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CHAMBER ACTION

1 The Committee on Transportation recommends the following: 2 3 Committee Substitute 4 Remove the entire bill and insert: 5 A bill to be entitled 6 An act relating to seaport security standards; amending s. 7 311.12, F.S.; requiring that each seaport security plan 8 have a procedure that notifies an individual that he or 9 she is disqualified from employment within, or regular 10 access to, a seaport or a seaport's restricted access 11 area; requiring each plan to include a procedure by which 12 the individual may seek review of the decision of the 13 seaport; directing a seaport to have its procedures in 14 substantial compliance with federal regulations; providing criteria for seaports to consider for inclusion in 15 procedures for appeals and waivers from disqualification; 16 17 providing that an individual remain free from subsequent convictions for 7 years before seeking employment in, or 18 19 access to, a seaport; requiring each seaport to report to 20 the Department of Law Enforcement by a specified date the 21 number of waivers from disgualification issued in the 22 previous 12 months; amending s. 311.125, F.S.; conforming 23 provisions to changes made by the act; reenacting s.

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24	315.02(6), F.S., relating to the definitions for the 1959
25	Port Facilities Financing Law, for the purpose of
26	incorporating the amendment to s. 311.12, F.S., in a
27	reference thereto; limiting the applicability of a
28	provision of the act related to disqualification from
29	employment; providing an effective date.
30	
31	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
32	
33	Section 1. Section 311.12, Florida Statutes, is amended to
34	read:
35	311.12 Seaport security standards
36	(1)(a) The statewide minimum standards for seaport
37	security for each seaport identified in s. 311.09 shall be those
38	based upon the Florida Seaport Security Assessment 2000 and set
39	forth in the "Port Security StandardsCompliance Plan"
40	delivered to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the
41	President of the Senate on December 11, 2000, <u>under</u> pursuant to
42	this section. The statewide minimum standards are hereby
43	adopted. The Office of Drug Control within the Executive Office
44	of the Governor shall maintain a sufficient number of copies of
45	the standards for use of the public, at its offices, and shall
46	provide copies to each affected seaport upon request.
47	(b) The Department of Law Enforcement may exempt any
48	seaport identified in s. 311.09 from all or part of the
49	requirements of subsections $(1)-(5)$ if the department determines
50	that the seaport is not active. The department shall
51	periodically review exempted seaports to determine if there is
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52 maritime activity at the seaport. A change in status from 53 inactive to active may warrant removal of all or part of any 54 exemption provided by the department.

55 Each seaport identified in s. 311.09 shall maintain a (2) security plan relating to the specific and identifiable needs of 56 57 the seaport which assures that the seaport is in substantial compliance with the statewide minimum standards established 58 59 under pursuant to subsection (1). Each plan adopted or revised 60 under pursuant to this subsection must be reviewed and approved 61 by the Office of Drug Control and the Department of Law 62 Enforcement. All such seaports shall allow unimpeded access by the Department of Law Enforcement to the affected facilities for 63 64 purposes of inspections or other operations authorized by this 65 section. Each seaport security plan may establish restricted 66 access areas within the seaport consistent with the requirements 67 of the statewide minimum standards. In these such cases, a 68 Uniform Port Access Credential Card, authorizing restricted-area access, shall be required for any individual working within or 69 authorized to regularly enter a restricted access area and the 70 71 requirements in subsection (3) relating to criminal history 72 checks and employment restrictions shall be applicable only to 73 employees or other persons working within or authorized to regularly enter a restricted access area. Every seaport security 74 75 plan shall set forth the conditions and restrictions to be 76 imposed upon others visiting the port or any restricted access 77 area sufficient to provide substantial compliance with the 78 statewide minimum standards.

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79 (3)(a) A fingerprint-based criminal history check shall be 80 performed on any applicant for employment, every current 81 employee, and other persons as designated under pursuant to the 82 seaport security plan for each seaport. The criminal history 83 check shall be performed in connection with employment within or 84 other authorized regular access to a restricted access area or the entire seaport if the seaport security plan does not 85 86 designate one or more restricted access areas. With respect to 87 employees or others with regular access, the such checks shall 88 be performed at least once every 5 years or at other more 89 frequent intervals as provided by the seaport security plan. Each individual subject to the background criminal history check 90 91 shall file a complete set of fingerprints taken in a manner 92 required by the Department of Law Enforcement and the seaport 93 security plan. Fingerprints shall be submitted to the Department 94 of Law Enforcement for state processing and to the Federal 95 Bureau of Investigation for federal processing. The results of each fingerprint-based check shall be reported to the requesting 96 97 seaport. The costs of the checks, consistent with s. 943.053(3), shall be paid by the seaport or other employing entity or by the 98 99 person checked.

