

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

	Senate	•
С	Comm: RCS	•
02	2/15/2018	•
		•

House

The Committee on Rules (Simmons) recommended the following: Senate Amendment (with title amendment) Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert: Section 1. <u>The Division of Law Revision and Information is</u> <u>directed to rename chapter 726, Florida Statutes, entitled</u> <u>"FRAUDULENT TRANSFERS," as "VOIDABLE TRANSACTIONS."</u> Section 2. Section 726.101, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 726.101 Short title.—This act may be cited as the "Uniform Voidable Transactions <del>Fraudulent Transfer</del> Act."

1 2 3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11



12 Section 3. Section 726.102, Florida Statutes, is amended to 13 read: 14 726.102 Definitions.-As used in this chapter ss. 726.101-15 726.112: (1) "Affiliate" means: 16 17 (a) A person that who directly or indirectly owns, controls, or holds with power to vote, 20 percent or more of the 18 19 outstanding voting securities of the debtor, other than a person 20 that who holds the securities: 21 1. As a fiduciary or agent without sole discretionary power 22 to vote the securities; or 23 2. Solely to secure a debt, if the person has not in fact 24 exercised the power to vote. 25 (b) A corporation 20 percent or more of whose outstanding 26 voting securities are directly or indirectly owned, controlled, 27 or held with power to vote, by the debtor or a person that who 28 directly or indirectly owns, controls, or holds, with power to 29 vote, 20 percent or more of the outstanding voting securities of 30 the debtor, other than a person that who holds the securities: 31 1. As a fiduciary or agent without sole discretionary power 32 to vote the securities; or 33 2. Solely to secure a debt, if the person has not in fact exercised the power to vote. 34 (c) A person whose business is operated by the debtor under 35 36 a lease or other agreement, or a person substantially all of 37 whose assets are controlled by the debtor; or 38 (d) A person that who operates the debtor's business under 39 a lease or other agreement or controls substantially all of the

debtor's assets.

40

138372

41	(2) "Asset" means property of a debtor, but the term does
42	not include:
43	(a) Property to the extent it is encumbered by a valid
44	lien;
45	(b) Property to the extent it is generally exempt under
46	nonbankruptcy law; or
47	(c) An interest in property held in tenancy by the
48	entireties to the extent it is not subject to process by a
49	creditor holding a claim against only one tenant.
50	(3) "Charitable contribution" means a charitable
51	contribution as that term is defined in s. 170(c) of the
52	Internal Revenue Code of 1986, if that contribution consists of:
53	(a) A financial instrument as defined in s. 731(c)(2)(C) of
54	the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; or
55	(b) Cash.
56	(4) "Claim <u>,</u> " <u>except as used in "claim for relief,"</u> means a
57	right to payment, whether or not the right is reduced to
58	judgment, liquidated, unliquidated, fixed, contingent, matured,
59	unmatured, disputed, undisputed, legal, equitable, secured, or
60	unsecured.
61	(5) "Claims law" means fraudulent conveyance, fraudulent
62	transfer, or voidable transfer laws or other laws of similar
63	effect.
64	<u>(6)<del>(</del>5)</u> "Creditor" means a person <u>that</u> <del>who</del> has a claim.
65	(7) <del>(6)</del> "Debt" means liability on a claim.
66	<u>(8)</u> "Debtor" means a person <u>that</u> <del>who</del> is liable on a
67	claim.
68	(9) "Electronic" means technology having electrical,
69	digital, magnetic, wireless, optical, electromagnetic, or

Page 3 of 19



70	similar capabilities.
71	(10) <del>(8)</del> "Insider" includes:
72	(a) If the debtor is an individual:
73	1. A relative of the debtor or of a general partner of the
74	debtor;
75	2. A partnership in which the debtor is a general partner;
76	3. A general partner in a partnership described in
77	subparagraph 2.; or
78	4. A corporation of which the debtor is a director,
79	officer, or person in control;
80	(b) If the debtor is a corporation:
81	1. A director of the debtor;
82	2. An officer of the debtor;
83	3. A person in control of the debtor;
84	4. A partnership in which the debtor is a general partner;
85	5. A general partner in a partnership described in
86	subparagraph 4.; or
87	6. A relative of a general partner, director, officer, or
88	person in control of the debtor.
89	(c) If the debtor is a partnership:
90	1. A general partner in the debtor;
91	2. A relative of a general partner in, a general partner
92	of, or a person in control of the debtor;
93	3. Another partnership in which the debtor is a general
94	partner;
95	4. A general partner in a partnership described in <u>this</u>
96	paragraph subparagraph 3.; or
97	5. A person in control of the debtor.
98	(d) An affiliate, or an insider of an affiliate as if the
	1



99 affiliate were the debtor.

