By Senator Gaetz

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4-00860B-09 20092262___ A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the regulation of professions; amending s. 455.213, F.S.; deleting signature notarization from the information that the Department of Business and Professional Regulation may require in documents submitted for the issuance or renewal of a license; prescribing when an application is received for purposes of certain requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act; amending s. 455.227, F.S.; establishing additional grounds for discipline of professions subject to regulation; prohibiting the failure to report criminal convictions and pleas; prohibiting the failure to complete certain treatment programs; providing penalties; creating s. 455.2274, F.S.; authorizing the department's representative to appear in criminal proceedings under certain

court; amending s. 455.2281, F.S.; authorizing the department to set unlicensed activities special fees for each profession; authorizing the department to adopt rules that reduce or waive the fees under certain circumstances; amending s. 473.305, F.S.; deleting an examination late filing fee applicable to certified public accountant examinees; amending s. 473.311, F.S.; deleting a provision requiring passage of a rules examination for renewal of license as a certified public accountant; amending s. 473.313,

circumstances and provide certain assistance to the

F.S.; deleting a provision requiring passage of an

examination as a condition for reactivation of an

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4-00860B-09 20092262

inactive license as a certified public accountant; amending s. 475.175, F.S.; deleting the option to submit a notarized application for a real estate broker or sales associate license; amending s. 475.451, F.S.; limiting the attorney exemption from continuing education requirements to attorneys in good standing with The Florida Bar; amending s. 475.615, F.S.; deleting a requirement that an application for a real estate appraiser certification be notarized; amending ss. 476.134 and 476.144, F.S.; requiring a written examination for a barbering license; deleting provisions for a practical examination for barbering license applicants; amending s. 489.109, F.S.; authorizing the Construction Industry Licensing Board to establish a fee for the initial certification and renewal of business organizations; amending s. 489.114, F.S.; deleting provisions relating to a business organization's certificate of authority for contracting to conform to changes made by the act; amending s. 489.117, F.S.; deleting provisions requiring a contractor applicant to submit proof of a local occupational license; amending s. 489.119, F.S.; deleting provisions for the issuance of a certificate of authority to a business organization for contracting; requiring a contractor to apply for registration or certification to qualify a business organization as the qualifying agent; authorizing the Construction Industry Licensing Board to deny a registration or certification to qualify a business

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4-00860B-09 20092262

organization under certain circumstances; requiring the qualifying agent of a business organization to present certain evidence to the board; providing that the board has discretion to approve a business organization; amending ss. 489.127, 489.128, 489.129, and 489.132, F.S.; deleting provisions relating to a business organization's certificate of authority for contracting to conform to changes made by the act; amending s. 489.513, F.S.; deleting a requirement that the local license required for an electrical or alarm system contractor be an occupational license; amending s. 548.002, F.S.; defining the term "event" for regulation of pugilistic exhibitions; amending s. 548.003, F.S.; authorizing the Florida State Boxing Commission to adopt criteria for the approval of certain amateur sanctioning organizations; reenacting ss. 468.436(2)(a), 468.832(1)(a), 468.842(1)(a), 471.033(1)(a), 472.033(1)(a), 473.323(1)(a), 475.25(1)(a), 475.624(1), 476.204(1)(h), 477.029(1)(h), 481.225(1)(a), and 481.325(1)(a), F.S., relating to the discipline of community association managers or firms, home inspectors, mold assessors and remediators, engineers, surveyors and mappers, certified public accountants and accounting firms, real estate brokers and sales associates, real estate appraisers, barbers, cosmetologists, architects, and landscape architects, to incorporate the amendment made to s. 455.227, F.S., in references thereto; repealing s. 509.201, F.S., relating to posting and

4-00860B-09 20092262

advertising the room rates of a public lodging establishment and related penalties; amending s. 509.233, F.S.; revising provisions relating to public food service establishment requirements; deleting a provision establishing a pilot program that provides an exemption for dogs in designated outdoor areas of public food service establishments; deleting a provision that provides for the future review and repeal of such pilot program; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 455.213, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

455.213 General licensing provisions.-

(1) Any person desiring to be licensed shall apply to the department in writing. The application for licensure shall be submitted made on a form prescribed prepared and furnished by the department and must include the applicant's social security number. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the department is the sole authority for determining the contents of any documents to be submitted for initial licensure and licensure renewal. Such documents may contain information including, as appropriate: demographics, education, work history, personal background, criminal history, finances, business information, complaints, inspections, investigations, discipline, bonding, signature notarization, photographs, performance periods, reciprocity, local government approvals,