(b) By January 1, 2002, each seaport security plan shall identify criminal convictions or other criminal history factors consistent with paragraph (e) (c) which shall disqualify a person from either initial seaport employment or new authorization for regular access to seaport property or to a restricted access area. <u>These</u> Such factors shall be used to disqualify all applicants for employment or others seeking

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107 regular access to the seaport or restricted access area on or 108 after January 1, 2002, and may be used to disqualify all those 109 employed or authorized for regular access on that date. Each 110 seaport security plan may establish a procedure to appeal a 111 denial of employment or access based upon procedural 112 inaccuracies or discrepancies regarding criminal history factors 113 established pursuant to this paragraph. A seaport may allow 114 waivers on a temporary basis to meet special or emergency needs 115 of the seaport or its users. Policies, procedures, and criteria 116 for implementation of this subsection shall be included in the 117 seaport security plan. All waivers granted pursuant to this 118 paragraph must be reported to the Department of Law Enforcement 119 within 30 days of issuance. 120 (c) Each seaport security plan shall establish a procedure

120 <u>(c) Each seaport security plan shall establish a procedure</u> 121 <u>that notifies an individual that he or she is disqualified for</u> 122 <u>employment within or regular access to a seaport or restricted</u> 123 <u>access area. The plan shall also include a procedure by which</u> 124 <u>the individual may appeal the decision of the seaport. The</u> 125 <u>procedures must be in substantial compliance with 49 C.F.R.,</u> 126 <u>Part 1572, and must include, but need not be limited to, the</u> 127 following:

128 <u>1. The seaport must notify the individual, in writing,</u> 129 <u>that he or she poses a security threat to the seaport and is</u> 130 <u>disqualified for employment in or access to the seaport. The</u> 131 <u>notification must include a statement that the seaport has</u> 132 <u>determined that the individual poses a security threat</u> 133 warranting disqualification, the basis for the determination,

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CS 134 and information about the correction of records and appeal 135 procedures. 136 2. An individual may appeal a disqualification 137 determination only if the individual asserts that he or she 138 meets the qualifications set by the seaport for the position for which he or she is applying. If the disqualification 139 140 determination is based on a conviction for a disqualifying crime 141 listed in paragraph (e), the individual may present evidence 142 that the underlying criminal record is incorrect, or that the 143 conviction was pardoned, expunged, or overturned on appeal. An 144 executive pardon, expungement, or overturned conviction may 145 nullify a disqualifying conviction if the pardon, expungement, 146 or overturned conviction does not impose any restrictions on the 147 individual. 148 3. An individual may initiate an appeal of a 149 disgualification determination by submitting a written request 150 for materials or a written reply to the seaport within 15 days 151 after receiving notification of the disqualification determination. If the individual does not initiate an appeal 152 within that time, the decision of the seaport is final. 153 154 4. The individual may serve upon the seaport a written 155 request for copies of the materials upon which the 156 disgualification determination was based. If the 157 disqualification determination was based on a state or Federal 158 Bureau of Investigation criminal history record that the 159 individual believes is erroneous, the individual may correct the 160 record and submit the corrections to the seaport. The seaport 161 must respond within 30 days after receiving the individual's

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CS 162 request for materials. The seaport must give the individual a copy of the releasable materials upon which the disqualification 163 determination was based. The seaport may not include any 164 165 classified information as provided by federal law. 166 5. The individual may also serve on the seaport a written 167 reply to the disqualification determination stating that the 168 seaport made errors when it issued the disqualification 169 determination. 170 6. The seaport must respond to the individual's appeal no 171 later than 30 days after the seaport receives an individual's 172 request. If the seaport determines that the individual does pose 173 a security threat, the seaport shall give written notice to the 174 individual of its final decision that the individual is 175 disqualified for employment in or access to the seaport. If, 176 upon reconsideration, the seaport concludes that the individual 177 does not pose a security threat to the seaport, the seaport must 178 notify the individual in writing of its decision. Thereafter, 179 the seaport shall issue to the individual the appropriate 180 Uniform Port Access Credential Card. 181 7. If the seaport determines that the individual does pose 182 a security threat, the seaport must include in its written 183 notice of disqualification that the seaport's decision is final 184 agency action subject to review under chapter 120, where 185 applicable, or if the seaport is not subject to chapter 120, 186 that the seaport's decision is subject to judicial review in the 187 circuit court. 188 (d) A seaport may allow waivers on a temporary basis to 189 meet special or emergency needs of the seaport or its users.

