be stamped "Manufacturer's Buy Back" to reflect that the vehicle is a nonconforming vehicle.

(b) No person shall knowingly offer for sale, sell, or exchange a rebuilt vehicle until the department has stamped in a conspicuous place on the certificate of title for the vehicle words stating that the vehicle has been rebuilt orassembled from parts, or combined, or is a kit car, glider kit, replica, or flood vehicle unless proper application for a certificate of title for a vehicle that is rebuilt orassembled from parts, or combined, or is a kit car, glider kit, replica, or flood vehicle has been made to the department in accordance with this chapter and the department or its agent has conducted the physical examination of the vehicle to assure the identity of the vehicle and all major component parts, as defined in s. 319.30(1)(e), which have been repaired or replaced. Thereafter, the department shall affix a decal to the vehicle, in the manner prescribed by the department, showing the vehicle to be rebuilt.

(c) As used in this section:

30

2

4

5

6 7

8

9

10

11 12

13 14

15

16 17

18 19

20

21

2223

24

2526

27

28

29

- "Police vehicle" means a motor vehicle owned or leased by the state or a county or municipality and used in law enforcement.
- 2.a. "Short-term-lease vehicle" means a motor vehicle leased without a driver and under a written agreement to one or more persons from time to time for a period of less than 12 months.
- b. "Long-term-lease vehicle" means a motor vehicle leased without a driver and under a written agreement to one person for a period of 12 months or longer.
- c. "Lease vehicle" includes both short-term-lease vehicles and long-term-lease vehicles.
- 3. "Rebuilt vehicle" means a motor vehicle or mobile home built from salvage or junk, as defined in s. 319.30(1).
- 4. "Assembled from parts" means a motor vehicle or mobile home assembled from parts or combined from parts of motor vehicles or mobile homes, new or used. "Assembled from parts" does not mean a motor vehicle defined as a "rebuilt vehicle" in subparagraph 3., which has been declared a total loss pursuant to s. 319.30.
- 5. "Combined" means assembled by combining two motor

  vehicles neither of which has been titled and branded as

  "Salvage Unrebuildable."
- $\underline{5.6.}$  "Kit car" means a motor vehicle assembled with a kit supplied by a manufacturer to rebuild a wrecked or outdated motor vehicle with a new body kit.
- $\underline{6.7.}$  "Glider kit" means a vehicle assembled with a kit supplied by a manufacturer to rebuild a wrecked or outdated truck or truck tractor.
- 7.8. "Replica" means a complete new motor vehicle manufactured to look like an old vehicle.

8.9. "Flood vehicle" means a motor vehicle or mobile home that has been declared to be a total loss pursuant to s. 319.30(3)(a) resulting from damage caused by water.

9.10. "Nonconforming vehicle" means a motor vehicle which has been purchased by a manufacturer pursuant to a settlement, determination, or decision under chapter 681.

10.11. "Settlement" means an agreement entered into between a manufacturer and a consumer that occurs after a dispute is submitted to a program, or an informal dispute settlement procedure established by a manufacturer or is approved for arbitration before the New Motor Vehicle Arbitration Board as defined in s. 681.102.

- (2) No person shall knowingly sell, exchange, or transfer a vehicle referred to in subsection (1) without, prior to consummating the sale, exchange, or transfer, disclosing in writing to the purchaser, customer, or transferee the fact that the vehicle has previously been titled, registered, or used as a taxicab, police vehicle, or short-term-lease vehicle or is a vehicle that is rebuilt or, assembled from parts, or combined, or is a kit car, glider kit, replica, or flood vehicle, or is a nonconforming vehicle, as the case may be.
- exchange any vehicle referred to in subsection (1), knowingly or intentionally advertises, publishes, disseminates, circulates, or places before the public in any communications medium, whether directly or indirectly, any offer to sell or exchange the vehicle shall clearly and precisely state in each such offer that the vehicle has previously been titled, registered, or used as a taxicab, police vehicle, or short-term-lease vehicle or that the vehicle or mobile home is

a vehicle that is rebuilt <u>or</u>,assembled from parts, <del>or</del> <del>combined,</del>or is a kit car, glider kit, replica, or flood vehicle, or a nonconforming vehicle, as the case may be. Any person who violates this subsection is guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

(6) Any person who removes a rebuilt decal from a rebuilt vehicle or who knowingly possesses a rebuilt vehicle from which a rebuilt decal has been removed is guilty of a felony of the third degree punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

Section 19. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section 319.23, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

319.23 Application for, and issuance of, certificate of title.--

(3) If a certificate of title has not previously been issued for a motor vehicle or mobile home in this state, the application, unless otherwise provided for in this chapter, shall be accompanied by a proper bill of sale or sworn statement of ownership, or a duly certified copy thereof, or by a certificate of title, bill of sale, or other evidence of ownership required by the law of the state or county from which the motor vehicle or mobile home was brought into this state. The application shall also be accompanied by:

(c) If the vehicle is an ancient or antique vehicle, as defined in s. 320.086, the application shall be accompanied by a certificate of title; a bill of sale and a registration; or a bill of sale and an affidavit by the owner defending the title from all claims. The bill of sale must contain a complete vehicle description to include the vehicle

identification or engine number, year make, color, selling price, and signatures of the seller and purchaser.

3

5

6

7

8

9

10

11 12

13 14

15

16 17

18 19

20

21

2223

24

2526

27

28

29

30

31

2

Verification of the vehicle identification number is not required for any new motor vehicle; any mobile home; any trailer or semitrailer with a net weight of less than 2,000 pounds; or any travel trailer, camping trailer, truck camper, or fifth-wheel recreation trailer.

Section 20. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 319.28, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

319.28 Transfer of ownership by operation of law.--

(1)(a) In the event of the transfer of ownership of a motor vehicle or mobile home by operation of law as upon inheritance, devise or bequest, order in bankruptcy, insolvency, replevin, attachment, execution or other judicial sale or whenever the engine of a motor vehicle is replaced by another engine or whenever a motor vehicle is sold to satisfy storage or repair charges or repossession is had upon default in performance of the terms of a security agreement, chattel mortgage, conditional sales contract, trust receipt, or other like agreement, and upon the surrender of the prior certificate of title or, when that is not possible, presentation of satisfactory proof to the department of ownership and right of possession to such motor vehicle or mobile home, and upon payment of the fee prescribed by law and presentation of an application for certificate of title, the department may issue to the applicant a certificate of title If the application is predicated upon a security thereto. agreement, chattel mortgage, conditional sales contract, trust receipt, or other like agreement, the original instrument or a certified copy thereof shall accompany the application;

however, if an owner under a chattel mortgage voluntarily surrenders possession of the motor vehicle or mobile home, the original or a certified copy of the chattel mortgage shall accompany the application for a certificate of title and it shall not be necessary to institute proceedings in any court to foreclose such mortgage.

Section 21. Paragraphs (e) and (f) of subsection (1) and paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 319.30, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

- 319.30 Definitions; dismantling, destruction, change of identity of motor vehicle or mobile home; salvage.--
  - (1) As used in this section, the term:
  - (e) "Major component parts" means:
- 1. For motor vehicles other than motorcycles: the front-end assembly (fenders, hood, grill, bumper), cowl assembly, rear body section (both quarter panels, decklid, bumper), floor pan, door assemblies, engine, frame, transmission, and airbag.
- 2. For trucks, in addition to 1. above: the truck bed.
- 3. For motorcycles: body assembly, frame, fenders, gas tanks, engine, cylinder block, heads, engine case, crank case, transmission, drive train, front fork assembly, and wheels.
- 4. For mobile homes: the frame. the front-end assembly (fenders, hood, grill, and bumper); cowl assembly; rear body section (both quarter panels, decklid, bumper, and floor pan); door assemblies; engine; frame; or transmission.
- (f) "Major part" means the front-end assembly (fenders, hood, grill, and bumper); cowl assembly; or rear

body section (both quarter panels, decklid, bumper, and floor pan).

(3)

2

3

4

5

6

7 8

9

10

11

12

13 14

15

16 17

18 19

20

21

2223

24

2526

27

2829

30

31

The owner of any motor vehicle or mobile home which is considered to be salvage shall, within 72 hours after the motor vehicle or mobile home becomes salvage, forward the title to the motor vehicle or mobile home to the department for processing. However, an insurance company which pays money as compensation for total loss of a motor vehicle or mobile home shall obtain the certificate of title for the motor vehicle or mobile home and, within 72 hours after receiving such certificate of title, shall forward such title to the department for processing. The owner or insurance company, as the case may be, may not dispose of a vehicle or mobile home that is a total loss before it has obtained a salvage certificate of title or certificate of destruction from the department. When applying for a salvage certificate of title or certificate of destruction, the owner or insurance company must provide the department with an estimate of the costs of repairing the physical and mechanical damage suffered by the vehicle for which a salvage certificate of title or certificate of destruction is sought. If the estimated costs of repairing the physical and mechanical damage to the vehicle are equal to 80 percent or more of the current retail cost of the vehicle, as established in any official used car or used mobile home guide, the department shall declare the vehicle unrebuildable and print a certificate of destruction, which authorizes the dismantling or destruction of the motor vehicle or mobile home described therein. This certificate of destruction shall be reassignable a maximum of two times before dismantling or destruction of the vehicle shall be

required, and shall accompany the motor vehicle or mobile home for which it is issued, when such motor vehicle or mobile home 2 3 is sold for such purposes, in lieu of a certificate of title, 4 and, thereafter, the department shall refuse issuance of any 5 certificate of title for that vehicle. Nothing in this subsection shall be applicable when a vehicle is worth less 6 7 than \$1,500 retail in undamaged condition in any official used 8 motor vehicle guide or used mobile home guide. An insurer 9 paying a total loss claim may obtain a certificate of destruction for such vehicle. or When a stolen motor vehicle 10 or mobile home is recovered in substantially intact condition 11 12 and is readily resalable without extensive repairs to or 13 replacement of the frame or engine, the insurer shall obtain a 14 certificate of title in its own name before the vehicle may be 15 sold or transferred. Any person who willfully and deliberately 16 violates this paragraph or falsifies any document to avoid the 17 requirements of this paragraph commits a misdemeanor of the 18 first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 19 775.083.

Section 22. Subsection (1) of section 320.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.01 Definitions, general.—As used in the Florida Statutes, except as otherwise provided, the term:

(1) "Motor vehicle" means:

20

2122

23

2425

26

27

2829

30

31

(a) An automobile, motorcycle, truck, trailer, semitrailer, truck tractor and semitrailer combination, or any other vehicle operated on the roads of this state, used to transport persons or property, and propelled by power other than muscular power, but the term does not include traction engines, road rollers, such vehicles as run only upon a track, bicycles, motorized scooters, or mopeds.

(b) A recreational vehicle-type unit primarily designed as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, or travel use, which either has its own motive power or is mounted on or drawn by another vehicle. Recreational vehicle-type units, when traveling on the public roadways of this state, must comply with the length and width provisions of s. 316.515, as that section may hereafter be amended. As defined below, the basic entities are:

- 1. The "travel trailer," which is a vehicular portable unit, mounted on wheels, of such a size or weight as not to require special highway movement permits when drawn by a motorized vehicle. It is primarily designed and constructed to provide temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, or travel use. It has a body width of no more than 8 1/2 feet and an overall body length of no more than 40 feet when factory-equipped for the road.
- 2. The "camping trailer," which is a vehicular portable unit mounted on wheels and constructed with collapsible partial sidewalls which fold for towing by another vehicle and unfold at the campsite to provide temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, or travel use.
- 3. The "truck camper," which is a truck equipped with a portable unit designed to be loaded onto, or affixed to, the bed or chassis of the truck and constructed to provide temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, or travel use.
- 4. The "motor home," which is a vehicular unit which does not exceed the 40 feet in length, and the height, and the width limitations provided in s. 316.515, is a self-propelled motor vehicle, and is primarily designed to provide temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, or travel use.

5. The "private motor coach," which is a vehicular unit which does not exceed the length, width, and height limitations provided in s. 316.515(9), is built on a self-propelled bus type chassis having no fewer than three load-bearing axles, and is primarily designed to provide temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, or travel use.

- 6. The "van conversion," which is a vehicular unit which does not exceed the length and width limitations provided in s. 316.515, is built on a self-propelled motor vehicle chassis, and is designed for recreation, camping, and travel use.
- 7. The "park trailer," which is a transportable unit which has a body width not exceeding 14 feet and which is built on a single chassis and is designed to provide seasonal or temporary living quarters when connected to utilities necessary for operation of installed fixtures and appliances. The total area of the unit in a setup mode, when measured from the exterior surface of the exterior stud walls at the level of maximum dimensions, not including any bay window, does not exceed 400 square feet when constructed to ANSI A-119.5 standards, and 500 square feet when constructed to United States Department of Housing and Urban Development Standards. The length of a park trailer means the distance from the exterior of the front of the body (nearest to the drawbar and coupling mechanism) to the exterior of the rear of the body (at the opposite end of the body), including any protrusions.
- 8. The "fifth-wheel trailer," which is a vehicular unit mounted on wheels, designed to provide temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, or travel use, of such size or weight as not to require a special highway movement

permit, of gross trailer area not to exceed 400 square feet in the setup mode, and designed to be towed by a motorized vehicle that contains a towing mechanism that is mounted above or forward of the tow vehicle's rear axle.

Section 23. Subsections (18) and (19) are added to section 320.02, Florida Statutes, to read:

320.02 Registration required; application for registration; forms.--

- registration and renewal of registration must include language permitting a voluntary contribution of \$2 per applicant, which shall be distributed to the Hearing Research Institute, Incorporated, for the purpose of infant hearing screening in Florida.
- (19) The application form for motor vehicle registration and renewal of registration must include language permitting a voluntary contribution of \$1 per applicant, which shall be distributed to the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation International.

Section 24. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) and subsections (5), (6), and (7) of section 320.023, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection (8) is added to said section, to read:

320.023 Requests to establish voluntary checkoff on motor vehicle registration application.--

(4)

(b) The department is authorized to discontinue the voluntary contribution and distribution of associated proceeds if the organization no longer exists, if the organization has stopped providing services that are authorized to be funded from the voluntary contributions, or pursuant to an

organizational recipient's request. Organizations are required to notify the department immediately to stop warrants for voluntary check-off contributions if any of the conditions in this subsection exist, and must meet the requirements of paragraph (5)(b) or paragraph (5)(c), if applicable, for any period of operation during the fiscal year.

- (5) A voluntary contribution collected and distributed under this chapter, or any interest earned from those contributions, may not be used for commercial or for-profit activities nor for general or administrative expenses, except as authorized by law, or to pay the cost of the audit or report required by law.
- (a) All organizations that receive annual use fee proceeds from the department are responsible for ensuring that proceeds are used in accordance with law.
- (b) All organizational recipients of any voluntary contributions in excess of \$15,000, not otherwise subject to annual audit by the Office of the Auditor General, shall submit an annual audit of the expenditures of these contributions and interest earned from these contributions, to determine if expenditures are being made in accordance with the specifications outlined by law. The audit shall be prepared by a certified public accountant licensed under chapter 473 at that organizational recipient's expense. The notes to the financial statements should state whether expenditures were made in accordance with law.
- (b)(c) Any organization not subject to In lieu of an annual audit pursuant to s. 215.97 shall, any organization receiving less than \$15,000 in voluntary contributions directly from the department may annually attest report, under penalties of perjury, that such proceeds were used in

compliance with law. The attestation shall be made annually in a form and format determined by the department.

 $\underline{\text{(c)}}$  Any voluntary contributions authorized by law shall only be distributed to an organization under an appropriation by the Legislature.

- (d)(e) Any organization subject to audit pursuant to s. 215.97 shall submit an audit report in accordance with rules promulgated by the Auditor General. The annual attestation audit or report shall be submitted to the department for review within 9 months 180 days after the end of the organization's fiscal year.
- (6) Within 90 days after receiving an organization's audit or attestation report, the department shall determine which recipients have not complied with subsection (5). If the department determines that an organization has not complied or has failed to use the revenues in accordance with law, the department must discontinue the distribution of the revenues to the organization until the department determines that the organization has complied. If an organization fails to comply within 12 months after the voluntary contributions are withheld by the department, the proceeds shall be deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund to offset department costs.
- (7) The Auditor General and the department has have the authority to examine all records pertaining to the use of funds from the voluntary contributions authorized.
- (8) All organizations seeking to establish a voluntary contribution on a motor vehicle registration application that are required to operate under the Solicitation of Contributions Act, as provided in chapter 496, must do so before funds may be distributed.

Section 25. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 320.025, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1 2

3

5

6

7

8

9

10

11 12

13 14

15

16 17

18 19

20

21

22

23

24

2526

27

28

29

30

31

320.025 Registration certificate and license plate issued under fictitious name; application.--

- (1) A confidential registration certificate and registration license plate or decal shall be issued under a fictitious name only for a motor vehicle or vessel owned or operated by a law enforcement agency of state, county, municipal, or federal government, the Attorney General's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit, or any state public defender's office. The requesting agency shall file a written application with the department on forms furnished by the department, which includes a statement that the license plate will be used for the Attorney General's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit, or law enforcement or any state public defender's office activities requiring concealment of publicly leased or owned motor vehicles or vessels and a statement of the position classifications of the individuals who are authorized to use the license plate. The department may modify its records to reflect the fictitious identity of the owner or lessee until such time as the license plate and registration certificate are surrendered to it.
- (2) Except as provided in subsection (1), any motor vehicle owned or exclusively operated by the state or any county, municipality, or other governmental entity must at all times display a license plate of the type prescribed in s. 320.0655. Any vessel owned or exclusively operated by the state or any county, municipality, or other governmental entity must at all times display a registration number as required in s. 328.56 and a vessel decal as required in s. 328.48(5).

