By Senator Bennett

	21-00492A-11 2011990
1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to motor vehicle title loans;
3	providing a directive to the Division of Statutory
4	Revision; repealing s. 537.001, F.S., relating to a
5	short title; amending s. 537.002, F.S.; preempting the
6	regulation of motor vehicle title loans to the state;
7	amending s. 537.003, F.S.; revising definitions;
8	providing that title loans are secured by a
9	nonpurchase money security interest in a motor
10	vehicle; amending s. 537.004, F.S.; prohibiting a
11	title loan lender from also providing deferred
12	presentment transactions; amending ss. 537.005,
13	537.006, and 537.007, F.S.; conforming provisions to
14	changes made by the act; amending s. 537.008, F.S.;
15	revising the information that must be in a title loan
16	agreement; specifying the maturity timeframe for a
17	title loan; requiring that a statement relating to the
18	cost of the loan be included in the title loan
19	agreement; revising provisions relating to the title
20	loan lender's actions upon executing an agreement;
21	creating s. 537.0085, F.S.; allowing a borrower to
22	rescind a loan under certain circumstances; amending
23	s. 537.009, F.S.; revising provisions relating to
24	recordkeeping; conforming provisions to changes made
25	by the act; amending s. 537.011, F.S.; revising
26	provisions relating to title loan charges; prohibiting
27	a title loan from being extended; amending s. 537.012,
28	F.S.; revising provisions relating to the repossession
29	of a motor vehicle for loan default; requiring prior

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30	notice to the borrower; prohibiting a title loan
31	lender from seeking a money judgment against a
32	borrower except in certain circumstances; amending s.
33	537.013, F.S.; revising prohibited acts; requiring a
34	lender to return a certificate of title 3 days after
35	regaining possession of it; prohibiting a lender from
36	loaning a principal amount that exceeds 50 percent of
37	the fair market value of the motor vehicle; repealing
38	s. 537.014, F.S., relating to the right to reclaim the
39	loan property; amending ss. 537.015, 537.016, and
40	537.017, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made
41	by the act; repealing s. 537.018, F.S., relating to
42	authorization for county and municipal ordinances;
43	amending s. 494.00797, F.S.; conforming provisions to
44	changes made by the act; transferring activities
45	relating to title loans from the Department of
46	Financial Services to the Department of Agriculture
47	and Consumer Services by a type two transfer;
48	providing an effective date.
49	
50	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
51	
52	Section 1. The Division of Statutory Revision is requested
53	to rename chapter 537, Florida Statutes, as "MOTOR VEHICLE TITLE
54	LOANS."
55	Section 2. Section 537.001, Florida Statutes, is repealed.
56	Section 3. Section 537.002, Florida Statutes, is amended to
57	read:
58	537.002 Preemption; legislative intentThe regulation of

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59	the business of offering motor vehicle title loans is preempted
60	to the state. It is the intent of the Legislature in the
61	creation of this chapter that <u>all</u> title loans to consumers <u>in</u>
62	this state, secured by a nonpurchase money security interest in
63	<u>a motor vehicle,</u> be regulated <u>under this chapter, which shall</u> by
64	the provisions of this act. The provisions of this act supersede
65	any other provisions of state law affecting <u>such</u> title loans to
66	the extent of any conflict.
67	Section 4. Section 537.003, Florida Statutes, is amended to
68	read:
69	537.003 Definitions.—As used in this <u>chapter</u> act , <u>the term</u>
70	unless the context otherwise requires:
71	(1) "Commercially reasonable" has the same meaning as used
72	in part V of chapter 679. In addition, Nonpublic sales or
73	disposal of personal property between a title loan lender and
74	any business affiliates of a title loan lender or a member of a
75	title loan lender's family are presumed not to be made in a
76	commercially reasonable manner.
77	(2) "Commission" means the Financial Services Commission.
78	(1) (3) "Consumer" means an individual borrowing money for
79	personal, family, or household purposes.
80	(2) "Department" means the Department of Agriculture and
81	Consumer Services.
82	(3) "Division" means the Division of Consumer Services of
83	the department.
84	(4) "Office" means the Office of Financial Regulation of
85	the commission.
86	(4) (5) "Executive officer" means the president, chief
87	executive officer, chief financial officer, chief operating

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21-00492A-11 2011990 88 officer, executive vice president, senior vice president, 89 secretary, and treasurer. (5) (6) "Identification" means a government-issued 90 91 photographic identification. (6) (7) "Interest" means the cost of obtaining a title loan 92 93 and includes any profit or advantage of any kind whatsoever 94 which that a title loan lender may charge, contract for, 95 collect, receive, or in any way obtain as a result of a title 96 loan. 97 (7) (8) "License" means a permit issued under this chapter act to make or service title loans in accordance with this act 98 99 at a single title loan office. 100 (8) (9) "Licensee" means a person who is licensed as a title 101 loan lender under this chapter. 102 (10) "Loan property" means any motor vehicle certificate of 103 title that is deposited with a title loan lender as a security 104 for a title loan in the course of the title loan lender's 105 business. (9) (11) "Motor vehicle" means an automobile, motorcycle, 106 107 mobile home, truck, trailer, semitrailer, truck tractor and 108 semitrailer combination, or any other vehicle operated on the public highways and streets of this state, used to transport 109 persons or property, and propelled by power other than muscular 110 power, but excluding a vehicle that which runs only upon a track 111 112 and a mobile home that is the primary residence of the owner. (10) (12) "Title loan" or "loan" means a loan of money to a 113 114 consumer secured by a non-purchase-money security interest in 115 bailment of a certificate of title to a motor vehicle. The term 116 does not include a, except such loan made by a person licensed

