	LEGISLATIVE ACTION	
Senate		House
Comm: RCS		
03/14/2017		
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The Committee on Banking and Insurance (Stargel) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

3 Delete lines 243 - 1246

and insert:

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2. Locked out and tagged out in accordance with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's standard relating to the control of hazardous energy and lockout or tagout in 29 C.F.R. s. 1910.147, as adopted by rule of the department.

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issued.



- (9) (2) "Public assembly locations" includes include schools, day care centers, community centers, churches, theaters, hospitals, nursing and convalescent homes, stadiums, amusement parks, and other locations open to the general public. (5) (3) "Certificate inspection" means an inspection whose the report of which is used by the chief boiler inspector to determine whether or not a certificate of operation may be
- (7) (4) "Certificate of operation compliance" means a document issued to the owner of a boiler which authorizes the owner to operate the boiler, subject to any restrictions endorsed thereon.
- (6) (5) "Certificate of competency" means a document issued to a person who has satisfied the minimum competency requirements for boiler inspectors under this chapter ss. 554.1011-554.115.
- (8) (6) "Department" means the Department of Financial Services.
- (1) (7) "A.S.M.E." means the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.
 - (2) "Authorized inspection agency" means:
- (a) Any county, municipality, town, or other governmental subdivision that has adopted into law the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code of the A.S.M.E. and the National Board Inspection Code for the construction, installation, inspection, maintenance, and repair of boilers to regulate boilers in public assembly locations, and whose boiler inspectors hold valid certificates of competency in accordance with s. 554.104;
 - (b) An insurer authorized by a subsisting certificate of

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authority, issued by the Office of Insurance Regulation, to transact boiler and machinery insurance in this state, and whose boiler inspectors hold valid certificates of competency in accordance with s. 554.104; or

- (c) An inspecting agency accredited in accordance with The National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspector's program entitled "Accreditation of Authorized Inspection Agencies (AIA) Performing Inservice or Repair/Alteration Inspection Activities," document number NB-369, and whose boiler inspectors hold valid certificates of competency in accordance with s. 554.104.
- (4) "Boiler insurance company" means a company authorized by a subsisting certificate of authority, issued by the Office of Insurance Regulation, to transact boiler and machinery insurance in this state.

Section 4. Section 554.103, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

554.103 Boiler code.—The department shall adopt by rule a State Boiler Code for the safe construction, installation, inspection, maintenance, and repair of boilers in this state. The rules adopted shall be based upon and shall at all times follow generally accepted nationwide engineering standards, formulas, and practices pertaining to boiler construction and safetv.

(1) The department shall adopt an existing code for new construction and installation known as the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, including all amendments and interpretations approved thereto by the Council on Codes and Standards of A.S.M.E. The department

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may adopt amendments and interpretations to the A.S.M.E. Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code approved by the A.S.M.E. Council on Codes and Standards subsequent to the adoption of the State Boiler Code, and when so adopted by the department, such amendments and interpretations shall become a part of the State Boiler Code.

- (2) The installer owner of any boiler placed in use in this state after January 1, 2018, must, before installing the boiler, apply on a form adopted by rule of the department for a permit to install the boiler from the chief boiler inspector. The application must include the boiler's A.S.M.E. manufacturer's data report and other documents required by the State Boiler Code before the boiler is placed in service. The installer must contact the chief boiler inspector to schedule an inspection for each boiler no later than 7 days before the boiler is placed in service after October 1, 1987, shall submit the A.S.M.E. manufacturer's data report on such boiler to the chief inspector not more than 90 days following the inservice date of the boiler.
- (3) The maximum allowable working pressure of a boiler carrying the A.S.M.E. code symbol must shall be determined by the applicable sections of the code under which it was constructed and stamped. Subject to the concurrence of the chief boiler inspector, such boiler may be rerated in accordance with the standards of the State Boiler Code.
- (4) The maximum allowable working pressure of a boiler that which does not carry the A.S.M.E. code symbol must shall be computed in accordance with the standards of the State Boiler Code.

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- (5) This chapter may not Nothing in ss. 554.1011-554.115 shall be construed to in any way prevent the use, sale, or reinstallation of a boiler if such boiler has been made to conform to the applicable provisions of the State Boiler Code governing existing installations and if, upon inspection, the boiler has been found to be in a safe condition.
- (6) The department, at its discretion, may authorize the construction, installation, and operation of boilers of special design or construction which do not meet the specific requirements of the State Boiler Code, but which are consistent with the intent of the safety objectives of the code.
- (7) The department may adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to administer this chapter. Such rules may include specifying the procedures and forms to be used to obtain an installation permit, an initial certificate, or a renewal certificate, and the submission of reports and notices required under this chapter.

Section 5. Section 554.104, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

554.104 Certification of boiler inspectors required; application; qualifications; renewal Boilers of special design .-The department, at its discretion, may authorize the construction, installation, and operation of boilers of special design or construction that do not meet the specific requirements of the State Boiler Code but are not inconsistent with the intent of the safety objectives of such code.

(1) CERTIFICATE REQUIRED.—A person may not be, act as, or advertise or hold himself or herself out to be an inspector of a boiler that is subject to regulation by this chapter, unless he



127 or she currently holds a certificate of competency issued by the 128 department. 129 (2) APPLICATION.—A person who desires to be certified to inspect boilers that are subject to regulation by this chapter 130 131 must apply in writing to the department to take the 132 certification examination. (3) QUALIFICATIONS.—A person is qualified to take the 133 134 certification examination if the person: 135 (a) Has submitted the application for examination together 136 with the fee required under s. 554.111(1)(a); 137 (b) Is at least 18 years of age; 138 (c) Has completed the 2-hour training course under 139 subsection (4) on the requirements of this chapter and any 140 related rules adopted by the department. The course must be 141 completed no later than 12 months before issuance of an initial 142 or renewal certificate; and 143 (d) Has: 144 1. At least 3 years of experience in the construction, installation, inspection, operation, maintenance, or repair of 145 146 high pressure, high temperature water boilers; or 147 2. Met the requirements to qualify as a commissioned inspector by the National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel 148 149 Inspectors as set forth in NB-263, RCI-1, Rules for Commissioned 150 Inspectors, as adopted by rule of the department. 151 (4) TRAINING COURSE.—The department shall adopt by rule a 152 2-hour training course on the requirements of this chapter and 153 any related rules adopted by the department. The department 154 shall make the training course available online and may make the

course available in a classroom setting. A boiler insurance

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company may include the department's course as part of its inhouse training of a boiler inspector student, in lieu of the student taking the online training course. A boiler insurance company that includes the department's course in its in-house training of a boiler inspector student must indicate that the student completed the training on an application filed with the department for certification of competency.