Section 26. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 320.05, Florida Statutes, are amended read:

320.05 Records of the department; inspection procedure; lists and searches; fees.--

1 2

3 4

5

6

- (1) Except as provided in  $\underline{\text{ss.s.}}119.07(3)$  and  $\underline{320.025(3)}$ , the department may release records as provided in this section.
- 8 (2) Upon receipt of an application for the 9 registration of a motor vehicle, vessel, or mobile home, as herein provided for, the department shall register the motor 10 vehicle, vessel, or mobile home under the distinctive number 11 assigned to such motor vehicle, vessel, or mobile home by the 12 department. Electronic registration records shall be open to 13 14 the inspection of the public during business hours. 15 Information on a motor vehicle or vessel registration may not be made available to a person unless the person requesting the 16 information furnishes positive proof of identification. The 17 18 agency that furnishes a motor vehicle or vessel registration 19 record shall record the name and address of any person other 20 than a representative of a law enforcement agency who requests 21 and receives information from a motor vehicle or vessel registration record and shall also record the name and address 22 23 of the person who is the subject of the inquiry or other information identifying the entity about which information is 24 25 requested. A record of each such inquiry must be maintained 26 for a period of 6 months from the date upon which the information was released to the inquirer. Nothing in this 27 section shall prohibit any financial institution, insurance 28 29 company, motor vehicle dealer, licensee under chapter 493, attorney, or other agency which the department determines has 30 the right to know from obtaining, for professional or business 31

use only, information in such records from the department through any means of telecommunication pursuant to a code developed by the department providing all fees specified in subsection (3) have been paid. The department shall disclose records or information to the child support enforcement agency to assist in the location of individuals who owe or potentially owe child support or to whom such an obligation is owed pursuant to Title IV-D of the Social Security Act.

Section 27. Subsection (5) of section 320.055, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.055 Registration periods; renewal periods.--The following registration periods and renewal periods are established:

(5) For a vehicle subject to <u>apportioned</u> registration under s. 320.08(4), (5)(a)1., (e), (6)(b), or (14), the registration period shall be a period of 12 months beginning in a month designated by the department and ending on the last day of the 12th month. For a vehicle subject to this registration period, the renewal period is the last month of the registration period. The registration period may be shortened or extended at the discretion of the department, on receipt of the appropriate prorated fees, in order to evenly distribute such registrations on a monthly basis. For vehicles subject to registration other than apportioned under s.

320.08(4), (5)(a)1., (6)(b), or (14), the registration period begins December 1 and ends November 30. The renewal period is the 31-day period beginning December 1.

Section 28. Paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (1) of section 320.06, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

320.06 Registration certificates, license plates, and validation stickers generally.--

(1)

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

1112

13 14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

2425

26

2728

29

30

31

Registration license plates bearing a graphic (b) symbol and the alphanumeric system of identification shall be issued for a 5-year period. At the end of said 5-year period, upon renewal, the plate shall be replaced. The fee for such replacement shall be \$10, \$2 of which shall be paid each year before the plate is replaced, to be credited towards the next \$10 replacement fee. The fees shall be deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund. A credit or refund shall not be given for any prior years' payments of such prorated replacement fee when the plate is replaced or surrendered before the end of the 5-year period. With each license plate, there shall be issued a validation sticker showing the owner's birth month, license plate number, and the year of expiration or the appropriate renewal period if the owner is not a natural person. The validation sticker is to be placed on the upper right corner of the license plate. This validation sticker shall be placed on the upper left corner of the license plate and shall be issued one time during the life of the license plate, or upon request when it has been damaged or destroyed. There shall also be issued with each license plate a serially numbered validation sticker showing the year of expiration, which sticker shall be placed on the upper right corner of the license plate. Such license plate and validation stickers shall be issued based on the applicant's appropriate renewal period. The registration period shall be a period of 12 months, and all expirations shall occur based on the applicant's appropriate registration period. A vehicle with an apportioned registration shall be issued an annual license plate and a cab card that denote the declared gross vehicle

weight for each apportioned jurisdiction in which the vehicle is authorized to operate.

2

3

4

5

6

7

9

10

11 12

13 14

15

16 17

18

19

20

21

2223

24

2526

27

2829

30

31

(c) Registration license plates equipped with validation stickers shall be valid for not more than 12 months and shall expire at midnight on the last day of the registration period. For each registration period after the one in which the metal registration license plate is issued, and until the license plate is required to be replaced, a validation sticker showing the month and year of expiration shall be issued upon payment of the proper license tax amount and fees and shall be valid for not more than 12 months. When license plates equipped with validation stickers are issued in any month other than the owner's birth month or the designated registration period for any other motor vehicle, the effective date shall reflect the birth month or month and the year of renewal. However, when a license plate or validation sticker is issued for a period of less than 12 months, the applicant shall pay the appropriate amount of license tax and the applicable fee under the provisions of s. 320.14 in addition to all other fees. Validation stickers issued for vehicles taxed under the provisions of s. 320.08(6)(a), for any company which owns 250 vehicles or more, or for semitrailers taxed under the provisions of s. 320.08(5)(a), for any company which owns 50 vehicles or more, may be placed on any vehicle in the fleet so long as the vehicle receiving the validation sticker has the same owner's name and address as the vehicle to which the validation sticker was originally assigned.

Section 29. Paragraphs (h) and (i) are added to subsection (2) of section 320.072, Florida Statutes, to read: 320.072 Additional fee imposed on certain motor vehicle registration transactions.--

(1) A fee of \$100 is imposed upon the initial 1 2 application for registration pursuant to s. 320.06 of every 3 motor vehicle classified in s. 320.08(2), (3), and (9)(c) and 4 (d). 5 (2) The fee imposed by subsection (1) shall not apply 6 to: 7 (h) Any license plate issued in the previous 10-year 8 period from the date the transaction is being processed. 9 (i) Any license plate issued to a vehicle taxed under s. 320.08(2), (3), and (9)(c) or (d) at any time during the 10 11 previous 10-year period. Section 30. Subsection (6) of section 320.0805, 12 Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 13 14 320.0805 Personalized prestige license plates.--15 (6) A personalized prestige license plate shall be 16 issued for the exclusive continuing use of the applicant. An 17 exact duplicate of any plate may not be issued to any other 18 applicant during the same registration period. An exact 19 duplicate may not be issued for any succeeding year unless the previous owner of a specific plate relinquishes it by failure 20 21 to apply for renewal or reissuance for 1 year following the 22 last year of issuance three consecutive annual registration 23 periods following the original year of issuance. Section 31. Paragraph (h) of subsection (4) of section 24 25 320.08056, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 26 320.08056 Specialty license plates.--27 (4) The following license plate annual use fees shall 28 be collected for the appropriate specialty license plates: 29 (h) Florida educational license plate, \$25\\$15. Section 32. Paragraph (ff) is added to subsection (4) 30 of section 320.08056, Florida Statutes, and paragraphs (a), 31

(b), and (c) of subsection (8) of that section, are amended to 2 read: 3 320.08056 Specialty license plates.--4 (4) The following license plate annual use fees shall 5 be collected for the appropriate specialty license plates: 6 (ff) Florida Golf license plate, \$25. 7 (8)(a) The department must discontinue the issuance of 8 an approved specialty license plate if: 9 1. Less than 8,000 plates, including annual renewals, are issued for that specialty license plate by the end of the 10 5th year of sales. 11 12 2. Less than 8,000 plates, including annual renewals, are issued for that specialty license plate during any 13 14 subsequent 5-year period. (b) The department is authorized to discontinue the 15 issuance of a specialty license plate and distribution of 16 17 associated annual use fee proceeds if the organization no 18 longer exists, if the organization has stopped providing 19 services that are authorized to be funded from the annual use fee proceeds, or pursuant to an organizational recipient's 20 request. An organization is required to notify the department 21 immediately to stop all warrants for plate sales if any of the 22 23 conditions in this section exist, and the organization must comply with s. 320.08062 for any period of operation during a 24 25 fiscal year. 26 (c) The requirements of paragraph (a) shall not apply 27 to collegiate specialty license plates authorized in s. 320.08058(3), and (13), (21), and (26). 28 29 Section 33. Subsection (32) is added to section 30 320.08058, Florida Statutes, to read: 320.08058 Specialty license plates.--31

(32) FLORIDA GOLF LICENSE PLATES. --

- (a) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor

  Vehicles shall develop a Florida Golf license plate as

  provided in this section. The word "Florida" must appear at
  the bottom of the plate. The Dade Amateur Golf Association,
  following consultation with the PGA TOUR, the Florida Sports

  Foundation, the LPGA and the PGA of America may submit a
  revised sample plate for consideration by the department.
- (b) The department shall distribute the Florida Golf license plate annual use fee to the Florida Sports Foundation, a direct support organization of the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development. The license plate annual use fees are to be annually allocated as follows:
- 1. Up to five percent of the proceeds from the annual use fees may be used by the Florida Sports Foundation for the administration of the Florida Youth Golf Program.
- 2. The Dade Amateur Golf Association shall receive the first \$80,000 in proceeds from the annual use fees for the operation of youth golf programs in Miami-Dade County.

  Thereafter, 15 percent of the proceeds from the annual use fee shall be provided to the Dade Amateur Golf Association for the operation of youth golf programs in Miami-Dade County.
- 3. The remaining proceeds from the annual use fee shall be available for grants to nonprofit organizations to operate youth golf programs and for the purpose of marketing the Florida Golf License Plates. All grant recipients, including the Dade Amateur Golf Association, shall be required to provide to the Florida Sports Foundation an annual program and financial report regarding the use of grant funds. Such reports shall be made available to the public.

(c) The Florida Sports Foundation shall establish a

shall assist organizations for the benefit of youth, introduce

young people to golf, instruct young people in golf, teach the

(d) The Florida Sports Foundation shall establish a

Section 34. Section 320.08062, Florida Statutes, is

320.08062 Audits and attestation required; annual use

(1)(a) All organizations that receive annual use fee

proceeds from the department are responsible for ensuring that

(b) All organizational recipients of any specialty license plate annual use fee authorized in this chapter, not

otherwise subject to annual audit by the Office of the Auditor General, shall submit an annual audit of the expenditures of

proceeds are used in accordance with ss. 320.08056 and

annual use fees and interest earned from these fees, to

the specifications outlined by law. The audit shall be

prepared by a certified public accountant licensed under

notes to the financial statements should state whether

determine if expenditures are being made in accordance with

values of golf, and stress life skills, fair play, courtesy,

distribution of the annual use fees for grants to nonprofit organizations. The advisory committee shall consist of one

member from a group serving youth, one member from a group

five-member committee to offer advice regarding the

serving disabled youth, and three members at large.

fees of specialty license plates .--

Florida Youth Golf Program. The Florida Youth Golf Program

- 1 2 3 4 5
- 6

and self-discipline.

amended to read:

320.08058.

- 7 8
- 9 10
- 11 12
- 13
- 14
- 15 16
- 17 18
- 19
- 20 21
- 22 23
- 24 25
- 26 27
- 28 29
- 30 31

60

chapter 473 at that organizational recipient's expense. The

expenditures were made in accordance with ss. 320.08056 and 320.08058.

(b)(c) Any organization not subject to In lieu of an annual audit pursuant to s. 215.97 shall, any organization receiving less than \$25,000 in annual use fee proceeds directly from the department, or from another state agency, may annually attest report, under penalties of perjury, that such proceeds were used in compliance with ss. 320.08056 and 320.08058. The attestation shall be made annually in a form and format determined by the department.

(c)(d) Any organization subject to audit pursuant to s. 215.97 shall submit an audit report in accordance with rules promulgated by the Auditor General. The annual attestation audit or report shall be submitted to the department for review within 9 months 180 days after the end of the organization's fiscal year.

(2) Within 90 days after receiving an organization's audit or attestation report, the department shall determine which recipients of revenues from specialty license plate annual use fees have not complied with subsection (1). If the department determines that an organization has not complied or has failed to use the revenues in accordance with ss. 320.08056 and 320.08058, the department must discontinue the distribution of the revenues to the organization until the department determines that the organization has complied. If an organization fails to comply within 12 months after the annual use fee proceeds are withheld by the department, the proceeds shall be deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund to offset department costs related to the issuance of specialty license plates.

(3) The Auditor General and the department has have 1 2 the authority to examine all records pertaining to the use of 3 funds from the sale of specialty license plates. 4 Section 35. Subsection (1) of section 320.083, Florida 5 Statutes, is amended to read: 6 320.083 Amateur radio operators; special license 7 plates; fees.--(1) A person who is the owner or lessee of an 9 automobile or truck for private use, a truck weighing not more 10 than  $7,999 \frac{5,000}{1}$  pounds, or a recreational vehicle as specified in s. 320.08(9)(c) or (d), which is not used for 11 hire or commercial use; who is a resident of the state; and 12 who holds a valid official amateur radio station license 13 14 issued by the Federal Communications Commission shall be 15 issued a special license plate upon application, accompanied by proof of ownership of such radio station license, and 16 17 payment of the following tax and fees: 18 (a) The license tax required for the vehicle, as 19 prescribed by s. 320.08(2), (3)(a), (b), or (c), (4)(a), (b), 20 (c), (d), (e), or (f), or (9); and 21 (b) An initial additional fee of \$5, and an additional fee of \$1.50 thereafter. 22 Section 36. Subsections (1), (2), and (3) of section 23 320.089, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 24 320.089 Members of National Guard and active United 25 26 States Armed Forces reservists; former prisoners of war; 27 survivors of Pearl Harbor; Purple Heart medal recipients; special license plates; fee .--28 29 (1)(a) Each owner or lessee of an automobile or truck for private use or recreational vehicle as specified in s. 30

320.08(9)(c) or (d), which is not used for hire or commercial

use, who is a resident of the state and an active or retired member of the Florida National Guard, a survivor of the attack 2 3 on Pearl Harbor, a recipient of the Purple Heart medal, or an 4 active member of any branch of the United States Armed Forces 5 Reserve shall, upon application to the department, accompanied by proof of active membership or retired status in the Florida 6 7 National Guard, proof of membership in the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association or proof of active military duty in 8 9 Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, proof of being a Purple Heart medal recipient, or proof of active membership in any 10 branch of the Armed Forces Reserve, and upon payment of the 11 12 license tax for the vehicle as provided in s. 320.08, be issued a license plate as provided by s. 320.06, upon which, 13 14 in lieu of the serial numbers prescribed by s. 320.06, shall 15 be stamped the words "National Guard," "Pearl Harbor Survivor, " "Combat-wounded veteran, " or "U.S. Reserve, " as 16 17 appropriate, followed by the serial number of the license plate. Additionally, the Purple Heart plate may have the words 18 19 "Purple Heart" stamped on the plate and the likeness of the 20 Purple Heart medal appearing on the plate.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary beginning with fiscal year 2000-2001 and annually thereafter, the first \$50,000 in general revenue generated from the sale of license plates issued under this section which are stamped with the words "National Guard," "Pearl Harbor Survivor," "Combat-wounded veteran," or "U.S. Reserve" shall be deposited into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund, as described in s. 296.38(2), to be used for the purposes established by law for that trust fund.

21

2223

24

25

26

27

2829

30

31

(c) Notwithstanding any provisions of law to the contrary, an applicant for a Pearl Harbor Survivor license

plate or a Purple Heart license plate who also qualifies for a disabled veteran's license plate under s. 320.084 shall be issued one appropriate special license plate without payment of the license tax imposed by s. 320.08.

- (2) Each owner or lessee of an automobile or truck for private use, truck weighing not more than 7,999 5,000 pounds, or recreational vehicle as specified in s. 320.08(9)(c) or (d), which is not used for hire or commercial use, who is a resident of the state and who is a former prisoner of war, or their unremarried surviving spouse, shall, upon application therefor to the department, be issued a license plate as provided in s. 320.06, on which license plate are stamped the words "Ex-POW" followed by the serial number. Each application shall be accompanied by proof that the applicant meets the qualifications specified in paragraph (a) or paragraph (b).
- (a) A citizen of the United States who served as a member of the Armed Forces of the United States or the armed forces of a nation allied with the United States who was held as a prisoner of war at such time as the Armed Forces of the United States were engaged in combat, or their unremarried surviving spouse, may be issued the special license plate provided for in this subsection without payment of the license tax imposed by s. 320.08.
- (b) A person who was serving as a civilian with the consent of the United States Government, or a person who was a member of the Armed Forces of the United States who was not a United States citizen and was held as a prisoner of war when the Armed Forces of the United States were engaged in combat, or their unremarried surviving spouse, may be issued the special license plate provided for in this subsection upon payment of the license tax imposed by s. 320.08.

(3) Each owner or lessee of an automobile or truck for private use, truck weighing not more than 7,999 5,000 pounds, or recreational vehicle as specified in s. 320.08(9)(c) or (d), which is not used for hire or commercial use, who is a resident of this state and who is the unremarried surviving spouse of a recipient of the Purple Heart medal shall, upon application therefor to the department, with the payment of the required fees, be issued a license plate as provided in s. 320.06, on which license plate are stamped the words "Purple Heart" and the likeness of the Purple Heart medal followed by the serial number. Each application shall be accompanied by proof that the applicant is the unremarried surviving spouse of a recipient of the Purple Heart medal.