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117	under chapter 516, chapter 520, chapter 655, chapter 657,
118	chapter 658, chapter 660, chapter 663, chapter 665, or chapter
119	667 or a person who complies with s. 687.03.
120	<u>(11) (13) "Title loan agreement" or "agreement" means a</u>
121	written agreement in which a title loan lender agrees to make a
122	title loan to a borrower.
123	<u>(12)(14) "Title loan lender" or "lender" means <u>a</u> any person</u>
124	who engages in the business of making or servicing title loans.
125	(13) (15) "Title loan office" means the location at which,
126	or premises from which, a title loan lender regularly conducts
127	business under this chapter or any other location that is held
128	out to the public as a location at which a lender makes or
129	services title loans.
130	(16) "Titled personal property" means a motor vehicle that
131	has as evidence of ownership a state-issued certificate of title
132	except for a mobile home that is the primary residence of the
133	borrower.
134	(14) (17) "Ultimate equitable owner" means a person who,
135	directly or indirectly, owns or controls an ownership interest
136	in a corporation, a foreign corporation, an alien business
137	organization, or any other form of business organization,
138	regardless of whether such person owns or controls such
139	ownership interest through one or more persons or one or more
140	proxies, powers of attorney, nominees, corporations,
141	associations, partnerships, trusts, joint stock companies, or
142	other entities or devices, or any combination thereof.
143	Section 5. Section 537.004, Florida Statutes, is amended to
144	read:
145	537.004 License required; license fees

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146
          (1) A person may not act as a title loan lender or own or
147
     operate a title loan office unless such person has an active
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     title loan lender license issued by the division office under
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     this act.
150
          (a) A person may not act as a title loan lender from any
151
     office where deferred presentment transactions, as defined in s.
152
     560.402, are offered or made, or within 1,000 feet of another
153
     office where title loans or deferred presentment transactions
154
     are offered or made if that office is operated by a common
155
     ultimate equitable owner.
156
          (b) A title loan lender may not own or operate more than
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     one title loan office unless the lender obtains a separate title
158
     loan lender license for each title loan office.
159
           (2) A person applying for licensure as a title loan lender
160
     shall file with the division office an application as provided
161
     under s. 537.005(1) and (2), the bond required by s. 537.005(3),
     a nonrefundable application fee of $1,200, a nonrefundable
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163
     investigation fee of $200, and a complete set of fingerprints
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     taken by an authorized law enforcement officer. The division
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     office shall submit such fingerprints to the Department of Law
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     Enforcement for state processing, and the Department of Law
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     Enforcement shall forward the fingerprints to the Federal Bureau
168
     of Investigation for national processing.
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           (3) If the division office determines that an applicant
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     satisfies the requirements of this chapter an application should
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     be approved, the division office shall issue a license for up to
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     a period not to exceed 2 years.
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          (4) A license shall be renewed biennially by filing a
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     renewal form and a nonrefundable renewal fee of $1,200. A
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21-00492A-11 2011990 175 license that is not renewed by the end of the biennial period 176 shall automatically reverts revert to inactive status. An 177 inactive license may be reactivated within 6 months after 178 becoming inactive by filing a reactivation form, payment of the 179 nonrefundable \$1,200 renewal fee, and payment of a nonrefundable reactivation fee of \$600. A license that is not reactivated 180 181 within 6 months after becoming inactive may not be reactivated 182 and the applicant must apply for a new license shall automatically expire. The department commission shall adopt 183 184 establish by rule the procedures for application, renewal, and 185 reactivation of a license and the application, shall adopt a 186 renewal, form and a reactivation forms form. 187 (5) Each license must be conspicuously displayed at the 188 title loan office. If When a licensee wishes to move a title 189 loan office to another location, the licensee shall provide 190 prior written notice to the division office. 191 (6) A license issued pursuant to this act is not 192 transferable or assignable. (7) Each licensee shall designate and maintain a registered 193 194 agent in this state for service of process. 195 (8) If Whenever a person or a group of persons, directly or 196 indirectly or acting by or through one or more persons, proposes to purchase or acquire a 50 percent or more interest in a 197 licensee, such person or group shall submit an initial license 198

199 application <u>before</u> for licensure under this act prior to such 200 purchase or acquisition.

(9) The <u>department</u> commission may adopt rules to allow for electronic filing of applications, fees, and forms required by this chapter act.

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204	(10) All moneys collected by the <u>division</u> office under this
205	<u>chapter</u> act shall be deposited into the <u>division's General</u>
206	Inspection Regulatory Trust Fund of the office.
207	Section 6. Section 537.005, Florida Statutes, is amended to
208	read:
209	537.005 License application for license
210	(1) A verified <u>license</u> application for licensure under this
211	act , in the form prescribed by <u>department</u> commission rule, <u>must</u>
212	shall:
213	(a) Contain the name and the residence and business address
214	of the applicant. If the applicant is other than a natural
215	person, the application <u>must</u> shall contain the name and the
216	residence and business address of each ultimate equitable owner
217	of 10 percent or more of such entity and each director, general
218	partner, and executive officer of such entity.
219	(b) State whether any individual identified in paragraph
220	(a) has, within the last 10 years, pleaded nolo contendere to,
221	or has been convicted or found guilty of, a felony, regardless
222	of whether adjudication was withheld.
223	(c) Identify the county and municipality with the street
224	and number or location where the business is to be conducted.
225	(d) Contain additional information as the <u>department</u>
226	commission determines by rule to be necessary to ensure
227	compliance with this <u>chapter</u> act .
228	(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), the application need
229	not state the full name and address of each officer, director,
230	and shareholder if the applicant is owned directly or
231	beneficially by a person who as an issuer has a class of
232	securities registered pursuant to s. 12 of the Securities