101

102

103

104

105

106

107

108

112

114

116

117

118

119

124

125

126

127

100

(e) A managing agent of the debtor.

(11) (9) "Lien" means a charge against or an interest in property to secure payment of a debt or performance of an obligation, and includes a security interest created by agreement, a judicial lien obtained by legal or equitable process or proceedings, a common-law lien, or a statutory lien.

(12) "Organization" means a person other than an individual.

(13) (10) "Person" means an individual, partnership, limited 109 partnership, business corporation, nonprofit business 110 corporation, public corporation, limited liability company, limited cooperative association, unincorporated nonprofit 111 association, organization, government or governmental 113 subdivision, instrumentality, or agency, business trust, common law business trust, statutory trust, estate, trust, association, 115 joint venture, or any other legal or commercial entity.

(14) (11) "Property" means anything that may be the subject of ownership.

(15) (12) "Qualified religious or charitable entity or organization" means:

(a) An entity described in s. 170(c)(1) of the Internal 120 Revenue Code of 1986; or 121

122 (b) An entity or organization described in s. 170(c)(2) of 123 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(16) "Record" means information that is inscribed on a tangible medium or that is stored in an electronic or other medium and is retrievable in perceivable form.

(17) (13) "Relative" means an individual related by

138372

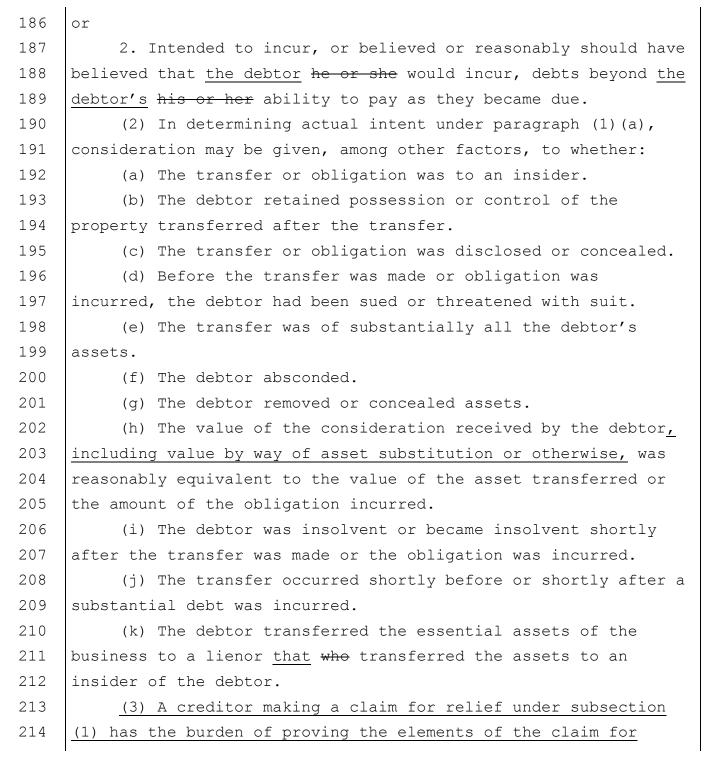
128	consanguinity within the third degree as determined by the
129	common law, a spouse, or an individual related to a spouse
130	within the third degree as so determined, and includes an
131	individual in an adoptive relationship within the third degree.
132	(18) "Sign" means with present intent to authenticate or
133	adopt a record to:
134	(a) Execute or adopt a tangible symbol; or
135	(b) Attach to or logically associate with the record an
136	electronic symbol, sound, or process.
137	(19) <del>(14)</del> "Transfer" means every mode, direct or indirect,
138	absolute or conditional, voluntary or involuntary, of disposing
139	of or parting with an asset or an interest in an asset, and
140	includes payment of money, release, lease, license, and creation
141	of a lien or other encumbrance.
142	(20) (15) "Valid lien" means a lien that is effective
143	against the holder of a judicial lien subsequently obtained by
144	legal or equitable process or proceedings.
145	Section 4. Section 726.103, Florida Statutes, is amended to
146	read:
147	726.103 Insolvency
148	(1) A debtor is insolvent if, at a fair valuation, the sum
149	of the debtor's debts is greater than the sum all of the
150	debtor's assets at a fair valuation.
151	(2) A debtor <u>that</u> <del>who</del> is generally not paying <u>their</u> <del>his or</del>
152	her debts as they become due for reasons other than as a result
153	of a bona fide dispute is presumed to be insolvent. The party
154	against which the presumption is directed, has the burden of
155	proving that the nonexistence of insolvency is more probable
156	than its existence.
	I



