

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	•	House
Comm: RCS		
04/07/2010		
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The Committee on Community Affairs (Bennett) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

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Between lines 313 and 314
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insert:

Section 4. Section 311.12, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

311.12 Seaport security.-

(1) SECURITY STANDARDS.-

9 (a) The statewide minimum standards for seaport security 10 applicable to seaports listed in s. 311.09 shall be those based 11 on the Florida Seaport Security Assessment 2000 and set forth in 12 the Port Security Standards Compliance Plan delivered to the

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Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate on December 11, 2000. The Office of Drug Control within the Executive Office of the Governor shall maintain a sufficient number of copies of the standards at its offices for distribution to the public and provide copies to each affected seaport upon request.

19 (b) A seaport may implement security measures that are more stringent, more extensive, or supplemental to the minimum 20 21 security standards established by this subsection. However, a 22 seaport may not charge any fee for the administration or 23 production of any access control credentials in addition to the 24 fee for the federal Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC). Any cost associated with the administration 25 26 or production of any access card, except for the federal TWIC, 27 must be paid by the administering authority. Any attempt to pass 28 the cost of such a credential on to any employee working on the 29 seaport shall result in a civil fine of \$10,000.

30 (c) The provisions of s. 790.251 are not superseded, 31 preempted, or otherwise modified in any way by the provisions of 32 this section.

33 (2) EXEMPTION.-The Department of Law Enforcement may exempt 34 all or part of a seaport listed in s. 311.09 from the requirements of this section if the department determines that 35 36 activity associated with the use of the seaport or part of the 37 seaport is not vulnerable to criminal activity or terrorism. The 38 department shall periodically review such exemptions to 39 determine if there is a change in use. Such change may warrant 40 removal of all or part of the exemption.

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(3) SECURITY PLAN.-Each seaport listed in s. 311.09 shall

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42 adopt and maintain a security plan specific to that seaport 43 which provides for a secure seaport infrastructure that promotes 44 the safety and security of state residents and visitors and the 45 flow of legitimate trade and travel.

(a) Every 5 years after January 1, 2007, each seaport 46 47 director, with the assistance of the Regional Domestic Security 48 Task Force and in conjunction with the United States Coast Guard, shall revise the seaport's security plan based on the 49 50 director's ongoing assessment of security risks, the risks of 51 terrorist activities, and the specific and identifiable needs of 52 the seaport for ensuring that the seaport is in substantial 53 compliance with the minimum security standards established under subsection (1). 54

55 (b) Each adopted or revised security plan must be reviewed and approved by the Office of Drug Control and the Department of 56 57 Law Enforcement for compliance with federal facility security 58 assessment requirements under 33 C.F.R. s. 105.305 and the minimum security standards established under subsection (1). 59 Within 30 days after completion, a copy of the written review 60 61 shall be delivered to the United States Coast Guard, the 62 Regional Domestic Security Task Force, and the Domestic Security 63 Oversight Council.

(4) SECURE AND RESTRICTED AREAS.-Each seaport listed in s.
311.09 must clearly designate in seaport security plans, and
clearly identify with appropriate signs and markers on the
premises of a seaport, all secure and restricted areas as
defined by the United States Department of Homeland SecurityUnited States Coast Guard Navigation and Vessel Inspection
Circular No. 03-07 and 49 C.F.R. part 1572. The plans must also

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71 address access eligibility requirements and corresponding
72 security enforcement authorizations.

(a) The seaport's security plan must set forth the conditions and restrictions to be imposed on persons employed at, doing business at, or visiting the seaport who have access to secure and restricted areas which are sufficient to provide substantial compliance with the minimum security standards established in subsection (1) and federal regulations.

1. All seaport employees and other persons working at the seaport who have regular access to secure or restricted areas must comply with federal access control regulations and state criminal history checks as prescribed in this section.

