**By** Senator Bradley

	5-00887A-22 20221272
1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to liens and bonds; amending s.
3	255.05, F.S.; revising when a notice of claim against
4	a payment bond and a notice of nonpayment must be
5	served; requiring that a copy of a notice of
6	nonpayment be served on the surety; revising when a
7	notice of nonpayment must be served; revising the
8	process for notarizing a notice of nonpayment;
9	removing the authority for a contractor to file an
10	alternative form of security rather than a bond;
11	requiring service of documents to be made in a
12	specified manner; conforming provisions to changes
13	made by the act; making technical changes; amending s.
14	337.18, F.S.; revising when a notice of nonpayment
15	must be served; providing that certain waivers apply
16	to certain contracts; requiring service of documents
17	to be made in a specified manner; conforming
18	provisions to changes made by the act; amending s.
19	713.01, F.S.; revising and defining terms; creating s.
20	713.011, F.S.; providing for the computation of time
21	when certain time periods fall on specified days or
22	during a declared state of emergency; providing that
23	certain orders constitute a state of emergency;
24	amending s. 713.09, F.S.; authorizing a lienor to
25	record one claim of lien for multiple direct
26	contracts; amending s. 713.10, F.S.; revising the
27	extent of certain liens; amending s. 713.13, F.S.;
28	revising information to be included in a notice of
29	commencement; conforming a cross-reference; revising

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30	the process for notarizing a notice of commencement;
31	amending s. 713.132, F.S.; revising requirements for a
32	notice of termination; amending s. 713.135, F.S.;
33	defining the term "copy of the notice of
34	commencement"; making technical changes; providing
35	that an issuing authority is not liable for failing to
36	verify that specified information has been filed;
37	amending s. 713.18, F.S.; requiring service of
38	documents relating to construction bonds to be made in
39	a specified manner; making technical changes; amending
40	s. 713.21, F.S.; authorizing the full or partial
41	release of a lien under specified conditions; amending
42	s. 713.22, F.S.; revising the information required in
43	a notice of contest of lien; amending s. 713.23, F.S.;
44	requiring that a copy of a notice of nonpayment be
45	served on the surety; revising the process for
46	notarizing a notice of nonpayment under a payment
47	bond; conforming provisions to changes made by the
48	act; amending s. 713.235, F.S.; conforming cross-
49	references; making technical changes; repealing s.
50	713.245, F.S., relating to conditional payment bonds;
51	repealing s. 713.25, F.S., relating to applicability
52	of ch. 65-456, Laws of Florida; amending s. 713.29,
53	F.S.; authorizing attorney fees in actions to enforce
54	a lien that has been transferred to security; amending
55	s. 95.11, F.S.; conforming cross-references; providing
56	an effective date.
57	
58	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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59	
60	Section 1. Present subsections (8) through (11) of section
61	255.05, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (7)
62	through (10), respectively, a new subsection (11) is added to
63	that section, and paragraph (a) of subsection (2) and present
64	subsections (6) and (7) are amended, to read:
65	255.05 Bond of contractor constructing public buildings;
66	form; action by claimants
67	(2)(a)1. If a claimant is no longer furnishing labor,
68	services, or materials on a project, a contractor or the
69	contractor's agent or attorney may elect to shorten the time
70	within which an action to enforce any claim against a payment
71	bond must be commenced by recording in the clerk's office a
72	notice in substantially the following form:
73	
74	NOTICE OF CONTEST OF CLAIM
75	AGAINST PAYMENT BOND
76	
77	To: (Name and address of claimant)
78	
79	You are notified that the undersigned contests your notice
80	of nonpayment, dated,, and served on the
81	undersigned on,, and that the time within
82	which you may file suit to enforce your claim is limited to 60
83	days after the date of service of this notice.
84	
85	DATED on,
86	
87	Signed:(Contractor or Attorney)
07	Signed(contractor of netoricy)

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88

89 The claim of a claimant upon whom such notice is served and who 90 fails to institute a suit to enforce his or her claim against 91 the payment bond within 60 days after service of such notice is 92 extinguished automatically. The contractor or the contractor's 93 attorney shall serve a copy of the notice of contest on to the 94 claimant at the address shown in the notice of nonpayment or 95 most recent amendment thereto and shall certify to such service on the face of the notice and record the notice. 96 2. A claimant, except a laborer, who is not in privity with 97 98 the contractor shall, before commencing or not later than 45 99 days after commencing to furnish labor, services, or materials 100 for the prosecution of the work, serve the contractor with a 101 written notice that he or she intends to look to the bond for 102 protection. If a certified copy of the recorded payment bond is 103 not provided before commencing work or before recommencing work 104 after a default or abandonment, as required under paragraph 105 (1) (b), then the claimant may serve the contractor with such 106 written notice up to 45 days after the date that the claimant is 107 served with a copy of the bond. A claimant who is not in privity 108 with the contractor and who has not received payment for 109 furnishing his or her labor, services, or materials shall serve 110 a written notice of nonpayment on the contractor and a copy of 111 the notice on the surety. The notice of nonpayment must shall be 112 under oath and served during the progress of the work or 113 thereafter but may not be served earlier than 45 days after the

114 first furnishing of labor, services, or materials by the

115 claimant or later than 90 days after the final furnishing of the 116 labor, services, or materials by the claimant or, with respect

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5-00887A-22 20221272 117 to rental equipment, later than 90 days after the date that the 118 rental equipment was last on the job site of the improvement 119 available for use. Any notice of nonpayment served by a claimant 120 who is not in privity with the contractor which includes sums 121 for retainage must specify the portion of the amount claimed for retainage. An action for the labor, services, or materials may 122 123 not be instituted against the contractor or the surety unless 124 the notice to the contractor and notice of nonpayment have been 125 served, if required by this section. Notices required or 126 permitted under this section must be served in accordance with 127 s. 713.18. A claimant may not waive in advance his or her right 128 to bring an action under the bond against the surety. In any 129 action brought to enforce a claim against a payment bond under 130 this section, the prevailing party is entitled to recover a reasonable fee for the services of his or her attorney for trial 131 132 and appeal or for arbitration, in an amount to be determined by 133 the court or arbitrator, which fee must be taxed as part of the 134 prevailing party's costs, as allowed in equitable actions. The 135 time periods for service of a notice of nonpayment or for 136 bringing an action against a contractor or a surety are shall be 137 measured from the last day of furnishing labor, services, or 138 materials by the claimant and may not be measured by other standards, such as the issuance of a certificate of occupancy or 139 140 the issuance of a certificate of substantial completion. The 141 negligent inclusion or omission of any information in the notice 142 of nonpayment that has not prejudiced the contractor or surety 143 does not constitute a default that operates to defeat an otherwise valid bond claim. A claimant who serves a fraudulent 144 notice of nonpayment forfeits his or her rights under the bond. 145

