By Senator Trumbull

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A bill to be entitled An act relating to movable tiny homes; amending s. 320.01, F.S.; revising and providing definitions; creating s. 320.018, F.S.; providing for taxation of a movable tiny home according to its classification; providing classification requirements; providing applicability; amending ss. 320.02, 320.03, 320.031, and 320.04, F.S.; including movable tiny homes in provisions relating to mobile home registration; amending s. 320.05, F.S.; including movable tiny homes in provisions relating to inspection of records of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles; amending s. 320.055, F.S.; conforming crossreferences; amending s. 320.0607, F.S.; providing for replacement of a movable tiny home sticker; amending s. 320.0609, F.S.; providing for exchange of such sticker upon transfer of a movable tiny home; amending s. 320.061, F.S.; prohibiting alteration of a movable tiny home sticker; amending s. 320.07, F.S.; including movable tiny homes in provisions relating to expiration and renewal of registration; providing penalties; amending s. 320.071, F.S.; providing for advance registration renewal for movable tiny homes; providing penalties; amending s. 320.08, F.S.; including movable tiny home dealers and manufacturers in provisions relating to license taxes for dealer and manufacturer license plates; amending ss. 320.0802, 320.0804, and 320.08046, F.S.; conforming crossreferences; amending s. 320.081, F.S.; requiring

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issuance of a sticker indicating payment of the annual license tax; amending s. 320.0815, F.S.; requiring issuance of movable tiny home stickers to certain movable tiny homes; providing an exception; amending s. 320.10, F.S.; exempting certain movable tiny homes from such license tax; amending s. 320.13, F.S.; authorizing a licensed movable tiny home dealer to secure dealer license plates; amending s. 320.131, F.S.; authorizing use of temporary tags to transport movable tiny homes; amending s. 320.15, F.S.; authorizing a registration credit or refund of license taxes for movable tiny homes under certain circumstances; amending s. 320.17, F.S.; authorizing the department to classify and assess license taxes for movable tiny homes; amending s. 320.18, F.S.; authorizing withholding of registration of a movable tiny home under certain circumstances; amending s. 320.19, F.S.; providing for a tax lien upon a movable tiny home; amending s. 320.203, F.S.; conforming cross-references; amending s. 320.26, F.S.; prohibiting counterfeiting of movable tiny home stickers; providing penalties; amending s. 320.261, F.S.; providing penalties for attaching to a movable tiny home a license plate or validation sticker not issued to the movable tiny home; amending s. 320.27, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "motor vehicle"; authorizing denial, suspension, or revocation of a license for a violation of certain provisions relating to dealing in or repairing movable

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tiny homes; amending s. 320.28, F.S.; requiring a nonresident dealer in secondhand movable tiny homes to apply for a certificate of title for a movable tiny home before selling, offering for sale, or advertising the sale of such movable tiny home; amending s. 320.37, F.S.; excluding certain movable tiny homes owned by nonresidents from the exemption from registration requirements; amending s. 320.71, F.S.; requiring a nonresident movable tiny home dealer to register with the Department of Revenue for a sales tax dealer registration number; amending s. 320.771, F.S.; authorizing licensed recreational vehicle dealers to sell movable tiny homes; creating s. 320.772, F.S.; defining the terms "dealer" and "movable tiny home broker"; providing conditions under which a licensed dealer may transact business in movable tiny homes; requiring certain licensure; providing license application requirements; authorizing the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to investigate facts set forth in an application; providing for denial of license and notification thereof; authorizing a public hearing; providing for issuance of a license certificate under certain circumstances; authorizing supplemental licenses under certain circumstances; authorizing a mobile home dealer to apply for a license endorsement to sell movable tiny homes; requiring recordkeeping; requiring a licensee to possess evidence of title; providing requirements for setup operations; providing

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a penalty; authorizing the department to apply for an injunction under certain circumstances; requiring suspension or revocation of a license upon certain findings; authorizing administrative fines; requiring an applicant to deliver a surety bond in a certain amount to the department before issuance or renewal of a license; prohibiting sharing in the commission on the sale of insurance coverage under certain circumstances; amending s. 320.781, F.S.; renaming the Mobile Home and Recreational Vehicle Protection Trust Fund as the "Mobile Home, Movable Tiny Home, and Recreational Vehicle Protection Trust Fund"; including movable tiny homes in applicable provisions relating to the trust fund; providing penalties; amending s. 320.822, F.S.; revising and providing definitions; amending s. 320.8225, F.S.; requiring annual licensure for each factory location within and outside this state which manufactures movable tiny homes; requiring submission of a surety bond to the department; providing the period of licensure; authorizing denial, and requiring revocation or suspension, of a license under certain circumstances; creating s. 320.82315, F.S.; establishing uniform standards for manufacturing, inspection, and certification of movable tiny homes; amending s. 320.8245, F.S.; limiting alterations or modifications to movable tiny homes; providing for effect of alteration or modification on a movable tiny home warranty; providing requirements for designation as a person

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qualified to alter or modify a movable tiny home; amending s. 320.8285, F.S.; subjecting movable tiny homes to onsite inspection; amending s. 320.8325, F.S.; requiring the department to adopt rules setting forth uniform standards for the installation of movable tiny homes; amending s. 320.835, F.S.; requiring manufacturer, dealer, installer, and supplier warranties for new movable tiny homes; amending ss. 205.193, 212.0601, 320.06, 320.133, 320.77, and 320.8249, F.S.; conforming cross-references; providing contingent effective dates.

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

Section 1. Subsections (3), (19), and (21) of section 320.01, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection (46) is added to that section, to read:

320.01 Definitions, general.—As used in the Florida Statutes, except as otherwise provided, the term:

- (3) "Owner" means any person, firm, corporation, or association controlling any motor vehicle, movable tiny home, or mobile home by right of purchase, gift, lease, or otherwise.
- (19) (a) "Registration period" means a period of 12 months or 24 months during which a motor vehicle, movable tiny home, or mobile home registration is valid.
- (b) "Extended registration period" means a period of 24 months during which a motor vehicle, movable tiny home, or mobile home registration is valid.
 - (21) "Renewal period" means the period during which renewal

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of a motor vehicle registration, movable tiny home registration, or mobile home registration is required, as provided in s. 320.055.

- (46) (a) "Movable tiny home" means a transportable unit that has a body width of not more than 14 feet, that is built on a single chassis, and that is designed to provide separate, independent living quarters of one household for year-round residence with permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking, and sanitation when connected to utilities necessary for operation of installed fixtures and appliances. A movable tiny home is a single unit and is not built in sections to be assembled on a site. In addition, a movable tiny home is designed and built so that the exterior has the appearance of a conventional single-family dwelling unit, using conventional building materials, and is thus architecturally distinct from traditional mobile homes and recreational vehicles.
- (b) The total area of a movable tiny home in setup mode, when measured from the exterior surface of the exterior stud walls at the level of maximum dimensions, not including any bay window, does not exceed 400 square feet when constructed in accordance with standards provided in s. 320.82315. A movable tiny home must be built according to such standards and inspected and certified by a professional engineer licensed in this state or by a qualified third party who inspects for compliance with the American National Standards Institute and who is accredited pursuant to American Society for Testing and Materials Appendix E699 or ISO/IEC 17020.
- (c)1. A movable tiny home's wheels and leveling support jacks must be situated on a surface sufficient to support the

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weight of the home. The governing body of the county or
municipality in which the movable tiny home is sited is
responsible for permits and inspections regarding the pad or
foundation on which the movable tiny home is situated.

- 2. If the movable tiny home's wheels are removed so that the home may be situated on a foundation, the governing body of the county or municipality in which the home is sited is responsible for permits and inspections for such foundation in accordance with s. 320.8325(1).
- (d) "Length of a movable tiny home" means the distance from the exterior of the front of the body, nearest to the drawbar and coupling mechanism, to the exterior of the rear of the body, at the opposite end of the body, including any protrusions.

Section 2. Section 320.018, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

320.018 Taxation of movable tiny homes.-

(1) A movable tiny home as defined in s. 320.01(46), regardless of its actual use, is subject only to a license tax unless classified and taxed as real property. A movable tiny home is considered real property only when the owner of the movable tiny home is also the owner of the land on which the movable tiny home is situated and such movable tiny home is permanently affixed thereto. A prefabricated or modular housing unit or portion thereof not manufactured upon an integral chassis or undercarriage for travel over highways shall be taxed as real property once it is permanently affixed to real property. This subsection does not apply to a display home or other inventory being held for sale by a manufacturer or dealer of modular housing units.

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(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), a movable tiny home classified by a seller or a lender as personal property at the time a security interest was granted therein to secure an obligation shall continue to be so classified for all purposes relating to the loan and security interest, at least as long as any part of such obligation, or any extension or renewal thereof, remains outstanding. Classification of a movable tiny home as personal property by a seller or a lender does not prohibit the owner from having the movable tiny home classified and taxed as real property under subsection (1).

Section 3. Subsection (3) of section 320.02, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.02 Registration required; application for registration; forms.—

(3) <u>Before Prior to</u> the registration in this state of <u>a</u> any vehicle registered outside the state, the application must be accompanied by either a sworn affidavit from the seller and purchaser verifying that the vehicle identification number shown on the affidavit is identical to the vehicle identification number shown on the motor vehicle or a copy of the appropriate departmental form evidencing that a physical examination has been made of the motor vehicle by the owner and by a duly constituted police officer of any state, a licensed motor vehicle dealer, a license inspector as provided by s. 320.58, or a notary public commissioned by any state and that the vehicle identification number shown on the applicable form and the application is identical to the vehicle identification number shown on the motor vehicle. Vehicle identification number verification is not required for a any new vehicle sold in this

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state by a licensed motor vehicle dealer, \underline{a} any mobile home, \underline{a} movable tiny home, \underline{a} any trailer or semitrailer with a net weight of less than 2,000 pounds, or \underline{a} any travel trailer or camping trailer.

Section 4. Subsections (1) and (3) and paragraph (a) of subsection (10) of section 320.03, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

320.03 Registration; duties of tax collectors; International Registration Plan.—

- (1) The tax collectors in the several counties of the state, as authorized agents of the department, shall issue registration certificates, registration license plates, validation stickers, movable tiny home stickers, and mobile home stickers to applicants, and shall provide to applicants for each the option to register emergency contact information and the option to be contacted with information about state and federal benefits available as a result of military service, subject to the requirements of law, in accordance with rules of the department. A Any person, firm, or corporation representing itself, through advertising or naming of the business, to be an authorized agent of the department commits shall be deemed guilty of an unfair and deceptive trade practice as defined in part II of chapter 501. No Such person, firm, or corporation may not shall use either the state or county name as a part of its their business name when such use can reasonably be interpreted as an official state or county office.
- (3) Each tax collector shall keep a full and complete record and account of all validation stickers, movable tiny home stickers, mobile home stickers, or other properties received by

of electronic funds transfer.

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him or her from the department, or from any other source.

Notwithstanding chapter 116, every county officer within this
state authorized to collect funds provided for in this chapter
shall pay all sums officially received by the officer into the
State Treasury no later than 5 working days after the close of
the business day in which the officer received the funds.

Payment by county officers to the state shall be made by means

- (10)(a) Jurisdiction over the electronic filing system for use by authorized electronic filing system agents to:
- 1. Electronically title or register motor vehicles, vessels, mobile homes, <u>movable tiny homes</u>, or off-highway vehicles;
- 2. For derelict or salvage motor vehicles, process title transactions, derelict motor vehicle certificates, or certificates of destruction, pursuant to s. 319.30(2), (3), (7), or (8);
 - 3. Issue or transfer registration license plates or decals;
- 4. Electronically transfer fees due for the title and registration process; and
- 5. Perform inquiries for title, registration, and lienholder verification and certification of service providers,

is expressly preempted to the state, and the department shall have regulatory authority over the system. The electronic filing system shall be available for use statewide and applied uniformly throughout the state.