157 (3) A partnership is insolvent under subsection (1) if the 158 sum of the partnership's debts is greater than the aggregate, at 159 a fair valuation, of all of the partnership's assets and the sum 160 of the excess of the value of each general partner's 161 nonpartnership assets over the partner's nonpartnership debts. 162 (3) (4) Assets under this section do not include property that has been transferred, concealed, or removed with intent to 163 164 hinder, delay, or defraud creditors or that has been transferred 165 in a manner making the transfer voidable under this chapter ss. 166 726.101-726.112. 167 (4) (4) (5) Debts under this section do not include an 168 obligation to the extent it is secured by a valid lien on 169 property of the debtor not included as an asset. 170 Section 5. Section 726.105, Florida Statutes, is amended to 171 read: 172 726.105 Transfers or obligations voidable fraudulent as to 173 present and future creditors.-174 (1) A transfer made or obligation incurred by a debtor is voidable fraudulent as to a creditor, whether the creditor's 175 176 claim arose before or after the transfer was made or the 177 obligation was incurred, if the debtor made the transfer or 178 incurred the obligation: 179 (a) With actual intent to hinder, delay, or defraud any 180 creditor of the debtor; or 181 (b) Without receiving a reasonably equivalent value in 182

182 exchange for the transfer or obligation, and the debtor: 183 1. Was engaged or was about to engage in a business or a 184 transaction for which the remaining assets of the debtor were 185 unreasonably small in relation to the business or transaction;

138372



Page 8 of 19

225

226

227

228

229

230

231

232

233

234



215 relief by a preponderance of the evidence.

Section 6. <u>It is the intent of the Legislature that the</u> <u>Uniform Law Commission's comments two and eight to section four</u> of the Uniform Voidable Transactions Act, as amended in 2014, <u>may not be persuasive authority in interpreting s. 726.105,</u> <u>Florida Statutes. Instead, the courts of this state must look to</u> <u>all relevant and applicable law when interpreting s. 726.105,</u> Florida Statutes.

223 Section 7. Section 726.106, Florida Statutes, is amended to 224 read:

726.106 Transfers <u>or obligations voidable</u> <del>fraudulent</del> as to present creditors.-

(1) A transfer made or obligation incurred by a debtor is voidable fraudulent as to a creditor whose claim arose before the transfer was made or the obligation was incurred if the debtor made the transfer or incurred the obligation without receiving a reasonably equivalent value in exchange for the transfer or obligation and the debtor was insolvent at that time or the debtor became insolvent as a result of the transfer or obligation.

(2) A transfer made by a debtor is <u>voidable</u> fraudulent as to a creditor whose claim arose before the transfer was made if the transfer was made to an insider for an antecedent debt, the debtor was insolvent at that time, and the insider had reasonable cause to believe that the debtor was insolvent.

240 <u>(3) Subject to s. 726.103(2), a creditor making a claim for</u> 241 relief under subsection (1) or subsection (2) has the burden of 242 proving the elements of the claim for relief by a preponderance 243 of the evidence.

138372

244 Section 8. Section 726.107, Florida Statutes, is amended to 245 read: 246 726.107 When transfer made or obligation incurred.-For the purposes of this chapter ss. 726.101-726.112: 247 (1) A transfer is made: 248 249 (a) With respect to an asset that is real property other 250 than a fixture, but including the interest of a seller or 251 purchaser under a contract for the sale of the asset, when the 2.52 transfer is so far perfected that a good faith purchaser of the 253 asset from the debtor against which whom applicable law permits 254 the transfer to be perfected cannot acquire an interest in the 255 asset that is superior to the interest of the transferee. 256 (b) With respect to an asset that is not real property or

(b) With respect to an asset that is not real property or that is a fixture, when the transfer is so far perfected that a creditor on a simple contract cannot acquire a judicial lien otherwise than under <u>this chapter</u> <del>ss. 726.101-726.112</del> that is superior to the interest of the transferee.

