1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to motor vehicle insurance; providing 3 a short title; amending s. 316.646, F.S.; revising 4 security requirements for a motor vehicle owner or 5 operator; amending s. 324.011, F.S.; revising 6 legislative intent and purpose; creating s. 324.015, 7 F.S.; excluding personal injury protection from motor 8 vehicle insurance policies issued or renewed on or 9 after a specified date; providing conditions for 10 policies entered into by a specified date; requiring 11 an insurer to permit an insured to change coverages 12 under specified circumstances; providing notice requirements; providing that notice is subject to 13 14 approval by the Office of Insurance Regulation; providing applicability; amending s. 324.021, F.S.; 15 revising the definition of the terms "motor vehicle" 16 17 and "proof of financial responsibility" to exclude an exemption relating to owner compliance and to increase 18 19 the minimum amount of motor vehicle liability coverage required by insureds, respectively; conforming a 20 21 cross-reference; amending s. 324.022, F.S.; revising 22 financial responsibility requirements for owners and 23 operators of motor vehicles; conforming a crossreference; amending s. 324.0221, F.S.; conforming 24 25 provisions to changes made by the act; conforming

Page 1 of 92

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38 39

40

41

42

43

44

45

4647

48

49 50

cross-references; providing certain conditions for the suspension of a motor vehicle license or registration; amending s. 324.151, F.S.; providing definitions; revising provisions relating to certain motor vehicle liability policies; amending s. 324.161, F.S.; revising deposit requirements for self-insurers; amending s. 324.171, F.S.; revising conditions under which a person is able to obtain a certificate of self-insurance; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 324.251, F.S.; revising a short title; amending 456.44, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; amending ss. 626.9541 and 627.06501, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; conforming cross-references; amending s. 627.727, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; revising legal liability of an uninsured motorist coverage insurer; repealing ss. 627.730, 627.731, 627.7311, 627.732, 627.733, 627.734, 627.736, 627.737, 627.739, 627.7401, 627.7403, and 627.7405, F.S., relating to Florida Motor Vehicle No-Fault Law; repealing s. 627.7407, F.S., relating to the application of the Florida Motor Vehicle No-Fault Law; amending ss. 318.18, 320.02, 320.0609, 320.27, 320.771, 322.251, 322.34, 324.032, 324.051, 324.091, 400.9905, 400.991, 400.9935, 409.901, 409.910,

Page 2 of 92

```
456.057, 456.072, 626.989, 627.0652, 627.0653,
51
         627.4132, 627.7263, 627.7275, 627.728, 627.7295,
52
53
         627.748, 627.8405, 628.909, 705.184, 713.78, and
         817.234, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made
54
55
         by the act; providing effective dates.
56
57
    Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
58
59
         Section 1.
                     This act may be cited as the "Responsible
60
    Roadways Act."
         Section 2.
                     Subsection (1) of section 316.646, Florida
61
62
    Statutes, is amended to read:
         316.646 Security required; proof of security and display
63
64
    thereof.-
65
              A Any person operating a motor vehicle for which
66
    liability coverage is required under by s. 324.022, s. 324.023,
67
    s. 324.032, s. 627.7415, or s. 627.742 must to maintain property
68
    damage liability security, required by s. 324.023 to maintain
69
    liability security for bodily injury or death, or required by s.
70
    627.733 to maintain personal injury protection security on a
    motor vehicle shall have in his or her immediate possession at
71
72
    all times while operating such motor vehicle proper proof of
    maintenance of the required security.
73
74
              Such proof shall be in a uniform paper or electronic
75
    format, as prescribed by the department, a valid insurance
```

Page 3 of 92

policy, an insurance policy binder, a certificate of insurance, or such other proof as may be prescribed by the department.

- (b)1. The act of presenting to a law enforcement officer an electronic device displaying proof of insurance in an electronic format does not constitute consent for the officer to access any information on the device other than the displayed proof of insurance.
- 2. The person who presents the device to the officer assumes the liability for any resulting damage to the device.
- Section 3. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 318.18, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 318.18 Amount of penalties.—The penalties required for a noncriminal disposition pursuant to s. 318.14 or a criminal offense listed in s. 318.17 are as follows:
- (2) Thirty dollars for all nonmoving traffic violations and:
- (b) For all violations of ss. 320.0605, 320.07(1), 322.065, and 322.15(1). Any person who is cited for a violation of s. 320.07(1) shall be charged a delinquent fee pursuant to s. 320.07(4).
- 1. If a person who is cited for a violation of s. 320.0605 or s. 320.07 can show proof of having a valid registration at the time of arrest, the clerk of the court may dismiss the case and may assess a dismissal fee of up to \$10. A person who finds it impossible or impractical to obtain a valid registration

Page 4 of 92

certificate must submit an affidavit detailing the reasons for the impossibility or impracticality. The reasons may include, but are not limited to, the fact that the vehicle was sold, stolen, or destroyed; that the state in which the vehicle is registered does not issue a certificate of registration; or that the vehicle is owned by another person.

- 2. If a person who is cited for a violation of s. 322.03, s. 322.065, or s. 322.15 can show a driver license issued to him or her and valid at the time of arrest, the clerk of the court may dismiss the case and may assess a dismissal fee of up to \$10.
- 3. If a person who is cited for a violation of s. 316.646 can show proof of security as required by s. 324.022, s. 324.023, s. 324.032, s. 627.7415, or s. 627.742 627.733, issued to the person and valid at the time of arrest, the clerk of the court may dismiss the case and may assess a dismissal fee of up to \$10. A person who finds it impossible or impractical to obtain proof of security must submit an affidavit detailing the reasons for the impracticality. The reasons may include, but are not limited to, the fact that the vehicle has since been sold, stolen, or destroyed; that the owner or registrant of the vehicle is not required by s. 627.733 to maintain personal injury protection insurance; or that the vehicle is owned by another person.
  - Section 4. Paragraphs (a) and (d) of subsection (5) of

Page 5 of 92

section 320.02, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

320.02 Registration required; application for

registration; forms.—

(5)(a) Proof that liability coverage has personal

130

131

132

133

134

135136

137

138139

140

141

142

143

144

145

146147

148

149150

(5)(a) Proof that liability coverage has personal injury protection benefits have been purchased if required under s. 324.022, s. 324.023, s. 324.032, s. 627.7415, or s. 627.742 627.733, that property damage liability coverage has been purchased as required under s. 324.022, that bodily injury or death coverage has been purchased if required under s. 324.023, and that combined bodily liability insurance and property damage liability insurance have been purchased if required under s. 627.7415 shall be provided in the manner prescribed by law by the applicant at the time of application for registration of any motor vehicle that is subject to such requirements. The issuing agent shall not shall refuse to issue registration if such proof of purchase is not provided. Insurers shall furnish uniform proof-of-purchase cards in a paper or electronic format in a form prescribed by the department and include the name of the insured's insurance company, the coverage identification number, and the make, year, and vehicle identification number of the vehicle insured. The card must contain a statement notifying the applicant of the penalty specified under s. 316.646(4). The card or insurance policy, insurance policy binder, or certificate of insurance or a photocopy of any of these; an affidavit containing the name of the insured's insurance company, the

Page 6 of 92

151 insured's policy number, and the make and year of the vehicle 152 insured; or such other proof as may be prescribed by the 153 department shall constitute sufficient proof of purchase. If an 154 affidavit is provided as proof, it must be in substantially the 155 following form: 156 157 Under penalty of perjury, I ... (Name of insured) ... do hereby 158 certify that I have Bodily Injury Liability and ... (Personal 159 Injury Protection, Property Damage Liability coverage, and, if 160 required, Bodily Injury Liability) ... Insurance currently in 161 effect with ... (Name of insurance company) ... under ... (policy 162 number) ... covering ... (make, year, and vehicle identification number of vehicle) .... (Signature of Insured) ... 163 164 165 Such affidavit must include the following warning: 166 167 WARNING: GIVING FALSE INFORMATION IN ORDER TO OBTAIN A VEHICLE 168 REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE UNDER FLORIDA 169 LAW. ANYONE GIVING FALSE INFORMATION ON THIS AFFIDAVIT IS 170 SUBJECT TO PROSECUTION. 171 If an application is made through a licensed motor vehicle 172 dealer as required under s. 319.23, the original or a 173 174 photostatic copy of such card, insurance policy, insurance 175 policy binder, or certificate of insurance or the original

Page 7 of 92

176

177

178

179

180

181

182

183

184

185

186

187

188

189

190

191

192

193

194

195

196

197

198

199200

affidavit from the insured shall be forwarded by the dealer to the tax collector of the county or the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles for processing. By executing the aforesaid affidavit, a no licensed motor vehicle dealer will not be liable in damages for any inadequacy, insufficiency, or falsification of any statement contained therein. A card must also indicate the existence of any bodily injury liability insurance voluntarily purchased.

The verifying of proof of compliance with the liability coverage requirements of the personal injury protection insurance, proof of property damage liability insurance, proof of combined bodily liability insurance and property damage liability insurance, or proof of financial responsibility law insurance and the issuance or failure to issue the motor vehicle registration under the provisions of this chapter may not be construed in any court as a warranty of the reliability or accuracy of the evidence of such proof, or that the provisions of any insurance policy furnished as proof of compliance with the liability coverage requirements of the financial responsibility law comply with the laws of this state. Neither the department nor any tax collector is liable in damages for any inadequacy, insufficiency, falsification, or unauthorized modification of any item of the proof of compliance with the liability coverage requirements of the personal injury protection insurance, proof of property damage liability

Page 8 of 92

insurance, proof of combined bodily liability insurance and property damage liability insurance, or proof of financial responsibility <u>law</u> insurance prior to, during, or subsequent to the verification of the proof. The issuance of a motor vehicle registration does not constitute prima facie evidence or a presumption of insurance coverage.

Section 5. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 320.0609, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.0609 Transfer and exchange of registration license plates; transfer fee.—

(1)

(b) The transfer of a license plate from a vehicle disposed of to a newly acquired vehicle does not constitute a new registration. The application for transfer shall be accepted without requiring proof of motor vehicle personal injury protection or liability insurance.

Section 6. Subsection (3) of section 320.27, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.27 Motor vehicle dealers.-

(3) APPLICATION AND FEE.—The application for the license application shall be in such form as may be prescribed by the department and is shall be subject to such rules with respect thereto as may be so prescribed by the department it. Such application shall be verified by oath or affirmation and must shall contain a full statement of the name and birth date of the

Page 9 of 92

226

227

228

229

230

231

232

233

234

235

236

237

238239

240

241

242

243

244

245

246

247

248

249250

person or persons applying for the license therefor; the name of the firm or copartnership, with the names and places of residence of all members thereof, if such applicant is a firm or copartnership; the names and places of residence of the principal officers, if the applicant is a body corporate or other artificial body; the name of the state under whose laws the corporation is organized; the present and former place or places of residence of the applicant; and the prior business in which the applicant has been engaged and its the location thereof. The Such application must shall describe the exact location of the place of business and must <del>shall</del> state whether the place of business is owned by the applicant and when acquired, or, if leased, a true copy of the lease shall be attached to the application. The applicant shall certify that the location provides an adequately equipped office and is not a residence; that the location affords sufficient unoccupied space upon and within which adequately to store all motor vehicles offered and displayed for sale; and that the location is a suitable place where the applicant can in good faith carry on such business and keep and maintain books, records, and files necessary to conduct such business, which shall be available at all reasonable hours to inspection by the department or any of its inspectors or other employees. The applicant shall certify that the business of a motor vehicle dealer is the principal business that will which shall be conducted at that location.

