1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to heat illness prevention; creating 3 s. 448.112, F.S.; providing applicability; providing definitions; requiring certain employers to implement 4 5 an outdoor heat exposure safety program that has been 6 approved by specified departments; specifying 7 requirements for the safety program; providing 8 responsibilities for certain employers and employees; 9 providing exceptions; requiring specified annual training on heat illness and providing requirements 10 for such training; requiring the Department of 11 Agriculture and Consumer Services, in conjunction with 12 13 the Department of Health, to adopt specified rules; providing an effective date. 14 15 16 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 17 18 Section 1. Section 448.112, Florida Statutes, is created 19 to read: 20 448.112 Heat illness prevention.-21 (1) APPLICABILITY.-This section applies to employers in industries where 22 (a) 23 employees regularly perform work in an outdoor environment, 24 including, but not limited to, agriculture, construction, and 25 landscaping.

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26	(b) This section does not apply to an employee required to								
27	work in an outdoor environment for fewer than 15 minutes per								
28	hour for every hour in the employee's entire workday.								
29	(c) This section is supplemental to all related industry-								
30	specific standards. When the requirements under this section								
31	offer greater protection than related industry-specific								
32	standards, an employer shall comply with the requirements of								
33	this section.								
34	(2) DEFINITIONSAs used in this section, the term:								
35	(a) "Acclimatization" means temporary adaptation of a								
36	person to work in the heat that occurs when a person is								
37	gradually exposed to heat over a 2-week period at a 20 percent								
38	increase in heat exposure per day.								
39	(b) "Drinking water" means potable water. The term								
40	includes electrolyte-replenishing beverages that do not contain								
41	caffeine.								
42	(c) "Employee" means a person who performs services for								
43	and under the control and direction of an employer for wages or								
44	other remuneration. The term includes an independent contractor								
45	and a farm labor contractor as defined in s. 450.28(1).								
46	(d) "Employer" means an individual, a firm, a partnership,								
47	an institution, a corporation, or an association, or an entity								
48	listed in s. 121.021(10) which employs individuals.								
49	(e) "Environmental risk factors for heat illness" means								
50	working conditions that create the possibility of heat illness,								
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51	including air temperature, relative humidity, radiant heat from								
52	the sun and other sources, conductive heat from sources such as								
53	the ground, air movement, workload severity and duration, and								
54	protective clothing and equipment worn by an employee.								
55	(f) "Heat illness" means a medical condition resulting								
56	from the body's inability to cope with a particular heat level.								
57	The term includes heat cramps, heat exhaustion, heat syncope,								
58	and heat stroke.								
59	(g) "Outdoor environment" means a location where work								
60	activities are conducted outside. The term includes locations								
61	such as sheds, tents, greenhouses, or other structures where								
62	work activities are conducted inside, but the temperature is not								
63	managed by devices that reduce heat exposure and aid in cooling,								
64	such as air conditioning systems.								
65	(h) "Personal risk factors for heat illness" means factors								
66	specific to an individual, including his or her age; health;								
67	pregnancy; degree of acclimatization; water, alcohol, or								
68	caffeine consumption; use of prescription medications; or other								
69	physiological responses to heat.								
70	(i) "Recovery period" means a cool-down period to reduce								
71	an employee's heat exposure and aid the employee in cooling down								
72	and avoiding the signs or symptoms of heat illness.								
73	(j) "Shade" means an area that is not in direct sunlight.								
74	(k) "Supervisor" has the same meaning as in s. 448.101.								
75	(3) RESPONSIBILITIES.—An employer of employees who								
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76 regularly work in an outdoor environment shall implement an 77 outdoor heat exposure safety program that has been approved by 78 the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the 79 Department of Health and which, at a minimum: 80 Trains and informs supervisors and employees about (a) 81 heat illness, how to protect themselves and coworkers, how to 82 recognize signs and symptoms of heat illness in themselves and 83 coworkers, and appropriate first-aid measures that can be used 84 before medical attention arrives in the event of a serious heat-85 related illness event. (b) Provides preventive and first-aid measures, such as 86 87 loosening clothing, loosening or removing heat-retaining 88 protective clothing and equipment, accessing shade, applying 89 cool or cold water to the body, and drinking cool or cold water, 90 to address the signs or symptoms of heat illness. 91 (c) Implements the following high-heat procedures, to the 92 extent practicable, when an employer, manager, supervisor, or 93 contractor determines that the outdoor heat index equals or 94 exceeds 90 degrees Fahrenheit: 95 1. Make available an effective voice, observational, or 96 electronic communication system that allows an employee to 97 contact an employer, a manager, a supervisor, a contractor, or 98 an emergency medical services provider if necessary. 99 2. Provide a sufficient amount of cool or cold drinking 100 water at a location that is quickly and easily accessible from

