Bill No. CS/SB 280, 1st Eng. (2024)

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CHAMBER ACTION Senate House 1 Representative Fine offered the following: 2 3 Amendment (with title amendment) Remove lines 390-859 and insert: 4 5 6 Section 3. Effective January 1, 2025, subsections (2) and 7 (3) of section 509.241, Florida Statutes, are amended, and 8 subsection (5) is added to that section, to read: 9 509.241 Licenses required; exceptions; division online 10 accounts and transactions.-11 (2) APPLICATION FOR LICENSE.-Each person who plans to open 12 a public lodging establishment or a public food service establishment shall apply for and receive a license from the 13 108213 Approved For Filing: 3/4/2024 7:33:07 PM

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14 division before prior to the commencement of operation. A condominium association, as defined in s. 718.103, which does 15 16 not own any units classified as vacation rentals or timeshare projects under s. 509.242(1)(c) or (g) is not required to apply 17 for or receive a public lodging establishment license. Upon 18 19 receiving an application for a vacation rental license, the 20 division may grant a temporary license that authorizes the vacation rental to begin operation while the application is 21 22 pending. The temporary license automatically expires upon final 23 agency action regarding the license application. DISPLAY OF LICENSE.-A Any license issued by the 24 (3)

division <u>must</u> shall be conspicuously displayed <u>to the public</u> <u>inside</u> in the office or lobby of the licensed establishment.
Public food service establishments <u>that</u> which offer catering services <u>must</u> shall display their license number on all advertising for catering services. <u>The vacation rental's local</u> <u>registration number must</u>, if applicable, be conspicuously <u>displayed inside the vacation rental</u>.

32 (5) UNIQUE IDENTIFIER.—The division shall assign a unique 33 identifier on each vacation rental license which identifies each 34 individual vacation rental dwelling or unit.