2. All persons and objects in secure and restricted areas
are subject to search by a sworn state-certified law enforcement
officer, a Class D seaport security officer certified under
Maritime Transportation Security Act guidelines and s. 311.121,
or an employee of the seaport security force certified under the
Maritime Transportation Security Act guidelines and s. 311.121.

89 3. Persons found in these areas without the proper 90 permission are subject to the trespass provisions of ss. 810.08 91 and 810.09.

92 (b) As determined by the seaport director's most current 93 risk assessment under paragraph (3)(a), any secure or restricted 94 area that has a potential human occupancy of 50 persons or more, 95 any cruise terminal, or any business operation that is adjacent 96 to a public access area must be protected from the most probable 97 and credible terrorist threat to human life.

98 (c) The seaport must provide clear notice of the 99 prohibition against possession of concealed weapons and other

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100 contraband material on the premises of the seaport. Any person in a restricted area who has in his or her possession a 101 concealed weapon, or who operates or has possession or control 102 103 of a vehicle in or upon which a concealed weapon is placed or 104 stored, commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as 105 provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. This paragraph does not 106 apply to active-duty certified federal or state law enforcement 107 personnel or persons so designated by the seaport director in 108 writing.

109 (d) During a period of high terrorist threat level, as 110 designated by the United States Department of Homeland Security 111 or the Department of Law Enforcement, or during an emergency declared at a port by the seaport security director due to 112 113 events applicable to that particular seaport, the management or controlling authority of the port may temporarily designate any 114 part of the seaport property as a secure or restricted area. The 115 116 duration of such designation is limited to the period in which 117 the high terrorist threat level is in effect or a port emergency 118 exists.

(5) ACCESS ELICIBILITY REPORTING SYSTEM.-Subject to 119 120 legislative appropriations, the Department of Law Enforcement 121 shall administer a statewide seaport access eligibility 122 reporting system.

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(a) The system must include, at a minimum, the following: 124 1. A centralized, secure method of collecting and 125 maintaining fingerprints, other biometric data, or other means 126 of confirming the identity of persons authorized to enter a 127 secure or restricted area of a seaport.

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2. A methodology for receiving from and transmitting



129	information to each seaport regarding a person's authority to
130	enter a secure or restricted area of the seaport.
131	3. A means for receiving prompt notification from a seaport
132	when a person's authorization to enter a secure or restricted
133	area of a seaport has been suspended or revoked.
134	4. A means to communicate to seaports when a person's
135	authorization to enter a secure or restricted area of a seaport
136	has been suspended or revoked.
137	(b) Each seaport listed in s. 311.09 is responsible for
138	granting, modifying, restricting, or denying access to secure
139	and restricted areas to seaport employees, other persons working
140	at the seaport, visitors who have business with the seaport, or
141	other persons regularly appearing at the seaport. Based upon the
142	person's criminal history check, each seaport may determine the
143	specific access eligibility to be granted to that person. Each
144	seaport is responsible for access eligibility verification at
145	its location.
146	(c) Upon determining that a person is eligible to enter a
147	secure or restricted area of a port pursuant to subsections (6)
148	and (7), the seaport shall, within 3 business days, report the
149	determination to the department for inclusion in the system.
150	(d) All information submitted to the department regarding a
151	person's access eligibility screening may be retained by the
152	department for subsequent use in promoting seaport security,
153	including, but not limited to, the review of the person's
154	criminal history status to ensure that the person has not become
155	disqualified for such access.
156	(e) The following fees may not be charged by more than one
157	seaport and shall be paid by the seaport, another employing