Section 5. Section 320.031, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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320.031 Mailing of registration certificates, license plates, and validation stickers.—

- (1) The department and the tax collectors of the several counties of the state may at the request of the applicant use United States mail service to deliver registration certificates and renewals thereof, license plates, mobile home stickers, movable tiny home stickers, and validation stickers to applicants.
- (2) A mail service charge may be collected for each registration certificate, license plate, mobile home sticker, movable tiny home sticker, and validation sticker mailed by the department or any tax collector. Each registration certificate, license plate, mobile home sticker, movable tiny home sticker, and validation sticker shall be mailed by first-class mail unless otherwise requested by the applicant. The amount of the mail service charge shall be the actual postage required, rounded to the nearest 5 cents, plus a 25-cent handling charge. The mail service charge is in addition to the service charge provided by s. 320.04. All charges collected by the department under this section shall be deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund.

Section 6. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (1) of section 320.04, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

320.04 Registration service charge.

(1) (a) A service charge of \$2.50 shall be imposed on each application that is handled in connection with original issuance, duplicate issuance, or transfer of a license plate, mobile home sticker, movable tiny home sticker, or validation sticker or with transfer or duplicate issuance of a registration

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certificate. This service charge shall be retained by the department or by the tax collector, as the case may be, as other fees accruing to those offices.

(b) A service charge of \$1 shall also be imposed for the issuance of each license plate validation sticker, vessel decal, and mobile home sticker, and movable tiny home sticker issued from an automated vending facility or printer dispenser machine. This service charge is payable to the department and shall be used to provide for automated vending facilities or printer dispenser machines that are used to dispense such stickers and decals by each tax collector's or license tag agent's employee.

Section 7. Subsection (2) and paragraphs (b) and (e) of subsection (3) of section 320.05, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

320.05 Records of the department; inspection procedure; lists and searches; fees.—

(2) Upon receipt of an application for the registration of a motor vehicle, vessel, movable tiny home, or mobile home, as herein provided for, the department shall register the motor vehicle, vessel, movable tiny home, or mobile home under the distinctive number assigned to such motor vehicle, vessel, movable tiny home, or mobile home by the department. Electronic registration records shall be open to the inspection of the public during business hours. Information on a motor vehicle or vessel registration may not be made available to a person unless the person requesting the information furnishes positive proof of identification. The agency that furnishes a motor vehicle or vessel registration record shall record the name and address of any person other than a representative of a law enforcement

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agency who requests and receives information from a motor vehicle or vessel registration record and shall also record the name and address of the person who is the subject of the inquiry or other information identifying the entity about which information is requested. A record of each such inquiry must be maintained for a period of 6 months from the date upon which the information was released to the inquirer. Nothing in This section does not shall prohibit a any financial institution, insurance company, motor vehicle dealer, licensee under chapter 493, attorney, or other agency which the department determines has the right to know from obtaining, for professional or business use only, information in such records from the department through any means of telecommunication pursuant to a code developed by the department providing all fees specified in subsection (3) have been paid. The department shall disclose records or information to the child support enforcement agency to assist in the location of individuals who owe or potentially owe support, as defined in s. 409.2554, or to whom such an obligation is owed pursuant to Title IV-D of the Social Security Act.

(3)

- (b) Fees therefor shall be charged and collected as follows:
- 1. For providing lists of motor vehicle or vessel records for the entire state, or any part or parts thereof, divided according to counties, a sum computed at a rate of not less than 1 cent nor more than 5 cents per item.
- 2. For providing noncertified photographic copies of motor vehicle or vessel documents, \$1 per page.

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3. For providing noncertified photographic copies of micrographic records, \$1 per page.

- 4. For providing certified copies of motor vehicle or vessel records, \$3 per record.
- 5. For providing noncertified computer-generated printouts of motor vehicle or vessel records, 50 cents per record.
- 6. For providing certified computer-generated printouts of motor vehicle or vessel records, \$3 per record.
- 7. For providing electronic access to motor vehicle, vessel, movable tiny home, and mobile home registration data requested by tag, vehicle identification number, title number, or decal number, 50 cents per item.
- 8. For providing electronic access to driver license status report by name, sex, and date of birth or by driver license number, 50 cents per item.
- 9. For providing lists of licensed mobile home dealers and manufacturers, movable tiny home dealers and manufacturers, and recreational vehicle dealers and manufacturers, \$15 per list.
- 10. For providing lists of licensed motor vehicle dealers, \$25 per list.
 - 11. For each copy of a videotape record, \$15 per tape.
- 12. For each copy of the Division of Motorist Services Procedures Manual, \$25.
- (e) When motor vehicle, vessel, <u>movable tiny home</u>, or mobile home registration data is provided by electronic access through a tax collector's office, the applicable fee as provided in paragraph (b) must be collected and deposited pursuant to paragraph (c). However, when such registration data is obtained through an electronic system described in s. 320.03(10), s.

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320.0609, or s. 320.131 and results in the issuance of a title certificate or the registration credential, such fee does shall not apply.

Section 8. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and subsections (2) through (5) of section 320.055, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

320.055 Registration periods; renewal periods.—The following registration periods and renewal periods are established:

(1)

- (b) A motor vehicle, or mobile home, or movable tiny home that is subject to registration under s. 320.08(1), (2), (3), (4)(a) or (b), (6), (7), (8), (9), (10), or (11), or (12) is eligible for an extended registration period as defined in s. 320.01(19)(b).
- (2) For a vehicle subject to registration under s. 320.08(11) or (12), the registration period begins January 1 and ends December 31. For a vehicle subject to this registration period, the renewal period is the 31-day period before prior to expiration.
- (3) For a vehicle subject to registration under $\underline{s.320.08}$ (13) $\underline{s.320.08(12)}$, the registration period runs concurrently with the licensing period. For a vehicle subject to this registration period, the renewal period is the first month of the licensing period.
- (4) For a vehicle subject to registration under \underline{s} . $\underline{320.08(14)}$ s. $\underline{320.08(13)}$, for vehicles subject to registration under s. $\underline{320.08(6)}$ (a) that are short-term rental vehicles, and for any vehicle for which a registration period is not otherwise

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specified, the registration period begins June 1 and ends May 31. For a vehicle subject to this registration period, the renewal period is the 30-day period beginning June 1.

(5) For a vehicle subject to apportioned registration under s. 320.08(4)(c)-(n), (5)(a)1. or (e), (6)(b), or (15) (14), the registration period shall be a period of 12 months beginning in a month designated by the department and ending on the last day of the 12th month. For a vehicle subject to this registration period, the renewal period is the last month of the registration period. The registration period may be shortened or extended at the discretion of the department, on receipt of the appropriate prorated fees, in order to evenly distribute such registrations on a monthly basis. For a vehicle subject to nonapportioned registration under s. 320.08(4)(c)-(n), (5)(a)1., (6)(b), or (15) (14), the registration period begins December 1 and ends November 30. The renewal period is the 31-day period beginning December 1.

Section 9. Effective September 1, 2023, subsection (2) of section 320.055, Florida Statutes, as amended by chapter 2022-123, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

320.055 Registration periods; renewal periods.—The following registration periods and renewal periods are established:

(2) For a vehicle subject to registration under s. 320.08(11) or (12) and not owned by a natural person, the registration period begins January 1 and ends December 31. For a vehicle subject to this registration period, the renewal period is the 31-day period before expiration.

Section 10. Subsection (2) of section 320.0607, Florida

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Statutes, is amended to read:

320.0607 Replacement license plates, validation decal, movable tiny home sticker, or mobile home sticker.

(2) When a license plate, mobile home sticker, movable tiny home sticker, or validation decal has been lost, stolen, or destroyed, the owner of the motor vehicle, or mobile home, or movable tiny home for which the plate, sticker, or decal was issued shall make application to the department for a replacement. The application shall contain the plate, sticker, or decal number being replaced and a statement that the item was lost, stolen, or destroyed. If the application includes a copy of the police report prepared in response to a report of a stolen plate, sticker, or decal, such plate, sticker, or decal must be replaced at no charge.

Section 11. Subsection (6) of section 320.0609, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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

(6) Upon a sale, trade, transfer, or other disposition of a mobile home or movable tiny home, the owner shall remove the sticker therefrom and may exchange it for another sticker to be applied to a replacement mobile home or replacement movable tiny home. Such exchange shall be without cost to the owner. A No credit will not be given toward the purchase of a license plate for any other type of vehicle. The department shall ensure that there is adequate internal control of mobile home or movable tiny home stickers that have been removed for exchange or refund.

Section 12. Section 320.061, Florida Statutes, is amended

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to read:

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320.061 Unlawful to alter motor vehicle registration certificates, license plates, temporary license plates, mobile home stickers, movable tiny home stickers, or validation stickers or to obscure license plates; penalty.—A person may not alter the original appearance of a vehicle registration certificate, license plate, temporary license plate, mobile home sticker, movable tiny home sticker, or validation sticker issued for and assigned to a motor vehicle, or mobile home, or movable tiny home, whether by mutilation, alteration, defacement, or change of color or in any other manner. A person may not apply or attach a substance, reflective matter, illuminated device, spray, coating, covering, or other material onto or around any license plate which interferes with the legibility, angular visibility, or detectability of any feature or detail on the license plate or interferes with the ability to record any feature or detail on the license plate. A person who violates this section commits a noncriminal traffic infraction, punishable as a moving violation as provided in chapter 318.

Section 13. Subsections (1), (2), (3), and (5) of section 320.07, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

320.07 Expiration of registration; renewal required; penalties.—

(1) The registration of a motor vehicle, or mobile home, or movable tiny home expires at midnight on the last day of the registration or extended registration period, or, for a motor vehicle owner, or mobile home owner, or movable tiny home owner who is a natural person, at midnight on the owner's birthday. A vehicle may not be operated on the roads of this state after

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expiration of the renewal period, or, for a natural person, at midnight on the owner's birthday, unless the registration has been renewed according to law.

- (2) Registration shall be renewed semiannually, annually, or biennially, as provided in this subsection, during the applicable renewal period, upon payment of the applicable license tax amounts required by s. 320.08, service charges required by s. 320.04, and any additional fees required by law.
- (a) \underline{A} Any person who owns a motor vehicle registered under s. 320.08(4)(c)-(n), (6)(b), or $\underline{(14)}$ (13) may register semiannually as provided in s. 320.0705.
- (b) A Any person who owns a motor vehicle, or mobile home, or movable tiny home registered under s. 320.08(1), (2), (3), (4)(a) or (b), (6), (7), (8), (9), (10), or (11), or (12) may renew the vehicle registration biennially during the applicable renewal period upon payment of the 2-year cumulative total of all applicable license tax amounts required by s. 320.08 and service charges or surcharges required by ss. 320.03, 320.04, 320.0801, 320.08015, 320.0802, 320.0804, 320.0805, 320.08046, and 320.08056 and payment of the 2-year cumulative total of any additional fees required by law for an annual registration.
- (3) The operation of <u>a</u> any motor vehicle without having attached thereto a registration license plate and validation stickers, or the use of <u>a</u> any mobile home <u>or movable tiny home</u> without having attached thereto a mobile home sticker <u>or movable tiny home sticker</u>, for the current registration period <u>subjects shall subject</u> the owner thereof, if he or she is present, or, if the owner is not present, the operator thereof to the following <u>penalties penalty provisions</u>:

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(a) A Any person whose motor vehicle, or mobile home, or movable tiny home registration has been expired for a period of 6 months or less commits a noncriminal traffic infraction, punishable as a nonmoving violation as provided in chapter 318. However, a law enforcement officer may not issue a citation for a violation under this paragraph until midnight on the last day of the owner's birth month of the year the registration expires.