- (5) EXAMINATION.—A person applying for a certificate of competency must have successfully passed the examination administered by the National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors and be eligible to obtain a National Board commission.
- (6) ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATE.—The chief boiler inspector must issue a certificate of competency to each person who is qualified under this section and who holds a commission from the National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors.
- (7) RENEWAL OF CERTIFICATE.—A certificate of competency expires on December 31 of each year and may be renewed upon the filing of a renewal application with the department. A secured electronic application must be used, if available on the department's website.
- (8) RULES.—The department may adopt rules necessary to administer this section.
- Section 6. Section 554.105, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 554.105 Chief boiler inspector.-
- (1) The Chief Financial Officer shall appoint a chief boiler inspector, who must have at least shall have not less than 5 years' experience in the construction, installation,

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inspection, operation, maintenance, or repair of high pressure, high temperature water boilers and who must shall hold a commission from the National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors or a certificate of competency from the department.

- (2) The department, through the chief boiler inspector, shall administer the state boiler inspection program, and shall:
- (a) Take all action necessary to enforce the State Boiler Code and the rules adopted pursuant to this chapter ss. 554.1011-554.115.
- (b) Keep a complete record on all boilers at public assembly locations. Such record must shall include the name of each boiler owner or user and the location, type, dimensions, maximum allowable working pressure, age, and last recorded inspection of each boiler, and any other information necessary to expedite the certification process.
- (c) Publish and make available to anyone, upon request, copies of the rules adopted pursuant to ss. 554.1011-554.115.
- (d) Expend funds necessary to meet the expenses authorized by this chapter ss. 554.1011-554.115, including the necessary travel expenses of the chief boiler inspector and deputy boiler inspectors, and the expenses incident to the maintenance of this his or her office.

Section 7. Section 554.106, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

554.106 Deputy boiler inspectors.

- (1) The department shall employ deputy boiler inspectors who shall be responsible to the chief boiler inspector and who shall each hold a certificate of competency from the department.
 - (2) A deputy boiler inspector shall perform inspections of

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uninsured boilers that are subject to regulation under this chapter, in accordance with the inspection frequency set forth in s. 554.108. A deputy boiler inspector may also engage in public outreach activities of the department and conduct other duties as assigned by the chief boiler inspector.

Section 8. Section 554.107, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

554.107 Special boiler inspectors.

- (1) Upon application by any authorized inspection agency company licensed to insure boilers in this state, the chief boiler inspector shall issue a certificate of competency as a special boiler inspector to any inspector employed by the authorized inspection agency company, if provided that such boiler inspector satisfies the competency requirements for inspectors as provided in s. 554.104 s. 554.113. Special boiler inspectors shall perform inspections of insured boilers in accordance with the inspection frequency set forth in s. 554.108.
- (2) The certificate of competency of a special boiler inspector remains shall remain in effect only so long as the special boiler inspector is employed by an authorized inspection agency a company licensed to insure boilers in this state. Upon termination of employment with such company, such company a special inspector shall, in writing, notify the chief boiler inspector of such special boiler inspector's termination. Such notice must shall be given within 15 days following the date of termination.

Section 9. Subsections (1), (2), (4), and (5) of section 554.108, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection (6) is

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added to that section, to read:

554.108 Inspection.-

- (1) The inspection requirements of this chapter apply only to boilers located in public assembly locations. A potable hot water supply boiler with a heat input of 200,000 British thermal units (Btu) per hour and above, up to a heat input not exceeding 400,000 Btu per hour, is exempt from inspection, but must be stamped with the A.S.M.E. code symbol "HLW" and the boiler's A.S.M.E data report must be filed as required under s. 554.103(2) The only boilers required to be inspected under the provisions of ss. 554.1011-554.115 are boilers located in public assembly locations.
- (2) Each inspection of a boiler conducted pursuant to this chapter must ss. 554.1011-554.115 shall be made by the chief boiler inspector, a deputy boiler inspector, or a special boiler inspector. An owner, or the owner's designee, shall perform all operation, testing, manipulation of boiler controls and safety devices, removal of lagging, and disassembly of boiler components to allow the chief boiler inspector, deputy boiler inspector, or special boiler inspector to conduct inspections as required by this section.
- (4) Each boiler subject to inspection must be inspected within 30 days after expiration of the boiler's certificate of operation. However, an inspection report must be received by the chief boiler inspector no later than 30 days after the projected expiration date of the certificate of operation. If, upon inspection, the chief boiler inspector, deputy boiler inspector, or special boiler inspector finds that a boiler is in violation of any provision of the State Boiler Code, the inspector must

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promptly notify the owner or user and state what repairs or other corrective measures are needed. Deputy boiler inspectors and special boiler inspectors shall file a written report, on a form adopted by rule of the department, on each certificate inspection with the chief boiler inspector within 15 days after the following such inspection. A certificate inspection report must list all violations of the State Boiler Code and any conditions that may adversely affect the operation of the boiler. A certificate inspection report filed by a special boiler inspector must include the fee for issuance of a certificate of operation as provided in s. 554.111(1)(c). The filing of reports of inspections, other than statutorily required certificate inspections, is are not required unless such inspections disclose that a boiler is in an unsafe condition. However, an inspection report must be filed for any inspection performed on a boiler with a previously identified code violation. The report must indicate whether the violation has been corrected. The agency responsible for conducting the inspection must perform followup inspections, not more than every 4 months, of a previously identified code violation until it is corrected. Failure to conduct such followup inspections subjects the insurance carrier to the penalties provided in s. 554.114(4).

