By Senator Brandes

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

1213

1415

1617

1819

20

2122

23

24

25

2627

28

29

24-00449E-19 2019896

A bill to be entitled An act relating to motor vehicle insurance; providing a short title; amending ss. 316.646, 318.18, 320.02, 320.0609, 320.27, 320.771, 322.251, and 322.34, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 324.011, F.S.; revising legislative intent; creating s. 324.015, F.S.; providing that motor vehicle liability policies issued or renewed after a specified date may not include personal injury protection; providing requirements for, and construction relating to, proof of financial responsibility and motor vehicle liability policies; specifying requirements for insurers relating to changes in coverages and notices to insureds; specifying requirements for such notice; providing for construction relating to certain covered motor vehicle accidents; amending s. 324.021, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "motor vehicle"; increasing the minimum required limits of bodily injury and property damage liability coverages for proof of financial responsibility; conforming a provision to changes made by the act; amending s. 324.022, F.S.; revising coverage requirements for combined property damage liability and bodily injury liability policies that may meet financial responsibility requirements; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 324.0221, F.S.; providing construction;

conforming provisions to changes made by the act;

amending s. 324.032, F.S.; conforming a provision to

31

32

33 34

35

36

37

38 39

40

41

42

43 44

45 46

47

48 49

50

51

52

53

54

5556

57

58

24-00449E-19 2019896

changes made by the act; amending ss. 324.051 and 324.091, F.S.; making technical changes; amending s. 324.151, F.S.; defining terms; revising requirements, and authorized exclusions from coverage, for motor vehicle liability insurance policies; amending s. 324.161, F.S.; revising the amount of a certain certificate of deposit required before a certain certificate of insurance may be issued as proof of financial responsibility; amending s. 324.171, F.S.; revising minimum net worth requirements for qualification as a self-insurer; conforming a provision to changes made by the act; amending s. 324.251, F.S.; revising a short title; amending s. 400.9905, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "clinic" to conform to changes made by the act; amending ss. 400.991, 400.9935, 409.901, 409.910, 456.057, and 456.072, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 624.155, F.S.; deleting provisions authorizing the Department of Financial Services to return a certain notice for lack of specificity which delays a certain time period; revising the information the notice must contain; requiring a trier of fact in bad faith actions against a motor vehicle liability insurer to consider whether certain persons made good faith efforts to cooperate with the insurer's investigation; requiring certain persons to provide a written notice of loss to the insurer before bringing bad faith actions; providing that a claimant does not have a cause of action for

60

61

62

63

64

65

66

67

68 69

70

71

72

73

74

75

76

77

78

79

80

8182

83

8485

8687

24-00449E-19 2019896

bad faith against the insurer if the insurer meets certain conditions; defining terms; providing that, under certain third-party claims, a motor vehicle liability insurer is not liable beyond available policy limits if it meets certain conditions; requiring the trier of fact to determine the allocation of policy limits among claimants under certain circumstances; requiring third-party claimants to execute and deliver a certain release under certain circumstances; providing construction; amending ss. 626.9541, 626.989, 627.06501, 627.0652, 627.0653, 627.4132, and 627.7263, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 627.727, F.S.; specifying the legal liability of uninsured motorist coverage insurers for uninsured and underinsured vehicle coverage issued on or after a specified date; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 627.7275, F.S.; revising liability coverage requirements for motor vehicle insurance policies; amending ss. 627.728 and 627.7295, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; 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., which comprise the Florida Motor Vehicle No-Fault Law; repealing s. 627.7407, F.S., relating to application of the Florida Motor Vehicle No-Fault Law; amending ss. 627.748, 627.8405, 628.909, 705.184, and 713.78, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act;

24-00449E-19 2019896

amending s. 817.234, F.S.; revising certain acts of insurance fraud to apply to motor vehicle insurance claims generally, rather than only to personal injury protection claims; providing effective dates.

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

Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Responsible Roadways Act."

Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 316.646, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.646 Security required; proof of security and display thereof.—

- (1) A Any person operating a motor vehicle for which liability coverage is required under by s. 324.022, s. 324.023, s. 324.032, s. 627.7415, or s. 627.742 must to maintain property damage liability security, required by s. 324.023 to maintain liability security for bodily injury or death, or required by s. 627.733 to maintain personal injury protection security on a motor vehicle shall have in his or her immediate possession at all times while operating such motor vehicle proper proof of maintenance of the required security.
- (a) Such proof shall be in a uniform paper or electronic format, as prescribed by the department, a valid insurance 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

24-00449E-19 2019896

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 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

24-00449E-19 2019896

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 section 320.02, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

320.02 Registration required; application for registration; forms.—

(5) (a) Proof that <u>liability coverage has personal injury</u> 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

24-00449E-19

175

198

199200201

202203

2019896

176 agent may not shall refuse to issue registration if such proof 177 of purchase is not provided. Insurers shall furnish uniform 178 proof-of-purchase cards in a paper or electronic format in a 179 form prescribed by the department and include the name of the 180 insured's insurance company, the coverage identification number, 181 and the make, year, and vehicle identification number of the 182 vehicle insured. The card must contain a statement notifying the applicant of the penalty specified under s. 316.646(4). The card 183 or insurance policy, insurance policy binder, or certificate of 184 185 insurance or a photocopy of any of these; an affidavit 186 containing the name of the insured's insurance company, the 187 insured's policy number, and the make and year of the vehicle 188 insured; or such other proof as may be prescribed by the 189 department shall constitute sufficient proof of purchase. If an 190 affidavit is provided as proof, it must be in substantially the 191 following form: 192 193 Under penalty of perjury, I ... (Name of insured) ... do hereby 194 certify that I have ... Bodily Injury Liability and (Personal 195 Injury Protection, Property Damage Liability coverage, and, if 196 required, Bodily Injury Liability) ... Insurance currently in 197 effect with ... (Name of insurance company) ... under ... (policy

motor vehicle that is subject to such requirements. The issuing

Page 7 of 84

WARNING: GIVING FALSE INFORMATION IN ORDER TO OBTAIN A VEHICLE

number) ... covering ... (make, year, and vehicle identification

number of vehicle) .... (Signature of Insured) ...

Such affidavit must include the following warning:

24-00449E-19 2019896

REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE UNDER FLORIDA LAW. ANYONE GIVING FALSE INFORMATION ON THIS AFFIDAVIT IS SUBJECT TO PROSECUTION.

If an application is made through a licensed motor vehicle dealer as required under s. 319.23, the original or a photostatic copy of such card, insurance policy, insurance policy binder, or certificate of insurance or the original 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.

(d) 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

24-00449E-19 2019896

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 insurance and property damage liability insurance, or proof of financial responsibility law 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

263

264

265

266

267

268

269

270

271272

273

274

275

276

277

278

279

280

281

282

283

284

285

286287

288

289

290

24-00449E-19 2019896

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. 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

292

293

294

295

296

297

298

299

300 301

302

303

304

305

306

307

308

309

310

311

312

313

314

315316

317

318

319

24-00449E-19 2019896

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 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

321

322

323

324

325

326

327

328

329

330

331

332

333

334335

336

337

338

339

340

341

342

343

344

345

346

347

348

24-00449E-19 2019896

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 the department subsequently determines that any facts set forth in the application are not true or correctly represented.

Section 7. Paragraph (j) of subsection (3) of section 320.771, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 320.771 License required of recreational vehicle dealers.-
- (3) APPLICATION.—The application for such license shall be in the form prescribed by the department and subject to such rules as may be prescribed by it. The application shall be verified by oath or affirmation and shall contain:
- (j) A statement that the applicant is insured under a garage liability insurance policy, which shall include, at a minimum, \$25,000 combined single-limit bodily injury and

24-00449E-19 2019896

property damage liability coverage, including bodily injury and property damage protection, and \$10,000 personal injury

protection, if the applicant is to be licensed as a dealer in, or intends to sell, recreational vehicles.

The department shall, if it deems necessary, cause an investigation to be made to ascertain if the facts set forth in the application are true and shall not issue a license to the applicant until it is satisfied that the facts set forth in the application are true.