Page 10 of 92

251

252

253

254

255

256

257

258

259

260

261

262

263

264

265

266

267

268

269

270

271

272

273274

275

The application must shall contain a statement that the applicant is either franchised by a manufacturer of motor vehicles, in which case the name of each motor vehicle that the applicant is franchised to sell shall be included, or an independent (nonfranchised) motor vehicle dealer. The application must shall contain other relevant information as may be required by the department. The applicant must furnish, including evidence, in a form approved by the department, that the applicant is insured under a garage liability insurance policy or a general liability insurance policy coupled with a business automobile policy, which shall include, at a minimum, \$25,000 combined single-limit bodily injury and property damage liability coverage including bodily injury and property damage protection and \$10,000 personal injury protection. However, a salvage motor vehicle dealer as defined in subparagraph (1)(c)5. is exempt from the requirements for garage liability insurance and personal injury protection insurance on those vehicles that cannot be legally operated on roads, highways, or streets in this state. Franchise dealers must submit a garage liability insurance policy, and all other dealers must submit a garage liability insurance policy or a general liability insurance policy coupled with a business automobile policy. Such policy shall be for the license period, and evidence of a new or continued policy shall be delivered to the department at the beginning of each license period. Upon making initial

Page 11 of 92

276

277

278

279

280

281

282

283

284

285

286

287

288289

290

291

292

293

294

295

296

297

298

299300

application, the applicant shall pay to the department a fee of \$300 in addition to any other fees required by law. Applicants may choose to extend the licensure period for 1 additional year for a total of 2 years. An initial applicant shall pay to the department a fee of \$300 for the first year and \$75 for the second year, in addition to any other fees required by law. An applicant for renewal shall pay to the department \$75 for a 1year renewal or \$150 for a 2-year renewal, in addition to any other fees required by law. Upon making an application for a change of location, the applicant must person shall pay a fee of \$50 in addition to any other fees now required by law. The department shall, in the case of every application for initial licensure, verify whether certain facts set forth in the application are true. Each applicant, general partner in the case of a partnership, or corporate officer and director in the case of a corporate applicant, must file a set of fingerprints with the department for the purpose of determining any prior criminal record or any outstanding warrants. The department shall submit the fingerprints to the Department of Law Enforcement for state processing and forwarding to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for federal processing. The actual cost of state and federal processing shall be borne by the applicant and is in addition to the fee for licensure. The department may issue a license to an applicant pending the results of the fingerprint investigation, which license is fully revocable if

Page 12 of 92

301 the department subsequently determines that any facts set forth 302 in the application are not true or correctly represented. 303 Section 7. Paragraph (j) of subsection (3) of section 304 320.771, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 305 320.771 License required of recreational vehicle dealers.-306 (3) APPLICATION.—The application for such license shall be 307 in the form prescribed by the department and subject to such 308 rules as may be prescribed by it. The application shall be 309 verified by oath or affirmation and shall contain: 310 A statement that the applicant is insured under a garage liability insurance policy, which shall include, at a 311 312 minimum, \$25,000 combined single-limit bodily injury and 313 property damage liability coverage, including bodily injury and 314 property damage protection, and \$10,000 personal injury 315 protection, if the applicant is to be licensed as a dealer in, 316 or intends to sell, recreational vehicles. 317 318 The department shall, if it deems necessary, cause an 319 investigation to be made to ascertain if the facts set forth in 320 the application are true and shall not issue a license to the 321 applicant until it is satisfied that the facts set forth in the 322 application are true. Section 8. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 322.251, 323

Page 13 of 92

322.251 Notice of cancellation, suspension, revocation, or

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

324

325

disqualification of license.-

- (1) All orders of cancellation, suspension, revocation, or disqualification issued under the provisions of this chapter, chapter 318, or chapter 324, or ss. 627.732-627.734 shall be given either by personal delivery thereof to the licensee whose license is being canceled, suspended, revoked, or disqualified or by deposit in the United States mail in an envelope, first class, postage prepaid, addressed to the licensee at his or her last known mailing address furnished to the department. Such mailing by the department constitutes notification, and any failure by the person to receive the mailed order will not affect or stay the effective date or term of the cancellation, suspension, revocation, or disqualification of the licensee's driving privilege.
- (2) The giving of notice and an order of cancellation, suspension, revocation, or disqualification by mail is complete upon expiration of 20 days after deposit in the United States mail for all notices except those issued under chapter 324 or ss. 627.732-627.734, which are complete 15 days after deposit in the United States mail. Proof of the giving of notice and an order of cancellation, suspension, revocation, or disqualification in either manner shall be made by entry in the records of the department that such notice was given. The entry is admissible in the courts of this state and constitutes sufficient proof that such notice was given.

Section 9. Paragraph (a) of subsection (8) of section 322.34, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 322.34 Driving while license suspended, revoked, canceled, or disqualified.—
- (8) (a) Upon the arrest of a person for the offense of driving while the person's driver license or driving privilege is suspended or revoked, the arresting officer shall determine:
- 1. Whether the person's driver license is suspended or revoked.
- 2. Whether the person's driver license has remained suspended or revoked since a conviction for the offense of driving with a suspended or revoked license.
- 3. Whether the suspension or revocation was made under s. 316.646 or s. 627.733, relating to failure to maintain required security, or under s. 322.264, relating to habitual traffic offenders.
- 4. Whether the driver is the registered owner or coowner of the vehicle.
- Section 10. Section 324.011, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 324.011 <u>Legislative intent and purpose of chapter.</u>—It is the intent of <u>the Legislature this chapter</u> to <u>ensure that the privilege of owning or operating a motor vehicle in this state be exercised recognize the existing privilege to own or operate a motor vehicle on the public streets and highways of this state</u>

Page 15 of 92

when such vehicles are used with due consideration for others and their property in order, and to promote safety and provide financial security requirements for such owners or operators whose responsibility it is to recompense others for injury to person or property caused by the operation of a motor vehicle. Therefore, it is required herein that the operator of a motor vehicle involved in a crash or convicted of certain traffic offenses meeting the operative provisions of s. 324.051(2) shall respond for such damages and show proof of financial ability to respond for damages in future accidents as a requisite to his or her future exercise of such privileges.

Section 11. Effective upon this act becoming a law, section 324.015, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

- 324.015 Applicability; notice to insured.-
- (1) Effective January 1, 2020:

- (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, motor
  vehicle liability policies issued or renewed on or after January
  1, 2020, may not include personal injury protection.
- (b) A person subject to s. 324.022 must maintain proof of financial responsibility.
- (c) A new or renewal motor vehicle liability policy delivered or issued for delivery in this state must provide coverage that complies with proof of financial responsibility.
- (d) An existing motor vehicle liability policy issued before January 1, 2020, that provides personal injury protection

Page 16 of 92

and property damage liability coverage and meets the financial responsibility requirements on December 31, 2019, but does not meet the financial responsibility requirements on or after January 1, 2020, is deemed to meet the financial responsibility requirements under this chapter until such policy is renewed, nonrenewed, or canceled.

- (2) An insurer must allow an insured who has a new or renewal policy providing personal injury protection, which becomes effective before January 1, 2020, and whose policy does not meet the financial responsibility requirements on or after January 1, 2020, to change coverages to meet the financial responsibility requirements that becomes effective on or after January 1, 2020. The insurer is not required to provide coverage complying with financial responsibility requirements in such policies if the insured does not pay the required premium by January 1, 2020, or such later date as the insurer may allow. The insurer must refund any reduction in the premium. The insurer may not impose an additional fee or charge on the insured for such changes in coverage; however, the insurer may charge an additional premium that is actuarially indicated.
- (3) By September 1, 2019, a motor vehicle insurer must provide each insured a notice of the provisions of this section.

  The notice is subject to approval by the Office of Insurance Regulation and must clearly inform the insured that:
  - (a) The Florida Motor Vehicle No-Fault Law is repealed,

Page 17 of 92

effective January 1, 2020, and that on or after that date, the insured is no longer required to maintain personal injury protection coverage, that personal injury protection coverage is no longer available for purchase in this state, and that all new or renewal policies issued on or after that date may not contain such coverage.

- (b) Effective January 1, 2020, a person subject to s.

  324.022 must maintain financial responsibility requirements that
  enable the person to respond in damages for liability on account
  of accidents arising out of the ownership, maintenance, or use
  of a motor vehicle in the following amounts:
- 1. Twenty-five thousand dollars for bodily injury to, or the death of, one person in any one accident and, subject to such limits for one person, in the amount of \$50,000 for bodily injury to, or the death of, two or more persons in any one accident; and
- 2. Ten thousand dollars for damage to, or destruction of, property of others in any one accident.
- (c) Personal injury protection coverage pays covered medical expenses for injuries sustained in a motor vehicle accident by the insured, passengers, and relatives residing in the insured's household.
- (d) Bodily injury liability coverage protects the insured, up to the coverage limits, against loss if the insured is legally responsible for the death of or bodily injury to others

Page 18 of 92

in a motor vehicle accident.

- (e) The insured may obtain underinsured motorist coverage, which provides benefits, up to the limits of such coverage, to an insured or other insured entitled to recover damages for bodily injury, sickness, disease, or death resulting from a motor vehicle accident with an uninsured or underinsured owner or operator of a motor vehicle.
- (f) If the insured's new or renewal motor vehicle liability policy is effective before January 1, 2020, and contains personal injury protection and property damage liability coverage as required by state law before January 1, 2020, but does not meet the financial responsibility requirements on or after January 1, 2020, the policy is deemed to meet the financial responsibility requirements until it is renewed, nonrenewed, or canceled.
- (g) An insured whose new or renewal policy becomes effective before January 1, 2020, but does not meet the financial responsibility requirements on or after January 1, 2020, may change coverages under the policy so as to eliminate personal injury protection and to obtain coverage meeting the financial responsibility requirements, including bodily injury liability coverage, which are effective on or after January 1, 2020.
- (h) If the insured has any questions, he or she should contact the name and telephone number provided in the notice.

Page 19 of 92

(4) The Florida Motor Vehicle No-Fault Law, ss. 627.730-627.7405, and ss. 400.9905, 400.991, 456.057, 456.072, 627.7263, 817.234(7)(c), and 817.234(8) remain in full force and effect for motor vehicle accidents covered under a policy issued under the Florida Motor Vehicle No-Fault Law prior to January 1, 2020, until that policy is renewed, nonrenewed, or canceled.

Section 12. Subsections (1) and (7) and paragraph (c) of subsection (9) of section 324.021, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

- 324.021 Definitions; minimum insurance required.—The following words and phrases when used in this chapter shall, for the purpose of this chapter, have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this section, except in those instances where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:
- (1) MOTOR VEHICLE.—Every self-propelled vehicle that is designed and required to be licensed for use upon a highway, including trailers and semitrailers designed for use with such vehicles, except traction engines, road rollers, farm tractors, power shovels, and well drillers, and every vehicle that is propelled by electric power obtained from overhead wires but not operated upon rails, but not including any personal delivery device or mobile carrier as defined in s. 316.003, bicycle, or moped. However, the term "motor vehicle" does not include a motor vehicle as defined in s. 627.732(3) when the owner of such vehicle has complied with the requirements of ss. 627.730-

627.7405, inclusive, unless the provisions of s. 324.051 apply; and, in such case, the applicable proof of insurance provisions of s. 320.02 apply.

- (7) PROOF OF FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY.—That Proof of ability to respond in damages for liability on account of accidents crashes arising out of the use of a motor vehicle:
- (a) In the amount of \$25,000 for \$10,000 because of bodily injury to, or the death of, one person in any one accident erash;
- (b) Subject to such limits for one person, in the amount of  $\frac{$50,000 \text{ for}}{$0,000 \text{ for}}$  \$20,000 because of bodily injury to, or the death of, two or more persons in any one accident erash;
- (c) In the amount of \$10,000  $\underline{\text{for damage}}$  because of injury to, or destruction of,  $\underline{\text{the}}$  property of others in any one  $\underline{\text{accident}}$   $\underline{\text{crash}}$ ; and
- (d) For With respect to commercial motor vehicles and nonpublic sector buses, in the amounts specified in ss. 627.7415 and 627.742, respectively.
  - (9) OWNER; OWNER/LESSOR.-
  - (c) Application. -

1. The limits on liability in subparagraphs (b) 2. and 3. do not apply to an owner of motor vehicles that are used for commercial activity in the owner's ordinary course of business, other than a rental company that rents or leases motor vehicles. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "rental company"

Page 21 of 92

includes only an entity that is engaged in the business of renting or leasing motor vehicles to the general public and that rents or leases a majority of its motor vehicles to persons with no direct or indirect affiliation with the rental company. The term also includes a motor vehicle dealer that provides temporary replacement vehicles to its customers for up to 10 days. The term "rental company" also includes:

- a. A related rental or leasing company that is a subsidiary of the same parent company as that of the renting or leasing company that rented or leased the vehicle.
- b. The holder of a motor vehicle title or an equity interest in a motor vehicle title if the title or equity interest is held pursuant to or to facilitate an asset-backed securitization of a fleet of motor vehicles used solely in the business of renting or leasing motor vehicles to the general public and under the dominion and control of a rental company, as described in this subparagraph, in the operation of such rental company's business.
- 2. Furthermore, with respect to commercial motor vehicles as defined in s. 627.732, the limits on liability in subparagraphs (b) 2. and 3. do not apply if, at the time of the incident, the commercial motor vehicle is being used in the transportation of materials found to be hazardous for the purposes of the Hazardous Materials Transportation Authorization Act of 1994, as amended, 49 U.S.C. ss. 5101 et seq., and that is

required pursuant to such act to carry placards warning others of the hazardous cargo, unless at the time of lease or rental either:

- a. The lessee indicates in writing that the vehicle will not be used to transport materials found to be hazardous for the purposes of the Hazardous Materials Transportation Authorization Act of 1994, as amended, 49 U.S.C. ss. 5101 et seq.; or
- b. The lessee or other operator of the commercial motor vehicle has in effect insurance with limits of at least \$5,000,000 combined property damage and bodily injury liability.
- Section 13. Section 324.022, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 324.022 Financial responsibility <u>requirements</u> <del>for property</del> damage.
- (1) (a) Every owner or operator of a motor vehicle required to be registered in this state <u>must shall</u> establish and maintain the ability to respond in damages for liability on account of accidents arising out of the use of the motor vehicle in the amount of:
- 1. Twenty-five thousand dollars for bodily injury to, or the death of, one person in any one accident;
- 2. Subject to the limits for one person, \$50,000 for bodily injury to, or the death of, two or more persons in any one accident; and \$10,000 because of
  - 3. Ten thousand dollars for damage to, or destruction of,

Page 23 of 92

property of others in any one accident crash.