(5) Upon a determination by the chief boiler inspector determining that a boiler cannot be safely operated, is in an unsafe condition and poses an imminent danger to the public health, safety, and welfare, the chief inspector, a deputy inspector, or a special inspector may immediately order the boiler must immediately to be shut down. The chief boiler

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inspector or a deputy boiler inspector shall attach a tag to the boiler indicating that the boiler has been shut down due to an unsafe condition. The boiler must shall remain shut down until a reinspection by the chief boiler inspector or a deputy boiler a certified inspector determines that all violations have been corrected, that the boiler may be operated safely, and that a certificate of compliance has been issued. A boiler that may not be safely operated, as determined by the chief boiler inspector, is deemed to constitute an imminent danger to the public health, safety, and welfare.

(6) The department may adopt rules necessary to administer this section.

Section 10. Section 554.1081, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

554.1081 Boiler inspections by insurance companies and local governmental agencies.-

- (1) An insurance company insuring a boiler located in a public assembly location in this state shall inspect, or shall contract with an authorized inspection agency to inspect, the insured boiler. A boiler insurance company shall annually report to the department the name of any authorized inspection agency performing any required boiler inspections on its behalf and shall actively monitor insured boilers to ensure that inspections are conducted as required by this chapter.
- (2) A county, municipality, town, or other governmental subdivision that has adopted into law the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code of the A.S.M.E. and the National Board Inspection Code for the construction, installation, inspection, maintenance, and repair of boilers to regulate boilers in public

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assembly locations may inspect such boilers. All boiler inspections must be conducted by special boiler inspectors in accordance with this chapter.

Section 11. Section 554.109, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

554.109 Exemptions.-

(1) Any insurance company insuring a boiler located in a public assembly location in this state shall inspect such boiler so insured, and any county, city, town, or other governmental subdivision which has adopted into law the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and the National Board Inspection Code for the construction, installation, inspection, maintenance, and repair of boilers, regulating such boilers in public assembly locations, shall inspect such boilers so regulated; provided that such inspection shall be conducted by a special inspector licensed pursuant to ss. 554.1011-554.115. Upon filing of a report of satisfactory inspection with the department, such boiler is exempt from inspection by the department.

(2) The provisions of This chapter does shall not apply to potable hot water supply boilers or lined storage water heaters that which are directly fired with oil, gas, electricity, or solar energy, provided that none of the following limitations is are exceeded:

- (1) Heat input of 400,000 Btu per hour.
- (2) (b) Water temperature of 210 degrees Fahrenheit.
- 356 (3) (c) Nominal water-containing capacity of 120 gallons.

These exempt hot water supply boilers and lined storage water

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heaters shall be equipped with safety relief valves conforming to the requirements of the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and of the National Board Inspection Code.

Section 12. Section 554.1101, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

554.1101 Certificate of operation compliance.

- (1) If an inspection report filed pursuant to s. 554.108 shows a boiler to be in compliance with all applicable provisions of the State Boiler Code, the chief boiler inspector must shall, upon receipt of the inspection fee, issue a certificate of operation compliance to the owner. Such certificate must shall bear the date of the inspection and specify the maximum pressure at which the boiler may be operated.
- (2) The certificate for a power boiler or a high pressure, high temperature water boiler is valid for a period of 12 months from the date of the certificate inspection. The certificate for a heating boiler or a hot water supply boiler is valid for a period of 24 months from the date of the certificate inspection. The certificate must shall be posted under glass, or be similarly protected, in the room containing the boiler.
- (3) A boiler insurance company shall notify the chief boiler inspector within 30 days after the issuance of a new or renewal boiler and machinery insurance policy, or the cancellation or nonrenewal of a boiler and machinery insurance policy, covering places of public assembly in this state.
- (4) If the chief boiler inspector has knowledge that a boiler regulated under this chapter was covered by a boiler and



388 machinery insurance policy after its most recent certification 389 inspection, the certificateholder must, upon the request of the chief boiler inspector, submit its certificate of boiler and 390 391 machinery insurance for the boiler if the department has not 392 received the special boiler inspector's annual inspection report 393 within 30 days after its due date. 394 Section 13. Section 554.111, Florida Statutes, is amended 395 to read: 554.111 Fees.-396 397 (1) The department shall charge the following fees: 398 (a) For an applicant for a certificate of competency, the 399 initial application fee shall be \$50, and the annual renewal fee 400 shall be \$30. The fee for examination shall be \$50. 401 (b) For certificate inspections conducted by the 402 department: 403 1. For power boilers and high pressure, high temperature 404 water boilers of: 4,000 square feet or less heating surface.....\$60 405 406 More than 4,000 square feet heating surface and less than 10,000 407 square feet of heating surface.....\$70 10,000 square feet or more heating surface.....\$90 408 409 2. For heating boilers: Without a manhole.....\$40 410 411 With a manhole......\$70 412 3. For hot water supply boilers.....\$40 413 (c) For issuance of a compliance certificate of operation without a department inspection.....\$30 414 415 (d) Duplicate certificates or address 416 changes.....\$5

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- (e) An application for a boiler permit must include the applicable certificate inspection fee provided in paragraph (b).
- (2) Not more than an amount equal to one certificate inspection fee may shall be charged or collected for any and all boiler inspections in any inspection period, except as otherwise provided in this chapter ss. 554.1011-554.115.
- (a) When it is necessary to make a special trip to observe the application of a hydrostatic test, an additional fee equal to the fee for a certificate inspection of the boiler must shall be charged.
- (b) All other inspections, including shop inspections, surveys, and inspections of secondhand boilers made by the chief boiler inspector or a deputy boiler inspector, must shall be charged at the rate of not less than \$270 for one-half day of 4 hours, and \$500 for 1 full day of 8 hours, plus travel, hotel, and incidental expenses in accordance with chapter 112.
- (3) The chief boiler inspector shall deposit all fees or fines received pursuant to this chapter ss. 554.1011-554.115 into the Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund.

