CHAMBER ACTION

Senate House

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Representative Smith offered the following:

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Amendment (with title amendment)

Between lines 1183 and 1184, insert:

Section 25. Paragraph (c) of subsection (9) of section 324.021, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

324.021 Definitions; minimum insurance required.—The following words and phrases when used in this chapter shall, for the purpose of this chapter, have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this section, except in those instances where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

- (9) OWNER; OWNER/LESSOR.-
- (c) Application. -

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- 1. The limits on liability in subparagraphs (b) 2. and 3. do not apply to an owner of motor vehicles that are used for commercial activity in the owner's ordinary course of business, other than a rental company that rents or leases motor vehicles. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "rental company" includes only an entity that is engaged in the business of renting or leasing motor vehicles to the general public and that rents or leases a majority of its motor vehicles to persons with no direct or indirect affiliation with the rental company. The term "rental company" also includes:
- a. A related rental or leasing company that is a subsidiary of the same parent company as that of the renting or leasing company that rented or leased the vehicle.
- b. The holder of a motor vehicle title or an equity interest in a motor vehicle title if the title or equity interest is held pursuant to or to facilitate an asset-backed securitization of a fleet of motor vehicles used solely in the business of renting or leasing motor vehicles to the general public and under the dominion and control of a rental company, as described in this subparagraph, in the operation of such rental company's business.
- 2. Furthermore, with respect to commercial motor vehicles as defined in s. 627.732, the limits on liability in subparagraphs (b) 2. and 3. do not apply if, at the time of the incident, the commercial motor vehicle is being used in the

transportation of materials found to be hazardous for the purposes of the Hazardous Materials Transportation Authorization Act of 1994, as amended, 49 U.S.C. ss. 5101 et seq., and that is required pursuant to such act to carry placards warning others of the hazardous cargo, unless at the time of lease or rental either:

- a. The lessee indicates in writing that the vehicle will not be used to transport materials found to be hazardous for the purposes of the Hazardous Materials Transportation Authorization Act of 1994, as amended, 49 U.S.C. ss. 5101 et seq.; or
- b. The lessee or other operator of the commercial motor vehicle has in effect insurance with limits of at least \$5,000,000 combined property damage and bodily injury liability.
- 3.a. A motor vehicle dealer, or a motor vehicle dealer's leasing or rental affiliate, that provides a temporary replacement vehicle at no charge or at a reasonable daily charge to a service customer whose vehicle is being held for repair, service, or adjustment by the motor vehicle dealer is immune from any cause of action and is not liable, vicariously or directly, under general law solely by reason of being the owner of the temporary replacement vehicle for harm to persons or property that arises out of the use, or operation, of the temporary replacement vehicle by any person during the period the temporary replacement vehicle has been entrusted to the motor vehicle dealer's service customer if there is no

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negligence or criminal wrongdoing on the part of the motor vehicle owner, or its leasing or rental affiliate.

For purposes of this section, and notwithstanding any other provision of general law, a motor vehicle dealer, or a motor vehicle dealer's leasing or rental affiliate, that gives possession, control, or use of a temporary replacement vehicle to a motor vehicle dealer's service customer may not be adjudged liable in a civil proceeding absent negligence or criminal wrongdoing on the part of the motor vehicle dealer, or the motor vehicle dealer's leasing or rental affiliate, if the motor vehicle dealer or the motor vehicle dealer's leasing or rental affiliate executes a written rental or use agreement and obtains from the person receiving the temporary replacement vehicle a copy of the person's driver license and insurance information reflecting at least the minimum motor vehicle insurance coverage required in the state. Any subsequent determination that the driver license or insurance information provided to the motor vehicle dealer, or the motor vehicle dealer's leasing or rental affiliate, was in any way false, fraudulent, misleading, nonexistent, canceled, not in effect, or invalid does not alter or diminish the protections provided by this section, unless the motor vehicle dealer, or the motor vehicle dealer's leasing or rental affiliate, had actual knowledge thereof at the time possession of the temporary replacement vehicle was provided.

c. For purposes of this subparagraph, the term:

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(I) "Control" means the power to direct the management and
policies of a person whether through ownership of voting
securities or otherwise.
(II) "Motor vehicle dealer's leasing or rental affiliate"
means a person who directly or indirectly controls, is
controlled by, or is under common control with the motor vehicle
dealer.
$\underline{\text{d.e.}}$ For purposes of this subparagraph, the term "service
customer" does not include an agent or a principal of a motor
vehicle dealer or a motor vehicle dealer's leasing or rental
affiliate, and does not include an employee of a motor vehicle
dealer or a motor vehicle dealer's leasing or rental affiliate
unless the employee was provided a temporary replacement
vehicle:
(I) While the employee's personal vehicle was being held
for repair, service, or adjustment by the motor vehicle dealer;
(II) In the same manner as other customers who are
provided a temporary replacement vehicle while the customer's
vehicle is being held for repair, service, or adjustment; and
(III) The employee was not acting within the course and
scope of his or her employment.

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TITLE AMENDMENT

Bill No. CS/CS/HB 1085 (2023)

Amendment No.

114	Between lines 127 and 128, insert:
115	s. 324.021, F.S.; defining the terms "control" and
116	"motor vehicle dealer's leasing or rental affiliate";
117	amending

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