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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to boating safety; providing a short
3 title; amending s. 327.30, F.S.; authorizing a court
4 to impose a specified fine for certain boating
5 collisions and accidents; requiring such fines to be
6 deposited into the Marine Resources Conservation Trust
7 Fund for specified purposes; defining terms; amending
8 s. 327.54, F.S.; defining terms; prohibiting liveries
9 from offering a vessel for lease or rent without a
10 livery permit; specifying requirements and
11 qualifications for the permit; authorizing the Fish
12 and Wildlife Conservation Commission to adopt rules;
13 providing penalties for permit violations; revising
14 the conditions under which a livery may not knowingly
15 lease or rent a vessel; requiring a person receiving
16 safety instruction to provide the livery with a
17 specified signed attestation; requiring a written
18 agreement between a livery and a renter or lessee;
19 providing requirements for such agreement; requiring a
20 livery to notify law enforcement of overdue rentals or
21 leases under certain circumstances; prohibiting a
22 livery from knowingly leasing or renting a livery
23 vessel to certain persons; providing an exception;
24 revising livery insurance requirements; providing
25 applicability; requiring specified boating safety
26 education courses for certain instructors; requiring
27 liveries to report certain accidents to the Division
28 of Law Enforcement of the commission; requiring
29 liveries to make facilities and records available to

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30 law enforcement upon notice; providing penalties for
31 violations and additional penalties for subsequent
32 violations; prohibiting certain violators from acting
33 as a livery for a specified timeframe after such a
34 violation; authorizing the commission, beginning on a
35 specified date, to revoke or refuse to issue permits
36 for repeated violations; amending s. 327.73, F.S.;
37 increasing fines for violations of certain boating
38 regulations; providing fines for improper transfers of
39 title and failures to update vessel registration
40 information; authorizing certain fees and penalties
41 deposited into the Marine Resources Conservation Trust
42 Fund to be used for law enforcement purposes; amending
43 s. 327.731, F.S.; imposing a fine for persons
44 convicted of certain criminal or noncriminal
45 infractions; providing for the deposit of such fines
46 into the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund;
47 requiring the commission to maintain a program to
48 ensure compliance with certain boating safety
49 education requirements; specifying requirements for
50 the program; amending s. 328.03, F.S.; providing that
51 an improper transfer of vessel title is subject to a
52 civil penalty; amending s. 328.48, F.S.; requiring
53 that the address provided in a vessel registration
54 application and a certificate of registration be a
55 physical residential or business address; authorizing
56 the commission to accept post office box addresses in
57 lieu of the physical residential or business address;
58 providing that a person who fails to update his or her

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59 vessel registration information within a specified
60 timeframe is subject to a civil penalty; providing
61 effective dates.

62
63 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

64
65 Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Boating Safety Act
66 of 2022."

67 Section 2. Subsection (7) is added to section 327.30,
68 Florida Statutes, to read:

69 327.30 Collisions, accidents, and casualties.—

70 (7) In addition to any other penalty provided by law, a
71 court may order a person convicted of a violation of this
72 section or of any rule adopted or order issued by the commission
73 pursuant to this section to pay an additional fine of up to
74 \$1,000 per violation. All fines assessed and collected pursuant
75 to this subsection shall be remitted by the clerk of the court
76 to the Department of Revenue to be deposited into the Marine
77 Resources Conservation Trust Fund to be used to enhance state
78 and local law enforcement activities related to boating
79 infractions. As used in this subsection, the terms "convicted"
80 and "conviction" mean any judicial disposition other than
81 acquittal or dismissal.

82 Section 3. Effective January 1, 2023, section 327.54,
83 Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

84 327.54 Liveries; safety regulations; penalty.—

85 (1) As used in this section, the term:

86 (a) "Advertise" means to describe or draw attention to a
87 vessel and its availability for lease or rental in any medium

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88 for the purpose of promoting the lease or rental of the vessel.

89 (b) "Conviction" means any judicial disposition other than
90 acquittal or dismissal.

91 (c) "Livery" means a person who advertises and offers a
92 livery vessel for use by another in exchange for any type of
93 consideration when such person does not also provide the lessee
94 or renter with a captain, a crew, or any type of staff or
95 personnel to operate, oversee, maintain, or manage the vessel.
96 The owner of a vessel who does not advertise his or her vessel
97 for use by another for consideration and who loans or offers his
98 or her vessel for use to another known to him or her either for
99 consideration or without consideration is not a livery. A public
100 or private school or postsecondary institution located within
101 this state is not a livery. A vessel rented or leased by a
102 livery is a livery vessel as defined in s. 327.02.