Section 14. Sections 554.112 and 554.113, Florida Statutes, are repealed.

Section 15. Section 554.114, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

554.114 Prohibitions; penalties.-

- (1) A person may not:
- (a) Operate a boiler at a public assembly location without a valid certificate of operation compliance for that boiler;
- (b) Give false or forged information to the department or an inspector for the purpose of obtaining a certificate of



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(c) Use a certificate of operation compliance for any boiler other than for the boiler for which it was issued;

(c) (d) Operate a boiler for which the certificate of operation compliance has been suspended, revoked, or not renewed;

- (e) Give false or forged information to the department for the purpose of obtaining a certificate of competence; or
- (d) (f) Inspect any boiler regulated under this chapter the provisions of ss. 554.1011-554.115 without having a valid certificate of competency.
- (2) A boiler insurance company that fails to inspect or to have inspected, in accordance with this chapter, any boiler insured by the company and regulated under this chapter is subject to the penalties provided in subsection (4) Any person who violates this section is quilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable by fine as provided in s. 775.083.
- (3) An authorized inspection agency that is under contract with a boiler insurance company and that fails to inspect, in accordance with this chapter, any boiler insured by the company and regulated under this chapter is subject to the penalties provided in subsection (4).
- (4) A boiler insurance company, authorized inspection agency, or other person in violation of this section for more than 30 days shall pay a fine of \$10 per day for the first 10 days of noncompliance, \$50 per day for the subsequent 20 days of noncompliance, and \$100 per day for each subsequent day over 20 days of noncompliance.
 - Section 16. Section 554.115, Florida Statutes, is amended



475 to read: 476 554.115 Disciplinary proceedings.-477 (1) The department may deny, refuse to renew, suspend, or 478 revoke a certificate of operation compliance upon proof that: 479 (a) The certificate has been obtained by fraud or 480 misrepresentation; 481 (b) The boiler for which the certificate was issued cannot 482 be operated safely; or 483 (c) The person who received the certificate willfully or 484 deliberately violated the State Boiler Code, this chapter, or 485 ss. 554.1011-554.115 or any other rule adopted pursuant to this 486 chapter; or ss. 554.1011-554.115. 487 (d) The owner of a boiler: 488 1. Operated a boiler at a public assembly location without 489 a valid certificate of operation for that boiler; 490 2. Used a certificate of operation for a boiler other than 491 the boiler for which the certificate of operation was issued; 492 3. Gave false or forged information to the department, to 493 an authorized inspection agency, or to another boiler inspector 494 for the purpose of obtaining a certificate of operation; 495 4. Operated a boiler after the certificate of operation for 496 the boiler expired, was not renewed, or was suspended or 497 revoked; 498 5. Operated a boiler that is in an unsafe condition; or 499 6. Operated a boiler in a manner that is contrary to the 500 requirements of this chapter or any rule adopted under this 501 chapter. 502 (2) The department may deny, refuse to renew, suspend, or

revoke a certificate of competency upon proof that:

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504 (a) The certificate was obtained by fraud or 505 misrepresentation; (b) The inspector to whom the certificate was issued is no 506 507 longer qualified under this chapter ss. 554.1011-554.115 to 508 inspect boilers; or 509 (c) The boiler inspector: 510 1. Operated a boiler at a public assembly location without 511 a valid certificate of compliance for that boiler; 512 2. Gave false or forged information to the department, an 513 authorized inspection agency, or to another boiler inspector for 514 the purpose of obtaining a certificate of operation; or 515 compliance; 516 3. Used a certificate of compliance for any boiler other 517 than the boiler for which it was issued; 518 4. Operated a boiler for which the certificate of 519 compliance has been suspended or revoked or has expired; 520 2.5. Inspected any boiler regulated under this chapter ss. 554.1011-554.115 without having obtained a valid certificate of 521 522 competency. + 523 6. Operated a boiler that is in an unsafe condition; or 524 7. Operated a boiler in a manner that is contrary to the 525 requirements of this chapter or any rule adopted under this 526 chapter. 527 (3) Each suspension of a certificate of operation 528 compliance or certificate of competency shall continue in effect 529 until all violations have been corrected and, for boiler safety 530 violations, until the boiler has been inspected by an authorized 531 inspector and shown to be in a safe working condition.

(4) A person in violation of this section who does not have

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a valid certificate of competency shall be reported by the chief inspector to the appropriate state attorney.

- (5) A person in violation of this section who has a valid certificate of competency is subject to administrative action by the chief inspector.
- (4) A revocation of a certificate of competency is permanent, and a revoked certificate of competency may not be reinstated or a new certificate of competency issued to the same person. A suspension of a certificate of competency continues in effect until all violations have been corrected. A suspension of a certificate of compliance for any boiler safety violation continues in effect until the boiler has been inspected by an authorized inspector and shown to be in safe working condition.

Section 17. Section 554.1151, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

- 554.1151 Administrative fine in lieu of or in addition to suspension, revocation, or refusal to renew a certificate of operation or competency.-
- (1) If the department finds that one or more grounds exist for the suspension, revocation, or refusal to renew any certificate of operation or certificate of competency issued under this chapter, the department may, in its discretion, in lieu of or in addition to suspension or revocation or in lieu of refusal to renew, impose upon the certificateholder an administrative penalty in an amount up to \$500, or, if the department has found willful misconduct or willful violation on the part of the certificateholder, in an amount up to \$3,500.
- (2) The department may allow the certificateholder a reasonable period, no more than 30 days, within which to pay to

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the department the amount of the penalty so imposed. If the certificateholder fails to pay the penalty in its entirety to the department within the period so allowed, the certificate of that person must be suspended until the penalty is paid. If the certificateholder fails to pay the penalty in its entirety to the department within 90 days after the period so allowed, the certificate of that person must be revoked.