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146	A notice of nonpayment is fraudulent if the claimant has
147	willfully exaggerated the amount unpaid, willfully included a
148	claim for work not performed or materials not furnished for the
149	subject improvement, or prepared the notice with such willful
150	and gross negligence as to amount to a willful exaggeration.
151	However, a minor mistake or error in a notice of nonpayment, or
152	a good faith dispute as to the amount unpaid, does not
153	constitute a willful exaggeration that operates to defeat an
154	otherwise valid claim against the bond. The service of a
155	fraudulent notice of nonpayment is a complete defense to the
156	claimant's claim against the bond. The notice of nonpayment
157	under this subparagraph must include the following information,
158	current as of the date of the notice, and must be in
159	substantially the following form:
160	
161	NOTICE OF NONPAYMENT
162	
163	To:(name of contractor and address)
164	
165	(name of surety and address)
166	
167	The undersigned claimant notifies you that:
168	1. Claimant has furnished(describe labor, services, or
169	materials) for the improvement of the real property
170	identified as (property description) The corresponding
171	amount unpaid to date is \$, of which \$ is unpaid
172	retainage.
173	2. Claimant has been paid to date the amount of $\$\dots$ for
174	previously furnishing (describe labor, services, or

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175
     materials)... for this improvement.
176
          3. Claimant expects to furnish ... (describe labor,
177
     services, or materials)... for this improvement in the future
178
     (if known), and the corresponding amount expected to become due
179
     is $.... (if known).
180
181
     I declare that I have read the foregoing Notice of Nonpayment
182
     and that the facts stated in it are true to the best of my
183
     knowledge and belief.
184
185
     186
187
                             ... (signature and address of claimant) ...
188
189
     STATE OF FLORIDA
190
     COUNTY OF .....
191
192
     The foregoing instrument was sworn to (or affirmed) and
     subscribed before me by means of \Box physical presence or sworn to
193
194
     (or affirmed) by \Box online notarization this .... day of ....,
195
     ... (year)..., by ... (name of signatory)....
196
197
          ... (Signature of Notary Public - State of Florida)...
198
          ... (Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary
199
     Public)...
200
201
     Personally Known ...... OR Produced Identification ......
202
     Type of Identification Produced.....
203
```

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1	5-00887A-22 20221272
204	
205	(6) All payment bond forms used by a public owner and all
206	payment bonds executed pursuant to this section by a surety
207	shall make reference to this section by number, shall contain
208	reference to the notice and time limitation provisions in
209	subsections (2) and $(9)$ $(10)$ , and shall comply with the
210	requirements of paragraph (1)(a).
211	(7) In lieu of the bond required by this section, a
212	contractor may file with the state, county, city, or other
213	political authority an alternative form of security in the form
214	of cash, a money order, a certified check, a cashier's check, an
215	irrevocable letter of credit, or a security of a type listed in
216	part II of chapter 625. Any such alternative form of security
217	shall be for the same purpose and be subject to the same
218	conditions as those applicable to the bond required by this
219	section. The determination of the value of an alternative form
220	of security shall be made by the appropriate state, county,
221	city, or other political subdivision.
222	(11) Unless otherwise provided in this section, service of
223	any document must be made in accordance with s. 713.18.
224	Section 2. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section
225	337.18, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (6) is
226	added to that section, to read:
227	337.18 Surety bonds for construction or maintenance
228	contracts; requirement with respect to contract award; bond
229	requirements; defaults; damage assessments
230	(1)
231	(c) A claimant, except a laborer, who is not in privity
232	with the contractor shall, before commencing or not later than

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233	90 days after commencing to furnish labor, materials, or
234	supplies for the prosecution of the work, furnish the contractor
235	with a notice that he or she intends to look to the bond for
236	protection. A claimant who is not in privity with the contractor
237	and who has not received payment for his or her labor,
238	materials, or supplies shall deliver to the contractor and to
239	the surety written notice of the performance of the labor or
240	delivery of the materials or supplies and of the nonpayment. The
241	notice of nonpayment may be served at any time during the
242	progress of the work or thereafter but not <del>before 45 days after</del>
243	the first furnishing of labor, services, or materials, and not
244	later than 90 days after the final furnishing of the labor,
245	services, or materials by the claimant or, with respect to
246	rental equipment, not later than 90 days after the date that the
247	rental equipment was last on the <del>job</del> site <u>of the improvement</u>
248	available for use. An action by a claimant, except a laborer,
249	who is not in privity with the contractor for the labor,
250	materials, or supplies may not be instituted against the
251	contractor or the surety unless both notices have been given.
252	$\underline{\texttt{Written}}$ notices required or permitted under this section $\underline{\texttt{must}}$
253	may be served in <u>accordance with</u> any manner provided in s.
254	713.18, and provisions for the waiver of a claim or a right to
255	claim against a payment bond as described in s. 713.235 apply to
256	all contracts under this section.
257	(6) Unless otherwise provided in this section, service of
258	any document must be made in accordance with s. 713.18.
259	Section 3. Present subsections (13) through (29) of section
260	713.01, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (14)
261	through (30), respectively, a new subsection (13) is added to

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5-00887A-22 20221272 262 that section, and subsections (4), (8), and (12) of that section 263 are amended, to read: 264 713.01 Definitions.-As used in this part, the term: 265 (4) "Clerk's office" means the office of the clerk of the 266 circuit court of the county, or another office serving as the 267 county recorder as provided by law, in which the real property 268 is located. 269 (8) "Contractor" means a person other than a materialman or 270 laborer who enters into a contract with the owner of real 271 property for improving it, or who takes over from a contractor 272 as so defined the entire remaining work under such contract. The 273 term "contractor" includes an architect, landscape architect, or 274 engineer who improves real property pursuant to a design-build 275 contract authorized by s. 489.103(16). The term also includes a 276 licensed general contractor or building contractor, as those 277 terms are defined in s. 489.105(3)(a) and (b), respectively, who 278 provides construction management services, which include 279 scheduling and coordinating both preconstruction and construction phases for the successful, timely, and economical 280 281 completion of the construction project or who provides program 282 management services, which include schedule control, cost 283 control, and coordination in providing or procuring planning, 284 design, and construction. (12) "Final furnishing" means the last date that the lienor 285 286 furnishes labor, services, or materials. Such date may not be 287 measured by other standards, such as the issuance of a 288 certificate of occupancy or the issuance of a certificate of

289 final completion, and does not include <u>the</u> correction of 290 deficiencies in the lienor's previously performed work or

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291	materials supplied. With respect to rental equipment, the term
292	means the date that the rental equipment was last on the <del>job</del>
293	site of the improvement and available for use. With respect to
294	specially fabricated materials, the term means the date that the
295	last portion of the specially fabricated materials is delivered
296	to the site of the improvement, or if any portion of the
297	specially fabricated materials is not delivered to the site of
298	the improvement by no fault of the lienor, the term means 9
299	months after the date the lienor completes the fabrication, $9$
300	months after the date the lienor receives the last portion of
301	the specially fabricated materials needed to complete the order,
302	or the date the notice of commencement expires, whichever is
303	later.
304	(13) "Finance charge" means a contractually specified
305	additional amount to be paid by the obligor on any unpaid
306	balance if the obligor fails to pay the entire principal amount
307	to the obligee by the due date set forth in the credit agreement
308	or other contract.
309	Section 4. Section 713.011, Florida Statutes, is created to
310	read:
311	713.011 Computation of time
312	(1) In computing any time period under this part, if the
313	last day of the time period is a Saturday, Sunday, legal
314	holiday, or any day observed as a holiday by the clerk's office,
315	the time period is extended to the end of the next business day.
316	(2) During a state of emergency declared under chapter 252
317	in which the clerk's office is closed or not accessible because
318	of the state of emergency, any time periods imposed under this
319	part are tolled. Upon the expiration of the declared state of

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320	emergency, the number of days that were remaining for any
321	specified time period under this part on the first day of the
322	declared state of emergency shall commence on the first business
323	day after the end of the declared state of emergency.
324	(3) A federal, state, or local governmental order closing
325	or directing the closure of the clerk's office for any reason
326	constitutes a state of emergency for purposes of this section.
327	Section 5. Section 713.09, Florida Statutes, is amended to
328	read:
329	713.09 Single claim of lien.—A lienor <u>may</u> <del>is required to</del>
330	record only one claim of lien covering his or her entire demand
331	against the real property when the amount demanded is for labor
332	or services or material furnished for more than one improvement
333	under the same direct contract <u>or multiple direct contracts</u> . The
334	single claim of lien is sufficient even though the improvement
335	is for one or more improvements located on separate lots,
336	parcels, or tracts of land. If materials to be used on one or
337	more improvements on separate lots, parcels, or tracts of land
338	under one direct contract are delivered by a lienor to a place
339	designated by the person with whom the materialman contracted,
340	other than the site of the improvement, the delivery to the
341	place designated is prima facie evidence of delivery to the site
342	of the improvement and incorporation in the improvement. The
343	single claim of lien may be limited to a part of multiple lots,
344	parcels, or tracts of land and their improvements or may cover
345	all of the lots, parcels, or tracts of land and improvements. If
346	<u>a</u> <del>In each</del> claim of lien under this section <u>is for multiple</u>
347	direct contracts, the owner under the direct contracts contract
348	must be the same person for all lots, parcels, or tracts of land
·	