103 (d) "Seaworthy" means the vessel and all of its parts and
104 equipment, including, but not limited to, engines, bilge pumps,
105 and kill switches, are functional and reasonably fit for their
106 intended purpose.

107 (2) A livery may not offer a vessel for lease or rent
108 without first being issued a no-cost livery permit by the
109 commission. The permit must be renewed annually. To qualify for
110 issuance or renewal of a livery permit, an applicant must
111 provide the commission with a list of all vessels offered by the
112 livery for lease or rent by another, have valid insurance
113 pursuant to subsection (7), have an amount of United States
114 Coast Guard-approved lawful personal floatation devices on site
115 sufficient to accommodate the capacity of all vessels offered by
116 the livery for rent or lease by another, have on site all safety

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117 equipment required by s. 327.50 and the Code of Federal
118 Regulations sufficient to equip all vessels offered by the
119 livery for rent or lease by another, and display the information
120 required by paragraph (3) (f). If, before the annual renewal of
121 the permit, the information required by this subsection changes,
122 the livery must provide the commission with the updated
123 information within 10 days after the change.

124 (a) The commission may adopt rules to implement this
125 subsection.

126 (b) A person who violates this subsection commits a
127 misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s.
128 775.082 or s. 775.083.

129 (3) A livery may not knowingly lease, ~~hire,~~ or rent a
130 vessel to any person:

131 (a) When the number of persons intending to use the vessel
132 exceeds the number considered to constitute a maximum safety
133 load for the vessel as specified on the authorized persons
134 capacity plate of the vessel.

135 (b) When the horsepower of the motor exceeds the capacity
136 of the vessel.

137 (c) When the vessel does not contain the ~~required~~ safety
138 equipment required under s. 327.50.

139 (d) When the vessel is not seaworthy, is a derelict vessel
140 as defined in s. 823.11, or is at risk of becoming derelict as
141 provided in s. 327.4107.

142 (e) ~~When the vessel is equipped with a motor of 10~~
143 ~~horsepower or greater,~~ Unless the livery provides pre-rental
144 ~~prerental~~ or pre-ride ~~preride~~ instruction in compliance with
145 rules established by the commission.

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146 1. The instruction must include ~~that includes,~~ but need not
147 be limited to:

148 a.1. Operational characteristics of the vessel to be
149 rented.

150 b.2. Safe vessel operation and vessel right-of-way.

151 c.3. The responsibility of the vessel operator for the safe
152 and proper operation of the vessel.

153 d.4. Local characteristics of the waterway where the vessel
154 will be operated, such as navigational hazards, the presence of
155 boating-restricted areas, and water depths.

156 e. Emergency procedures, such as appropriate responses to
157 capsizing, falls overboard, taking on water, and vessel
158 accidents.

159 2. Any person receiving instruction in the safe handling of
160 livery vessels pursuant to this paragraph must provide the
161 livery with a written statement attesting to each component of
162 the instruction.

163 a. The commission shall establish by rule the content of
164 the statement form.

165 b. The statement form must be signed by the individual
166 providing the instruction.

167 c. The livery shall maintain the statement form for no less
168 than 90 days and, upon request, make the form available for
169 inspection by law enforcement.

170
171 ~~Any person delivering the information specified in this~~
172 ~~paragraph must have successfully completed a boater safety~~
173 ~~course approved by the National Association of State Boating Law~~
174 ~~Administrators and this state.~~

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175 (f) Unless the livery displays boating safety information
176 in a place visible to the renting public. The commission shall
177 prescribe by rule, pursuant to chapter 120, the contents and
178 size of the boating safety information to be displayed.

179 (g) Unless the livery has a written agreement with the
180 renter or lessee. The written agreement must include the name,
181 address, and date of birth for the renter and the number of
182 people aboard the vessel, as well as the time the vessel is
183 required to be returned to the livery or another specified
184 location and an emergency contact name, address, and telephone
185 number. The livery shall maintain each agreement for no less
186 than 1 year and, upon request, make each agreement available for
187 inspection by law enforcement.

188 (4)(2) A livery may not knowingly lease, ~~hire,~~ or rent a
189 vessel to a person who is required to comply with s. 327.395
190 unless such person presents to the livery the documentation
191 required by s. 327.395(2) for the operation of a vessel or meets
192 the exemption provided under s. 327.395(6)(f).