Section 18. Section 554.116, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

554.116 Report on insured losses.—A boiler insurance company that insures any boiler in this state must annually file a report with the chief boiler inspector, within 30 days after the end of the previous calendar year, regarding claims paid by the insurer under policies insuring boilers in this state. The report must include the type of establishment in which the boiler was located, the location of the establishment, the amount of the loss, the apparent cause of the loss, and any other information that the department determines is not inconsistent with the intent of the safety objectives of the State Boiler Code. The department shall adopt a form by rule for submission of the report.

Section 19. Subsection (7) of section 624.307, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

624.307 General powers; duties.-

(7) The department and office, within existing resources, may expend funds for the professional development of its employees, including, but not limited to, professional dues for employees who are required to be members of professional organizations; examinations leading to professional designations

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required for employment with the office; training courses and examinations provided through, and to ensure compliance with, the National Association of Insurance Commissioners; or other training courses related to the regulation of insurance.

Section 20. Present subsections (1), (2), and (3) and (4) through (19) of section 626.015, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (2), (3), and (4) and (6) through (21), respectively, present subsection (8) is amended, and new subsections (1) and (5) are added to that section, to read:

626.015 Definitions.—As used in this part:

- (1) "Active participant" means a member in good standing of an association who attends 4 or more hours of association meetings every year, not including any department-approved continuing education course.
- (5) "Association" includes the Florida Association of Insurance Agents (FAIA), the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors (NAIFA), the Florida Association of Health Underwriters (FAHU), the Latin American Association of Insurance Agencies (LAAIA), the Florida Association of Public Insurance Adjusters (FAPIA), the Florida Bail Agents Association (FBAA), or the Professional Bail Agents of the United States (PBUS).
- (10) (8) "Insurance agency" means a business location at which an individual, firm, partnership, corporation, association, or other entity, other than an employee of the individual, firm, partnership, corporation, association, or other entity and other than an insurer as defined by s. 624.03 or an adjuster as defined by subsection (2) (1), engages in any activity or employs individuals to engage in any activity which



620 by law may be performed only by a licensed insurance agent. 621 Section 21. Section 626.207, Florida Statutes, is amended 622 to read: 623 626.207 Disqualification of applicants and licensees; 624 penalties against licensees; rulemaking authority.-625 (1) For purposes of this section, the term or terms: 626 (a) "Applicant" means an individual applying for licensure 627 or relicensure under this chapter, and an officer, director, 628 majority owner, partner, manager, or other person who manages or 629 controls an entity applying for licensure or relicensure under 630 this chapter. 631 (c) "Financial services business" means any financial 632 activity regulated by the Department of Financial Services, the 633 Office of Insurance Regulation, or the Office of Financial 634 Regulation. 635 (b) (2) For purposes of this section, the terms "Felony of 636 the first degree" and "capital felony" include all felonies 637 designated as such by the Florida Statutes, as well as any 638 felony so designated in the jurisdiction in which the plea is 639 entered or judgment is rendered. 640 (2) An applicant who has been found guilty of or has 641 pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to any of the following 642 crimes, regardless of adjudication, is permanently barred from 643 licensure under this chapter: commits 644 (a) A felony of the first degree; 645 (b) A capital felony; (c) A felony involving money laundering; , fraud, or 646 647 (d) A felony embezzlement; or

(e) A felony directly related to the financial services

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business is permanently barred from applying for a license under this part. This bar applies to convictions, quilty pleas, or nolo contendere pleas, regardless of adjudication, by any applicant, officer, director, majority owner, partner, manager, or other person who manages or controls any applicant.

- (3) (4) An applicant who has been found guilty of or has pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to a crime For all other crimes not included in subsection (2), regardless of adjudication, is subject to (3), the department shall adopt rules establishing the process and application of disqualifying periods that include:
- (a) A 15-year disqualifying period for all felonies involving moral turpitude which that are not specifically included in the permanent bar contained in subsection (2) (3).
- (b) A 7-year disqualifying period for all felonies to which neither the permanent bar in subsection (2) $\frac{(3)}{(3)}$ nor the 15-year disqualifying period in paragraph (a) applies.
- (c) A 7-year disqualifying period for all misdemeanors directly related to the financial services business.
- (4) (4) (5) The department shall adopt rules to administer this section. The rules must provide providing for additional disqualifying periods due to the commitment of multiple crimes and may include other factors reasonably related to the applicant's criminal history. The rules shall provide for mitigating and aggravating factors. However, mitigation may not result in a period of disqualification of less than 7 years and may not mitigate the disqualifying periods in paragraphs (3)(b) and (c) $\frac{(4)(b)}{and(c)}$.
 - (5) (6) For purposes of this section, the disqualifying

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periods begin upon the applicant's final release from supervision or upon completion of the applicant's criminal sentence, including payment of fines, restitution, and court costs for the crime for which the disqualifying period applies. The department may not issue a license to an applicant unless all related fines, court costs and fees, and court-ordered restitution have been paid.

(6) (7) After the disqualifying period has expired been met, the burden is on the applicant to demonstrate that the applicant has been rehabilitated, does not pose a risk to the insurancebuying public, is fit and trustworthy to engage in the business of insurance pursuant to s. 626.611(1)(g), and is otherwise qualified for licensure.

- (7) Notwithstanding subsections (2) and (3), upon a grant of a pardon or the restoration of civil rights pursuant to chapter 940 and s. 8, Art. IV of the State Constitution with respect to a finding of guilt or a plea under subsection (2) or subsection (3), such finding or plea no longer bars or disqualifies the applicant from licensure under this chapter unless the clemency specifically excludes licensure in the financial services business; however, a pardon or restoration of civil rights does not require the department to award such license.
- (8) The department shall adopt rules establishing specific penalties against licensees in accordance with ss. 626.641 and 626.651 for violations of s. 626.611, s. 626.621, s. 626.8437, s. 626.844, s. 626.935, s. 634.181, s. 634.191, s. 634.320, s. 634.321, s. 634.422, s. 634.423, s. 642.041, or s. 642.043. The purpose of the revocation or suspension is to provide a

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sufficient penalty to deter future violations of the Florida Insurance Code. The imposition of a revocation or the length of suspension shall be based on the type of conduct and the probability that the propensity to commit further illegal conduct has been overcome at the time of eligibility for relicensure. The length of suspension may be adjusted based on aggravating or mitigating factors, established by rule and consistent with this purpose.