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4-00860B-09 20092262

supporting documentation, periodic reporting requirements, fingerprint requirements, continuing education requirements, and ongoing education monitoring. The application shall be supplemented as needed to reflect any material change in any circumstance or condition stated in the application which takes place between the initial filing of the application and the final grant or denial of the license and which might affect the decision of the department. In order to further the economic development goals of the state, and notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the department may enter into an agreement with the county tax collector for the purpose of appointing the county tax collector as the department's agent to accept applications for licenses and applications for renewals of licenses. The agreement must specify the time within which the tax collector must forward any applications and accompanying application fees to the department. In cases where a person applies or schedules directly with a national examination organization or examination vendor to take an examination required for licensure, any organization- or vendor-related fees associated with the examination may be paid directly to the organization or vendor. An application is received for purposes of s. 120.60 upon the department's receipt of the application submitted in the format prescribed by the department; the application fee set by the board or, if there is no board, set by the department; and any other fee required by law or rule to be remitted with the application.

Section 2. Paragraphs (t) and (u) are added to subsection

(1) of section 455.227, Florida Statutes, to read:

455.227 Grounds for discipline; penalties; enforcement.—

4-00860B-09 20092262

(1) The following acts shall constitute grounds for which the disciplinary actions specified in subsection (2) may be taken:

- (t) Failing to report in writing to the board or, if there is no board, to the department within 30 days after the licensee is convicted or found guilty of, or entered a plea of nolo contendere or guilty to, regardless of adjudication, a crime in any jurisdiction. A licensee must report a conviction, finding of guilt, plea, or adjudication entered before the effective date of this paragraph within 30 days after the effective date of this paragraph.
- (u) Termination from a treatment program for impaired practitioners as described in s. 456.076 for failure to comply, without good cause, with the terms of the monitoring or treatment contract entered into by the licensee or failing to successfully complete a drug or alcohol treatment program.

Section 3. Section 455.2274, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

appearances by department representatives.—A representative of the department may voluntarily appear in a criminal proceeding brought against a person licensed by the department to practice a profession regulated by the state. The department's representative is authorized to furnish pertinent information, make recommendations regarding specific conditions of probation, and provide other assistance to the court necessary to promote justice or protect the public. The court may order a representative of the department to appear in a criminal proceeding if the crime charged is substantially related to the

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4-00860B-09 20092262

qualifications, functions, or duties of a license regulated by the department.

Section 4. Section 455.2281, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

455.2281 Unlicensed activities; fees; disposition.-In order to protect the public and to ensure a consumer-oriented department, it is the intent of the Legislature that vigorous enforcement of regulation for all professional activities is a state priority. All enforcement costs should be covered by professions regulated by the department. Therefore, the department may shall impose, upon initial licensure and each renewal thereof, a special fee not to exceed of \$5 per licensee. The Such fee shall be set by the department by rule for each profession and shall be in addition to all other fees collected from each licensee and shall fund efforts to combat unlicensed activity. Any profession regulated by the department which offers services that are not subject to regulation when provided by an unlicensed person may use funds in its unlicensed activity account to inform the public of such situation. The board with concurrence of the department, or the department when there is no board, may earmark up to \$5 of the current licensure fee for this purpose, if such board, or profession regulated by the department, is not in a deficit and has a reasonable cash balance. The department may adopt rules to waive an unlicensed activity special fee for up to 2 years if both the operating account and the unlicensed activity account have an excess cash balance. A board or profession regulated by the department may authorize the transfer of funds from the operating fund account to the unlicensed activity account of that profession if the

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4-00860B-09 20092262

operating fund account is not in a deficit and has a reasonable cash balance. The department shall make direct charges to this fund by profession and shall not allocate indirect overhead. The department shall seek board advice regarding enforcement methods and strategies prior to expenditure of funds; however, the department may, without board advice, allocate funds to cover the costs of continuing education compliance monitoring under s. 455.2177. The department shall directly credit, by profession, revenues received from the department's efforts to enforce licensure provisions. The department shall include all financial and statistical data resulting from unlicensed activity enforcement and from continuing education compliance monitoring as separate categories in the quarterly management report provided for in s. 455.219. The department shall not charge the account of any profession for the costs incurred on behalf of any other profession. For an unlicensed activity account, a balance which remains at the end of a renewal cycle may, with concurrence of the applicable board and the department, be transferred to the operating fund account of that profession.