- (b) A Any person whose motor vehicle, or mobile home, or movable tiny home registration has been expired for more than 6 months, upon a first offense, is subject to the penalty provided in s. 318.14.
- (c) A Any person whose motor vehicle, or mobile home, or movable tiny home registration has been expired for more than 6 months, upon a second or subsequent offense, commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- (d) However, an operator shall not be charged with a violation of this subsection if the operator can show, pursuant to a valid lease agreement, that the vehicle had been leased for a period of 30 days or less at the time of the offense.
- (e) A Any servicemember, as defined in s. 250.01, whose mobile home or movable tiny home registration expired while he or she was serving on active duty or state active duty shall not be charged with a violation of this subsection if, at the time of the offense, the servicemember was serving on active duty or state active duty 35 miles or more from the mobile home or movable tiny home. The servicemember must present to the department either a copy of the official military orders or a written verification signed by the servicemember's commanding

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officer to receive a waiver of charges.

- (f) The owner of a leased motor vehicle is not responsible for any penalty specified in this subsection if the motor vehicle is registered in the name of the lessee of the motor vehicle.
- (5) A Any servicemember, as defined in s. 250.01, whose motor vehicle, or mobile home, or movable tiny home registration has expired while he or she was serving on active duty or state active duty may renew his or her registration upon return from active duty or state active duty without penalty, if the servicemember served on active duty or state active duty 35 miles or more from the servicemember's home of record before prior to entering active duty or state active duty. The servicemember must provide to the department either a copy of the official military orders or a written verification signed by the servicemember's commanding officer to receive a waiver of delinquent fees.

Section 14. Section 320.071, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.071 Advance registration renewal; procedures.-

- (1) (a) The owner of <u>a</u> any motor vehicle, or mobile home, or <u>movable tiny home</u> currently registered in this state may file an application for renewal of registration with the department, or its authorized agent in the county wherein the owner resides, any time during the 3 months preceding the date of expiration of the registration period. The registration period may not exceed 27 months.
- (b) The owner of any apportionable vehicle currently registered in this state under the International Registration

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Plan may file an application for renewal of registration with the department any time during the 3 months preceding the date of expiration of the registration period.

- (2) Upon the filing of the application and payment of the appropriate license tax under s. 320.08, service charges required by s. 320.04, and any additional fees required by law, the department or its agent shall issue to the owner of the motor vehicle, or mobile home, or movable tiny home a validation sticker, or mobile home sticker, or movable tiny home sticker, as appropriate, which, when affixed to the license plate, or mobile home, or movable tiny home, shall renew the registration for the appropriate registration period.
- (3) A Any person who uses a mobile home sticker, movable tiny home sticker, or validation sticker without lawful authority or who willfully violates a any rule of the department relating to this section commits is guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

Section 15. Subsection (12) of section 320.08, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.08 License taxes.—Except as otherwise provided herein, there are hereby levied and imposed annual license taxes for the operation of motor vehicles, mopeds, tri-vehicles as defined in s. 316.003, and mobile homes as defined in s. 320.01, which shall be paid to and collected by the department or its agent upon the registration or renewal of registration of the following:

(12) DEALER AND MANUFACTURER LICENSE PLATES.—A franchised motor vehicle dealer, independent motor vehicle dealer, marine

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boat trailer dealer, or mobile home dealer and manufacturer, or movable tiny home dealer and manufacturer license plate: \$17 flat. For additional fees as set forth in s. 320.08056, dealers may purchase specialty license plates in lieu of the standard dealer license plates. Dealers shall be responsible for all costs associated with the specialty license plate, including all annual use fees, processing fees, fees associated with switching license plate types, and any other applicable fees.

Section 16. Section 320.0802, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.0802 Surcharge on license tax.—There is hereby levied and imposed on each license tax imposed under s. 320.08, except those set forth in s. 320.08(11) and (12), a surcharge in the amount of \$1, which shall be collected in the same manner as the license tax and deposited into the State Agency Law Enforcement Radio System Trust Fund of the Department of Management Services.

Section 17. Section 320.0804, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.0804 Surcharge on license tax.—A surcharge of \$2 shall be imposed on each license tax imposed under s. 320.08, except those set forth in s. 320.08(11) and (12), which shall be collected in the same manner as the license tax. This surcharge shall be further reduced to \$1.20 on September 1, 2014, in order to negate the license plate increase of 80 cents imposed by chapter 2009-71, Laws of Florida. Of this amount, \$1 shall be deposited into the State Transportation Trust Fund, and 20 cents shall be deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund.

Section 18. Section 320.08046, Florida Statutes, is amended

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to read:

320.08046 Juvenile programs surcharge on license tax.—A surcharge of \$1 shall be imposed on each license tax imposed under s. 320.08, except those set forth in s. 320.08(11) and (12), which shall be collected in the same manner as the license tax and deposited into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund in the Department of Juvenile Justice to fund the juvenile crime prevention programs and the community juvenile justice partnership grants program.

Section 19. Subsections (1), (2), and (3) of section 320.081, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

320.081 Collection and distribution of annual license tax imposed on the following type units.—

- (1) The provisions of This section applies shall apply to all mobile homes, movable tiny homes, and park trailers, and to all travel trailers and fifth-wheel trailers exceeding 35 feet in body length.
- (2) The annual license tax prescribed in s. 320.08(10), and (11), and (12) is in lieu of ad valorem taxes, and a sticker, as appropriate, shall be issued to evidence payment thereof. It is permissible in this state to transport units governed by this section, registered hereunder, without a corresponding state license plate on the towing vehicle.
- (3) The owner shall make application for such sticker in the manner provided in s. 320.02, and the tax collectors in the several counties of the state shall collect the license taxes imposed by s. 320.08(10), and (11), and (12) and the license tax surcharge imposed by s. 320.08015 in the same manner and under the same conditions and requirements as provided in s. 320.03.

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Section 20. Subsection (2) of section 320.0815, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.0815 Mobile homes, movable tiny homes, and recreational vehicle-type units required to have appropriate license plates or stickers.—

(2) A mobile home or recreational vehicle-type unit that which is permanently affixed to the land shall be issued a mobile home sticker at the fee prescribed in s. 320.08(11), and a movable tiny home that is permanently affixed to land shall be issued a movable tiny home sticker at the fee prescribed in s. 320.08(12), unless the mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle-type unit is qualified and taxed as real property, in which case the mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle-type unit shall be issued an "RP" series sticker. Series "RP" stickers shall be provided by the department to the tax collectors, and such a sticker will be issued by the tax collector to the registered owner of such a mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle-type unit upon the production of a certificate of the respective property appraiser that such mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle-type unit is included in an assessment of the property of such registered owner for ad valorem taxation. An "RP" series sticker shall be issued by the tax collector for an aggregate fee of \$3 each, to be distributed as follows: \$2.50 shall be retained by the tax collector as a service charge; 25 cents shall be remitted to the property appraiser; and 25 cents shall be remitted to the department to defray the cost of manufacture and handling. Mobile home stickers, movable tiny home stickers, and "RP" series stickers shall be of a size to be

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determined by the department. A mobile home sticker, movable tiny home sticker, or "RP" series sticker shall be affixed to the lower left corner of the window closest to the street or road providing access to such residence.

Section 21. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) and subsection (2) of section 320.10, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 320.10 Exemptions.—

- (1) The provisions of s. 320.08 do not apply to:
- (a) Any motor vehicle, or mobile home, or movable tiny home owned by, and operated exclusively for the personal use of, any member of the United States Armed Forces who is not a resident of this state and who is stationed in the state while in compliance with military or naval orders;
- (2) Any such vehicle, or mobile home, or movable tiny home, except one owned or operated exclusively by the Federal Government, shall be furnished a license plate, validation sticker, or mobile home sticker, or movable tiny home sticker upon the proper application to the department and upon the payment of \$3 to cover the cost of same. For any motor vehicle, or mobile home, or movable tiny home that which is exempt under paragraph (1)(a), there shall be issued a license plate, validation sticker, or mobile home sticker, or movable tiny home sticker prescribed by s. 320.06; and for any vehicle that which is exempt under paragraphs (1)(c)-(h), there shall be issued a license plate under series "X." Vehicles exempt under this provision must be equipped with proper license plates showing such exempt status.

Section 22. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 320.13, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

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320.13 Dealer and manufacturer license plates and alternative method of registration.—

- (1) (a) A Any licensed motor vehicle dealer, a and any licensed mobile home dealer, and a licensed movable tiny home dealer may, upon payment of the license tax imposed by s. 320.08(13) s. 320.08(12), secure one or more dealer license plates, which are valid for use on motor vehicles, or mobile homes, or movable tiny homes owned by the dealer to whom such plates are issued while the motor vehicles are in inventory and for sale, or while being operated in connection with such dealer's business, but are not valid for use for hire. Dealer license plates may not be used on a any tow truck or wrecker unless the tow truck or wrecker is being demonstrated for sale, and the dealer license plates may not be used on a vehicle used to transport another motor vehicle for the motor vehicle dealer.
- (b) 1. Marine boat trailer dealers and manufacturers may, upon payment of the license taxes imposed by $\underline{s.\ 320.08(13)}\ \underline{s.}\ 320.08(12)$, secure one or more dealer plates, which are valid for use on boat trailers owned by the dealer to whom such plates are issued while being used in connection with such dealer's business, but are not valid for use for hire.
- 2. It is the intent of the Legislature that the method currently used to license marine boat trailer dealers to do business in the state, that is, by an occupational license issued by the city or county, not be changed. The department shall not interpret this act to mean that it is empowered to license such dealers to do business. An occupational license tax certificate shall be sufficient proof upon which the department may issue dealer license plates.

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(c) A dealer of heavy trucks as defined in s. 320.01(10), upon payment of the license tax imposed by s. 320.08(13) s. 320.08(12), may secure one or more dealer license plates that are valid for use on vehicles owned by the dealer to whom such plates are issued while the heavy trucks are in inventory and for sale and are being used only in the state for demonstration purposes. The license plates may be used for demonstration purposes for a period not to exceed 24 hours. The license plates must be validated on a form prescribed by the department and must be retained in the vehicle being operated.

(2) A licensed manufacturer, importer, or distributor of motor vehicles may, upon payment of the license tax imposed by s. 320.08(13) s. 320.08(12), secure one or more manufacturer license plates, which are valid for use on motor vehicles owned by the manufacturer, importer, or distributor to whom such plates are issued while the motor vehicles are in inventory and for sale, being operated for demonstration purposes, or in connection with the manufacturer's business, but are not valid for use for hire.

Section 23. Paragraphs (c) and (l) of subsection (1) of section 320.131, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

320.131 Temporary tags.

- (1) The department is authorized and empowered to design, issue, and regulate the use of temporary tags to be designated "temporary tags" for use in the following cases:
- (c) For certified common carriers or driveaway companies who transport motor vehicles, mobile homes, movable tiny homes, or recreational vehicles from one place to another for persons other than themselves.

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(1) For use by licensed dealers to transport motor vehicles, and recreational vehicles, and movable tiny homes from the dealer's licensed location to an off-premise sales location and return. Temporary tags used for such purposes shall be issued to the licensed dealer who owns the vehicles.

> Further, the department is authorized to disallow the purchase of temporary tags by licensed dealers, common carriers, or financial institutions in those cases where abuse has occurred.

