2013

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to business entity filing fees;
3	amending ss. 607.0122, 608.452, 617.0122, 620.1109,
4	and 620.81055, F.S.; requiring a corporation for
5	profit, a limited liability company, a corporation not
6	for profit, a domestic limited partnership, a foreign
7	limited partnership, and a limited liability
8	partnership, respectively, to submit a biennial report
9	to the Department of State; revising report filing
10	fees; providing for reduction of certain biennial
11	report filing and supplemental corporate fees if the
12	report is submitted by a specified date of the year in
13	which the report is due; amending s. 607.193, F.S.;
14	providing that the supplemental corporate fee is due
15	in the year that the biennial report is submitted;
16	providing that a late charge imposed on a supplemental
17	report may be waived by the department in cases of
18	demonstrated hardship; amending ss. 607.0121,
19	607.0128, 607.01401, 607.0141, 607.0502, 607.0705,
20	607.1420, 607.1421, 607.1509, 607.15101, 607.1530,
21	607.1531, 607.15315, 607.1601, 607.1622, 608.448,
22	608.4481, 608.4482, 608.4511, 608.509, 608.5101,
23	608.512, 608.513, 608.5135, 617.0121, 617.0128,
24	617.0141, 617.0502, 617.1420, 617.1421, 617.1509,
25	617.1510, 617.1530, 617.1531, 617.1533, 617.1601,
26	617.1622, 620.1115, 620.1209, 620.1210, 620.1809,
27	620.1810, 620.1906, 620.1909, and 620.9003, F.S.;
28	conforming provisions to changes made by the act;
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29	providing an effective date.
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31	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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33	Section 1. Subsections (4), (17), and (23) of section
34	607.0122, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
35	607.0122 Fees for filing documents and issuing
36	certificatesThe Department of State shall collect the
37	following fees when the documents described in this section are
38	delivered to the department for filing:
39	(4) Corporation's statement of change of registered agent
40	or registered office or both if not included on the biennial
41	annual report: \$35.
42	(17) <u>Biennial</u> Annual report: <u>\$122.50, which shall be</u>
43	reduced by 15 percent if filed by January 31 of the year the
44	<u>report is due</u> <del>\$61.25</del> .
45	(23) Supplemental corporate fee: <u>\$177.50, which shall be</u>
46	reduced by 15 percent if filed by January 31 of the year the
47	<u>biennial report is due <del>\$88.75</del>.</u>
48	Section 2. Section 607.193, Florida Statutes, is amended
49	to read:
50	607.193 Supplemental corporate fee
51	(1) In addition to any other taxes imposed by law, <u>a</u>
52	<u>biennial</u> <del>an annual</del> supplemental corporate fee of <u>\$177.50</u> <del>\$88.75</del>
53	is imposed on each business entity that is authorized to
54	transact business in this state and is required to file $\underline{a}$
55	<u>biennial</u> <del>an annual</del> report with the Department of State under s.
56	607.1622, s. 608.4511, or s. 620.1210.

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57 (2) (a) The business entity shall remit the supplemental
58 corporate fee to the Department of State at the time it files
59 the <u>biennial</u> annual report required by s. 607.1622, s. 608.4511,
60 or s. 620.1210.

61 (b) In addition to the fees levied under ss. 607.0122, 62 608.452, and 620.1109 and the supplemental corporate fee, a late 63 charge of \$400 shall be imposed if the supplemental corporate fee is remitted after May 1 of the year the biennial report is 64 65 due, except in circumstances in which a business entity was 66 administratively dissolved or its certificate of authority was revoked due to its failure to file a biennial an annual report 67 68 and the entity subsequently applied for reinstatement and paid 69 the applicable reinstatement fee. In cases of demonstrated hardship that prevented the timely filing of the supplemental 70 71 corporate fee, the Department of State may waive the late charge 72 of \$400.

73 (3) The Department of State shall adopt rules and
74 prescribe forms necessary to carry out the purposes of this
75 section.

76 Section 3. Subsection (4) of section 608.452, Florida
77 Statutes, is amended to read:

608.452 Fees of the Department of State.—The fees of theDepartment of State under this chapter are as follows:

80 (4) For filing <u>a biennial</u> an annual report, <u>\$100, which</u>
81 <u>shall be discounted by 15 percent if filed by January 31 of the</u>
82 <u>year in which the report is due</u> <del>\$50</del>.

83 Section 4. Subsections (4) and (17) of section 617.0122,
84 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

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85 617.0122 Fees for filing documents and issuing 86 certificates.—The Department of State shall collect the 87 following fees on documents delivered to the department for 88 filing:

89 (4) Corporation's statement of change of registered agent
90 or registered office or both if not included on the <u>biennial</u>
91 annual report: \$35.

92 (17) <u>Biennial</u> Annual report: <u>\$122.50</u>, which shall be 93 <u>reduced by 15 percent if filed by January 31 of the year in</u> 94 which the report is due <del>\$61.25</del>.

96 Any citizen support organization that is required by rule of the 97 Department of Environmental Protection to be formed as a 98 nonprofit organization and is under contract with the department 99 is exempt from any fees required for incorporation as a nonprofit organization, and the Secretary of State may not 100 assess any such fees if the citizen support organization is 101 certified by the Department of Environmental Protection to the 102 103 Secretary of State as being under contract with the Department 104 of Environmental Protection.

105 Section 5. Section 620.1109, Florida Statutes, is amended 106 to read:

107 620.1109 Department of State; fees.—In addition to the 108 supplemental corporate fee of <u>\$177.50</u> <del>\$88.75</del> imposed pursuant to 109 s. 607.193, the fees of the Department of State under this act 110 are as follows:

(1) For furnishing a certified copy, \$52.50 for the first112 15 pages plus \$1.00 for each additional page.