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101 the area where employees work to accommodate all employees 102 throughout the workday, and remind employees throughout the 103 workday to consume such water. 104 3. Ensure that each employee takes a 10-minute recovery 105 period every 2 hours that the employee is working in an outdoor environment under high-heat conditions. The recovery period may 106 107 be concurrent with a meal period required by law if the timing of the recovery period coincides with a required meal period. 108 109 (4) DRINKING WATER. - An employer shall ensure that a sufficient quantity of cool or cold, clean drinking water is at 110 111 all times readily accessible and free of charge to employees who 112 work in an outdoor environment. The drinking water must be 113 located as close as practicable to the areas where employees 114 work. If drinking water is not plumbed or otherwise continuously 115 supplied, an employer must supply a sufficient quantity of 116 drinking water at the beginning of the workday so that each 117 employee has at least 1 quart of drinking water per hour for 118 every hour in the employee's entire workday. An employer may 119 supply a smaller quantity of drinking water at the beginning of 120 the workday if the employer has adequate procedures in place to 121 allow the employee access to drinking water as needed so that 122 the employee has at least 1 quart of drinking water per hour for 123 every hour in the employee's entire workday. 124 (5) ACCESS TO SHADE.-125 (a) When a supervisor determines that the outdoor heat

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126 index equals or exceeds 80 degrees Fahrenheit, the employer must 127 maintain one or more areas with shade which are open to the air 128 or offer ventilation or cooling at all times in the area where 129 employees are working. The amount of available shade must be 130 able to accommodate all of the employees participating in a 131 given recovery period in a manner that does not place them in 132 physical contact with one another. 133 (b) If an employee exhibits mild to moderate signs or 134 symptoms of heat illness, the employer must relieve the employee 135 from duty, provide him or her with access to shade for at least 136 15 minutes or until such signs or symptoms of heat illness have 137 abated, and monitor the employee to determine whether medical attention is necessary. If such signs or symptoms do not abate 138 139 within such time period, the employer must seek medical 140 attention for the employee in a timely manner. If an employee 141 exhibits serious signs or symptoms of heat illness, the employer 142 must immediately seek medical attention for the employee and 143 provide first-aid measures. 144 (c) If an employer can demonstrate that it is unsafe or 145 not feasible to provide an area with shade, the employer may 146 provide alternative cooling measures as long as the employer can 147 demonstrate that such measures are at least as effective as an 148 area with shade in reducing heat exposure. 149 TRAINING. - An employer shall provide annual training on (6) 150 heat illness that has been approved by the Department of

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151 Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Department of Health 152 to all employees and supervisors in the languages understood by 153 a majority of the employees and supervisors. Each employee who 154 regularly works in, or who is in the process of acclimatization 155 to, an outdoor environment must participate in the training 156 provided by the employer. Training materials must be written and available in English and in all languages understood by the 157 158 employees and supervisors. Supervisors shall make such written 159 materials available upon request. 160 Training on all of the following topics must be (a) 161 provided to all employees who work in an outdoor environment: 162 The environmental risk factors for heat illness. 1. 163 2. General awareness of personal risk factors for heat 164 illness and how an employee can monitor his or her own personal 165 risk factors for heat illness. 166 3. The importance of loosening clothing and loosening or 167 removing heat-retaining protective clothing and equipment, such 168 as nonbreathable chemical-resistant clothing and equipment, 169 during all recovery and rest periods, breaks, and meal periods. 170 4. The importance of frequent consumption of cool or cold 171 drinking water. 5. The concept, importance, and methods of 172 173 acclimatization. 174 6. The common signs and symptoms of heat illness, 175 including, but not limited to, neurological impairment,

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176	confusion, or agitation.							
177	7. The importance of an employee immediately reporting to							
178	the employer, directly or through a supervisor, if the employee							
179	or a coworker exhibits signs or symptoms of heat illness, and							
180	the importance of receiving immediate medical attention for							
181	those signs or symptoms.							
182	8. The employer's outdoor heat exposure safety program and							
183	related high-heat procedures.							
184	(b) Training on all of the following topics must be							
185	provided to all supervisors before they are authorized to							
186	supervise employees who work in an outdoor environment:							
187	1. Information that must be provided to employees.							
188	2. Procedures that must be followed to implement an							
189	outdoor heat exposure safety program.							
190	3. Procedures that must be followed when an employee							
191	exhibits or reports any signs or symptoms of heat illness.							
192	4. Procedures that must be followed when transporting an							
193	employee who exhibits or reports any signs or symptoms of heat							
194	illness to an emergency medical services provider in a timely							
195	manner.							
196	(7) RULEMAKINGThe Department of Agriculture and Consumer							
197	Services, in conjunction with the Department of Health, shall							
198	adopt rules to implement this section, including, but not							
199	limited to, approved training programs, approved trainers, and a							
200	certification process to acknowledge an employer's compliance							
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201	with the training requirements imposed by this section.										
202		Section	2.	This	act	shall	take	effect	October	1,	2024.
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