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21-00492A-11 2011990 233 Exchange Act of 1934 or, pursuant to s. 13 or s. 15(d) of such 234 act, is an issuer of securities which is required to file 235 reports with the Securities and Exchange Commission, if the 236 person files with the division office any information, 237 documents, and reports required by such act to be filed with the 238 Securities and Exchange Commission. 239 (3) An applicant for licensure shall file a bond with the 240 division office a bond, in the amount of \$100,000 for each license, with a surety company qualified to do business in this 241 2.42 state. However, in no event shall the aggregate amount of the bond required for a single title loan lender may not exceed \$1 243 244 million. In lieu of the bond, the applicant may establish and 245 file a certificate of deposit or an irrevocable letter of credit 246 in a financial institution, as defined in s. 655.005, in the 247 amount of the bond. The division original bond, certificate of 248 deposit, or letter of credit shall be filed with the office, and 249 the office shall be the beneficiary to that document. The bond, 250 certificate of deposit, or letter of credit shall be in favor of 251 the office for the use and benefit of any consumer who is 252 injured pursuant to a title loan transaction by the fraud, 253 misrepresentation, breach of contract, financial failure, or 254 violation of any provision of this chapter act by the title loan lender. Such liability may be enforced either by proceeding in 255 256 an administrative action or by filing a judicial suit at law in a court of competent jurisdiction. However, in such court suit, 257 258 the bond, certificate of deposit, or letter of credit posted 259 with the division is office shall not be amenable or subject to 260 any judgment or other legal process issuing out of or from such 261 court in connection with such lawsuit, but is such bond,

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21-00492A-11 2011990 certificate of deposit, or letter of credit shall be amenable to 262 263 and enforceable only by and through administrative proceedings 264 before the division office. It is the intent of the Legislature 265 that such bond, certificate of deposit, or letter of credit 266 shall be applicable and liable only for the payment of claims 267 duly adjudicated by order of the division office. The bond, 268 certificate of deposit, or letter of credit is shall be payable 269 on a pro rata basis as determined by the division office, but 270 the aggregate amount may not exceed the amount of the bond, certificate of deposit, or letter of credit. 271 272 (4) The office shall approve an application and issue a 273 license if the office determines that the applicant satisfies 274 the requirements of this act. Section 7. Section 537.006, Florida Statutes, is amended to 275 276 read: 277 537.006 Denial, suspension, or revocation of license.-278 (1) The following acts are violations of this chapter act 279 and constitute grounds for the disciplinary actions specified in 280 subsection (2): 281 (a) Failure to comply with any provision of this chapter 282 act, any rule or order adopted pursuant to this chapter act, or 283 any written agreement entered into with the division office. 284 (b) Fraud, misrepresentation, deceit, or gross negligence 285 in any title loan transaction, regardless of reliance by or 286 damage to the borrower. 287 (c) Fraudulent misrepresentation, circumvention, or 288 concealment of any matter required to be stated or furnished to 289 a borrower pursuant to this chapter act, regardless of reliance 290 by or damage to the borrower.

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21-00492A-11 2011990 291 (d) Imposition of illegal or unauthorized excessive charges 292 in any title loan transaction. 293 (e) False, deceptive, or misleading advertising by a title 294 loan lender. (f) Failure to maintain, preserve, and keep available for 295 296 examination all books, accounts, or other documents required by 297 this chapter act, by any rule or order adopted pursuant to this 298 chapter act, or by any agreement entered into with the division 299 office. 300 (g) Aiding, abetting, or conspiring by a title loan lender with a person to circumvent or violate any of the requirements 301 302 of this chapter act. (h) Refusal to provide information upon division request of 303 304 the office, to permit inspection of books and records in an 305 investigation or examination by the division office, or to 306 comply with a subpoena issued by the division office. 307 (i) Pleading nolo contendere to or having been convicted or 308 found quilty, regardless of whether adjudication was withheld, of a crime involving fraud, dishonest dealing, or any act of 309 310 moral turpitude or acting as an ultimate equitable owner of 10 percent or more of a licensee who has pled nolo contendere to or 311 has been convicted or found guilty, regardless of whether 312 adjudication was withheld, of a crime involving fraud, dishonest 313 dealing, or any act of moral turpitude. 314 315 (j) Making or having made material misstatement of fact in 316 an initial or renewal license application for a license. 317 (k) Having been the subject of any decision, finding, 318 injunction, suspension, prohibition, revocation, denial, 319 judgment, or administrative order by any court of competent

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21-00492A-11 2011990 320 jurisdiction or administrative law judge, or by any state or 321 federal agency, involving a violation of any federal or state 322 law relating to title loans or any rule or regulation adopted 323 under such law, or has been the subject of any injunction or 324 adverse administrative order by a state or federal agency 325 regulating banking, insurance, finance or small loan companies, 326 real estate, mortgage brokers, or other related or similar 327 industries for acts involving fraud, dishonest dealing, or any 328 act of moral turpitude. 329 (1) Failing to continuously maintain the bond, certificate of deposit, or letter of credit required by s. 537.005(3). 330 331 (m) Failing to timely pay any fee, charge, or fine imposed or assessed pursuant to this chapter act or rules adopted under 332 333 this chapter act. 334 (n) Having a license or registration, or the equivalent, to 335 practice any profession or occupation denied, suspended, 336 revoked, or otherwise acted against by a licensing authority in 337 any jurisdiction for fraud, dishonest dealing, or any act of moral turpitude. 338 339 (o) Having demonstrated unworthiness, as defined by 340 department commission rule, to transact the business of a title 341 loan lender. 342 (2) Upon a finding by the division office that any person has committed any of the acts set forth in subsection (1), the 343 344 division office may enter an order taking one or more of the 345 following actions: (a) Denying an application for licensure under this chapter 346 347 act. 348 (b) Revoking or suspending a license previously granted

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349	pursuant to this <u>chapter</u> act .
350	(c) Placing a licensee or an applicant for a license on
351	probation for a period of time and subject to such conditions as
352	the <u>division</u> office specifies.
353	(d) Issuing a reprimand.
354	(e) Imposing an administrative fine <u>of up to</u> not to exceed
355	\$5,000 for each separate act or violation.
356	(3) If a person seeking licensure is <u>not</u> anything other
357	than a natural person, the eligibility requirements of this
358	section apply to each direct or ultimate equitable owner of 10
359	percent or more of the outstanding equity interest of such
360	entity and to each director, general partner, and executive
361	officer.
362	(4) It is sufficient cause for the <u>division</u> office to take
363	any of the actions specified in subsection (2), as to any entity
364	other than a natural person, if the <u>division</u> office finds
365	grounds for such action as to any member of such entity, as to
366	any executive officer or director of the entity, or as to any
367	person with power to direct the management or policies of the
368	entity.
369	(5) Each licensee is subject to the provisions of
370	subsection (2) for the acts of employees and agents of the
371	licensee if the licensee knew or should have known about such
372	acts.
373	(6) Licensure under this <u>chapter</u> act may be denied <u>,</u> or any
374	license issued under this act may be suspended <u>,</u> or restricted if
375	an applicant or licensee is charged, in a pending enforcement
376	action or pending criminal prosecution, with any conduct that
377	would authorize denial or revocation under this section.