576

577

578

579

580

581

582

583

584

585

586

587

588

589

590

591

592

593

594

595

596

597

598

599

600

- The requirements of paragraph (a) this section may be met by one of the methods established in s. 324.031; by selfinsuring as authorized by s. 768.28(16); or by maintaining a motor vehicle liability insurance an insurance policy providing coverage for property damage liability in the amount of at least \$10,000 because of damage to, or destruction of, property of others in any one accident arising out of the use of the motor vehicle. The requirements of this section may also be met by having a policy which provides coverage in the amount of at least \$60,000 \$30,000 for combined property damage liability and bodily injury liability for any one accident crash arising out of the use of the motor vehicle and which conforms to the requirements of s. 324.151. The policy, with respect to coverage for property damage liability, must meet the applicable requirements of s. 324.151, subject to the usual policy exclusions that have been approved in policy forms by the Office of Insurance Regulation. No insurer shall have any duty to defend uncovered claims irrespective of their joinder with covered claims.
  - (2) As used in this section, the term:
- (a) "Motor vehicle" means any self-propelled vehicle that has four or more wheels and that is of a type designed and required to be licensed for use on the highways of this state, and any trailer or semitrailer designed for use with such

Page 24 of 92

vehicle. The term does not include:

1. A mobile home.

601

602

603

604

605

606

607

608

609

610

611612

613614

615

616

617

618

619

620

621

622

623

624

625

- 2. A motor vehicle that is used in mass transit and designed to transport more than five passengers, exclusive of the operator of the motor vehicle, and that is owned by a municipality, transit authority, or political subdivision of the state.
  - 3. A school bus as defined in s. 1006.25.
- 4. A vehicle providing for-hire transportation that is subject to the provisions of s. 324.031. A taxicab shall maintain security as required under s. 324.032(1).
  - 5. A personal delivery device as defined in s. 316.003.
- (b) "Owner" means the person who holds legal title to a motor vehicle or the debtor or lessee who has the right to possession of a motor vehicle that is the subject of a security agreement or lease with an option to purchase.
- (3) Each nonresident owner or registrant of a motor vehicle that, whether operated or not, has been physically present within this state for more than 90 days during the preceding 365 days shall maintain security as required by subsection (1) that is in effect continuously throughout the period the motor vehicle remains within this state.
- (4) An The owner or registrant of a motor vehicle  $\underline{\text{who}}$  is exempt from the requirements of this section if she or he is a member of the United States Armed Forces and is called to or on

Page 25 of 92

626

627

628

629

630

631

632

633

634

635636

637

638

639

640

641

642

643

644

645

646

647

648

649650

active duty outside the United States in an emergency situation is exempt from this section while he or she. The exemption provided by this subsection applies only as long as the member of the Armed Forces is on such active duty outside the United States and applies only while the vehicle is not operated by any person. Upon receipt of a written request by the insured to whom the exemption provided in this subsection applies, the insurer shall cancel the coverages and return any unearned premium or suspend the security required by this section. Notwithstanding s. 324.0221(2) s. 324.0221(3), the department may not suspend the registration or operator's license of an any owner or registrant of a motor vehicle during the time she or he qualifies for an exemption under this subsection. An Any owner or registrant of a motor vehicle who qualifies for the an exemption under this subsection shall immediately notify the department before prior to and at the end of the expiration of the exemption.

Section 14. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 324.0221, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection (4) is added to that section, to read:

324.0221 Reports by insurers to the department; suspension of driver license and vehicle registrations; reinstatement.—

(1) (a) Each insurer that has issued a policy providing personal injury protection coverage or property damage liability coverage shall report the cancellation or nonrenewal thereof to

Page 26 of 92

651

652

653

654

655

656

657

658

659

660661

662

663

664

665

666

667

668

669

670

671

672

673674

675

the department within 10 days after the processing date or effective date of each cancellation or nonrenewal. Upon the issuance of a policy providing personal injury protection coverage or property damage liability coverage to a named insured not previously insured by the insurer during that calendar year, the insurer shall report the issuance of the new policy to the department within 10 days. The report must shall be in a the form prescribed by the department and format and contain any information required by the department and must be provided in a format that is compatible with the data processing capabilities of the department. Failure by an insurer to file proper reports with the department as required by this subsection constitutes a violation of the Florida Insurance Code. These records shall be used by the department only for enforcement and regulatory purposes, including the generation by the department of data regarding compliance by owners of motor vehicles with the requirements for financial responsibility coverage.

(b) With respect to an insurance policy providing personal injury protection coverage or property damage liability coverage, each insurer shall notify the named insured, or the first-named insured in the case of a commercial fleet policy, in writing that any cancellation or nonrenewal of the policy will be reported by the insurer to the department. The notice must also inform the named insured that failure to maintain bodily

Page 27 of 92

injury liability personal injury protection coverage and property damage liability coverage on a motor vehicle when required by law may result in the loss of registration and driving privileges in this state and inform the named insured of the amount of the reinstatement fees required by this section. This notice is for informational purposes only, and an insurer is not civilly liable for failing to provide this notice.

- (2) The department shall suspend, after due notice and an opportunity to be heard, the registration and driver license of any owner or registrant of a motor vehicle with respect to which security is required under <u>s. 324.022</u>, <u>s. 324.023</u>, <u>s. 324.032</u>, s. 627.7415, or s. 627.742 <u>ss. 324.022</u> and 627.733 upon:
- (a) The department's records showing that the owner or registrant of such motor vehicle did not have the in full force and effect when required security in full force and effect that complies with the requirements of ss. 324.022 and 627.733; or
- (b) Notification by the insurer to the department, in a form approved by the department, of cancellation or termination of the required security.
- (4) All suspensions of license or registration under this section for failure to maintain required security that occurred before January 1, 2020, remain in full force and effect on the effective date of this act.
- Section 15. Subsection (1) of section 324.032, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

Page 28 of 92

324.032 Manner of proving financial responsibility; forhire passenger transportation vehicles.—Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 324.031:

- (1) (a) A person who is either the owner or a lessee of a motor vehicle used as a taxicab required to maintain insurance under s. 627.733(1)(b) and who operates one or more taxicabs, limousines, jitneys, or any other for-hire passenger transportation vehicles may prove financial responsibility by furnishing satisfactory evidence of holding a motor vehicle liability policy, but with minimum limits of \$125,000/250,000/50,000.
- (b) A person who is either the owner or a lessee required to maintain insurance under s. 324.021(9)(b) and who operates limousines, jitneys, or any other for-hire passenger vehicles, other than taxicabs, may prove financial responsibility by furnishing satisfactory evidence of holding a motor vehicle liability policy as defined in s. 324.031.

Upon request by the department, the applicant must provide the department at the applicant's principal place of business in this state access to the applicant's underlying financial information and financial statements that provide the basis of the certified public accountant's certification. The applicant shall reimburse the requesting department for all reasonable costs incurred by it in reviewing the supporting information.

Page 29 of 92

The maximum amount of self-insurance permissible under this subsection is \$300,000 and must be stated on a per-occurrence basis, and the applicant shall maintain adequate excess insurance issued by an authorized or eligible insurer licensed or approved by the Office of Insurance Regulation. All risks self-insured shall remain with the owner or lessee providing it, and the risks are not transferable to any other person, unless a policy complying with subsection (1) is obtained.

Section 16. Subsection (2) of section 324.051, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

324.051 Reports of <u>accidents</u> <del>crashes</del>; suspensions of licenses and registrations.—

- (2) (a) Thirty days after receipt of notice of any accident described in paragraph (1) (a) involving a motor vehicle within this state, the department shall suspend, after due notice and opportunity to be heard, the license of each operator and all registrations of the owner of the vehicles operated by such operator whether or not involved in such accident erash and, in the case of a nonresident owner or operator, shall suspend such nonresident's operating privilege in this state, unless such operator or owner shall, prior to the expiration of such 30 days, be found by the department to be exempt from the operation of this chapter, based upon evidence satisfactory to the department that:
  - 1. The motor vehicle was legally parked at the time of

Page 30 of 92

751 such accident <del>crash</del>.

- 2. The motor vehicle was owned by the United States Government, this state, or any political subdivision of this state or any municipality therein.
- 3. Such operator or owner has secured a duly acknowledged written agreement providing for release from liability by all parties injured as the result of the accident said crash and has complied with one of the provisions of s. 324.031.
- 4. Such operator or owner has deposited with the department security to conform with s. 324.061 when applicable and has complied with one of the provisions of s. 324.031.
- 5. One year has elapsed since such owner or operator was suspended pursuant to subsection (3), the owner or operator has complied with one of the provisions of s. 324.031, and no bill of complaint of which the department has notice has been filed in a court of competent jurisdiction.
  - (b) This subsection shall not apply:
- 1. To such operator or owner if such operator or owner had in effect at the time of such <u>accident</u> <u>crash</u> or traffic conviction <u>a motor vehicle</u> <del>an automobile</del> liability policy with respect to all of the registered motor vehicles owned by such operator or owner.
- 2. To such operator, if not the owner of such motor vehicle, if there was in effect at the time of such accident erash or traffic conviction a motor vehicle an automobile

Page 31 of 92

liability policy or bond with respect to his or her operation of motor vehicles not owned by him or her.

- 3. To such operator or owner if the liability of such operator or owner for damages resulting from such accident erash is, in the judgment of the department, covered by any other form of liability insurance or bond.
- 4. To  $\underline{a}$  any person who has obtained from the department a certificate of self-insurance, in accordance with s. 324.171, or to a any person operating a motor vehicle for such self-insurer.

No such policy or bond shall be effective under this subsection unless it contains limits of not less than those specified in s. 324.021(7).

Section 17. Subsection (1) of section 324.091, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

324.091 Notice to department; notice to insurer.-

(1) Each owner and operator involved in <u>an accident acrash</u> or conviction case within the purview of this chapter shall furnish evidence of <u>automobile liability insurance or</u> motor vehicle liability insurance within 14 days after the date of the mailing of notice of <u>the accident erash</u> by the department in the form and manner as it may designate. Upon receipt of evidence that <u>a an automobile liability policy or</u> motor vehicle liability policy was in effect at the time of the <u>accident erash</u> or conviction case, the department shall forward to the insurer

Page 32 of 92

such information for verification in a method as determined by the department. The insurer shall respond to the department within 20 days after the notice whether or not such information is valid. If the department determines that <u>a</u> an automobile liability policy or motor vehicle liability policy was not in effect and did not provide coverage for both the owner and the operator, it shall take action as it is authorized to do under this chapter.

Section 18. Section 324.151, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 324.151 Motor vehicle liability policies; required provisions.—
  - (1) As used in this section, the term:

- (a) "Newly acquired vehicle" means a vehicle owned by a named insured or resident relative of the named insured which was acquired 30 days or less before an accident.
- (b) "Resident relative" means a person related to a named insured by any degree by blood, marriage, or adoption, including a ward or foster child, who usually makes her or his home in the same family unit as the named insured, whether or not he or she is temporarily living elsewhere.
- (c) "Temporary substitute vehicle" means a motor vehicle as defined in s. 320.01(1) that is not owned by the named insured which is temporarily used with the permission of the owner as a substitute for a motor vehicle designated on the

Page 33 of 92

policy when the vehicle designated on the policy is withdrawn from normal use because of breakdown, repair, servicing, loss, or destruction.

826

827

828

829

830

831

832

833

834

835836

837

838

839

840

841

842

843

844

845

846

847

848

849

850

- (2)(1) A motor vehicle liability policy <u>as</u> to be proof of financial responsibility under s. 324.031(1), shall be issued to owners or operators <u>of motor vehicles</u> under the following provisions:
- A motor vehicle liability insurance policy issued to (a) an owner of a motor vehicle registered in this state must An owner's liability insurance policy shall designate by explicit description or by appropriate reference all motor vehicles with respect to which coverage is thereby granted. The policy must and shall insure the person or persons owner named therein and any resident relative of a named insured other person as operator using such motor vehicle or motor vehicles with the express or implied permission of such owner against loss from the liability imposed by law for damage arising out of the ownership, maintenance, or use of any such motor vehicle, except as otherwise provided in this section. The policy shall also insure any person operating an insured motor vehicle with the express or implied permission of the named insured against loss from liability imposed by law for damage arising out of the use of such vehicle. However, the insurer may exclude in its policy liability coverage for a motor vehicle not designated as an insured vehicle on the policy if such motor vehicle does not

qualify as a newly acquired vehicle or a temporary substitute vehicle and was owned by an insured or was furnished for an insured's regular use for more than 30 consecutive days before an accident or motor vehicles within the United States or the Dominion of Canada, subject to limits, exclusive of interest and costs with respect to each such motor vehicle as is provided for under s. 324.021(7). Insurers may make available, with respect to property damage liability coverage, a deductible amount not to exceed \$500. In the event of a property damage loss covered by a policy containing a property damage deductible provision, the insurer shall pay to the third-party claimant the amount of any property damage liability settlement or judgment, subject to policy limits, as if no deductible existed.

(b) A motor vehicle liability insurance policy issued to a person who does not own a motor vehicle registered in this state and is not already insured under a policy described in paragraph (a) must An operator's motor vehicle liability policy of insurance shall insure the person or persons named in the policy therein against loss from the liability imposed upon him or her by law for damages arising out of the use by the person of any motor vehicle not owned by him or her, unless the vehicle was furnished for the named insured's regular use and used by the named insured for more than 30 consecutive days before an accident with the same territorial limits and subject to the same limits of liability as referred to above with respect to an

owner's policy of liability insurance.