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190 Policies, procedures, and criteria for implementation of this 191 paragraph must be included in the seaport security plan. The seaport must consider, when determining whether to grant a 192 193 waiver, if the disqualification is based on a disqualifying 194 criminal offense, the circumstances of the disqualifying act or 195 offense, whether restitution was made by the individual, and other factors that indicate that the individual does not 196 otherwise pose a security threat warranting disqualification for 197 198 access to the seaport. The seaport must send a written notice to 199 the individual informing the individual whether the seaport 200 granted or denied the request for a waiver. All waivers granted 201 under this paragraph must be reported to the Department of Law 202 Enforcement within 30 days after issuance.

203 <u>(e)(c)</u> In addition to other requirements for employment or 204 access established by each seaport <u>under pursuant to</u> its seaport 205 security plan, each seaport security plan shall provide that:

206 Any person who has within the past 7 years been 1. convicted, regardless of whether adjudication was withheld, for 207 208 a forcible felony as defined in s. 776.08; an act of terrorism 209 as defined in s. 775.30; planting of a hoax bomb as provided in s. 790.165; any violation involving the manufacture, possession, 210 211 sale, delivery, display, use, or attempted or threatened use of 212 a weapon of mass destruction or hoax weapon of mass destruction 213 as provided in s. 790.166; dealing in stolen property; any violation of s. 893.135; any violation involving the sale, 214 215 manufacturing, delivery, or possession with intent to sell, 216 manufacture, or deliver a controlled substance; burglary; 217 robbery; any felony violation of s. 812.014; any violation of s.

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218 790.07; any crime an element of which includes use or possession 219 of a firearm; any conviction for any similar offenses under the 220 laws of another jurisdiction; or conviction for conspiracy to 221 commit any of the listed offenses <u>is shall</u> not be qualified for 222 initial employment within or regular access to a seaport or 223 restricted access area; and

224 Any person who has at any time been convicted for any 2. 225 of the listed offenses is shall not be qualified for initial 226 employment within or authorized regular access to a seaport or 227 restricted access area unless, after release from incarceration 228 and any supervision imposed as a sentence, the person remained 229 free from a subsequent conviction, regardless of whether 230 adjudication was withheld, for any of the listed offenses for a 231 period of at least 7 years prior to the employment or access date under consideration. 232

233 (f) By October 1 of each year, each seaport shall 234 report to the Department of Law Enforcement each determination of denial of employment or access, and any determination to 235 236 authorize employment or access after an appeal of a denial and 237 any determination to issue a waiver made during the previous 12 238 months. The report shall include the identity of the individual 239 affected, the factors supporting the determination, and any other material factors used in making the determination. 240

(4)(a) Subject to the provisions of subsection (6), each
affected seaport shall begin to implement its security plan
developed under this section by July 1, 2001.

(b) The Office of Drug Control and the Department of LawEnforcement may modify or waive any physical facility or other

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requirement contained in the statewide minimum standards for seaport security upon a finding or other determination that the purposes of the standards have been reasonably met or exceeded by the seaport requesting the modification or waiver. <u>The Such</u> modifications or waivers shall be noted in the annual report submitted by the Department of Law Enforcement <u>under pursuant to</u> this subsection.

253 (C) Beginning with the 2001-2002 fiscal year, the 254 Department of Law Enforcement, or any entity designated by the 255 department, shall conduct no less than one annual unannounced 256 inspection of each seaport listed in s. 311.09 to determine whether the seaport is meeting the minimum standards established 257 258 under pursuant to this section, and to identify seaport security 259 changes or improvements necessary or otherwise recommended. The 260 Department of Law Enforcement, or any entity designated by the 261 department, may conduct additional announced or unannounced 262 inspections or operations within or affecting any affected seaport to test compliance with, or the effectiveness of, 263 264 security plans and operations at each seaport, to determine compliance with physical facility requirements and standards, or 265 266 to assist the department in identifying changes or improvements 267 necessary to bring a seaport into compliance with the statewide 268 minimum security standards.