Section 37. Subsection (1) of section 320.18, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.18 Withholding registration. --

any motor vehicle or mobile home the owner of which has failed to register it under the provisions of law for any previous period or periods for which it appears registration should have been made in this state, until the tax for such period or periods is paid. The department may cancel any license plate or fuel-use tax decal if the owner pays for the license plate, fuel-use tax decal, or any tax liability, penalty, or interest specified in chapter 207 by a dishonored check, or if the vehicle owner or motor carrier has failed to pay a penalty for a weight or safety violation issued by the Department of Transportation Motor Carrier Compliance Office. The Department of Transportation and the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles may impound any commercial motor vehicle that has a canceled license plate or fuel-use tax

decal until the tax liability, penalty, and interest specified in chapter 207, the license tax, or the fuel-use decal fee, and applicable administrative fees have been paid for by certified funds.

Section 38. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of secton 320.27, Florida Statutes, is amended, paragraph (f) is added to said subsection, and subsections (7) and (9) of said section are amended, to read:

320.27 Motor vehicle dealers.--

2

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

1112

13 14

15

16 17

18 19

20

2122

23

24

2526

27

2829

30

- (1) DEFINITIONS.--The following words, terms, and phrases when used in this section have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this subsection, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:
- "Motor vehicle dealer" means any person engaged in the business of buying, selling, or dealing in motor vehicles or offering or displaying motor vehicles for sale at wholesale or retail, or who may service and repair motor vehicles pursuant to an agreement as defined in s. 320.60(1). Any person who buys, sells, or deals in three or more motor vehicles in any 12-month period or who offers or displays for sale three or more motor vehicles in any 12-month period shall be prima facie presumed to be engaged in such business. The terms "selling" and "sale" include lease-purchase transactions. A motor vehicle dealer may, at retail or wholesale, sell a recreational vehicle as described in s. 320.01(1)(b)1.-6. and 8., acquired in exchange for the sale of a motor vehicle, provided such acquisition is incidental to the principal business of being a motor vehicle dealer. However, a motor vehicle dealer may not buy a recreational vehicle for the purpose of resale unless licensed as a recreational vehicle dealer pursuant to s. 320.771. A motor

vehicle dealer may apply for a certificate of title to a motor vehicle required to be registered under s. 320.08(2)(b), (c), and (d), using a manufacturer's statement of origin as permitted by s. 319.23(1), only if such dealer is authorized by a franchised agreement as defined in s. 320.60(1), to buy, sell, or deal in such vehicle and is authorized by such agreement to perform delivery and preparation obligations and warranty defect adjustments on the motor vehicle; provided this limitation shall not apply to recreational vehicles, van conversions, or any other motor vehicle manufactured on a truck chassis. The transfer of a motor vehicle by a dealer not meeting these qualifications shall be titled as a used vehicle. The classifications of motor vehicle dealers are defined as follows:

- 1. "Franchised motor vehicle dealer" means any person who engages in the business of repairing, servicing, buying, selling, or dealing in motor vehicles pursuant to an agreement as defined in s. 320.60(1).
- 2. "Independent motor vehicle dealer" means any person other than a franchised or wholesale motor vehicle dealer who engages in the business of buying, selling, or dealing in motor vehicles, and who may service and repair motor vehicles.
- 3. "Wholesale motor vehicle dealer" means any person who engages exclusively in the business of buying, selling, or dealing in motor vehicles at wholesale or with motor vehicle auctions. Such person shall be licensed to do business in this state, shall not sell or auction a vehicle to any person who is not a licensed dealer, and shall not have the privilege of the use of dealer license plates. Any person who buys, sells, or deals in motor vehicles at wholesale or with motor vehicle auctions on behalf of a licensed motor vehicle dealer and as a

bona fide employee of such licensed motor vehicle dealer is not required to be licensed as a wholesale motor vehicle dealer. In such cases it shall be prima facie presumed that a bona fide employer-employee relationship exists. A wholesale motor vehicle dealer shall be exempt from the display provisions of this section but shall maintain an office wherein records are kept in order that those records may be inspected.

- 4. "Motor vehicle auction" means any person offering motor vehicles or recreational vehicles for sale to the highest bidder where both sellers and buyers are licensed motor vehicle dealers. Such person shall not sell a vehicle to anyone other than a licensed motor vehicle dealer.
- 5. "Salvage motor vehicle dealer" means any person who engages in the business of acquiring salvaged or wrecked motor vehicles for the purpose of reselling them and their parts.

The term "motor vehicle dealer" does not include persons not engaged in the purchase or sale of motor vehicles as a business who are disposing of vehicles acquired for their own use or for use in their business or acquired by foreclosure or by operation of law, provided such vehicles are acquired and sold in good faith and not for the purpose of avoiding the provisions of this law; persons engaged in the business of manufacturing, selling, or offering or displaying for sale at wholesale or retail no more than 25 trailers in a 12-month period; public officers while performing their official duties; receivers; trustees, administrators, executors, guardians, or other persons appointed by, or acting under the judgment or order of, any court; banks, finance companies, or other loan agencies that acquire motor vehicles as an incident

to their regular business; motor vehicle brokers; and motor vehicle rental and leasing companies that sell motor vehicles to motor vehicle dealers licensed under this section. Vehicles owned under circumstances described in this paragraph may be disposed of at retail, wholesale, or auction, unless otherwise restricted. A manufacturer of fire trucks, ambulances, or school buses may sell such vehicles directly to governmental agencies or to persons who contract to perform or provide firefighting, ambulance, or school transportation services exclusively to governmental agencies without processing such sales through dealers if such fire trucks, ambulances, school buses, or similar vehicles are not presently available through motor vehicle dealers licensed by the department.

- (f) "Bona fide employee" means a person who is employed by a licensed motor vehicle dealer and receives annually an Internal Revenue Service Form W-2, or an independent contractor who has a written contract with a licensed motor vehicle dealer and receives annually an Internal Revenue Service Form 1099, for the purpose of acting in the capacity of or conducting motor vehicle sales transactions as a motor vehicle dealer.
- motor vehicle in the possession of a licensee and offered for sale by him or her, the licensee either shall have in his or her possession or control a duly assigned certificate of title from the owner in accordance with the provisions of chapter 319, from the time when the motor vehicle is delivered to the licensee and offered for sale by him or her until it has been disposed of by the licensee, or shall have reasonable indicia of ownership or right of possession, or shall have made proper application for a certificate of title or duplicate

certificate of title in accordance with the provisions of chapter 319. A motor vehicle dealer may not sell or offer for sale a vehicle in his or her possession unless the dealer satisfies the requirements of this subsection. Reasonable indicia of ownership shall include a duly assigned certificate of title; in the case of a new motor vehicle, a manufacturer's certificate of origin issued to or reassigned to the dealer; a consignment contract between the owner and the dealer along with a secure power of attorney from the owner to the dealer authorizing the dealer to apply for a duplicate certificate of title and assign the title on behalf of the owner; a court 12 order awarding title to the vehicle to the dealer; a salvage certificate of title; a photocopy of a duly assigned 14 certificate of title being held by a financial institution as collateral for a business loan of money to the dealer ("floor plan"); a copy of a canceled check or other documentation 16 evidencing that an outstanding lien on a vehicle taken in trade by a licensed dealer has been satisfied and that the 18 certificate of title will be, but has not yet been, received by the dealer; a vehicle purchase order or installment 20 contract for a specific vehicle identifying that vehicle as a 21 trade-in on a replacement vehicle; or a duly executed odometer 22 23 disclosure statement as required by Title IV of the Motor Vehicle Information and Cost Savings Act of 1972 (Pub. L. No. 24 92-513, as amended by Pub. L. No. 94-364 and Pub. L. No. 25 100-561) and by 49 C.F.R. part 580 bearing the signatures of the titled owners of a traded-in vehicle.

2

3 4

5

6 7

8 9

10

11

13

15

17

19

26

27

28 29

30

31

(9) DENIAL, SUSPENSION, OR REVOCATION. -- The department may deny, suspend, or revoke any license issued hereunder or under the provisions of s. 320.77 or s. 320.771, upon proof that a licensee has failed to comply with any of the following provisions with sufficient frequency so as to establish a pattern of wrongdoing on the part of the licensee:

- (a) Willful violation of any other law of this state, including chapter 319, this chapter, or ss. 559.901-559.9221, which has to do with dealing in or repairing motor vehicles or mobile homes or willful failure to comply with any administrative rule promulgated by the department.

  Additionally, in the case of used motor vehicles, the willful violation of the federal law and rule in 15 U.S.C. s. 2304, 16 C.F.R. part 455, pertaining to the consumer sales window form.
- (b) Commission of fraud or willful misrepresentation in application for or in obtaining a license.
- (c) Perpetration of a fraud upon any person as a result of dealing in motor vehicles, including, without limitation, the misrepresentation to any person by the licensee of the licensee's relationship to any manufacturer, importer, or distributor.
- (d) Representation that a demonstrator is a new motor vehicle, or the attempt to sell or the sale of a demonstrator as a new motor vehicle without written notice to the purchaser that the vehicle is a demonstrator. For the purposes of this section, a "demonstrator," a "new motor vehicle," and a "used motor vehicle" shall be defined as under s. 320.60.
- (e) Unjustifiable refusal to comply with a licensee's responsibility under the terms of the new motor vehicle warranty issued by its respective manufacturer, distributor, or importer. However, if such refusal is at the direction of the manufacturer, distributor, or importer, such refusal shall not be a ground under this section.
- (f) Misrepresentation or false, deceptive, or misleading statements with regard to the sale or financing of

motor vehicles which any motor vehicle dealer has, or causes to have, advertised, printed, displayed, published, distributed, broadcast, televised, or made in any manner with regard to the sale or financing of motor vehicles.

- (g) Requirement by any motor vehicle dealer that a customer or purchaser accept equipment on his or her motor vehicle which was not ordered by the customer or purchaser.
- (h) Requirement by any motor vehicle dealer that any customer or purchaser finance a motor vehicle with a specific financial institution or company.
- (i) Failure by any motor vehicle dealer to provide a customer or purchaser with an odometer disclosure statement and a copy of any bona fide written, executed sales contract or agreement of purchase connected with the purchase of the motor vehicle purchased by the customer or purchaser.
- (j) Failure of any motor vehicle dealer to comply with the terms of any bona fide written, executed agreement, pursuant to the sale of a motor vehicle.
- (k) Requirement by the motor vehicle dealer that the purchaser of a motor vehicle contract with the dealer for physical damage insurance.
- (1) Violation of any of the provisions of s. 319.35 by any motor vehicle dealer.
- (m) Either a history of bad credit or an unfavorable credit rating as revealed by the applicant's official credit report or by investigation by the department.
- (n) Failure to disclose damage to a new motor vehicle as defined in s. 320.60(10) of which the dealer had actual knowledge if the dealer's actual cost of repair, excluding tires, bumpers, and glass, exceeds 3 percent of the manufacturer's suggested retail price; provided, however, if

only the application of exterior paint is involved, disclosure shall be made if such touch-up paint application exceeds \$100.

- (o) Failure to apply for transfer of a title as prescribed in s. 319.23(6).
- (p) Use of the dealer license identification number by any person other than the licensed dealer or his or her designee.
  - (q) Conviction of a felony.

- (r) Failure to continually meet the requirements of the licensure law.
- is convicted of a crime, infraction, or violation as set forth in paragraph (g)which results in his or her being prohibited from continuing in that capacity, the dealer may not serve continue in any capacity within the industry. Such person The offender shall have no financial interest, management, sales, or other role in the operation of a dealership. Further, the person offender may not derive income from the dealership beyond reasonable compensation for the sale of his or her ownership interest in the business. The license or application of any dealership in which such person has an interest or plays a role in violation of this subsection shall be denied or revoked, as the case may be.
- (t) Representation to a customer or any advertisement to the general public representing or suggesting that a motor vehicle is a new motor vehicle if such vehicle lawfully cannot be titled in the name of the customer or other member of the general public by the seller using a manufacturer's statement of origin as permitted in s. 319.23(1).
- (u) Failure to honor a bank draft or check given to a motor vehicle dealer for the purchase of a motor vehicle by

another motor vehicle dealer within 10 days after notification that the bank draft or check has been dishonored. A single violation of this paragraph is sufficient for revocation or suspension. If the transaction is disputed, the maker of the bank draft or check shall post a bond in accordance with the provisions of s. 559.917, and no proceeding for revocation or suspension shall be commenced until the dispute is resolved.

(v) Sale by a motor vehicle dealer of a vehicle offered in trade by a customer prior to consummation of the sale, exchange, or transfer of a newly acquired vehicle to the customer, unless the customer provides written authorization for the sale of the trade-in vehicle prior to delivery of the newly acquired vehicle.

Section 39. Paragraph (a) of subsection (11) of section 320.60, Florida Statutes, is amended and a new subsection (15) is added to read:

320.60 Definitions for ss. 320.61-320.70.--Whenever used in ss. 320.61-320.70, unless the context otherwise requires, the following words and terms have the following meanings:

- (11)(a) "Motor vehicle dealer" means any person, firm, company, or corporation, or other entity, who,
- 1. Is licensed pursuant to s. 320.27 as a "franchised motor vehicle dealer" and, for commission, money or other things of value, repairs or services motor vehicles or used motor vehicles pursuant to an agreement as defined in subsection (1), or
- <u>2. Who</u> sells, exchanges, buys, <u>leases</u> or rents, or offers, or attempts to negotiate a sale or exchange of any interest in, motor vehicles, or

3. Who is engaged wholly or in part in the business of 1 2 selling motor vehicles, whether or not such motor vehicles are 3 owned by such person, firm, company, or corporation. (15) "Sell," "selling," "sold," "exchange," "retail 4 5 sales," and "leases" includes any transaction where the title 6 of motor vehicle or used motor vehicle is transferred to a 7 retail consumer, and also any retail lease transaction where a 8 retail customer leases a vehicle for a period of at least 12 9 months. Establishing a price for sale pursuant to s. 320.64(24) does not constitute a sale or lease. 10 Section 40. Subsection (4) of section 320.61, Florida 11 12 Statutes, is amended to read: 320.61 Licenses required of motor vehicle 13 14 manufacturers, distributors, importers, etc.--15 (4) When a complaint of unfair or prohibited cancellation or nonrenewal of a dealer agreement is made by a 16 17 motor vehicle dealer against a licensee and such complaint is 18 pending is in the process of being heard pursuant to ss. 19 320.60-320.70 by the department, no replacement application 20 for such agreement shall be granted and no license shall be 21 issued by the department under s. 320.27 to any replacement 22 dealer until a final decision is rendered by the department on 23 the complaint of unfair cancellation, so long as the dealer 24 agreement of the complaining dealer is in effect as provided 25 under s. 320.641(7). Section 41. Section 320.64, Florida Statutes, is 26 amended to read: 27

320.64 Denial, suspension, or revocation of license; grounds.--A license of a licensee under s. 320.61 may be denied, suspended, or revoked within the entire state or at any specific location or locations within the state at which

28

29

30

the applicant or licensee engages or proposes to engage in business, upon a proof that the section was violated with sufficient frequency to establish a pattern of wrongdoing and a licensee or applicant shall be liable for claims and remedies provided in s. 320.695 and s. 320.697 for any violation of any of the following provisions. A licensee is prohibited from committing the following acts: upon proof that an applicant or licensee has failed to comply with any of the following provisions with sufficient frequency so as to establish a pattern of wrongdoing on the part of the applicant:

- (1) The applicant or licensee is determined to be unable to carry out contractual obligations with its motor vehicle dealers.
- (2) The applicant or licensee has knowingly made a material misstatement in its application for a license.
- (3) The applicant or licensee willfully has failed to comply with significant provisions of ss. 320.60-320.70 or with any lawful rule or regulation adopted or promulgated by the department.
- (4) The applicant or licensee has indulged in any illegal act relating to his or her business.
- (5) The applicant or licensee has coerced or attempted to coerce any motor vehicle dealer into accepting delivery of any motor vehicle or vehicles or parts or accessories therefor or any other commodities which have not been ordered by the dealer.
- (6) The applicant or licensee has coerced or attempted to coerce any motor vehicle dealer to enter into any agreement with the licensee.

(7) The applicant or licensee has threatened to discontinue, cancel, or not to renew a franchise agreement of a licensed motor vehicle dealer, where the threatened discontinuation, cancellation, or nonrenewal, if implemented, would be in violation of any of the provisions of s. 320.641.

- (8) The applicant or licensee discontinued, canceled, or failed to renew, a franchise agreement of a licensed motor vehicle dealer in violation of any of the provisions of s. 320.641.
- (9) The applicant or licensee has threatened to modify or replace, or has modified or replaced, a franchise agreement with a succeeding franchise agreement which would adversely alter the rights or obligations of a motor vehicle dealer under an existing franchise agreement or which substantially impairs the sales, service obligations, or investment of the motor vehicle dealer.
- (10) The applicant or licensee has attempted to enter, or has entered, into a franchise agreement with a motor vehicle dealer who does not, at the time of the franchise agreement, have proper facilities to provide the services to his or her purchasers of new motor vehicles which are covered by the new motor vehicle warranty issued by the applicant or licensee.
- (11) The applicant or licensee has coerced a motor vehicle dealer to provide installment financing for the motor vehicle dealer's purchasers with a specified financial institution.
- (12) The applicant or licensee has advertised, printed, displayed, published, distributed, broadcast, or televised, or caused or permitted to be advertised, printed, displayed, published, distributed, broadcast, or televised, in

any manner whatsoever, any statement or representation with regard to the sale or financing of motor vehicles which is false, deceptive, or misleading.

1

2

4

5

6 7

8

10

11 12

13 14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

2324

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

(13) The applicant or licensee has refused to deliver, in reasonable quantities and within a reasonable time, to any duly licensed motor vehicle dealer who has an agreement with such applicant or licensee for the retail sale of new motor vehicles and parts for motor vehicles sold or distributed by the applicant or licensee, any such motor vehicles or parts as are covered by such agreement specifically publicly advertised by such applicant or licensee to be available for immediate delivery. However, the failure to deliver any motor vehicle or part will not be considered a violation of this section if the failure is due to act of God, work stoppage, or delay due to a strike or labor difficulty, a freight embargo, product shortage, or other cause over which the applicant or licensee has no control. The failure to deliver parts or components for the current and 5 preceding years' models within 60 days from date of order shall be deemed prima facie unreasonable.