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349	against which a single claim of lien is recorded.
350	Section 6. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section
351	713.10, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (4) is
352	added to that section, to read:
353	713.10 Extent of liens
354	(2)
355	(b) The interest of the lessor is not subject to liens for
356	improvements made by the lessee when:
357	1. The lease, or a short form or a memorandum of the lease
358	that contains the specific language in the lease prohibiting
359	such liability, is recorded in the official records of the
360	county where the premises are located before the recording of a
361	notice of commencement for improvements to the premises and the
362	terms of the lease expressly prohibit such liability; or
363	2. The terms of the lease expressly prohibit such
364	liability, and a notice advising that leases for the rental of
365	premises on a parcel of land prohibit such liability has been
366	recorded in the official records of the county in which the
367	parcel of land is located before the recording of a notice of
368	commencement for improvements to the premises, and the notice
369	includes the following:
370	a. The name of the lessor.
371	b. The legal description of the parcel of land to which the
372	notice applies.
373	c. The specific language contained in the various leases
374	prohibiting such liability.
375	d. A statement that all or a majority of the leases entered
376	into for premises on the parcel of land expressly prohibit such
377	liability.
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378	3. The lessee is a mobile home owner who is leasing a
379	mobile home lot in a mobile home park from the lessor.
380	
381	A notice that is consistent with subparagraph 2. effectively
382	prohibits liens for improvements made by a lessee even if other
383	leases for premises on the parcel do not expressly prohibit
384	liens or if provisions of each lease restricting the application
385	of liens are not identical.
386	(4) The interest of the lessor is not subject to liens for
387	improvements made by the lessee when the lessee is a mobile home
388	owner who is leasing a mobile home lot in a mobile home park
389	from the lessor.
390	Section 7. Paragraphs (a) and (d) of subsection (1) of
391	section 713.13, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
392	713.13 Notice of commencement
393	(1)(a) Except for an improvement that is exempt <u>under</u>
394	<del>pursuant to</del> s. 713.02(5), an owner or the owner's authorized
395	agent before actually commencing to improve any real property,
396	or recommencing completion of any improvement after default or
397	abandonment, whether or not a project has a payment bond
398	complying with s. 713.23, shall record a notice of commencement
399	in the clerk's office and <del>forthwith</del> post either a certified copy
400	thereof or a notarized statement that the notice of commencement
401	has been filed for recording along with a copy thereof. The
402	notice of commencement shall contain <u>all of</u> the following
403	information:
404	1. A description sufficient for identification of the real
405	property to be improved. The description should include the
406	legal description of the property and also should include the

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407	street address and tax folio number of the property if available
408	or, if there is no street address available, such additional
409	information as will describe the physical location of the real
410	property to be improved.
411	2. A general description of the improvement.
412	3. The name and address of the owner, the owner's interest
413	in the site of the improvement, and the name and address of the
414	fee simple titleholder, if other than such owner.
415	4. The name and address of the lessee, if the A lessee who
416	contracts for the improvements <u>as</u> $is$ an owner as defined <u>in s.</u>
417	713.01 under s. 713.01(23) and must be listed as the owner
418	together with a statement that the ownership interest is a
419	leasehold interest.
420	5.4. The name and address of the contractor.
421	6.5. The name and address of the surety on the payment bond
422	under s. 713.23, if any, and the amount of such bond.
423	7.6. The name and address of any person making a loan for
424	the construction of the improvements.
425	8.7. The name and address within the state of a person
426	other than himself or herself who may be designated by the owner
427	as the person upon whom notices or other documents may be served
428	under this part; and service upon the person so designated
429	constitutes service upon the owner.
430	(d) A notice of commencement must be in substantially the
431	following form:
432	
433	Permit No Tax Folio No
434	NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT
435	State of

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436	County of
437	
438	The undersigned hereby gives notice that improvement will be
439	made to certain real property, and in accordance with Chapter
440	713, Florida Statutes, the following information is provided in
441	this Notice of Commencement.
442	1. Description of property:(legal description of the
443	property, and street address if available)
444	2. General description of improvement:
445	3.a. Owner:name and address
446	b. Owner's phone number: Owner information or Lessee
447	information if the Lessee contracted for the improvement:
448	a. Name and address:
449	<u>c.<del>b.</del></u> Interest in property:
450	d.e. Name and address of fee simple titleholder (if
451	different from Owner listed above):
452	4.a. Lessee, if the lessee contracted for the improvement:
453	(name and address)
454	b. Lessee's phone number:
455	5.a. Contractor: (name and address)
456	b. Contractor's phone number:
457	6.5. Surety (if applicable, a copy of the payment bond is
458	attached):
459	a. Name and address:
460	b. Phone number:
461	c. Amount of bond: \$
462	7.a. <del>6.a.</del> Lender:(name and address)
463	b. Lender's phone number:
464	8.7. Persons within the State of Florida designated by
I	

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1	5-00887A-22 20221272_
465	Owner upon whom notices or other documents may be served as
466	provided by Section <u>713.13(1)(a)8.</u> <del>713.13(1)(a)7.</del> , Florida
467	Statutes:
468	a. Name and address:
469	b. Phone numbers of designated persons:
470	9.a. <del>8.a.</del> In addition to himself or herself, Owner
471	designates of to receive a copy of the
472	Lienor's Notice as provided in Section 713.13(1)(b), Florida
473	Statutes.
474	b. Phone number of person or entity designated by
475	owner:
476	10.9. Expiration date of notice of commencement (the
477	expiration date will be 1 year <u>after</u> <del>from</del> the date of recording
478	unless a different date is specified)
479	
480	WARNING TO OWNER: ANY PAYMENTS MADE BY THE OWNER AFTER THE
481	EXPIRATION OF THE NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT ARE CONSIDERED IMPROPER
482	PAYMENTS UNDER CHAPTER 713, PART I, SECTION 713.13, FLORIDA
483	STATUTES, AND CAN RESULT IN YOUR PAYING TWICE FOR IMPROVEMENTS
484	TO YOUR PROPERTY. A NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT MUST BE RECORDED AND
485	POSTED ON THE JOB SITE BEFORE THE FIRST INSPECTION. IF YOU
486	INTEND TO OBTAIN FINANCING, CONSULT WITH YOUR LENDER OR AN
487	ATTORNEY BEFORE COMMENCING WORK OR RECORDING YOUR NOTICE OF
488	COMMENCEMENT.
489	
490	(Signature of Owner or Lessee, or Owner's or Lessee's
491	Authorized Officer/Director/Partner/Manager)
492	
493	(Signatory's Title/Office)
I	

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i.	5-00887A-22 20221272
494	
495	The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me by means of
496	$\Box$ physical presence or acknowledged before me by means of $\Box$
497	online notarization, this day of,(year), by
498	(name of person) as (type of authority, e.g.
499	officer, trustee, attorney in fact) for(name of party on
500	behalf of whom instrument was executed)
501	
502	(Signature of Notary Public - State of Florida)
503	
504	(Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public)
505	
506	Personally Known OR Produced Identification
507	
508	Type of Identification Produced
509	Section 8. Present subsection (4) of section 713.132,
510	Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (5) and amended,
511	a new subsection (4) is added to that section, and subsections
512	(1) and (3) of that section are amended, to read:
513	713.132 Notice of termination
514	(1) An owner may terminate the period of effectiveness of a
515	notice of commencement by executing, swearing to, and recording
516	a notice of termination that contains <u>all of the following</u> :
517	(a) The same information as the notice of commencement. $\dot{\cdot}$
518	(b) The <u>official records'</u> <del>recording office document book</del>
519	and page reference numbers and <u>recording</u> date <u>affixed by the</u>
520	recording office on $rac{d}{d}$ the recorded notice of commencement.+
521	(c) A statement of the date as of which the notice of
522	commencement is terminated, which date may not be earlier than
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523	30 days after the notice of termination is recorded.;
524	(d) A statement specifying that the notice applies to all
525	the real property subject to the notice of commencement or
526	specifying the portion of such real property to which it
527	applies <u>.</u> +
528	(e) A statement that all lienors have been paid in full. $\dot{\cdot}$
529	and
530	(f) A statement that the owner has, before recording the
531	notice of termination, served a copy of the notice of
532	termination <del>on the contractor and</del> on each lienor who has a
533	direct contract with the owner or who has timely served a notice
534	to owner, and a statement that the owner will serve a copy of
535	the notice of termination on each lienor who timely serves a
536	notice to owner after the notice of termination has been
537	recorded. The owner is not required to serve a copy of the
538	notice of termination on any lienor who has executed a waiver
539	and release of lien upon final payment in accordance with s.
540	713.20.
541	(3) An owner may <del>not</del> record a notice of termination <u>at any</u>
542	time after except after completion of construction, or after
543	construction ceases before completion and all lienors have been
544	paid in full or pro rata in accordance with s. 713.06(4).
545	(4) If an owner or a contractor, by fraud or collusion,
546	knowingly makes any fraudulent statement or affidavit in a
547	notice of termination or any accompanying affidavit, the owner
548	and the contractor, or either of them, <del>as the case may be,</del> is
549	liable to any lienor who suffers damages as a result of the
550	filing of the fraudulent notice of termination <u>/</u> + and any such
551	lienor has a right of action for damages <del>occasioned thereby</del> .
1	

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5-00887A-22 20221272 552 (5) (4) A notice of termination must be served before 553 recording on each lienor who has a direct contract with the 554 owner and on each lienor who has timely and properly served a 555 notice to owner in accordance with this part before the 556 recording of the notice of termination. A notice of termination 557 must be recorded in the official records of the county in which 558 the improvement is located. If properly served before recording 559 in accordance with this subsection, the notice of termination 560 terminates the period of effectiveness of the notice of 561 commencement 30 days after the notice of termination is recorded 562 in the official records is effective to terminate the notice of 563 commencement at the later of 30 days after recording of the 564 notice of termination or a later the date stated in the notice 565 of termination as the date on which the notice of commencement 566 is terminated. However, if a lienor who began work under the 567 notice of commencement before its termination lacks a direct 568 contract with the owner and timely serves his or her notice to 569 owner after the notice of termination has been recorded, the 570 owner must serve a copy of the notice of termination upon such 571 lienor, and the termination of the notice of commencement as to 572 that lienor is effective 30 days after service of the notice of 573 termination if the notice of termination has been served 574 pursuant to paragraph (1) (f) on the contractor and on each lienor who has a direct contract with the owner or who has 575 576 served a notice to owner. Section 9. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 713.135, 577 Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 578 579 713.135 Notice of commencement and applicability of lien.-580 (1) When a any person applies for a building permit, the