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113 For filing an original certificate of limited (2) 114 partnership, \$965. For filing an original application for registration as 115 (3) 116 a foreign limited partnership, \$965. 117 (4) For filing certificate of conversion, \$52.50. 118 (5) For filing certificate of merger, \$52.50 for each 119 party thereto. 120 (6) For filing a reinstatement, \$500 for each calendar 121 year or part thereof the limited partnership was 122 administratively dissolved or foreign limited partnership was 123 revoked in the records of the Department of State. 124 (7) For filing a biennial an annual report, \$822.50; 125 however, the fee for filing the biennial report and the 126 supplemental report shall be reduced by 15 percent if the 127 biennial report is filed by January 31 of the year in which the 128 report is due \$411.25. 129 (8) For filing a certificate: 130 Designating a registered agent, \$35; (a) 131 Changing a registered agent or registered office (b) 132 address, \$35; 133 Resigning as a registered agent, \$87.50; or (C) 134 (d) Of amendment or restatement of the certificate of 135 limited partnership, \$52.50; 136 For filing a statement of termination, \$52.50. (9) 137 (10) For filing a notice of cancellation for foreign 138 limited partnership, \$52.50. 139 For furnishing a certificate of status or (11)140 authorization, \$8.75.

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141 For filing a certificate of dissolution, \$52.50. (12)(13) For filing a certificate of revocation of 142 143 dissolution, \$52.50. 144 (14) For filing any other domestic or foreign limited 145 partnership document, \$52.50. 146 Section 6. Paragraph (h) of subsection (1) of section 147 620.81055, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 620.81055 Fees for filing documents and issuing 148 149 certificates; powers of the Department of State.-150 The Department of State shall collect the following (1)151 fees when documents authorized by this act are delivered to the 152 Department of State for filing: 153 Limited liability partnership biennial annual report: (h) 154 \$50; however, the fee for filing the biennial report and the 155 supplemental report shall be reduced by 15 percent if the 156 biennial report is filed by January 31 of the year in which the 157 report is due <del>\$25</del>. 158 Section 7. Subsection (1) of section 607.0121, Florida 159 Statutes, is amended to read: 160 607.0121 Forms.-161 The Department of State may prescribe and furnish on (1)162 request forms for: 163 An application for certificate of status, (a) 164 A foreign corporation's application for certificate of (b) 165 authority to transact business in the state, (c) A foreign corporation's application for certificate of 166 167 withdrawal, and 168 The biennial annual report, for which the department (d) Page 6 of 36

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169	may prescribe the use of the uniform business report, pursuant
170	to s. 606.06.
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172	If the Department of State so requires, the use of these forms
173	shall be mandatory.
174	Section 8. Paragraph (d) of subsection (2) of section
175	607.0128, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
176	607.0128 Certificate of status
177	(2) A certificate of status or authorization sets forth:
178	(d) That its most recent <u>biennial</u> annual report required
179	by s. 607.1622 has been delivered to the department; and
180	Section 9. Subsection (20) of section 607.01401, Florida
181	Statutes, is amended to read:
182	607.01401 Definitions.—As used in this act, unless the
183	context otherwise requires, the term:
184	(20) "Principal office" means the office (in or out of
185	this state) where the principal executive offices of a domestic
186	or foreign corporation are located as designated in the articles
187	of incorporation or other initial filing until <u>a biennial</u> <del>an</del>
188	annual report has been filed, and thereafter as designated in
189	the <u>biennial</u> annual report.
190	Section 10. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section
191	607.0141, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
192	607.0141 Notice
193	(4) Written notice to a domestic or foreign corporation
194	authorized to transact business in this state may be addressed:
195	(b) To the corporation or its secretary at its principal
196	office or electronic mail address as authorized and shown in its
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197 most recent <u>biennial</u> annual report or, in the case of a 198 corporation that has not yet delivered <u>a biennial</u> an annual 199 report, in a domestic corporation's articles of incorporation or 200 in a foreign corporation's application for certificate of 201 authority.

202 Section 11. Subsections (2) and (4) of section 607.0502, 203 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

204 607.0502 Change of registered office or registered agent; 205 resignation of registered agent.-

206 Any registered agent may resign his or her agency (2)207 appointment by signing and delivering for filing with the 208 Department of State a statement of resignation and mailing a 209 copy of such statement to the corporation at its principal 210 office address shown in its most recent biennial annual report 211 or, if none, filed in the articles of incorporation or other 212 most recently filed document. The statement of resignation shall state that a copy of such statement has been mailed to the 213 214 corporation at the address so stated. The agency is terminated as of the 31st day after the date on which the statement was 215 216 filed and unless otherwise provided in the statement, 217 termination of the agency acts as a termination of the 218 registered office.

(4) Changes of the registered office or registered agent
 may be made by a change on the corporation's <u>biennial</u> annual
 report form filed with the Department of State.