193 (5)(3) If a vessel rented or leased by a livery is
194 unnecessarily overdue more than 4 hours after the contracted
195 vessel rental time has expired, the livery must ~~shall~~ notify law
196 enforcement the proper authorities.

197 (6)(4)(a) A livery may not knowingly lease, ~~hire,~~ or rent a
198 livery vessel, other than a human-powered vessel, personal
199 watercraft to any person who is under 18 years of age.

200 ~~(b) A livery may not knowingly lease, hire, or rent a~~
201 ~~personal watercraft to any person who has not received~~
202 ~~instruction in the safe handling of personal watercraft, in~~
203 ~~compliance with rules established by the commission pursuant to~~

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204 ~~chapter 120.~~

205 ~~(c) Any person receiving instruction in the safe handling~~
206 ~~of personal watercraft pursuant to a program established by rule~~
207 ~~of the commission must provide the livery with a written~~
208 ~~statement attesting to the same.~~

209 ~~(7)~~(5) A livery may not lease, ~~hire,~~ or rent any ~~personal~~
210 ~~watercraft~~ or offer to lease, ~~hire,~~ or rent any livery vessel
211 ~~personal watercraft~~ unless the livery first obtains and carries
212 in full force and effect a policy from a licensed insurance
213 carrier in this state which insures the livery and the renter,
214 ~~insuring~~ against any accident, loss, injury, property damage, or
215 other casualty caused by or resulting from the operation of the
216 livery vessel ~~personal watercraft~~. The insurance policy must
217 ~~shall~~ provide coverage of at least \$500,000 per person and \$1
218 million per event. The livery shall ~~must~~ have proof of such
219 insurance available for inspection at the location where livery
220 vessels ~~personal watercraft~~ are being leased, ~~hired,~~ or rented,
221 or offered for lease, ~~hire,~~ or rent, and shall provide to each
222 renter the insurance carrier's name and address and the
223 insurance policy number. This subsection does not apply to
224 human-powered vessels.

225 (8) Notwithstanding the person's age or any exemptions
226 provided in s. 327.395, any person delivering instruction
227 regarding the safe operation of vessels or pre-rental or pre-
228 ride instruction in accordance with subsection (3) must have
229 successfully completed a boating safety education course
230 approved by the National Association of State Boating Law
231 Administrators and this state.

232 (9) If a vessel rented or leased by a livery is involved in

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233 an accident, the livery must report the accident to the
234 division.

235 (10) A livery shall make its facilities and records
236 available for inspection upon request by law enforcement no
237 later than 24 hours after receiving notice from law enforcement.

238 (11) (a) ~~(6)~~ Any person convicted of violating this section,
239 other than subsection (2), who has not been convicted of a
240 violation of this section within the past 3 years commits a
241 misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s.
242 775.082 or s. 775.083.

243 (b) Unless the stricter penalties in paragraph (c) apply, a
244 person who violates this section, other than subsection (2),
245 within 3 years after a previous conviction of a violation of
246 this section commits a misdemeanor of the first degree,
247 punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, with a
248 minimum mandatory fine of \$500.

249 (c) A person who violates this section, other than
250 subsection (2), within 5 years after two previous convictions
251 for a violation of this section commits a misdemeanor of the
252 first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s.
253 775.083, with a minimum mandatory fine of \$1,000.

254 (12) A person who commits more than one violation of this
255 section, other than subsection (2), within a 3-year period may
256 not act as a livery during a 90-day period immediately after
257 being charged with that violation. The commission may revoke or
258 refuse to issue a permit under subsection (2) based on repeated
259 violations of this section.

260 Section 4. Subsections (1) and (8) of section 327.73,
261 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

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262 327.73 Noncriminal infractions.—

263 (1) Violations of the following provisions of the vessel
264 laws of this state are noncriminal infractions:

265 (a) Section 328.46, relating to operation of unregistered
266 and unnumbered vessels.

267 (b) Section 328.48(4), relating to display of number and
268 possession of registration certificate.

269 (c) Section 328.48(5), relating to display of decal.

270 (d) Section 328.52(2), relating to display of number.

271 (e) Section 328.54, relating to spacing of digits and
272 letters of identification number.

273 (f) Section 328.60, relating to military personnel and
274 registration of vessels.