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581 authority issuing such permit shall:

582 (a) Print on the face of each permit card in no less than 583 14-point, capitalized, boldfaced type: "WARNING TO OWNER: YOUR 584 FAILURE TO RECORD A NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT MAY RESULT IN YOUR 585 PAYING TWICE FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO YOUR PROPERTY. A NOTICE OF 586 COMMENCEMENT MUST BE RECORDED AND POSTED ON THE JOB SITE BEFORE 587 THE FIRST INSPECTION. IF YOU INTEND TO OBTAIN FINANCING, CONSULT WITH YOUR LENDER OR AN ATTORNEY BEFORE RECORDING YOUR NOTICE OF 588 589 COMMENCEMENT."

590 (b) Provide the applicant and the owner of the real 591 property upon which improvements are to be constructed with a 592 printed statement stating that the right, title, and interest of 593 the person who has contracted for the improvement may be subject 594 to attachment under the Construction Lien Law. The Department of 595 Business and Professional Regulation shall furnish, for 596 distribution, the statement described in this paragraph, and the 597 statement must be a summary of the Construction Lien Law and 598 must include an explanation of the provisions of the 599 Construction Lien Law relating to the recording, and the posting 600 of copies, of notices of commencement and a statement 601 encouraging the owner to record a notice of commencement and 602 post a copy of the notice of commencement in accordance with s. 603 713.13. The statement must also contain an explanation of the 604 owner's rights if a lienor fails to furnish the owner with a 605 notice as provided in s. 713.06(2) and an explanation of the 606 owner's rights as provided in s. 713.22. The authority that 607 issues the building permit must obtain from the Department of 608 Business and Professional Regulation the statement required by this paragraph and must mail, deliver by electronic mail or 609

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610	
611	statement to the owner or, in a case in which the owner is
612	required to personally appear to obtain the permit, provide that
613	statement to any owner making improvements to real property
614	consisting of a single or multiple family dwelling up to and
615	including four units. However, the failure by the authorities to
616	provide the summary does not subject the issuing authority to
617	liability.
618	(c) In addition to providing the owner with the statement
619	as required by paragraph (b), inform each applicant who is not
620	the person whose right, title, and interest is subject to
621	attachment that, as a condition to the issuance of a building
622	permit, the applicant must promise in good faith that the
623	statement will be delivered to the person whose property is
624	subject to attachment.
625	(d) Furnish to the applicant two or more copies of a form
626	of notice of commencement conforming with s. 713.13.
627	(e) Require If the direct contract is greater than \$2,500,
628	the applicant <u>to</u> <del>shall</del> file with the issuing authority <u>before</u>
629	<del>prior to</del> the first inspection <del>either</del> a <del>certified</del> copy of the
630	recorded notice of commencement if the direct contract is
631	greater than \$2,500. For purposes of this paragraph, the term
632	"copy of the notice of commencement" means a certified copy of
633	the recorded notice of commencement, or a notarized statement
634	that the notice of commencement has been filed for recording $_{m  au}$
635	along with a copy thereof, or the clerk's office official
636	records identifying information that includes the instrument
637	number for the notice of commencement or the number and page of
638	book where the notice of commencement is recorded, as identified
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639 by the clerk.

640 <u>1.</u> In the absence of the filing of a certified copy of the 641 recorded notice of commencement, the issuing authority or a 642 private provider performing inspection services may not perform 643 or approve subsequent inspections until the applicant files by 644 mail, facsimile, hand delivery, or any other means such 645 certified copy with the issuing authority.

646 2. The certified copy of the notice of commencement must 647 contain the name and address of the owner, the name and address 648 of the contractor, and the location or address of the property 649 being improved. The issuing authority shall verify that the name 650 and address of the owner, the name of the contractor, and the 651 location or address of the property being improved which is 652 contained in the certified copy of the notice of commencement is consistent with the information in the building permit 653 654 application.

3. The issuing authority shall provide the recording
information on the certified copy of the recorded notice of
commencement to any person upon request.

658 4. This subsection does not require the recording of a 659 notice of commencement before prior to the issuance of a building permit. If a local government requires a separate 660 661 permit or inspection for installation of temporary electrical 662 service or other temporary utility service, land clearing, or other preliminary site work, such permits may be issued and such 663 664 inspections may be conducted without providing the issuing 665 authority with a certified copy of the a recorded notice of 666 commencement or a notarized statement regarding a recorded 667 notice of commencement. This subsection does not apply to a

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1	5-00887A-22 20221272
668	direct contract to repair or replace an existing heating or air-
669	conditioning system in an amount less than \$7,500.
670	(f) (e) Not require that a notice of commencement be
671	recorded as a condition of the application for, or processing or
672	issuance of, a building permit. However, this paragraph does not
673	modify or waive the inspection requirements set forth in this
674	subsection.
675	
676	This subsection does not apply to a direct contract to repair or
677	replace an existing heating or air-conditioning system in an
678	amount less than \$7,500.
679	(3) An issuing authority under subsection (1) is not liable
680	in any civil action for the failure to verify that a certified
681	copy of the recorded notice of commencement, a notarized
682	statement that the notice of commencement has been filed for
683	recording along with a copy thereof, or the clerk's office
684	official records identifying information that includes the
685	instrument number for the notice of commencement or the number
686	and page of book where the notice of commencement is recorded,
687	as identified by the clerk, has been filed in accordance with
688	this section.
689	Section 10. Section 713.18, Florida Statutes, is amended to
690	read:
691	713.18 Manner of serving <u>documents</u> <del>notices and other</del>
692	instruments
693	(1) Unless otherwise specifically provided by law, service
694	of any document notices, claims of lien, affidavits,
695	assignments, and other instruments permitted or required under
696	this part, <u>s. 255.05, or s. 337.18,</u> or copies thereof when so
I	

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697	permitted or required, unless otherwise specifically provided in
698	this part, must be made by one of the following methods:
699	(a) By <u>hand</u> actual delivery to the person to be served; if
700	a partnership, to one of the partners; if a corporation, to an
701	officer, director, managing agent, or business agent; or, if a
702	limited liability company, to a member or manager.
703	(b) By common carrier delivery service or by registered,
704	Global Express Guaranteed, or certified mail to the person to be
705	served, with postage or shipping paid by the sender and with
706	evidence of delivery, which may be in an electronic format.
707	(c) By posting on the site of the improvement if service as
708	provided by paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) cannot be
709	accomplished.
710	(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), service of a notice to
711	owner or a preliminary notice to contractor under this part, s.
712	255.05, <u>or</u> s. 337.18 <del>, or s. 713.23</del> is effective as of the date
713	of mailing and the requirements for service under this section
714	have been satisfied if all of the following requirements have
715	been met:
716	(a) The notice is mailed by registered, Global Express
717	Guaranteed, or certified mail, with postage prepaid, to the
718	person to be served <u>and addressed as prescribed</u> <del>at any of the</del>
719	addresses set forth in subsection (3). $\div$
720	(b) The notice is mailed within 40 days after the date the
721	lienor first furnishes labor, services, or materials. <del>; and</del>
722	(c)1. The person who served the notice maintains a
723	registered or certified mail log that shows the registered or
724	certified mail number issued by the United States Postal
725	Service, the name and address of the person served, and the date
1	

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726
     stamp of the United States Postal Service confirming the date of
727
     mailing; or
          2. The person who served the notice maintains electronic
728
729
     tracking records approved or generated by the United States
730
     Postal Service containing the postal tracking number, the name
731
     and address of the person served, and verification of the date
732
     of receipt by the United States Postal Service.
733
           (3) (a) Notwithstanding subsection (1), service of a
734
     document under an instrument pursuant to this section is
735
     effective on the date of mailing or shipping, and the
736
     requirements for service under this section have been satisfied,
737
     the instrument if the document it:
738
          1. Is sent to the last address shown in the notice of
739
     commencement or any amendment thereto or, in the absence of a
740
     notice of commencement, to the last address shown in the
741
     building permit application, or to the last known address of the
742
     person to be served.; and
743
          2. Is returned as being "refused," "moved, not
744
     forwardable," or "unclaimed," or is otherwise not delivered or
745
     deliverable through no fault of the person serving the document
746
     item.
747
          (b) If the address shown in the notice of commencement or
748
     any amendment thereto to the notice of commencement, or, in the
749
     absence of a notice of commencement, in the building permit
750
     application, is incomplete for purposes of mailing or delivery,
     the person serving the document item may complete the address
751
752
     and properly format it according to United States Postal Service
753
     addressing standards using information obtained from the
754
     property appraiser or another public record without affecting
```

