THE FLORIDA SENATE 2023 SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION PASSED Committee on Regulated Industries

CS/CS/HB 1383 — Specialty Contractors

by Commerce Committee; State Administration and Technology Appropriations Subcommittee; and Reps. Trabulsy and Mooney (CS/CS/SB 1570 by Rules Committee; Regulated Industries Committee; and Senators Hooper and Osgood)

The bill amends s. 163.211, F.S., relating to the preemption of occupational licensing to the state, to extend by one year, to July 1, 2024, the date that local governments may require and issue local occupation licenses, but only if such licensing was imposed by the local government before January 1, 2021.

The bill requires the Construction Industry Licensing Board in the Department of Business and Professional Regulation to establish by rule, certified specialty contractor categories for voluntary licensing by July 1, 2024, as specified in the bill.

Under the bill, for specified job scopes exempted from local licensing in current law, local governments are prohibited from requiring state or local licenses for work that is covered by state licensing, and from requiring a permit for such work.

As to job scopes exempted from local occupational licensing in current law, the bill adds the job scope of "pressure washing."

The bill authorizes a county that includes an area of critical state concern pursuant to s. 380.05, F.S., to offer a license for any job scope that requires a construction contracting license, if the county imposed such a licensing requirement before January 1, 2021.

A local government may continue to offer certain licenses, if such licensing was required before January 1, 2021.

A local government may not require a license as a prerequisite to submit a bid for a public works project, if the work does not require a license under general law.

If approved by the Governor, or allowed to become law without the Governor's signature, these provisions take effect July 1, 2023. *Vote: Senate 38-0; House 109-0*