275 (g) Section 328.72(13), relating to operation with an
276 expired registration, for which the penalty is:

277 1. For a first or subsequent offense of s. 328.72(13)(a),
278 up to a maximum of \$100 ~~\$50~~.

279 2. For a first offense of s. 328.72(13)(b), up to a maximum
280 of \$250.

281 3. For a second or subsequent offense of s. 328.72(13)(b),
282 up to a maximum of \$500. Any person cited for a noncriminal
283 infraction under this subparagraph may not have the provisions
284 of paragraph (4)(a) available to him or her but must appear
285 before the designated official at the time and location of the
286 scheduled hearing.

287 (h) Section 327.33(2), relating to careless operation.

288 (i) Section 327.37, relating to water skiing, aquaplaning,
289 parasailing, and similar activities.

290 (j) Section 327.44, relating to interference with

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291 navigation.

292 (k) Violations relating to boating-restricted areas and
293 speed limits:

294 1. Established by the commission or by local governmental
295 authorities pursuant to s. 327.46.

296 2. Speed limits established pursuant to s. 379.2431(2).

297 (l) Section 327.48, relating to regattas and races.

298 (m) Section 327.50(1) and (2), relating to required safety
299 equipment, lights, and shapes.

300 (n) Section 327.65, relating to muffling devices.

301 (o) Section 327.33(3)(b), relating to a violation of
302 navigation rules:

303 1. That does not result in an accident; or

304 2. That results in an accident not causing serious bodily
305 injury or death, for which the penalty is:

306 a. For a first offense, up to a maximum of \$500 ~~\$250~~.

307 b. For a second offense, up to a maximum of \$1,000 ~~\$750~~.

308 c. For a third or subsequent offense, up to a maximum of
309 \$1,500 ~~\$1,000~~.

310 (p) Section 327.39(1), (2), (3), and (5), relating to
311 personal watercraft.

312 (q) Section 327.53(1), (2), (3), and (8), relating to
313 marine sanitation.

314 (r) Section 327.53(4), (5), and (7), relating to marine
315 sanitation, and s. 327.60, relating to no-discharge zones, for
316 which the civil penalty is \$250.

317 (s) Section 327.395, relating to boater safety education.

318 However, a person cited for violating the requirements of s.

319 327.395 relating to failure to have required proof of boating

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320 safety education in his or her possession may not be convicted
321 if, before or at the time of a county court hearing, the person
322 produces proof of the boating safety education identification
323 card or temporary certificate for verification by the hearing
324 officer or the court clerk and the identification card or
325 temporary certificate was valid at the time the person was
326 cited.

327 (t) Section 327.52(3), relating to operation of overloaded
328 or overpowered vessels.

329 (u) Section 327.331, relating to divers-down warning
330 devices, except for violations meeting the requirements of s.
331 327.33.

332 (v) Section 327.391(1), relating to the requirement for an
333 adequate muffler on an airboat.

334 (w) Section 327.391(3), relating to the display of a flag
335 on an airboat.

336 (x) Section 253.04(3)(a), relating to carelessly causing
337 seagrass scarring, for which the civil penalty upon conviction
338 is:

339 1. For a first offense, \$100 ~~\$50~~.

340 2. For a second offense occurring within 12 months after a
341 prior conviction, \$250.

342 3. For a third offense occurring within 36 months after a
343 prior conviction, \$500.

344 4. For a fourth or subsequent offense occurring within 72
345 months after a prior conviction, \$1,000.

346 (y) Section 327.45, relating to protection zones for
347 springs, for which the penalty is:

348 1. For a first offense, \$100 ~~\$50~~.

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349 2. For a second offense occurring within 12 months after a
350 prior conviction, \$250.

351 3. For a third offense occurring within 36 months after a
352 prior conviction, \$500.

353 4. For a fourth or subsequent offense occurring within 72
354 months after a prior conviction, \$1,000.

355 (z) Section 327.4108, relating to the anchoring of vessels
356 in anchoring limitation areas, for which the penalty is:

357 1. For a first offense, up to a maximum of \$100 ~~\$50~~.

358 2. For a second offense, up to a maximum of \$250 ~~\$100~~.

359 3. For a third or subsequent offense, up to a maximum of
360 \$500 ~~\$250~~.

361 (aa) Section 327.4107, relating to vessels at risk of
362 becoming derelict on waters of this state, for which the civil
363 penalty is:

364 1. For a first offense, \$100.

365 2. For a second offense occurring 30 days or more after a
366 first offense, \$250.