Section 5. Section 473.305, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

473.305 Fees.—The board, by rule, may establish fees to be paid for applications, examination, reexamination, licensing and renewal, reinstatement, and recordmaking and recordkeeping. The fee for the examination shall be established at an amount that covers the costs for the procurement or development, administration, grading, and review of the examination. The fee for the examination is refundable if the applicant is found to be ineligible to sit for the examination. The fee for initial

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4-00860B-09 20092262

application is nonrefundable, and the combined fees for application and examination may not exceed \$250 plus the actual per applicant cost to the department for purchase of the examination from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants or a similar national organization. The biennial renewal fee may not exceed \$250. The board may also establish, by rule, a reactivation fee, a late filing fee for the law and rules examination, and a delinquency fee not to exceed \$50 for continuing professional education reporting forms. The board shall establish fees which are adequate to ensure the continued operation of the board and to fund the proportionate expenses incurred by the department which are allocated to the regulation of public accountants. Fees shall be based on department estimates of the revenue required to implement this chapter and the provisions of law with respect to the regulation of certified public accountants.

Section 6. Subsection (1) of section 473.311, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

473.311 Renewal of license.-

(1) The department shall renew a license upon receipt of the renewal application and fee and upon certification by the board that the licensee has satisfactorily completed the continuing education requirements of s. 473.312 and has passed an examination approved by the board on chapter 455 and this chapter and the related administrative rules. However, each licensee must complete the requirements of s. 473.312(1)(c) prior to taking the examination.

Section 7. Subsection (3) of section 473.313, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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4-00860B-09 20092262

473.313 Inactive status.-

(3) Any licensee holding an inactive license may be permitted to reactivate such license in a conditional manner. The conditions of reactivation shall require, in addition to the payment of fees, the passing of the examination approved by the board concerning chapter 455 and this chapter, and the related administrative rules, and the completion of required continuing education.

Section 8. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 475.175, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

475.175 Examinations.

- (1) A person shall be entitled to take the license examination to practice in this state if the person:
- (a) Submits to the department the appropriate notarized or electronically authenticated application and fee, and a fingerprint card. The fingerprint card shall be forwarded to the Division of Criminal Justice Information Systems within the Department of Law Enforcement for purposes of processing the fingerprint card to determine if the applicant has a criminal history record. The fingerprint card shall also be forwarded to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for purposes of processing the fingerprint card to determine if the applicant has a criminal history record. The information obtained by the processing of the fingerprint card by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and the Federal Bureau of Investigation shall be sent to the department for the purpose of determining if the applicant is statutorily qualified for examination. Effective July 1, 2006, an applicant shall provide fingerprints in electronic format.

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4-00860B-09 20092262

Section 9. Subsection (6) of section 475.451, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

475.451 Schools teaching real estate practice.-

(6) Any course prescribed by the commission as a condition precedent to any person's becoming initially licensed as a sales associate may be taught in any real estate school through the use of a video tape of instruction by a currently permitted instructor from any such school or may be taught by distance learning pursuant to s. 475.17(2). The commission may require that any such video tape course have a single session of live instruction by a currently permitted instructor from any such school; however, this requirement shall not exceed 3 classroom hours. All other prescribed courses, except the continuing education course required by s. 475.182, shall be taught by a currently permitted school instructor personally in attendance at such course or by distance learning pursuant to s. 475.17. The continuing education course required by s. 475.182 may be taught by distance learning pursuant to s. 475.17 or by an equivalent correspondence course; however, any such correspondence course shall be required to have a final examination, prepared and administered by the school issuing the correspondence course. The continuing education requirements provided in this section or provided in any other section in this chapter do not apply with respect to an any attorney who is otherwise qualified under the provisions of this chapter and who is a certified member in good standing by The Florida Bar.

Section 10. Subsection (5) of section 475.615, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

475.615 Qualifications for registration or certification.-

4-00860B-09 20092262

(5) At the time of filing <u>an</u> a <u>notarized</u> application for registration or certification, the applicant must sign a pledge to comply with the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice upon registration or certification and must indicate in writing that she or he understands the types of misconduct for which disciplinary proceedings may be initiated. The application shall expire 1 year after the date received.

Section 11. Subsection (1) of section 476.134, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

476.134 Examinations.

(1) Examinations of applicants for licenses as barbers shall be offered not less than four times each year. The examination of applicants for licenses as barbers shall may include both a practical demonstration and a written test. The board shall have the authority to adopt rules with respect to the examination of applicants for licensure. The board may provide rules with respect to written or practical examinations in such manner as the board may deem fit.

