HB 591 2012

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to archeological sites and specimens; amending s. 267.13, F.S.; providing that specified activities relating to archaeological sites and specimens located upon land owned or controlled by a political subdivision or a special district created by the Legislature are prohibited and subject to penalties; authorizing the Division of Historical Resources of the Department of State to impose an administrative fine on and seek injunctive relief against certain entities; providing an effective date.

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

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Subsections (1) and (2) of section 267.13, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

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267.13 Prohibited practices; penalties.-

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either conducts archaeological field investigations on, or removes or attempts to remove, or defaces, destroys, or otherwise alters any archaeological site or specimen located

upon, any land, including state sovereignty submerged land,

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owned or controlled by the state, a political subdivision, or a

Any person who by means other than excavation

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boundaries of a designated state archaeological landmark or

special district created by the Legislature, or within the

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landmark zone, except in the course of activities pursued under

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the authority of a permit or under procedures relating to

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accredited institutions granted by the division, commits a

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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, and, in addition, shall forfeit to the state all specimens, objects, and materials collected, together with all photographs and records relating to such material.

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- Any person who by means of excavation either conducts archaeological field investigations on, or removes or attempts to remove, or defaces, destroys, or otherwise alters any archaeological site or specimen located upon, any land, including state sovereignty submerged land, owned or controlled by the state, a political subdivision, or a special district created by the Legislature, or within the boundaries of a designated state archaeological landmark or landmark zone, except in the course of activities pursued under the authority of a permit or under procedures relating to accredited institutions granted by the division, commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, and any vehicle or equipment of any person used in connection with the violation is subject to forfeiture to the state if it is determined by any court of law that the vehicle or equipment was involved in the violation. Such person shall forfeit to the state all specimens, objects, and materials collected or excavated, together with all photographs and records relating to such material. The court may also order the defendant to make restitution to the state for the archaeological or commercial value and cost of restoration and repair as defined in subsection (4).
- (c) Any person who offers for sale or exchange any object with knowledge that it has previously been collected or

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excavated in violation of any of the terms of ss. 267.11-267.14, or who procures, counsels, solicits, or employs any other person to violate any prohibition contained in ss. 267.11-267.14 or to sell, purchase, exchange, transport, receive, or offer to sell, purchase, or exchange any archaeological resource excavated or removed from any land, including state sovereignty submerged land, owned or controlled by the state, a political subdivision, or a special district created by the Legislature, or within the boundaries of a designated state archaeological landmark or landmark zone, except with the express consent of the division, commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, and any vehicle or equipment of any person used in connection with the violation is subject to forfeiture to the state if it is determined by any court of law that such vehicle or equipment was involved in the violation. All specimens, objects, and material collected or excavated, together with all photographs and records relating to such material, shall be forfeited to the state. The court may also order the defendant to make restitution to the state for the archaeological or commercial value and cost of restoration and repair as defined in subsection (4).

(2) (a) The division may institute an administrative proceeding to impose an administrative fine of not more than \$500 a day on any person or business organization that, without written permission of the division, explores for, salvages, or excavates treasure trove, artifacts, sunken or abandoned ships, or other objects having historical or archaeological value located upon any land on state-owned or state-controlled lands,

including state sovereignty submerged <u>land</u>, <u>owned or controlled</u> <u>by the state</u>, a political subdivision, or a special district created by the Legislature lands.

- (b) The division shall institute an administrative proceeding by serving written notice of a violation by certified mail upon the alleged violator. The notice shall specify the law or rule allegedly violated and the facts upon which the allegation is based. The notice shall also specify the amount of the administrative fine sought by the division. The fine is shall not become due until after service of notice and an administrative hearing. However, the alleged violator has shall have 20 days after from service of notice to request an administrative hearing. Failure to respond within that time constitutes shall constitute a waiver, and the fine becomes shall become due without a hearing.
- (c) The division may enter its judgment for the amount of the administrative penalty imposed in a court of competent jurisdiction, pursuant to s. 120.69. The judgment may be enforced as any other judgment.
- (d) The division may apply to a court of competent jurisdiction for injunctive relief against any person or business organization that explores for, salvages, or excavates treasure trove, artifacts, sunken or abandoned ships, or other objects having historical or archaeological value located upon any on state-owned or state-controlled land, including state sovereignty submerged land, owned or controlled by the state, a political subdivision, or a special district created by the Legislature without the written permission of the division.

(e) The division shall adopt rules pursuant to ss.

114 120.536(1) and 120.54 to <u>administer</u> implement the provisions of this section.

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Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.

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