(2) If applicable law permits the transfer to be perfected as provided in subsection (1) and the transfer is not so perfected before the commencement of an action for relief under <u>this chapter</u> ss. 726.101-726.112, the transfer is deemed made immediately before the commencement of the action.

(3) If applicable law does not permit the transfer to be perfected as provided in subsection (1), the transfer is made when it becomes effective between the debtor and the transferee.

269 (4) A transfer is not made until the debtor has acquired 270 rights in the asset transferred.

271

257

258

259 260

261

262 263

264

265

266

2.67

268

272

(5) An obligation is incurred:

(a) If oral, when it becomes effective between the parties;

138372

273	or
274	(b) If evidenced by a <u>record</u> <del>writing</del> , when the <u>record</u>
275	signed writing executed by the obligor is delivered to or for
276	the benefit of the obligee.
277	Section 9. Section 726.108, Florida Statutes, is amended to
278	read:
279	726.108 Remedies of creditors
280	(1) In an action for relief against a transfer or
281	obligation under this chapter ss. 726.101-726.112, a creditor,
282	subject to the limitations in s. 726.109 may obtain:
283	(a) Avoidance of the transfer or obligation to the extent
284	necessary to satisfy the creditor's claim, including as
285	<pre>contemplated by s. 605.0503(7)(b);</pre>
286	(b) An attachment or other provisional remedy against the
287	asset transferred or other property of the transferee <u>if</u>
288	available under in accordance with applicable law;
289	(c) Subject to applicable principles of equity and in
290	accordance with applicable rules of civil procedure:
291	1. An injunction against further disposition by the debtor
292	or a transferee, or both, of the asset transferred or of other
293	property;
294	2. Appointment of a receiver to take charge of the asset
295	transferred or of other property of the transferee; or
296	3. Any other relief the circumstances may require.
297	(2) If a creditor has obtained a judgment on a claim
298	against the debtor, the creditor, if the court so orders, may
299	levy execution on the asset transferred or its proceeds.
300	Section 10. Section 726.109, Florida Statutes, is amended
301	to read:

138372

302 726.109 Defenses, liability, and protection of transferee 303 or obligee.-(1) A transfer or obligation is not voidable under s. 304 305 726.105(1) (a) against a person that who took in good faith and 306 for a reasonably equivalent value given the debtor or against 307 any subsequent transferee or obligee. 308 (2) (a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, To the 309 extent a transfer is voidable in an action by a creditor under 310 s. 726.108(1)(a), the creditor may recover judgment for the 311 value of the asset transferred, as adjusted under subsection 312 (3), or the amount necessary to satisfy the creditor's claim, 313 whichever is less. The judgment may be entered against: 314 1.(a) The first transferee of the asset or the person for 315 whose benefit the transfer was made; or 316 2.(b) An immediate or mediate transferee of the first Any 317 subsequent transferee other than: 318 a. A good faith transferee that who took for value; or 319 b. An immediate or mediate good faith transferee of a 320 person described in sub-subparagraph a from any subsequent 321 transferce. 322 (b) Recovery pursuant to s. 726.108(1)(a) or (2) of or from 323 the asset transferred or its proceeds, by levy or otherwise, is available only against a person described in subparagraph (a)1. 324 325 or subparagraph(a)2. 326 (3) If the judgment under subsection (2) is based upon the 327 value of the asset transferred, the judgment must be for an 328 amount equal to the value of the asset at the time of the 329 transfer, subject to adjustment as the equities may require. 330 (4) Notwithstanding voidability of a transfer or an