222 Section 12. Subsection (5) of section 607.0705, Florida 223 Statutes, is amended to read:

224 607.0705 Notice of meeting.-

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225 Notwithstanding the foregoing, no notice of a (5) 226 shareholders' meeting need be given to a shareholder if: 227 (a) A biennial An annual report and proxy statements for 228 two consecutive annual meetings of shareholders; or All, and at least two checks in payment of dividends 229 (b) 230 or interest on securities during a 12-month period, 231 232 have been sent by first-class United States mail, addressed to 233 the shareholder at her or his address as it appears on the share 234 transfer books of the corporation, and returned undeliverable. 235 The obligation of the corporation to give notice of a 236 shareholders' meeting to any such shareholder shall be 237 reinstated once the corporation has received a new address for 238 such shareholder for entry on its share transfer books. 239 Section 13. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 240 607.1420, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 241 607.1420 Grounds for administrative dissolution.-The Department of State may commence a proceeding 242 (1)243 under s. 607.1421 to administratively dissolve a corporation if: 244 The corporation has failed to file its biennial annual (a) 245 report and pay the biennial annual report filing fee by 5 p.m. 246 Eastern Time on the third Friday in September of the year in 247 which the report is due; Section 14. Subsection (1) of section 607.1421, Florida 248 249 Statutes, is amended to read: 250 607.1421 Procedure for and effect of administrative 251 dissolution.-252 (1) If the Department of State determines that one or more Page 9 of 36

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253 grounds exist under s. 607.1420 for dissolving a corporation, it 254 shall serve the corporation with notice of its intention to 255 administratively dissolve the corporation. If the corporation 256 has provided the department with an electronic mail address, 257 such notice shall be by electronic transmission. Administrative 258 dissolution for failure to file a biennial an annual report 259 shall occur on the fourth Friday in September of the each year 260 in which the report is due. The Department of State shall issue 261 a certificate of dissolution to each dissolved corporation. 262 Issuance of the certificate of dissolution may be by electronic 263 transmission to any corporation that has provided the department 264 with an electronic mail address.

265 Section 15. Subsection (1) of section 607.1509, Florida 266 Statutes, is amended to read:

267 607.1509 Resignation of registered agent of foreign268 corporation.-

269 The registered agent of a foreign corporation may (1)270 resign his or her agency appointment by signing and delivering to the Department of State for filing a statement of resignation 271 272 and mailing a copy of such statement to the corporation at the 273 corporation's principal office address shown in its most recent 274 biennial annual report or, if none, shown in its application for 275 a certificate of authority or other most recently filed 276 document. The statement of resignation must state that a copy of 277 such statement has been mailed to the corporation at the address 278 so stated. The statement of resignation may include a statement 279 that the registered office is also discontinued.

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Section 16. Subsection (2) of section 607.15101, Florida

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281 Statutes, is amended to read: 282 607.15101 Service of process, notice, or demand on a 283 foreign corporation.-284 A foreign corporation may be served by registered or (2)285 certified mail, return receipt requested, addressed to the 286 secretary of the foreign corporation at its principal office 287 shown in its application for a certificate of authority or in 288 its most recent biennial annual report if the foreign 289 corporation: 290 Has no registered agent or its registered agent cannot (a) 291 with reasonable diligence be served; 292 (b) Has withdrawn from transacting business in this state 293 under s. 607.1520; or 294 (c) Has had its certificate of authority revoked under s. 295 607.1531. 296 Section 17. Subsection (1) of section 607.1530, Florida 297 Statutes, is amended to read: 298 607.1530 Grounds for revocation of authority to transact 299 business.-The Department of State may commence a proceeding 300 under s. 607.1531 to revoke the certificate of authority of a 301 foreign corporation authorized to transact business in this 302 state if: 303 (1)The foreign corporation has failed to file its 304 biennial annual report with the Department of State by 5 p.m. 305 Eastern Time on the third Friday in September of the year in 306 which the report is due. 307 Subsection (1) of section 607.1531, Florida Section 18.

## Statutes, is amended to read:

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607.1531 Procedure for and effect of revocation.-

310 If the Department of State determines that one or more (1) grounds exist under s. 607.1530 for revocation of a certificate 311 312 of authority, the Department of State shall serve the foreign 313 corporation with notice of its intent to revoke the foreign 314 corporation's certificate of authority. If the foreign 315 corporation has provided the department with an electronic mail address, such notice shall be by electronic transmission. 316 317 Revocation for failure to file a biennial an annual report shall 318 occur on the fourth Friday in September of the each year in 319 which the report is due. The department shall issue a certificate of revocation to each revoked corporation. Issuance 320 321 of the certificate of revocation may be by electronic 322 transmission to any corporation that has provided the department 323 with an electronic mail address.

324 Section 19. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 325 607.15315, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

607.15315 Revocation; application for reinstatement.- (1)

(b) As an alternative, the foreign corporation may submit a current <u>biennial</u> annual report, signed by the registered agent and an officer or director, <u>that</u> which substantially complies with the requirements of paragraph (a).

332 Section 20. Paragraph (g) of subsection (5) of section333 607.1601, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

334 607.1601 Corporate records.-

335 (5) A corporation shall keep a copy of the following 336 records:

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337 (g) Its most recent <u>biennial</u> annual report delivered to 338 the Department of State under s. 607.1622.

339 Section 21. Section 607.1622, Florida Statutes, is amended 340 to read:

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607.1622 Biennial Annual report for Department of State.-

(1) Each domestic corporation and each foreign corporation authorized to transact business in this state shall deliver to the Department of State for filing a sworn <u>biennial</u> annual report on such forms as the Department of State prescribes that sets forth:

347 (a) The name of the corporation and the state or country348 under the law of which it is incorporated;

(b) The date of incorporation or, if a foreign corporation, the date on which it was admitted to do business in this state;

352 (c) The address of its principal office and the mailing 353 address of the corporation;

354 (d) The corporation's federal employer identification355 number, if any, or, if none, whether one has been applied for;

356 (e) The names and business street addresses of its357 directors and principal officers;

358 (f) The street address of its registered office and the 359 name of its registered agent at that office in this state;

(g) Language permitting a voluntary contribution of \$5 per taxpayer, which contribution shall be transferred into the Election Campaign Financing Trust Fund. A statement providing an explanation of the purpose of the trust fund shall also be included; and

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365 (h) Such additional information as may be necessary or 366 appropriate to enable the Department of State to carry out the 367 provisions of this act.