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158	entity, or the person being entered into the system to the
159	department or to the seaport if the seaport is acting as an
160	agent of the department for the purpose of collecting the fees:
161	1. The cost of the state criminal history check under
162	subsection (7).
163	2. A \$50 fee to cover the initial cost of entering the
164	person into the system and an additional \$50 fee every 5 years
165	thereafter to coincide with the issuance of the federal
166	Transportation Worker Identification Credential described in
167	subsection (6). The fee covers all costs for entering or
168	maintaining the person in the system including the retention and
169	use of the person's fingerprint, other biometric data, or other
170	identifying information.
171	3. The seaport entering the person into the system may
172	charge an administrative fee to cover, but not exceed, the
173	seaport's actual administrative costs for processing the results
174	of the state criminal history check and entering the person into
175	the system.
176	(f) All fees identified in paragraph (e) must be paid
177	before the person may be granted access to a secure or
178	restricted area. Failure to comply with the criminal history
179	check and failure to pay the fees are grounds for immediate
180	denial of access.
181	(g) Persons, corporations, or other business entities that
182	employ persons to work or do business at seaports shall notify
183	the seaport of the termination, resignation, work-related
184	incapacitation, or death of an employee who has access
185	permission.
186	1. If the seaport determines that the person has been

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187 employed by another appropriate entity or is self-employed for 188 purposes of performing work at the seaport, the seaport may 189 reinstate the person's access eligibility. 190 2. A business entity's failure to report a change in an 191 employee's work status within 7 days after the change may result 192 in revocation of the business entity's access to the seaport. 193 (h) In addition to access permissions granted or denied by 194 seaports, access eligibility may be restricted or revoked by the department if there is a reasonable suspicion that the person is 195 196 involved in terrorism or criminal violations that could affect 197 the security of a port or otherwise render the person ineligible 198 for seaport access. 199 (i) Any suspension or revocation of port access must be 200 reported by the seaport to the department within 24 hours after 201 such suspension or revocation. 202 (j) The submission of information known to be false or 203 misleading to the department for entry into the system is a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 204 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. 205 206 (5) (6) ACCESS TO SECURE AND RESTRICTED AREAS.-(a) Any person seeking authorization for unescorted access 207 208 to secure and restricted areas of a seaport must possess, unless waived under paragraph (7)(e), a valid federal Transportation 209 210 Worker Identification Credential (TWIC). and execute an 211 affidavit under oath which provides TWIC identification 212 information and indicates the following: 213 1. The TWIC is currently valid and in full force and 214 effect. 215 2. The TWIC was not received through the waiver process for



216	disqualifying criminal history allowed by federal law.
217	3. He or she has not, in any jurisdiction, civilian or
218	military, been convicted of, entered a plea of guilty or nolo
219	contendere to, regardless of adjudication, or been found not
220	guilty by reason of insanity, of any disqualifying felony under
221	subsection (7) or any crime that includes the use or possession
222	of a firearm.
223	(b) Upon submission of a completed affidavit as provided in
224	paragraph (a), the completion of the state criminal history
225	check as provided in subsection (7), and payment of all required
226	fees under subsection (5), a seaport may grant the person access
227	to secure or restricted areas of the port.
228	(c) Any port granting a person access to secure or
229	restricted areas shall report the grant of access to the
230	Department of Law Enforcement for inclusion in the access
231	eligibility reporting system under subsection (5) within 3
232	business days.
233	(d) The submission of false information on the affidavit
234	required by this section is a felony of the third degree,
235	punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.
236	Upon conviction for a violation of this provision, the person
237	convicted forfeits all privilege of access to secure or
238	restricted areas of a seaport and is disqualified from future
239	approval for access to such areas.
240	(e) Any affidavit form created for use under this
241	subsection must contain the following statement in conspicuous
242	type: "SUBMISSION OF FALSE INFORMATION ON THIS AFFIDAVIT IS A
243	FELONY UNDER FLORIDA LAW AND WILL, UPON CONVICTION, RESULT IN
244	DISQUALIFICATION FOR ACCESS TO A SECURE OR RESTRICTED AREA OF A