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                                                              2011990
          Section 8. Section 537.007, Florida Statutes, is amended to
378
379
     read:
380
          537.007 Remedies for title loans made without licensure.-
381
     Any title loan made without benefit of a license is void, and in
382
     which case the person making the title loan forfeits the right
383
     to collect any moneys, including principal and interest charged
384
     on the title loan, from the borrower in connection with the
385
     title loan such agreement. The person making the void title loan
386
     must shall return to the borrower the certificate of title
387
     serving as collateral for the loan with the lender's lien
388
     released loan property, the titled personal property pledged or
     the fair market value of such titled personal property, and all
389
390
     principal and interest paid by the borrower. The borrower is
391
     entitled to receive reasonable attorney's fees and costs in any
392
     action brought by the borrower to recover the certificate of
393
     title and any from the person making the title loan the loan
394
     property, the titled personal property, or the principal and
395
     interest paid by the borrower from the person making the void
396
     title loan.
397
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397 Section 9. Section 537.008, Florida Statutes, is amended to 398 read:

399

537.008 Title loan agreement.-

(1) At the time a title loan lender makes a title loan, the lender and the borrower shall execute a title loan agreement, which <u>must shall</u> be legibly typed or written in indelible ink and completed as to all essential provisions <u>before prior to</u> execution by the borrower and lender. The title loan agreement <u>must shall</u> include the following information:

406

(a) The make, model, and year of the motor vehicle that

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407	will serve as collateral for the loan titled personal property
408	to which the loan property relates.
409	(b) The vehicle identification number, or other comparable
410	identification number, along with the license plate number, if
411	applicable, of the motor vehicle that will serve as collateral
412	for the loan titled personal property to which the loan property
413	relates.
414	(c) The name, residential address, date of birth, physical
415	description, and social security number of the borrower.
416	<u>(c)</u> (d) The date the title loan agreement is executed by the
417	title loan lender and the borrower.
418	(d) (e) The identification number and the type of
419	identification, including the issuing agency, accepted from the
420	borrower.
421	(e) The maturity date of the title loan agreement, which
422	must be at least 120 days but no later than 1 year after the
423	date the title loan agreement is executed.
424	(f) The amount financed, finance charge, total number of
425	payments, and annual percentage rate, computed and disclosed in
426	accordance with the federal Truth in Lending Act and applicable
427	regulations.
428	(f) The amount of money advanced, designated as the "amount
429	financed."
430	(g) The maturity date of the title loan agreement, which
431	shall be 30 days after the date the title loan agreement is
432	executed by the title loan lender and the borrower.
433	(h) The total title loan interest payable on the maturity
434	date, designated as the "finance charge."
435	(i) The amount financed plus finance charge, which must be

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436	paid to reclaim the loan property on the maturity date,
437	designated as the "total amount of all payments."
438	(j) The interest rate, computed in accordance with the
439	regulations adopted by the Federal Reserve Board pursuant to the
440	federal Truth in Lending Act, designated as the "annual
441	percentage rate."
442	(2) The following information <u>must</u> shall also be printed on
443	all title loan agreements:
444	(a) The name and physical address of the title loan office.
445	(b) The name and address of the department of Financial
446	Services as well as a telephone number to which consumers may
447	address complaints.
448	(c) The following statement immediately above the
449	borrower's signature in <u>at least</u> not less than 12-point type
450	that:
451	
452	THIS IS A MOTOR VEHICLE TITLE LOAN AGREEMENT. IT
453	ALLOWS YOU TO RECEIVE LOAN PROCEEDS TO MEET YOUR
454	IMMEDIATE CASH NEEDS AND IS NOT INTENDED TO MEET YOUR
455	LONG-TERM FINANCIAL NEEDS.
456	
457	THE INTEREST RATE ON THIS LOAN IS HIGH. YOU SHOULD
458	CONSIDER WHETHER THERE ARE OTHER LOWER-COST LOANS
459	AVAILABLE TO YOU.
460	
461	IF YOU DECIDE TO ACCEPT THIS LOAN, YOU SHOULD REQUEST
462	THE MINIMUM AMOUNT REQUIRED TO MEET YOUR IMMEDIATE
463	CASH NEEDS AND REPAY THE LOAN AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE
464	TO REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF INTEREST YOU ARE CHARGED.