(d) By December 31, 2001, and annually thereafter, the
Department of Law Enforcement, in consultation with the Office
of Drug Control, shall complete a report indicating the
observations and findings of all inspections or operations
conducted during the year and any recommendations developed by

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274 reason of these such inspections. A copy of the report shall be 275 provided to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the 276 Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the chief 277 administrator of each seaport inspected. The report shall 278 include responses from the chief administrator of any seaport 279 indicating what actions, if any, have been taken or are planned 280 to be taken in response to the recommendations, observations, 281 and findings reported by the department.

(e) In making security project or other funding decisions
applicable to each seaport listed in s. 311.09, the Legislature
may consider as authoritative the annual report of the
Department of Law Enforcement required by this section,
especially regarding each seaport's degree of substantial
compliance with the statewide minimum security standards
established by this section.

(5) Nothing in This section does not prevent shall be construed as preventing any seaport from implementing security measures that are more stringent, greater than, or supplemental to the statewide minimum standards established by this section except that, for purposes of employment and access, each seaport shall adhere to the requirements provided in paragraph (3)(e) (3)(c) and may shall not exceed statewide minimum requirements.

(6) When funds are appropriated for seaport security, the Office of Drug Control and the Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Council shall mutually determine the allocation of <u>these</u> such funds for security project needs identified in the approved seaport security plans required by this section. Any seaport that receives state funds for security

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302 projects must enter into a joint participation agreement with 303 the appropriate state entity and must use the seaport security 304 plan developed under pursuant to this section as the basis for 305 the agreement. If funds are made available over more than one 306 fiscal year, the such agreement must reflect the entire scope of 307 the project approved in the security plan and, as practicable, allow for reimbursement for authorized projects over more than 1 308 309 year. The joint participation agreement may include specific timeframes for completion of a security project and the 310 311 applicable funding reimbursement dates. The joint participation 312 agreement may also require a contractual penalty, not to exceed \$1,000 per day, to be imposed for failure to meet project 313 314 completion dates provided state funding is available. Any such 315 penalty shall be deposited into the State Transportation Trust 316 Fund to be used for seaport security operations and capital 317 improvements.

318 Section 2. Section 311.125, Florida Statutes, is amended 319 to read:

320

311.125 Uniform Port Access Credential System. --

By July 1, 2004, each seaport identified in s. 311.09 321 (1)322 and subject to the statewide minimum seaport security standards 323 set forth in s. 311.12 shall be required to use a Uniform Port 324 Access Credential Card that is to be used utilized in the 325 operation of the state Uniform Port Access Credential System as required herein. All Uniform Port Access Credential Cards shall 326 327 be issued by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles 328 to the designated port authority, or recognized governing board,

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329 of the requesting seaport for distribution to the credential 330 applicant.

331 (2)(a) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor 332 Vehicles, in consultation with the Department of Law 333 Enforcement, the Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic 334 Development Council, the Florida Trucking Association, and the United States Transportation Security Administration shall 335 336 develop a Uniform Port Access Credential System for use in 337 onsite verification of access authority for all persons on a 338 seaport as defined in s. 311.12(2), using utilizing the Uniform 339 Port Access Credential Card as authorized herein. Each seaport, 340 in a manner consistent with the "Port Security Standards 341 Compliance Plan" delivered to the Speaker of the House of 342 Representatives and the President of the Senate on December 11, 2000, under pursuant to s. 311.12, and this section, is 343 344 responsible for granting, restricting, or modifying access 345 authority provided to each Uniform Port Access Credential Card holder and promptly communicating the levels of access or 346 347 changes in the level of access to the department for its use in 348 administering the Uniform Port Access Credential System. Each 349 seaport is responsible for the proper operation and maintenance 350 of the Uniform Port Access Credential Card reader and access 351 verification utilizing the Uniform Port Access Credential System at its location. The Uniform Port Access Credential Card reader 352 353 and Uniform Port Access Credential System shall be used utilized 354 by each seaport to ensure compliance with the access 355 restrictions provided by s. 311.12.