368 (2) Proof to the satisfaction of the Department of State 369 that on or before May 1 such report was deposited in the United 370 States mail in a sealed envelope, properly addressed with 371 postage prepaid, shall be deemed compliance with this 372 requirement.

373 If a biennial an annual report does not contain the (3) 374 information required by this section, the Department of State 375 shall promptly notify the reporting domestic or foreign 376 corporation in writing and return the report to it for 377 correction. If the report is corrected to contain the 378 information required by this section and delivered to the 379 Department of State within 30 days after the effective date of 380 notice, it is deemed to be timely filed.

(4) Each report shall be executed by the corporation by an officer or director or, if the corporation is in the hands of a receiver or trustee, shall be executed on behalf of the corporation by such receiver or trustee, and the signing thereof shall have the same legal effect as if made under oath, without the necessity of appending such oath thereto.

(5) The first <u>biennial</u> annual report must be delivered to the Department of State between January 1 and May 1 of the year following the calendar year in which a domestic corporation was incorporated or a foreign corporation was authorized to transact business. Subsequent annual reports must be delivered to the Department of State between January 1 and May 1 of the

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393 subsequent calendar years in which the report is due.

(6) Information in the <u>biennial</u> annual report must be
current as of the date the annual report is executed on behalf
of the corporation.

397 (7) If an additional updated report is received, the
398 department shall file the document and make the information
399 contained therein part of the official record.

(8) Any corporation failing to file <u>a biennial</u> an annual report <u>that</u> which complies with the requirements of this section shall not be permitted to maintain or defend any action in any court of this state until such report is filed and all fees and taxes due under this act are paid and shall be subject to dissolution or cancellation of its certificate of authority to do business as provided in this act.

(9) The department shall prescribe the forms on which to
make the <u>biennial</u> annual report called for in this section and
may substitute the uniform business report, pursuant to s.
606.06, as a means of satisfying the requirement of this part.

411 Section 22. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 412 608.448, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

608.448 Grounds for administrative dissolution.-

(1) The Department of State may commence a proceeding under s. 608.4481 to administratively dissolve a limited liability company if:

(a) The limited liability company has failed to file its
biennial annual report and pay the biennial annual report filing
fee by 5 p.m. Eastern Time on the third Friday in September of
the year in which the report is due.

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421 Section 23. Subsection (1) of section 608.4481, Florida 422 Statutes, is amended to read:

423 608.4481 Procedure for and effect of administrative 424 dissolution.-

425 (1)If the Department of State determines that one or more 426 grounds exist under s. 608.448 for dissolving a limited 427 liability company, it shall serve the limited liability company 428 with notice of its intent to administratively dissolve the 429 limited liability company. If the limited liability company has 430 provided the department with an electronic mail address, such 431 notice shall be by electronic transmission. Administrative 432 dissolution for failure to file a biennial an annual report 433 shall occur on the fourth Friday in September of the each year 434 in which the report is due. The Department of State shall issue 435 a certificate of dissolution to each dissolved limited liability 436 company. Issuance of the certificate of dissolution may be by 437 electronic transmission to any limited liability company that 438 has provided the department with an electronic mail address.

439 Section 24. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section
440 608.4482, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

441 608.4482 Reinstatement following administrative442 dissolution.-

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(1)

(b) As an alternative to the procedures of paragraph (a), an administratively dissolved limited liability company may submit a current <u>biennial</u> annual report, signed by the registered agent, <u>that</u> which substantially complies with the requirements of paragraph (a).

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449 Section 25. Section 608.4511, Florida Statutes, is amended 450 to read:

451 608.4511 <u>Biennial</u> Annual report for Department of State.452 (1) Each domestic limited liability company and each
453 foreign limited liability company authorized to transact
454 business in this state shall deliver to the Department of State
455 for filing a sworn <u>biennial</u> annual report on such forms as the
456 Department of State prescribes that sets forth:

(a) The name of the limited liability company and thestate or country under the law of which it is organized.

(b) The date of organization or, if a foreign limited
liability company, the date on which it was admitted to do
business in this state.

462 (c) The street address and the mailing address of its463 principal office.

(d) The limited liability company's federal employer
identification number or, if none, whether one has been applied
for.

467 (e) The names and business, residence, or mailing address468 of its managing members or managers.

(f) The street address of its registered office and thename of its registered agent at that office in this state.

(g) Such additional information as may be necessary or
appropriate to enable the Department of State to carry out the
provisions of this chapter.

474 (2) Proof to the satisfaction of the Department of State
475 that on or before May 1 such report was deposited in the United
476 States mail in a sealed envelope, properly addressed with

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477 postage prepaid, shall be deemed timely compliance with this 478 requirement.

479 If a biennial an annual report does not contain the (3) 480 information required by this section, the Department of State 481 shall promptly notify the reporting domestic or foreign limited 482 liability company in writing and return the report to it for 483 correction. If the report is corrected to contain the 484 information required by this section and delivered to the 485 Department of State within 30 days after the effective date of 486 notice, it is deemed to be timely filed.

(4) Each report shall be executed by the limited liability company by a managing member or manager or, if the limited liability company is in the hands of a receiver or trustee, shall be executed on behalf of the limited liability company by such receiver or trustee, and the signing thereof shall have the same legal effect as if made under oath, without the necessity of appending such oath thereto.

494 The first biennial annual report shall be delivered to (5) 495 the Department of State between January 1 and May 1 of the year 496 following the calendar year in which a domestic limited 497 liability company was organized or a foreign limited liability 498 company was authorized to transact business. Subsequent biennial 499 annual reports shall be delivered to the Department of State 500 between January 1 and May 1 of the subsequent calendar years in 501 which the report is due.