Section 12. Subsection (6) of section 476.144, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

476.144 Licensure.-

- (6) A person may apply for a restricted license to practice barbering. The board shall adopt rules specifying procedures for an applicant to obtain a restricted license if the applicant:
- (a)1. Has successfully completed a restricted barber course, as established by rule of the board, at a school of barbering licensed pursuant to chapter 1005, a barbering program within the public school system, or a government-operated barbering program in this state; or

4-00860B-09 20092262

2.a. Holds or has within the previous 5 years held an active valid license to practice barbering in another state or country or has held a Florida barbering license which has been declared null and void for failure to renew the license, and the applicant fulfilled the requirements of s. 476.114(2)(c)2. for initial licensure; and

- b. Has not been disciplined relating to the practice of barbering in the previous 5 years; and
- (b) Passes a written examination on the laws and rules governing the practice of barbering in Florida, as established by the board, and a practical examination approved by the board.

The restricted license shall limit the licensee's practice to those specific areas in which the applicant has demonstrated competence pursuant to rules adopted by the board.

Section 13. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section 489.109, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

489.109 Fees.-

- (1) The board, by rule, shall establish reasonable fees to be paid for applications, certification and renewal, registration and renewal, and recordmaking and recordkeeping. The fees shall be established as follows:
- (d) The board, by rule, may <u>also</u> establish a fee <u>not to</u> exceed \$50 for the initial certification and renewal of business organizations for transfer of a certificate of authority from one business organization to another, not to exceed the applicable renewal fee.

Section 14. Section 489.114, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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4-00860B-09 20092262

489.114 Evidence of workers' compensation coverage. - Except as provided in s. 489.115(5)(d), any person, business organization, or qualifying agent engaged in the business of contracting in this state and certified or registered under this part shall, as a condition precedent to the issuance or renewal of a certificate or, registration, or certificate of authority of the contractor, provide to the Construction Industry Licensing Board, as provided by board rule, evidence of workers' compensation coverage pursuant to chapter 440. In the event that the Division of Workers' Compensation of the Department of Financial Services receives notice of the cancellation of a policy of workers' compensation insurance insuring a person or entity governed by this section, the Division of Workers' Compensation shall certify and identify all persons or entities by certification or registration license number to the department after verification is made by the Division of Workers' Compensation that persons or entities governed by this section are no longer covered by workers' compensation insurance. Such certification and verification by the Division of Workers' Compensation may result from records furnished to the Division of Workers' Compensation by the persons or entities governed by this section or an investigation completed by the Division of Workers' Compensation. The department shall notify the persons or entities governed by this section who have been determined to be in noncompliance with chapter 440, and the persons or entities notified shall provide certification of compliance with chapter 440 to the department and pay an administrative fine in the amount of \$500. The failure to maintain workers' compensation coverage as required by law shall

42.7

4-00860B-09 20092262

be grounds for the board to revoke, suspend, or deny the issuance or renewal of a certificate or_{τ} registration, or $error_{\tau}$ certificate of authority of the contractor under the provisions of s. 489.129.

Section 15. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 489.117, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

489.117 Registration; specialty contractors.-

(1) (a) Any person engaged in the business of a contractor in the state shall be registered in the proper classification, unless he or she is certified. Any person entering the business of a contractor shall be registered before prior to engaging in business as a contractor, unless he or she is certified. To be initially registered, the applicant shall submit the required fee and file evidence, in a form provided by the department, of holding a current local occupational license required by any municipality, county, or development district, if any, for the type of work for which registration is desired and evidence of successful compliance with the local examination and licensing requirements, if any, in the area for which registration is desired. An No examination is not shall be required for registration.

Section 16. Section 489.119, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

489.119 Business organizations; qualifying agents.-

(1) If an individual proposes to engage in contracting in the individual's own name, or a fictitious name where the individual is doing business as a sole proprietorship, registration or certification may be issued only to that individual.

4-00860B-09 20092262

(2) If the applicant proposes to engage in contracting as a business organization, including any partnership, corporation, business trust, or other legal entity, or in any name other than the applicant's legal name or a fictitious name where the applicant is doing business as a sole proprietorship, the applicant business organization must apply for registration or certification as the for a certificate of authority through a qualifying agent of the business organization and under the fictitious name, if any.

- (a) An The application for registration or certification to qualify a business organization a certificate of authority must state the name of the partnership and of its partners; the name of the corporation and of its officers and directors and the name of each of its stockholders who is also an officer or director; the name of the business trust and its trustees; or the name of such other legal entity and its members; and must state the fictitious name, if any, under which the business organization is doing business.
- (b) 1. An The application for registration or certification to qualify a business organization primary qualifying agent must include an affidavit on a form provided by the board attesting that the applicant has final approval authority for all construction work performed by the business organization entity and that the applicant has final approval authority on all business matters, including contracts, specifications, checks, drafts, or payments, regardless of the form of payment, made by the business organization entity, except where a financially responsible officer is approved.
 - 2. The application for financially responsible officer must

4-00860B-09 20092262

include an affidavit on a form provided by the board attesting that the applicant's approval is required for all checks, drafts, or payments, regardless of the form of payment, made by the <u>business organization entity</u> and that the applicant has authority to act for the business organization in all financial matters.

