

By Representatives Westbrook, Peaden, Sembler and Cosgrove

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to fictitious names; amending
3 s. 865.09, F.S.; prohibiting use of a
4 fictitious name for certain purposes; providing
5 a penalty; providing an effective date.
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7 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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9 Section 1. Subsection (14) of section 865.09, Florida
10 Statutes, is amended to read:

11 865.09 Fictitious name registration.--

12 (14) PROHIBITION.--

13 (a) A fictitious name registered as provided in this
14 section may not contain the words "Corporation" or
15 "Incorporated," or the abbreviations "Corp." or "Inc.," unless
16 the person or business for which the name is registered is
17 incorporated or has obtained a certificate of authority to
18 transact business in this state pursuant to chapter 607 or
19 chapter 617. However, a business incorporated or authorized
20 under chapter 607 or chapter 617 is not required to register
21 the corporate name pursuant to this section unless the name
22 that the corporation intends to conduct business under differs
23 from the corporation's name as stated in its articles of
24 incorporation.

25 (b) No person, partnership, limited liability company,
26 or corporation shall use a fictitious name in the conduct of
27 business with an intent to misrepresent the geographic origin
28 or location of any such person or entity.

29 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
30 law.
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HOUSE SUMMARY

Prohibits persons, partnerships, limited liability companies, or corporations from using a fictitious name in the conduct of business with an intent to misrepresent the geographic origin or location of such person or entity.