502 (6) Information in the <u>biennial</u> annual report shall be
503 current as of the date the <u>biennial</u> annual report is executed on
504 behalf of the limited liability company.

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505 Any limited liability company failing to file a (7) 506 biennial an annual report that which complies with the 507 requirements of this section shall not be permitted to 508 prosecute, maintain, or defend any action in any court of this 509 state until such report is filed and all fees, penalties, and 510 taxes due under this chapter are paid and shall be subject to 511 dissolution or cancellation of its certificate of authority to 512 do business as provided in this chapter.

(8) The department shall prescribe the forms on which to make the <u>biennial</u> annual report called for in this section and may substitute the uniform business report, pursuant to s. 606.06, as a means of satisfying the requirement of this part.

517 Section 26. Subsection (1) of section 608.509, Florida 518 Statutes, is amended to read:

519 608.509 Resignation of registered agent or foreign limited 520 liability company.-

521 The registered agent of a foreign limited liability (1)522 company may resign his or her agency appointment by signing and 523 delivering to the Department of State for filing the original 524 statement of resignation and mailing a copy of such statement to 525 the limited liability company at the limited liability company's 526 principal office address shown in its most recent biennial 527 annual report or, if none, shown in its certificate of authority 528 or most recently filed document. This statement of resignation 529 shall state that a copy of such statement has been mailed to the 530 limited liability company at the address so stated. The 531 statement of resignation may include a statement that the 532 registered office is also discontinued.

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533 Section 27. Subsection (2) of section 608.5101, Florida 534 Statutes, is amended to read:

535 608.5101 Service of process; notice or demand on a foreign 536 limited liability company.-

(2) A foreign limited liability company may be served by
registered or certified mail, return receipt requested,
addressed to the secretary of the foreign limited liability
company at its principal office shown in its application for a
certificate of authority or in its most recent <u>biennial</u> annual
report if the foreign limited liability company:

(a) Has no registered agent or its registered agent cannotwith reasonable diligence be served;

545 (b) Has withdrawn from transacting business in this state 546 under s. 608.511; or

547 (c) Has had its certificate of authority revoked under s.548 608.513.

549 Section 28. Subsection (1) of section 608.512, Florida 550 Statutes, is amended to read:

551 608.512 Grounds for revocation of authority to transact 552 business.—The Department of State may commence a proceeding 553 under s. 608.513 to revoke the certificate of authority of a 554 foreign limited liability company authorized to transact 555 business in this state if:

(1) The foreign limited liability company has failed to
file its <u>biennial</u> annual report with the Department of State by
5 p.m. Eastern Time on the third Friday in September <u>of the year</u>
<u>in which the report is due</u>.

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Section 29. Subsection (1) of section 608.513, Florida

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561 Statutes, is amended to read:

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608.513 Procedure for and effect of revocation.-

563 If the Department of State determines that one or more (1)564 grounds exist under s. 608.512 for revocation of a certificate 565 of authority, the Department of State shall serve the foreign 566 limited liability company with notice of its intent to revoke 567 the foreign limited liability company's certificate of 568 authority. If the foreign limited liability company has provided 569 the department with an electronic mail address, such notice 570 shall be by electronic transmission. Revocation for failure to 571 file a biennial an annual report shall occur on the fourth 572 Friday in September of the each year in which the report is due. 573 The Department of State shall issue a certificate of revocation 574 to each revoked foreign limited liability company. Issuance of 575 the certificate of revocation may be by electronic transmission 576 to any foreign limited liability company that has provided the 577 department with an electronic mail address.

578 Section 30. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 579 608.5135, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

608.5135 Revocation; application for reinstatement.- (1)

(b) As an alternative, the foreign limited liability company may submit a current <u>biennial</u> annual report, signed by the registered agent and a manager or managing member, <u>that</u> <del>which</del> substantially complies with the requirements of paragraph (a).

587 Section 31. Subsection (1) of section 617.0121, Florida 588 Statutes, is amended to read:

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589 617.0121 Forms.-590 The Department of State may prescribe and furnish on (1) 591 request forms for: 592 An application for certificate of status; $_{\tau}$ (a) 593 (b) A foreign corporation's application for certificate of 594 authority to conduct its affairs in the state;  $\tau$ 595 A foreign corporation's application for certificate of (C) 596 withdrawal; - and 597 The biennial annual report, for which the department (d) 598 may prescribe the use of the uniform business report, pursuant 599 to s. 606.06. 600 601 If the Department of State so requires, the use of these forms 602 shall be mandatory. 603 Section 32. Paragraph (d) of subsection (2) of section 604 617.0128, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 605 617.0128 Certificate of status.-606 (2) A certificate of status or authorization sets forth: That its most recent biennial annual report required 607 (d) 608 by s. 617.1622 has been delivered to the department; and 609 Section 33. Subsection (5) of section 617.0141, Florida 610 Statutes, is amended to read: 611 617.0141 Notice.-612 Written notice to a domestic or foreign corporation (5) 613 authorized to conduct its affairs in this state may be addressed 614 to its registered agent at its registered office or to the 615 corporation or its secretary at its principal office shown in its most recent biennial annual report or, in the case of a 616

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617 corporation that has not yet delivered <u>a biennial</u> an annual 618 report, in a domestic corporation's articles of incorporation or 619 in a foreign corporation's application for certificate of 620 authority.