(9) Section 112.011 does not apply to any applicants for licensure under the Florida Insurance Code, including, but not limited to, agents, agencies, adjusters, adjusting firms, customer representatives, or managing general agents.

Section 22. Section 626.9954, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

626.9954 Disqualification from registration. -

- (1) As used in this section, the terms "felony of the first degree" and "capital felony" include all felonies so designated by the laws of this state, as well as any felony so designated in the jurisdiction in which the plea is entered or judgment is rendered.
- (2) An applicant who has been found guilty of or has pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to the following crimes, regardless of adjudication, is permanently disqualified from registration under this part: commits
 - (a) A felony of the first degree;
 - (b) A capital felony;
 - (c) A felony involving money laundering; , fraud, or
- (d) A felony embezzlement; or
 - (e) A felony directly related to the financial services

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business is permanently barred from applying for registration under this part. This bar applies to convictions, quilty pleas, or nolo contendere pleas, regardless of adjudication, by an applicant.

- (3) An applicant who has been found guilty of or has pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to a crime For all other crimes not described in subsection (2), regardless of adjudication, is subject to the department may adopt rules establishing the process and application of disqualifying periods including:
- (a) A 15-year disqualifying period for all felonies involving moral turpitude which are not specifically included in subsection (2).
- (b) A 7-year disqualifying period for all felonies not specifically included in subsection (2) or paragraph (a).
- (c) A 7-year disqualifying period for all misdemeanors directly related to the financial services business.
- (4) The department may adopt rules to administer this section. The rules must provide for providing additional disqualifying periods due to the commitment of multiple crimes and may include other factors reasonably related to the applicant's criminal history. The rules must provide for mitigating and aggravating factors. However, mitigation may not result in a disqualifying period of less than 7 years and may not mitigate the disqualifying periods in paragraph (3)(b) or paragraph (3)(c).
- (5) For purposes of this section, the disqualifying periods begin upon the applicant's final release from supervision or upon completion of the applicant's criminal sentence, including

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the payment of fines, restitution, and court costs for the crime for which the disqualifying period applies. The department may not issue a registration to an applicant unless all related fines, court costs and fees, and court-ordered restitution have been paid.

- (6) After the disqualifying period has expired been met, the burden is on the applicant to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the department that he or she has been rehabilitated and does not pose a risk to the insurance-buying public and is otherwise qualified for registration.
- (7) Notwithstanding subsections (2) and (3), upon a grant of a pardon or the restoration of civil rights pursuant to chapter 940 and s. 8, Art. IV of the State Constitution with respect to a finding of guilt or a plea under subsection (2) or subsection (3), such finding or plea no longer bars or disqualifies the applicant from applying for registration under this part unless the clemency specifically excludes licensure or specifically excludes registration in the financial services business; however, a pardon or restoration of civil rights does not require the department to award such registration.
- (8) (8) (7) Section 112.011 does not apply to an applicant for registration as a navigator.
- Section 23. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 626.2815, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (j) is added to that subsection, to read:
 - 626.2815 Continuing education requirements.-
- (3) Each licensee except a title insurance agent must complete a 5-hour update course every 2 years which is specific to the license held by the licensee. The course must be

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developed and offered by providers and approved by the department. The content of the course must address all lines of insurance for which examination and licensure are required and include the following subject areas: insurance law updates, ethics for insurance professionals, disciplinary trends and case studies, industry trends, premium discounts, determining suitability of products and services, and other similar insurance-related topics the department determines are relevant to legally and ethically carrying out the responsibilities of the license granted. A licensee who holds multiple insurance licenses must complete an update course that is specific to at least one of the licenses held. Except as otherwise specified, any remaining required hours of continuing education are elective and may consist of any continuing education course approved by the department under this section.

- (a) Except as provided in paragraphs (b), (c), (d), (e), and (i), and (j), each licensee must also complete 19 hours of elective continuing education courses every 2 years.
- (j) For a licensee who is an active participant in an association, 2 hours of elective continuing education credit per calendar year may be approved by the department, if properly reported by the association.
- Section 24. Paragraph (n) of subsection (1) and subsection (2) of section 626.611, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
- 626.611 Grounds for compulsory refusal, suspension, or revocation of agent's, title agency's, adjuster's, customer representative's, service representative's, or managing general agent's license or appointment.-
 - (1) The department shall deny an application for, suspend,

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revoke, or refuse to renew or continue the license or appointment of any applicant, agent, title agency, adjuster, customer representative, service representative, or managing general agent, and it shall suspend or revoke the eligibility to hold a license or appointment of any such person, if it finds that as to the applicant, licensee, or appointee any one or more of the following applicable grounds exist:

- (n) Having been found quilty of or having pleaded quilty or nolo contendere to a felony or a crime punishable by imprisonment of 1 year or more under the law of the United States of America or of any state thereof or under the law of any other country which involves moral turpitude, without regard to whether a judgment of conviction has been entered by the court having jurisdiction of such cases.
- (2) The department shall, upon receipt of information or an indictment, immediately temporarily suspend a license or appointment issued under this chapter when the licensee is charged with a felony enumerated in s. 626.207(2) s. 626.207(3). Such suspension shall continue if the licensee is found quilty of, or pleads guilty or nolo contendere to, the crime, regardless of whether a judgment or conviction is entered, during a pending appeal. A person may not transact insurance business after suspension of his or her license or appointment.