Section 24. Section 320.15, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.15 Refund of license tax.-

- (1) A Any resident owner of a motor vehicle, or mobile home, or movable tiny home that has been destroyed or permanently removed from the state shall, upon application to the department and surrender of the license plate, or mobile home sticker, or movable tiny home sticker issued for such vehicle, be entitled to a credit to apply to registration of any other vehicle in the name of the owner, if the amount is \$3 or more, for the unexpired period of the license. However, if the license plate surrendered is a "for-hire" license plate, the amount of credit may not be more than one-half of the annual license tax amount. A credit is not valid after the expiration date of the license plate which is current on the date of the credit, as provided in s. 320.07.
- (2) A motor vehicle registrant, or mobile home owner, or movable tiny home owner who has renewed a motor vehicle registration during the advance renewal period pursuant to s. 320.071 and who surrenders the license plate for the vehicle

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before the end of the renewal period may apply for a refund of the license taxes assessed in s. 320.08.

Section 25. Section 320.17, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.17 Classification of vehicles, and mobile homes, and movable tiny homes; assessment of license tax by department.-The department may, in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, determine the classification of, and the amount of license tax due on, a any motor vehicle, or mobile home, or movable tiny home required to be registered under the laws of this state and may, in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, fix, determine, and assess the amount of license tax and fees to be paid for registration or renewal of registration. A determination of the department, when certified in writing, is prima facie evidence of the validity, regularity, and propriety thereof and of the liability of the vehicle involved therein to the classification and tax so determined, fixed, and assessed. No Such a determination when made by the department may not be disregarded or set aside in any court, except when clearly shown to be unwarranted in law or in fact.

Section 26. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 320.18, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

320.18 Withholding registration.-

(1) The department may withhold the registration of any motor vehicle, or mobile home, or movable tiny home the owner or co-owner of which has failed to register it under the provisions of law for any previous period or periods for which it appears registration should have been made in this state until the tax for such period or periods is paid. The department may cancel

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any vehicle or vessel registration, driver license, identification card, or fuel-use tax decal if the owner or coowner pays for any vehicle or vessel registration, driver license, identification card, or fuel-use tax decal; pays any administrative, delinquency, or reinstatement fee; or pays any tax liability, penalty, or interest specified in chapter 207 by a dishonored check, or if the vehicle owner or motor carrier has failed to pay a penalty for a weight or safety violation issued by the Department of Transportation or the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. The Department of Transportation and the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles may impound any commercial motor vehicle that has a canceled license plate or fuel-use tax decal until the tax liability, penalty, and interest specified in chapter 207, the license tax, or the fueluse decal fee, and applicable administrative fees have been paid for by certified funds.

(3) In the case of repossession, a mobile home <u>or movable</u> <u>tiny home</u> is exempt from registration when the dwelling is not transferred or titled for occupancy.

Section 27. Section 320.19, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.19 Tax lien; enforcement.—The license tax required under this chapter, when not paid, constitutes a first lien upon the motor vehicle, or mobile home, or movable tiny home on which the tax is due. Such lien is superior to all other liens upon such motor vehicle, mobile home, or movable tiny home. If the amount of the license tax due remains unpaid for more than 30 days, the department may, in addition to any other remedy provided by law, enforce the lien by issuance of a tax warrant.

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The sheriff or other person to whom such warrant is directed shall proceed upon the warrant in the manner and with like effect as is prescribed by law for executions issued against property upon judgments of record.

Section 28. Subsection (1) of section 320.203, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.203 Disposition of biennial license tax moneys.-

(1) Notwithstanding ss. 320.08(1), (2), (3), (4)(a) or (b), (6), (7), (8), (9), (10), or (11), or (12), 320.08058, and 328.76 and pursuant to s. 216.351, after the provisions of s. 320.20(1), (2), (3), (4), and (5) are fulfilled, an amount equal to 50 percent of revenues collected from the biennial registrations created in s. 320.07 shall be retained in the Motor Vehicle License Clearing Trust Fund, authorized in s. 215.32(2)(b)2.f., until July 1. After July 1 of the subsequent fiscal year, an amount equal to 50 percent of revenues collected from the biennial registrations created in s. 320.07 shall be distributed according to ss. 320.08(1), (2), (3), (4)(a) or (b), (6), (7), (8), (9), (10), or (11), or (12), 320.08058, 328.76, and 320.20(1), (2), (3), (4), and (5).

Section 29. Section 320.26, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 320.26 Counterfeiting license plates, validation stickers, mobile home stickers, movable tiny home stickers, cab cards, trip permits, or special temporary operational permits prohibited; penalty.—
- (1) (a) \underline{A} No person \underline{may} not \underline{shall} counterfeit registration license plates, validation stickers, \underline{or} mobile home stickers, \underline{or} movable tiny home stickers, or have in his or her possession any

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such plates or stickers; nor shall \underline{a} any person manufacture, sell, or dispose of registration license plates, validation stickers, or mobile home stickers, or movable tiny home stickers in the state without first having obtained the permission and authority of the department in writing.

- (b) \underline{A} No person \underline{may} not \underline{shall} counterfeit, alter, or manufacture International Registration Plan cab cards, trip permits, special temporary permits, or temporary operational permits; nor shall \underline{a} \underline{any} person sell or dispose of International Registration Plan cab cards, trip permits, special temporary permits, or temporary operational permits without first having obtained the permission and authority of the department in writing.
- (2) \underline{A} Any person who violates this section $\underline{commits}$ \underline{is} $\underline{guilty of}$ a felony of the third degree.
- (a) If the violator is a natural person, he or she is punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.
- (b) If the violator is an association or corporation, it is punishable as provided in s. 775.083, and the official of the association or corporation under whose direction or with whose knowledge, consent, or acquiescence such violation occurred may be punished as provided in s. 775.082, in addition to the fine that which may be imposed upon such association or corporation.

Section 30. Section 320.261, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.261 Attaching registration license plate not assigned unlawful; penalty.—A Any person who knowingly attaches to a any motor vehicle, or mobile home, or movable tiny home a any registration license plate, or who knowingly attaches a any

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validation sticker, or mobile home sticker, or movable tiny home sticker to a registration license plate, which plate or sticker was not issued and assigned or lawfully transferred to such motor vehicle, mobile home, or movable tiny home commits is guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

Section 31. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and paragraph (b) of subsection (9) of section 320.27, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

320.27 Motor vehicle dealers.

- (1) DEFINITIONS.—The following words, terms, and phrases when used in this section have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this subsection, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:
- (b) "Motor vehicle" means any motor vehicle of the type and kind required to be registered and titled under chapter 319 and this chapter, except a recreational vehicle, moped, motorcycle powered by a motor with a displacement of 50 cubic centimeters or less, ex mobile home, or movable tiny home.
 - (9) DENIAL, SUSPENSION, OR REVOCATION. -
- (b) The department may deny, suspend, or revoke any license issued hereunder or under the provisions of s. 320.77 or s. 320.771 upon proof that a licensee has committed, with sufficient frequency so as to establish a pattern of wrongdoing on the part of a licensee, violations of one or more of the following activities:
- 1. Representation that a demonstrator is a new motor vehicle, or the attempt to sell or the sale of a demonstrator as a new motor vehicle without written notice to the purchaser that

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the vehicle is a demonstrator. For the purposes of this section, a "demonstrator," a "new motor vehicle," and a "used motor vehicle" shall be defined as under s. 320.60.

- 2. Unjustifiable refusal to comply with a licensee's responsibility under the terms of the new motor vehicle warranty issued by its respective manufacturer, distributor, or importer. However, if such refusal is at the direction of the manufacturer, distributor, or importer, such refusal shall not be a ground under this section.
- 3. Misrepresentation or false, deceptive, or misleading statements with regard to the sale or financing of motor vehicles which any motor vehicle dealer has, or causes to have, advertised, printed, displayed, published, distributed, broadcast, televised, or made in any manner with regard to the sale or financing of motor vehicles.
- 4. Failure by any motor vehicle dealer to provide a customer or purchaser with an odometer disclosure statement and a copy of any bona fide written, executed sales contract or agreement of purchase connected with the purchase of the motor vehicle purchased by the customer or purchaser.
- 5. Failure of any motor vehicle dealer to comply with the terms of any bona fide written, executed agreement, pursuant to the sale of a motor vehicle.
- 6. Failure to apply for transfer of a title as prescribed in s. 319.23(6).
- 7. Use of the dealer license identification number by any person other than the licensed dealer or his or her designee.
- 8. Failure to continually meet the requirements of the licensure law.

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9. Representation to a customer or any advertisement to the public representing or suggesting that a motor vehicle is a new motor vehicle if such vehicle lawfully cannot be titled in the name of the customer or other member of the public by the seller using a manufacturer's statement of origin as permitted in s. 319.23(1).

- 10. Requirement by any motor vehicle dealer that a customer or purchaser accept equipment on his or her motor vehicle which was not ordered by the customer or purchaser.
- 11. Requirement by any motor vehicle dealer that any customer or purchaser finance a motor vehicle with a specific financial institution or company.
- 12. Requirement by any motor vehicle dealer that the purchaser of a motor vehicle contract with the dealer for physical damage insurance.
- 13. Perpetration of a fraud upon any person as a result of dealing in motor vehicles, including, without limitation, the misrepresentation to any person by the licensee of the licensee's relationship to any manufacturer, importer, or distributor.
- 14. Violation of any of the provisions of s. 319.35 by any motor vehicle dealer.
- 15. Sale by a motor vehicle dealer of a vehicle offered in trade by a customer prior to consummation of the sale, exchange, or transfer of a newly acquired vehicle to the customer, unless the customer provides written authorization for the sale of the trade-in vehicle prior to delivery of the newly acquired vehicle.
 - 16. Willful failure to comply with any administrative rule

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1045 adopted by the department or the provisions of s. 320.131(8).

- 17. Violation of chapter 319, this chapter, or ss. 559.901-559.9221, which has to do with dealing in or repairing motor vehicles, or mobile homes, or movable tiny homes. Additionally, in the case of used motor vehicles, the willful violation of the federal law and rule in 15 U.S.C. s. 2304, 16 C.F.R. part 455, pertaining to the consumer sales window form.
- 18. Failure to maintain evidence of notification to the owner or co-owner of a vehicle regarding registration or titling fees owed as required in s. 320.02(17).
- 19. Failure to register a mobile home salesperson <u>or</u> movable tiny home salesperson with the department as required by this section.

Section 32. Section 320.28, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.28 Nonresident dealers in secondhand motor vehicles, recreational vehicles, movable tiny homes, or mobile homes.—
Every dealer in used or secondhand motor vehicles, recreational vehicles, movable tiny homes, or mobile homes who is a nonresident of the state, does not have a permanent place of business in this state, and has not qualified as a dealer under the provisions of ss. 320.27, 320.77, and 320.771, and 320.772, and any person other than a dealer qualified under the provisions of said ss. 320.27, 320.77, and 320.771, and 320.772, who brings any used or secondhand motor vehicle, recreational vehicle, movable tiny home, or mobile home into the state for the purpose of sale, except to a dealer licensed under the provisions of ss. 320.27, 320.77, and 320.771, and 320.772, shall, at least 10 days before prior to the sale of said

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vehicle, the offering of said vehicle for sale, or the
advertising of said vehicle for sale of such vehicle, make and
file with the department the official application for a
certificate of title for such said vehicle as provided by law.
Any person who has had one or more transactions involving the
sale of three or more used or secondhand motor vehicles,
recreational vehicles, movable tiny homes, or mobile homes in
Florida during any 12-month period shall be deemed to be a
secondhand dealer in motor vehicles, recreational vehicles,
movable tiny homes, or mobile homes.