(13)(14) The applicant or licensee has sold, exchanged, or rented a motorcycle which produces in excess of 5 brake horsepower, knowing the use thereof to be by, or intended for, the holder of a restricted Florida driver's license.

(14)(15) The applicant or licensee has engaged in previous conduct which would have been a ground for revocation or suspension of a license if the applicant or licensee had been licensed.

(16) Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise agreement, and unless it can be shown that the licensee's franchised dealer is actively negligent, the applicant or

licensee has failed to indemnify and hold harmless its
franchised motor vehicle dealer against any judgment for
damages or settlement agreed to in writing by the applicant or
licensee, including, but not limited to, court costs and
reasonable attorney's fees of the motor vehicle dealer, which
judgment or settlement arose out of complaints, claims, or
lawsuits based upon such grounds as strict liability;
negligence; misrepresentation; warranty, express or implied;
or rescission of the sale as described in s. 672.608, less any
offset for use recovered by the licensee's franchised motor
vehicle dealer, and only to the extent that the judgment or
settlement relates to the alleged defective or negligent
manufacture, assembly, or design of new motor vehicles, parts,
or accessories or other functions of the manufacturer.

(15)(17) The applicant or licensee, directly or indirectly, through the actions of any parent of the licensee, subsidiary of the licensee, or common entity causes a termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of a franchise agreement by a present or previous distributor or importer unless, by the effective date of such action, the applicant or licensee offers the motor vehicle dealer whose franchise agreement is terminated, canceled, or not renewed a franchise agreement containing substantially the same provisions contained in the previous franchise agreement or files an affidavit with the department acknowledging its undertaking to assume and fulfill the rights, duties, and obligations of its predecessor distributor or importer under the terminated, canceled, or nonrenewed franchise agreement and the same is reinstated.

(16)(18) Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise agreement, the applicant or licensee prevents or refuses to

accept the succession to any interest in a franchise agreement by any legal heir or devisee under the will of a motor vehicle dealer or under the laws of descent and distribution of this state; provided, the applicant or licensee is not required to accept a succession where such heir or devisee does not meet licensee's written, reasonable, and uniformly applied minimal standard qualifications for dealer applicants or which, after notice and administrative hearing pursuant to chapter 120, is demonstrated to be detrimental to the public interest or to the representation of the applicant or licensee. Nothing contained herein, however, shall prevent a motor vehicle dealer, during his or her lifetime, from designating any person as his or her successor in interest by written instrument filed with and accepted by the applicant or licensee. A licensee who rejects the successor transferee under this subsection shall have the burden of establishing in any proceeding where such rejection is in issue that the rejection of the successor transferee complies with this subsection.

2

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11 12

13 14

15

16 17

18

19

20

2122

23

24

2526

27

2829

30

31

(17)(19) The applicant or licensee has included in any franchise agreement with a motor vehicle dealer terms or provisions that are contrary to, prohibited by, or otherwise inconsistent with the provisions contained in ss.

320.60-320.70, or has failed to include in such franchise agreement a provision conforming to the requirements of s.

320.63(3).

(18)(20) The applicant or licensee has established a system of motor vehicle allocation or distribution or has implemented a system of allocation or distribution of motor vehicles to one or more of its franchised motor vehicle dealers which is unfair, inequitable, unreasonably

discriminatory, or not supportable by reason and good cause after considering the equities of the affected motor vehicles dealer or dealers. An applicant or licensee shall maintain for 3 years records that describe its methods or formula of allocation and distribution of its motor vehicles and records of its actual allocation and distribution of motor vehicles to its motor vehicle dealers in this state.

(19)(21) The applicant or licensee, without good and fair cause, has delayed, refused, or failed to provide a supply of motor vehicles by series in reasonable quantities, including the models publicly advertised by the applicant or licensee as being available, or has delayed, refused, or failed to deliver motor vehicle parts and accessories within a reasonable time after receipt of an order by a franchised dealer. However, this subsection is not violated if such failure is caused by acts or causes beyond the control of the applicant or licensee.

(20)(22) The applicant or licensee has required, or threatened to require, a motor vehicle dealer to prospectively assent to a release, assignment, novation, waiver, or estoppel, which instrument or document operates, or is intended by the applicant or licensee to operate, to relieve any person from any liability or obligation under the provisions of ss. 320.60-320.70.

(21)(23) The applicant or licensee has threatened or coerced a motor vehicle dealer toward conduct or action whereby the dealer would waive or forego its right to protest the establishment or relocation of a motor vehicle dealer in the community or territory serviced by the threatened or coerced dealer.

(22) The applicant or licensee has refused to deliver, in reasonable quantities and within a reasonable time, to any duly licensed motor vehicle dealer who has an agreement with such applicant or licensee for the retail sale of new motor vehicles and parts for motor vehicles sold or distributed by the applicant or licensee, any such motor vehicles or parts as are covered by such agreement. Such refusal includes the failure to offer to its same line-make franchised motor vehicle dealers all models manufactured for that line-make, or requiring a dealer to pay any extra fee, require a dealer to execute a separate franchise agreement, purchase unreasonable advertising displays or other materials, or remodel, renovate, or recondition the dealer's existing facilities, or provide exclusive facilities as a prerequisite to receiving a model or series of vehicles. However, the failure to deliver any motor vehicle or part will not be considered a violation of this section if the failure is due to an act of God, work stoppage, or delay due to a strike or labor difficulty, a freight embargo, product shortage, or other cause over which the applicant or licensee has no control. An applicant or licensee may impose reasonable requirements on the motor vehicle dealer, other than the items listed above, including, but not limited to, the purchase of special tools required to properly service a motor vehicle, the undertaking of sales person or service person training related to the motor vehicle. (23) The applicant or licensee has competed or is competing with respect to any activity covered by the

1 2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11 12

13

14

15

16 17

18 19

20

21

2223

24

2526

27

2829

30

31

franchise agreement with a motor vehicle dealer of the same

line-make located in this state with whom the applicant or

<u>licensee has entered into a franchise agreement, except as</u> permitted in s. 320.645.

2

3

5

6

7

8

9

10

11 12

13 14

15

16 17

18 19

20

21

22

23

2425

26

2728

29

30

31

vehicle to any retail consumer in the state except through a motor vehicle dealer holding a franchise agreement for the line-make that includes the motor vehicle. This section does not apply to sales by the applicant or licensee of motor vehicles to its current employees, employees of companies affiliated by common ownership, charitable not-for-profitorganizations, and the federal government.

(25) The applicant or licensee has undertaken an audit of warranty payments or incentive payment previously paid to a motor vehicle dealer in violation of this section or has failed to comply with s. 320.696. An applicant or licensee may reasonably and periodically audit a motor vehicle dealer to determine the validity of paid claims. Audit of warranty payments shall only be for the 1-year period immediately following the date the claim was paid. Audit of incentive payments shall only be for an 18-month period immediately following the date the incentive was paid. An applicant or licensee shall not deny a claim or charge a motor vehicle dealer back subsequent to the payment of the claim unless the applicant or licensee can show that the claim was false or fraudulent or that the motor vehicle dealer failed to substantially comply with the reasonable written and uniformly applied procedures of the applicant or licensee for such repairs or incentives.

(26) Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise agreement, the applicant or licensee has refused to allocate, sell, or deliver motor vehicles, charged back or withheld payments or other things of value for which the dealer is

```
otherwise eligible under a sales promotion, program, or
 2
    contest, or prevented the motor vehicle dealer from
   participating in any promotion, program, or contest for
 3
    selling a motor vehicle to a customer who was present at the
 4
 5
    dealership and the motor vehicle dealer did not know or should
 6
   not have reasonably known that the vehicle would be shipped to
 7
    a foreign country. There will be a rebuttable presumption
 8
    that the dealer did not know or should not have reasonably
 9
    known that the vehicle would be shipped to a foreign country
    if the vehicle is titled in one of the fifty United States.
10
          (27) Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise
11
12
    agreement, the applicant or licensee has failed or refused to
    indemnify and hold harmless any motor vehicle dealer against
13
14
    any judgment for damages, or settlements agreed to by the
    applicant or licensee, including, without limitation, court
15
    costs and reasonable attorneys fees, arising out of
16
17
    complaints, claims, or lawsuits, including, without
    limitation, strict liability, negligence, misrepresentation,
18
19
    express or implied warranty, or revocation or rescission of
20
    acceptance of the sale of a motor vehicle, to the extent the
21
    judgment or settlement relates to the alleged negligent
    manufacture, design, or assembly of motor vehicles, parts, or
22
23
    accessories. Nothing herein shall obviate the licensee's
    obligations pursuant to chapter 681.
24
          (28) The applicant or licensee has published,
25
26
    disclosed, or otherwise made available in any form information
   provided by a motor vehicle dealer with respect to sales
27
28
   prices of motor vehicles or profit per motor vehicle sold.
29
    Other confidential financial information provided by motor
    vehicle dealers shall not be published, disclosed, or
30
    otherwise made publicly available except in composite form.
31
                                  84
```

However, this information may be disclosed with the written consent of the dealer or in response to a subpoena or order of the Department, a court or a lawful tribunal, or introduced into evidence in such a proceeding, after timely notice to an affected dealer.

- (29) The applicant or licensee has failed to reimburse a motor vehicle dealer in full for the reasonable cost of providing a loaner vehicle to any customer who is having a vehicle serviced at the motor vehicle dealer, if a loaner is required by the applicant or licensee, or a loaner is expressly part of an applicant or licensee's customer satisfaction index or computation.
- threatened to conduct any audit of a motor vehicle dealer in order to coerce or attempt to coerce the dealer to forego any rights granted to the dealer under ss. 320.60-320.70 or under the agreement between the licensee and the motor vehicle dealer. Nothing in this section shall prohibit an applicant or licensee from reasonably and periodically auditing a dealer to determine the validity of paid claims.
- (31) From and after the effective date of enactment of this provision, the applicant or licensee has offered to any motor vehicle dealer a franchise agreement that:
- (a) Requires that a motor vehicle dealer bring an administrative or legal action in a venue outside of this state, or
- (b) Requires that any arbitration, mediation, or other legal proceeding be conducted outside of this state, or
- (c) Requires that a law of a state other than Florida
  be applied to any legal proceeding between a motor vehicle
  dealer and a licensee.

(32) Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise agreement, the applicant or licensee has rejected or withheld approval of any proposed transfer in violation of s. 320.643 or a proposed change of executive management in violation of s. 320.644.

A motor vehicle dealer who can demonstrate that a violation of, or failure to comply with, any of the preceding provisions by an applicant or licensee will or can adversely and pecuniarily affect the complaining dealer, shall be entitled to pursue all of the remedies, procedures, and rights of recovery available under ss. 320.695 and 320.697.

Section 42. Section 320.641, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.641 <u>Discontinuations</u>, cancellations, nonrenewals, <u>modifications</u>, and replacement <u>Unfair cancellation</u> of franchise agreements.--

(1)(a) An applicant or licensee shall give written notice to the motor vehicle dealer and the department of the licensee's intention to discontinue, cancel, or fail to renew a franchise agreement or of the licensee's intention to modify a franchise or replace a franchise with a succeeding franchise, which modification or replacement will adversely alter the rights or obligations of a motor vehicle dealer under an existing franchise agreement or will substantially impair the sales, service obligations, or investment of the motor vehicle dealer, at least 90 days before the effective date thereof, together with the specific grounds for such action.

(b) The failure by the licensee to comply with the 90-day notice period and procedure prescribed herein shall

render voidable, at the option of the motor vehicle dealer, any discontinuation, cancellation, nonrenewal, modification, or replacement of any franchise agreement. Designation of a franchise agreement at a specific location as a "nondesignated point" shall be deemed an evasion of this section and constitutes an unfair cancellation.

2

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

1112

13 14

15

16 17

18 19

20

21

2223

24

2526

27

2829

30

- (2) Franchise agreements are deemed to be continuing unless the applicant or licensee has notified the department of the discontinuation of, cancellation of, failure to renew, modification of, or replacement of the agreement of any of its motor vehicle dealers; and annual renewal of the license provided for under ss. 320.60-320.70 is not necessary for any cause of action against the licensee.
- (3) Any motor vehicle dealer who receives a notice of intent to discontinue, cancel, not renew, modify, or replace whose franchise agreement is discontinued, canceled, not renewed, modified, or replaced may, within the 90-day notice period, file a petition or complaint for a determination of whether such action is an unfair or prohibited discontinuation, cancellation, nonrenewal, modification, or replacement. Agreements and certificates of appointment shall continue in effect until final determination of the issues raised in such petition or complaint by the motor vehicle dealer. A discontinuation, cancellation, or nonrenewal of a franchise agreement is unfair if it is not clearly permitted by the franchise agreement; is not undertaken in good faith; is not undertaken for good cause; or is based on an alleged breach of the franchise agreement which is not in fact a material and substantial breach; or, if the grounds relied upon for termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal have not been applied in a uniform and consistent manner by the

licensee. A modification or replacement is unfair if it is not clearly permitted by the franchise agreement; is not undertaken in good faith; or is not undertaken for good cause. The applicant or licensee shall have burden of proof that such action is fair and not prohibited.

2

4

5 6

7

8

9

10

11 12

13

14

15

16 17

18 19

2021

22

23

24

2526

27

2829

- (4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the failure of a motor vehicle dealer to be engaged in business with the public for 10 consecutive business days constitutes abandonment by the dealer of his or her franchise agreement. If any motor vehicle dealer abandons his or her franchise agreement, he or she has no cause of action under this section. For the purpose of this section, a dealer shall be considered to be engaged in business with the public if a sales and service facility is open and is performing such services 8 hours a day, 5 days a week, excluding holidays. However, it will not be considered abandonment if such failure to engage in business is due to an act of God, a work stoppage, or a delay due to a strike or labor difficulty, a freight embargo, or other cause over which the motor vehicle dealer has no control, including any violation of ss. 320.60-320.70.
- (5) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, if a motor vehicle dealer has abandoned his or her franchise agreement as provided in subsection (4), the licensee may give written notice to the dealer and the department of the licensee's intention to discontinue, cancel, or fail to renew the franchise agreement with the dealer at least 15 days before the effective date thereof, specifying the grounds for such action. A motor vehicle dealer receiving such notice may file a petition or complaint for determination

of whether in fact there has been an abandonment of the franchise.

2

3

5

6 7

8

10

11 12

13 14

15

16 17

18 19

20

2122

23

24

2526

27

28

29

30

- (6) If the complainant motor vehicle dealer prevails, he or she shall have a cause of action against the licensee for reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred by him or her in such proceeding, and he or she shall have a cause of action under s. 320.697.
- (7) Except as provided in s. 320.643, no replacement motor vehicle dealer shall be named for this point or location to engage in business and the franchise agreement shall remain in effect until a final judgment is entered after all appeals are exhausted, provided that, when a motor vehicle dealer appeals a decision upholding a discontinuation, cancellation, or nonrenewal based upon abandonment or revocation of the dealer's license pursuant to s. 320.27, as lawful reasons for such discontinuation, cancellation, or nonrenewal, the franchise agreement shall remain in effect pending exhaustion of all appeals only if the motor vehicle dealer establishes a likelihood of success on appeal and that the public interest will not be harmed by keeping the franchise agreement in effect pending entry of final judgment after such appeal. prior to the final adjudication by the department on the petition or complaint and the exhaustion of all appellate remedies by the canceled or discontinued dealer, if a stay is issued by either the department or an appellate court.
- (8) If a transfer is proposed pursuant to s.