Section 8. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 322.251, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

322.251 Notice of cancellation, suspension, revocation, or 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

24-00449E-19 2019896

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:

408

409

410

411

412

413

414415

416417

418

419

420

421

422

423

424

425

426

427

428

429

430431

432

433

434

435

24-00449E-19 2019896

324.011 Legislative intent and purpose of chapter.-It is the intent of the Legislature this chapter to 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 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, 2021:
- (a) Notwithstanding any other law, motor vehicle liability policies issued or renewed on or after January 1, 2021, 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

24-00449E-19 2019896

before January 1, 2021, which provides personal injury protection and property damage liability coverage and meets the financial responsibility requirements on December 31, 2020, but does not meet the financial responsibility requirements on or after January 1, 2021, 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, 2021, and whose policy does not meet the financial responsibility requirements on or after January 1, 2021, to change coverages to meet the financial responsibility requirements that become effective on or after January 1, 2021. 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, 2021, 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, 2020, 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, effective January 1, 2021, 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

24-00449E-19 2019896

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, 2021, 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 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.

24-00449E-19 2019896

(f) If the insured's new or renewal motor vehicle liability policy is effective before January 1, 2021, and contains personal injury protection and property damage liability coverage as required by state law before January 1, 2021, but does not meet the financial responsibility requirements on or after January 1, 2021, 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, 2021, but does not meet the financial responsibility requirements on or after January 1, 2021, 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, 2021.
- (h) If the insured has any questions, he or she should contact the name and phone number provided in the notice.
- (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, 627.9541(1)(i), 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 before January 1, 2021, 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

24-00449E-19 2019896

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.—Proof That proof of ability to respond in damages for liability on account of accidents erashes 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 \$50,000 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

24-00449E-19 2019896

accident 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" 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.

24-00449E-19 2019896\_\_

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> for property 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

611

612

613

614

615

616

617

618

619620

621

622

623

624625

626627

628

629

630

631

632

633

634

635

636

637

638

24-00449E-19 2019896

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, property of others in any one accident erash.
- (b) 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 that 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 erash arising out of the use of the motor vehicle and that conforms to the requirements of s. 324.151. An 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 has no 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 vehicle. The term does not include:

24-00449E-19 2019896

1. A mobile home.

- 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 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 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. This exemption and applies only while the vehicle is not

24-00449E-19 2019896

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 the 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 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

24-00449E-19 2019896

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.

- 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 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. ss.</u> 324.022, <u>s. 324.023</u>, <u>s. 324.023</u>, <u>s. 324.023</u>, <u>s. 324.023</u>, <u>s. 627.7415</u>, or <u>s. 627.742</u> and 627.733 upon:
  - (a) The department's records showing that the owner or

24-00449E-19 2019896

registrant of such motor vehicle did not have <u>the</u> 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, 2021, remain in full force and effect on or after January 1, 2021.

Section 15. Subsection (1) of section 324.032, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 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.

24-00449E-19 2019896

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. 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

24-00449E-19 2019896

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 such accident  $\frac{\text{crash}}{\text{crash}}$ .
- 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 said <u>accident crash</u> 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 accident erash or traffic conviction a motor vehicle an automobile 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 <u>accident</u> erash or traffic conviction a motor vehicle an automobile

24-00449E-19 2019896

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 a crash</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 crash</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 crash</u> or conviction case, the department shall forward to the insurer 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 a <u>an automobile</u>

24-00449E-19 2019896

<del>liability policy or</del> 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), which is not owned by the named insured and which is temporarily used with the permission of the owner as a substitute for a motor vehicle designated on the policy when the vehicle designated on the policy is withdrawn from normal use because of breakdown, repair, servicing, loss, or destruction.
- $\underline{(2)}$  (1) A motor vehicle liability policy, as to be proof of financial responsibility under s. 324.031(1), shall be issued to owners or operators of motor vehicles under the following provisions:
  - (a) A motor vehicle liability insurance policy issued to an

872

873

874

875

876

877

878

879

880

881882

883884

885 886

887

888

889

890

891

892

893

894

895

896

897

898

899

24-00449E-19 2019896

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 against 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 must 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

24-00449E-19 2019896

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 insurance.
- (c) 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, and 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 Said policies must 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

24-00449E-19 2019896

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 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

24-00449E-19 2019896

a certificate of self-insurance from the department. Upon 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 this section:

- (a) A private individual with private passenger vehicles  $\underline{\text{must}}$  shall possess  $\underline{\text{an}}$  a net unencumbered  $\underline{\text{net}}$  worth of at least \$60,000 \$\frac{\$40,000}{\$}.
- (b) A person, including any firm, partnership, association, corporation, or other person, other than a natural person, <u>must shall</u>:
- 1. Possess <u>an</u> a net unencumbered <u>net</u> worth of at least  $\frac{$60,000}{$40,000}$  for the first motor vehicle and  $\frac{$30,000}{$20,000}$  for each additional motor vehicle; or
- 2. Maintain sufficient net worth in an amount determined 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

24-00449E-19 2019896

s. 207.002 or s. 320.01, may qualify as a self-insurer subject to the standards provided  $\frac{1}{1}$  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 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

24-00449E-19 2019896

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 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

24-00449E-19 2019896

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 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

1075

1076

1077

1078

1079

1080

1081

10821083

1084

1085

1086

1087

1088

1089

1090

1091

1092

1093

1094

1095

1096

1097

1098 1099

1100

1101

1102

24-00449E-19 2019896

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.

- (q) 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 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

24-00449E-19 2019896

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 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

24-00449E-19 2019896

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 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 that 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.

11581159

1160

1132

1133

1134

1135

1136

1137

1138

1139

1140

1141

1142

11431144

1145

1146

1147

1148

1149

1150

1151

1152

1153

1154

1155

1156

1157

Notwithstanding this subsection, an entity shall be deemed a clinic and must be licensed under this part in order to receive

1165

1166

1167

11681169

11701171

1172

1173

1174

1175

1176

1177

1178

1179

1180

1181

1182

1183

1184

1185

1186

1187

1188

1189

24-00449E-19 2019896

reimbursement under the Florida Motor Vehicle No-Fault Law, ss.

1162 627.730-627.7405, unless exempted under s. 627.736(5)(h).

Section 23. Subsection (6) of section 400.991, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

400.991 License requirements; background screenings; prohibitions.—

(6) All agency forms for licensure application or exemption from licensure under this part must contain the following statement:

INSURANCE FRAUD NOTICE.—A person commits a fraudulent insurance act under s. 626.989 or s. 817.234, Florida Statutes, if such person who knowingly submits 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, Florida Statutes, with the 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, commits a fraudulent insurance act, as defined in s. 626.989, Florida Statutes. A person who presents a claim under a motor vehicle insurance policy, for personal injury protection benefits knowing that the payee knowingly submitted such health care clinic application or document, commits insurance fraud, as defined in s. 817.234, Florida Statutes.

1191

1192

1193

1194

11951196

1197

1198 1199

1200

1201

1202

1203

1204

1205

1206

1207

1208

1209

1210

1211

1212

1213

1214

1215

1216

1217

1218

24-00449E-19 2019896

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

400.9935 Clinic responsibilities.-

- (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:
- (q) 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 or unlawful.

Section 25. Subsections (27) and (28) of section 409.901, 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

24-00449E-19 2019896

1219 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 injury, illness, goods, or services, including costs of medical services related thereto, for bodily personal injury or for death of the recipient, but specifically excluding policies of 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

24-00449E-19 2019896

insurance or <u>motor vehicle insurance</u> personal injury protection coverage, 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 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 <u>attorney</u> 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

24-00449E-19 2019896

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.

Section 27. Paragraph (k) of subsection (2) of section 456.057, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

456.057 Ownership and control of patient records; report or copies of records to be furnished; disclosure of information.—

- (2) As used in this section, the terms "records owner," "health care practitioner," and "health care practitioner's employer" do not include any of the following persons or entities; furthermore, the following persons or entities are not authorized to acquire or own medical records, but are authorized under the confidentiality and disclosure requirements of this section to maintain those documents required by the part or chapter under which they are licensed or regulated:
  - (k) Persons or entities practicing under s. 627.736(7).

Section 28. Paragraphs (ee) and (ff) of subsection (1) of section 456.072, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

456.072 Grounds for discipline; penalties; enforcement.

(1) The following acts shall constitute grounds for which

1307

1308

1309 1310

13111312

1313

13141315

1316

1317

1318

1319

1320

1321

1322

1323

1324

1325

1326

1327

1328

1329

1330

1331

1332

1333

1334

24-00449E-19 2019896

the disciplinary actions specified in subsection (2) may be taken:

(ee) With respect to making a personal injury protection claim as required by s. 627.736, intentionally submitting a claim, statement, or bill that has been "upcoded" as defined in s. 627.732.