876

877

878

879

880

881

882

883

884

885 886

887

888

889

890

891

892

893

894

895

896

897

898

899900

- All such motor vehicle liability policies shall state the name and address of the named insured, the coverage afforded by the policy, the premium charged therefor, the policy period, the limits of liability, and shall contain an agreement or be endorsed that insurance is provided in accordance with the coverage defined in this chapter as respects bodily injury and death or property damage or both and is subject to all provisions of this chapter. The  $\frac{\text{Said}}{\text{policies}}$  policies  $\frac{\text{must}}{\text{shall}}$  also contain a provision that the satisfaction by an insured of a judgment for such injury or damage shall not be a condition precedent to the right or duty of the insurer insurance carrier to make payment on account of such injury or damage, and shall also contain a provision that bankruptcy or insolvency of the insured or of the insured's estate shall not relieve the insurer insurance carrier of any of its obligations under the said policy. However, the policies may contain provisions excluding liability coverage for a vehicle used outside of the United States or Canada at the time of an accident.
- (3)(2) The provisions of this section shall not be applicable to any automobile liability policy unless and until it is furnished as proof of financial responsibility for the future pursuant to s. 324.031, and then only from and after the date said policy is so furnished.
  - Section 19. Section 324.161, Florida Statutes, is amended

Page 36 of 92

to read:

Annually, before any certificate of insurance may be issued to a person, including any firm, partnership, association, corporation, or other person, other than a natural person, proof of a certificate of deposit of \$60,000 \$30,000 issued and held by a financial institution must be submitted to the department. A power of attorney will be issued to and held by the department and may be executed upon a judgment issued against such person making the deposit, for damages for because of bodily injury to or death of any person or for damages for because of injury to or destruction of property resulting from the use or operation of any motor vehicle occurring after such deposit was made.

Money so deposited is shall not be subject to attachment or execution unless such attachment or execution shall arise out of a suit for such damages as aforesaid.

Section 20. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 324.171, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

324.171 Self-insurer.-

(1) A Any person may qualify as a self-insurer by obtaining a certificate of self-insurance from the department.

which may, in its discretion and Upon application of such a person, the department may issue a said certificate of self-insurance if the applicant when such person has satisfied the requirements of this section to qualify as a self-insurer under

Page 37 of 92

## 926 this section:

- (a) A private individual with private passenger vehicles  $\frac{\text{must}}{\text{shall}}$  possess a net unencumbered worth of at least  $\frac{$60,000}{$40,000}$ .
- (b) A person, including any firm, partnership, association, corporation, or other person, other than a natural person, must shall:
- 1. Possess a net unencumbered worth of at least  $\frac{$60,000}{}$   $\frac{$40,000}{}$  for the first motor vehicle and  $\frac{$30,000}{}$   $\frac{$20,000}{}$  for each additional motor vehicle; or
- by the department to be financially responsible for potential losses. The department must annually determine the minimum net worth sufficient to satisfy this section as determined annually by the department, pursuant to rules adopted promulgated by the department, with the assistance of the Office of Insurance Regulation of the Financial Services Commission, to be financially responsible for potential losses. The rules must consider any shall take into consideration excess insurance carried by the applicant. The department's determination shall be based upon reasonable actuarial principles considering the frequency, severity, and loss development of claims incurred by casualty insurers writing coverage on the type of motor vehicles for which a certificate of self-insurance is desired.
  - (c) The owner of a commercial motor vehicle, as defined in

Page 38 of 92

951 s. 207.002 or s. 320.01, may qualify as a self-insurer subject 952 to the standards provided <del>for</del> in subparagraph (b)2.

- (2) The self-insurance certificate shall provide limits of liability insurance in the amounts specified under s. 324.021(7) or s. 627.7415 and shall provide personal injury protection coverage under s. 627.733(3)(b).
- Section 21. Section 324.251, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 324.251 Short title.—This chapter may be cited as the "Motor Vehicle Financial Responsibility Law of 1955" and shall become effective at 12:01 a.m., October 1, 1955.
- Section 22. Subsection (4) of section 400.9905, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
  - 400.9905 Definitions.

- (4) "Clinic" means an entity where health care services are provided to individuals and which tenders charges for reimbursement for such services, including a mobile clinic and a portable equipment provider. As used in this part, the term does not include and the licensure requirements of this part do not apply to:
- (a) Entities licensed or registered by the state under chapter 395; entities licensed or registered by the state and providing only health care services within the scope of services authorized under their respective licenses under ss. 383.30-383.332, chapter 390, chapter 394, chapter 397, this chapter

Page 39 of 92

except part X, chapter 429, chapter 463, chapter 465, chapter 466, chapter 478, chapter 484, or chapter 651; end-stage renal disease providers authorized under 42 C.F.R. part 405, subpart U; providers certified under 42 C.F.R. part 485, subpart B or subpart H; or any entity that provides neonatal or pediatric hospital-based health care services or other health care services by licensed practitioners solely within a hospital licensed under chapter 395.

- (b) Entities that own, directly or indirectly, entities licensed or registered by the state pursuant to chapter 395; entities that own, directly or indirectly, entities licensed or registered by the state and providing only health care services within the scope of services authorized pursuant to their respective licenses under ss. 383.30-383.332, chapter 390, chapter 394, chapter 397, this chapter except part X, chapter 429, chapter 463, chapter 465, chapter 466, chapter 478, chapter 484, or chapter 651; end-stage renal disease providers authorized under 42 C.F.R. part 405, subpart U; providers certified under 42 C.F.R. part 485, subpart B or subpart H; or any entity that provides neonatal or pediatric hospital-based health care services by licensed practitioners solely within a hospital licensed under chapter 395.
- (c) Entities that are owned, directly or indirectly, by an entity licensed or registered by the state pursuant to chapter 395; entities that are owned, directly or indirectly, by an

Page 40 of 92

entity licensed or registered by the state and providing only health care services within the scope of services authorized pursuant to their respective licenses under ss. 383.30-383.332, chapter 390, chapter 394, chapter 397, this chapter except part X, chapter 429, chapter 463, chapter 465, chapter 466, chapter 478, chapter 484, or chapter 651; end-stage renal disease providers authorized under 42 C.F.R. part 405, subpart U; providers certified under 42 C.F.R. part 485, subpart B or subpart H; or any entity that provides neonatal or pediatric hospital-based health care services by licensed practitioners solely within a hospital under chapter 395.

(d) Entities that are under common ownership, directly or indirectly, with an entity licensed or registered by the state pursuant to chapter 395; entities that are under common ownership, directly or indirectly, with an entity licensed or registered by the state and providing only health care services within the scope of services authorized pursuant to their respective licenses under ss. 383.30-383.332, chapter 390, chapter 394, chapter 397, this chapter except part X, chapter 429, chapter 463, chapter 465, chapter 466, chapter 478, chapter 484, or chapter 651; end-stage renal disease providers authorized under 42 C.F.R. part 405, subpart U; providers certified under 42 C.F.R. part 485, subpart B or subpart H; or any entity that provides neonatal or pediatric hospital-based health care services by licensed practitioners solely within a

Page 41 of 92

1026 hospital licensed under chapter 395.

- (e) An entity that is exempt from federal taxation under 26 U.S.C. s. 501(c)(3) or (4), an employee stock ownership plan under 26 U.S.C. s. 409 that has a board of trustees at least two-thirds of which are Florida-licensed health care practitioners and provides only physical therapy services under physician orders, any community college or university clinic, and any entity owned or operated by the federal or state government, including agencies, subdivisions, or municipalities thereof.
- (f) A sole proprietorship, group practice, partnership, or corporation that provides health care services by physicians covered by s. 627.419, that is directly supervised by one or more of such physicians, and that is wholly owned by one or more of those physicians or by a physician and the spouse, parent, child, or sibling of that physician.
- (g) A sole proprietorship, group practice, partnership, or corporation that provides health care services by licensed health care practitioners under chapter 457, chapter 458, chapter 459, chapter 460, chapter 461, chapter 462, chapter 463, chapter 466, chapter 467, chapter 480, chapter 484, chapter 486, chapter 490, chapter 491, or part I, part III, part X, part XIII, or part XIV of chapter 468, or s. 464.012, and that is wholly owned by one or more licensed health care practitioners, or the licensed health care practitioners set forth in this

Page 42 of 92

paragraph and the spouse, parent, child, or sibling of a licensed health care practitioner if one of the owners who is a licensed health care practitioner is supervising the business activities and is legally responsible for the entity's compliance with all federal and state laws. However, a health care practitioner may not supervise services beyond the scope of the practitioner's license, except that, for the purposes of this part, a clinic owned by a licensee in s. 456.053(3)(b) which provides only services authorized pursuant to s. 456.053(3)(b) may be supervised by a licensee specified in s. 456.053(3)(b).

- (h) Clinical facilities affiliated with an accredited medical school at which training is provided for medical students, residents, or fellows.
- (i) Entities that provide only oncology or radiation therapy services by physicians licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459 or entities that provide oncology or radiation therapy services by physicians licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459 which are owned by a corporation whose shares are publicly traded on a recognized stock exchange.
- (j) Clinical facilities affiliated with a college of chiropractic accredited by the Council on Chiropractic Education at which training is provided for chiropractic students.
- (k) Entities that provide licensed practitioners to staff emergency departments or to deliver anesthesia services in

Page 43 of 92

facilities licensed under chapter 395 and that derive at least 90 percent of their gross annual revenues from the provision of such services. Entities claiming an exemption from licensure under this paragraph must provide documentation demonstrating compliance.

- (1) Orthotic, prosthetic, pediatric cardiology, or perinatology clinical facilities or anesthesia clinical facilities that are not otherwise exempt under paragraph (a) or paragraph (k) and that are a publicly traded corporation or are wholly owned, directly or indirectly, by a publicly traded corporation. As used in this paragraph, a publicly traded corporation is a corporation that issues securities traded on an exchange registered with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission as a national securities exchange.
- (m) Entities that are owned by a corporation that has \$250 million or more in total annual sales of health care services provided by licensed health care practitioners where one or more of the persons responsible for the operations of the entity is a health care practitioner who is licensed in this state and who is responsible for supervising the business activities of the entity and is responsible for the entity's compliance with state law for purposes of this part.
- (n) Entities that employ 50 or more licensed health care practitioners licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459 where the billing for medical services is under a single tax

Page 44 of 92

1101

1102

1103

1104

1105

1106

1107

1108

1109

1110

1111

1112

1113

1114

1115

1116

1117

1118

1119

1120

1121

1122

1123

1124

1125

identification number. The application for exemption under this subsection must include shall contain information that includes: the name, residence, and business address and telephone phone number of the entity that owns the practice; a complete list of the names and contact information of all the officers and directors of the corporation; the name, residence address, business address, and medical license number of each licensed Florida health care practitioner employed by the entity; the corporate tax identification number of the entity seeking an exemption; a listing of health care services to be provided by the entity at the health care clinics owned or operated by the entity and a certified statement prepared by an independent certified public accountant which states that the entity and the health care clinics owned or operated by the entity have not received payment for health care services under motor vehicle personal injury protection insurance coverage for the preceding year. If the agency determines that an entity which is exempt under this subsection has received payments for medical services under motor vehicle personal injury protection insurance coverage, the agency may deny or revoke the exemption from licensure under this subsection. Notwithstanding this subsection, an entity shall be deemed a clinic and must be licensed under this part in order to receive

Page 45 of 92

reimbursement under the Florida Motor Vehicle No-Fault

1126 627.730-627.7405, unless exempted under s. 627.736(5)(h). Section 23. Subsection (6) of section 400.991, Florida 1127 1128 Statutes, is amended to read: 1129 400.991 License requirements; background screenings; 1130 prohibitions.-1131 (6) All agency forms for licensure application or 1132 exemption from licensure under this part must contain the 1133 following statement: 1134 1135 INSURANCE FRAUD NOTICE.—A person commits a fraudulent insurance 1136 act under s. 626.989 or s. 817.234, Florida Statutes, if such 1137 person who knowingly submits a false, misleading, or fraudulent 1138 application or other document when applying for licensure as a 1139 health care clinic, seeking an exemption from licensure as a 1140 health care clinic, or demonstrating compliance with part X of chapter 400, Florida Statutes, with the intent to use the 1141 license, exemption from licensure, or demonstration of 1142 1143 compliance to provide services or seek reimbursement under a 1144 motor vehicle insurance the Florida Motor Vehicle No-Fault Law, 1145 commits a fraudulent insurance act, as defined in s. 1146 Florida Statutes. A person who presents a claim under a motor 1147 vehicle insurance for personal injury protection benefits knowing that the payee knowingly submitted such health care 1148 clinic application or document, commits insurance fraud, as 1149 1150 defined in s. 817.234, Florida Statutes.