Section 33. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section 320.37, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 320.37 Registration not to apply to nonresidents.-
- (2) The exemption granted by this section does not apply to:
- (c) Recreational vehicles, movable tiny homes, or mobile homes located in this state for at least 6 consecutive months; or

Section 34. Subsection (1) of section 320.71, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 320.71 Nonresident motor vehicle, mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle dealer's license.—
- (1) A Any person who is a nonresident of the state, who does not have a dealer's contract from the manufacturer or manufacturer's distributor of motor vehicles, mobile homes, movable tiny homes, or recreational vehicles authorizing the sale thereof in definite Florida territory, and who sells or engages in the business of selling such said vehicles at retail within the state shall register with the Department of Revenue

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for a sales tax dealer registration number, and comply with chapter 212, and pay a license tax of \$2,000 per annum in each county where such sales are made. Of such tax, \$1,250 of said tax shall be transmitted to the Department of Financial Services to be deposited in the General Revenue Fund of the state, and \$750 thereof shall be returned to the county. The license tax shall cover the period from January 1 to the following December 31, and no such license may not shall be issued for any fractional part of a year.

Section 35. Subsection (11) of section 320.771, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (18) is added to that section, to read:

- 320.771 License required of recreational vehicle dealers.-
- (11) SETUP OPERATIONS.—Each licensee may perform setup operations only as defined in $\underline{s.\ 320.822(16)}\ \underline{s.\ 320.822}$, and the department shall provide by rule for the uniform application of all existing statutory provisions relating to licensing and setup operations.
- (18) MOVABLE TINY HOMES.—A licensed recreational vehicle dealer may also sell movable tiny homes.

Section 36. Section 320.772, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

- 320.772 License required of movable tiny home dealers.-
- (1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:
- 1127 (a) 1. "Dealer" means a person engaged in the business of
 1128 buying, selling, or dealing in movable tiny homes or offering or
 1129 displaying movable tiny homes for sale. The term "dealer"
 1130 includes a movable tiny home broker. A person who buys, sells,
- deals in, or offers or displays for sale, or who acts as the

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1132 agent for the sale of, one or more movable tiny homes in any 12-1133 month period shall be prima facie presumed to be a dealer. The terms "selling" and "sale" include lease-purchase transactions. 1134 1135 The term "dealer" does not include banks, credit unions, and 1136 finance companies that acquire movable tiny homes as an incident 1137 to their regular business and does not include mobile home 1138 rental and leasing companies that sell movable tiny homes to 1139 dealers licensed under this section. 1140 2. A licensed dealer may transact business in movable tiny 1141 homes with a motor vehicle auction as defined in s. 1142 320.27(1)(c)4. Further, a licensed dealer may, at retail or 1143 wholesale, sell a motor vehicle, as described in s. 320.01(1)(a), acquired in exchange for the sale of a movable 1144 1145 tiny home if the acquisition is incidental to the principal 1146 business of being a movable tiny home dealer. However, a movable 1147 tiny home dealer may not buy a motor vehicle for the purpose of 1148 resale unless licensed as a motor vehicle dealer pursuant to s. 1149 320.27. A dealer may apply for a certificate of title to a 1150 movable tiny home required to be registered under s. 320.08(12), 1151 using a manufacturer's statement of origin as permitted by s. 1152 319.23(1), only if the dealer is authorized by a 1153 manufacturer/dealer agreement, as defined in s. 320.3202, on file with the department, to buy, sell, or deal in that 1154 1155 particular line-make of movable tiny home and the dealer is 1156 authorized by the manufacturer/dealer agreement to perform 1157 delivery and preparation obligations and warranty defect 1158 adjustments on that line-make. (b) "Movable tiny home broker" means a person who is 1159 1160 engaged in the business of offering to procure or procuring used

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movable tiny homes for the general public; who holds himself or herself out through solicitation, advertisement, or otherwise as one who offers to procure or procures used movable tiny homes for the general public; or who acts as the agent or intermediary on behalf of the owner or seller of a used movable tiny home that is for sale or who assists or represents the seller in finding a buyer for the movable tiny home.

- (2) LICENSE REQUIRED.—A person may not engage in business as, or serve in the capacity of, a dealer in this state unless such person possesses a valid, current license as provided in this section. Motor vehicle dealers licensed under s. 320.27 shall not be required to obtain the license provided in this section to sell motor vehicles as defined in s. 320.01(1)(b)4., 5., and 6.
- (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:
- (a) A full statement of the name and the date of birth of the person or persons applying therefor.
- (b) The name of the firm or copartnership with the names and places of residence of all its members, if the applicant is a firm or copartnership.
- (c) The names and places of residence of the principal officers, if the applicant is a body corporate or other artificial body.
- (d) The name of the state under the laws of which the corporation is organized.
 - (e) The former place or places of residence of the

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1190 applicant.

(f) The prior businesses in which the applicant has been engaged, the dates during which the applicant was engaged in such businesses, and the locations thereof.

- (g) A description of the exact location of the place of business, when it was acquired, and whether it is owned in fee simple by the applicant. If leased, a true copy of the lease shall be attached to the application.
- (h) Certification by the applicant that the location is a permanent one, not a tent or a temporary stand or other temporary quarters; that the location affords sufficient unoccupied space to store all movable tiny homes offered and displayed for sale; and that the location is a suitable place in which the applicant can in good faith carry on business and keep and maintain books, records, and files necessary to conduct such business, which will be available at all reasonable hours to inspection by the department or any of its inspectors or other employees.
- (i) Certification by the applicant that the business of a movable tiny home dealer is the principal business that shall be conducted at that location; however, this paragraph does not apply to movable tiny home or mobile home park operators licensed as mobile home or movable tiny home dealers.
- (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 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, movable tiny homes.

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20231404 1219 However, a garage liability policy is not required for the 1220 licensure of a mobile home dealer who sells only park trailers. 1221 (k) A statement that the applicant for a movable tiny home 1222 license issued pursuant to this section has not and will not 1223 enter into any agreements, written or oral, with any other 1224 person or business entity which would constitute an unfair or 1225 deceptive trade practice in violation of part II of chapter 501. 1226 (1) Such other relevant information as may be required by 1227 the department. Each applicant, general partner in the case of a 1228 partnership, or corporate officer and director in the case of a 1229 corporate applicant must file a set of fingerprints with the 1230 department for the purpose of determining any prior criminal record or any outstanding warrants. The department shall submit 1231 1232 the fingerprinting to the Department of Law Enforcement for 1233 state processing and forwarding to the Federal Bureau of 1234 Investigation for federal processing. The department may issue a 1235 license to an applicant pending the results of the fingerprint 1236 investigation, which license is fully revocable if the 1237 department subsequently determines that any facts set forth in 1238 the application are not true or correctly represented. 1239 1240 The department shall, if it deems necessary, cause an 1241 investigation to be made to ascertain whether the facts set 1242 forth in the application are true and shall not issue a license to the applicant until it is satisfied that the facts set forth 1243 1244 in the application are true. 1245 (4) DENIAL OF LICENSE.—The department may deny any 1246 applicant a license on the ground that:

(a) The applicant has made a material misstatement in the

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1248 application for a license.

- (b) The applicant has failed to comply with any applicable provision of this chapter.
 - (c) The applicant has failed to provide warranty service.
- (d) The applicant or one or more of the applicant's principals or agents has violated any law, rule, or regulation relating to the sale of movable tiny homes.
 - (e) The department has proof of unfitness of the applicant.
- (f) The applicant has engaged in previous conduct in any state which would have been a ground for revocation or suspension of a license in this state.
- (g) The applicant has violated any of the provisions of the National Mobile Home Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 or any rule or regulation of the Department of Housing and Urban Development adopted thereunder.

Upon denial of a license, the department shall notify the applicant within 10 days, stating in writing its grounds for denial. The applicant is entitled to a public hearing and may request that such hearing be held within 45 days after denial of the license. All proceedings shall be pursuant to chapter 120.

issued by the department in accordance with the application when the application is regular in form and in compliance with this section. The license certificate may be in the form of a document or a computerized card as determined by the department. The license, when issued, shall entitle the licensee to carry on and conduct the business of a movable tiny home dealer at the location set forth in the licensee for 1 or 2 years from October

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1 preceding the date of issuance. Each initial application received by the department shall be accompanied by verification that, within the preceding 6 months, the applicant or one or more of his or her designated employees has attended a training and information seminar conducted by the department or by a public or private provider approved by the department. Such seminar shall include, but not be limited to, statutory dealer requirements, which requirements include required bookkeeping and recording procedures, requirements for the collection of sales and use taxes, and such other information that in the opinion of the department will promote good business practices.

- (6) SUPPLEMENTAL LICENSE.—A person licensed under this section shall be entitled to operate one or more additional places of business under a supplemental license for each such business if the ownership of each such business is identical to that of the principal business for which the original license is issued. Each supplemental license shall run concurrently with the original license and shall be issued upon application by the licensee on a form to be furnished by the department. Only one licensed dealer shall operate at the same place of business. A supplemental license authorizing off-premises sales shall be issued, at no charge to the dealer, for up to 10 consecutive days. A licensed dealer who conducts an off-premises sale not in conjunction with a public vehicle show, as defined in s. 320.3203(5)(c), shall:
- (a) Notify the applicable local department office of the specific dates and location for which such license is requested.
- (b) Provide staff to work at the temporary location for the duration of the off-premises sale.

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(c) Meet all local government permit requirements.

- (d) Have the permission of the property owner to operate at that location.
- (e) Conspicuously display a sign at the licensed location which clearly identifies the dealer's name and business address as listed on the dealer's original license.
- (f) Prominently include the dealer's name and business address, as listed on the dealer's original license, in all advertisements associated with such sale.
- (7) LICENSE ENDORSEMENT.—A mobile home dealer licensed under s. 320.77 may apply to the department for authority to sell movable tiny homes. The mobile home dealer shall file an application required by this section and shall be governed by the licensing provisions contained in this section. Additional license fees or bond shall not be required for issuance of this endorsement to the mobile home dealer's license.
- (8) RECORDS TO BE KEPT BY LICENSEE.—Each licensee shall keep records in such form as shall be prescribed by the department. Such records shall include:
- (a) A record of the purchase, sale, or exchange, or receipt for the purpose of sale, of any movable tiny home.
- (b) The description of each such movable tiny home, including the identification or serial number and such other numbers or identification marks as may be thereon, and a statement that a number has been obliterated, defaced, or changed, if such fact is apparent.
- (c) The name and address of the seller, the purchaser, and the alleged owner or other person from whom the movable tiny home was purchased or received and the person to whom it was

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sold or delivered, as the case may be.

- (9) EVIDENCE OF TITLE REQUIRED.—
- (a) The licensee shall also have in his or her possession for each new movable tiny home a manufacturer's invoice or statement of origin.
- (b) For each used movable tiny home in the possession of a licensee and offered for sale by him or her, the licensee shall have in his or her possession or control a duly assigned certificate of title from the owner in accordance with chapter 319, or a registration certificate if the used movable tiny home was previously registered in a nontitle state, from the time when the movable tiny home is delivered to the licensee and offered for sale by him or her until it has been disposed of by the licensee, or shall have reasonable indicia of ownership or right of possession, or shall have made proper application for a certificate of title or duplicate certificate of title in accordance with chapter 319. A dealer may not sell or offer for sale a movable tiny home in his or her possession unless the dealer satisfies the requirements of this subsection. Reasonable indicia of ownership includes a duly assigned certificate of title; in the case of a new movable tiny home, a manufacturer's certificate of origin issued to or reassigned to the dealer; a consignment contract between the owner and the dealer along with a secure power of attorney from the owner to the dealer authorizing the dealer to apply for a duplicate certificate of title and assign the title on behalf of the owner; a court order awarding title to the movable tiny home to the dealer; a salvage certificate of title; a photocopy of a duly assigned certificate of title being held by a financial institution as collateral for

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a business loan of money to the dealer ("floor plan"); a copy of a canceled check or other documentation evidencing that an outstanding lien on a movable tiny home taken in trade by a licensed dealer has been satisfied and that the certificate of title will be, but has not yet been, received by the dealer; or a vehicle purchase order or installment contract for a specific movable tiny home identifying that movable tiny home as a trade-in on a replacement movable tiny home.