(ff) With respect to making a personal injury protection 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 (3) of section 624.155, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (10) is added to that section, to read:

624.155 Civil remedy.-

- (3) (a) As a condition precedent to bringing an action under this section, the department and the authorized insurer must <u>be</u> have been given 60 days' written notice of the violation. If the department returns a notice for lack of specificity, the 60-day time period shall not begin until a proper notice is filed.
- (b) The notice shall be on a form provided by the department and shall state with specificity the following information, and such other information as the department may require:
- 1. The statutory provision, including the specific language of the statute, which the authorized insurer allegedly violated.
- 2. The facts and circumstances giving rise to the violation.
  - 3. The name of any individual involved in the violation.
  - 4. Reference to specific policy language that is relevant

24-00449E-19 2019896

to the violation, if any. If the person bringing the civil action is a third-party third party claimant, she or he shall not be required to reference the specific policy language if the authorized insurer has not provided a copy of the policy to the third-party third party claimant pursuant to written request.

- 5. A statement that the notice is given in order to perfect the right to pursue the civil remedy authorized by this section.
- 6. The specific amount of money that constitutes a cure of the alleged violation.
- (c) Within 20 days of receipt of the notice, the department may return any notice that does not provide the specific information required by this section, and the department shall indicate the specific deficiencies contained in the notice. A determination by the department to return a notice for lack of specificity shall be exempt from the requirements of chapter 120.
- (c) (d) No action shall lie if, within 60 days after filing notice, the damages are paid or the circumstances giving rise to the violation are corrected.
- (d) (e) The authorized insurer that is the recipient of a notice filed pursuant to this section shall report to the department on the disposition of the alleged violation.
- (e) (f) The applicable statute of limitations for an action under this section shall be tolled for a period of 65 days by the mailing of the notice required by this subsection or the mailing of a subsequent notice required by this subsection.
- (10) In an action for bad faith against a motor vehicle liability insurer relating to motor vehicle liability insurance coverage, whether asserted at common law or pursuant to this

24-00449E-19 2019896

1364 section, in addition to other provisions of this section, the following apply:

- (a) In evaluating whether the insurer attempted in good faith to settle the claim when, under all the circumstances, it could have and should have done so had it acted fairly and honestly toward its insured and with due regard for its insured's interests, the trier of fact must also consider whether the insured, claimant, or representative of the insured or claimant made good-faith efforts to cooperate with the insurer in investigation of the claim.
- (b) 1. As a condition precedent to a common law or statutory cause of action against the insurer for bad faith, the insured, claimant, or representative of the insured or claimant must provide the insurer with a written notice of loss.
- 2. A claimant does not have a common law or statutory cause of action against the insurer for bad faith if:
- a. Within 45 days after receipt of the written notice of loss, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and state holidays, the insurer offers to pay the claimant the lesser of the amount the claimant is willing to accept or the policy limits of the motor vehicle liability coverage applicable to the claimant's claims in exchange for full release of the insured from any liability arising from the incident; and
- b. The insurer complied with a properly noticed request, if received, for the policy disclosure under s. 627.4137 or s. 626.9372.

1391 The insurer's offer to pay the claimant pursuant to this

1392 subparagraph does not alter or amend the insurer's obligation to

24-00449E-19 2019896

1393 defend its insured.

13941395

1396

1397

1398

1399

1400

1401

1402

1403

1404

1405 1406

1407

1408

1409

1410

1411

1412

1413

14141415

1416

14171418

1419

14201421

- (c) 1. As used in this paragraph, the term:
- a. "Third-party claim" means a claim brought against an insured for harm or damage allegedly caused by the insured and covered by a motor vehicle liability insurance policy.
- b. "Third-party claimant" means a person who brings or seeks to bring a third-party claim.
- 2. If two or more claimants make competing claims arising out of a single occurrence and the combined total damages for the claims exceed the applicable policy limits, the insurer is not liable beyond the policy limits for failure to pay all or any portion of the policy limits to one or more of the claimants if, within 90 days after receiving notice of the competing claims, the insurer files an interpleader action under the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure and tenders the policy limits into the registry of the court. If the combined total of the competing claims exceeds the policy limits, the trier of fact must determine the allocation of the policy limits among the claimants entitled to recovery. Upon conclusion of an interpleader action, a third-party claimant whose claim was included in the interpleader action shall execute and deliver a release for any and all claims under the policy in favor of each party insured by the insurer who filed the interpleader action. An insurer's interpleader action does not alter or amend the insurer's obligation to defend its insured.
- 3. Each claimant who recovers against an insurer is responsible for resolution and satisfaction of all valid liens from the settlement funds. Lien interest does not establish a competing claim for resolution in an interpleader action.

