

By Senator Montford

3-00622-18

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to vessel registration; amending s.
3 328.80, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Highway
4 Safety and Motor Vehicles to issue an electronic
5 certificate of registration for a vessel, to collect
6 electronic mail addresses, and to use electronic mail
7 for certain purposes; amending s. 328.48, F.S.;
8 authorizing a vessel operator to present such
9 electronic certificate for inspection under certain
10 circumstances; providing construction; providing an
11 effective date.

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

14
15 Section 1. Section 328.80, Florida Statutes, is amended to
16 read:

17 328.80 Transactions by electronic or telephonic means.—

18 (1) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles may
19 ~~commission is authorized to~~ accept any application provided for
20 under this chapter by electronic or telephonic means.

21 (2) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles may
22 issue an electronic certificate of registration in lieu of
23 printing a paper registration.

24 (3) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles may
25 collect electronic mail addresses and use electronic mail in
26 lieu of the United States Postal Service for the purpose of
27 providing renewal notices.

28 Section 2. Subsection (4) of section 328.48, Florida
29 Statutes, is amended to read:

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30 328.48 Vessel registration, application, certificate,
31 number, decal, duplicate certificate.-

32 (4) Each certificate of registration issued shall state
33 among other items the numbers awarded to the vessel, the hull
34 identification number, the name and address of the owner, and a
35 description of the vessel, except that certificates of
36 registration for vessels constructed or assembled by the owner
37 registered for the first time shall state all the foregoing
38 information except the hull identification number. The numbers
39 shall be placed on each side of the forward half of the vessel
40 in such position as to provide clear legibility for
41 identification, except, if the vessel is an airboat, the numbers
42 may be placed on each side of the rudder. The numbers awarded to
43 the vessel shall read from left to right and shall be in block
44 characters of good proportion not less than 3 inches in height.
45 The numbers shall be of a solid color which will contrast with
46 the color of the background and shall be so maintained as to be
47 clearly visible and legible; i.e., dark numbers on a light
48 background or light numbers on a dark background. The
49 certificate of registration shall be pocket-sized and shall be
50 available for inspection on the vessel for which issued whenever
51 such vessel is in operation. If the certificate of registration
52 is not available for inspection on the vessel or is damaged or
53 otherwise illegible, the operator may present for inspection an
54 electronic device displaying an electronic certificate issued
55 pursuant to s. 328.80. Such presentation does not constitute
56 consent for inspection of any information on the device other
57 than the displayed certificate.

58 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.