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21-00492A-11 2011990 465 466 YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST 467 ON THE LOAN IN SUBSTANTIALLY EQUAL MONTHLY 468 INSTALLMENTS. YOU SHOULD TRY EACH MONTH TO PAY EVEN 469 MORE TOWARD YOUR PRINCIPAL BALANCE. DOING SO WILL SAVE 470 YOU MONEY BY REDUCING THE AMOUNT OF INTEREST OWED. 471 472 YOU MAY RESCIND THIS LOAN WITHOUT COST OR FURTHER 473 OBLIGATION IF YOU RETURN THE LOAN PROCEEDS, IN CASH OR 474 THE ORIGINAL LOAN CHECK, BEFORE THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS 475 ON THE NEXT BUSINESS DAY IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE 476 EXECUTION OF THIS AGREEMENT. 477 478 YOU ARE PLEDGING YOUR MOTOR VEHICLE AS COLLATERAL FOR 479 THIS LOAN. IF YOU FAIL TO REPAY THE LOAN PURSUANT TO 480 THIS AGREEMENT, WE MAY REPOSSESS YOUR MOTOR VEHICLE. 481 482 UNLESS YOU CONCEAL OR INTENTIONALLY DAMAGE THE MOTOR 483 VEHICLE, OR OTHERWISE IMPAIR OUR SECURITY INTEREST BY 484 PLEDGING THE MOTOR VEHICLE TO A THIRD PARTY OR 485 PLEDGING A MOTOR VEHICLE TO US WHICH IS ALREADY 486 SUBJECT TO AN UNDISCLOSED LIEN, YOUR LIABILITY FOR 487 DEFAULTING UNDER THIS LOAN IS LIMITED TO THE LOSS OF 488 THE MOTOR VEHICLE. 489 490 IF YOUR MOTOR VEHICLE IS SOLD DUE TO YOUR DEFAULT ON 491 THIS LOAN, YOU ARE ENTITLED TO ANY SURPLUS OBTAINED AT 492 SUCH SALE LESS WHAT IS OWED PURSUANT TO THIS AGREEMENT 493 AND ANY REASONABLE COSTS OF RECOVERY, STORAGE, AND

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21-00492A-11 2011990 494 SALE. 495 496 1. If the borrower fails to repay the full amount of the 497 title loan on or before the end of the maturity date or any 498 extension of the maturity date and fails to make a payment on the title loan within 30 days after the end of the maturity date 499 500 or any extension of the maturity date, whichever is later, the 501 title loan lender may take possession of the borrower's motor 502 vehicle and sell the vehicle in the manner provided by law. If 503 the vehicle is sold, the borrower is entitled to any proceeds of 504 the sale in excess of the amount owed on the title loan and the 505 reasonable expenses of repossession and sale. 506 2. If the title loan agreement is lost, destroyed, or 507 stolen, the borrower should immediately so advise the issuing 508 title loan lender in writing. 509 (d) The statement that "The borrower represents and 510 warrants that the motor vehicle serving as collateral for the 511 title loan titled personal property to which the loan property 512 relates is not stolen and has no liens or encumbrances against 513 it, the borrower has the right to enter into this transaction, 514 and the borrower will not apply for a duplicate certificate of 515 title while the title loan agreement is in effect." 516 (e) A blank line for the signature of the borrower and the 517 title loan lender or the lender's agent. All owners of the motor 518 vehicle titled personal property must sign the title loan 519 agreement. 520 (3) At the time of the transaction, the title loan lender shall deliver to the borrower an exact copy of the executed 521 522 title loan agreement.

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2011990 21-00492A-11 523 (4) Upon execution of a title loan agreement, the title 524 loan lender shall may take possession of the certificate of 525 title to the motor vehicle serving as collateral for the loan, and within 7 business days record its lien on such title as 526 527 provided by law. The title loan lender shall loan property and 528 retain possession of the certificate of title such property 529 until the title loan is fully repaid such property is redeemed. The borrower shall have the exclusive right to redeem the loan 530 531 property by repaying all amounts legally due under the 532 agreement. When the title loan property is fully repaid 533 redeemed, the lender shall immediately release its lien on the certificate of title and return the certificate of title to the 534 535 borrower loan property and commence action to release any security interest in the titled personal property. During the 536 537 term of the agreement or any extension of the agreement, a title 538 loan lender may retain physical possession of the loan property 539 only. A title loan lender may shall not require a borrower to 540 provide any additional collateral security or guaranty as a condition to entering into a title loan transaction. A title 541 542 loan lender may not make a title loan if the certificate of 543 title to the motor vehicle that will serve as collateral for the 544 loan is security for another loan or is otherwise encumbered by 545 a lien. 546 Section 10. Section 537.0085, Florida Statutes, is created 547 to read: 548 537.0085 Rescission.-A licensee shall allow a borrower 549 under a title loan agreement to rescind the title loan without 550 cost or further obligation if the borrower returns the loan 551 proceeds in cash or the original loan check before the close of

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552	business on the business day immediately following the execution
553	of the title loan agreement.
554	Section 11. Section 537.009, Florida Statutes, is amended
555	to read:
556	537.009 Recordkeeping; reporting; safekeeping of property
557	(1) Every title loan lender shall maintain, at the lender's
558	title loan office, such books, accounts, and records of the
559	business conducted under the license issued for such place of
560	business as will enable the <u>division</u> office to determine the
561	licensee's compliance with this <u>chapter</u> act.
562	(2) The <u>division</u> office may authorize the maintenance of
563	books, accounts, and records at a location other than the
564	lender's title loan office. The <u>division</u> office may require
565	books, accounts, and records to be produced and available at a
566	reasonable and convenient location in this state within a
567	reasonable period of time after such a request.
568	(3) The title loan lender shall maintain the original copy
569	of each completed title loan agreement on the title loan office
570	premises, and <u>may</u> shall not obliterate, discard, or destroy any
571	such original copy, for a period of at least 2 years after
572	making the final entry on <u>a</u> any loan recorded in <u>the</u> such office
573	or after an examination by the Office of Financial Regulation,
574	whichever is later.
575	(4) <u>Certificates of title that are held by</u> Loan property
576	which is delivered to a title loan lender must shall be securely

577 stored and maintained at the title loan office unless the 578 <u>certificate of title</u> loan property has been forwarded to the 579 appropriate state agency for the purpose of having a lien 580 recorded or deleted.