- (10) SETUP OPERATIONS.—Each licensee may perform setup operations only as defined in s. 320.822(16), and the department shall provide by rule for the uniform application of all existing statutory provisions relating to licensing and setup operations.
- (11) PENALTY.—A violation of this section is a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- (12) INJUNCTION.—In addition to the remedies provided in this chapter, and notwithstanding the existence of any adequate remedy at law, the department may make application to a circuit court of the state, and the circuit court shall have jurisdiction, upon a hearing and for cause shown, to grant a temporary or permanent injunction restraining a person from acting as a movable tiny home dealer under this section who is not properly licensed or who violates or fails or refuses to comply with any of the provisions of chapter 319 and this chapter or any rule or regulation adopted thereunder. Such injunction shall be issued without bond. A single act in violation of chapter 319 or this chapter shall be sufficient to authorize the issuance of an injunction.

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(13) SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION.—The department shall, as it deems necessary, suspend or revoke a license issued under this section upon a finding that the licensee violated any provision of this section or of any other law of this state having to do with dealing in movable tiny homes or perpetrated a fraud upon a person as a result of such dealing in movable tiny homes.

other powers provided in this section, the department may assess, impose, levy, and collect by legal process fines, in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 for each violation, against a licensee if it finds that the licensee has violated any provision of this section or any other law of this state having to do with dealing in movable tiny homes. A licensee is entitled to a hearing pursuant to chapter 120 should the licensee wish to contest the fine levied, or about to be levied, upon him or her.

(15) BOND.

(a) Before a license is issued or renewed, the applicant shall deliver to the department a good and sufficient surety bond, executed by the applicant as principal and by a surety company qualified to do business in the state as surety. The bond shall be in a form to be approved by the department and shall be conditioned upon the dealer's complying with the conditions of any written contract made by that dealer in connection with the sale, exchange, or improvement of any movable tiny home and his or her not violating any of the provisions of chapter 319 or this chapter in the conduct of the business for which he or she is licensed. The bond shall be to the department and in favor of any retail customer who suffers any loss as a result of any violation of the conditions

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hereinabove contained. The bond shall be for the license period, and a new bond or a proper continuation certificate shall be delivered to the department at the beginning of each license period. However, the aggregate liability of the surety in any one license year shall in no event exceed the sum of such bond. The amount of the bond required shall be as follows:

- 1. A single dealer who buys, sells, or deals in movable tiny homes and has four or fewer supplemental licenses shall provide a surety bond in the amount of \$10,000.
- 2. A single dealer who buys, sells, or deals in movable tiny homes and has more than four supplemental licenses shall provide a surety bond in the amount of \$20,000.

For purposes of this paragraph, a person who buys, sells, or deals in both mobile homes and movable tiny homes shall provide the same surety bond required of dealers who buy, sell, or deal in mobile homes only.

- (b) The department shall, upon denial, suspension, or revocation of a license, notify the surety company of the licensee, in writing, that the license has been denied, suspended, or revoked and shall state the reason for such denial, suspension, or revocation.
- (c) A surety company that pays a claim against the bond of a licensee shall notify the department, in writing, that it has paid such a claim and shall state the amount of the claim.
- (d) A surety company that cancels the bond of a licensee shall notify the department, in writing, of such cancellation and shall state the reason for the cancellation.
 - (16) PROHIBITED COMMISSION SHARING.—In accordance with s.

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626.753, a dealer or movable tiny home broker, as defined in this section, who is not a licensed insurance agent may not share in the commission on the sale of insurance coverage on the types of movable tiny homes defined in s. 320.01(46) by the creation of a foreign partnership, corporation, or other entity that is controlled by a person or entity not licensed as an insurance agent.

Section 37. Section 320.781, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.781 Mobile Home, Movable Tiny Home, and Recreational Vehicle Protection Trust Fund.—

- (1) There is hereby established a Mobile Home, Movable Tiny Home, and Recreational Vehicle Protection Trust Fund. The trust fund shall be administered and managed by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. The expenses incurred by the department in administering this section shall be paid only from appropriations made from the trust fund.
- (2) Beginning October 1, 1990, The department shall charge and collect an additional fee of \$1 for each new mobile home, new movable tiny home, and new recreational vehicle title transaction for which it charges a fee. This additional fee shall be deposited into the trust fund. The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles shall charge a fee of \$40 per annual dealer and manufacturer license and license renewal, which shall be deposited into the trust fund. The sums deposited in the trust fund shall be used exclusively for carrying out the purposes of this section. These sums may be invested and reinvested by the Chief Financial Officer under the same limitations as apply to investment of other state funds, with

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all interest from these investments deposited to the credit of the trust fund.

- (3) The trust fund shall be used to satisfy any judgment or claim by any person, as provided by this section, against a mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle dealer or broker for damages, restitution, or expenses, including reasonable attorney attorney's fees, resulting from a cause of action directly related to the conditions of any written contract made by him or her in connection with the sale, exchange, or improvement of any mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle, or for any violation of chapter 319 or this chapter.
- (4) The trust fund shall not be liable for any judgment, or part thereof, resulting from any tort claim except as expressly provided in subsection (3), nor for any punitive, exemplary, double, or treble damages. A person, the state, or any political subdivision thereof may recover against the mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle dealer, broker, or surety, jointly and severally, for such damages, restitution, or expenses.; provided, However, that in no event shall the trust fund or the surety shall not be liable for an amount in excess of actual damages, restitution, or expenses.
- (5) Subject to the limitations and requirements of this section, the trust fund shall be used by the department to compensate persons who have unsatisfied judgments, or in certain limited circumstances unsatisfied claims, against a mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle dealer or broker. The following conditions must exist for a person to be eligible to file a claim against the trust fund:

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(a) The claimant has obtained a final judgment that is unsatisfied against the mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle dealer or broker or its surety jointly and severally, or against the mobile home or movable tiny home dealer or broker only, if the court found that the surety was not liable due to prior payment of valid claims against the bond in an amount equal to, or greater than, the face amount of the applicable bond; or the claimant is prohibited from filing a claim in a lawsuit because a bankruptcy proceeding is pending by the dealer or broker, and the claimant has filed a claim in that bankruptcy proceeding; or the dealer or broker has closed his or her business and cannot be found or located within the jurisdiction of the state; and

- (b) A claim has been made in a lawsuit against the surety and a judgment obtained is unsatisfied; a claim has been made in a lawsuit against the surety which has been stayed or discharged in a bankruptcy proceeding; or a claimant is prohibited from filing a claim in a lawsuit because a bankruptcy proceeding is pending by surety or the surety is not liable due to the prior payment of valid claims against the bond in an amount equal to, or greater than, the face amount of the applicable bond. However, a claimant may not recover against the trust fund if the claimant has recovered from the surety an amount that is equal to or greater than the total loss.
- (6) In order to recover from the trust fund, the person must file an application and verified claim with the department.
- (a) If the claimant has obtained a judgment that is unsatisfied against the mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle dealer or broker or its surety as set forth

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in this section, the verified claim must specify the following:

- 1.a. That the judgment against the mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle dealer or broker and its surety has been entered; or
- b. That the judgment against the mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle dealer or broker contains a specific finding that the surety has no liability, that execution has been returned unsatisfied, and that a judgment lien has been perfected;
- 2. The amount of actual damages broken down by category as awarded by the court or jury in the cause which resulted in the unsatisfied judgment, and the amount of attorney attorney's fees set forth in the unsatisfied judgment;
- 3. The amount of payment or other consideration received, if any, from the mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle dealer or broker or its surety;
- 4. The amount that may be realized, if any, from the sale of real or personal property or other assets of the judgment debtor liable to be sold or applied in satisfaction of the judgment and the balance remaining due on the judgment after application of the amount which has been realized and a certification that the claimant has made a good faith effort to collect the judgment;
- 5. An assignment by the claimant of rights, title, or interest in the unsatisfied judgment lien to the department; and
 - 6. Such other information as the department requires.
- (b) If the claimant has alleged a claim as set forth in paragraph (5)(a) and for the reasons set forth therein has not been able to secure a judgment, the verified claim must contain

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1567 the following:

1. A true copy of the pleadings in the lawsuit that was stayed or discharged by the bankruptcy court and the order of the bankruptcy court staying those proceedings or a true copy of the claim that was filed in the bankruptcy court proceedings;

- 2. Allegations of the acts or omissions by the mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle dealer or broker setting forth the specific acts or omissions complained of which resulted in actual damage to the person, along with the actual dollar amount necessary to reimburse or compensate the person for costs or expenses resulting from the acts or omissions of which the person complained;
- 3. True copies of all purchase agreements, notices, service or repair orders or papers or documents of any kind whatsoever which the person received in connection with the purchase, exchange, or lease-purchase of the mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle from which the person's cause of action arises;
- 4. An assignment by the claimant of rights, title, or interest in the claim to the department; and
 - 5. Such other information as the department requires.
- (c) The department may require such proof as it deems necessary to document the matters set forth in the claim.
- (7) Within 90 days after receipt of the application and verified claim, the department shall issue its determination on the claim. Such determination shall not be subject to the provisions of chapter 120, but shall be reviewable only by writ of certiorari in the circuit court in the county in which the claimant resides in the manner and within the time provided by

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the Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure. The claim must be paid within 45 days after the determination, or, if judicial review is sought, within 45 days after the review becomes final. A person may not be paid an amount from the fund in excess of \$25,000 per mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle, which includes any damages, restitution, payments received as the result of a claim against the surety bond, or expenses, including reasonable attorney attorney's fees. Before Prior to payment, the person must execute an assignment to the department of all the person's rights and title to, and interest in, the unsatisfied judgment and judgment lien or the claim against the dealer or broker and its surety.

- (8) The department, in its discretion and where feasible, may try to recover from the mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle dealer or broker, or the judgment debtor or its surety, all sums paid to persons from the trust fund. Any sums recovered shall be deposited to the credit of the trust fund. The department shall be awarded a reasonable attorney attorney's fee for all actions taken to recover any sums paid to persons from the trust fund pursuant to this section.
- (9) This section does not apply to any claim, and a person may not recover against the trust fund as the result of any claim, against a mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle dealer or broker resulting from a cause of action directly related to the sale, lease-purchase, exchange, brokerage, or installation of a mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle before prior to July 1, 2006.
- (10) Neither the department, nor the trust fund shall be liable to any person for recovery if the trust fund does not

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have the moneys necessary to pay amounts claimed. If the trust fund does not have sufficient assets to pay the claimant, it shall log the time and date of its determination for payment to a claimant. If moneys become available, the department shall pay the claimant whose unpaid claim is the earliest by time and date of determination.