Page 46 of 92

Section 24. Paragraph (g) of subsection (1) of section 400.9935, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

400.9935 Clinic responsibilities.-

1151

1152

1153

1154

1155

1156

1157

1158

1159

1160

1161

1162

1163

1164

1165

1166

1167

1168

1169

1170

1171

1172

1173

11741175

- (1) Each clinic shall appoint a medical director or clinic director who shall agree in writing to accept legal responsibility for the following activities on behalf of the clinic. The medical director or the clinic director shall:
- Conduct systematic reviews of clinic billings to ensure that the billings are not fraudulent or unlawful. Upon discovery of an unlawful charge, the medical director or clinic director shall take immediate corrective action. If the clinic performs only the technical component of magnetic resonance imaging, static radiographs, computed tomography, or positron emission tomography, and provides the professional interpretation of such services, in a fixed facility that is accredited by a national accrediting organization that is approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for magnetic resonance imaging and advanced diagnostic imaging services and if, in the preceding quarter, the percentage of scans performed by that clinic which was billed to motor vehicle all personal injury protection insurance carriers was less than 15 percent, the chief financial officer of the clinic may, in a written acknowledgment provided to the agency, assume the responsibility for the conduct of the systematic reviews of clinic billings to ensure that the billings are not fraudulent

Page 47 of 92

1176 or unlawful.

Section 25. Subsections (27) and (28) of section 409.901, 1178 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

409.901 Definitions; ss. 409.901-409.920.—As used in ss. 409.901-409.920, except as otherwise specifically provided, the term:

- (27) "Third party" means an individual, entity, or program, excluding Medicaid, that is, may be, could be, should be, or has been liable for all or part of the cost of medical services related to any medical assistance covered by Medicaid. A third party includes a third-party administrator; a pharmacy benefits manager; a health insurer; a self-insured plan; a group health plan, as defined in s. 607(1) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974; a service benefit plan; a managed care organization; liability insurance, including self-insurance; no-fault insurance; workers' compensation laws or plans; or other parties that are, by statute, contract, or agreement, legally responsible for payment of a claim for a health care item or service.
- (28) "Third-party benefit" means any benefit that is or may be available at any time through contract, court award, judgment, settlement, agreement, or any arrangement between a third party and any person or entity, including, without limitation, a Medicaid recipient, a provider, another third party, an insurer, or the agency, for any Medicaid-covered

Page 48 of 92

injury, illness, goods, or services, including costs of medical services related thereto, for <a href="bodily personal">bodily personal</a> injury or for death of the recipient, but specifically excluding <a href="policies of">policies of</a> life insurance on the recipient, unless available under terms of the policy to pay medical expenses prior to death. The term includes, without limitation, collateral, as defined in this section, health insurance, any benefit under a health maintenance organization, a preferred provider arrangement, a prepaid health clinic, liability insurance, uninsured motorist insurance or <a href="motor vehicle insurance personal injury protection coverage">motor vehicle insurance personal injury protection coverage</a>, medical benefits under workers' compensation, and any obligation under law or equity to provide medical support.

Section 26. Paragraph (f) of subsection (11) of section 409.910, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 409.910 Responsibility for payments on behalf of Medicaideligible persons when other parties are liable.—
- (11) The agency may, as a matter of right, in order to enforce its rights under this section, institute, intervene in, or join any legal or administrative proceeding in its own name in one or more of the following capacities: individually, as subrogee of the recipient, as assignee of the recipient, or as lienholder of the collateral.
- (f) Notwithstanding any provision in this section to the contrary, in the event of an action in tort against a third party in which the recipient or his or her legal representative

Page 49 of 92

is a party which results in a judgment, award, or settlement from a third party, the amount recovered shall be distributed as follows:

- 1. After attorney's fees and taxable costs as defined by the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, one-half of the remaining recovery shall be paid to the agency up to the total amount of medical assistance provided by Medicaid.
- 2. The remaining amount of the recovery shall be paid to the recipient.
- 3. For purposes of calculating the agency's recovery of medical assistance benefits paid, the fee for services of an attorney retained by the recipient or his or her legal representative shall be calculated at 25 percent of the judgment, award, or settlement.
- 4. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section to the contrary, the agency shall be entitled to all medical coverage benefits up to the total amount of medical assistance provided by Medicaid. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "medical coverage" means any benefits under health insurance, a health maintenance organization, a preferred provider arrangement, or a prepaid health clinic, and the portion of benefits designated for medical payments under coverage for workers' compensation insurance policy or a motor vehicle liability insurance policy, personal injury protection, and casualty.

1251	Section 27. Paragraph (k) of subsection (2) of section
1252	456.057, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
1253	456.057 Ownership and control of patient records; report
1254	or copies of records to be furnished; disclosure of
1255	information.—
1256	(2) As used in this section, the terms "records owner,"
1257	"health care practitioner," and "health care practitioner's
1258	employer" do not include any of the following persons or
1259	entities; furthermore, the following persons or entities are not
1260	authorized to acquire or own medical records, but are authorized
1261	under the confidentiality and disclosure requirements of this
1262	section to maintain those documents required by the part or
1263	chapter under which they are licensed or regulated:
1264	(k) Persons or entities practicing under s. 627.736(7).
1265	Section 28. Paragraphs (ee) and (ff) of subsection (1) of
1266	section 456.072, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
1267	456.072 Grounds for discipline; penalties; enforcement
1268	(1) The following acts shall constitute grounds for which
1269	the disciplinary actions specified in subsection (2) may be
1270	taken:
1271	(ee) With respect to making a personal injury protection
1272	claim as required by s. 627.736, intentionally submitting a
1273	claim, statement, or bill that has been "upcoded" as defined in
1274	<del>s. 627.732.</del>
1275	(ff) With respect to making a personal injury protection

Page 51 of 92

claim as required by s. 627.736, intentionally submitting a
claim, statement, or bill for payment of services that were not
rendered.

Section 29. Subsection (4) of section 456.44, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

456.44 Controlled substance prescribing.-

- (4) STANDARDS OF PRACTICE FOR TREATMENT OF ACUTE PAIN.—The applicable boards shall adopt rules establishing guidelines for prescribing controlled substances for acute pain, including evaluation of the patient, creation and maintenance of a treatment plan, obtaining informed consent and agreement for treatment, periodic review of the treatment plan, consultation, medical record review, and compliance with controlled substance laws and regulations. Failure of a prescriber to follow such guidelines constitutes grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to  $\underline{s.456.072(1)(ee)}$   $\underline{s.456.072(1)(gg)}$ , punishable as provided in  $\underline{s.456.072(2)}$ .
- Section 30. Paragraphs (i) and (o) of subsection (1) of section 626.9541, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
- 626.9541 Unfair methods of competition and unfair or deceptive acts or practices defined.—
- (1) UNFAIR METHODS OF COMPETITION AND UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACTS.—The following are defined as unfair methods of competition and unfair or deceptive acts or practices:
  - (i) Unfair claim settlement practices.-

Page 52 of 92

1. Attempting to settle claims on the basis of an application, when serving as a binder or intended to become a part of the policy, or any other material document which was altered without notice to, or knowledge or consent of, the insured;

1301

1302

1303

1304

1305

1306

1307

1308

1309

1310

1311

1312

13131314

1315

1316

1317

1318

1319

1320

1321

1322

1323

13241325

- 2. A material misrepresentation made to an insured or any other person having an interest in the proceeds payable under such contract or policy, for the purpose and with the intent of effecting settlement of such claims, loss, or damage under such contract or policy on less favorable terms than those provided in, and contemplated by, such contract or policy; or
- 3. Committing or performing with such frequency as to indicate a general business practice any of the following:
- a. Failing to adopt and implement standards for the proper investigation of claims;
- b. Misrepresenting pertinent facts or insurance policy provisions relating to coverages at issue;
- c. Failing to acknowledge and act promptly upon communications with respect to claims;
- d. Denying claims without conducting reasonable investigations based upon available information;
- e. Failing to affirm or deny full or partial coverage of claims, and, as to partial coverage, the dollar amount or extent of coverage, or failing to provide a written statement that the claim is being investigated, upon the written request of the

Page 53 of 92

insured within 30 days after proof-of-loss statements have been completed;

- f. Failing to promptly provide a reasonable explanation in writing to the insured of the basis in the insurance policy, in relation to the facts or applicable law, for denial of a claim or for the offer of a compromise settlement;
- g. Failing to promptly notify the insured of any additional information necessary for the processing of a claim; or
- h. Failing to clearly explain the nature of the requested information and the reasons why such information is necessary.
- i. Failing to pay personal injury protection insurance claims within the time periods required by s. 627.736(4)(b). The office may order the insurer to pay restitution to a policyholder, medical provider, or other claimant, including interest at a rate consistent with the amount set forth in s. 55.03(1), for the time period within which an insurer fails to pay claims as required by law. Restitution is in addition to any other penalties allowed by law, including, but not limited to, the suspension of the insurer's certificate of authority.
- 4. Failing to pay undisputed amounts of partial or full benefits owed under first-party property insurance policies within 90 days after an insurer receives notice of a residential property insurance claim, determines the amounts of partial or full benefits, and agrees to coverage, unless payment of the

Page 54 of 92

undisputed benefits is prevented by an act of God, prevented by the impossibility of performance, or due to actions by the insured or claimant that constitute fraud, lack of cooperation, or intentional misrepresentation regarding the claim for which benefits are owed.

(o) Illegal dealings in premiums; excess or reduced charges for insurance.—

- 1. Knowingly collecting any sum as a premium or charge for insurance, which is not then provided, or is not in due course to be provided, subject to acceptance of the risk by the insurer, by an insurance policy issued by an insurer as permitted by this code.
- 2. Knowingly collecting as a premium or charge for insurance any sum in excess of or less than the premium or charge applicable to such insurance, in accordance with the applicable classifications and rates as filed with and approved by the office, and as specified in the policy; or, in cases when classifications, premiums, or rates are not required by this code to be so filed and approved, premiums and charges collected from a Florida resident in excess of or less than those specified in the policy and as fixed by the insurer.

  Notwithstanding any other provision of law, this provision shall not be deemed to prohibit the charging and collection, by surplus lines agents licensed under part VIII of this chapter, of the amount of applicable state and federal taxes, or fees as

authorized by s. 626.916(4), in addition to the premium required by the insurer or the charging and collection, by licensed agents, of the exact amount of any discount or other such fee charged by a credit card facility in connection with the use of a credit card, as authorized by subparagraph (q)3., in addition to the premium required by the insurer. This subparagraph shall not be construed to prohibit collection of a premium for a universal life or a variable or indeterminate value insurance policy made in accordance with the terms of the contract.

- 3.a. Imposing or requesting an additional premium for a policy of motor vehicle liability, personal injury protection, medical payment, or collision coverage in a motor vehicle liability insurance policy insurance or any combination thereof or refusing to renew the policy solely because the insured was involved in a motor vehicle accident unless the insurer's file contains information from which the insurer in good faith determines that the insured was substantially at fault in the accident.
- b. An insurer which imposes and collects such a surcharge or which refuses to renew such policy shall, in conjunction with the notice of premium due or notice of nonrenewal, notify the named insured that he or she is entitled to reimbursement of such amount or renewal of the policy under the conditions listed below and will subsequently reimburse him or her or renew the policy, if the named insured demonstrates that the operator

1401 involved in the accident was:

1402

1403

1404

1405

1406

1407

1408

1409

1410

1411

1412

1413

1414

1415

1416

1417

1418

1419

1420

1421

1422

1423

14241425

- (I) Lawfully parked;
- (II) Reimbursed by, or on behalf of, a person responsible for the accident or has a judgment against such person;
- (III) Struck in the rear by another vehicle headed in the same direction and was not convicted of a moving traffic violation in connection with the accident:
- (IV) Hit by a "hit-and-run" driver, if the accident was reported to the proper authorities within 24 hours after discovering the accident;
- (V) Not convicted of a moving traffic violation in connection with the accident, but the operator of the other automobile involved in such accident was convicted of a moving traffic violation;
- (VI) Finally adjudicated not to be liable by a court of competent jurisdiction;
- (VII) In receipt of a traffic citation which was dismissed or nolle prossed; or
- (VIII) Not at fault as evidenced by a written statement from the insured establishing facts demonstrating lack of fault which are not rebutted by information in the insurer's file from which the insurer in good faith determines that the insured was substantially at fault.
- c. In addition to the other provisions of this subparagraph, an insurer may not fail to renew a policy if the

Page 57 of 92

insured has had only one accident in which he or she was at fault within the current 3-year period. However, an insurer may nonrenew a policy for reasons other than accidents in accordance with s. 627.728. This subparagraph does not prohibit nonrenewal of a policy under which the insured has had three or more accidents, regardless of fault, during the most recent 3-year period.

- 4. Imposing or requesting an additional premium for, or refusing to renew, a policy for motor vehicle insurance solely because the insured committed a noncriminal traffic infraction as described in s. 318.14 unless the infraction is:
- a. A second infraction committed within an 18-month period, or a third or subsequent infraction committed within a 36-month period.
- b. A violation of s. 316.183, when such violation is a result of exceeding the lawful speed limit by more than 15 miles per hour.
- 5. Upon the request of the insured, the insurer and licensed agent shall supply to the insured the complete proof of fault or other criteria which justifies the additional charge or cancellation.
- 6. No insurer shall impose or request an additional premium for motor vehicle insurance, cancel or refuse to issue a policy, or refuse to renew a policy because the insured or the applicant is a handicapped or physically disabled person, so

Page 58 of 92

long as such handicap or physical disability does not substantially impair such person's mechanically assisted driving ability.