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755	the validity of service under this section.
756	(4) A <u>document</u> <del>notice</del> served by a lienor on one owner or
757	one partner of a partnership owning the real property is deemed
758	served on notice to all owners and partners.
759	Section 11. Section 713.21, Florida Statutes, is amended to
760	read:
761	713.21 Discharge of lien.—A lien properly perfected under
762	this chapter may be discharged, or released in whole or in part,
763	by any of the following methods:
764	(1) By entering satisfaction of the lien upon the margin of
765	the record thereof in the clerk's office when not otherwise
766	prohibited by law. This satisfaction shall be signed by the
767	lienor, the lienor's agent or attorney and attested by said
768	clerk. Any person who executes a claim of lien $\underline{has}\ \underline{shall}\ \underline{have}$
769	authority to execute a satisfaction in the absence of actual
770	notice of lack of authority to any person relying on the same.
771	(2) By the satisfaction or release of the lienor, duly
772	acknowledged and recorded in the clerk's office. The
773	satisfaction or release must include the lienor's notarized
774	signature and set forth the official records' reference numbers
775	and recording date affixed by the recording office on the
776	<u>subject lien.</u> Any person who executes a claim of lien <u>has</u> <del>shall</del>
777	have authority to execute a satisfaction <u>or release</u> in the
778	absence of actual notice of lack of authority to any person
779	relying on the same.
780	(3) By failure to begin an action to enforce the lien
781	within the time prescribed in this part.