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245	SEAPORT."
246	(f) Upon each 5-year renewal of a person's TWIC, the person
247	must submit another affidavit as required by this subsection.
248	(7) CRIMINAL HISTORY SCREENINGA fingerprint-based
249	criminal history check must be performed on employee applicants,
250	current employees, and other persons authorized to regularly
251	enter a secure or restricted area, or the entire seaport if the
252	seaport security plan does not designate one or more secure or
253	restricted areas.
254	(a) A person is disqualified from employment or unescorted
255	access if the person:
256	1. Was convicted of, or entered a plea of guilty or nolo
257	contendere to, regardless of adjudication, any of the offenses
258	listed in paragraph (b) in any jurisdiction, civilian or
259	military, including courts-martial conducted by the Armed Forces
260	of the United States, during the 7 years before the date of the
261	person's application for access; or
262	2. Was released from incarceration, or any supervision
263	imposed as a result of sentencing, for committing any of the
264	disqualifying crimes listed in paragraph (b) in any
265	jurisdiction, civilian or military, during the 5 years before
266	the date of the person's application for access.
267	(b) Disqualifying offenses include:
268	1. An act of terrorism as defined in s. 775.30.
269	2. A violation involving a weapon of mass destruction or a
270	hoax weapon of mass destruction as provided in s. 790.166.
271	3. Planting of a hoax bomb as provided in s. 790.165.
272	4. A violation of s. 876.02 or s. 876.36.
273	5. A violation of s. 860.065.

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274	6. Trafficking as provided in s. 893.135.
275	7. Racketeering activity as provided in s. 895.03.
276	8. Dealing in stolen property as provided in s. 812.019.
277	9. Money laundering as provided in s. 896.101.
278	10. Criminal use of personal identification as provided in
279	s. 817.568.
280	11. Bribery as provided in s. 838.015.
281	12. A violation of s. 316.302, relating to the transport of
282	hazardous materials.
283	13. A forcible felony as defined in s. 776.08.
284	14. A violation of s. 790.07.
285	15. Any crime that includes the use or possession of a
286	firearm.
287	16. A felony violation for theft as provided in s. 812.014.
288	17. Robbery as provided in s. 812.13.
289	18. Burglary as provided in s. 810.02.
290	19. Any violation involving the sale, manufacture,
291	delivery, or possession with intent to sell, manufacture, or
292	deliver a controlled substance.
293	20. Any offense under the laws of another jurisdiction that
294	is similar to an offense listed in this paragraph.
295	21. Conspiracy or attempt to commit any of the offenses
296	listed in this paragraph.
297	(c) Each individual who is subject to a criminal history
298	check shall file a complete set of fingerprints taken in a
299	manner acceptable to the Department of Law Enforcement for state
300	processing. The results of the criminal history check must be
301	reported to the requesting seaport and may be shared among
302	seaports.



303 (d) All fingerprints submitted to the Department of Law 304 Enforcement shall be retained by the department and entered into 305 the statewide automated fingerprint identification system 306 established in s. 943.05(2)(b) and available for use in 307 accordance with s. 943.05(2)(g) and (h). An arrest record that 308 is identified with the retained fingerprints of a person subject to the screening shall be reported to the seaport where the 309 310 person has been granted access to a secure or restricted area. 311 If the fingerprints of a person who has been granted access were not retained, or are otherwise not suitable for use by the 312 313 department, the person must be refingerprinted in a manner that allows the department to perform its functions as provided in 314 315 this section. 316 (e) The Department of Law Enforcement shall establish a 317 waiver process for a person who does not have a TWIC, obtained a TWIC though a federal waiver process, or is found to be 318 319 unqualified under paragraph (a) and denied employment by a 320 seaport or unescorted access to secure or restricted areas. If 321 the person does not have a TWIC and a federal criminal history 322 record check is required, the Department of Law Enforcement may 323 forward the person's fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of 324 Investigation for a national criminal history record check. The 325 cost of the national check must be paid by the seaport, which 32.6 may collect it as reimbursement from the person.