35 Section 4. Effective January 1, 2025, section 509.243,
36 Florida Statutes, is created to read:

37

509.243 Advertising platforms.-

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| 38 | (1) An advertising platform shall require that a person          |
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| 39 | who places an advertisement or a listing of a vacation rental    |
| 40 | which offers it for rent do all of the following:                |
| 41 | (a) Include in the advertisement or listing the vacation         |
| 42 | rental license number with the associated unique identifier and, |
| 43 | if applicable, the local registration number.                    |
| 44 | (b) Attest to the best of the person's knowledge that the        |
| 45 | vacation rental's license with the associated unique identifier  |
| 46 | and, if applicable, its local registration are current and valid |
| 47 | and that all related information is accurately stated in the     |
| 48 | advertisement.   |
| 49 | (2) An advertising platform shall display the vacation           |
| 50 | rental license number with the associated unique identifier,     |
| 51 | and, if applicable, the local registration number.               |
| 52 | (3) Effective January 1, 2026, an advertising platform:          |
| 53 | (a) Shall use the vacation rental information system             |
| 54 | described in s. 509.244 to verify that the vacation rental       |
| 55 | license number with the associated unique identifier, and, if    |
| 56 | applicable, the local registration number, are current, valid,   |
| 57 | and apply to the subject vacation rental before publishing an    |
| 58 | advertisement or a listing on its platform.                      |
| 59 | (b) May not advertise or list on its platform a vacation         |
| 60 | rental that fails to provide a valid vacation rental license     |
| 61 | number with the associated unique identifier, and, if            |
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| 62 | applicable, the local registration number as indicated on the    |
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| 63 | vacation rental information system described in s. 509.244.      |
| 64 | (c) Shall remove from public view an advertisement or a          |
| 65 | listing from its online application, software, website, or       |
| 66 | system within 15 business days after notification that a         |
| 67 | vacation rental license, or if applicable, a local registration: |
| 68 | 1. Has been suspended, revoked, or not renewed; or               |
| 69 | 2. Fails to display a valid vacation rental license number       |
| 70 | with the associated unique identifier or, if applicable, a local |
| 71 | registration number.   |
| 72 | (d) Shall notify the division within 15 days after any           |
| 73 | advertisement or listing on its online application, software,    |
| 74 | website, or system fails to display a valid vacation rental      |
| 75 | license number with associated unique identifier or, if          |
| 76 | applicable, a local registration number.                         |
| 77 | (e) Shall provide to the division on a quarterly basis, in       |
| 78 | a manner compatible with the vacation rental information system  |
| 79 | described in s. 509.244, a list of all vacation rentals located  |
| 80 | in this state which are advertised on its platform. The list     |
| 81 | must include the following information:                          |
| 82 | 1. The uniform resource locator for the Internet address         |
| 83 | of the vacation rental advertisement;                            |
| 84 | 2. The physical address of the vacation rental, including        |
| 85 | any unit designation;  |
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| 86  | 3. The vacation rental license number with the associated        |
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| 87  | unique identifier, and, if applicable, the local registration    |
| 88  | number;  |
| 89  | 4. The applicable Florida tax registration number or local       |
| 90  | tourist development tax account number under which taxes related |
| 91  | to the rental will be remitted as provided in s. 212.03(2);      |
| 92  | 5. The name of the vacation rental owner or operator;            |
| 93  | 6. Listed by the calendar date, the individual periods           |
| 94  | that the vacation rental is rented; and                          |
| 95  | 7. The itemized amounts collected or processed by the            |
| 96  | advertising platform for the rental, taxes, and all other        |
| 97  | charges.   |
| 98  |  |
| 99  | Upon request, the division shall share any report and underlying |
| 100 | records provided by an advertising platform pursuant to this     |
| 101 | paragraph with the Department of Revenue, local taxing           |
| 102 | authorities, and local governments. These records may be used    |
| 103 | for auditing and enforcement purposes.                           |
| 104 | (4) If a guest uses a payment system on or through an            |
| 105 | advertising platform to pay for the rental of a vacation rental  |
| 106 | located in this state, the advertising platform must collect and |
| 107 | remit all taxes due under ss. 125.0104, 125.0108, 205.044,       |
| 108 | 212.03, 212.0305, and 212.055 related to the rental as provided  |
| 109 | <u>in s. 212.03(2)(b).</u>                                       |
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| 110 | (5) If the division has probable cause to believe that a         |
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| 111 | person not licensed by the division has violated this chapter or |
| 112 | any rule adopted pursuant thereto, the division may issue and    |
| 113 | deliver to such person a notice to cease and desist from the     |
| 114 | violation. The issuance of a notice to cease and desist does not |
| 115 | constitute agency action for which a hearing under s. 120.569 or |
| 116 | s. 120.57 may be sought. For the purpose of enforcing a cease    |
| 117 | and desist notice, the division may file a proceeding in the     |
| 118 | name of the state seeking the issuance of an injunction or a     |
| 119 | writ of mandamus against any person who violates any provision   |
| 120 | of the notice. If the division is required to seek enforcement   |
| 121 | of the notice for a penalty pursuant to s. 120.69, it is         |
| 122 | entitled to collect attorney fees and costs, together with any   |
| 123 | cost of collection.  |
| 124 | (6) The division may fine an advertising platform an             |
| 125 | amount not to exceed \$1,000 per offense for each violation of   |
| 126 | this section or of division rule. For the purposes of this       |
| 127 | subsection, the division may regard as a separate offense each   |
| 128 | day or portion of a day in which an advertising platform is      |
| 129 | operated in violation of this section or rules of the division.  |
| 130 | The division shall issue to the advertising platform a written   |
| 131 | notice of any violation and provide it 15 days to cure the       |
| 132 | violation before commencing any legal proceeding under           |
| 133 | subsection (5).  |
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| 134 | (7) An advertising platform shall adopt an                       |
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| 135 | antidiscrimination policy to help prevent discrimination by its  |
| 136 | users and shall inform all users that it is illegal to refuse    |
| 137 | accommodation to an individual based on race, creed, color, sex, |
| 138 | pregnancy, physical disability, or national origin, as provided  |
| 139 | <u>in s. 509.092.</u>  |
| 140 | (8) This section does not create a private cause of action       |
| 141 | against advertising platforms. An advertising platform may not   |
| 142 | be held liable for any action that it takes voluntarily and in   |
| 143 | good faith in relation to its users in compliance with this      |
| 144 | chapter or the advertising platform's terms of service.          |
| 145 | Section 5. Section 509.244, Florida Statutes, is created         |
| 146 | to read:   |
| 147 | 509.244 Vacation rental information system                       |
| 148 | (1) As used in this section, the term "application program       |
| 149 | interface" means a predefined protocol for reading or writing    |
| 150 | data across a network using a file system or a database.         |
| 151 | (2) By July 1, 2025, the division shall create and               |
| 152 | maintain a vacation rental information system readily accessible |
| 153 | through an application program interface. At a minimum, the      |
| 154 | system must do all of the following:                             |
| 155 | (a) Facilitate prompt compliance with this chapter by a          |
| 156 | licensee or an advertising platform.                             |
| 157 | (b) Allow advertising platforms to search by vacation            |
| 158 | rental license number with the associated unique identifier,     |
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| 159 | applicable local registration number, and a listing status field |
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| 160 | that indicates whether the premises is compliant with applicable |
| 161 | license and registration requirements to allow a platform to     |
| 162 | determine whether it may advertise the vacation rental.          |
| 163 | (c) Allow local government users to notify the division of       |
| 164 | a revocation or failure to renew, or the period of suspension    |
| 165 | of, a local registration, if applicable.                         |
| 166 | (d) Provide a system interface to allow local governments        |
| 167 | and advertising platforms to verify the status of a vacation     |
| 168 | rental license and a local registration of a vacation rental, if |
| 169 | applicable.  |
| 170 | (e) Allow a registered user to subscribe to receive              |
| 171 | automated notifications of changes to the license and            |
| 172 | registration status of a vacation rental, including any license  |
| 173 | revocation, local registration revocation, period of suspension  |
| 174 | imposed by the division or local government, or failure to renew |
| 175 | a license or local registration.                                 |
| 176 | Section 6. Subsection (11) is added to section 509.261,          |
| 177 | Florida Statutes, to read:                                       |
| 178 | 509.261 Revocation or suspension of licenses; fines;             |
| 179 | procedure  |
| 180 | (11) (a) The division may revoke, refuse to issue or renew,      |
| 181 | or suspend for a period of not more than 30 days a license of a  |
| 182 | vacation rental for any of the following reasons:                |
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| 183 | 1. Operation of the subject premises violates the terms of       |
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| 184 | an applicable lease or property restriction, including any       |
| 185 | property restriction adopted pursuant to chapter 718, chapter    |
| 186 | 719, or chapter 720, as determined by a final order of a court   |
| 187 | of competent jurisdiction or a written decision by an arbitrator |
| 188 | authorized to arbitrate a dispute relating to the subject        |
| 189 | premises and a lease or property restriction.                    |
| 190 | 2. The vacation rental premises and its owner are the            |
| 191 | subject of a final order or judgment lawfully directing the      |
| 192 | termination of the premises' use as a vacation rental.           |
| 193 | (b) The division must specify the license number with the        |
| 194 | associated unique identifier of the vacation rental dwelling or  |
| 195 | unit which has been revoked, not renewed, or suspended and input |
| 196 | such status in the vacation rental information system described  |
| 197 | <u>in s. 509.244.</u>  |
| 198 |  |
| 199 |  |
| 200 | TITLE AMENDMENT  |
| 201 | Remove lines 8-130 and insert:                                   |
| 202 | 509.241, F.S.; authorizing the division to issue                 |
| 203 | temporary licenses upon receipt of vacation rental               |
| 204 | license applications while such applications are                 |
| 205 | pending; providing for expiration of such licenses;              |
| 206 | requiring that any license issued by the division be             |
| 207 | conspicuously displayed to the public inside the                 |
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208 licensed establishment; requiring that a vacation 209 rental's registration number, if applicable, be 210 conspicuously displayed inside the vacation rental; requiring the division to assign a unique identifier 211 212 on each vacation rental license which identifies each 213 individual vacation rental dwelling or unit; creating 214 s. 509.243, F.S.; requiring advertising platforms to 215 require that persons placing advertisements or 216 listings for vacation rentals include certain 217 information in the advertisements or listings and 218 attest to certain information; requiring advertising 219 platforms to display certain information; requiring, 220 as of a specified date, advertising platforms to 221 verify certain information before publishing an 222 advertisement or listing on their platforms, prohibit 223 and remove from public view an advertisement or a 224 listing under certain circumstances, and make certain 225 notifications and provide certain information to the 226 division; requiring the division, upon request, to 227 share certain reports and records with the Department 228 of Revenue, local tax authorities, and local 229 governments; providing that such records may be used 230 for auditing and enforcement purposes; requiring 231 advertising platforms to collect and remit specified taxes for certain transactions; authorizing the 232