Page 12 of 19

138372

331 obligation under this chapter ss. 726.101-726.112, a good faith 332 transferee or obligee is entitled, to the extent of the value 333 given the debtor for the transfer or obligation, to: 334 (a) A lien on or a right to retain an <del>any</del> interest in the 335 asset transferred; 336 (b) Enforcement of an any obligation incurred; or 337 (c) A reduction in the amount of the liability on the 338 judgment. (5) A transfer is not voidable under s. 726.105(1)(b) or s. 339 340 726.106 if the transfer results from: 341 (a) Termination of a lease upon default by the debtor when 342 the termination is pursuant to the lease and applicable law; or 343 (b) Enforcement of a security interest in compliance with 344 Article 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code other than acceptance 345 of collateral in full or partial satisfaction of the obligation 346 it secures. (6) A transfer is not voidable under s. 726.106(2): 347 348 (a) To the extent the insider gave new value to or for the 349 benefit of the debtor after the transfer was made, except to the 350 extent unless the new value was secured by a valid lien; 351 (b) If made in the ordinary course of business or financial affairs of the debtor and the insider; or 352 353 (c) If made pursuant to a good faith effort to rehabilitate 354 the debtor and the transfer secured present value given for that 355 purpose as well as an antecedent debt of the debtor. 356 (7) (a) The transfer of a charitable contribution that is 357 received in good faith by a qualified religious or charitable 358 entity or organization is not a voidable fraudulent transfer 359 under s. 726.105(1)(b) or s. 726.106(1).

## Page 13 of 19

138372

360	(b) However, a charitable contribution from a natural
361	person is a <u>voidable</u> <del>fraudulent</del> transfer if the transfer was
362	received on, or within 2 years before, the earlier of the date
363	of commencement of an action under this chapter, the filing of a
364	petition under the federal Bankruptcy Code, or the commencement
365	of insolvency proceedings by or against the debtor under any
366	state or federal law, including the filing of an assignment for
367	the benefit of creditors or the appointment of a receiver,
368	unless:
369	1. The transfer was consistent with the practices of the
370	debtor in making the charitable contribution; or
371	2. The transfer was received in good faith and the amount
372	of the charitable contribution did not exceed 15 percent of the
373	gross annual income of the debtor for the year in which the
374	transfer of the charitable contribution was made.
375	(8)(a) A party that seeks to invoke subsection (1),
376	subsection (4), subsection (5), or subsection (6) has the burden
377	of proving the applicability of that subsection.
378	(b) Except as otherwise provided in paragraphs (c) and (d),
379	the creditor has the burden of proving each applicable element
380	of subsection (2) or subsection (3).
381	(c) The transferee has the burden of proving the
382	applicability to the transferee under subparagraph (2)(a)2.
383	(d) A party that seeks adjustment under subsection (3) has
384	the burden of proving the adjustment.
385	(9) The standard of proof required to establish matters
386	referred to in this section is preponderance of the evidence.
387	Section 11. Section 726.110, Florida Statutes, is amended
388	to read:

Page 14 of 19

138372

389 726.110 Extinguishment of claim for relief cause of 390 action.-A claim for relief cause of action with respect to a fraudulent transfer or obligation under this chapter ss. 391 392 726.101-726.112 is extinguished unless action is brought: 393 (1) Under s. 726.105(1)(a), within 4 years after the 394 transfer was made or the obligation was incurred or, if later, 395 within 1 year after the transfer or obligation and its wrongful 396 nature was or could reasonably have been discovered by the 397 claimant; 398 (2) Under s. 726.105(1)(b) or s. 726.106(1), within 4 years 399 after the transfer was made or the obligation was incurred; or 400 (3) Under s. 726.106(2), within 1 year after the transfer was made or the obligation was incurred. 401 402 Section 12. Section 726.111, Florida Statutes, is amended 403 to read: 726.111 Supplementary provisions.-Unless displaced by the 404 405 provisions of this chapter ss. 726.101-726.112, the principles 406 of law and equity, including the law merchant and the law 407 relating to principal and agent, estoppel, laches, fraud, 408 misrepresentation, duress, coercion, mistake, insolvency, or 409 other validating or invalidating cause, supplement those 410 provisions. Section 13. Section 726.112, Florida Statutes, is amended 411 to read: 412 413 726.112 Uniformity of application and construction.-Chapter 414 87-79, Laws of Florida, shall be applied and construed to 415 effectuate its general purpose to make uniform the law with 416 respect to the subject of the law among states enacting the law 417 <del>it</del>.