327 1. Consideration for a waiver shall be based on the 328 circumstances of any disqualifying act or offense, restitution 329 made by the individual, and other factors from which it may be 330 determined that the individual does not pose a risk of engaging 331 in any act within the public seaports regulated under this

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332	chapter that would pose a risk to or threaten the security of
333	the seaport and the public's health, safety, or welfare.
334	2. The waiver process begins when an individual who has
335	been denied initial employment within or denied unescorted
336	access to secure or restricted areas of a public seaport submits
337	an application for a waiver and a notarized letter or affidavit
338	from the individual's employer or union representative which
339	states the mitigating reasons for initiating the waiver process.
340	3. Within 90 days after receipt of the application, the
341	administrative staff of the Parole Commission shall conduct a
342	factual review of the waiver application. Findings of fact shall
343	be transmitted to the department for review. The department
344	shall make a copy of those findings available to the applicant
345	before final disposition of the waiver request.
346	4. The department shall make a final disposition of the
347	waiver request based on the factual findings of the
348	investigation by the Parole Commission. The department shall
349	notify the waiver applicant of the final disposition of the
350	waiver.
351	5. The review process under this paragraph is exempt from
352	chapter 120.
353	6. By October 1 of each year, each seaport shall report to
354	the department each instance of denial of employment within, or
355	access to, secure or restricted areas, and each instance waiving
356	a denial occurring during the last 12 months. The report must
357	include the identity of the individual affected, the factors
358	supporting the denial or waiver, and any other material factors
359	used to make the determination.
360	(f) In addition to the waiver procedure established by the
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361 Department of Law Enforcement under paragraph (e), each seaport 362 security plan may establish a procedure to appeal a denial of 363 employment or access based upon procedural inaccuracies or 364 discrepancies regarding criminal history factors established 365 pursuant to this subsection.

366 (g) Each seaport may allow immediate waivers on a temporary 367 basis to meet special or emergency needs of the seaport or its 368 users. Policies, procedures, and criteria for implementation of 369 this paragraph must be included in the seaport security plan. 370 All waivers granted by the seaports pursuant to this paragraph 371 must be reported to the department within 30 days after 372 issuance.

373 (6) (8) WAIVER FROM SECURITY REQUIREMENTS. - The Office of 374 Drug Control and the Department of Law Enforcement may modify or 375 waive any physical facility requirement or other requirement 376 contained in the minimum security standards upon a determination 377 that the purposes of the standards have been reasonably met or 378 exceeded by the seaport requesting the modification or waiver. 379 An alternate means of compliance must not diminish the safety or security of the seaport and must be verified through an 380 381 extensive risk analysis conducted by the seaport director.

(a) Waiver requests shall be submitted in writing, along
with supporting documentation, to the Office of Drug Control and
the Department of Law Enforcement. The office and the department
have 90 days to jointly grant or reject the waiver, in whole or
in part.

(b) The seaport may submit any waivers that are not granted
or are jointly rejected to the Domestic Security Oversight
Council for review within 90 days. The council shall recommend

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390 that the Office of Drug Control and the Department of Law 391 Enforcement grant the waiver or reject the waiver, in whole or 392 in part. The office and the department shall give great weight 393 to the council's recommendations.

(c) A request seeking a waiver from the seaport law enforcement personnel standards established under s. 311.122(3) may not be granted for percentages below 10 percent.

397 (d) Any modifications or waivers granted under this
398 subsection shall be noted in the annual report submitted by the
399 Department of Law Enforcement pursuant to subsection (8) (10).

400 <u>(7)(9)</u> INSPECTIONS.—It is the intent of the Legislature 401 that the state's seaports adhere to security practices that are 402 consistent with the risks assigned to each seaport through the 403 ongoing risk assessment process established in paragraph (3)(a).

(a) The Department of Law Enforcement, or any entity designated by the department, shall conduct at least one annual unannounced inspection of each seaport to determine whether the seaport is meeting the minimum security standards established pursuant to subsection (1) and to identify seaport security changes or improvements needed or otherwise recommended.

410 (b) The Department of Law Enforcement, or any entity designated by the department, may conduct additional announced 411 412 or unannounced inspections or operations within or affecting any 413 seaport to test compliance with, or the effectiveness of, 414 security plans and operations at each seaport, to determine 415 compliance with physical facility requirements and standards, or 416 to assist the department in identifying changes or improvements needed to bring a seaport into compliance with minimum security 417 418 standards.