  320.643(1) or (2) after a notice of intent to discontinue,
  cancel, or not renew a franchise agreement is received but,
  prior to the final determination, including exhaustion of all
  appellate remedies of a motor vehicle dealer's complaint or
  petition contesting such action, the termination proceedings

```
shall be stayed, without bond, during the period that the
 2
    transfer is being reviewed by the licensee pursuant to s.
 3
    320.643. During the period that the transfer is being
 4
    reviewed by the licensee, pursuant to s. 320.643, the
 5
    franchise agreement shall remain in full force and effect, and
 6
    the motor vehicle dealer shall retain all rights and remedies
 7
    pursuant to the terms and conditions of the franchise
    agreement and applicable law, including all rights of transfer
 8
 9
    until such time as the licensee has accepted or rejected the
    proposed transfer. If the proposed transfer is rejected, the
10
    motor vehicle dealer shall retain all of its rights pursuant
11
12
    to s. 320.643 to an administrative determination as to whether
    the licensee's rejection is in compliance with the provisions
13
14
    of s. 320.643, and during the pendency of any such
15
    administrative proceeding, and any related appellate
   proceedings, the termination proceedings shall remain stayed
16
17
    without bond, the franchise agreement shall remain in full
    force and effect and the motor vehicle dealer shall retain all
18
19
    rights and remedies pursuant to the terms and conditions of
20
    the franchise agreement and applicable law, including all
    rights of transfer. If a transfer is approved by the licensee
21
    or mandated by law, the termination proceedings shall be
22
23
    dismissed with prejudice as moot. This subsection applies
    only to the first two proposed transfers pursuant to s.
24
    320.643(1) or (2) after notice of intent to discontinue,
25
26
    cancel, or not renew is received.
           Section 43. Section 320.643, Florida Statutes, is
27
    amended to read:
28
29
           320.643 Transfer, assignment, or sale of franchise
30
    agreements.--
31
```

(1) A motor vehicle dealer shall not transfer, assign, or sell a franchise agreement to another person unless the dealer first notifies the licensee of the dealer's decision to make such transfer, by written notice setting forth the prospective transferee's name, address, financial qualification, and business experience during the previous 5 The licensee shall, in writing, within 60 days after receipt of such notice, inform the dealer either of the licensee's approval of the transfer, assignment, or sale or of the unacceptability of the proposed transferee, setting forth the material reasons for the rejection. If the licensee does not so inform the dealer within the 60-day period, its approval of the proposed transfer is deemed granted. No such transfer, assignment, or sale will be valid unless the transferee agrees in writing to comply with all requirements of the franchise then in effect. Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise agreement, the acceptance by the licensee of the proposed transferee shall not be unreasonably withheld. For the purposes of this section, the refusal by the licensee to accept a proposed transferee who is of good moral character and who otherwise meets the written, reasonable, and uniformly applied standards or qualifications, if any, of the licensee relating to financial qualifications of the transferee and the business experience of the transferee or the transferee's executive management required by the licensee of its motor vehicle dealers is presumed to be unreasonable. A motor vehicle dealer whose proposed sale is rejected licensee who receives such notice may, within 60 days following such receipt of such rejection, file with the department a verified complaint for a determination that the proposed transferee has been rejected in violation of is not a person qualified to be

1 2

3

5

6

7

8

10

11

12

13 14

15

16 17

18 19

2021

2223

24

2526

27

2829

30

a transferee under this section. The licensee has the burden of proof with respect to all issues raised by such verified complaint. The department shall determine, and enter an order providing, that the proposed transferee is either qualified or is not and cannot be qualified for specified reasons, or the order may provide the conditions under which a proposed transferee would be qualified. If the licensee fails to file such a response to the motor vehicle dealer's verified complaint within 30 days after receipt of the complaint, unless the parties agree in writing to an extension, such 60 day period or if the department, after a hearing, disqualifying the proposed transferee, the franchise agreement between the motor vehicle dealer and the licensee shall be deemed amended to incorporate such transfer or amended in accordance with the determination and order rendered, effective upon compliance by the proposed transferee with any conditions set forth in the determination or order.

2

4

5

6

7

8

9

11 12

13 14

15

16

1718

19

20

21

2223

24

2526

27

2829

30

31

(2)(a) Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise agreement, a licensee shall not, by contract or otherwise, fail or refuse to give effect to, prevent, prohibit, or penalize, or attempt to refuse to give effect to, prevent, prohibit, or penalize, any motor vehicle dealer or any proprietor, partner, stockholder, owner, or other person who holds or otherwise owns an interest therein from selling, assigning, transferring, alienating, or otherwise disposing of, in whole or in part, the equity interest of any of them in such motor vehicle dealer to any other person or persons, including a corporation established or existing for the purpose of owning or holding the stock or ownership interests of other entities, unless the licensee proves at a hearing pursuant to this section that such sale, transfer, alienation,

or other disposition is to a person who is not, or whose controlling executive management is not, of good moral 2 3 character. A motor vehicle dealer, or any proprietor, 4 partner, stockholder, owner, or other person who holds or 5 otherwise owns an interest in the motor vehicle dealer, who desires to sell, assign, transfer, alienate, or otherwise 6 7 dispose of any interest in such motor vehicle dealer shall notify, or cause the proposed transferee to so notify, the 8 9 licensee, in writing, of the identity and address of the proposed transferee. A licensee who receives such notice may, 10 within 60 days following such receipt, notify the motor 11 12 vehicle dealer in writing file with the department a verified complaint for a determination that the proposed transferee is 13 14 not a person qualified to be a transferee under this section 15 and setting forth the material reasons for such rejection. Failure of the licensee to notify the motor vehicle dealer 16 17 within the 60-day period of such rejection shall be deemed an approval of the transfer. Any person whose proposed sale of 18 19 stock is rejected may file within 60 days of receipt of such 20 rejection a complaint with the Department alleging that the 21 rejection was in violation of the law or the franchise 22 agreement. The licensee has the burden of proof with respect 23 to all issues raised by such verified complaint. department shall determine, and enter an order providing, that 24 the proposed transferee either is qualified or is not and 25 26 cannot be qualified for specified reasons; or the order may provide the conditions under which a proposed transferee would 27 be qualified. If the licensee fails to file a response to the 28 motor vehicle dealer's complaint within 30 days of receipt of 29 the complaint, unless the parties agree in writing to an 30 extension, or if the licensee fails to file such verified 31

complaint within such 60-day period or if the department, after a hearing, dismisses the complaint or renders a decision on the complaint other than one disqualifying the proposed transferee, the transfer shall be deemed approved franchise agreement between the motor vehicle dealer and the licensee shall be deemed amended to incorporate such transfer or amended in accordance with the determination and order rendered, effective upon compliance by the proposed transferee with any conditions set forth in the determination or order.

- (b) During the pendency of any such hearing, the franchise agreement of the motor vehicle dealer shall continue in effect in accordance with its terms. The department shall expedite any determination requested under this section.
- (3) Notwithstanding the terms of any franchise agreement, the acceptance by the licensee of the proposed transferee shall not be unreasonably withheld. For the purposes of this section, the refusal by the licensee to accept a proposed transferee who satisfies the criteria set forth in subsection (1) or (2) is presumed to be unreasonable.

Section 44. Section 320.645, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.645 Restriction upon ownership of dealership by licensee.--

(1) No licensee, including a manufacturer or agent of a manufacturer, or any parent, subsidiary, common entity, or officer or representative of the licensee shall own or operate, either directly or indirectly, a motor vehicle dealership in this state for the sale or service of motor vehicles which have been or are offered for sale under a franchise agreement with a motor vehicle dealer in this state. A licensee may not be issued a motor vehicle dealer license

<u>pursuant to s. 320.27.</u> However, no such licensee will be deemed to be in violation of this section:

- (a) When operating a motor vehicle dealership for a temporary period, not to exceed 1 year, during the transition from one owner of the motor vehicle dealership to another;
- (b) When operating a motor vehicle dealership temporarily for a reasonable period for the exclusive purpose of broadening the diversity of its dealer body and enhancing opportunities for qualified persons who are part of a group that has historically been underrepresented in its dealer body, or for other qualified persons who the licensee deems lack the resources to purchase or capitalize the dealership outright, not to exceed 1 year, or in a bona fide relationship with an independent person, other than a licensee or its agent or affiliate, who has made a significant investment that is subject to loss in the dealership within the dealership's first year of operation and who can reasonably expect to acquire full ownership of the dealership on reasonable terms and conditions; or
- (c) If the department determines, after a hearing on the matter, pursuant to chapter 120, at the request of any person, that there is no independent person available in the community or territory to own and operate the motor vehicle dealership in a manner consistent with the public interest.

In any such case, the licensee must continue to make the motor vehicle dealership available for sale to an independent person

at a fair and reasonable price. Approval of the sale of such a motor vehicle dealership to a proposed motor vehicle dealer

30 shall not be unreasonably withheld.

(2) As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Independent person" is a person who is not an officer, director, or employee of the licensee.

"Reasonable terms and conditions" requires that profits from the dealership are reasonably expected to be sufficient to allow full ownership of the dealership by the independent person within a reasonable time period not to exceed 10 years, which time period may be extended if there is a reasonable basis to do so and is not being sought to evade the purpose of this section; that the independent person has sufficient control to permit acquisition of ownership; and that the relationship cannot be terminated solely to avoid full ownership. The terms and conditions are not reasonable if they preclude the independent person from an expedited purchase of the dealership using a monetary source other than profits from the dealership's operation; provided, however, that the independent person must pay or make an agreement to pay to the licensee any and all reasonable prepayment charges and costs, including all unrecouped restored losses, associated with the expedited purchase of the dealership. For the purpose of this section, unrecouped restored losses are monies that the manufacturer has provided to the dealership to restore losses of the dealership that the manufacturer has not been paid back through profits of the dealership.

- (c) "Significant investment" means a reasonable amount, considering the reasonable capital requirements of the dealership, acquired and obtained from sources other than the licensee or any of its affiliates and not encumbered by the person's interest in the dealership.
- (3) Nothing in this section shall prohibit, limit, restrict, or impose conditions on:

30 31

1 2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11 12

13 14

15

16 17

18 19

20

21

2223

2425

26

27

- (a) The business activities, including, without limitation, the dealings with motor vehicle manufacturers and their representatives and affiliates, of any person that is primarily engaged in the business of short term not to exceed 12 months rental of motor vehicles and industrial and construction equipment and activities incidental to that business, provided that:
- 1. Any motor vehicles sold by such person are limited to used motor vehicles that have been previously used exclusively and regularly by such person in the conduct of its rental business and used motor vehicles traded in on motor vehicles sold by such person;
- 2. Warranty repairs performed under any manufacturer's new vehicle warranty by such person on motor vehicles are limited to those motor vehicles that it owns. As to previously owned vehicles, warranty repairs can be performed only if pursuant to a motor vehicle service agreement as defined in chapter 634, part I, issued by such person or an express warranty issued by such person on the retail sale of those vehicles previously owned; and
- 3. Motor vehicle financing provided by such person to retail consumers for motor vehicles is limited to used motor vehicles sold by such person in the conduct of its business; or
- (b) The direct or indirect ownership, affiliation or control of a person described in paragraph (a) of this subsection.
- (4) This section does not apply to any dealership that is owned, controlled, or operated by a licensee on July 1, 2000.

1 (2) This section shall not be construed to prohibit 2 any licensee from owning or operating a motor vehicle 3 dealership in this state if such dealership was owned or 4 operated by the licensee on May 31, 1984. 5 Section 45. Subsection (2) of section 320.699, Florida 6 Statutes, is amended to read: 7 320.699 Administrative hearings and adjudications; 8 procedure. --(2) If a written objection or notice of protest is 9 filed with the department under paragraph (1)(b), a hearing 10 shall be held not sooner than 180 days nor later than 240 days 11 12 from within 180 days of the date of filing of the first objection or notice of protest, unless the time is extended by 13 14 the Administrative Law Judge for good cause shown. This subsection shall govern the schedule of hearings in lieu of 15 any other provision of law with respect to administrative 16 17 hearings conducted by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles or the Division of Administrative Hearings, 18 19 including performance standards of state agencies, which may 20 be included in current and future appropriations acts. hearing officer for good cause shown. If a hearing is not scheduled 21 22 within said time, any party may request such hearing which 23 shall be held forthwith by the hearing officer. Section 46. Section 320.6991, Florida Statutes, is 24 created to read: 25 26 Section 320.6991 Severability.--If a provision of ss. 27 320.60-320.70 or its application to any person or circumstance 28 is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other 29 provisions or applications of ss. 320.60-320.70 that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and 30

to this end the provisions of 320.60-320.70 are severable.

1 Section 47. Section 320.691, Florida Statutes, is 2 created to read: 3 320.691 Automobile Dealers Industry Advisory Board .--4 (1) AUTOMOBILE DEALERS INDUSTRY ADVISORY BOARD. -- The 5 Automobile Dealers Industry Advisory Board is created within 6 the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. The board 7 shall make recommendations on proposed legislation, make recommendations on proposed rules and procedures, present 9 licensed motor vehicle dealer industry issues to the department for its consideration, consider any matters 10 relating to the motor vehicle industry presented to it by the 11 12 department, and submit an annual report to the Executive Director of the department and file copies with the Governor, 13 14 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of 15 Representatives. (2) MEMBERSHIP, TERMS, MEETINGS.--16 17 (a) The board shall be composed of 12 members. The 18 Executive Director of the Department of Highway Safety and 19 Motor Vehicles shall appoint the members from names submitted 20 by the entities for the designated categories the member will 21 represent. The Executive Director shall appoint one 22 representative of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor 23 Vehicles, who must represent the Division of Motor Vehicles; two representatives of the independent motor vehicle industry 24 25 as recommended by the Florida Independent Automobile Dealers 26 Association; two representatives of the franchise motor 27 vehicle industry as recommended by the Florida Automobile 28 Dealers Association; one representative of the auction motor 29 vehicle industry who is from an auction chain and is 30 recommended by a group affiliated with the National Auto 31 Auction Association; one representative of the auction motor 99

vehicle industry who is from an independent auction and is 2 recommended by a group affiliated with the National Auto 3 Auction Association; one representative from the Department of 4 Revenue; a Florida Tax Collector representative recommended by 5 the Florida Tax Collectors Association; one representative 6 from the Better Business Bureau; one representative from the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, who must 8 represent the Division of Consumer Services; and one 9 representative of the insurance industry who writes motor vehicle dealer surety bonds. 10

- (b)1. The Executive Director shall appoint the following initial members to 1-year terms: one representative from the motor vehicle auction industry who represents an auction chain, one representative from the independent motor vehicle industry, one representative from the franchise motor vehicle industry, one representative from the Department of Revenue, one Florida Tax Collector, and one representative from the Better Business Bureau.
- 2. The Executive Director shall appoint the following initial members to 2-year terms: one representative from the motor vehicle auction industry who represents an independent auction, one representative from the independent motor vehicle industry, one representative from the franchise motor vehicle industry, one representative from the Division of Consumer Services, one representative from the insurance industry, and one representative from the Division of Motor Vehicles.
- 3. As the initial terms expire, the Executive Director shall appoint successors from the same designated category for terms of 2 years. If renominated, a member may succeed himself or herself.

30 31

7

11 12

13 14

15

16 17

18

19

20

21

22 23

24 25

26

27

4. The board shall appoint a chair and vice chair at 1 2 its initial meeting and every 2 years thereafter. 3 (c) The board shall meet at least two times per year. 4 Meetings may be called by the chair of the board or by the 5 Executive Director of the department. One meeting shall be 6 held in the fall of the year to review legislative proposals. 7 The board shall conduct all meetings in accordance with 8 applicable Florida Statutes and shall keep minutes of all 9 meetings. Meetings may be held in locations around the state in department facilities or in other appropriate locations. 10 (3) PER DIEM, TRAVEL, AND STAFFING.--Members of the 11 12 board from the private sector are not entitled to per diem or reimbursement for travel expenses. However, members of the 13 14 board from the public sector are entitled to reimbursement, if 15 any, from their respective agency. Members of the board may request assistance from the Department of Highway Safety and 16 17 Motor Vehicles as necessary. Section 48. Subsection (26) of section 322.01, Florida 18 19 Statutes, is amended to read: 322.01 Definitions.--As used in this chapter: 20 21 (26) "Motor vehicle" means any self-propelled vehicle, including a motor vehicle combination, not operated upon rails 22 23 or guideway, excluding vehicles moved solely by human power, motorized wheelchairs, motorized scooters, and motorized 24 bicycles as defined in s. 316.003. 25 Section 49. Subsections (4) and (5) are added to 26 section 322.0261, Florida Statutes, to read: 27 28 322.0261 Mandatory driver improvement course; certain 29 crashes.--(4) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor 30

Vehicles shall approve and regulate courses that use

technology as the delivery method of all driver improvement schools as the courses relate to this section.

- (5) In determining whether to approve courses of driver improvement schools that use technology as the delivery method as the courses relate to this section, the department shall consider only those courses submitted by a person, business, or entity which receive:
  - (a) Approval for statewide delivery.

(b) Independent scientific research evidence of course effectiveness.

Section 50. Section 322.161, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

322.161 High-risk drivers; restricted licenses.--

- (1)(a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the department shall restrict the driving privilege of any Class D or Class E licensee who is age 15 through 17 and who has accumulated  $\underline{six}$  four or more points pursuant to s. 318.14, excluding parking violations, within a 12-month period.
- (b) Upon determination that any person has accumulated  $\underline{\text{six}}$  four or more points, the department shall notify the licensee and issue the licensee a restricted license for business purposes only. The licensee must appear before the department within 10 days after notification to have this restriction applied. The period of restriction shall be for a period of no less than 1 year beginning on the date it is applied by the department.
- (c) The restriction shall be automatically withdrawn by the department after 1 year if the licensee does not accumulate any additional points. If the licensee accumulates any additional points, then the period of restriction shall be

extended 90 days for each point. The restriction shall also be automatically withdrawn upon the licensee's 18th birthday if no other grounds for restriction exist. The licensee must appear before the department to have the restriction removed and a duplicate license issued.

- (2)(a) Any Class E licensee who is age 15 through 17 and who has accumulated <u>six</u> four or more points pursuant to s. 318.14, excluding parking violations, within a 12-month period shall not be eligible to obtain a Class D license for a period of no less than 1 year. The period of ineligibility shall begin on the date of conviction for the violation that results in the licensee's accumulation of six four or more points.
- (b) The period of ineligibility shall automatically expire after 1 year if the licensee does not accumulate any additional points. If the licensee accumulates any additional points, then the period of ineligibility shall be extended 90 days for each point. The period of ineligibility shall also automatically expire upon the licensee's 18th birthday if no other grounds for ineligibility exist.
- (3) Any action taken by the department pursuant to this section shall not be subject to any formal or informal administrative hearing or similar administrative procedure.
- (4) The department shall adopt rules to carry out the purposes of this section.
- Section 51. Subsection (4) of section 322.05, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 322.05 Persons not to be licensed.--The department may not issue a license:
- (4) Except as provided by this subsection, to any person, as a Class A licensee, Class B licensee, Class C licensee, or Class D licensee, who is under the age of 18

years. A person age 16 or 17 years who applies for a Class D driver's license is subject to all the requirements and provisions of ss. 322.05(2)(a) and (b),322.09, and 322.16(2) and (3). Any person who applies for a Class D driver's license who is age 16 or 17 years must have had a learner's driver's license or a driver's license for at least 90 days before he or she is eligible to receive a Class D driver's license. The department may require of any such applicant for a Class D driver's license such examination of the qualifications of the applicant as the department considers proper, and the department may limit the use of any license granted as it considers proper.

