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1   A bill to be entitled

2   An act relating to vessel safety inspection decals;

3   amending s. 327.70, F.S.; providing rulemaking

4   authority to the Fish and Wildlife Conservation

5   Commission regarding expiration and design of safety

6   inspection decals; specifying standards for such

7   rulemaking; providing a minimum and maximum period of

8   validity for the decal; specifying that decals issued

9   on or before a specified date are no longer valid

10   after that date; providing an effective date.

11

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

13

14   Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section

15 327.70, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

16   327.70 Enforcement of this chapter and chapter 328.—

17   (2)(a)1. Upon demonstrated compliance with the safety

18 equipment carriage and use requirements of this chapter during a

19 safety inspection initiated by a law enforcement officer, the

20 operator of a vessel shall be issued a safety inspection decal

21 signifying that the vessel is deemed to have met the safety

22 equipment carriage and use requirements of this chapter at the

23 time and location of such inspection. The commission may

24 designate by rule the timeframe for expiration of, and the

25 specific design for, the safety inspection decal. However, a

26 decal may not be valid for less than 1 calendar year or more

27 than 5 years and, at a minimum, must meet the standards

28 specified in this paragraph. All decals issued by the commission

29 on or before December 31, 2018, are no longer valid after that

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30 date.
31   2. The safety inspection decal, if displayed, must be
32 located within 6 inches of the inspected vessel's properly
33 displayed vessel registration decal. For nonmotorized vessels
34 that are not required to be registered, the safety inspection
35 decal, if displayed, must be located above the waterline on the
36 forward half of the port side of the vessel.
37   Section 2. This act shall take effect January 1, 2019.

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