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233 division to issue and deliver a notice to cease and 234 desist for certain violations; providing that such 235 notice does not constitute agency action for which 236 certain hearings may be sought; authorizing the 237 division to issue cease and desist notices in certain 238 circumstances; providing that issuance of such notice 239 does not constitute an agency action; authorizing the 240 division to file certain proceedings for the purpose 241 of enforcing a cease and desist notice; authorizing 242 the division to collect attorney fees and costs under 243 certain circumstances; authorizing the division to 244 impose a fine on advertising platforms for certain 245 violations; requiring the division to issue written 246 notice of violations to advertising platforms before 247 commencing certain legal proceedings; requiring 248 advertising platforms to adopt an antidiscrimination 249 policy and to inform their users of the policy's 250 provisions; providing construction; creating s. 251 509.244, F.S.; defining the term "application program 252 interface"; requiring the division, by a specified 253 date, to create and maintain a certain vacation rental 254 information system; specifying requirements for the system; amending s. 509.261, F.S.; authorizing the 255 256 division to revoke, refuse to issue or renew, or suspend vacation rental licenses under certain 257

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| 258 | circumstances; requiring the division to specify the  |
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| 259 | number of the license number of the vacation rental   |
| 260 | dwelling or unit which has been revoked, not renewed, |
| 261 | or suspended; requiring the division to input such    |
| 262 | status in the vacation rental information system;     |
| 263 | amending ss. 159.27,                                  |

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