Section 52. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) and subsections (5), (6), and (7) of section 322.081, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection (8) is added to said section, to read:

322.081 Requests to establish voluntary <a href="mailto:check-off">check-off</a> on driver's license application.--

(4)

(b) The department is authorized to discontinue the voluntary contribution and distribution of associated proceeds if the organization no longer exists, if the organization has stopped providing services that are authorized to be funded from the voluntary contributions, or pursuant to an organizational recipient's request. Organizations are required to notify the department immediately to stop warrants for voluntary check-off contribution, if any of the conditions in this subsection exist, and must meet the requirements of paragraph (5)(b) or paragraph (5)(c), if applicable, for any period of operation during the fiscal year.

- 1 2 3 4 5 6
- 8 9

7

- 10 11
- 12 13
- 14 15
- 16 17 18
- 19
- 20 21
- 22 23
- 25 26

- 27 28
- 29 30
- 31

- (5) A voluntary contribution collected and distributed under this chapter, or any interest earned from those contributions, may not be used for commercial or for-profit activities nor for general or administrative expenses, except as authorized by law, or to pay the cost of the audit or report required by law.
- (a) All organizations that receive annual use fee proceeds from the department are responsible for ensuring that proceeds are used in accordance with law.
- (b) All organizational recipients of any voluntary contributions in excess of \$15,000, not otherwise subject to annual audit by the Office of the Auditor General, shall submit an annual audit of the expenditures of these contributions and interest earned from these contributions, to determine if expenditures are being made in accordance with the specifications outlined by law. The audit shall be prepared by a certified public accountant licensed under chapter 473 at that organizational recipient's expense. The notes to the financial statements should state whether expenditures were made in accordance with law.
- (b)(c) Any organization not subject to In lieu of an annual audit pursuant to s. 215.97 shall, any organization receiving less than \$15,000 in voluntary contributions directly from the department may annually attest report, under penalties of perjury, that such proceeds were used in compliance with law. The attestation shall be made annually in a form and format determined by the department.
- (c)(d) Any voluntary contributions authorized by law shall only be distributed to an organization under an appropriation by the Legislature.

- (d)(e) Any organization subject to audit pursuant to

  2 s. 215.97 shall submit an audit report in accordance with

  3 rules promulgated by the Auditor General. The annual

  4 attestation audit or report must be submitted to the

  5 department for review within 9 months 180 days after the end

  6 of the organization's fiscal year.
  - audit or attestation report, the department shall determine which recipients have not complied with subsection (5). If the department determines that an organization has not complied or has failed to use the revenues in accordance with law, the department must discontinue the distribution of the revenues to the organization until the department determines that the organization has complied. If an organization fails to comply within 12 months after the voluntary contributions are withheld by the department, the proceeds shall be deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund to offset department costs.
  - (7) The Auditor General and the department has have the authority to examine all records pertaining to the use of funds from the voluntary contributions authorized.
  - (8) All organizations seeking to establish a voluntary contribution on a driver's license application that are required to operate under the Solicitation of Contributions

    Act, as provided in chapter 496, must do so before funds may be distributed.

Section 53. Present subsections (2) through (7) of section 322.095, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (4) through (9), respectively, and new subsections (2) and (3) are added to said section, to read:

322.095 Traffic law and substance abuse education 1 2 program for driver's license applicants.--(2) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor 3 4 Vehicles shall approve and regulate courses that use 5 technology as the delivery method of all driver improvement 6 schools as the courses relate to this section. 7 (3) In determining whether to approve courses of 8 driver improvement schools that use technology as the delivery 9 method as the courses relate to this section, for courses submitted on or after July 1, 2001, the department shall 10 consider only those courses submitted by a person, business, 11 12 or entity which receive: 13 (a) Approval for statewide delivery. 14 (b) Independent scientific research evidence of course 15 effectiveness. Section 54. Section 322.222, Florida Statutes, is 16 17 created to read: 18 322.222 Right to review.--A driver may request an 19 administrative hearing to review a revocation pursuant to s. 20 322.221(3). The hearing shall be held in accordance with the 21 department's administrative rules that the department shall have promulgated pursuant to chapter 120. 22 23 Section 55. Subsection (7) of section 322.25, Florida 24 Statutes, is amended to read: 25 322.25 When court to forward license to department and 26 report convictions; temporary reinstatement of driving 27 privileges.--(7) Any licensed driver convicted of driving, or being 28 29 in the actual physical control of, a vehicle within this state while under the influence of alcoholic beverages, any chemical 30

107

31

substance set forth in s. 877.111, or any substance controlled

under chapter 893, when affected to the extent that his or her normal faculties are impaired, and whose license and driving privilege have been revoked as provided in subsection (1) may be issued a court order for reinstatement of a driving privilege on a temporary basis; provided that, as a part of the penalty, upon conviction, the defendant is required to enroll in and complete a driver improvement course for the rehabilitation of drinking drivers and the driver is otherwise eligible for reinstatement of the driving privilege as provided by s. 322.282. The court order for reinstatement shall be on a form provided by the department and must be taken by the person convicted to a Florida driver's license examining office, where a temporary driving permit may be issued. The period of time for which a temporary permit issued in accordance with this subsection is valid shall be deemed to be part of the period of revocation imposed by the court.

2

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11 12

13

14

15

16 17

18 19

20

2122

23

24

2526

27

2829

30

31

Section 56. Subsections (1), (3), and (10) of section 322.2615, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

322.2615 Suspension of license; right to review.--

(1)(a) A law enforcement officer or correctional officer shall, on behalf of the department, suspend the driving privilege of a person who has been arrested by a law enforcement officer for a violation of s. 316.193, relating to unlawful blood-alcohol level or breath-alcohol level, or of a person who has refused to submit to a breath, urine, or blood test authorized by s. 316.1932. The officer shall take the person's driver's license and issue the person a 10-day 30-day temporary permit if the person is otherwise eligible for the driving privilege and shall issue the person a notice of suspension. If a blood test has been administered, the results of which are not available to the officer at the time of the

arrest, the agency employing the officer shall transmit such results to the department within 5 days after receipt of the results. If the department then determines that the person was arrested for a violation of s. 316.193 and that the person had a blood-alcohol level or breath-alcohol level of 0.08 or higher, the department shall suspend the person's driver's license pursuant to subsection (3).

- (b) The suspension under paragraph (a) shall be pursuant to, and the notice of suspension shall inform the driver of, the following:
- 1.a. The driver refused to submit to a lawful breath, blood, or urine test and his or her driving privilege is suspended for a period of 1 year for a first refusal or for a period of 18 months if his or her driving privilege has been previously suspended as a result of a refusal to submit to such a test; or
- b. The driver violated s. 316.193 by driving with an unlawful blood-alcohol level as provided in that section and his or her driving privilege is suspended for a period of 6 months for a first offense or for a period of 1 year if his or her driving privilege has been previously suspended for a violation of s. 316.193.
- 2. The suspension period shall commence on the date of arrest or issuance of the notice of suspension, whichever is later.
- 3. The driver may request a formal or informal review of the suspension by the department within 10 days after the date of arrest or issuance of the notice of suspension, whichever is later.
- 4. The temporary permit issued at the time of arrest will expire at midnight of the  $10 \, \mathrm{th}$  day following the

date of arrest or issuance of the notice of suspension, whichever is later.

- 5. The driver may submit to the department any materials relevant to the arrest.
- (3) If the department determines that the license of the person arrested should be suspended pursuant to this section and if the notice of suspension has not already been served upon the person by a law enforcement officer or correctional officer as provided in subsection (1), the department shall issue a notice of suspension and, unless the notice is mailed pursuant to s. 322.251, a temporary permit which expires 10 30 days after the date of issuance if the driver is otherwise eligible.
- (10) A person whose driver's license is suspended under subsection (1) or subsection (3) may apply for issuance of a license for business or employment purposes only if the person is otherwise eligible for the driving privilege pursuant to s. 322.271.
- (a) If the suspension of the driver's license of the person for failure to submit to a breath, urine, or blood test is sustained, the person is not eligible to receive a license for business or employment purposes only, pursuant to s. 322.271, until 90 days have elapsed after the expiration of the last temporary permit issued. If the driver is not issued a 10-day 30-day permit pursuant to this section or s. 322.64 because he or she is ineligible for the permit and the suspension for failure to submit to a breath, urine, or blood test is not invalidated by the department, the driver is not eligible to receive a business or employment license pursuant to s. 322.271 until 90 days have elapsed from the date of the suspension.

(b) If the suspension of the driver's license of the person arrested for a violation of s. 316.193, relating to unlawful blood-alcohol level, is sustained, the person is not eligible to receive a license for business or employment purposes only pursuant to s. 322.271 until 30 days have elapsed after the expiration of the last temporary permit issued. If the driver is not issued a 10-day 30-day permit pursuant to this section or s. 322.64 because he or she is ineligible for the permit and the suspension for a violation of s. 316.193, relating to unlawful blood-alcohol level, is not invalidated by the department, the driver is not eligible to receive a business or employment license pursuant to s. 322.271 until 30 days have elapsed from the date of the arrest.

Section 57. Subsection (5) of section 322.27, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

322.27 Authority of department to suspend or revoke license.--

(5) The department shall revoke the license of any person designated a habitual offender, as set forth in s. 322.264, and such person shall not be eligible to be relicensed for a minimum of 5 years from the date of revocation, except as provided for in s. 322.271. Any person whose license is revoked may, by petition to the department, show cause why his or her license should not be revoked.

Section 58. Subsection (2) of section 322.28, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

322.28 Period of suspension or revocation.--

(2) In a prosecution for a violation of s. 316.193 or former s. 316.1931, the following provisions apply:

- 31 316.193.

- (a) Upon conviction of the driver, the court, along with imposing sentence, shall revoke the driver's license or driving privilege of the person so convicted, effective on the date of conviction, and shall prescribe the period of such revocation in accordance with the following provisions:
- 1. Upon a first conviction for a violation of the provisions of s. 316.193, except a violation resulting in death, the driver's license or driving privilege shall be revoked for not less than 180 days or more than 1 year.
- 2. Upon a second conviction within a period of 5 years from the date of a prior conviction for a violation of the provisions of s. 316.193 or former s. 316.1931 or a combination of such sections, the driver's license or driving privilege shall be revoked for not less than 5 years.
- 3. Upon a third conviction within a period of 10 years from the date of conviction of the first of three or more convictions for the violation of the provisions of s. 316.193 or former s. 316.1931 or a combination of such sections, the driver's license or driving privilege shall be revoked for not less than 10 years.

For the purposes of this paragraph, a previous conviction outside this state for driving under the influence, driving while intoxicated, driving with an unlawful blood-alcohol level, or any other alcohol-related or drug-related traffic offense similar to the offense of driving under the influence as proscribed by s. 316.193 will be considered a previous conviction for violation of s. 316.193, and a conviction for violation of former s. 316.028, former s. 316.1931, or former s. 860.01 is considered a conviction for violation of s.

(b) If the period of revocation was not specified by the court at the time of imposing sentence or within 30 days thereafter, and is not otherwise specified by law, the department shall forthwith revoke the driver's license or driving privilege for the maximum period applicable under paragraph (a) for a first conviction and for the minimum period applicable under paragraph (a) for any subsequent convictions. The driver may, within 30 days after such revocation by the department, petition the court for further hearing on the period of revocation, and the court may reopen the case and determine the period of revocation within the limits specified in paragraph (a).

1 2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11 12

13 14

15

16 17

18

19

20

21

2223

24

2526

27

2829

30

31

(c) The forfeiture of bail bond, not vacated within 20 days, in any prosecution for the offense of driving while under the influence of alcoholic beverages, chemical substances, or controlled substances to the extent of depriving the defendant of his or her normal faculties shall be deemed equivalent to a conviction for the purposes of this paragraph, and the department shall forthwith revoke the defendant's driver's license or driving privilege for the maximum period applicable under paragraph (a) for a first conviction and for the minimum period applicable under paragraph (a) for a second or subsequent conviction; however, if the defendant is later convicted of the charge, the period of revocation imposed by the department for such conviction shall not exceed the difference between the applicable maximum for a first conviction or minimum for a second or subsequent conviction and the revocation period under this subsection that has actually elapsed; upon conviction of such charge, the court may impose revocation for a period of time as specified in paragraph (a). This paragraph does not apply if an

appropriate motion contesting the forfeiture is filed within the 20-day period.

2

3

4

5

6 7

8

9

10

11 12

13 14

15

16 17

18 19

20

21

2223

24

2526

27

2829

30

31

(d) When any driver's license or driving privilege has been revoked pursuant to the provisions of this section, the department shall not grant a new license, except upon reexamination of the licensee after the expiration of the period of revocation so prescribed. However, the court may, in its sound discretion, issue an order of reinstatement on a form furnished by the department which the person may take to any driver's license examining office for reinstatement by the department pursuant to s. 322.282.

(d) (e) The court shall permanently revoke the driver's license or driving privilege of a person who has been convicted four times for violation of s. 316.193 or former s. 316.1931 or a combination of such sections. The court shall permanently revoke the driver's license or driving privilege of any person who has been convicted of DUI manslaughter in violation of s. 316.193. If the court has not permanently revoked such driver's license or driving privilege within 30 days after imposing sentence, the department shall permanently revoke the driver's license or driving privilege pursuant to this paragraph. No driver's license or driving privilege may be issued or granted to any such person. This paragraph applies only if at least one of the convictions for violation of s. 316.193 or former s. 316.1931 was for a violation that occurred after July 1, 1982. For the purposes of this paragraph, a conviction for violation of former s. 316.028, former s. 316.1931, or former s. 860.01 is also considered a conviction for violation of s. 316.193. Also, a conviction of driving under the influence, driving while intoxicated, driving with an unlawful blood-alcohol level, or any other

similar alcohol-related or drug-related traffic offense outside this state is considered a conviction for the purposes 2 3 of this paragraph. 4 Section 59. Section 322.282, Florida Statutes, is 5 repealed. 6 Section 60. Subsection (3) is added to section 7 322.292, Florida Statutes, to read: 8 322.292 DUI programs supervision; powers and duties of 9 the department.--10 (3) DUI programs shall be either governmental programs or not-for-profit corporations. 11 12 Section 61. Section 322.331, Florida Statutes, is 13 repealed. 14 Section 62. Subsections (8), (9), and (10) are added to section 322.61, Florida Statutes, to read: 15 16 322.61 Disqualification from operating a commercial motor vehicle.--17 18 (8) A driver who is convicted of or otherwise found to 19 have committed a violation of an out-of-service order while 20 driving a commercial motor vehicle is disqualified as follows: 21 (a) Not less than 90 days nor more than 1 year if the driver is convicted of or otherwise found to have committed a 22 23 first violation of an out-of-service order. (b) Not less than 1 year nor more than 5 years if, 24 25 during any 10-year period, the driver is convicted of or 26 otherwise found to have committed two violations of 27 out-of-service orders in separate incidents. 28 (c) Not less than 3 years nor more than 5 years if, 29 during any 10-year period, the driver is convicted of or otherwise found to have committed three or more violations of 30 31 out-of-service orders in separate incidents.

- (d) Not less than 180 days nor more than 2 years if the driver is convicted of or otherwise found to have committed a first violation of an out-of-service order while transporting hazardous materials required to be placarded under the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act, 49 U.S.C. 5101 et seq., or while operating motor vehicles designed to transport more than 15 passengers, including the driver. A driver is disqualified for a period of not less than 3 years nor more than 5 years if, during any 10-year period, the driver is convicted of or otherwise found to have committed any subsequent violations of out-of-service orders, in separate incidents, while transporting hazardous materials required to be placarded under the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act 49 U.S.C. 5101 et seq., or while operating motor vehicles designed to transport more than 15 passengers, including the driver.
- (9) A driver who is convicted of or otherwise found to have committed an offense of operating a CMV in violation of federal, state, or local law or regulation pertaining to one of the following six offenses at a railroad-highway grade crossing must be disqualified for the period of time specified in subsection (10):
- (a) For drivers who are not always required to stop, failing to slow down and check that the tracks are clear of approaching trains.
- (b) For drivers who are not always required to stop, failing to stop before reaching the crossing if the tracks are not clear.
- (c) For drivers who are always required to stop, failing to stop before driving onto the crossing.