621 Section 34. Subsections (2) and (4) of section 617.0502, 622 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

623 617.0502 Change of registered office or registered agent;
 624 resignation of registered agent.-

625 Any registered agent may resign his or her agency (2) 626 appointment by signing and delivering for filing with the 627 Department of State a statement of resignation and mailing a 628 copy of such statement to the corporation at its principal 629 office address shown in its most recent biennial annual report 630 or, if none, filed in the articles of incorporation or other 631 most recently filed document. The statement of resignation shall 632 state that a copy of such statement has been mailed to the 633 corporation at the address so stated. The agency is terminated as of the 31st day after the date on which the statement was 634 filed and unless otherwise provided in the statement, 635 636 termination of the agency acts as a termination of the 637 registered office.

638 (4) Changes of the registered office or registered agent
639 may be made by a change on the corporation's <u>biennial</u> annual
640 report form filed with the Department of State.

641 Section 35. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section
642 617.1420, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
643 617.1420 Grounds for administrative dissolution.-

644

(1)

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The Department of State may commence a proceeding

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645 under s. 617.1421 to administratively dissolve a corporation if:

(a) The corporation has failed to file its <u>biennial</u> annual
report and pay the <u>biennial</u> annual report filing fee by 5 p.m.
Eastern Time on the third Friday in September <u>of the year in</u>
which the report is due;

650 Section 36. Subsection (1) of section 617.1421, Florida 651 Statutes, is amended to read:

652 617.1421 Procedure for and effect of administrative653 dissolution.-

654 (1)If the Department of State determines that one or more 655 grounds exist under s. 617.1420 for administratively dissolving 656 a corporation, it shall serve the corporation with notice of its 657 intent under s. 617.0504(2) to administratively dissolve the 658 corporation. If the corporation has provided the department with an electronic mail address, such notice shall be by electronic 659 660 transmission. Administrative dissolution for failure to file a 661 biennial an annual report shall occur on the fourth Friday in 662 September of the each year in which the report is due. The Department of State shall issue a certificate of dissolution to 663 664 each dissolved corporation. Issuance of the certificate of 665 dissolution may be by electronic transmission to any corporation 666 that has provided the department with an electronic mail 667 address.

668 Section 37. Subsection (1) of section 617.1509, Florida 669 Statutes, is amended to read:

670 617.1509 Resignation of registered agent of foreign 671 corporation.-

672

(1) The registered agent of a foreign corporation may

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673 resign his or her agency appointment by signing and delivering 674 to the Department of State for filing a statement of resignation 675 and mailing a copy of such statement to the corporation at the 676 corporation's principal office address shown in its most recent 677 biennial annual report or, if none, shown in its application for 678 a certificate of authority or other most recently filed 679 document. The statement of resignation must state that a copy of 680 such statement has been mailed to the corporation at the address 681 so stated. The statement of resignation may include a statement 682 that the registered office is also discontinued.

683 Section 38. Subsection (2) of section 617.1510, Florida 684 Statutes, is amended to read:

685 617.1510 Service of process, notice, or demand on a 686 foreign corporation.-

687 (2) A foreign corporation may be served by registered or
688 certified mail, return receipt requested, addressed to the
689 secretary of the foreign corporation at its principal office
690 shown in its application for a certificate of authority or in
691 its most recent <u>biennial</u> annual report if the foreign
692 corporation:

(a) Has no registered agent or its registered agent cannotwith reasonable diligence be served;

(b) Has withdrawn from conducting its affairs in thisstate under s. 617.1520; or

697 (c) Has had its certificate of authority revoked under s.698 617.1531.

699 Section 39. Subsection (1) of section 617.1530, Florida700 Statutes, is amended to read:

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617.1530 Grounds for revocation of authority to conduct affairs.—The Department of State may commence a proceeding under s. 617.1531 to revoke the certificate of authority of a foreign corporation authorized to conduct its affairs in this state if:

(1) The foreign corporation has failed to file its
biennial annual report with the Department of State by 5 p.m.
Eastern Time on the third Friday in September of the year in
which the report is due.

709 Section 40. Subsection (1) of section 617.1531, Florida710 Statutes, is amended to read:

711

617.1531 Procedure for and effect of revocation.-

712 (1)If the Department of State determines that one or more grounds exist under s. 617.1530 for revocation of a certificate 713 714 of authority, the Department of State shall serve the foreign 715 corporation with notice of its intent to revoke the foreign 716 corporation's certificate of authority. If the foreign 717 corporation has provided the department with an electronic mail 718 address, such notice shall be by electronic transmission. 719 Revocation for failure to file a biennial an annual report shall 720 occur on the fourth Friday in September of the each year in 721 which the report is due. The Department of State shall issue a 722 certificate of revocation to each revoked corporation. Issuance 723 of the certificate of revocation may be by electronic 724 transmission to any foreign corporation that has provided the 725 department with an electronic mail address.

Section 41. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section
617.1533, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
617.1533 Reinstatement following revocation.-

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729 (1)In the alternative, the foreign corporation may submit 730 (b) a current biennial annual report, signed by the registered agent 731 732 and an officer or director, that which substantially complies 733 with the requirements of paragraph (a). 734 Section 42. Paragraph (f) of subsection (5) of section 735 617.1601, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 736 617.1601 Corporate records.-737 A corporation shall keep a copy of the following (5) 738 records: 739 (f) Its most recent biennial annual report delivered to 740 the Department of State under s. 617.1622. 741 Section 43. Section 617.1622, Florida Statutes, is amended 742 to read: 743 617.1622 Biennial Annual report for Department of State.-744 Each domestic and each foreign corporation authorized (1) 745 to conduct its affairs in this state shall deliver to the 746 Department of State for filing a sworn biennial annual report, 747 on such form as the Department of State prescribes, that sets 748 forth: 749 The name of the corporation and the state or country (a) 750 under the law of which it is incorporated; 751 The date of incorporation or, if a foreign (b) 752 corporation, the date on which it was admitted to conduct its 753 affairs in this state; 754 (C) The address of the principal office and the mailing 755 address of the corporation; 756 The corporation's federal employer identification (d)

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757 number, if any, or, if none, whether one has been applied for;

(e) The names and business street addresses of itsdirectors and principal officers;

(f) The street address of its registered office in thisstate and the name of its registered agent at that office; and

(g) Such additional information as may be necessary or
appropriate to enable the Department of State to carry out the
provisions of this act.