24-00449E-19 2019896

(d) An insurer is not presumed to have acted in bad faith if the insurer does not, within the time periods specified in this subsection, tender the lesser of the amount a claimant is willing to accept or the policy limits or file an interpleader action.

(e) In the event of any conflict between this subsection and other provisions of this section as applied to a bad-faith action against a motor vehicle liability insurer relating to motor vehicle liability insurance coverage, this subsection controls.

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.-
- 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;
- 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

1454

1455

14561457

1458

1459

1460

14611462

1463

1464

1465

1466

1467

1468

1469

1470

1471

1472

1473

1474

1475

1476

1477

1478

1479

24-00449E-19 2019896

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 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.

24-00449E-19 2019896

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 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

24-00449E-19 2019896

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

24-00449E-19 2019896

policy, if the named insured demonstrates that the operator involved in the accident was:

- (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 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

24-00449E-19 2019896

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 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

24-00449E-19 2019896

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.
- 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  $\underline{s.\ 318.14(9)}\ \underline{s.\ 318.14(9)}\ and\ (10)$ . 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.

24-00449E-19 2019896

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, 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

24-00449E-19 2019896

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.

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.—

24-00449E-19 2019896

(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</u> when the principal operator on the covered 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

24-00449E-19 2019896

with the office if the insured vehicle is equipped with 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:

- 627.4132 Stacking of coverages prohibited.—If an insured 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.
- Section 36. Section 627.7263, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 627.7263 Rental and leasing driver's insurance to be primary; exception.—
- (1) The valid and collectible liability insurance or personal injury protection insurance providing coverage for the lessor of a motor vehicle for rent or lease is primary unless

24-00449E-19 2019896

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 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

1771

1772

1773

1774

1775

1776

1777

17781779

1780

1781

1782

1783

1784

1785

1786

1787

1788

1789

1790

1791

1792

1793

1794

1795

17961797

1798

24-00449E-19 2019896

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 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

1800

1801

1802

1803

1804

1805

1806

1807

1808

1809

1810

1811

1812

1813

1814

1815

1816

1817

1818

1819

1820

1821

1822

1823

1824

1825

1826

1827

24-00449E-19 2019896

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 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

24-00449E-19 2019896

amount of coverage available under this section <u>may shall</u> not be reduced by a setoff against any coverage, including liability insurance. Such coverage <u>does shall</u> 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, 2021, the legal liability of an uninsured motorist coverage insurer does not include damages in tort for pain, suffering, mental anguish, and inconvenience unless the injury or disease consists in whole or in part of:
- 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, 2021, 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:

24-00449E-19 2019896

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 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

18871888

1889

1890

1891

1892

1893

1894 1895

1896

1897

1898

1899

1900

1901

1902

1903

1904

1905

1906

1907

1908

1909

1910

1911

1912

1913

1914

24-00449E-19 2019896

suspended under s. 316.193 or s. 322.26(2) for driving under the influence.

(b) The policies described in paragraph (a) shall be issued for at least 6 months and, as to the minimum coverages required under this section, may not be canceled by the insured for any reason or by the insurer after 60 days, during which period the insurer is completing the underwriting of the policy. After the insurer has completed underwriting the policy, the insurer shall notify the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles that the policy is in full force and effect and is not cancelable for the remainder of the policy period. A premium shall be collected and the coverage is in effect for the 60-day period during which the insurer is completing the underwriting of the policy whether or not the person's driver license, motor vehicle tag, and motor vehicle registration are in effect. Once the noncancelable provisions of the policy become effective, the bodily injury liability and property damage liability coverages for bodily injury, property damage, and personal injury protection may not be reduced below the minimum limits required under s. 324.021 or s. 324.023 during the policy period.