31

1 2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11 12

13

14

15

16

17

18 19

20

2122

23

2425

26

27

28

29

(d) For all drivers, failing to have sufficient space 1 2 to drive completely through the crossing without stopping. 3 (e) For all drivers, failing to obey a traffic control 4 device or all directions of an enforcement official at the 5 crossing. 6 (f) For all drivers, failing to negotiate a crossing 7 because of insufficient undercarriage clearance. 8 (10)(a) A driver must be disqualified for not less 9 than 60 days if the driver is convicted of or otherwise found to have committed a first violation of a railroad-highway 10 11 grade crossing violation. (b) A driver must be disqualified for not less than 12 120 days if, during any 3-year period, the driver is convicted 13 14 of or otherwise found to have committed a second 15 railroad-highway grade crossing violation in separate 16 incidents. 17 (c) A driver must be disqualified for not less than 1 18 year if, during any 3-year period, the driver is convicted of 19 or otherwise found to have committed a third or subsequent 20 railroad-highway grade crossing violation in separate 21 incidents. 22 Section 63. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 322.64, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 23 322.64 Holder of commercial driver's license; driving 24 25 with unlawful blood-alcohol level; refusal to submit to breath, urine, or blood test.--26 (1)(a) A law enforcement officer or correctional 27 officer shall, on behalf of the department, disqualify from 28 29 operating any commercial motor vehicle a person who while operating or in actual physical control of a commercial motor 30

vehicle is arrested for a violation of s. 316.193, relating to

unlawful blood-alcohol level or breath-alcohol level, or a person who has refused to submit to a breath, urine, or blood 2 3 test authorized by s. 322.63 arising out of the operation or 4 actual physical control of a commercial motor vehicle. Upon disqualification of the person, the officer shall take the 5 person's driver's license and issue the person a 10-day 30-day 6 7 temporary permit if the person is otherwise eligible for the driving privilege and shall issue the person a notice of 8 9 disqualification. If the person has been given a blood, breath, or urine test, the results of which are not available 10 to the officer at the time of the arrest, the agency employing 11 12 the officer shall transmit such results to the department within 5 days after receipt of the results. If the department 13 14 then determines that the person was arrested for a violation 15 of s. 316.193 and that the person had a blood-alcohol level or breath-alcohol level of 0.08 or higher, the department shall 16 17 disqualify the person from operating a commercial motor vehicle pursuant to subsection (3). 18

(b) The disqualification under paragraph (a) shall be pursuant to, and the notice of disqualification shall inform the driver of, the following:

19

2021

2223

24

2526

27

28

29

30

- 1.a. The driver refused to submit to a lawful breath, blood, or urine test and he or she is disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle for a period of 1 year, for a first refusal, or permanently, if he or she has previously been disqualified as a result of a refusal to submit to such a test; or
- b. The driver violated s. 316.193 by driving with an unlawful blood-alcohol level and he or she is disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle for a period of 6 months for a first offense or for a period of 1 year if he or

she has previously been disqualified, or his or her driving privilege has been previously suspended, for a violation of s. 316.193.

- 2. The disqualification period shall commence on the date of arrest or issuance of notice of disqualification, whichever is later.
- 3. The driver may request a formal or informal review of the disqualification by the department within 10 days after the date of arrest or issuance of notice of disqualification, whichever is later.
- 4. The temporary permit issued at the time of arrest or disqualification will expire at midnight of the  $\underline{10th}$  30th day following the date of disqualification.
- 5. The driver may submit to the department any materials relevant to the arrest.
- (3) If the department determines that the person arrested should be disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle pursuant to this section and if the notice of disqualification has not already been served upon the person by a law enforcement officer or correctional officer as provided in subsection (1), the department shall issue a notice of disqualification and, unless the notice is mailed pursuant to s. 322.251, a temporary permit which expires  $\underline{10}$   $\underline{30}$  days after the date of issuance if the driver is otherwise eligible.

Section 64. <u>Driver Licensing Study Commission</u> created.--

(1) The Driver Licensing Study Commission is created within the Department of Highway Safety and Motor

Vehicles. The commission shall consist of eight members, to be appointed as follows:

1 (a) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall 2 appoint two members, at least one of whom must have business 3 managerial experience in the private sector. 4 (b) The President of the Senate shall appoint two 5 members, at least one of whom must have business managerial 6 experience in the private sector. 7 (c) The Governor shall appoint three members, at least one of whom must have information technology experience 8 9 relating to systems utilizing complex databases. (d) The Executive Director of the Department of 10 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles shall serve as an ex 11 12 officio, nonvoting member of the commission. (2) The commission shall elect a chair and a vice 13 14 chair from its membership at its first meeting. 15 (3) The commission shall be appointed no later than June 15, 2001, and its first meeting shall be held no later 16 17 than July 15, 2001. The commission shall meet periodically at 18 the request of the chair. 19 (3) Members of the commission shall serve without 20 compensation, except for per diem and reimbursement for travel 21 expenses as provided by s. 112.061, Florida Statutes. 22 (4) A vacancy in the commission shall be filled within 23 30 days after its occurrence in the same manner as the original appointment. 24 25 (5) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor 26 Vehicles shall serve as primary staff to the commission, 27 providing technical and administrative assistance and ensuring 28 that commission meetings are electronically recorded.

29

30

31

Florida Statutes.

recordings shall be preserved pursuant to chs. 119 and 257,

1 (6) The commission shall study and make 2 recommendations on the feasibility of using privatization, 3 outsourcing, and public-private partnership techniques in the delivery of driver's license services. The commission shall 4 5 review local government driver's licensing programs and shall 6 review results available from driver's licensing privatization 7 pilot projects in the state. The study shall address the 8 following issues: 9 (a) Identification of functions that are appropriate for privatization or outsourcing and functions for which the 10 11 public sector should maintain direct control. 12 (b) Technology and re-engineering of business 13 processes to achieve greater efficiencies, ultimately 14 resulting in cost reduction. 15 (c) The format and type of necessary procurement 16 procedures and oversight and audit mechanisms to protect the 17 interests of the State of Florida in dealings with private 18 service providers. 19 (d) Contractual controls to ensure appropriate service 20 delivery and customer satisfaction levels. 21 (e) Safeguards for control of personal information. 22 (f) Ways to encourage the use of alternative service 23 delivery options. (g) Service center size and location to ensure that 24 25 the public is best served. 26 (h) Issues related to utilization and placement of 27 current public driver's license employees in public-private 28 licensing enterprises.

(i) Any other issues the commission deems relevant to

the privatization of drivers licensing functions.

29

30

(7) The commission shall prepare an initial report of its findings and recommendations on the issues listed in subsection (6) and shall submit the report to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the President of the Senate on or before January 1, 2002. The commission shall prepare a final report of its findings and recommendations, taking into consideration the results of any pilot projects for delivery of driver's license services, and shall submit the report to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the President of the Senate on or before January 1, 2003. The commission is dissolved at the time it submits its final report.

Section 65. There is appropriated from the Highway
Safety Operating Trust Fund to the Driver Licensing Study
Commission the sum of \$100,000 for the purpose of conducting the study required in this act.

Section 66. Section 324.091, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

324.091 Notice to department; notice to insurer.--

(1) Each owner and operator involved in a crash or conviction case within the purview of this chapter shall furnish evidence of automobile liability insurance, motor vehicle liability insurance, or surety bond within 30 days from the date of the mailing of notice of crash by the department in such form and manner as it may designate. Upon receipt of evidence that an automobile liability policy, motor vehicle liability policy, or surety bond was in effect at the time of the crash or conviction case, the department shall forward by United States mail, postage prepaid, to the insurer or surety insurer a copy of such information and shall assume that such policy or bond was in effect unless the insurer or

surety insurer shall notify the department otherwise within 20 days from the mailing of the notice to the insurer or surety insurer; provided that if the department shall later ascertain that an automobile liability policy, motor vehicle liability policy, or surety bond was not in effect and did not provide coverage for both the owner and the operator, it shall at such time take such action as it is otherwise authorized to do under this chapter. Proof of mailing to the insurer or surety insurer may be made by the department by naming the insurer or surety insurer to whom such mailing was made and specifying the time, place and manner of mailing.

- (2) Each insurer doing business in this state shall immediately give notice to the department of each motor vehicle liability policy when issued to effect the return of a license which has been suspended under s. 324.051(2); and said notice shall be upon such form and in such manner as the department may designate.
- information maintained in the department's vehicle database may be provided by an approved third-party provider to insurers, lawyers, and financial institutions in compliance with s. 627.736(9)(a) and for subrogation and claims purposes only. The compilation and retention of this information is strictly prohibited.

Section 67. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 328.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

328.01 Application for certificate of title.--

(3)

(b) If the application for transfer of title is based upon a contractual default, the recorded lienholder shall establish proof of right to ownership by submitting with the

application the original certificate of title and a copy of the applicable contract upon which the claim of ownership is 2 3 made. If the claim is based upon a court order or judgment, a 4 copy of such document shall accompany the application for 5 transfer of title. If, on the basis of departmental records, there appears to be any other lien on the vessel, the 6 7 certificate of title must contain a statement of such a lien, unless the application for a certificate of title is either 8 9 accompanied by proper evidence of the satisfaction or extinction of the lien or contains a statement certifying that 10 any lienholder named on the last-issued certificate of title 11 12 has been sent notice by certified mail, at least 5 days before the application was filed, of the applicant's intention to 13 14 seek a repossessed title. If such notice is given and no 15 written protest to the department is presented by a subsequent lienholder within 15 days after the date on which the notice 16 17 was mailed, the certificate of title shall be issued showing 18 no liens. If the former owner or any subsequent lienholder 19 files a written protest under oath within the 15-day period, the department shall not issue the repossessed certificate for 20 10 days thereafter. If, within the 10-day period, no 21 injunction or other order of a court of competent jurisdiction 22 23 has been served on the department commanding it not to deliver the certificate, the department shall deliver the repossessed 24 certificate to the applicant, or as is otherwise directed in 25 26 the application, showing no other liens than those shown in 27 the application. 29

28

30

31

The department shall adopt suitable language that must appear upon the certificate of title to effectuate the manner in which the interest in or title to the vessel is held.

Section 68. Subsection (2) of section 328.42, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

328.42 Suspension or denial of a vessel registration due to child support delinquency; dishonored checks.--

(2) The department may deny or cancel any vessel registration, license plate, or fuel-use tax decal if the owner pays for the registration, license plate, fuel-use tax decal, or any tax liability, penalty, or interest specified in chapter 207 by a dishonored check if the owner pays for the registration by a dishonored check.

Section 69. Section 328.56, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

328.56 Vessel registration number.—Each vessel that is used on the waters of the state must display a commercial or recreational Florida registration number, unless it is:

- $\left( 1\right)$  A vessel used exclusively on private lakes and ponds.
  - (2) A vessel owned by the United States Government.
  - (3) A vessel used exclusively as a ship's lifeboat.
  - (4) A non-motor-powered vessel.
  - (5) A federally documented vessel.
- (6) A vessel already covered by a registration number in full force and effect which has been awarded to it pursuant to a federally approved numbering system of another state or by the United States Coast Guard in a state without a federally approved numbering system, if the vessel has not been within this state for a period in excess of 90 consecutive days.
- (7) A vessel operating under a valid temporary certificate of number.

- (8) A vessel from a country other than the United States temporarily using the waters of this state.
- (9) An undocumented vessel used exclusively for racing.

Section 70. Subsection (4) of section 328.72, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

328.72 Classification; registration; fees and charges; surcharge; disposition of fees; fines; marine turtle stickers.--

(4) TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP.--

(a) When the ownership of a registered vessel changes, an application for transfer of registration shall be filed with the county tax collector by the new owner within 30 days with a fee of \$3.25. The county tax collector shall retain \$2.25 of the fee and shall remit \$1 to the department. A refund may not be made for any unused portion of a registration period.

(b) If a vessel is an antique as defined in subsection (2), the application shall be accompanied by either a certificate of title, a bill of sale and a registration, or a bill of sale and an affidavit by the owner defending the title from all claims. The bill of sale must contain a complete vessel description to include the hull identification number and engine number, if appropriate; the year, make, and color of the vessel; the selling price; and the signatures of the seller and purchaser.

Section 71. Effective July 1, 2001, subsection (1) of section 328.76, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

328.76 Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund; vessel registration funds; appropriation and distribution.--

million for any administrative costs which shall be deposited in the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund, in each fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2001, all funds collected from the registration of vessels through the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles and the tax collectors of the state, except for those funds designated for the use of the counties pursuant to s. 328.72(1), shall be deposited in the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund for recreational channel marking; public launching facilities; law enforcement and quality control programs; aquatic weed control; manatee protection, recovery, rescue, rehabilitation, and release; and marine mammal protection and recovery. The funds collected pursuant to s. 328.72(1) shall be transferred as follows:

- (a) In each fiscal year, an amount equal to \$1.50 for each vessel registered in this state shall be transferred to the Save the Manatee Trust Fund and shall be used only for the purposes specified in s. 370.12(4).
- (b) Two dollars from each noncommercial vessel registration fee, except that for class A-1 vessels, shall be transferred to the Invasive Plant Control Trust Fund for aquatic weed research and control.
- (c) Forty percent of the registration fees from commercial vessels shall be transferred to the Invasive Plant Control Trust Fund for aquatic plant research and control.
- (d) Forty percent of the registration fees from commercial vessels shall be transferred by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, on a monthly basis, to the General Inspection Trust Fund of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. These funds shall be used for shellfish and aquaculture law enforcement and quality control programs.

Section 72. Subsections (4) and (6) of section 713.78, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

713.78 Liens for recovering, towing, or storing vehicles and documented vessels.--

1 2

3

4

5 6

7

8

9

10

11 12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

2223

2425

26

27

2829

30

- (4)(a) Any person regularly engaged in the business of recovering, towing, or storing vehicles or vessels who comes into possession of a vehicle or vessel pursuant to subsection (2), and who claims a lien for recovery, towing, or storage services, shall give notice to the registered owner, the insurance company insuring the vehicle notwithstanding the provisions of s. 627.736, and to all persons claiming a lien thereon, as disclosed by the records in the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles or of a corresponding agency in any other state.
- (b) Whenever any law enforcement agency authorizes the removal of a vehicle or whenever any towing service, garage, repair shop, or automotive service, storage, or parking place notifies the law enforcement agency of possession of a vehicle pursuant to s. 715.07(2)(a)2., the applicable law enforcement agency shall contact the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, or the appropriate agency of the state of registration, if known, within 24 hours through the medium of electronic communications, giving the full description of the vehicle. Upon receipt of the full description of the vehicle, the department shall search its files to determine the owner's name, the insurance company insuring the vehicle, and whether any person has filed a lien upon the vehicle as provided in s. 319.27(2) and (3) and notify the applicable law enforcement agency within 72 hours. The person in charge of the towing service, garage, repair shop, or automotive service, storage, or parking place shall obtain such information from the

applicable law enforcement agency within 5 days from the date of storage and shall give notice pursuant to paragraph (a).

The department may release the insurance company information to the requestor notwithstanding the provisions of s. 627.736.

2

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11 12

13 14

15

16 17

18 19

20

21

22

23

24

2526

27

2829

30

31

(c) (b) Notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, shall be sent within 7 business days after the date of storage of the vehicle or vessel to the registered owner, the insurance company insuring the vehicle notwithstanding the provisions of s. 627.736, and to all persons of record claiming a lien against the vehicle or vessel. It shall state the fact of possession of the vehicle or vessel, that a lien as provided in subsection (2) is claimed, that charges have accrued and the amount thereof, that the lien is subject to enforcement pursuant to law, and that the owner or lienholder, if any, has the right to a hearing as set forth in subsection (5), and that any vehicle or vessel which remains unclaimed, or for which the charges for recovery, towing, or storage services remain unpaid, may be sold after 35 days free of all prior liens after 35 days if the vehicle or vessel is more than 3 years of age and after 50 days if the vehicle or vessel is 3 years of age or less.

(d)(c) If attempts to locate the owner or lienholder prove unsuccessful, the towing-storage operator shall, after 7 working days, excluding Saturday and Sunday, of the initial tow or storage, notify the public agency of jurisdiction in writing by certified mail or acknowledged hand delivery that the towing-storage company has been unable to locate the owner or lienholder and a physical search of the vehicle or vessel has disclosed no ownership information and a good faith effort has been made. For purposes of this paragraph and, subsection (9), and s. 715.05, "good faith effort" means that the

following checks have been performed by the company to establish prior state of registration and for title:

- 1. Check of vehicle or vessel for any type of tag, tag record, temporary tag, or regular tag.
- 2. Check of law enforcement report for tag number or other information identifying the vehicle or vessel, if the vehicle or vessel was towed at the request of a law enforcement officer.
- 3. Check of trip sheet or tow ticket of tow truck operator to see if a tag was on vehicle at beginning of tow, if private tow.
- 4. If there is no address of the owner on the impound report, check of law enforcement report to see if an out-of-state address is indicated from driver license information.
- 5. Check of vehicle or vessel for inspection sticker or other stickers and decals that may indicate a state of possible registration.
- 6. Check of the interior of the vehicle or vessel for any papers that may be in the glove box, trunk, or other areas for a state of registration.
  - 7. Check of vehicle for vehicle identification number.
  - 8. Check of vessel for vessel registration number.
- 9. Check of vessel hull for a hull identification number which should be carved, burned, stamped, embossed, or otherwise permanently affixed to the outboard side of the transom or, if there is no transom, to the outmost seaboard side at the end of the hull that bears the rudder or other steering mechanism.
- (6) Any vehicle or vessel which is stored pursuant to subsection (2) and which remains unclaimed, or for which

reasonable charges for recovery, towing, or storing remain unpaid or for which a lot rental amount is due and owing to 2 3 the mobile home park owner, as evidenced by a judgment for 4 unpaid rent, and any contents not released pursuant to 5 subsection (10), may be sold by the owner or operator of the storage space for such towing or storage charge or unpaid lot 6 7 rental amount after 35 days from the time the vehicle or vessel is stored therein if the vehicle or vessel is more than 8 9 3 years of age and after 50 days from the time the vehicle or 10 vessel is stored therein if the vehicle or vessel is 3 years of age or less. The sale shall be at public auction for cash. 11 12 If the date of the sale was not included in the notice required in subsection (4), notice of the sale shall be given 13 14 to the person in whose name the vehicle, vessel, or mobile 15 home is registered, to the mobile home park owner, and to all persons claiming a lien on the vehicle or vessel as shown on 16 17 the records of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles or of the corresponding agency in any other state. 18 19 Notice shall be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the owner of the vehicle or vessel and the 20 person having the recorded lien on the vehicle or vessel at 21 the address shown on the records of the registering agency and 22 shall be mailed not less than 15 days before the date of the 23 sale. After diligent search and inquiry, if the name and 24 address of the registered owner or the owner of the recorded 25 26 lien cannot be ascertained, the requirements of notice by mail 27 may be dispensed with. In addition to the notice by mail, public notice of the time and place of sale shall be made by 28 29 publishing a notice thereof one time, at least 10 days prior to the date of the sale, in a newspaper of general circulation 30 in the county in which the sale is to be held. The proceeds 31

of the sale, after payment of reasonable towing and storage charges, costs of the sale, and the unpaid lot rental amount, in that order of priority, shall be deposited with the clerk of the circuit court for the county if the owner is absent, and the clerk shall hold such proceeds subject to the claim of the person legally entitled thereto. The clerk shall be entitled to receive 5 percent of such proceeds for the care and disbursement thereof. The certificate of title issued under this law shall be discharged of all liens unless otherwise provided by court order.