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581	
582	books, accounts, documents, and records, and the minimum
583	information to be shown in the books, accounts, documents, and
584	records, of licensees <u>necessary for</u> so that such records will
585	enable the <u>division</u> office to determine compliance with the
586	provisions of this chapter act. In addition, The department
587	commission may prescribe by rule requirements for the
588	destruction of books, accounts, records, and documents retained
589	by the licensee after completion of the time period specified in
590	subsection (3).
591	Section 12. Section 537.011, Florida Statutes, is amended
592	to read:
593	(Substantial rewording of section. See
594	s. 537.011, F.S., for present text.)
595	537.011 Title loan charges.—
596	(1) A licensee may charge and collect interest on a title
597	loan at rates up to the following amounts:
598	(a) Twenty-two percent per month on the portion of the
599	principal that does not exceed \$700;
600	(b) Eighteen percent per month on the portion of the
601	principal that exceeds \$700 but does not exceed \$1,400; and
602	(c) Fifteen percent per month on the portion of the
603	principal that exceeds \$1,400.
604	(2) The interest shall be charged only upon the outstanding
605	principal balance. Interest may not be charged on an add-on
606	basis and may not be compounded or paid, deducted, or received
607	<u>in advance. On title loans in excess of \$700, a licensee may</u>
608	accrue interest using a single blended interest rate if the
609	maximum charge allowed under subsection (1) is not exceeded.

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610	(3) Notwithstanding subsection (1) or the title loan
611	agreement, interest may not accrue on the principal balance of a
612	title loan from and after:
613	(a) The date that the motor vehicle securing the title loan
614	is repossessed by the licensee making the loan, unless the
615	licensee allows the borrower to redeem the vehicle with a loan
616	balance still owing, in which case interest accrual may restart
617	upon the borrower regaining possession of the motor vehicle; or
618	(b) Sixty days after the borrower has failed to make a
619	monthly payment on a title loan as required by the loan
620	agreement, unless the borrower has not surrendered the motor
621	vehicle and the borrower is concealing the motor vehicle. If the
622	borrower cures the default after the 60th day but before the
623	lender repossesses the motor vehicle, interest accrual may
624	restart upon such cure and any missing days of interest may be
625	added back to the account.
626	(4) Every title loan is a term loan providing for repayment
627	of the principal and interest in substantially equal monthly
628	installments of principal and interest. However, a loan
629	agreement may provide for an odd first payment period, and an
630	odd first payment greater than other monthly payments because of
631	such odd first payment period.
632	(5) A title loan agreement may not be extended, renewed, or
633	refinanced.
634	(6) A licensee may impose a late charge for failure to make
635	timely payment of any amount due under the loan agreement if
636	such late charge does not exceed the amount permitted by s.
637	516.031(3).
638	(7) The licensee must credit payments on the date received.

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639	(8) Other than the loan principal, and interest and fees
640	permitted under this section, a licensee may not directly or
641	indirectly charge, contract for, collect, receive, recover, or
642	require a borrower to pay any further or other fee, charge, or
643	amount except for the licensee's:
644	(a) Actual cost of perfecting its security interest in the
645	motor vehicle securing the borrower's obligations under the
646	title loan agreement; and
647	(b) Reasonable and actual costs of repossession, storage,
648	and sale of the motor vehicle if the borrower defaults under the
649	terms of the title loan agreement.
650	(9) If any excess interest or fee is charged and such
651	charge resulted from a bona fide error by the title loan lender,
652	or an agent of the title loan lender, the lender shall refund
653	the excess interest or fee to the borrower within 30 days after
654	discovery by the lender or borrower of the error or within 30
655	days after notice of the error from the borrower, whichever
656	occurs first.
657	(10) If any excess interest or fee is charged by the title
658	loan lender, or an agent of the title loan lender, in an effort
659	to intentionally circumvent the maximum title loan interest and
660	fees allowed by this chapter, the title loan agreement is void
661	and the lender shall refund to the borrower any interest paid on
662	the title loan and return to the borrower the certificate of
663	title with the lender's lien released. In such event, the title
664	loan lender forfeits the lender's right to collect any principal
665	owed by the borrower on the title loan.
666	(11) The division may require a title loan lender, or an
667	agent of the title loan lender, to comply with subsections (9)

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668	and (10).
669	Section 13. Section 537.012, Florida Statutes, is amended
670	to read:
671	(Substantial rewording of section. See
672	s. 537.012, F.S., for present text.)
673	537.012 RepossessionExcept as provided in subsection (5),
674	a licensee taking a security interest in a motor vehicle
675	pursuant to this chapter upon default by the borrower is limited
676	to seeking repossession of, preparing for sale, and selling the
677	motor vehicle securing the title loan in accordance with Article
678	9 of the Uniform Commercial Code.
679	(1) The licensee may not collect or charge the costs of
680	repossessing and selling the motor vehicle as described in s.
681	537.011(8)(b) unless the licensee, at least 10 days before
682	repossessing the motor vehicle, has sent to the borrower, by
683	first-class mail, written notice advising the borrower that his
684	or her title loan is in default and stating that the motor
685	vehicle securing the borrower's title loan may be repossessed
686	unless the principal and interest owed under the loan agreement
687	are paid, and the borrower does not pay such principal and
688	interest before the date that the motor vehicle is repossessed
689	by or at the direction of the licensee. A licensee may not
690	repossess the motor vehicle before the date specified in the
691	notice. Except as provided in subsection (5), a licensee may not
692	seek or obtain a personal money judgment against a borrower for
693	any amount owed under a loan agreement or any deficiency
694	resulting after the sale of a motor vehicle. The notice
695	requirements of this subsection do not apply if the borrower
696	voluntarily surrenders the motor vehicle.