Section 25. Subsection (8) of section 626.621, Florida Statutes, is amended, and a new subsection (15) is added to that section, to read:

626.621 Grounds for discretionary refusal, suspension, or revocation of agent's, adjuster's, customer representative's, service representative's, or managing general agent's license or

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appointment.—The department may, in its discretion, deny an application for, suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew or continue the license or appointment of any applicant, agent, adjuster, customer representative, service representative, or managing general agent, and it may suspend or revoke the eligibility to hold a license or appointment of any such person, if it finds that as to the applicant, licensee, or appointee any one or more of the following applicable grounds exist under circumstances for which such denial, suspension, revocation, or refusal is not mandatory under s. 626.611:

- (8) Having been found quilty of or having pleaded quilty or nolo contendere to a felony or a crime punishable by imprisonment of 1 year or more under the law of the United States of America or of any state thereof or under the law of any other country, without regard to whether a judgment of conviction has been entered by the court having jurisdiction of such cases.
- (15) Denial, suspension, or revocation of, or any other adverse administrative action against, a license to practice or conduct any regulated profession, business, or vocation by this state, any other state, any nation, any possession or district of the United States, any court, or any lawful agency thereof.

Section 26. Subsection (2) of section 626.7845, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 626.7845 Prohibition against unlicensed transaction of life insurance.-
- (2) Except as provided in s. 626.112(6), with respect to any line of authority specified in s. 626.015(12) s. 626.015(10), an no individual may not shall, unless licensed as



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- (a) Solicit insurance or annuities or procure applications;
- (b) In this state, engage or hold himself or herself out as engaging in the business of analyzing or abstracting insurance policies or of counseling or advising or giving opinions to persons relative to insurance or insurance contracts, unless the individual is other than:
 - 1. As A consulting actuary advising insurers an insurer; or
- 2. An employee As to the counseling and advising of a labor union, association, employer, or other business entity labor unions, associations, trustees, employers, or other business entities, or the subsidiaries and affiliates of each, who counsels and advises such entity or entities relative to their interests and those of their members or employees under insurance benefit plans; or
- 3. A trustee advising a settlor, a beneficiary, or a person regarding his or her interests in a trust, relative to insurance benefit plans; or
- (c) In this state, from this state, or with a resident of this state, offer or attempt to negotiate on behalf of another person a viatical settlement contract as defined in s. 626.9911.
- Section 27. Section 626.8305, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 626.8305 Prohibition against the unlicensed transaction of health insurance.—Except as provided in s. 626.112(6), with respect to any line of authority specified in s. 626.015(8) s. 626.015(6), an no individual may not shall, unless licensed as a health agent:
 - (1) Solicit insurance or procure applications; or

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- (2) In this state, engage or hold himself or herself out as engaging in the business of analyzing or abstracting insurance policies or of counseling or advising or giving opinions to persons relative to insurance contracts, unless the individual is other than:
 - (a) As A consulting actuary advising insurers; or
- (b) An employee As to the counseling and advising of a labor union, association, employer, or other business entity labor unions, associations, trustees, employers, or other business entities, or the subsidiaries and affiliates of each, who counsels and advises such entity or entities relative to their interests and those of their members or employees under insurance benefit plans; or-
- (c) A trustee advising a settlor, a beneficiary, or a person regarding his or her interests in a trust, relative to insurance benefit plans.

Section 28. Subsection (1) of section 626.861, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

626.861 Insurer's officers, insurer's employees, reciprocal insurer's representatives; adjustments by.-

(1) This part may not Nothing in this part shall be construed to prevent an executive officer of any insurer, or a regularly salaried employee of an insurer handling claims with respect to health insurance, a regular employee of an insurer handling claims with respect to residential property when the sublimit coverage does not exceed \$500, or the duly designated attorney or agent authorized and acting for subscribers to reciprocal insurers, from adjusting any claim loss or damage under any insurance contract of such insurer.

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Section 29. Paragraph (c) of subsection (5) and subsection (6) of section 626.9543, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 626.9543 Holocaust victims.

- (5) PROOF OF A CLAIM.—Any insurer doing business in this state, in receipt of a claim from a Holocaust victim or from a beneficiary, descendant, or heir of a Holocaust victim, shall:
- (c) Permit claims irrespective of any statute of limitations or notice requirements imposed by any insurance policy issued, provided the claim is submitted on or before July 1, 2018.
- (6) STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—Notwithstanding any law or agreement among the parties to an insurance policy to the contrary, any action brought by Holocaust victims or by a beneficiary, heir, or a descendant of a Holocaust victim seeking proceeds of an insurance policy issued or in effect between 1920 and 1945, inclusive, may shall not be dismissed for failure to comply with the applicable statute of limitations or laches provided the action is commenced on or before July 1, 2018.

Section 30. Section 633.516, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

633.516 Studies of Division to make study of firefighter employee occupational diseases of firefighters or persons in other fire-related fields.—The division may contract for studies, subject to the availability of funding, of shall make a continuous study of firefighter employee occupational diseases of firefighters or persons in other fire-related fields and the ways and means for the their control and prevention of such occupational diseases. When such a study or another study that is wholly or partly funded under an agreement, including a

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contract or grant, with the department tracks a disease of an individual firefighter or a person in another fire-related field, the division may, with associated security measures, release the confidential information, including a social security number, of that individual to a party who has entered into an agreement with the department and shall adopt rules necessary for such control and prevention. For this purpose, the division is authorized to cooperate with firefighter employers, firefighter employees, and insurers and with the Department of Health.