Section 73. <u>Section 715.05, Florida Statutes, is repealed.</u>

Section 74. Subsection (1) of section 681.1096, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

681.1096 Pilot RV Mediation and Arbitration Program; creation and qualifications.--

disputes determined eligible under this chapter involving recreational vehicles acquired on or after October 1, 1997, and shall remain in effect until September 30, 2002 2001, at which time recreational vehicle disputes shall be subject to the provisions of ss. 681.109 and 681.1095. The Attorney General shall report annually to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of each house of the Legislature, and appropriate legislative committees regarding the effectiveness efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the pilot program.

Section 75. Subsections (5) and (7) of section 681.1097, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

681.1097 Pilot RV Mediation and Arbitration Program; dispute eligibility and program function.--

(5) If the mediation ends in an impasse, or if a manufacturer fails to comply with the settlement entered into between the parties, the program administrator shall schedule the dispute for an arbitration hearing. Arbitration proceedings shall be open to the public on reasonable and nondiscriminatory terms.

- (a) The arbitration hearing shall be conducted by a single arbitrator assigned by the program administrator. The arbitrator shall not be the same person as the mediator who conducted the prior mediation conference in the dispute. The parties may factually object to an arbitrator based on the arbitrator's past or present relationship with a party or a party's attorney, direct or indirect, whether financial, professional, social, or of any other kind. The program administrator shall consider any such objection, determine its validity, and notify the parties of any determination. If the objection is determined valid, the program administrator shall assign another arbitrator to the case.
- (b) The arbitrator may issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses and for the production of records, documents, and other evidence. Subpoenas so issued shall be served and, upon application to the court by a party to the arbitration, enforced in the manner provided by law for the service and enforcement of subpoenas in civil actions. Fees for attendance as a witness shall be the same as for a witness in the circuit court.
- (c) At all program arbitration proceedings, the parties may present oral and written testimony, present witnesses and evidence relevant to the dispute, cross-examine witnesses, and be represented by counsel. The arbitrator shall record the arbitration hearing and shall have the power

to administer oaths. The arbitrator may inspect the vehicle 1 if requested by a party or if the arbitrator considers such inspection appropriate.

2 3

4 5

6

7

9

10

11 12

13 14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22 23

24 25

26

27

28

29

30

- The program arbitrator may continue a hearing on his or her own motion or upon the request of a party for good cause shown. A request for continuance by the consumer constitutes a waiver of the time period set forth in s. 681.1096(3)(k) for completion of all proceedings under the program.
- Where the arbitration is the result of a (e) manufacturer's failure to perform in accordance with a settlement mediation agreement, any relief to the consumer granted by the arbitration will be no less than the relief agreed to by the manufacturer in the settlement agreement.
- The arbitrator shall grant relief if a reasonable number of attempts have been undertaken to correct a nonconformity or nonconformities.
- (g) The program arbitrator shall render a decision within 10 days of the closing of the hearing. The decision shall be in writing on a form prescribed or approved by the department. The program administrator shall send a copy of the decision to the consumer and each involved manufacturer by registered mail. The program administrator shall also send a copy of the decision to the department within 5 days of mailing to the parties.
- (h) A manufacturer shall comply with an arbitration decision within 40 days of the date the manufacturer receives the written decision. Compliance occurs on the date the consumer receives delivery of an acceptable replacement motor vehicle or the refund specified in the arbitration award. If a manufacturer fails to comply within the time required, the

consumer must notify the program administrator in writing within 10 days. The program administrator shall notify the department of a manufacturer's failure to comply. The department shall have the authority to enforce compliance with arbitration decisions under this section in the same manner as is provided for enforcement of compliance with board decisions under s. 681.1095(10). In any civil action arising under this chapter and relating to a dispute arbitrated pursuant to this section, the decision of the arbitrator is admissible in evidence.

- arbitrator make a technical correction to the decision by
  filing a written request with the program administrator within
  10 days after receipt of the written decision. Technical
  corrections shall be limited to computational errors,
  correction of a party's name or information regarding the
  recreational vehicle, and typographical or spelling errors.
  Technical correction of a decision shall not toll the time for
  filing an appeal or for manufacturer compliance.
- appealed by either party by filing a petition with the circuit court within the time and in the manner prescribed by s.

  681.1095(10) and (12). Section 681.1095(13) and (14) apply to appeals filed under this section. Either party may make application to the circuit court for the county in which one of the parties resides or has a place of business or, if neither party resides or has a place of business in this state, the county where the arbitration hearing was held, for an order confirming, vacating, modifying, or correcting any award, in accordance with the provisions of this section and ss. 682.12, 682.13, 682.14, 682.15, and 682.17. Such

application must be filed within 30 days of the moving party's receipt of the written decision or the decision becomes final. Upon filing such application, the moving party shall mail a copy to the department and, upon entry of any judgment or decree, shall mail a copy of such judgment or decree to the department. A review of such application by the circuit court shall be confined to the record of the proceedings before the program arbitrator. The court shall conduct a de novo review of the questions of law raised in the application. In addition to the grounds set forth in ss. 682.13 and 682.14, the court shall consider questions of fact raised in the application. In reviewing questions of fact, the court shall uphold the award unless it determines that the factual findings of the arbitrator are not supported by substantial evidence in the record and that the substantial rights of the moving party have been prejudiced. If the arbitrator fails to state findings or reasons for the stated award, or the findings or reasons are inadequate, the court shall search the record to determine whether a basis exists to uphold the award. The court shall expedite consideration of any application filed under this section on the calendar.

1

2

3

5

6 7

8

9

10

11 12

13 14

15

16 17

18 19

20

21

2223

2425

26

27

2829

30

31

(a) If a decision of a program arbitrator in favor of a consumer is confirmed by the court, recovery by the consumer shall include the pecuniary value of the award, attorney's fees incurred in obtaining confirmation of the award, and all costs and continuing damages in the amount of \$25 per day for each day beyond the 40-day period following a manufacturer's receipt of the arbitrator's decision. If a court determines the manufacturer acted in bad faith in bringing the appeal or brought the appeal solely for the purpose of harassment, or in complete absence of a justiciable issue of law or fact, the

court shall double, and may triple, the amount of the total award.

(b) An appeal of a judgment or order by the court confirming, denying confirmation, modifying or correcting, or vacating the award may be taken in the manner and to the same extent as from orders or judgments in a civil action.

Section 76. Section 681.115, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

681.115 Certain agreements void.—Any agreement entered into by a consumer that waives, limits, or disclaims the rights set forth in this chapter, or that requires a consumer not to disclose the terms of such agreement as a condition thereof, is void as contrary to public policy. The rights set forth in this chapter shall extend to a subsequent transferee of such motor vehicle.

Section 77. Section 715.07, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

715.07 Vehicles <u>and vessels</u> parked on private property; towing.--

- (1) As used in this section, the terms:
- $\underline{\text{(a)}}$  term "Vehicle" means any mobile item which normally uses wheels, whether motorized or not.
- (b) "Vessel" means every description of watercraft, barge, and air boat used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on water, other than a seaplane or a documented vessel, as defined in s. 327.02(8).
- (2) The owner or lessee of real property, or any person authorized by the owner or lessee, which person may be the designated representative of the condominium association if the real property is a condominium, may cause any vehicle or vessel parked on such property without her or his

permission to be removed by a person regularly engaged in the business of towing vehicles <u>or vessels</u>, without liability for the costs of removal, transportation, or storage or damages caused by such removal, transportation, or storage, under any of the following circumstances:

- (a) The towing or removal of any vehicle <u>or vessel</u> from private property without the consent of the registered owner or other legally authorized person in control of that vehicle <u>or vessel</u> is subject to strict compliance with the following conditions and restrictions:
- 1.a. Any towed or removed vehicle <u>or vessel</u> must be stored at a site within 10 miles of the point of removal in any county of 500,000 population or more, and within 15 miles of the point of removal in any county of less than 500,000 population. That site must be open for the purpose of redemption of vehicles <u>or vessels</u> on any day that the person or firm towing such vehicle <u>or vessel</u> is open for towing purposes, from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and, when closed, shall have prominently posted a sign indicating a telephone number where the operator of the site can be reached at all times. Upon receipt of a telephoned request to open the site to redeem a vehicle <u>or vessel</u>, the operator shall return to the site within 1 hour or she or he will be in violation of this section.
- b. If no towing business providing such service is located within the area of towing limitations set forth in sub-subparagraph a., the following limitations apply: any towed or removed vehicle or vessel must be stored at a site within 20 miles of the point of removal in any county of 500,000 population or more, and within 30 miles of the point of removal in any county of less than 500,000 population.

2. The person or firm towing or removing the vehicle or vessel shall, within 30 minutes of completion of such towing or removal, notify the municipal police department or, in an unincorporated area, the sheriff of such towing or removal, the storage site, the time the vehicle or vessel was towed or removed, and the make, model, color, and license plate number of the vehicle or the make, model, color, and registration number of the vessel and shall obtain the name of the person at that department to whom such information was reported and note that name on the trip record.

- 3. If the registered owner or other legally authorized person in control of the vehicle <u>or vessel</u> arrives at the scene prior to removal or towing of the vehicle <u>or vessel</u>, the vehicle <u>or vessel</u> shall be disconnected from the towing or removal apparatus, and that person shall be allowed to remove the vehicle <u>or vessel</u> without interference upon the payment of a reasonable service fee of not more than one-half of the posted rate for such towing service as provided in subparagraph 6., for which a receipt shall be given, unless that person refuses to remove the vehicle <u>or vessel</u> which is otherwise unlawfully parked <u>or located</u>.
- 4. The rebate or payment of money or any other valuable consideration from the individual or firm towing or removing vehicles or vessels to the owners or operators of the premises from which the vehicles are towed or removed, for the privilege of removing or towing those vehicles or vessels, is prohibited.
- 5. Except for property appurtenant to and obviously a part of a single-family residence, and except for instances when notice is personally given to the owner or other legally authorized person in control of the vehicle or vessel that the

area in which that vehicle <u>or vessel</u> is parked is reserved or otherwise unavailable for unauthorized vehicles <u>or vessels</u> and subject to being removed at the owner's or operator's expense, any property owner or lessee, or person authorized by the property owner or lessee, prior to towing or removing any vehicle <u>or vessel</u> from private property without the consent of the owner or other legally authorized person in control of that vehicle <u>or vessel</u>, must post a notice meeting the following requirements:

- a. The notice must be prominently placed at each driveway access or curb cut allowing vehicular access to the property, within 5 feet from the public right-of-way line. If there are no curbs or access barriers, the signs must be posted not less than one sign for each 25 feet of lot frontage.
- b. The notice must clearly indicate, in not less than 2-inch high, light-reflective letters on a contrasting background, that unauthorized vehicles will be towed away at the owner's expense. Owners or lessees that remove vessels from their properties shall post notice, consistent with the requirements of this subparagraph, that unauthorized vehicles or vessels will be towed at the owner's expense. The words "tow-away zone" must be included on the sign in not less than 4-inch high letters.
- c. The notice must also provide the name and current telephone number of the person or firm towing or removing the vehicles <u>or vessels</u>, if the property owner, lessee, or person in control of the property has a written contract with the towing company.
- d. The sign structure containing the required notices must be permanently installed with the words "tow-away zone"

not less than 3 feet and not more than 6 feet above ground level and must be continuously maintained on the property for not less than 24 hours prior to the towing or removal of any vehicles or vessels.

- e. The local government may require permitting and inspection of these signs prior to any towing or removal of vehicles or vessels being authorized.
- f. A business with 20 or fewer parking spaces satisfies the notice requirements of this subparagraph by prominently displaying a sign stating "Reserved Parking for Customers Only Unauthorized Vehicles or Vessels Will be Towed Away At the Owner's Expense" in not less than 4-inch high, light-reflective letters on a contrasting background.

- A business owner or lessee may authorize the removal of a vehicle <u>or vessel</u> by a towing company when the vehicle is parked in such a manner that restricts the normal operation of business; and if a vehicle <u>or vessel</u> parked on a public right-of-way obstructs access to a private driveway the owner, lessee, or agent may have the vehicle <u>or vessel</u> removed by a towing company upon signing an order that the vehicle <u>or vessel</u> be removed without a posted tow-away zone sign.
- essels and proposes to require an owner, operator, or person in control of a vehicle or vessel to pay the costs of towing and storage prior to redemption of the vehicle or vessel must file and keep on record with the local law enforcement agency a complete copy of the current rates to be charged for such services and post at the storage site an identical rate schedule and any written contracts with property owners, lessees, or persons in control of property which authorize

such person or firm to remove vehicles <u>or vessels</u> as provided in this section.

- 7. Any person or firm towing or removing any vehicles or vessels from private property without the consent of the owner or other legally authorized person in control of the vehicles or vessels shall, on any trucks, wreckers as defined in s. 713.78(1)(b), or other vehicles used in the towing or removal, have the name, address, and telephone number of the company performing such service clearly printed in contrasting colors on the driver and passenger sides of the vehicle. The name shall be in at least 3-inch permanently affixed letters, and the address and telephone number shall be in at least 1-inch permanently affixed letters.
- 8. Vehicle entry for the purpose of removing the vehicle <u>or vessel</u> shall be allowed with reasonable care on the part of the person or firm towing the vehicle <u>or vessel</u>. Such person or firm shall be liable for any damage occasioned to the vehicle <u>or vessel</u> if such entry is not in accordance with the standard of reasonable care.
- 9. When a vehicle <u>or vessel</u> has been towed or removed pursuant to this section, it must be released to its owner or custodian within one hour after requested. Any vehicle <u>or vessel</u> owner, custodian, or agent shall have the right to inspect the vehicle <u>or vessel</u> before accepting its return, and no release or waiver of any kind which would release the person or firm towing the vehicle <u>or vessel</u> from liability for damages noted by the owner or other legally authorized person at the time of the redemption may be required from any vehicle <u>or vessel</u> owner, custodian, or agent as a condition of release of the vehicle <u>or vessel</u> to its owner. A detailed, signed receipt showing the legal name of the company or person towing

5 6 7

8 9 10

11 12

13 14

16 17

15

18 19 20

21 22

23 24

25

26 27

28 29

30 31 or removing the vehicle or vessel must be given to the person paying towing or storage charges at the time of payment, whether requested or not.

- (b) These requirements shall be the minimum standards and shall not preclude enactment of additional regulations by any municipality or county including the right to regulate rates when vehicles or vessels are towed from private property.
- (3) This section does not apply to law enforcement, firefighting, rescue squad, ambulance, or other emergency vehicles or vessels which are marked as such or to property owned by any governmental entity.
- (4) When a person improperly causes a vehicle or vessel to be removed, such person shall be liable to the owner or lessee of the vehicle or vessel for the cost of removal, transportation, and storage; any damages resulting from the removal, transportation, or storage of the vehicle; attorneys' fees; and court costs.
- (5) Failure to make good faith best efforts to comply with the notice requirement of this section, as appropriate, shall preclude the imposition of any towing or storage charges against such vehicle or vessel.
- (6)(5)(a) Any person who violates the provisions of subparagraph (2)(a)2. or subparagraph (2)(a)6. commits is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- (b) Any person who violates the provisions of subparagraph (2)(a)7. commits is guilty of a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

Section 78. Subsection (3) is added to section 832.09, Florida Statutes, to read:

 832.09 Suspension of driver license after warrant or capias is issued in worthless check case.--

(3) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor

Vehicles shall create a standardized form to be distributed to the clerks of the court in each county for the purpose of notifying the department that a person has satisfied the requirements of the court. Notices of compliance with the court's requirements shall be on the standardized form provided by the department.

Section 79. Subsection (1) of section 322.056, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

322.056 Mandatory revocation or suspension of, or delay of eligibility for, driver's license for persons under age 18 found guilty of certain alcohol, drug, or tobacco offenses; prohibition.--

- (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 322.055, if a person under 18 years of age is found guilty of or delinquent for a violation of s. 562.11(2), s. 562.111, or chapter 893, and:
- (a) The person is eligible by reason of age for a driver's license or driving privilege, the court shall direct the department to revoke or to withhold issuance of his or her driver's license or driving privilege for a period of:
- 1. Not less than 6 months and not more than 1 year for the first violation.
  - 2. Two years, for a subsequent violation.
- (b) The person's driver's license or driving privilege is under suspension or revocation for any reason, the court

shall direct the department to extend the period of suspension or revocation by an additional period of:

- 1. Not less than 6 months and not more than 1 year for the first violation.
  - 2. Two years, for a subsequent violation.
- (c) The person is ineligible by reason of age for a driver's license or driving privilege, the court shall direct the department to withhold issuance of his or her driver's license or driving privilege for a period of:
- 1. Not less than 6 months and not more than 1 year after the date on which he or she would otherwise have become eligible, for the first violation.
- 2. Two years after the date on which he or she would otherwise have become eligible, for a subsequent violation.

However, the court may, in its sound discretion, direct the department to issue a license for driving privileges restricted to business or employment purposes only, as defined in s. 322.271, if the person is otherwise qualified for such a license.

Section 80. Except as otherwise provided herein, this act shall take effect October 1, 2001.