- 3. The application for secondary qualifying agent must include an affidavit on a form provided by the board attesting that the applicant has authority to supervise all construction work performed by the <u>business organization</u> entity as provided in s. 489.1195(2).
- (c) The board may deny an application for registration or certification to qualify a business organization if the applicant, or any person listed in paragraph (a), has been involved in past disciplinary actions or on any grounds for which an individual registration or certification may be denied.
- $\underline{\text{(d)}}$ The applicant must furnish evidence of statutory compliance if a fictitious name is used, the provisions of s. 865.09(7) notwithstanding.
- <u>(e) (e)</u> A joint venture, including a joint venture composed of qualified business organizations, is itself a separate and distinct organization that must be qualified and obtain a certificate of authority in accordance with board rules.
- (d) A certificate of authority must be renewed every 2 years. If there is a change in any information that is required to be stated on the application, the business organization shall, within 45 days after such change occurs, mail the correct information to the department.
 - (3)(a) \underline{A} The qualifying agent \underline{must} shall be certified or

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4-00860B-09 20092262

registered under this part in order for the business organization to operate be issued a certificate of authority in the category of contracting in the business conducted for which the qualifying agent is certified or registered. If any qualifying agent ceases to be affiliated with a such business organization, he or she shall so inform the department. In addition, if the such qualifying agent is the only certified or registered contractor affiliated with the business organization, the business organization shall notify the department of the termination of the qualifying agent and shall have 60 days from the termination of the qualifying agent's affiliation with the business organization in which to employ another qualifying agent. The business organization may not engage in contracting until a qualifying agent is employed, unless the executive director or chair of the board has granted a temporary nonrenewable certificate or registration to the financially responsible officer, the president, a partner, or, in the case of a limited partnership, the general partner, who assumes all responsibilities of a primary qualifying agent for the business organization entity. This temporary certificate or registration shall only allow the business organization entity to proceed with incomplete contracts. For the purposes of this paragraph, an incomplete contract is one which has been awarded to, or entered into by, the business organization prior to the cessation of affiliation of the qualifying agent with the business organization or one on which the business organization was the low bidder and the contract is subsequently awarded, regardless of whether any actual work has commenced under the contract prior to the qualifying agent ceasing to be affiliated

4-00860B-09 20092262

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- (b) The qualifying agent shall inform the department in writing when he or she proposes to engage in contracting in his or her own name or in affiliation with another business organization, and he or she or such new business organization shall supply the same information to the department as required of applicants under this part.
- (c) Upon a favorable determination by the board, after investigation of the financial responsibility, credit, and business reputation of the qualifying agent and the new business organization, the department shall issue, without an examination, a new certificate of authority in the business organization's name.
- (4) Disciplinary action against a business organization holding a certificate of authority shall be administered in the same manner and on the same grounds as disciplinary action against a contractor. The board may deny the certification of any person cited in subsection (2) if the person has been involved in past disciplinary actions or on any grounds for which individual certification can be denied.
- (4) (5) When a certified qualifying agent, on behalf of a business organization, makes application for an occupational license in any municipality or county of this state, the application shall be made with the tax collector in the name of the business organization and the qualifying agent; and the license, when issued, shall be issued to the business organization, upon payment of the appropriate licensing fee and exhibition to the tax collector of a valid certificate for the qualifying agent and a valid certificate of authority for the

4-00860B-09 20092262

business organization issued by the department, and the state license numbers shall be noted thereon.

- (5)(6)(a) Each registered or certified contractor shall affix the number of his or her registration or certification to each application for a building permit and on each building permit issued and recorded. Each city or county building department shall require, as a precondition for the issuance of the building permit, that the contractor taking out the permit must provide verification giving his or her Construction Industry Licensing Board registration or certification number.
- (b) The registration or certification number of each contractor or certificate of authority number for each business organization shall appear in each offer of services, business proposal, bid, contract, or advertisement, regardless of medium, as defined by board rule, used by that contractor or business organization in the practice of contracting.
- (c) If a vehicle bears the name of a contractor or business organization, or any text or artwork which would lead a reasonable person to believe that the vehicle is used for contracting, the registration or certification number of the contractor or certificate of authority number of the business organization must be conspicuously and legibly displayed with the name, text, or artwork. Local governments may also require that locally licensed contractors must also display their certificate of competency or license numbers. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to create a mandatory vehicle signage requirement.
- (d) For the purposes of this part, the term "advertisement" does not include business stationery or any promotional

4-00860B-09 20092262

novelties such as balloons, pencils, trinkets, or articles of clothing.