Section 31. Paragraph (a) of subsection (6) and subsection (7) of section 768.28, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 768.28 Waiver of sovereign immunity in tort actions;

recovery limits; limitation on attorney fees; statute of limitations; exclusions; indemnification; risk management programs.-

(6)(a) An action may not be instituted on a claim against the state or one of its agencies or subdivisions unless the claimant presents the claim in writing to the appropriate agency, and also, except as to any claim against a municipality, county, or the Florida Space Authority, presents such claim in writing to the Department of Financial Services, within 3 years after such claim accrues and the Department of Financial Services or the appropriate agency denies the claim in writing; except that, if:

1. Such claim is for contribution pursuant to s. 768.31, it must be so presented within 6 months after the judgment against the tortfeasor seeking contribution has become final by lapse of time for appeal or after appellate review or, if there is no



such judgment, within 6 months after the tortfeasor seeking contribution has either discharged the common liability by payment or agreed, while the action is pending against her or him, to discharge the common liability; or

- 2. Such action is for wrongful death, the claimant must present the claim in writing to the Department of Financial Services within 2 years after the claim accrues.
- (7) In actions brought pursuant to this section, process shall be served upon the head of the agency concerned and also, except as to a defendant municipality, county, or the Florida Space Authority, upon the Department of

====== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ===== And the title is amended as follows:

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a boiler that is placed in use after a specified date; authorizing the department to adopt rules; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 554.104, F.S.; deleting a provision relating to boilers of special design which is recreated in s. 554.103, F.S.; requiring certification of boiler inspectors; requiring an application for a certification examination; specifying qualifications and requirements for the certification examination; requiring the department to adopt a specified training course; providing authorized methods and requirements for the training course; requiring the chief boiler inspector to issue a certificate of competency to a

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person meeting certain requirements; providing procedures for renewing a certificate; authorizing the department to adopt rules; amending s. 554.105, F.S.; renaming the chief inspector as the chief boiler inspector; revising requirements for the department through the state boiler inspection program; amending s. 554.106, F.S.; renaming deputy inspectors as deputy boiler inspectors; specifying required and authorized duties of deputy boiler inspectors; amending s. 554.107, F.S.; renaming special inspectors as special boiler inspectors; revising entities that may employ special boiler inspectors; specifying required inspection intervals for special boiler inspectors; amending s. 554.108, F.S.; providing an exemption, under certain conditions, from inspection requirements; specifying duties of an owner or an owner's designee to allow an inspector to conduct inspections; specifying requirements for boiler inspections and inspection reports; providing a penalty against an insurance carrier if certain followup inspections are not conducted; revising conditions that require a boiler to be shut down; revising requirements and procedures for a boiler that must be shut down; providing construction; authorizing the department to adopt rules; creating s. 554.1081, F.S.; revising requirements for boiler inspections by insurance companies and local governmental agencies; amending s. 554.109, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; revising boilers that are

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exempt from regulation under the chapter; revising requirements for certain exempt boilers and water heaters; amending s. 554.1101, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; requiring a boiler insurance company to notify, within a specified timeframe, the chief boiler inspector under certain circumstances; requiring a certificateholder to submit a certain certificate of insurance to the chief boiler inspector under certain circumstances; amending s. 554.111, F.S.; requiring an application for a boiler permit to include a specified fee; requiring the chief boiler inspector to deposit fines into a specified trust fund; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; repealing ss. 554.112 and 554.113, F.S., relating to examinations, and certification of inspectors and renewals, respectively; amending s. 554.114, F.S.; revising prohibited acts; providing penalties for a boiler insurance company or authorized inspection agency that fails to conduct certain inspections; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 554.115, F.S.; adding authorized disciplinary actions for the department; adding specified grounds for disciplinary action against an owner of a boiler; revising grounds for disciplinary action against a boiler inspector; deleting a provision requiring a chief inspector to report certain persons to the state attorney; deleting a provision authorizing certain administrative action by the chief inspector; deleting a provision relating to

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the duration of a suspended certificate of compliance; creating s. 554.1151, F.S.; authorizing the department to impose specified administrative fines in lieu of or in addition to certain disciplinary actions; authorizing procedures for payment of fines by a certificateholder; requiring a certificate to be revoked under certain circumstances; creating s. 554.116, F.S.; requiring a boiler insurance company to annually file a specified report with the chief boiler inspector; requiring the department to adopt a form by rule; amending s. 624.307, F.S.; authorizing the department to expend funds for professional development of its employees; amending s. 626.015, F.S.; defining terms; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 626.207, F.S.; defining the term "applicant"; revising a list of felonies subject to a permanent bar from licensure; revising a condition for when certain disqualifying periods begin; conforming cross-references; providing an exception from a permanent bar on or disqualifying periods for cases of executive clemency; providing construction; amending s. 626.9954, F.S.; revising a list of felonies subject to a permanent bar from licensure; revising conditions for when certain disqualifying periods begin; conforming cross-references; providing an exception from a permanent bar on or disqualifying periods for cases of executive clemency; providing construction; amending s. 626.2815, F.S.; authorizing the department to approve a certain number of elective continuing

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education credits for certain insurance licensees; providing an exception from a certain continuing education requirement for such licensees; amending s. 626.611, F.S.; deleting a condition for the involvement of moral turpitude in felonies or certain crimes in relation to compulsory disciplinary actions by the department against certain entities' licenses or appointments; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 626.621, F.S.; revising grounds for the department's discretionary refusal, suspension, or revocation of the license or appointment of certain persons; amending s. 626.7845, F.S.; revising an exception to the prohibition against the unlicensed transaction of life insurance; conforming a crossreference; amending s. 626.8305, F.S.; revising an exception to the prohibition against the unlicensed transaction of health insurance; conforming a crossreference; amending s. 626.861, F.S.; authorizing certain insurer employees to adjust specified claim losses or damage; amending s. 626.9543, F.S.; removing the scheduled expiration of a requirement for insurers to permit claims from a Holocaust victim or certain related persons irrespective of certain conditions; removing the scheduled expiration of an exception from statutes of limitations or laches for certain actions brought by Holocaust victims or certain related persons; amending s. 633.516, F.S.; authorizing the Division of State Fire Marshal within the division to contract for studies of, rather than to make a



continuous study of, occupational diseases of		
firefighters; adding persons in other fire-related		
fields to such studies; authorizing the division to		
release confidential information of an individual		
firefighter or a person in another fire-related field		
to certain parties under certain circumstances;		
amending s. 768.28, F.S.; providing exceptions in tort		
claims against a county from		