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698	(2) At least 15 days before the sale of a motor vehicle, a licensee shall notify the borrower of the date and time after
699	
700	which the motor vehicle is subject to sale and provide the
700	borrower with a written accounting of the principal amount due,
701	interest accrued through the date that the licensee took
702	possession of the motor vehicle, and any reasonable expenses
	incurred to date by the licensee in taking possession of,
704 705	preparing for sale, storing, and selling the motor vehicle. At
705	any time before such sale, the borrower may redeem the motor
706	vehicle by tendering cash, a certified check, or money order for
707	the amount owed to the licensee.
708	(3) Within 60 days after the licensee's receipt of proceeds
709	from the sale of a motor vehicle, the borrower is entitled to
710	receive that portion of the proceeds which are in excess of the
711	principal amount due to the licensee, interest accrued through
712	the date the licensee took possession, and the reasonable
713	expenses incurred by the licensee in taking possession of,
714	storing, preparing for sale, and selling the motor vehicle.
715	(4) Except in the case of fraud or a voluntary surrender of
716	the motor vehicle, a licensee may not take possession of a motor
717	vehicle until a borrower is in default under the loan agreement.
718	(5) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, upon
719	default by a borrower, a licensee may seek a personal money
720	judgment against the borrower for any amounts owed under a loan
721	agreement if the borrower impairs the licensee's security
722	interest by intentionally damaging or destroying the motor
723	vehicle, intentionally concealing the motor vehicle, giving the
724	licensee a lien in a motor vehicle that is already encumbered by
725	an undisclosed prior lien, or subsequently giving a security

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726	
727	loan to a third party, without the licensee's written consent.
728	Section 14. Section 537.013, Florida Statutes, is amended
729	to read:
730	537.013 Prohibited acts
731	(1) A title loan lender, or any agent or employee of a
732	title loan lender, <u>may</u> shall not:
733	<u>(1) (a)</u> Falsify or fail to make an entry of any material
734	matter in a title loan agreement or any extension of such
735	agreement.
736	(2) (b) Refuse to allow the <u>division</u> office to inspect
737	completed title loan agreements and supporting documentation $_{m au}$
738	extensions of such agreements, or loan property during the
739	ordinary operating hours of the title loan lender's business or
740	other times acceptable to both parties.
741	<u>(3)-(c)</u> Enter into a title loan agreement with a person
742	under the age of 18 years <u>of age</u> .
743	(4) (d) Make any agreement requiring or allowing for the
744	personal liability of a borrower beyond that allowed under s.
745	537.012 or the waiver of any provision of the provisions of this
746	<u>chapter</u> act .
747	<u>(5)</u> Knowingly enter into a title loan agreement with any
748	person who is under the influence of drugs or alcohol <u>if</u> when
749	such condition is visible or apparent, or with any person using
750	a name other than <u>the</u> such person's own name or the registered
751	name of the person's business.
752	<u>(6)</u> Fail to exercise reasonable care, as defined by
753	<u>department</u> commission rule, in the safekeeping of <u>certificates</u>
754	of title loan property or of motor vehicles titled personal

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21-00492A-11 2011990_ 755 property repossessed pursuant to this chapter act.

756 (7) (g) Fail to return the borrower's certificate of title 757 and the borrower's motor vehicle if it has been repossessed loan property or repossessed titled personal property to a borrower, 758 759 with any and all of the title loan lender's liens on the 760 property properly released, upon payment of the full amount due 761 the title loan lender, unless the property has been seized or 762 impounded by an authorized law enforcement agency, taken into 763 custody by a court, or otherwise disposed of by court order. If 764 the borrower fully repays the loan and the certificate of title 765 is not in the title loan lender's possession because the lender 766 sent the title to have the lender's lien recorded and the title has not yet been returned, the lender must release its lien and 767 return the title to the borrower within <u>3 days after regaining</u> 768 769 possession of the certificate.

770 (8)-(h) Sell or otherwise charge for any type of insurance
 771 in connection with a title loan agreement.

772 (9) (i) Intentionally charge or receive any finance charge, 773 interest, or fees that which are not authorized pursuant to this 774 chapter, or fail to timely refund any finance charge, interest, 775 or fee not authorized pursuant to this chapter but received due 776 to a bona fide error act.

777 <u>(10) (j)</u> Act as a title loan lender without an active 778 license issued under this <u>chapter</u> act.

779 <u>(11)(k)</u> Refuse to accept partial payments toward satisfying 780 any obligation owed under a title loan agreement or extension of 781 such agreement.

782 (12) (1) Charge a prepayment penalty.

783 (13) (m) Engage in the business of selling new or used motor

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784 vehicles, or parts for motor vehicles.

785 (14) (n) Act as a title loan lender under this act within a 786 place of business in which the licensee solicits or engages in 787 business outside the scope of this chapter act if the division office determines that the licensee's operation of and conduct 788 pertaining to such other business results in an evasion of this 789 790 chapter act. Upon making such a determination, the division 791 office shall order the licensee to cease and desist from such 792 evasion. A; provided, no licensee may not shall engage in the 793 pawnbroker business or the deferred presentment business, or 794 allow others to engage in such businesses from the licensee's 795 title loan office.

796 (15) Cause any borrower to be obligated on a title loan in 797 a principal amount that exceeds 50 percent of the fair market 798 value of the motor vehicle in which the licensee is taking a 799 security interest, which value shall be determined by reference 800 to the market value for the motor vehicle specified in a 801 recognized pricing guide if the motor vehicle is included in a 802 recognized pricing guide.

803 (2) Title loan companies may not advertise using the words 804 "interest free loans" or "no finance charges."