(4) By an order of the circuit court of the county wherethe property is located, as provided in this subsection. Upon

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1	5-00887A-22 20221272
784	filing a complaint therefor by any interested party the clerk
785	shall issue a summons to the lienor to show cause within 20 days
786	why his or her lien should not be enforced by action or vacated
787	and canceled of record. Upon failure of the lienor to show cause
788	why his or her lien should not be enforced or the lienor's
789	failure to commence such action before the return date of the
790	summons the court shall forthwith order cancellation of the
791	lien.
792	(5) By recording in the clerk's office the original or a
793	certified copy of a judgment or decree of a court of competent
794	jurisdiction showing a final determination of the action.
795	Section 12. Subsection (2) of section 713.22, Florida
796	Statutes, is amended to read:
797	713.22 Duration of lien
798	(2) An owner or the owner's attorney may elect to shorten
799	the time prescribed in subsection (1) within which to commence
800	an action to enforce any claim of lien or claim against a bond
801	or other security under s. 713.23 or s. 713.24 by recording in
802	the clerk's office a notice in substantially the following form:
803	
804	NOTICE OF CONTEST OF LIEN
805	To: (Name and address of lienor)
806	
807	You are notified that the undersigned contests the claim of lien
808	filed by you on,(year), and recorded in Book
809	, Page, of the public records of County, Florida,
810	and that the time within which you may file suit to enforce your
811	lien is limited to 60 days from the date of service of this
812	notice. This day of,(year)
I	