(11) A It is unlawful for any person or his or her agent may not to file a any notice, statement, or other document required under this section which is false or contains any material misstatement of fact. A Any person who violates this subsection commits is guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

Section 38. Section 320.822, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.822 Definitions; ss. 320.822-320.862.—In construing ss. 320.822-320.862, unless the context otherwise requires, the following words or phrases have the following meanings:

- (1) "Buyer" means a person who purchases at retail from a dealer or manufacturer a mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle for his or her own use as a residence, or other related use.
 - (2) "Code" means the appropriate standards found in:
- (a) The Federal Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards for single-family mobile homes, <u>adopted</u> promulgated by the Department of Housing and Urban Development;
- (b) The Uniform Standards Code approved by the American National Standards Institute, ANSI A-119.2 for recreational vehicles and ANSI A-119.5 for park trailers or the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development standard for park

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trailers certified as meeting that standard; or

- (c) The Mobile and Manufactured Home Repair and Remodeling Code and the Used Recreational Vehicle Code; or
- (d) Code requirements specified in s. 320.82315 for movable tiny homes certified to meet those standards.
- (3) "Construction" means the minimum requirements for materials, products, equipment, and workmanship needed to <u>ensure</u> assure that the mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle will provide structural strength and rigidity; protection against corrosion, decay, and other similar destructive forces; resistance to the elements; and durability and economy of maintenance.
- (4) "Institute" means the United States of America Standards Institute.
- (5) "Length," for purposes of transportation only, means the distance from the extreme front of the mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle, to the extreme rear, including the drawbar and coupling mechanism, but not including expandable features that do not project from the body during transportation.
- (6) "Length of a mobile home <u>or movable tiny home</u>" means the distance from the exterior of the front wall (nearest to the drawbar and coupling mechanism) to the exterior of the rear wall (at the opposite end of the home) where such walls enclose living or other interior space and such distance includes expandable rooms but not bay windows, porches, drawbars, couplings, hitches, wall and roof extensions, or other attachments.
 - (7) "Licensee" means \underline{a} any person licensed or required to

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be licensed under s. 320.8225.

- (8) "Mobile home dealer" means <u>a</u> any person engaged in the business of buying, selling, or dealing in mobile homes or offering or displaying mobile homes for sale. <u>A</u> Any person who buys, sells, or deals in one or more mobile homes in any 12-month period or who offers or displays for sale one or more mobile homes in any 12-month period shall be prima facie presumed to be engaged in the business of a mobile home dealer. The terms "selling" and "sale" include lease-purchase transactions. The term "mobile home dealer" does not include a bank, credit union, or finance company that acquires mobile homes as an incident to its regular business, does not include a mobile home rental or leasing company that sells mobile homes to mobile home dealers licensed under s. 320.77, and does not include persons who are selling their own mobile homes.
- (9) "Movable tiny home dealer" means a person engaged in the business of buying, selling, or dealing in movable tiny homes or offering or displaying movable tiny homes for sale. The term "dealer" includes a movable tiny home broker. A person who buys, sells, deals in, or offers or displays for sale, or who acts as the agent for the sale of, one or more movable tiny homes in any 12-month period shall be prima facie presumed to be a dealer. The terms "selling" and "sale" include lease-purchase transactions. The term "dealer" does not include banks, credit unions, and finance companies that acquire movable tiny homes as an incident to their regular business and does not include mobile home rental and leasing companies that sell movable tiny homes to dealers licensed under s. 320.772.
 - (10) "Recreational vehicle dealer" means <u>a</u> any person

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engaged in the business of buying, selling, or dealing in recreational vehicles or offering or displaying recreational vehicles for sale. The term "dealer" includes a recreational vehicle broker. A Any person who buys, sells, deals in, or offers or displays for sale, or who acts as the agent for the sale of, one or more recreational vehicles in any 12-month period shall be prima facie presumed to be a dealer. The terms "selling" and "sale" include lease-purchase transactions. The term "dealer" does not include banks, credit unions, and finance companies that acquire recreational vehicles as an incident to their regular business and does not include mobile home rental and leasing companies that sell recreational vehicles to dealers licensed under s. 320.771.

- $\underline{(11)}$ "Mobile home manufacturer" means \underline{a} any person, resident or nonresident, who, as a trade or commerce, manufactures or assembles mobile homes.
- (12) "Movable tiny home manufacturer" means a person, resident or nonresident, who, as a trade or commerce, manufactures or assembles movable tiny homes in such manner that they then qualify as movable tiny homes for sale in this state.
- (13) "Recreational vehicle manufacturer" means <u>a</u> any person, resident or nonresident, who, as a trade or commerce, manufactures or assembles recreational vehicles or van-type vehicles in such manner that they then qualify as recreational vehicles, for sale in this state.
- $\underline{\text{(14)}}$ "Responsible party" means a manufacturer, dealer, or supplier.
- $\underline{\text{(15)}}$ "Seal" or "label" means a device issued by the department certifying that a mobile home, movable tiny home, or

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recreational vehicle meets the appropriate code, which device is to be displayed on the exterior of the mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle.

- (16) (14) "Setup" or "installation" means the operations performed at the occupancy site which render a mobile home, movable tiny home, or park trailer fit for habitation. Such operations include, but are not limited to, transporting; positioning; blocking; leveling, supporting, installing foundation products, components, and systems; connecting utility systems; making minor adjustments; or assembling multiple or expandable units.
 - (17) (15) "Substantial defect" means:
- (a) \underline{A} Any substantial deficiency or defect in materials or workmanship occurring to a mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle which has been reasonably maintained and cared for in normal use.
- (b) \underline{A} Any structural element, utility system, or component of the mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle, which fails to comply with the code.
- (18) (16) "Supplier" means the original producer of completed components, including refrigerators, stoves, hot water heaters, dishwashers, cabinets, air conditioners, heating units, and similar components, which are furnished to a manufacturer or dealer for installation in the mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle before prior to sale to a buyer.
- (19) (17) "Width of a mobile home or movable tiny home" means the distance from the exterior of one side wall to the exterior of the opposite side wall where such walls enclose living or other interior space and such distance includes

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expandable rooms but not bay windows, porches, wall and roof extensions, or other attachments.

- (20) (18) "Body size" of a movable tiny home, park trailer, travel trailer, or fifth-wheel trailer means the distance from the exterior side or end to the opposite exterior side or end of the body. Such distance includes expandable rooms, bay windows, wall and roof extensions, or other extrusions in the travel mode. The following exceptions apply:
- (a) Travel trailers \underline{may} shall not exceed 320 square feet. All square footage measurements are of the exterior when in setup mode, including bay windows.
- (b) Park trailers constructed to ANSI A-119.5 <u>may shall</u> not exceed 400 square feet. Park trailers constructed to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development standard <u>may shall</u> not exceed 500 square feet. All square footage measurements are of the exterior when in setup mode and do not include bay windows.
- (c) Fifth-wheel trailers may not exceed 400 square feet. All square footage measurements are of the exterior when in setup mode, including bay windows.
- (d) Movable tiny homes constructed to code requirements specified in s. 320.82315 may not exceed 400 square feet.

 Movable tiny homes constructed to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development standard may not exceed 500 square feet. All square footage measurements are of the exterior when in setup mode and do not include bay windows.
- Section 39. Subsection (1), paragraph (b) of subsection (5), and subsections (6), (7), and (8) of section 320.8225, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

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320.8225 Mobile home, movable tiny home, and recreational vehicle manufacturer, distributor, and importer license.—

- (1) LICENSE REQUIRED.—A Any person who engages in the business of a mobile home manufacturer, a movable tiny home manufacturer, or a recreational vehicle manufacturer, distributor, or importer in this state, or who manufactures mobile homes, movable tiny homes, or recreational vehicles out of state which are ultimately offered for sale in this state, shall obtain annually a license for each factory location in this state and for each factory location out of state which manufactures mobile homes, movable tiny homes, or recreational vehicles for sale in this state before, prior to distributing or importing mobile homes, movable tiny homes, or recreational vehicles for sale in this state.
 - (5) REQUIREMENT OF ASSURANCE.
- (b) Annually, <u>before prior to</u> the receipt of a license to manufacture, distribute, or import recreational vehicles <u>or movable tiny homes</u>, the applicant or licensee shall submit a surety bond, or a proper continuation certificate, sufficient to assure satisfaction of claims against the licensee for failure to comply with appropriate code standards, failure to provide warranty service, or violation of <u>any provisions of</u> this section. The amount of the surety bond must be \$10,000 per year. The surety bond must be to the department, in favor of any retail customer who suffers loss arising out of noncompliance with code standards or failure to honor or provide warranty service. The department may disapprove any bond that does not provide assurance as provided in this section. Within 10 calendar days after any renewal or continuation of or material

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change in such surety bond or issuance of a new surety bond, a licensee shall deliver to the department, in a manner prescribed by the department, a copy of such renewed, continued, changed, or new surety bond.

- (6) LICENSE PERIOD.—A license issued to a mobile home manufacturer, a movable tiny home manufacturer, or a recreational vehicle manufacturer, distributor, or importer entitles the licensee to conduct business for a period of 1 or 2 years beginning October 1 preceding the date of issuance.
- (7) DENIAL OF LICENSE.—The department may deny a mobile home manufacturer, a movable tiny home manufacturer, or a recreational vehicle manufacturer, distributor, or importer license on the ground that:
- (a) The applicant has made a material misstatement in his or her application for a license.
- (b) The applicant has failed to comply with any applicable provision of this chapter.
 - (c) The applicant has failed to provide warranty service.
- (d) The applicant or one or more of his or her principals or agents has violated any law, rule, or regulation relating to the manufacture or sale of mobile homes, movable tiny homes, or recreational vehicles.
- (e) The department has proof of the unfitness of the applicant.
- (f) The applicant or licensee has engaged in previous conduct in any state which would have been a ground for revocation or suspension of a license in this state.
- (g) The applicant or licensee has violated any provision of the National Mobile Home Construction and Safety Standards Act

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of 1974 or any related rule or regulation adopted by the
Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Upon denial of a license, the department shall notify the applicant within 10 days, stating in writing its grounds for denial. The applicant is entitled to an administrative hearing and may request that such hearing be held within 45 days after of denial of the license. All proceedings must be pursuant to chapter 120.

(8) REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION OF LICENSE.—The department shall suspend or, in the case of a subsequent offense, shall revoke <u>a any</u> license upon a finding that the licensee violated any provision of this chapter or any other law of this state regarding the manufacture, warranty, or sale of mobile homes, <u>movable tiny homes</u>, or recreational vehicles. The department may reinstate the license if it finds that the former licensee has complied with all applicable requirements of this chapter and an application for a license is refiled pursuant to this section.

Section 40. Section 320.82315, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

320.82315 Establishment of uniform standards for movable tiny homes.—

(1) Each movable tiny home, as defined in s. 320.01(46), manufactured in this state or manufactured outside this state but sold or offered for sale in this state shall meet the Uniform Standards Code ANSI book A-119.2 or A-119.5, as applicable, approved by the American National Standards Institute. Such standards shall include, but are not limited to, standards for the installation of plumbing, heating, and

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1886 <u>electrical systems and fire and life safety in movable tiny</u>
1887 homes. Each movable tiny home shall also be manufactured with:

- (a) Insulation with a thermal resistance value of at least R-13 in the walls and at least R-19 in the ceiling.
 - (b) Residential-grade insulated doors and windows.
- (c) An electrical system that meets National Fire
 Protection Association (NFPA) 70, National Electrical Code
 article 551 or article 552, as applicable.
- (d) Low-voltage electrical systems that meet the requirements of the ANSI/RVIA Low Voltage Systems in Conversion and RVs Standard.
- (e) Wall framing consisting of studs that are between 16 and 24 inches on center, which studs are at least 2 inches by 4 inches of wood or metal, or equivalent structural insulated panels.
- (2) Each movable tiny home must be inspected and certified by a professional engineer licensed in this state or a qualified third-party inspector for compliance with subsection (1).