- (e) The board shall issue a notice of noncompliance for the first offense, and may assess a fine or issue a citation for failure to correct the offense within 30 days or for any subsequent offense, to any contractor or business organization that fails to include the certification or_{τ} registration, or $error_{\tau}$ registration and $error_{\tau}$ number as required by this part when submitting an advertisement for publication, broadcast, or printing or fails to display the certification or_{τ} registration, or_{τ} or or_{τ} registration, or_{τ} registration,
- (6) (7) Each qualifying agent shall pay the department an amount equal to the original fee for registration or certification to qualify a certificate of authority of a new business organization. If the qualifying agent for a business organization desires to qualify additional business organizations, the board shall require the qualifying agent him or her to present evidence of his or her ability to supervise the construction activities and financial responsibility of each such organization. Approval of each business organization The issuance of such certificate of authority is discretionary with the board.
- (7) (a) A business organization proposing to engage in contracting is not required to apply for or obtain authorization under this part to engage in contracting if:
- 1. The business organization employs one or more registered or certified contractors licensed in accordance with this part who are responsible for obtaining permits and supervising all of the business organization's contracting activities;

62.3

4-00860B-09 20092262

2. The business organization engages only in contracting on property owned by the business organization or by its parent, subsidiary, or affiliated entities; and

- 3. The business organization, or its parent entity if the business organization is a wholly owned subsidiary, maintains a minimum net worth of \$20 million.
- (b) Any business organization engaging in contracting under this subsection shall provide the board with the name and license number of each registered or certified contractor employed by the business organization to supervise its contracting activities. The business organization is not required to post a bond or otherwise evidence any financial or credit information except as necessary to demonstrate compliance with paragraph (a).
- (c) A registered or certified contractor employed by a business organization to supervise its contracting activities under this subsection shall not be required to post a bond or otherwise evidence any personal financial or credit information so long as the individual performs contracting activities exclusively on behalf of a business organization meeting all of the requirements of paragraph (a).

Section 17. Subsection (1) of section 489.127, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

489.127 Prohibitions; penalties.-

- (1) No person shall:
- (a) Falsely hold himself or herself or a business organization out as a licensee, certificateholder, or registrant;
 - (b) Falsely impersonate a certificateholder or registrant;

4-00860B-09 20092262

(c) Present as his or her own the certificate $\underline{\text{or}}_{\tau}$ registration, or certificate of authority of another;

- (d) Knowingly give false or forged evidence to the board or a member thereof;
- (e) Use or attempt to use a certificate $\underline{\text{or}}_{\tau}$ registration that, or certificate of authority which has been suspended or revoked;
- (f) Engage in the business or act in the capacity of a contractor or advertise himself or herself or a business organization as available to engage in the business or act in the capacity of a contractor without being duly registered or certified or having a certificate of authority;
- (g) Operate a business organization engaged in contracting after 60 days following the termination of its only qualifying agent without designating another primary qualifying agent, except as provided in ss. 489.119 and 489.1195;
- (h) Commence or perform work for which a building permit is required pursuant to part IV of chapter 553 without such building permit being in effect; or
- (i) Willfully or deliberately disregard or violate any municipal or county ordinance relating to uncertified or unregistered contractors.

For purposes of this subsection, a person or business organization operating on an inactive or suspended certificate or, registration, or certificate of authority is not duly certified or registered and is considered unlicensed. A business tax receipt issued under the authority of chapter 205 is not a license for purposes of this part.

4-00860B-09 20092262

Section 18. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 489.128, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 489.128 Contracts entered into by unlicensed contractors unenforceable.—
- (1) As a matter of public policy, contracts entered into on or after October 1, 1990, by an unlicensed contractor shall be unenforceable in law or in equity by the unlicensed contractor.
- (b) For purposes of this section, an individual or business organization may not be considered unlicensed for failing to have a business tax receipt issued under the authority of chapter 205. A business organization may not be considered unlicensed for failing to have a certificate of authority as required by ss. 489.119 and 489.127. For purposes of this section, a business organization entering into the contract may not be considered unlicensed if, before the date established by paragraph (c), an individual possessing a license required by this part concerning the scope of the work to be performed under the contract has submitted an application for a certificate of authority designating that individual as a qualifying agent for the business organization entering into the contract, and the application was not acted upon by the department or applicable board within the time limitations imposed by s. 120.60.
- Section 19. Subsections (1), (5), and (7) of section 489.129, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
 - 489.129 Disciplinary proceedings.-
- (1) The board may take any of the following actions against any certificateholder or registrant: place on probation or reprimand the licensee, revoke, suspend, or deny the issuance or renewal of the certificate or registration, or certificate of