805 Section 15. <u>Section 537.014</u>, Florida Statutes, is repealed. 806 Section 16. Section 537.015, Florida Statutes, is amended 807 to read:

808

537.015 Criminal penalties.-

(1) Any person who acts as a title loan lender without first securing the license prescribed by this <u>chapter</u> act commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

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813	(2) In addition to any other applicable penalty, any person
814	who willfully violates any provision of this <u>chapter</u> a ct or who
815	willfully makes a false entry in any record specifically
816	required by this <u>chapter</u> act commits a misdemeanor of the first
817	degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
818	Section 17. Section 537.016, Florida Statutes, is amended
819	to read:
820	537.016 Subpoenas; enforcement actions; rules
821	(1) The <u>division</u> office may issue and serve subpoenas to
822	compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of
823	documents, papers, books, records, and other evidence before the
824	office in any matter pertaining to this <u>chapter</u> act . The
825	division office may administer oaths and affirmations to any
826	person whose testimony is required. If any person refuses to
827	testify; produce books, records, and documents; or otherwise
828	refuses to obey a subpoena issued under this section, the
829	division office may enforce the subpoena in the same manner as
830	subpoenas issued under the Administrative Procedure Act are
831	enforced. Witnesses are entitled to the same fees and mileage as
832	they are entitled to by law for attending as witnesses in the
833	circuit court, unless such examination or investigation is held
834	at the place of business or residence of the witness.
835	(2) In addition to any other powers conferred upon the
836	<u>division</u> office to enforce or administer this <u>chapter</u> act , the
837	division office may:
838	(a) Bring <u>a civil</u> an action in any court of competent
839	jurisdiction to enforce or administer this chapter act , any rule

840 or order adopted under this <u>chapter</u> act, or any written 841 agreement entered into with the <u>division</u> office. In such action,

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21-00492A-11 2011990 842 the division office may seek any relief at law or equity, 843 including a temporary or permanent injunction, appointment of a receiver or administrator, or an order of restitution. 844 845 (b) Issue and serve upon a person an order requiring such 846 person to cease and desist and take corrective action if 847 whenever the division office finds that such person is 848 violating, has violated, or is about to violate any provision of 849 this chapter act, any rule or order adopted under this chapter 850 act, or any written agreement entered into with the division 851 office. 852 (c) If Whenever the division office finds that conduct 853 described in paragraph (b) presents an immediate danger to the public health, safety, or welfare requiring an immediate final 854 855 order, the office may issue an emergency cease and desist order 856 reciting with particularity the facts underlying such findings. 857 The emergency cease and desist order is effective immediately 858 upon service of a copy of the order on the respondent named in 859 the order and remains shall remain effective for 90 days. If the 860 division office begins nonemergency proceedings under paragraph 861 (b), the emergency cease and desist order remains effective until the conclusion of the proceedings under ss. 120.569 and 862 863 120.57. 864 (3) The department commission may adopt rules to administer 865 this chapter act. 866 Section 18. Section 537.017, Florida Statutes, is amended 867 to read: 868 537.017 Investigations and complaints.-869 (1) The division office may make any investigation and 870 examination of any licensee or other person the division office

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21-00492A-11 2011990 871 deems necessary to determine compliance with this chapter act. 872 For such purposes, the division office may examine the books, 873 accounts, records, and other documents or matters of any 874 licensee or other person. The office may compel the production of all relevant books, records, and other documents and 875 876 materials relative to an examination or investigation. 877 Examinations may shall not be made more often than once during 878 any 12-month period unless the division office has reason to 879 believe the licensee is not complying with the provisions of 880 this chapter act.

881 (2) The division office shall conduct all examinations at a 882 convenient location in this state unless the division office 883 determines that it is more effective or cost-efficient to 884 perform an examination at the licensee's out-of-state location. 885 For an examination performed at the licensee's out-of-state 886 location, the licensee shall pay the travel expense and per diem 887 subsistence at the rate provided by law for up to thirty 8-hour 888 days per year for each division office examiner who participates 889 in such an examination. However, if the examination involves or 890 reveals possible fraudulent conduct by the licensee, the 891 licensee shall pay the travel expenses and per diem subsistence 892 provided by law, without limitation, for each participating 893 examiner.

(3) Any person having reason to believe that any provision
of this <u>chapter</u> act has been violated may file with the
department of Financial Services or the <u>division</u> office a
written complaint setting forth the details of <u>the</u> such alleged
violation, and the <u>division</u> office may investigate such
complaint.

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21-00492A-11 2011990 900 Section 19. Section 537.018, Florida Statutes, is repealed. 901 Section 20. Section 494.00797, Florida Statutes, is amended 902 to read: 903 494.00797 General rule.-All counties and municipalities of 904 this state are prohibited from enacting and enforcing 905 ordinances, resolutions, and rules regulating financial or 906 lending activities, including ordinances, resolutions, and rules 907 disqualifying persons from doing business with a $\frac{city_{r}}{county_{r}}$ county-908 or municipality based upon lending interest rates or imposing reporting requirements or any other obligations upon persons 909 910 regarding financial services or lending practices of persons or 911 entities, and any subsidiaries or affiliates thereof, who: 912 (1) Are subject to the jurisdiction of the office and the 913 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, as applicable, 914 including for activities subject to this chapter, except 915 entities licensed under s. 537.004; 916 (2) Are subject to the jurisdiction of the Office of Thrift 917 Supervision, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, the 918 National Credit Union Administration, the Federal Deposit 919 Insurance Corporation, the Federal Trade Commission, or the 920 United States Department of Housing and Urban Development; 921 (3) Originate, purchase, sell, assign, secure, or service 922 property interests or obligations created by financial 923 transactions or loans made, executed, or originated by persons referred to in subsection (1) or subsection (2) to assist or 924 925 facilitate such transactions; 926 (4) Are chartered by the United States Congress to engage 927 in secondary market mortgage transactions; or 928 (5) Are created by the Florida Housing Finance Corporation.

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930	Proof of noncompliance with this $\underline{part}\ \underline{act}$ can be used by a \underline{city}_{r}
931	county $_{m au}$ or municipality of this state to disqualify a vendor or
932	contractor from doing business with a $rac{\mathrm{city}_{m{ au}}}{\mathbf{county}_{m{ au}}}$ or
933	municipality of this state .
934	Section 21. All powers, duties, functions, records,
935	offices, personnel, property, pending issues and existing
936	contracts, administrative authority, administrative rules, and
937	unexpended balances of appropriations, allocations, and other
938	funds relating to the regulation of title loans under chapter
939	537, Florida Statutes, in the Department of Financial Services
940	are transferred by a type two transfer, as defined in s.
941	20.06(2), Florida Statutes, to the Department of Agriculture and
942	Consumer Services.
943	Section 22. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.