367 3. For a third or subsequent offense occurring 30 days or
368 more after a previous offense, \$500.

369
370 A vessel that is the subject of three or more violations issued
371 pursuant to the same paragraph of s. 327.4107(2) within an 18-
372 month period which result in dispositions other than acquittal
373 or dismissal shall be declared to be a public nuisance and
374 subject to ss. 705.103(2) and (4) and 823.11(3). The commission,
375 an officer of the commission, or a law enforcement agency or
376 officer specified in s. 327.70 may relocate, remove, or cause to
377 be relocated or removed such public nuisance vessels from waters

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378 of this state. The commission, an officer of the commission, or
379 a law enforcement agency or officer acting pursuant to this
380 paragraph upon waters of this state shall be held harmless for
381 all damages to the vessel resulting from such relocation or
382 removal unless the damage results from gross negligence or
383 willful misconduct as these terms are defined in s. 823.11.

384 (bb) Section 327.4109, relating to anchoring or mooring in
385 a prohibited area, for which the penalty is:

- 386 1. For a first offense, up to a maximum of \$100 ~~\$50~~.
- 387 2. For a second offense, up to a maximum of \$250 ~~\$100~~.
- 388 3. For a third or subsequent offense, up to a maximum of
389 \$500 ~~\$250~~.

390 (cc) Section 327.463(4) (a) and (b), relating to vessels
391 creating special hazards, for which the penalty is:

- 392 1. For a first offense, \$100 ~~\$50~~.
- 393 2. For a second offense occurring within 12 months after a
394 prior offense, \$250 ~~\$100~~.
- 395 3. For a third offense occurring within 36 months after a
396 prior offense, \$500 ~~\$250~~.

397 (dd) Section 327.371, relating to the regulation of human-
398 powered vessels.

399 (ee) Section 328.03, relating to an improper transfer of
400 title, for which the penalty is up to a maximum of \$500.

401 (ff) Section 328.48(9), relating to the failure to update
402 vessel registration information, for which the penalty is up to
403 a maximum of \$500.

404

405 Any person cited for a violation of ~~any provision of~~ this
406 subsection shall be deemed to be charged with a noncriminal

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407 infraction, shall be cited for such an infraction, and shall be
408 cited to appear before the county court. The civil penalty for
409 any such infraction is \$100 ~~\$50~~, except as otherwise provided in
410 this section. Any person who fails to appear or otherwise
411 properly respond to a uniform boating citation ~~shall~~, in
412 addition to the charge relating to the violation of the boating
413 laws of this state, must be charged with the offense of failing
414 to respond to such citation and, upon conviction, be guilty of a
415 misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s.
416 775.082 or s. 775.083. A written warning to this effect shall be
417 provided at the time such uniform boating citation is issued.

418 (8) All fees and civil penalties assessed and collected
419 pursuant to this section shall be remitted by the clerk of the
420 court to the Department of Revenue to be deposited into the
421 Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund for boating safety
422 education or law enforcement purposes.

423 Section 5. Subsection (1) of section 327.731, Florida
424 Statutes, is amended, and subsection (4) is added to that
425 section, to read:

426 327.731 Mandatory education for violators.—

427 (1) A person convicted of a criminal violation under this
428 chapter, convicted of a noncriminal infraction under this
429 chapter if the infraction resulted in a reportable boating
430 accident, or convicted of two noncriminal infractions as
431 specified in s. 327.73(1)(h)-(k), (m), (o), (p), and (s)-(y),
432 the said infractions occurring within a 12-month period, must:

433 (a) Enroll in, attend, and successfully complete, at his or
434 her own expense, a classroom or online boating safety course
435 that is approved by and meets the minimum standards established

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436 by commission rule;

437 (b) File with the commission within 90 days proof of
438 successful completion of the course; ~~and~~

439 (c) Refrain from operating a vessel until he or she has
440 filed proof of successful completion of the course with the
441 commission; and

442 (d) Pay a fine of \$500. The clerk of the court shall remit
443 all fines assessed and collected under this paragraph to the
444 Department of Revenue to be deposited into the Marine Resources
445 Conservation Trust Fund to support law enforcement activities.

446 (4) The commission shall maintain a program to ensure
447 compliance with the mandatory boating safety education
448 requirements under this section. This program must:

449 (a) Track any citations resulting in a conviction under
450 this section and the disposition of such citations.

451 (b) Send specific notices to each person subject to the
452 requirement for mandatory boating safety education.