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813	
814	Signed:(Owner or Attorney)
815	
816	The lien of any lienor upon whom such recorded notice is served
817	and who fails to institute a suit to enforce his or her lien
818	within 60 days after service of such <u>recorded</u> notice shall be
819	extinguished automatically. The clerk shall serve, in accordance
820	with s. 713.18, a copy of the <u>recorded</u> notice of contest to the
821	lien claimant at the address shown in the claim of lien or most
822	recent amendment thereto and shall certify to such service and
823	the date of service on the face of the notice and record the
824	notice.
825	Section 13. Paragraphs (d) and (e) of subsection (1) of
826	section 713.23, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
827	713.23 Payment bond
828	(1)
829	(d) In addition, a lienor who has not received payment for
830	furnishing his or her labor, services, or materials must, as a
831	condition precedent to recovery under the bond, serve a written
832	notice of nonpayment <u>on</u> <del>to</del> the contractor and <u>a copy of the</u>
833	notice on the surety. The notice must be under oath and served
834	during the progress of the work or thereafter, but may not be
835	served later than 90 days after the final furnishing of labor,
836	services, or materials by the lienor, or, with respect to rental
837	equipment, later than 90 days after the date the rental
838	equipment was on the <del>job</del> site <u>of the improvement</u> and available
839	for use. A notice of nonpayment that includes sums for retainage
840	must specify the portion of the amount claimed for retainage.
841	The required notice satisfies this condition precedent with

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5-00887A-22 20221272 842 respect to the payment described in the notice of nonpayment, 843 including unpaid finance charges due under the lienor's 844 contract, and with respect to any other payments which become 845 due to the lienor after the date of the notice of nonpayment. 846 The time period for serving a notice of nonpayment is shall be 847 measured from the last day of furnishing labor, services, or 848 materials by the lienor and may not be measured by other 849 standards, such as the issuance of a certificate of occupancy or 850 the issuance of a certificate of substantial completion. The 851 failure of a lienor to receive retainage sums not in excess of 852 10 percent of the value of labor, services, or materials 853 furnished by the lienor is not considered a nonpayment requiring 854 the service of the notice provided under this paragraph. If the 855 payment bond is not recorded before commencement of 856 construction, the time period for the lienor to serve a notice 857 of nonpayment may, at the option of the lienor, be calculated 858 from the date specified in this section or the date the lienor 859 is served a copy of the bond. However, the limitation period for 860 commencement of an action on the payment bond as established in 861 paragraph (e) may not be expanded. The negligent inclusion or 862 omission of any information in the notice of nonpayment that has 863 not prejudiced the contractor or surety does not constitute a default that operates to defeat an otherwise valid bond claim. A 864 865 lienor who serves a fraudulent notice of nonpayment forfeits his 866 or her rights under the bond. A notice of nonpayment is fraudulent if the lienor has willfully exaggerated the amount 867 868 unpaid, willfully included a claim for work not performed or 869 materials not furnished for the subject improvement, or prepared the notice with such willful and gross negligence as to amount 870

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1	5-00887A-22 20221272
871	to a willful exaggeration. However, a minor mistake or error in
872	a notice of nonpayment, or a good faith dispute as to the amount
873	unpaid, does not constitute a willful exaggeration that operates
874	to defeat an otherwise valid claim against the bond. The service
875	of a fraudulent notice of nonpayment is a complete defense to
876	the lienor's claim against the bond. The notice under this
877	paragraph must include the following information, current as of
878	the date of the notice, and must be in substantially the
879	following form:
880	
881	NOTICE OF NONPAYMENT
882	
883	To(name of contractor and address)
884	
885	(name of surety and address)
886	
887	The undersigned lienor notifies you that:
888	
889	1. The lienor has furnished(describe labor, services,
890	or materials) for the improvement of the real property
891	identified as (property description) The corresponding
892	amount unpaid to date is \$, of which \$ is unpaid
893	retainage.
894	2. The lienor has been paid to date the amount of $\$\dots$ for
895	previously furnishing (describe labor, services, or
896	materials) for this improvement.
897	3. The lienor expects to furnish(describe labor,
898	services, or materials) for this improvement in the future
899	(if known), and the corresponding amount expected to become due
I	