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(c) Within 30 days after completing the inspection report,
the department shall submit a copy of the report to the Domestic
Security Oversight Council.

422 (d) A seaport may request that the Domestic Security 423 Oversight Council review the findings in the department's report 424 as they relate to the requirements of this section. The council 425 may review only those findings that are in dispute by the 426 seaport. In reviewing the disputed findings, the council may 427 concur in the findings of the department or the seaport or may 428 recommend corrective action to the seaport. The department and 429 the seaport shall give great weight to the council's findings 430 and recommendations.

(e) All seaports shall allow the Department of Law
Enforcement, or an entity designated by the department,
unimpeded access to affected areas and facilities for the
purpose of plan or compliance inspections or other operations
authorized by this section.

(8) (10) REPORTS.-The Department of Law Enforcement, in 436 437 consultation with the Office of Drug Control, shall annually 438 complete a report indicating the observations and findings of 439 all reviews, inspections, or other operations relating to the seaports conducted during the year and any recommendations 440 resulting from such reviews, inspections, and operations. A copy 441 442 of the report shall be provided to the Governor, the President 443 of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the 444 governing body of each seaport or seaport authority, and each 445 seaport director. The report must include each director's response indicating what actions, if any, have been taken or are 446 planned to be taken pursuant to the observations, findings, and 447

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448 recommendations reported by the department.

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(9)(11) FUNDING.-

(a) In making decisions regarding security projects or
other funding applicable to each seaport listed in s. 311.09,
the Legislature may consider the Department of Law Enforcement's
annual report under subsection (8) (10) as authoritative,
especially regarding each seaport's degree of substantial
compliance with the minimum security standards established in
subsection (1).

(b) The Legislature shall regularly review the ongoing costs of operational security on seaports, the impacts of this section on those costs, mitigating factors that may reduce costs without reducing security, and the methods by which seaports may implement operational security using a combination of sworn law enforcement officers and private security services.

(c) Subject to the provisions of this chapter and appropriations made for seaport security, state funds may not be expended for security costs without certification of need for such expenditures by the Office of Ports Administrator within the Department of Law Enforcement.

468 (d) If funds are appropriated for seaport security, the 469 Office of Drug Control, the Department of Law Enforcement, and 470 the Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Council shall mutually determine the allocation of such funds 471 472 for security project needs identified in the approved seaport 473 security plans. Any seaport that receives state funds for 474 security projects must enter into a joint participation 475 agreement with the appropriate state entity and use the seaport 476 security plan as the basis for the agreement.

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477	1. If funds are made available over more than 1 fiscal
478	year, the agreement must reflect the entire scope of the project
479	approved in the security plan and, as practicable, allow for
480	reimbursement for authorized projects over more than 1 year.
481	2. The agreement may include specific timeframes for completion
482	of a security project and the applicable funding reimbursement
483	dates. The agreement may also require a contractual penalty of
484	up to \$1,000 per day to be imposed for failure to meet project
485	completion dates if state funding is available. Any such penalty
486	shall be deposited into the State Transportation Trust Fund and
487	used for seaport security operations and capital improvements.
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489	======================================
490	And the title is amended as follows:
491	Between lines 36 and 37
492	insert:
493	311.12, F.S.; revising provisions relating to seaport
494	security; prohibiting a seaport from charging any fee
495	for administration or production of access control
496	credentials; providing for a fine; deleting certain
497	provisions relating to seaport security plans;
498	deleting provisions requiring that the Department of
499	Law Enforcement administer a statewide seaport access
500	eligibility reporting system; deleting provisions
501	requiring that persons seeking authorization to access
502	secure and restricted areas of a seaport execute an
503	affidavit; deleting provisions requiring fingerprint-
504	based criminal history checks on seaport employee
505	applicants, current employees, and other authorized
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persons; amending s.