(2) The deposit of such report, on or before May 1, in the
United States mail in a sealed envelope, properly addressed with
postage prepaid, constitutes compliance with subsection (1).

768 (3) If a biennial an annual report does not contain the 769 information required by subsection (1), the Department of State 770 shall promptly notify the reporting domestic or foreign 771 corporation in writing and return the report to it for 772 correction. If the report is corrected to contain the 773 information required by subsection (1) and delivered to the 774 Department of State within 30 days after the effective date of 775 notice, it is deemed to be timely filed.

(4) Each <u>biennial</u> annual report must be executed by the corporation by an officer or director or, if the corporation is in the hands of a receiver or trustee, must be executed on behalf of the corporation by such receiver or trustee, and the signing of the <u>biennial</u> annual report shall have the same legal effect as if made under oath, without the necessity of appending such oath thereto.

(5) The first <u>biennial</u> annual report must be delivered to the Department of State between January 1 and May 1 of the year

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following the calendar year in which a domestic corporation was incorporated or a foreign corporation was authorized to conduct affairs. Subsequent annual reports must be delivered to the Department of State between January 1 and May 1 of the subsequent calendar years <u>in which the report is due</u>.

(6) Information in the <u>biennial</u> annual report must be
current as of the date the <u>biennial</u> annual report is executed on
behalf of the corporation.

(7) If an additional report is received, the department
shall file the document and make the information contained
therein part of the official record.

(8) Any corporation that fails to file <u>a biennial</u> an annual report <u>that</u> which complies with the requirements of this section may not maintain or defend any action in any court of this state until such report is filed and all fees and taxes due under this act are paid, and such corporation is subject to dissolution or cancellation of its certificate of authority to conduct its affairs as provided in this act.

(9) The department shall prescribe the forms on which to make the <u>biennial</u> annual report called for in this section and may substitute the uniform business report, pursuant to s. 606.06, as a means of satisfying the requirement of this section.

808 Section 44. Subsection (3) of section 620.1115, Florida 809 Statutes, is amended to read:

810 620.1115 Change of registered agent or registered office.811 (3) The changes described in this section may also be made
812 on the limited partnership or foreign limited partnership's

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813 biennial annual report filed with the Department of State.

814 Section 45. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) and paragraph 815 (d) of subsection (2) of section 620.1209, Florida Statutes, are 816 amended to read:

817

620.1209 Certificate of status.-

(1) The Department of State, upon request and payment of
the requisite fee, shall furnish a certificate of status for a
limited partnership if the records filed in the Department of
State show that the Department of State has filed a certificate
of limited partnership. A certificate of status must state:

(d) Whether the limited partnership's most recent <u>biennial</u>
 annual report required by s. 620.1210 has been filed by the
 Department of State.

(2) The Department of State, upon request and payment of
the requisite fee, shall furnish a certificate of status for a
foreign limited partnership if the records filed in the
Department of State show that the Department of State has filed
a certificate of authority. A certificate of status must state:

(d) Whether the foreign limited partnership's most recent
 biennial annual report required by s. 620.1210 has been filed by
 the Department of State.

834 Section 46. Section 620.1210, Florida Statutes, is amended 835 to read:

836 620.1210 <u>Biennial</u> Annual report for Department of State.837 (1) A limited partnership or a foreign limited partnership
838 authorized to transact business in this state shall deliver to
839 the Department of State for filing <u>a biennial</u> an <u>annual</u> report
840 that states:

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(a) The name of the limited partnership or, if a foreign
limited partnership, the name under which the foreign limited
partnership is registered to transact business in this state.

(b) The street and mailing address of the limited partnership or foreign limited partnership, the name of its registered agent in this state, and the street address of its registered office in this state.

(c) The name and business address of each general partner.
Each general partner that is not an individual must be organized
or otherwise registered with the Department of State as required
by law, must maintain an active status, and must not be
dissolved, revoked, or withdrawn.

853

(d) Federal Employer Identification number.

(e) Any additional information that is necessary or
appropriate to enable the Department of State to carry out the
provisions of this act.

857 (2) Information in <u>a biennial</u> an annual report must be
858 current as of the date the <u>biennial</u> annual report is delivered
859 to the Department of State for filing.

(3) The first <u>biennial</u> annual report must be delivered to
the Department of State between January 1 and May 1 of the year
following the calendar year in which a limited partnership was
formed or a foreign limited partnership was authorized to
transact business. <u>A biennial</u> An annual report must be delivered
to the Department of State between January 1 and May 1 of each
subsequent calendar year <u>in which the report is due</u>.

867 (4) If <u>a biennial</u> an <u>annual</u> report does not contain the
868 information required in subsection (1), the Department of State

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869 shall promptly notify the reporting limited partnership or 870 foreign limited partnership and return the report to it for 871 correction. If the report is corrected to contain the 872 information required in subsection (1) and delivered to the 873 Department of State within 30 days after the effective date of 874 the notice, it is timely delivered.

(5) If a filed <u>biennial</u> annual report contains the address
of a designated office, name of a registered agent, or
registered office address <u>that</u> which differs from the
information shown in the records of the Department of State
immediately before the filing, the differing information in the
<u>biennial</u> annual report is considered a statement of change under
s. 620.1115.