418	Section 14. Section 726.113, Florida Statutes, is created
419	to read:
420	726.113 Governing law.—
421	(1) For the purposes of this section, the following
422	provisions shall determine a debtor's physical location:
423	(a) A debtor that is an individual is located at his or her
424	principal residence.
425	(b) A debtor that is an organization and has only one place
426	of business is located at its place of business.
427	(c) A debtor that is an organization and has more than one
428	place of business is located at its chief executive office.
429	(2) A claim for relief in the nature of a claim for relief
430	under this chapter is governed by the claims law of the
431	jurisdiction in which the debtor is located when the transfer is
432	made or the obligation is incurred.
433	(3) This section only applies to determine the claims law
434	governing a claim for relief under this chapter. This section
435	does not affect the governing law for any other claims, issues,
436	or relief between the parties arising outside of this chapter.
437	(4) If this section requires the application of the claims
438	law of a foreign jurisdiction, such a determination does not
439	affect which jurisdiction's exemption laws apply, the
440	availability of exemptions under applicable law, or the debtor's
441	entitlement to any protections afforded to the debtor's
442	homestead under the Florida Constitution.
443	Section 15. Section 726.114, Florida Statutes, is created
444	to read:
445	726.114 Application to series organization
446	(1) As used in this section, the term:

Page 16 of 19

138372

447	(a) "Protected series" means an arrangement, however
448	denominated, created by a series organization that, pursuant to
449	the law under which the series organization is organized, meets
450	the criteria set forth in paragraph (b).
451	(b) "Series organization" means an organization that,
452	pursuant to the law under which it is organized, has the
453	following characteristics:
454	1. The organic record of the organization provides for
455	creation by the organization of one or more protected series,
456	however denominated, with respect to specified property of the
457	organization, and for records to be maintained for each
458	protected series that identify the property of, or associated
459	with, the protected series.
460	2. Debt incurred or existing with respect to the activities
461	of, or property of or associated with, a particular protected
462	series is enforceable against the property of or associated with
463	the protected series only, and not against the property of or
464	associated with the organization or other protected series of
465	the organization.
466	3. Debt incurred or existing with respect to the activities
467	or property of the organization is enforceable against the
468	property of the organization only, and not against the property
469	of or associated with a protected series of the organization.
470	(2) A series organization and each protected series of the
471	organization is a separate person for purposes of this chapter,
472	even if for other purposes a protected series is not a person
473	separate from the organization or other protected series of the
474	organization. Provisions of law other than this chapter
475	determines whether and to what extent a series organization and

Page 17 of 19

138372

476	each protected series of the organization is a separate person
477	for purposes other than the purposes of this chapter.
478	Section 16. Section 726.115, Florida Statutes, is created
479	to read:
480	726.115 Relation to Electronic Signatures in Global and
481	National Commerce ActThis chapter modifies, limits, and
482	supersedes the federal Electronic Signatures in Global and
483	National Commerce Act, 15 U.S.C. ss. 7001, et seq., but does not
484	modify, limit, or supersede section 101(c) of that act, 15
485	U.S.C. s. 7001(c), or authorize electronic delivery of any of
486	the notices described in s. 103(b) of that act, 15 U.S.C. s.
487	<u>7003(b).</u>
488	Section 17. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.
489	
490	======================================
491	And the title is amended as follows:
492	Delete everything before the enacting clause
493	and insert:
494	A bill to be entitled
495	An act relating to the Uniform Voidable Transactions
496	Act; providing a directive to the Division of Law
497	Revision and Information; amending s. 726.101, F.S.;
498	revising a short title; amending s. 726.102, F.S.;
499	revising and providing definitions; amending s.
500	726.103, F.S.; removing conditions under which a
501	partnership is insolvent; imposing the burden of
502	proving insolvency upon certain debtors; amending ss.
503	726.105 and 726.106, F.S.; imposing the burden of
504	proving elements of a claim for relief upon certain



505 creditors; providing legislative intent regarding 506 certain comments issued by the Uniform Law Commission; 507 amending s. 726.107, F.S.; conforming provisions to 508 changes made by the act; amending s. 726.108, F.S.; 509 providing conditions under which attachments or other 510 provisional remedies are available to creditors; amending s. 726.109, F.S.; revising the parties 511 512 subject to judgments for recovery of a creditor's claim; revising conditions under which a transfer is 513 514 not voidable; imposing the burden of proving certain 515 applicability, claim elements, and adjustments; 516 providing requirements for standard of proof; amending 517 ss. 726.110, 726.111, and 726.112, F.S.; conforming 518 provisions to changes made by the act; creating s. 519 726.113, F.S.; providing that claims for relief are 520 governed by specified claims law; creating s. 726.114, 521 F.S.; providing definitions; providing applicability 522 of specified provisions for series organizations and 523 the protected series of such organizations; creating 524 s. 726.115, F.S.; providing applicability for a 525 specified federal act; creating s. 726.116, F.S.; 526 providing an effective date.