 However, a movable tiny home that exceeds 400 square feet must comply with federal manufactured home construction and safety standards contained in 42 U.S.C. ss. 5401-5426 and must be given a United States Department of Housing and Urban Development label.
- (3) Trailer hitches or other trailer connecting devices manufactured, sold, or offered for sale in this state for use with a trailer governed by this section must conform to the certification standards in Vehicle Equipment Safety Commission Regulation V-5.
 - Section 41. Section 320.8245, Florida Statutes, is amended

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to read:

320.8245 Limitation of alteration or modification to mobile homes, movable tiny homes, or recreational vehicles.—

- (1) LIMITATION OF ALTERATIONS OR MODIFICATIONS.—An No alteration or modification may not shall be made to a mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle by a licensed dealer after shipment from the manufacturer's plant unless such alteration or modification is authorized in this section.
- (2) EFFECT ON MOBILE HOME OR MOVABLE TINY HOME WARRANTY.—
 Unless an alteration or modification is performed by a qualified person as defined in subsection (4), the warranty responsibility of the manufacturer as to the altered or modified item shall be void.
- (a) An alteration or modification performed by a mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle dealer or his or her agent or employee shall place warranty responsibility for the altered or modified item upon the dealer. If the manufacturer fulfills, or is required to fulfill, the warranty on the altered or modified item, he or she shall be entitled to recover damages in the amount of his or her costs and attorney attorneys' fees from the dealer.
- (b) An alteration or modification performed by a mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle owner or his or her agent shall render the manufacturer's warranty as to that item void. A statement shall be displayed clearly and conspicuously on the face of the warranty that the warranty is void as to the altered or modified item if the alteration or modification is performed by other than a qualified person. Failure to display such statement shall result in warranty

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responsibility on the manufacturer.

- (3) AUTHORITY OF THE DEPARTMENT.—The department <u>may adopt</u> is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations pursuant to chapter 120 which define the alterations or modifications <u>that</u> which must be made by qualified personnel. The department may regulate only those alterations and modifications <u>that</u> which substantially impair the structural integrity or safety of the mobile home.
 - (4) DESIGNATION AS A QUALIFIED PERSON.-
- (a) In order to be designated as a person qualified to alter or modify a mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle, a person must comply with local or county licensing or competency requirements in skills relevant to performing alterations or modifications on mobile homes, movable tiny homes, or recreational vehicles.
- (b) When no local or county licensing or competency requirements exist, the department may certify persons to perform mobile home alterations or modifications. The department shall by rule or regulation determine what skills and competency requirements are requisite to the issuance of a certification. A fee sufficient to cover the costs of issuing certifications may be charged by the department. The certification shall be valid for a period that which terminates when the county or other local governmental unit enacts relevant competency or licensing requirements. The certification shall be valid only in counties or localities without licensing or competency requirements.
- (c) The department shall determine which counties and localities have licensing or competency requirements adequate to eliminate the requirement of certification. This determination

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shall be based on a review of the relevant county or local standards for adequacy in regulating persons who perform alterations or modifications to mobile homes. The department shall find local or county standards adequate when minimal licensing or competency standards are provided.

Section 42. Subsection (7) of section 320.8285, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.8285 Onsite inspection.

(7) Park trailers <u>and movable tiny homes</u> are subject to inspection in the same manner as are mobile homes pursuant to this section.

Section 43. Subsection (1) of section 320.8325, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.8325 Mobile homes, <u>movable tiny homes</u>, manufactured homes, and park trailers; uniform installation standards; injunctions; penalty.—

(1) The department shall adopt rules setting forth uniform standards for the installation of mobile homes, movable tiny homes, manufactured homes, and park trailers and for the manufacture of components, products, or systems used in the installation of mobile homes, movable tiny homes, manufactured homes, and park trailers. The rules shall ensure that the home or park trailer is installed on a permanent foundation that resists wind, flood, flotation, overturning, sliding, and lateral movement of the home or park trailer. Only No entity, other than the department may, has authority to amend these uniform standards. The owner of the mobile home, movable tiny home, manufactured home, or park trailer is shall be responsible for the installation in accordance with department rules.

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Section 44. Section 320.835, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.835 Mobile home, movable tiny home, and recreational vehicle warranties.—Each manufacturer, dealer, installer, and supplier of mobile homes, movable tiny homes, or recreational vehicles shall warrant each new mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle sold in this state and the setup of each such mobile home, in accordance with the warranty requirements prescribed by this section, for a period of at least 12 months, measured from the date of delivery of the mobile home to the buyer or the date of sale of the movable tiny home or recreational vehicle in the case of a manufacturer or dealer, or from the date of receipt of a certificate of occupancy in the case of an installer. The warranty requirements of each manufacturer, dealer, installer, and supplier of mobile homes, movable tiny homes, or recreational vehicles are as follows:

- (1) The manufacturer warrants:
- (a) For a mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle, that all structural elements; plumbing systems; heating, cooling, and fuel-burning systems; electrical systems; fire prevention systems; and any other components or conditions included by the manufacturer are free from substantial defect.
- (b) That 100-ampere electrical service exists in the mobile home.
 - (2) The dealer warrants:
- (a) That any modifications or alterations made to the mobile home, movable tiny home, or recreational vehicle by the dealer or authorized by the dealer shall be free from substantial defect. Alterations or modifications made by a

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dealer shall relieve the manufacturer of warranty responsibility only as to the item altered or modified.

- (b) That setup operations performed on the mobile home are performed in compliance with s. 320.8325.
- (c) That substantial defects do not occur to the mobile home during setup or by transporting it to the occupancy site.

When the setup of a mobile home is performed by a person who is not an employee or agent of the mobile home manufacturer or dealer and is not compensated or authorized by, or connected with, such manufacturer or dealer, then the warranty responsibility of the manufacturer or dealer as to setup shall be limited to transporting the mobile home to the occupancy site free from substantial defect.

- (3) The installer warrants that the setup operations performed on the mobile home are performed in compliance with s. 320.8325 and department rules governing the installation.
- (4) The supplier warrants that any warranties generally offered in the ordinary sale of his or her product to consumers shall be extended to buyers of mobile homes, movable tiny homes, and recreational vehicles. When \underline{a} no warranty is not extended by suppliers, the manufacturer shall assume warranty responsibility for that component.
- (5) The department may adopt rules under chapter 120 to resolve disputes that may arise among the mobile home manufacturer, dealer, installer, or supplier. Those rules must comply with the dispute resolution process as set forth in the federal Manufactured Housing Improvement Act.

Section 45. Section 205.193, Florida Statutes, is amended

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2060 to read:

205.193 Mobile home setup operations; local business tax receipt prohibited; exception.—A county, municipality, or other unit of local government may not require a licensed mobile home dealer or a licensed mobile home manufacturer, or an employee of a dealer or manufacturer, who performs setup operations as defined in s. 320.822(16) s. 320.822 to be a business tax receiptholder to engage in such operations. However, such dealer or manufacturer must obtain a local receipt for his or her permanent business location or branch office, which receipt shall not require for its issuance any conditions other than those required by chapter 320.

Section 46. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 212.0601, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

212.0601 Use taxes of vehicle dealers.-

- (1) Each motor vehicle dealer who is required by \underline{s} . $\underline{320.08(13)}$ \underline{s} . $\underline{320.08(12)}$ to purchase one or more dealer license plates shall pay an annual use tax of \$27 for each dealer license plate purchased under that subsection, in addition to the license tax imposed by that subsection. The use tax shall be for the year for which the dealer license plate was purchased.
- (2) There shall be no additional tax imposed by this chapter for the use of a dealer license plate for which, after July 1, 1987, a dealer use tax has been paid under this section. This exemption shall apply to the time period before the sale or any other disposition of the vehicle throughout the year for which the dealer license plate required by \underline{s} . $\underline{320.08(13)}$ \underline{s} . $\underline{320.08(12)}$ is purchased.
 - Section 47. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section

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320.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.06 Registration certificates, license plates, and validation stickers generally.—

(3)(a) Registration license plates must be made of metal specially treated with a retroreflection material, as specified by the department. The registration license plate is designed to increase nighttime visibility and legibility and must be at least 6 inches wide and not less than 12 inches in length, unless a plate with reduced dimensions is deemed necessary by the department to accommodate motorcycles, mopeds, or similar smaller vehicles. Validation stickers must also be treated with a retroreflection material, must be of such size as specified by the department, and must adhere to the license plate. The registration license plate must be imprinted with a combination of bold letters and numerals or numerals, not to exceed seven digits, to identify the registration license plate number. The license plate must be imprinted with the word "Florida" at the top and the name of the county in which it is sold, the state motto, or the words "Sunshine State" at the bottom. Apportioned license plates must have the word "Apportioned" at the bottom, and license plates issued for vehicles taxed under s. 320.08(3)(d), (4)(m) or (n), (5)(b) or (c), or (15) $\frac{(14)}{(14)}$ must have the word "Restricted" at the bottom. License plates issued for vehicles taxed under s. $320.08(\underline{13})$ s. $320.08(\underline{12})$ must be imprinted with the word "Florida" at the top and the word "Dealer" at the bottom unless the license plate is a specialty license plate as authorized in s. 320.08056. Manufacturer license plates issued for vehicles taxed under s. 320.08(13) s. 320.08(12) must be imprinted with the word "Florida" at the top

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and the word "Manufacturer" at the bottom. License plates issued for vehicles taxed under s. 320.08(5)(d) or (e) must be imprinted with the word "Wrecker" at the bottom. Any county may, upon majority vote of the county commission, elect to have the county name removed from the license plates sold in that county. The state motto or the words "Sunshine State" shall be printed in lieu thereof. A license plate issued for a vehicle taxed under s. 320.08(6) may not be assigned a registration license number, or be issued with any other distinctive character or designation, that distinguishes the motor vehicle as a for-hire motor vehicle.

Section 48. Subsection (1) of section 320.133, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.133 Transporter license plates.-

(1) The department may is authorized to issue a transporter license plate to an any applicant who, incidental to the conduct of his or her business, engages in the transporting of motor vehicles that which are not currently registered to any owner and that which do not have license plates, upon payment of the license tax imposed by s. 320.08(16) s. 320.08(15) for each such license plate and upon proof of liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$100,000 or more. Such a transporter license plate is valid for use on any motor vehicle in the possession of the transporter while the motor vehicle is being transported in the course of the transporter's business.

Section 49. Subsection (11) of section 320.77, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 320.77 License required of mobile home dealers.-
- (11) SETUP OPERATIONS.—Each licensee may perform setup

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operations only as defined in $\underline{s.320.822(16)}$ $\underline{s.320.822}$, and the department shall provide by rule for the uniform application of all existing statutory provisions relating to licensing and setup operations.

Section 50. Subsections (6), (12), and (15) of section 320.8249, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

320.8249 Mobile home installers license.-

- (6) For purposes of this section, the term "installation," has the same meaning as the term as used herein, is synonymous with "setup" as defined in s. 320.822(16) s. 320.822(14).
- (12) A county, municipality, or other unit of local government may not require additional licensing, bonding, or insurance of a duly licensed installer who performs setup operations as defined in <u>s. 320.822(16)</u> <u>s. 320.822</u>. However, a county, municipality, or other unit of local government may require an installer to obtain a local occupational license, which license shall not require for its issuance any conditions other than those required by this chapter and payment of the appropriate occupational license fee.
- (15) In performing the installation, installers shall not perform plumbing or electrical activities prohibited by department rules related to setup operations pursuant to \underline{s} . 320.822(16) \underline{s} . 320.822.

Section 51. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act, this act shall take effect July 1, 2023, but only if SB ____ or similar legislation takes effect, if such legislation is adopted in the same legislative session or an extension thereof and becomes a law.