By Senator Hays

20-01127B-11

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to self-service storage facilities; amending s. 83.803, F.S.; redefining the term "last known address," to conform to changes made by the act; amending s. 83.806, F.S.; revising notice requirements related to enforcing an owner's lien; allowing postal notice by first-class mail, along with a certificate of mailing; allowing electronic mail notice; deleting provisions relating to advertisement requirements; amending s. 83.808, F.S.; clarifying provisions relating to the right to create contractual liens or limitations on liability; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Subsection (6) of section 83.803, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

83.803 Definitions.—As used in ss. 83.801-83.809:

(6) "Last known address" means the street that address, post office box, or electronic mail address provided by the tenant in the latest rental agreement or in a subsequent written change-of-address notice provided the address provided by the tenant by hand delivery, first-class mail, or electronic certified mail in a subsequent written notice of a change of address.

Section 2. Section 83.806, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

83.806 Enforcement of lien.—An owner's lien as provided in s. 83.805 may be satisfied as follows:

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(1) The tenant shall be notified by written notice delivered in person or by <u>first-class</u> certified mail, along with a certificate of mailing, to the tenant's last known address and conspicuously posted at the self-service storage facility or on the self-contained storage unit.

- (2) The notice shall include:
- (a) An itemized statement of the owner's claim, showing the sum due at the time of the notice and the date when the sum became due.
- (b) The same description, or a reasonably similar description, of the personal property as provided in the rental agreement.
- (c) A demand for payment within a specified time not less than 14 days after delivery of the notice.
- (d) A conspicuous statement that, unless the claim is paid within the time stated in the notice, the personal property will be advertised for sale or other disposition and will be sold or otherwise disposed of at a specified time and place.
- (e) The name, street address, and telephone number of the owner whom the tenant may contact to respond to the notice.
- (3) Any notice given pursuant to this section shall be presumed delivered when it is deposited with the United States Postal Service, registered, and properly addressed with postage prepaid.
- (4) After the expiration of the time given in the notice, an advertisement of the sale or other disposition shall be published once a week for 2 consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the area where the self-service storage facility or self-contained storage unit is located. Inasmuch as

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any sale may involve property of more than one tenant, a single advertisement may be used to dispose of property at any one sale.

- (a) The advertisement shall include:
- 1. A brief and general description of what is believed to constitute the personal property contained in the storage unit, as provided in paragraph (2)(b).
- 2. The address of the self-service storage facility or the address where the self-contained storage unit is located and the name of the tenant.
- 3. The time, place, and manner of the sale or other disposition. The sale or other disposition shall take place not sooner than 15 days after the first publication.
- (b) If there is no newspaper of general circulation in the area where the self-service storage facility or self-contained storage unit is located, the advertisement shall be posted at least 10 days before the date of the sale or other disposition in not fewer than three conspicuous places in the neighborhood where the self-service storage facility or self-contained storage unit is located.
- $\underline{(4)}$  (5) Any sale or other disposition of the personal property shall conform to the terms of the notification as provided for in this section and shall be conducted in a commercially reasonable manner, as that term is used in s. 679.610.
- (5) (6) Before any sale or other disposition of personal property pursuant to this section, the tenant may pay the amount necessary to satisfy the lien and the reasonable expenses incurred under this section and thereby redeem the personal

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property. Upon receipt of such payment, the owner shall return the property to the tenant and thereafter shall have no liability to any person with respect to such personal property. If the tenant fails to redeem the personal property or satisfy the lien, including reasonable expenses, he or she will be deemed to have unjustifiably abandoned the self-service storage facility or self-contained storage unit, and the owner may resume possession of the premises for himself or herself.

(6) (7) A purchaser in good faith of the personal property sold to satisfy a lien provided for in s. 83.805 takes the property free of any claims, except those interests provided for in s. 83.808, despite noncompliance by the owner with the requirements of this section.

(7) (8) In the event of a sale under this section, the owner may satisfy his or her lien from the proceeds of the sale, provided the owner's lien has priority over all other liens in the personal property. The lien rights of secured lienholders are automatically transferred to the remaining proceeds of the sale. The balance, if any, shall be held by the owner for delivery on demand to the tenant. A notice of any balance shall be delivered by the owner to the tenant in person or by firstclass <del>certified</del> mail, along with a certificate of mailing, to the last known address of the tenant. If the tenant does not claim the balance of the proceeds within 2 years after of the date of sale, the proceeds shall be deemed abandoned, and the owner shall have no further obligation with regard to the payment of the balance. In the event that the owner's lien does not have priority over all other liens, the sale proceeds shall be held for the benefit of the holders of those liens having

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delivered by the owner to the tenant or secured lienholders in person or by <u>first-class certified</u> mail, along with a <u>certificate of mailing</u>, to their last known addresses. If the tenant or the secured lienholders do not claim the sale proceeds within 2 years <u>after</u> of the date of sale, the proceeds shall be deemed abandoned, and the owner shall have no further obligation with regard to the payment of the proceeds.

Section 3. Section 83.808, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

83.808 Contractual liens.—This part does not impair or affect Nothing in ss. 83.801-83.809 shall be construed as in any manner impairing or affecting the right of parties to create liens or limitations on liability by special contract or agreement or nor shall it in any manner impair or affect any other lien arising at common law, in equity, or by any statute of this state or any other lien not provided for in s. 83.805.

Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.