4-00860B-09 20092262

authority, require financial restitution to a consumer for financial harm directly related to a violation of a provision of this part, impose an administrative fine not to exceed \$10,000 per violation, require continuing education, or assess costs associated with investigation and prosecution, if the contractor, financially responsible officer, or business organization for which the contractor is a primary qualifying agent, a financially responsible officer, or a secondary qualifying agent responsible under s. 489.1195 is found guilty of any of the following acts:

- (a) Obtaining a certificate or_{τ} registration, or_{τ} certificate of authority by fraud or misrepresentation.
- (b) Being convicted or found guilty of, or entering a plea of nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, a crime in any jurisdiction which directly relates to the practice of contracting or the ability to practice contracting.
 - (c) Violating any provision of chapter 455.
- (d) Performing any act which assists a person or entity in engaging in the prohibited uncertified and unregistered practice of contracting, if the certificateholder or registrant knows or has reasonable grounds to know that the person or entity was uncertified and unregistered.
- (e) Knowingly combining or conspiring with an uncertified or unregistered person by allowing his or her certificate or_{τ} registration, or certificate of authority to be used by the uncertified or unregistered person with intent to evade the provisions of this part. When a certificateholder or registrant allows his or her certificate or registration to be used by one or more business organizations without having any active

4-00860B-09 20092262

participation in the operations, management, or control of such business organizations, such act constitutes prima facie evidence of an intent to evade the provisions of this part.

- (f) Acting in the capacity of a contractor under any certificate or registration issued hereunder except in the name of the certificateholder or registrant as set forth on the issued certificate or registration, or in accordance with the personnel of the certificateholder or registrant as set forth in the application for the certificate or registration, or as later changed as provided in this part.
- (g) Committing mismanagement or misconduct in the practice of contracting that causes financial harm to a customer. Financial mismanagement or misconduct occurs when:
- 1. Valid liens have been recorded against the property of a contractor's customer for supplies or services ordered by the contractor for the customer's job; the contractor has received funds from the customer to pay for the supplies or services; and the contractor has not had the liens removed from the property, by payment or by bond, within 75 days after the date of such liens;
- 2. The contractor has abandoned a customer's job and the percentage of completion is less than the percentage of the total contract price paid to the contractor as of the time of abandonment, unless the contractor is entitled to retain such funds under the terms of the contract or refunds the excess funds within 30 days after the date the job is abandoned; or
- 3. The contractor's job has been completed, and it is shown that the customer has had to pay more for the contracted job than the original contract price, as adjusted for subsequent

4-00860B-09 20092262

change orders, unless such increase in cost was the result of circumstances beyond the control of the contractor, was the result of circumstances caused by the customer, or was otherwise permitted by the terms of the contract between the contractor and the customer.

- (h) Being disciplined by any municipality or county for an act or violation of this part.
- (i) Failing in any material respect to comply with the provisions of this part or violating a rule or lawful order of the board.
- (j) Abandoning a construction project in which the contractor is engaged or under contract as a contractor. A project may be presumed abandoned after 90 days if the contractor terminates the project without just cause or without proper notification to the owner, including the reason for termination, or fails to perform work without just cause for 90 consecutive days.
- (k) Signing a statement with respect to a project or contract falsely indicating that the work is bonded; falsely indicating that payment has been made for all subcontracted work, labor, and materials which results in a financial loss to the owner, purchaser, or contractor; or falsely indicating that workers' compensation and public liability insurance are provided.
- (1) Committing fraud or deceit in the practice of contracting.
- (m) Committing incompetency or misconduct in the practice of contracting.
 - (n) Committing gross negligence, repeated negligence, or

4-00860B-09 20092262

negligence resulting in a significant danger to life or property.

- (o) Proceeding on any job without obtaining applicable local building department permits and inspections.
- (p) Intimidating, threatening, coercing, or otherwise discouraging the service of a notice to owner under part I of chapter 713 or a notice to contractor under chapter 255 or part I of chapter 713.
- (q) Failing to satisfy within a reasonable time, the terms of a civil judgment obtained against the licensee, or the business organization qualified by the licensee, relating to the practice of the licensee's profession.