882 Section 47. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 620.1809,883 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

884

620.1809 Administrative dissolution.-

885 (1) The Department of State may dissolve a limited 886 partnership administratively if the limited partnership does 887 not:

888 (a) Pay any fee or penalty due to the Department of State889 under this act;

(b) Deliver its <u>biennial</u> annual report to the Department
of State by 5 p.m. Eastern Time on the third Friday in September
of the year in which the report is due;

893 (c) Appoint and maintain a registered agent as required by894 s. 620.1114; or

895 (d) Deliver for filing a statement of a change under s.896 620.1115 within 30 days after a change has occurred in the name

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897 of the registered agent or the registered office address.

898 If the Department of State determines that a ground (2) 899 exists for administratively dissolving a limited partnership, 900 the Department of State shall serve notice on the limited 901 partnership of its intent to administratively dissolve the 902 limited partnership. If the limited partnership has provided the 903 department with an electronic mail address, such notice shall be 904 by electronic transmission. Administrative dissolution for 905 failure to file a biennial an annual report shall occur on the 906 fourth Friday in September of the each year in which the report 907 is due. The Department of State shall issue a certificate of 908 dissolution to each dissolved limited partnership. Issuance of 909 the certificate of dissolution may be by electronic transmission to any limited partnership that has provided the department with 910 911 an electronic mail address.

912 Section 48. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 620.1810, 913 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

914 620.1810 Reinstatement following administrative 915 dissolution.-

916 (2) As an alternative to submitting the form of 917 reinstatement referred to in subsection (1), the limited 918 partnership may submit a current <u>biennial</u> annual report, signed 919 by its registered agent and a general partner, <u>that</u> which 920 contains the same information described in subsection (1).

921 (3) If the Department of State determines that the 922 application for reinstatement, or current <u>biennial</u> annual report 923 described in subsection (2), contains the information required 924 by subsection (1) and that the information is correct, the

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925 Department of State shall reinstate the limited partnership.

926 Section 49. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and subsection
927 (2) of section 620.1906, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
928 620.1906 Revocation of certificate of authority.-

929 (1) A certificate of authority of a foreign limited
930 partnership to transact business in this state may be revoked by
931 the Department of State in the manner provided in subsections
932 (2) and (3) if the foreign limited partnership does not:

933 (b) Deliver its <u>biennial</u> annual report to the Department 934 of State by 5 p.m. Eastern Time on the third Friday in September 935 of the year in which the report is due;

936 (2)If the Department of State determines that one or more 937 grounds exist under this section for revocation of a foreign 938 limited partnership, it shall notify the foreign limited 939 partnership of its intent to revoke the foreign limited 940 partnership's certificate of authority. If the foreign limited 941 partnership has provided the department with an electronic mail 942 address, such notice shall be by electronic transmission. 943 Revocation for failure to file a biennial an annual report shall 944 occur on the fourth Friday in September of the each year in 945 which the report is due. The Department of State shall issue a 946 certificate of revocation to each revoked foreign limited 947 partnership. Issuance of the certificate of revocation may be by 948 electronic transmission to any foreign limited partnership that 949 has provided the department with an electronic mail address. 950 Section 50. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 620.1909, 951 Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 952 620.1909 Reinstatement following administrative

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## 953 revocation.-

954 (2) As an alternative to submitting the form of
955 reinstatement referred to in subsection (1), the foreign limited
956 partnership may submit a current <u>biennial</u> annual report, signed
957 by its registered agent and a general partner, <u>that</u> which
958 contains the same information described in subsection (1).

959 (3) If the Department of State determines that the 960 application for reinstatement or the current <u>biennial</u> annual 961 report described in subsection (2) contains the information 962 required by subsection (1) and that the information is correct, 963 it shall reinstate the foreign limited partnership's certificate 964 of authority.

965 Section 51. Subsections (1), (2), and (3) of section 966 620.9003, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

967

620.9003 Biennial Annual report.-

968 (1) A limited liability partnership, and a foreign limited 969 liability partnership authorized to transact business in this 970 state, shall file <u>a biennial</u> <del>an annual</del> report in the office of 971 the Secretary of State that <del>which</del> contains:

972 (a) The name of the limited liability partnership and the
973 state or other jurisdiction under whose laws the foreign limited
974 liability partnership is formed;

975 (b) The current street address of the partnership's chief
976 executive office and, if different, the current street address
977 of its principal office in this state, if there is one;

978 (c) The partnership's Federal Employer Identification
979 Number, if any, or, if none, whether one has been applied for;
980 and

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981 (d) The name and street address of the partnership's 982 current agent for service of process, who must be an individual 983 resident of this state or other person authorized to do business 984 in this state.

985 (2) <u>A biennial An annual report must be filed between</u> 986 January 1 and May 1 of each year following the calendar year in 987 which a partnership files a statement of qualification or a 988 foreign partnership becomes authorized to transact business in 989 this state.

990 The Department of State may administratively revoke (3) 991 the statement of qualification of a partnership that fails to 992 file its biennial annual report and pay the required filing fee 993 by 5 p.m. Eastern Time on the third Friday in September of the 994 year in which the report is due. The Department of State shall 995 serve a 60-day notice on the limited liability partnership of 996 its intent to revoke the statement of qualification. If the 997 partnership has provided the department with an electronic mail 998 address, such notice shall be by electronic transmission. 999 Revocation for failure to file a biennial an annual report shall 1000 occur on the fourth Friday in September of the each year in 1001 which the report is due. The Department of State shall issue a 1002 certificate of revocation of the statement of qualification to 1003 each revoked partnership. Issuance of the certificate of revocation of the statement of qualification may be by 1004 1005 electronic transmission to any partnership that has provided the 1006 department with an electronic mail address.

1007

Section 52. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.

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