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900
     is $.... (if known).
901
902
     I declare that I have read the foregoing Notice of Nonpayment
903
     and that the facts stated in it are true to the best of my
904
     knowledge and belief.
905
906
     907
908
                               ... (signature and address of lienor) ...
909
910
     STATE OF FLORIDA
911
     COUNTY OF.....
912
913
     The foregoing instrument was sworn to (or affirmed) and
914
     subscribed before me by means of \Box physical presence or sworn to
915
     (or affirmed) by \Box online notarization, this .... day of ....,
916
     ... (year)..., by ... (name of signatory)....
917
          ... (Signature of Notary Public - State of Florida)...
918
          ... (Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary
919
     Public)...
920
921
     Personally Known ...... OR Produced Identification .....
922
923
     Type of Identification Produced.....
924
          (e) An action for the labor, <del>or</del> materials, or supplies may
     not be instituted or prosecuted against the contractor or surety
925
926
     unless both notices have been given, if required by this
927
     section. An action may not be instituted or prosecuted against
928
     the contractor or against the surety on the bond under this
```

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5-00887A-22 20221272 929 section after 1 year from the performance of the labor or 930 completion of delivery of the materials and supplies. The time 931 period for bringing an action against the contractor or surety 932 on the bond is shall be measured from the last day of furnishing 933 labor, services, or materials by the lienor. The time period may 934 not be measured by other standards, such as the issuance of a 935 certificate of occupancy or the issuance of a certificate of 936 substantial completion. A contractor or the contractor's 937 attorney may elect to shorten the time within which an action to 938 enforce any claim against a payment bond provided under this 939 section or s. 713.245 must be commenced at any time after a 940 notice of nonpayment, if required, has been served for the claim 941 by recording in the clerk's office a notice in substantially the 942 following form: 943 944 NOTICE OF CONTEST OF CLAIM 945 AGAINST PAYMENT BOND 946 947 To: ... (Name and address of lienor) ... 948 You are notified that the undersigned contests your notice 949 of nonpayment, dated ...., and served on the undersigned 950 on ...., and that the time within which you may file suit 951 to enforce your claim is limited to 60 days after from the date 952 of service of this notice. 953 954 DATED on ...., ..... 955 956 Signed: ... (Contractor or Attorney) ... 957

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958	The claim of any lienor upon whom the notice is served and who
959	fails to institute a suit to enforce his or her claim against
960	the payment bond within 60 days after service of the notice
961	shall be extinguished automatically. The contractor or the
962	contractor's attorney shall serve a copy of the notice of
963	contest to the lienor at the address shown in the notice of
964	nonpayment or most recent amendment thereto and shall certify to
965	such service on the face of the notice and record the notice.
966	Section 14. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 713.235,
967	Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
968	713.235 Waivers of right to claim against payment bond;
969	forms
970	(1) When a person is required to execute a waiver of his or
971	her right to make a claim against a payment bond provided <u>under</u>
972	<del>pursuant to</del> s. 713.23 <del>or s. 713.245</del> , in exchange for, or to
973	induce payment of, a progress payment, the waiver may be in
974	substantially the following form:
975	
976	WAIVER OF RIGHT TO CLAIM
977	AGAINST THE PAYMENT BOND
978	(PROGRESS PAYMENT)
979	
980	The undersigned, in consideration of the sum of $\$\dots$
981	hereby waives its right to claim against the payment bond for
982	labor, services, or materials furnished through(insert
983	date), to(insert the name of your customer) on the job
984	of $\ldots$ (insert the name of the owner), for improvements to the
985	following described project:
986	
I	

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987	(description of project)
988	
989	This waiver does not cover any retention or any labor, services,
990	or materials furnished after the date specified.
991	DATED on
992	(Lienor)
993	By:
994	(2) When a person is required to execute a waiver of his or
995	her right to make a claim against a payment bond provided <u>under</u>
996	<del>pursuant to</del> s. 713.23 <del>or s. 713.245</del> , in exchange for, or to
997	induce payment of, the final payment, the waiver may be in
998	substantially the following form:
999	
1000	WAIVER OF RIGHT TO CLAIM
1001	AGAINST THE PAYMENT BOND
1002	
1003	(FINAL PAYMENT)
1004	
1005	The undersigned, in consideration of the final payment in
1006	the amount of $\$\ldots$ , hereby waives its right to claim against
1007	the payment bond for labor, services, or materials furnished to
1008	(insert the name of your customer) on the job of
1009	$\ldots$ (insert the name of the owner), for improvements to the
1010	following described project:
1011	(description of project)
1012	
1013	DATED on
1014	(Lienor)
1015	Ву:

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1016	Section 15. Section 713.245, Florida Statutes, is repealed.
1017	Section 16. Section 713.25, Florida Statutes, is repealed.
1018	Section 17. Section 713.29, Florida Statutes, is amended to
1019	read:
1020	713.29 Attorney Attorney's fees.—In any action brought to
1021	enforce a lien, including a lien that has been transferred to
1022	security, or to enforce a claim against a bond under this part,
1023	the prevailing party is entitled to recover a reasonable fee for
1024	the services of her or his attorney for trial and appeal or for
1025	arbitration, in an amount to be determined by the court, which
1026	fee must be taxed as part of the prevailing party's costs, as
1027	allowed in equitable actions.
1028	Section 18. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) and paragraph
1029	(e) of subsection (5) of section 95.11, Florida Statutes, are
1030	amended to read:
1031	95.11 Limitations other than for the recovery of real
1032	propertyActions other than for recovery of real property shall
1033	be commenced as follows:
1034	(2) WITHIN FIVE YEARS.—
1035	(b) A legal or equitable action on a contract, obligation,
1036	or liability founded on a written instrument, except for an
1037	action to enforce a claim against a payment bond, which shall be
1038	governed by the applicable provisions of paragraph (5)(e), <u>s.</u>
1039	<u>255.05(9)</u> <del>s. 255.05(10)</del> , s. 337.18(1), or s. 713.23(1)(e), and
1040	except for an action for a deficiency judgment governed by
1041	paragraph (5)(h).
1042	(5) WITHIN ONE YEAR.—
1043	(e) Except for actions governed by <u>s. 255.05(9)</u> <del>s.</del>
1044	<del>255.05(10)</del> , s. 337.18(1), or s. 713.23(1)(e), an action to

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1045	enforce any claim against a payment bond on which the principal
1046	is a contractor, subcontractor, or sub-subcontractor as defined
1047	in s. 713.01, for private work as well as public work, from the
1048	last furnishing of labor, services, or materials or from the
1049	last furnishing of labor, services, or materials by the
1050	contractor if the contractor is the principal on a bond on the
1051	same construction project, whichever is later.
1052	Section 19. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.