- 7. No insurer may cancel or otherwise terminate any insurance contract or coverage, or require execution of a consent to rate endorsement, during the stated policy term for the purpose of offering to issue, or issuing, a similar or identical contract or coverage to the same insured with the same exposure at a higher premium rate or continuing an existing contract or coverage with the same exposure at an increased premium.
- 8. No insurer may issue a nonrenewal notice on any insurance contract or coverage, or require execution of a consent to rate endorsement, for the purpose of offering to issue, or issuing, a similar or identical contract or coverage to the same insured at a higher premium rate or continuing an existing contract or coverage at an increased premium without meeting any applicable notice requirements.
- 9. No insurer shall, with respect to premiums charged for motor vehicle insurance, unfairly discriminate solely on the basis of age, sex, marital status, or scholastic achievement.
- 10. Imposing or requesting an additional premium for motor vehicle comprehensive or uninsured motorist coverage solely because the insured was involved in a motor vehicle accident or was convicted of a moving traffic violation.

Page 59 of 92

11. No insurer shall cancel or issue a nonrenewal notice on any insurance policy or contract without complying with any applicable cancellation or nonrenewal provision required under the Florida Insurance Code.

12. No insurer shall impose or request an additional premium, cancel a policy, or issue a nonrenewal notice on any insurance policy or contract because of any traffic infraction when adjudication has been withheld and no points have been assessed pursuant to s. 318.14(9) and (10). However, this subparagraph does not apply to traffic infractions involving accidents in which the insurer has incurred a loss due to the fault of the insured.

Section 31. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 626.989, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

626.989 Investigation by department or Division of Investigative and Forensic Services; compliance; immunity; confidential information; reports to division; division investigator's power of arrest.—

- (1) For the purposes of this section:
- (a) A person commits a "fraudulent insurance act" if the person:
- 1. Knowingly and with intent to defraud presents, causes to be presented, or prepares with knowledge or belief that it will be presented, to or by an insurer, self-insurer, self-insurance fund, servicing corporation, purported insurer,

Page 60 of 92

broker, or any agent thereof, any written statement as part of, or in support of, an application for the issuance of, or the rating of, any insurance policy, or a claim for payment or other benefit pursuant to any insurance policy, which the person knows to contain materially false information concerning any fact material thereto or if the person conceals, for the purpose of misleading another, information concerning any fact material thereto.

2. Knowingly submits:

- a. A false, misleading, or fraudulent application or other document when applying for licensure as a health care clinic, seeking an exemption from licensure as a health care clinic, or demonstrating compliance with part X of chapter 400 with an intent to use the license, exemption from licensure, or demonstration of compliance to provide services or seek reimbursement under a motor vehicle insurance policy the Florida Motor Vehicle No-Fault Law.
- b. A claim for payment or other benefit pursuant to a motor vehicle personal injury protection insurance policy under the Florida Motor Vehicle No-Fault Law if the person knows that the payee knowingly submitted a false, misleading, or fraudulent application or other document when applying for licensure as a health care clinic, seeking an exemption from licensure as a health care clinic, or demonstrating compliance with part X of chapter 400.

Page 61 of 92

Section 32. Subsection (1) of section 627.06501, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

627.06501 Insurance discounts for certain persons completing driver improvement course.—

- (1) Any rate, rating schedule, or rating manual for the liability, personal injury protection, and collision coverages of a motor vehicle insurance policy filed with the office may provide for an appropriate reduction in premium charges as to such coverages if when the principal operator on the covered vehicle has successfully completed a driver improvement course approved and certified by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles which is effective in reducing accident erash or violation rates, or both, as determined pursuant to s. 318.1451 s. 318.1451(5). Any discount, not to exceed 10 percent, used by an insurer is presumed to be appropriate unless credible data demonstrates otherwise.
- Section 33. Subsection (1) of section 627.0652, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 627.0652 Insurance discounts for certain persons completing safety course.—
- (1) Any rates, rating schedules, or rating manuals for the liability, personal injury protection, and collision coverages of a motor vehicle insurance policy filed with the office <u>must shall</u> provide for an appropriate reduction in premium charges as to such coverages <u>if when</u> the principal operator on the covered

Page 62 of 92

vehicle is an insured 55 years of age or older who has successfully completed a motor vehicle accident prevention course approved by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. Any discount used by an insurer is presumed to be appropriate unless credible data demonstrates otherwise.

Section 34. Subsections (1), (3), and (6) of section 627.0653, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

627.0653 Insurance discounts for specified motor vehicle equipment.—

- (1) Any rates, rating schedules, or rating manuals for the liability, personal injury protection, and collision coverages of a motor vehicle insurance policy filed with the office shall provide a premium discount if the insured vehicle is equipped with factory-installed, four-wheel antilock brakes.
- (3) Any rates, rating schedules, or rating manuals for personal injury protection coverage and medical payments coverage, if offered, of a motor vehicle insurance policy filed with the office shall provide a premium discount if the insured vehicle is equipped with one or more air bags which are factory installed.
- (6) The Office of Insurance Regulation may approve a premium discount to any rates, rating schedules, or rating manuals for the liability, personal injury protection, and collision coverages of a motor vehicle insurance policy filed with the office if the insured vehicle is equipped with

Page 63 of 92

autonomous driving technology or electronic vehicle collision avoidance technology that is factory installed or a retrofitted system and that complies with National Highway Traffic Safety Administration standards.

Section 35. Section 627.4132, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- or named insured is protected by any type of motor vehicle insurance policy for liability, personal injury protection, or other coverage, the policy <u>must shall</u> provide that the insured or named insured is protected only to the extent of the coverage she or he has on the vehicle involved in the accident. However, if none of the insured's or named insured's vehicles <u>are is</u> involved in the accident, coverage is available only to the extent of coverage on any one of the vehicles with applicable coverage. Coverage on any other vehicles <u>may shall</u> not be added to or stacked upon that coverage. This section does not apply:
- (1) To uninsured motorist coverage which is separately governed by s. 627.727.
- (2) To reduce the coverage available by reason of insurance policies insuring different named insureds.
- 1597 Section 36. Section 627.7263, Florida Statutes, is amended 1598 to read:
- 1599 627.7263 Rental and leasing driver's insurance to be 1600 primary; exception.—

Page 64 of 92

(1) The valid and collectible liability insurance <del>or</del>			
personal injury protection insurance providing coverage for the			
lessor of a motor vehicle for rent or lease is primary unless			
otherwise stated in at least 10-point type on the face of the			
rental or lease agreement. Such insurance is primary for the			
limits of liability in an amount not less than the minimum			
limits described in s. 324.021(7) and personal injury protection			
coverage as required by ss. 324.021(7) and 627.736.			

(2) If the lessee's coverage is to be primary, the rental or lease agreement must contain the following language, in at least 10-point type:

"The valid and collectible liability insurance and personal injury protection insurance of an any authorized rental or leasing driver is primary for the limits of liability in an amount not less than the minimum limits described in s.

324.021(7) and personal injury protection coverage required by ss. 324.021(7) and 627.736, Florida Statutes."

Section 37. Subsections (1) and (7) of section 627.727, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

- 627.727 Motor vehicle insurance; uninsured and underinsured vehicle coverage; insolvent insurer protection.—
- (1) No motor vehicle liability insurance policy which provides bodily injury liability coverage shall be delivered or issued for delivery in this state with respect to any

Page 65 of 92

1626

1627

1628

1629

1630

1631

1632

1633

1634

1635

1636

1637

1638

1639

1640

1641

1642

1643

1644

1645

1646

1647

1648

1649 1650

specifically insured or identified motor vehicle registered or principally garaged in this state unless uninsured motor vehicle coverage is provided therein or supplemental thereto for the protection of persons insured thereunder who are legally entitled to recover damages from owners or operators of uninsured motor vehicles because of bodily injury, sickness, or disease, including death, resulting therefrom. However, the coverage required under this section is not applicable if when, or to the extent that, an insured named in the policy makes a written rejection of the coverage on behalf of all insureds under the policy. If When a motor vehicle is leased for a period of 1 year or longer and the lessor of such vehicle, by the terms of the lease contract, provides liability coverage on the leased vehicle, the lessee of such vehicle shall have the sole privilege to reject uninsured motorist coverage or to select lower limits than the bodily injury liability limits, regardless of whether the lessor is qualified as a self-insurer pursuant to s. 324.171. Unless an insured, or lessee having the privilege of rejecting uninsured motorist coverage, requests such coverage or requests higher uninsured motorist limits in writing, the coverage or such higher uninsured motorist limits need not be provided in or supplemental to any other policy which renews, extends, changes, supersedes, or replaces an existing policy with the same bodily injury liability limits when an insured or lessee had rejected the coverage. When an insured or lessee has

## Page 66 of 92

1651

1652

1653

1654

1655

1656

1657

1658

1659

1660

1661

1662

1663

1664

1665

1666

1667

1668

1669

1670

1671

1672

1673

16741675

initially selected limits of uninsured motorist coverage lower than her or his bodily injury liability limits, higher limits of uninsured motorist coverage need not be provided in or supplemental to any other policy that which renews, extends, changes, supersedes, or replaces an existing policy with the same bodily injury liability limits unless an insured requests higher uninsured motorist coverage in writing. The rejection or selection of lower limits shall be made on a form approved by the office. The form must shall fully advise the applicant of the nature of the coverage and must shall state that the coverage is equal to bodily injury liability limits unless lower limits are requested or the coverage is rejected. The heading of the form shall be in 12-point bold type and shall state: "You are electing not to purchase certain valuable coverage that which protects you and your family or you are purchasing uninsured motorist limits less than your bodily injury liability limits when you sign this form. Please read carefully." If this form is signed by a named insured, it will be conclusively presumed that there was an informed, knowing rejection of coverage or election of lower limits on behalf of all insureds. The insurer shall notify the named insured at least annually of her or his options as to the coverage required by this section. Such notice must shall be part of, and attached to, the notice of premium, must shall provide for a means to allow the insured to request such coverage, and must shall be given in a manner

Page 67 of 92

1676

1677

1678

1679

1680

1681

1682

1683

1684

1685

1686

1687

1688

1689

1690

1691

1692

1693

1694

1695

1696

1697

1698

1699 1700

approved by the office. Receipt of this notice does not constitute an affirmative waiver of the insured's right to uninsured motorist coverage if where the insured has not signed a selection or rejection form. The coverage described under this section shall be over and above, but shall not duplicate, the benefits available to an insured under any workers' compensation law, personal injury protection benefits, disability benefits law, or similar law; under any automobile medical payments expense coverage; under any motor vehicle liability insurance coverage; or from the owner or operator of the uninsured motor vehicle or any other person or organization jointly or severally liable together with such owner or operator for the accident; and such coverage shall cover the difference, if any, between the sum of such benefits and the damages sustained, up to the maximum amount of such coverage provided under this section. The amount of coverage available under this section may shall not be reduced by a setoff against any coverage, including liability insurance. Such coverage does shall not inure directly or indirectly to the benefit of any workers' compensation or disability benefits carrier or any person or organization qualifying as a self-insurer under any workers' compensation or disability benefits law or similar law.

(7) (a) For uninsured and underinsured vehicle coverage issued before January 1, 2020, the legal liability of an uninsured motorist coverage insurer does not include damages in

Page 68 of 92

tort for pain, suffering, mental anguish, and inconvenience unless the injury or disease consists in whole or in part of:

1703

1704

1705

1706

1707

1708

1709

1710

1711

1712

1713

1714

1715

1716

17171718

1719

1720

1721

1722

1723

17241725

- $\underline{\text{1. Significant and permanent loss of an important bodily}}$  function.
- 2. Permanent injury within a reasonable degree of medical probability, other than scarring or disfigurement.
  - 3. Significant and permanent scarring or disfigurement.
- 4. Death is described in one or more of paragraphs (a)-(d) of s. 627.737(2).
- (b) For uninsured and underinsured vehicle coverage issued on or after January 1, 2020, the legal liability of an uninsured motorist coverage insurer includes damages in tort for pain, suffering, disability or physical impairment, disfigurement, mental anguish, inconvenience, and the loss of capacity for the enjoyment of life experienced in the past and to be experienced in the future.
- Section 38. Subsection (1) and paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (2) of section 627.7275, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
  - 627.7275 Motor vehicle liability.-
- (1) A motor vehicle insurance policy providing personal injury protection as set forth in s. 627.736 may not be delivered or issued for delivery in this state for a with respect to any specifically insured or identified motor vehicle registered or principally garaged in this state must provide

Page 69 of 92

bodily injury liability coverage and unless the policy also provides coverage for property damage liability coverage as required under by s. 324.022.