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(b) The system shall be designed to conform, as closely as
possible, with criteria established by the United States
Transportation Security Administration for a Transportation
Worker Identification Card, or similar identification, as
required by federal law. The system shall, at a minimum,
consist of:

362 1. A centralized, secure database for collecting and 363 maintaining fingerprints and other biometric means of identity, 364 and other information pertaining to personal identification of 365 persons working on, or doing business at, a Florida seaport as 366 set forth in s. 311.12;

367 2. A methodology for receiving data from each port and368 transmitting data to each port regarding access permissions;

369 3. Technology required for each gate and portal at each
370 seaport to be interactive with the Uniform Port Access
371 Credential System during all hours of operation;

372 4. The ability to identify persons who have violated the
373 access requirements of s. 311.12 and to deactivate the access
374 permissions of those persons; and

375 5. The ability to <u>use</u> utilize the Uniform Port Access
376 Credential Card in a manner consistent herein.

378 <u>The Such</u> system shall be designed to ensure the credentialed 379 cardholders' privacy in a manner consistent with the state's 380 security requirements as provided herein.

381 (3) The Uniform Port Access Credential Card must include
382 at a minimum a digital fullface photograph, a digital
383 fingerprint, a multilayered security process, a two-dimensional

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384 barcode with technology specifications that will allow the 385 unique biometric identifiers to reside in the barcode, a unique 386 identifying code or number, scanning capability to compare 387 required identifiers with information on file in the central 388 database, and background color differentials for visual 389 identification of access permissions.

390 A fingerprint-based criminal history check shall be (4) 391 performed on an applicant for a Uniform Port Access Credential 392 Card as provided in s. 311.12(3). Based upon review of the 393 criminal history check, each seaport may determine the specific 394 access permissions that will be granted to that applicant. Upon 395 receipt of a port authority "Notification of Access Permission" 396 form and a verification of the criminal history check, the 397 department shall issue a Uniform Port Access Credential Card to 398 the port authority for distribution to the applicant.

399 A Uniform Port Access Credential Card is valid for 4 (5) 400 years following the date of issuance. Criminal history checks may be performed on a random basis, but at least once a year, 401 402 during the period that the such credential card is active to 403 ensure that the credential holder complies with the requirements 404 for access to restricted areas provided in s. 311.12(3). Failure 405 to complete any part of the required credential application 406 process, or failure to comply with the criminal history 407 clearances, shall be grounds for immediate denial of access. In 408 addition to access authority granted to seaports, access authority may be restricted or revoked by the Department of 409 410 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles or the Department of Law Enforcement if the cardholder is suspected of criminal 411

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412 violations that could affect the security of a port or that 413 otherwise render the cardholder ineligible for port access, upon 414 suspicion that the person in possession of the card is using it, 415 or attempting to use it, fraudulently, or if restriction or 416 revocation is done to assure the security of any port or portion 417 thereof.

418 (6) Corporations, persons, or other business entities that 419 employ persons to work on, or do business at, seaports regulated in s. 311.12 shall notify those seaports for which those 420 421 employees have access permissions in the event of the employee's 422 termination, resignation, work-related incapacitation, or death. 423 Uniform Port Access Credential Card accesses for persons not 424 currently employed to perform a job on a seaport shall be placed 425 in an inactive status. Upon notification of a work status 426 change, the port authority, or recognized governing board, shall 427 notify the department to have the credential card placed in an 428 inactive status. Inactive status shall continue until the expiration of the credential card or reactivation of the card by 429 430 petition. The former employee may have the credential card 431 reactivated by petitioning a seaport. The port authority, or 432 recognized governing board, of any seaport may determine that 433 the individual is employed by another appropriate entity or is self-employed for purposes of performing work on the seaport. 434 435 Upon that determination, the port authority, or recognized governing board, may request reactivation of credentialing 436 437 permissions. All these such cards may be restricted or revoked as provided in subsection(5). 438

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439 (7) Failure to report a change in work status, as defined 440 in this section, within 7 days after the action may result in 441 revocation of the business entity's access to the seaport. 442 Each person working on a seaport, as regulated in s. (8) 443 311.12(2), shall be issued a Uniform Port Access Credential Card 444 upon completion of the application process. Upon issuance of the Uniform Port Access Credential Card, the cardholder is eligible 445 446 to enter a seaport in the system based on the level of 447 permission allowed by each respective seaport. A person working 448 in a restricted access area must meet the requirements of s. 449 311.12(3). The Uniform Port Access Credential Card shall be 450 clearly marked for visual verification of the cardholder's 451 permission for access to a restricted area, under pursuant to 452 subsection (3). The card must contain biometric verification of 453 the cardholder's identity and proper access permissions. 454 Entrance to a restricted access area, as defined in s. 455 311.12(2), shall require a machine check and fingerprint 456 verification of each person's Uniform Port Access Credential Card for proper identification. Exit from any restricted access 457 458 area of a seaport shall require a machine check of the 459 credential card.