Section 39. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 627.728, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 627.728 Cancellations; nonrenewals.-
- (1) As used in this section, the term:
- (a) "Policy" means the bodily injury and property damage liability, personal injury protection, medical payments, comprehensive, collision, and uninsured motorist coverage portions of a policy of motor vehicle insurance delivered or issued for delivery in this state:

24-00449E-19 2019896

1. Insuring a natural person as named insured or one or more related individuals  $\underline{\text{who are residents}}$   $\underline{\text{resident}}$  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), and subsections (6) and (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 provides bodily injury liability coverage and personal injury protection coverage, property damage liability coverage, or both.
- (b) "Binder" means a binder that provides motor vehicle bodily injury liability coverage personal injury protection and property damage liability coverage.

24-00449E-19 2019896

(5) (a) A licensed general lines agent may charge a perpolicy fee up 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 bodily injury liability coverage personal injury protection coverage as provided by s. 627.736 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 considered 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 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

24-00449E-19 2019896

written by the same insurer or a member of the same insurer group.

- $\underline{2. \text{ To}}$  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.
  - (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 liability and personal injury protection pursuant to ss. 627.730-627.7405; motor vehicle property damage liability coverage pursuant to s. 627.7275.; and bodily injury liability in at least the amount of \$10,000 because of bodily injury to, or death of, one person in any one accident and in the amount of \$20,000 because of bodily injury to, or death of, two or more persons in any one accident. This subsection and subsection (4) do not apply if an
- 2. An insured has had a policy in effect for at least 6 months, the insured's agent is terminated by the insurer that issued the policy, and the insured obtains coverage on the policy's renewal date with a new company through the terminated agent.
  - Section 41. Sections 627.730, 627.731, 627.7311, 627.732,

2014

2015

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2021

2022

2023

2024

20252026

2027

2028

2029

2030

24-00449E-19 2019896 2002 627.733, 627.734, 627.736, 627.737, 627.739, 627.7401, 627.7403, and 627.7405, Florida Statutes, which comprise the Florida Motor 2003 2004 Vehicle No-Fault Law, are repealed. 2005 Section 42. Section 627.7407, Florida Statutes, is 2006 repealed. 2007 Section 43. Paragraphs (b), (c), and (g) of subsection (7) 2008 and paragraph (b) of subsection (8) of section 627.748, Florida 2009 Statutes, are amended to read: 2010 627.748 Transportation network companies.-2011 (7) TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANY AND TNC DRIVER INSURANCE 2012 REQUIREMENTS.-

1. Automobile insurance that provides:

network but is not engaged in a prearranged ride:

a. A primary automobile liability coverage of at least \$50,000 for death and bodily injury per person, \$100,000 for death and bodily injury per incident, and \$25,000 for property damage; and

while a participating TNC driver is logged on to the digital

(b) The following automobile insurance requirements apply

- b. Personal injury protection benefits that meet the minimum coverage amounts required under ss. 627.730-627.7405; and
- $\underline{\text{b.e.}}$  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.

24-00449E-19 2019896

(c) The following automobile insurance requirements apply while a TNC driver is engaged in a prearranged ride:

- 1. Automobile insurance that provides:
- a. A primary automobile liability coverage of at least \$1 million for death, bodily injury, and property damage; and
- b. Personal injury protection benefits that meet the minimum coverage amounts required of a limousine under ss. 627.730-627.7405; and

 $\underline{\text{b.e.}}$  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

24-00449E-19 2019896

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 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;
  - 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 ride.
  - 4. This section does not preclude an insurer from providing

24-00449E-19 2019896

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 has have the same meaning as defined in chapter 320.
- (2) An accidental death and dismemberment policy sold in combination with a policy providing only bodily injury liability coverage personal injury protection and property damage liability coverage only policy.
- (3) Any product not regulated under the provisions of this insurance code.

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">motor vehicle liability insurance</a> coverages financed <a href="with-personal-injury-protection">with-personal-injury-protection</a> and shall prescribe the form of such disclosure.

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

628.909 Applicability of other laws.-

- (2) The following provisions of the Florida Insurance Code apply to captive insurance companies that 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 provided.
  - (d)<del>(e)</del> Chapter 628.
  - (3) The following provisions of the Florida Insurance Code shall apply to 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, 624.426, and 624.609(1).
  - (b) Chapter 625, part II, if the industrial insured captive insurance company is incorporated in this state.