- (2) (a) Insurers writing motor vehicle insurance in this state shall make available, subject to the insurers' usual underwriting restrictions:
- 1. Coverage under policies as described in subsection (1) to an applicant for private passenger motor vehicle insurance coverage who is seeking the coverage in order to reinstate the applicant's driving privileges in this state if the driving privileges were revoked or suspended pursuant to s. 316.646 or s. 324.0221 due to the failure of the applicant to maintain required security.
- 2. Coverage under policies as described in subsection (1), which also provides bodily injury liability coverage and property damage liability coverage for bodily injury, death, and property damage arising out of the ownership, maintenance, or use of the motor vehicle in an amount not less than the minimum limits described in s. 324.021(7) or s. 324.023 and conforms to the requirements of s. 324.151, to an applicant for private passenger motor vehicle insurance coverage who is seeking the coverage in order to reinstate the applicant's driving privileges in this state after such privileges were revoked or suspended under s. 316.193 or s. 322.26(2) for driving under the influence.

1751	(b) The policies described in paragraph (a) shall be
1752	issued for at least 6 months and, as to the minimum coverages
1753	required under this section, may not be canceled by the insured
1754	for any reason or by the insurer after 60 days, during which
1755	period the insurer is completing the underwriting of the policy.
1756	After the insurer has completed underwriting the policy, the
1757	insurer shall notify the Department of Highway Safety and Motor
1758	Vehicles that the policy is in full force and effect and is not
1759	cancelable for the remainder of the policy period. A premium
1760	shall be collected and the coverage is in effect for the 60-day
1761	period during which the insurer is completing the underwriting
1762	of the policy whether or not the person's driver license, motor
1763	vehicle tag, and motor vehicle registration are in effect. Once
1764	the noncancelable provisions of the policy become effective, the
1765	bodily injury liability and property damage liability coverages
1766	for bodily injury, property damage, and personal injury
1767	protection may not be reduced below the minimum limits required
1768	under s. 324.021 or s. 324.023 during the policy period.
1769	Section 39. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section
1770	627.728, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
1771	627.728 Cancellations; nonrenewals.—
1772	(1) As used in this section, the term:
1773	(a) "Policy" means the bodily injury and property damage
1774	liability, personal injury protection, medical payments,
1775	comprehensive, collision, and uninsured motorist coverage

Page 71 of 92

portions of a policy of motor vehicle insurance delivered or issued for delivery in this state:

- 1. Insuring a natural person as named insured or one or more related individuals  $\underline{\text{who are residents}}$  resident of the same household; and
- 2. Insuring only a motor vehicle of the private passenger type or station wagon type which is not used as a public or livery conveyance for passengers or rented to others; or insuring any other four-wheel motor vehicle having a load capacity of 1,500 pounds or less which is not used in the occupation, profession, or business of the insured other than farming; other than any policy issued under an automobile insurance assigned risk plan or covering garage, automobile sales agency, repair shop, service station, or public parking place operation hazards.

The term "policy" does not include a binder as defined in s. 627.420 unless the duration of the binder period exceeds 60 days.

Section 40. Subsection (1), paragraph (a) of subsection (5), subsection (6), and subsection (7) of section 627.7295, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

627.7295 Motor vehicle insurance contracts.-

- (1) As used in this section, the term:
- (a) "Policy" means a motor vehicle insurance policy that

Page 72 of 92

provides <u>bodily injury liability coverage and personal injury</u>

<del>protection coverage,</del> property damage liability coverage, or

<del>both</del>.

- (b) "Binder" means a binder that provides motor vehicle bodily injury liability coverage personal injury protection and property damage liability coverage.
- (5)(a) A licensed general lines agent may charge a perpolicy fee <u>up</u> not to exceed \$10 to cover the administrative costs of the agent associated with selling the motor vehicle insurance policy if the policy covers only <u>bodily injury</u> <u>liability coverage</u> <u>personal injury protection coverage as</u> <u>provided by s. 627.736</u> and property damage liability coverage as provided by s. 627.7275 and if no other insurance is sold or issued in conjunction with or collateral to the policy. The fee is not <del>considered</del> part of the premium.
- (6) If a motor vehicle owner's driver license, license plate, and registration have previously been suspended pursuant to s. 316.646 or s. 627.733, an insurer may cancel a new policy only as provided in s. 627.7275.
- (7) A policy of private passenger motor vehicle insurance or a binder for such a policy may be initially issued in this state only if, before the effective date of such binder or policy, the insurer or agent has collected from the insured an amount equal to 2 months' premium from the insured. An insurer, agent, or premium finance company may not, directly or

Page 73 of 92

indirectly, take any action that results resulting in the insured paying having paid from the insured's own funds an amount less than the 2 months' premium required by this subsection. This subsection applies without regard to whether the premium is financed by a premium finance company or is paid pursuant to a periodic payment plan of an insurer or an insurance agent.

(a) This subsection does not apply:

- $\underline{1.}$  If an insured or member of the insured's family is renewing or replacing a policy or a binder for such policy written by the same insurer or a member of the same insurer group.
- $\underline{2.}$  To This subsection does not apply to an insurer that issues private passenger motor vehicle coverage primarily to active duty or former military personnel or their dependents.
- 3. If This subsection does not apply if all policy payments are paid pursuant to a payroll deduction plan, an automatic electronic funds transfer payment plan from the policyholder, or a recurring credit card or debit card agreement with the insurer.
  - $\underline{\text{(b)}}$  This subsection and subsection (4) do not apply if:
- 1. All policy payments to an insurer are paid pursuant to an automatic electronic funds transfer payment plan from an agent, a managing general agent, or a premium finance company and if the policy includes, at a minimum, bodily injury

Page 74 of 92

1851	liability and personal injury protection pursuant to ss.
1852	627.730-627.7405; motor vehicle property damage liability
1853	coverage pursuant to s. 627.7275.; and bodily injury liability
1854	in at least the amount of \$10,000 because of bodily injury to,
1855	or death of, one person in any one accident and in the amount of
1856	\$20,000 because of bodily injury to, or death of, two or more
1857	persons in any one accident. This subsection and subsection (4)
1858	do not apply if an
1859	2. An insured has had a policy in effect for at least 6
1860	months, the insured's agent is terminated by the insurer that
1861	issued the policy, and the insured obtains coverage on the
1862	policy's renewal date with a new company through the terminated
1863	agent.
1864	Section 41. <u>Sections 627.730, 627.731, 627.7311, 627.732,</u>
1865	627.733, 627.734, 627.736, 627.737, 627.739, 627.7401, 627.7403,
1866	and 627.7405, Florida Statutes, of the "Florida Motor Vehicle
1867	No-Fault Law," are repealed.
1868	Section 42. Section 627.7407, Florida Statutes, is
1869	repealed.
1870	Section 43. Paragraphs (b), (c), and (g) of subsection (7)
1871	and paragraph (b) of subsection (8) of section 627.748, Florida
1872	Statutes, are amended to read:
1873	627.748 Transportation network companies.—
1874	(7) TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANY AND TNC DRIVER
1075	TNOUDANGE DEGLIDENERS

Page 75 of 92

1876	(b) The following automobile insurance requirements apply
1877	while a participating TNC driver is logged on to the digital
1878	network but is not engaged in a prearranged ride:
1879	1. Automobile insurance that provides:
1880	a. A primary automobile liability coverage of at least
1881	\$50,000 for death and bodily injury per person, \$100,000 for
1882	death and bodily injury per incident, and \$25,000 for property
1883	damage; and
1884	b. Personal injury protection benefits that meet the
1885	minimum coverage amounts required under ss. 627.730-627.7405;
1886	<del>and</del>
1887	b. e. Uninsured and underinsured vehicle coverage as
1888	required by s. 627.727.
1889	2. The coverage requirements of this paragraph may be
1890	satisfied by any of the following:
1891	a. Automobile insurance maintained by the TNC driver;
1892	b. Automobile insurance maintained by the TNC; or
1893	c. A combination of sub-subparagraphs a. and b.
1894	(c) The following automobile insurance requirements apply
1895	while a TNC driver is engaged in a prearranged ride:
1896	1. Automobile insurance that provides:
1897	a. A primary automobile liability coverage of at least \$1
1898	million for death, bodily injury, and property damage; and
1 0 0 0	h Parganal injury protection benefits that most the

Page 76 of 92

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

1900

## 1901 627.730-627.7405; and

1902

1903

1904

1905

1906

1907

1908

1909

1910

1911

1912

1913

1914

1915

1916

1917

1918

1919

1920

1921

1922

1923

19241925

- $\underline{b}$ .  $\underline{e}$ . Uninsured and underinsured vehicle coverage as required by s. 627.727.
- 2. The coverage requirements of this paragraph may be satisfied by any of the following:
  - a. Automobile insurance maintained by the TNC driver;
  - b. Automobile insurance maintained by the TNC; or
  - c. A combination of sub-subparagraphs a. and b.
- (g) Insurance satisfying the requirements under this subsection is deemed to satisfy the financial responsibility requirement for a motor vehicle under chapter 324 and the security required under s. 627.733 for any period when the TNC driver is logged onto the digital network or engaged in a prearranged ride.
- (8) TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANY AND INSURER; DISCLOSURE; EXCLUSIONS.—
- (b) 1. An insurer that provides an automobile liability insurance policy under this part may exclude any and all coverage afforded under the policy issued to an owner or operator of a TNC vehicle while driving that vehicle for any loss or injury that occurs while a TNC driver is logged on to a digital network or while a TNC driver provides a prearranged ride. Exclusions imposed under this subsection are limited to coverage while a TNC driver is logged on to a digital network or while a TNC driver provides a prearranged ride. This right to

Page 77 of 92

exclude all coverage may apply to any coverage included in an automobile insurance policy, including, but not limited to:

- a. Liability coverage for bodily injury and property damage;
  - b. Uninsured and underinsured motorist coverage;
  - c. Medical payments coverage;

1928

1929

1930

1931

1932

1933

1934

1935

1936

1937

1938

1939

1940

1941

1942

1943

1944

1945

1946

1947

1948

1949 1950

- d. Comprehensive physical damage coverage; and
- e. Collision physical damage coverage; and
- f. Personal injury protection.
- 2. The exclusions described in subparagraph 1. apply notwithstanding any requirement under chapter 324. These exclusions do not affect or diminish coverage otherwise available for permissive drivers or resident relatives under the personal automobile insurance policy of the TNC driver or owner of the TNC vehicle who are not occupying the TNC vehicle at the time of loss. This section does not require that a personal automobile insurance policy provide coverage while the TNC driver is logged on to a digital network, while the TNC driver is engaged in a prearranged ride, or while the TNC driver otherwise uses a vehicle to transport riders for compensation.
- 3. This section must not be construed to require an insurer to use any particular policy language or reference to this section in order to exclude any and all coverage for any loss or injury that occurs while a TNC driver is logged on to a digital network or while a TNC driver provides a prearranged

Page 78 of 92

1951 ride.

4. This section does not preclude an insurer from providing primary or excess coverage for the TNC driver's vehicle by contract or endorsement.

Section 44. Section 627.8405, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 627.8405 Prohibited acts; financing companies.—A No premium finance company shall, in a premium finance agreement or other agreement, may not finance the cost of or otherwise provide for the collection or remittance of dues, assessments, fees, or other periodic payments of money for the cost of:
- "automobile club" means a legal entity that which, in consideration of dues, assessments, or periodic payments of money, promises its members or subscribers to assist them in matters relating to the ownership, operation, use, or maintenance of a motor vehicle; however, the term this definition of "automobile club" does not include persons, associations, or corporations which are organized and operated solely for the purpose of conducting, sponsoring, or sanctioning motor vehicle races, exhibitions, or contests upon racetracks, or upon racecourses established and marked as such for the duration of such particular events. The term words "motor vehicle" used herein have the same meaning as defined in chapter 320.

Page 79 of 92

1976	(2) An accidental death and dismemberment policy sold in
1977	combination with a policy providing only bodily injury liability
1978	coverage personal injury protection and property damage
1979	liability coverage only policy.
1980	(3) Any product not regulated under the provisions of this
1981	insurance code.

19821983

1984

1985

1986

1987

This section also applies to premium financing by any insurance agent or insurance company under part XVI. The commission shall adopt rules to assure disclosure, at the time of sale, of <a href="motor-vehicle liability insurance">wehicle liability insurance</a> coverages financed <a href="with personal-injury protection">with personal-injury protection</a> and shall prescribe the form of such disclosure.