(9) Each person not producing a Uniform Port Access Credential Card upon arrival at a restricted area of a seaport must, at a minimum, stop at a check point, show valid identification, and receive a visitor's pass in order to proceed. The visitor's pass must be plainly displayed on the person of the visitor or in the windshield of the vehicle and designate what area of the seaport may be accessed by the

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467 visitor. Failure to display the visitor's pass shall result in 468 revocation of a worker's permission to work on the seaport. 469 Public conveyances such as buses carrying passengers into 470 restricted access areas must be able to verify that all 471 passengers have legitimate business on the seaport. Procedures 472 for implementation of this process are the responsibility of 473 each seaport.

474 (10) The price of a Uniform Port Access Credential Card 475 shall be set by the department and shall reflect the cost of the 476 required criminal history checks, including the cost of the 477 initial state and federal fingerprint check and the annual criminal history check and the cost of production and issuance 478 479 of the card by the department. A seaport may charge an 480 additional administrative fee to cover the costs of issuing 481 credentials to its employees and persons doing business at the 482 seaport.

(11) Each Uniform Port Access Credential Card remains the 483 property of the State of Florida. Any person possessing such a 484 485 card shall provide it to any law enforcement officer upon request. A law enforcement officer having reasonable suspicion 486 487 to believe that a card is possessed or is being used in 488 violation of law or the standards provided by this section, or in any other manner that raises a concern about the safety and 489 490 security of a seaport, may seize the card. A cardholder has no cause of action against any law enforcement officer who seizes a 491 Uniform Port Access Credential Card. 492

493 (12) Each seaport defined in s. 311.09 and required to
494 meet the minimum security standards set forth in s. 311.12 shall

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495 comply with technology improvement requirements for the 496 activation of the Uniform Port Access Credential System no later 497 than July 1, 2004. Equipment and technology requirements for the 498 system shall be specified by the department no later than July 499 1, 2003. The system shall be implemented at the earliest 500 possible time that all seaports have active technology in place, 501 but no later than July 1, 2004.

(13) The "Port Security Standards Compliance Plan" delivered to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate on December 11, 2000, <u>under pursuant to</u> s. 311.12, shall be updated by the Department of Law Enforcement to reflect the changes made by this act.

507 (14) This section shall be contingent on the receipt of
508 the federal grant funds necessary to implement the Uniform Port
509 Access Credential System.

510 Section 3. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 511 to section 311.12, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, 512 subsection (6) of section 315.02, Florida Statutes, is reenacted 513 to read:

514 315.02 Definitions.--As used in this law, the following 515 words and terms shall have the following meanings:

(6) The term "port facilities" shall mean and shall include harbor, shipping, and port facilities, and improvements of every kind, nature, and description, including, but without limitation, channels, turning basins, jetties, breakwaters, public landings, wharves, docks, markets, parks, recreational facilities, structures, buildings, piers, storage facilities, including facilities that may be used for warehouse, storage,

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523 and distribution of cargo transported or to be transported through an airport or port facility, security measures 524 525 identified pursuant to s. 311.12, public buildings and plazas, 526 anchorages, utilities, bridges, tunnels, roads, causeways, and 527 any and all property and facilities necessary or useful in 528 connection with the foregoing, and any one or more or any 529 combination thereof and any extension, addition, betterment, or 530 improvement of any thereof.

531 Section 4. Notwithstanding s. 311.12, Florida Statutes, as 532 amended by this act and as implemented under chapter 2003-96, 533 Laws of Florida, any person holding credentials on June 3, 2003, 534 that allow access as provided by s. 311.12, Florida Statutes, 535 and who is otherwise qualified for such access shall not have access denied solely upon grounds related to a prior conviction 536 537 within the preceding 7 years, but may be disqualified if such conviction occurred within the preceding 5 years. This section 538 is repealed on June 4, 2005. 539

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Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004.

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