2147 (c) Chapter 626, part IX.

2152

2153

2154

2155

2156

21572158

2159

2160

2161

2162

2163

2164

2165

2166

2167

2168

2169

2170

2171

2172

2173

2174

2175

- 2148 (d) Sections 627.730-627.7405 when no-fault coverage is 2149 provided.
- 2150 (d) (e) Chapter 628, except for ss. 628.341, 628.351, and 2151 628.6018.
  - Section 46. Subsections (2), (6), and (7) of section 705.184, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
  - 705.184 Derelict or abandoned motor vehicles on the premises of public-use airports.—
  - (2) The airport director or the director's designee shall contact the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to notify that department that the airport has possession of the abandoned or derelict motor vehicle and to determine the name and address of the owner of the motor vehicle, the insurance 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

2177

2178

2179

2180

2181

2182

2183

21842185

2186

2187

2188

2189

2190

2191

2192

2193

2194

2195

2196

2197

2198

2199

2200

2201

2202

2203

2204

24-00449E-19 2019896

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.

- (6) 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

2205 state:

22062207

2208

2209

2210

2213

2214

2215

2216

2217

2218

- 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.
- 3. The costs incurred from reasonable towing, storage, and parking fees, if any.
  - 4. A description of the motor vehicle sufficient for identification.
    - (b) The claim of lien shall be signed and sworn to or affirmed by the airport director or the director's designee.
  - (c) The claim of lien shall be sufficient if it is in substantially the following form:

2219

2220 CLAIM OF LIEN

2221 State of ......

2222 County of ......

2223 Before me, the undersigned notary public, personally appeared

2224 ....., who was duly sworn and says that he/she is the

2225 ...... of ....., whose address is....; and that the

2226 following described motor vehicle:

2227 ... (Description of motor vehicle)...

2228 owned by ....., whose address is ....., has accrued

2229 \$..... in fees for a reasonable tow, for storage, and for

2230 parking, if applicable; that the lienor served its notice to the

2231 owner, the insurance company insuring the motor vehicle

2232 notwithstanding the provisions of s. 627.736, Florida Statutes,

2233 and all persons of record claiming a lien against the motor

24-00449E-19 2019896 2234 vehicle on ...., ... (year)..., by....... 2235 ...(Signature)... 2236 Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me this .... day of 2237 ...., ... (year)..., by ... (name of person making statement).... 2238 ... (Signature of Notary Public)..... (Print, Type, or Stamp 2239 Commissioned name of Notary Public) ... 2240 Personally Known....OR Produced....as identification. 2241 2242 However, the negligent inclusion or omission of any information 2243 in this claim of lien which does not prejudice the owner does 2244 not constitute a default that operates to defeat an otherwise 2245 valid lien. 2246 (d) The claim of lien shall be served on the owner of the 2247 motor vehicle, the insurance company insuring the motor vehicle, 2248 notwithstanding the provisions of s. 627.736, and all persons of 2249 record claiming a lien against the motor vehicle. If attempts to 2250 notify the owner, the insurance company insuring the motor 2251 vehicle notwithstanding the provisions of s. 627.736, or 2252 lienholders are not successful, the requirement of notice by 2253 mail shall be considered met. The claim of lien shall be so 2254 served before recordation. (e) The claim of lien shall be recorded with the clerk of 2255 2256 court in the county where the airport is located. The recording 2257 of the claim of lien shall be constructive notice to all persons 2258 of the contents and effect of such claim. The lien shall attach 2259 at the time of recordation and shall take priority as of that 2260 time. 2261 Section 47. Paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of subsection (4)

of section 713.78, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

2262

24-00449E-19 2019896

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 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

2293

2294

2295

2296

2297

2298

2299

2300

2301

2302

2303

2304

2305

2306

2307

2308

2309

2310

2311

2312

2313

23142315

2316

23172318

23192320

24-00449E-19 2019896

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 3years of age or after 50 days if the vehicle or vessel is 3 years of age or less.

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.

24-00449E-19 2019896

(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;
- 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; 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

24-00449E-19 2019896

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. 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

24-00449E-19 2019896

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.

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, 2021.