1988 1989

1990

1992

1993

1994

1995

1996

1997

1998

1999

2000

Section 45. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 628.909, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1991 628.909 Applicability of other laws.—

- (2) The following provisions of the Florida Insurance Code apply to captive insurance companies who are not industrial insured captive insurance companies to the extent that such provisions are not inconsistent with this part:
- (a) Chapter 624, except for ss. 624.407, 624.408, 624.4085, 624.40851, 624.4095, 624.411, 624.425, and 624.426.
  - (b) Chapter 625, part II.
  - (c) Chapter 626, part IX.
  - (d) Sections 627.730-627.7405, when no-fault coverage is

Page 80 of 92

HB 733 2019

2001	<del>provided.</del>
2002	<u>(d) <del>(e)</del></u> Chapter 628.
2003	(3) The following provisions of the Florida Insurance Code
2004	shall apply to industrial insured captive insurance companies to
2005	the extent that such provisions are not inconsistent with this
2006	part:
2007	(a) Chapter 624, except for ss. 624.407, 624.408,
2008	624.4085, 624.40851, 624.4095, 624.411, 624.425, 624.426, and
2009	624.609(1).
2010	(b) Chapter 625, part II, if the industrial insured
2011	captive insurance company is incorporated in this state.
2012	(c) Chapter 626, part IX.
2013	(d) Sections 627.730-627.7405 when no-fault coverage is
2014	<del>provided.</del>
2015	(d) (e) Chapter 628, except for ss. 628.341, 628.351, and
2016	628.6018.
2017	Section 46. Subsections (2), (6), and (7) of section
2018	705.184, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
2019	705.184 Derelict or abandoned motor vehicles on the
2020	premises of public-use airports.—
2021	(2) The airport director or the director's designee shall
2022	contact the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to
2023	notify that department that the airport has possession of the
2024	abandoned or derelict motor vehicle and to determine the name
2025	and address of the owner of the motor vehicle, the insurance

Page 81 of 92

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

2025

2026

20272028

2029

2030

2031

2032

2033

2034

2035

2036

2037

2038

2039

2040

2041

2042

2043

2044

2045

2046

2047

2048

20492050

company insuring the motor vehicle, notwithstanding the provisions of s. 627.736, and any person who has filed a lien on the motor vehicle. Within 7 business days after receipt of the information, the director or the director's designee shall send notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the owner of the motor vehicle, the insurance company insuring the motor vehicle, notwithstanding the provisions of s. 627.736, and all persons of record claiming a lien against the motor vehicle. The notice shall state the fact of possession of the motor vehicle, that charges for reasonable towing, storage, and parking fees, if any, have accrued and the amount thereof, that a lien as provided in subsection (6) will be claimed, that the lien is subject to enforcement pursuant to law, that the owner or lienholder, if any, has the right to a hearing as set forth in subsection (4), and that any motor vehicle which, at the end of 30 calendar days after receipt of the notice, has not been removed from the airport upon payment in full of all accrued charges for reasonable towing, storage, and parking fees, if any, may be disposed of as provided in s. 705.182(2)(a), (b), (d), or (e), including, but not limited to, the motor vehicle being sold free of all prior liens after 35 calendar days after the time the motor vehicle is stored if any prior liens on the motor vehicle are more than 5 years of age or after 50 calendar days after the time the motor vehicle is stored if any prior liens on the motor vehicle are 5 years of age or less.

Page 82 of 92

2051

2052

2053

2054

2055

2056

2057

2058

2059

2060

2061

2062

2063

2064

2065

2066

2067

2068

2069

2070

2071

2072

2073

2074

2075

- The airport pursuant to this section or, if used, a licensed independent wrecker company pursuant to s. 713.78 shall have a lien on an abandoned or derelict motor vehicle for all reasonable towing, storage, and accrued parking fees, if any, except that no storage fee shall be charged if the motor vehicle is stored less than 6 hours. As a prerequisite to perfecting a lien under this section, the airport director or the director's designee must serve a notice in accordance with subsection (2) on the owner of the motor vehicle, the insurance company insuring the motor vehicle, notwithstanding the provisions of s. 627.736, and all persons of record claiming a lien against the motor vehicle. If attempts to notify the owner, the insurance company insuring the motor vehicle, notwithstanding the provisions of s. 627.736, or lienholders are not successful, the requirement of notice by mail shall be considered met. Serving of the notice does not dispense with recording the claim of lien.
- (7)(a) For the purpose of perfecting its lien under this section, the airport shall record a claim of lien which shall state:
  - 1. The name and address of the airport.
- 2. The name of the owner of the motor vehicle, the insurance company insuring the motor vehicle, notwithstanding the provisions of s. 627.736, and all persons of record claiming a lien against the motor vehicle.

Page 83 of 92

```
2076
               The costs incurred from reasonable towing, storage, and
2077
      parking fees, if any.
2078
               A description of the motor vehicle sufficient for
2079
      identification.
2080
                The claim of lien shall be signed and sworn to or
2081
      affirmed by the airport director or the director's designee.
2082
                The claim of lien shall be sufficient if it is in
2083
      substantially the following form:
2084
                                CLAIM OF LIEN
2085
      State of .....
2086
      County of .....
2087
      Before me, the undersigned notary public, personally appeared
2088
      ....., who was duly sworn and says that he/she is the
2089
      ..... of ....., whose address is....; and that the
2090
      following described motor vehicle:
2091
      ... (Description of motor vehicle) ...
2092
      owned by ....., whose address is ....., has accrued
2093
      $..... in fees for a reasonable tow, for storage, and for
2094
      parking, if applicable; that the lienor served its notice to the
2095
      owner, the insurance company insuring the motor vehicle
2096
      notwithstanding the provisions of s. 627.736, Florida Statutes,
2097
      and all persons of record claiming a lien against the motor
2098
      vehicle on ...., ... (year)..., by.......
2099
      ...(Signature)...
      Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me this .... day of
2100
```

Page 84 of 92

HB 733 2019

- 2101 ..., ... (year)..., by ... (name of person making statement).... 2102 ... (Signature of Notary Public) ... (Print, Type, or Stamp
- 2103 Commissioned name of Notary Public) ...
- 2104 Personally Known....OR Produced....as identification.
- 2105 However, the negligent inclusion or omission of any information
- 2106 in this claim of lien which does not prejudice the owner does
- 2107 not constitute a default that operates to defeat an otherwise
- 2108 valid lien.
- 2109 (d) The claim of lien shall be served on the owner of the
- 2110 motor vehicle, the insurance company insuring the motor vehicle,
- notwithstanding the provisions of s. 627.736, and all persons of 2111
- 2112 record claiming a lien against the motor vehicle. If attempts to
- 2113 notify the owner, the insurance company insuring the motor
- 2114 vehicle notwithstanding the provisions of s. 627.736, or
- 2115 lienholders are not successful, the requirement of notice by
- mail shall be considered met. The claim of lien shall be so 2116
- served before recordation. 2117
- The claim of lien shall be recorded with the clerk of 2118
- 2119 court in the county where the airport is located. The recording
- 2120 of the claim of lien shall be constructive notice to all persons
- 2121 of the contents and effect of such claim. The lien shall attach
- 2122

at the time of recordation and shall take priority as of that

- 2123 time.
- Section 47. Paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of subsection (4) 2124
- 2125 of section 713.78, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

Page 85 of 92

713.78 Liens for recovering, towing, or storing vehicles and vessels.—

- (4) (a) Any person regularly engaged in the business of recovering, towing, or storing vehicles or vessels who comes into possession of a vehicle or vessel pursuant to subsection (2), and who claims a lien for recovery, towing, or storage services, shall give notice to the registered owner, the insurance company insuring the vehicle notwithstanding the provisions of s. 627.736, and to all persons claiming a lien thereon, as disclosed by the records in the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles or as disclosed by the records of any corresponding agency in any other state in which the vehicle is identified through a records check of the National Motor Vehicle Title Information System or an equivalent commercially available system as being titled or registered.
- (b) Whenever any law enforcement agency authorizes the removal of a vehicle or vessel or whenever any towing service, garage, repair shop, or automotive service, storage, or parking place notifies the law enforcement agency of possession of a vehicle or vessel pursuant to s. 715.07(2)(a)2., the law enforcement agency of the jurisdiction where the vehicle or vessel is stored shall contact the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, or the appropriate agency of the state of registration, if known, within 24 hours through the medium of electronic communications, giving the full description of the

Page 86 of 92

vehicle or vessel. Upon receipt of the full description of the vehicle or vessel, the department shall search its files to determine the owner's name, the insurance company insuring the vehicle or vessel, and whether any person has filed a lien upon the vehicle or vessel as provided in s. 319.27(2) and (3) and notify the applicable law enforcement agency within 72 hours. The person in charge of the towing service, garage, repair shop, or automotive service, storage, or parking place shall obtain such information from the applicable law enforcement agency within 5 days after the date of storage and shall give notice pursuant to paragraph (a). The department may release the insurance company information to the requestor notwithstanding the provisions of s. 627.736.

(c) Notice by certified mail shall be sent within 7 business days after the date of storage of the vehicle or vessel to the registered owner, the insurance company insuring the vehicle notwithstanding the provisions of s. 627.736, and all persons of record claiming a lien against the vehicle or vessel. It shall state the fact of possession of the vehicle or vessel, that a lien as provided in subsection (2) is claimed, that charges have accrued and the amount thereof, that the lien is subject to enforcement pursuant to law, and that the owner or lienholder, if any, has the right to a hearing as set forth in subsection (5), and that any vehicle or vessel which remains unclaimed, or for which the charges for recovery, towing, or

storage services remain unpaid, may be sold free of all prior liens after 35 days if the vehicle or vessel is more than 3 years of age or after 50 days if the vehicle or vessel is 3 years of age or less.

2180

2181

2182

2183

2184

2185

2186

2187

2188

2189

2190

2191

2192

2193

2194

2195

2196

2197

2198

2199

Section 48. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1), paragraph (c) of subsection (7), and subsections (8), (9), and (10) of section 817.234, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

- 817.234 False and fraudulent insurance claims.-
- (1) (a) A person commits insurance fraud punishable as provided in subsection (11) if that person, with the intent to injure, defraud, or deceive any insurer:
- 1. Presents or causes to be presented any written or oral statement as part of, or in support of, a claim for payment or other benefit pursuant to an insurance policy or a health maintenance organization subscriber or provider contract, knowing that such statement contains any false, incomplete, or misleading information concerning any fact or thing material to such claim;
- 2. Prepares or makes any written or oral statement that is intended to be presented to any insurer in connection with, or in support of, any claim for payment or other benefit pursuant to an insurance policy or a health maintenance organization subscriber or provider contract, knowing that such statement contains any false, incomplete, or misleading information concerning any fact or thing material to such claim;

Page 88 of 92

- 3.a. Knowingly presents, causes to be presented, or prepares or makes with knowledge or belief that it will be presented to any insurer, purported insurer, servicing corporation, insurance broker, or insurance agent, or any employee or agent thereof, any false, incomplete, or misleading information or written or oral statement as part of, or in support of, an application for the issuance of, or the rating of, any insurance policy, or a health maintenance organization subscriber or provider contract; or
- b. Knowingly conceals information concerning any fact material to such application; or
- 4. Knowingly presents, causes to be presented, or prepares or makes with knowledge or belief that it will be presented to any insurer a claim for payment or other benefit under a motor vehicle personal injury protection insurance policy if the person knows that the payee knowingly submitted a false, misleading, or fraudulent application or other document when applying for licensure as a health care clinic, seeking an exemption from licensure as a health care clinic, or demonstrating compliance with part X of chapter 400.

(7)

(c) An insurer, or any person acting at the direction of or on behalf of an insurer, may not change an opinion in a mental or physical report prepared under s. 627.736(7) or direct the physician preparing the report to change such opinion;

Page 89 of 92

however, this provision does not preclude the insurer from calling to the attention of the physician errors of fact in the report based upon information in the claim file. Any person who violates this paragraph commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

- (8) (a) It is unlawful for any person intending to defraud any other person to solicit or cause to be solicited any business from a person involved in a motor vehicle accident for the purpose of making, adjusting, or settling motor vehicle tort claims or claims for personal injury protection benefits required by s. 627.736. Any person who violates the provisions of this paragraph commits a felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. A person who is convicted of a violation of this subsection shall be sentenced to a minimum term of imprisonment of 2 years.
- (b) A person may not solicit or cause to be solicited any business from a person involved in a motor vehicle accident by any means of communication other than advertising directed to the public for the purpose of making motor vehicle tort claims or claims for personal injury protection benefits required by s. 627.736, within 60 days after the occurrence of the motor vehicle accident. Any person who violates this paragraph commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.
  - (c) A lawyer, health care practitioner as defined in s.

Page 90 of 92

456.001, or owner or medical director of a clinic required to be licensed pursuant to s. 400.9905 may not, at any time after 60 days have elapsed from the occurrence of a motor vehicle accident, solicit or cause to be solicited any business from a person involved in a motor vehicle accident by means of in person or telephone contact at the person's residence, for the purpose of making motor vehicle tort claims or claims for personal injury protection benefits required by s. 627.736. Any person who violates this paragraph commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

- (d) Charges for any services rendered by any person who violates this subsection in regard to the person for whom such services were rendered are noncompensable and unenforceable as a matter of law.
- (9) A person may not organize, plan, or knowingly participate in an intentional motor vehicle <u>accident crash</u> or a scheme to create documentation of a motor vehicle <u>accident crash</u> that did not occur for the purpose of making motor vehicle tort claims or claims for personal injury protection benefits as required by s. 627.736. Any person who violates this subsection commits a felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. A person who is convicted of a violation of this subsection shall be sentenced to a minimum term of imprisonment of 2 years.

(10) A licensed health care practitioner who is found guilty of insurance fraud under this section for an act relating to a motor vehicle personal injury protection insurance policy loses his or her license to practice for 5 years and may not receive reimbursement for motor vehicle insurance coverage personal injury protection benefits for 10 years.

2276

2277

2278

2279

2280

2281

2282

2283

2284

2285

Section 49. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon this act becoming a law, this act shall take effect January 1, 2020.

Page 92 of 92