453 Section 6. Subsection (3) of section 328.03, Florida
454 Statutes, is amended to read:

455 328.03 Certificate of title required.—

456 (3) A person may ~~shall~~ not sell, assign, or transfer a
457 vessel titled by the state without delivering to the purchaser
458 or transferee a valid certificate of title with an assignment on
459 it showing the transfer of title to the purchaser or transferee.
460 A person may ~~shall~~ not purchase or otherwise acquire a vessel
461 required to be titled by the state without obtaining a
462 certificate of title for the vessel in his or her name. The
463 purchaser or transferee shall, within 30 days after a change in
464 vessel ownership, file an application for a title transfer with

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465 the county tax collector. An additional \$10 fee must ~~shall~~ be
466 charged against the purchaser or transferee if he or she files a
467 title transfer application after the 30-day period. The county
468 tax collector may ~~shall be entitled to~~ retain \$5 of the
469 additional amount. Any person who does not properly transfer
470 title of a vessel pursuant to this chapter is subject to the
471 penalties provided in s. 327.73(1)(ee).

472 Section 7. Effective July 1, 2023, subsection (4) of
473 section 328.03, Florida Statutes, as amended by chapter 2019-76,
474 Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

475 328.03 Certificate of title required.-

476 (4) An additional \$10 fee shall be charged against the
477 purchaser or transferee if he or she files a title transfer
478 application after the 30-day period. The county tax collector
479 may ~~shall be entitled to~~ retain \$5 of the additional amount. Any
480 person who does not properly transfer title of a vessel pursuant
481 to this chapter is subject to the penalties provided in s.
482 327.73(1)(ee).

483 Section 8. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) and subsection
484 (4) of section 328.48, Florida Statutes, are amended, and
485 subsection (9) is added to that section, to read:

486 328.48 Vessel registration, application, certificate,
487 number, decal, duplicate certificate.-

488 (1)(a) The owner of each vessel required by this law to pay
489 a registration fee and secure an identification number shall
490 file an application with the county tax collector. The
491 application must ~~shall~~ provide the owner's name and physical
492 residential or business address; residency status; personal or
493 business identification; and a complete description of the

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494 vessel, and must ~~shall~~ be accompanied by payment of the
495 applicable fee required in s. 328.72. An individual applicant
496 must provide a valid driver license or identification card
497 issued by this state or another state or a valid passport. A
498 business applicant must provide a federal employer
499 identification number, if applicable, verification that the
500 business is authorized to conduct business in this ~~the~~ state, or
501 a Florida city or county business license or number.
502 Registration is not required for any vessel that is not used on
503 the waters of this state. Upon receipt of an application from a
504 live-aboard vessel owner whose primary residence is the vessel,
505 the commission may authorize such owner to provide a post office
506 box address in lieu of a physical residential or business
507 address.

508 (4) Each certificate of registration issued must ~~shall~~
509 state among other items the numbers awarded to the vessel, the
510 hull identification number, the name and physical residential or
511 business address of the owner, and a description of the vessel,
512 except that certificates of registration for vessels constructed
513 or assembled by the owner registered for the first time must
514 ~~shall~~ state all the foregoing information except the hull
515 identification number. The numbers must ~~shall~~ be placed on each
516 side of the forward half of the vessel in such position as to
517 provide clear legibility for identification, except, if the
518 vessel is an airboat, the numbers may be placed on each side of
519 the rudder. The numbers awarded to the vessel must ~~shall~~ read
520 from left to right and must ~~shall~~ be in block characters of good
521 proportion not less than 3 inches in height. The numbers must
522 ~~shall~~ be of a solid color that ~~which~~ will contrast with the

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523 color of the background and must ~~shall~~ be so maintained as to be
524 clearly visible and legible; i.e., dark numbers on a light
525 background or light numbers on a dark background. The
526 certificate of registration must ~~shall~~ be pocket-sized and must
527 ~~shall~~ be available for inspection on the vessel for which issued
528 whenever such vessel is in operation. Upon receipt of an
529 application from a live-aboard vessel owner whose primary
530 residence is the vessel, the commission may authorize such owner
531 to provide a post office box address in lieu of a physical
532 residential address.

533 (9) A person who does not update his or her vessel
534 registration information with the county tax collector within 6
535 months after a change to the information is subject to the
536 penalties provided in s. 327.73(1)(ff).

537 Section 9. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this
538 act, this act shall take effect July 1, 2022.