For the purposes of this subsection, construction is considered to be commenced when the contract is executed and the contractor has accepted funds from the customer or lender. A contractor does not commit a violation of this subsection when the contractor relies on a building code interpretation rendered by a building official or person authorized by s. 553.80 to enforce the building code, absent a finding of fraud or deceit in the practice of contracting, or gross negligence, repeated negligence, or negligence resulting in a significant danger to life or property on the part of the building official, in a proceeding under chapter 120.

(5) The board may not reinstate the certification $\underline{\text{or}}_{\mathcal{T}}$ registration, or certificate of authority of, or cause a certificate $\underline{\text{or}}_{\mathcal{T}}$ registration, or certificate of authority to be issued to, a person who or business organization which the board has determined is unqualified or whose certificate $\underline{\text{or}}_{\mathcal{T}}$

4-00860B-09 20092262

registration, or certificate of authority the board has suspended until it is satisfied that such person or business organization has complied with all the terms and conditions set forth in the final order and is capable of competently engaging in the business of contracting.

(7) The board shall not issue or renew a certificate or_{τ} registration, or certificate of authority to any person or business organization that has been assessed a fine, interest, or costs associated with investigation and prosecution, or has been ordered to pay restitution, until such fine, interest, or costs associated with investigation and prosecution or restitution are paid in full or until all terms and conditions of the final order have been satisfied.

Section 20. Subsection (5) of section 489.132, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

489.132 Prohibited acts by unlicensed principals; investigation; hearing; penalties.—

(5) The department may suspend, revoke, or deny issuance or renewal of a certificate or registration, or certificate of authority for any individual or business organization that associates a person as an officer, director, or partner, or in a managerial or supervisory capacity, after such person has been found under a final order to have violated this section or was an officer, director, partner, trustee, or manager of a business organization disciplined by the board by revocation, suspension, or fine in excess of \$2,500, upon finding reasonable cause that such person knew or reasonably should have known of the conduct leading to the discipline.

Section 21. Subsection (5) of section 489.513, Florida

4-00860B-09 20092262

842 Statutes, is amended to read:

- 489.513 Registration; application; requirements.-
- (5) Registration permits the registrant to engage in contracting only in the area and for the type of work covered by the registration, unless local licenses are issued for other areas and types of work or unless certification is obtained. When a registrant desires to register in an additional area of the state, he or she shall first comply with any local requirements of that area and then file a request with the department, together with evidence of holding a current occupational license or license issued by the county or municipality for the area or areas in which he or she desires to be registered, whereupon his or her evidence of registration shall be endorsed by the department to reflect valid registration for the new area or areas.

Section 22. Subsections (8) through (22) of section 548.002, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (9) through (23), respectively, and a new subsection (8) is added to that section, to read:

548.002 Definitions.—As used in this chapter, the term:

(8) "Event" means one or more matches comprising a show.

Section 23. Paragraph (k) of subsection (2) of section 548.003, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

548.003 Florida State Boxing Commission. -

(2) The Florida State Boxing Commission, as created by subsection (1), shall administer the provisions of this chapter. The commission has authority to adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement the provisions of this chapter and to implement each of the duties and responsibilities

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4-00860B-09 20092262

conferred upon the commission, including, but not limited to:

(k) Establishment of criteria for approval, disapproval, suspension of approval, and revocation of approval of amateur sanctioning organizations for amateur boxing, and kickboxing, and mixed martial arts matches held in this state, including, but not limited to, the health and safety standards the organizations use before, during, and after the matches to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of the amateurs participating in the matches, including the qualifications and numbers of health care personnel required to be present, the qualifications required for referees, and other requirements relating to the health, safety, and well-being of the amateurs participating in the matches. The commission may adopt by rule, or incorporate by reference into rule, the health and safety standards of USA Boxing as the minimum health and safety standards for an amateur boxing sanctioning organization, and the health and safety standards of the International Sport Kickboxing Association as the minimum health and safety standards for an amateur kickboxing sanctioning organization and amateur mixed martial arts sanctioning organization. The commission shall review its rules for necessary revision at least every 2 years and may adopt by rule, or incorporate by reference into rule, the then-existing current health and safety standards of USA Boxing and the International Sport Kickboxing Association. The commission may adopt emergency rules to administer this paragraph.

Section 24. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to subsection (1) of section 455.227, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, paragraph (a) of subsection

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4-00860B-09 20092262

900 (2) of section 468.436, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read: 901 468.436 Disciplinary proceedings.—

- (2) The following acts constitute grounds for which the disciplinary actions in subsection (4) may be taken:
 - (a) Violation of any provision of s. 455.227(1).

Section 25. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to subsection (1) of section 455.227, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 468.832, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read: 468.832 Disciplinary proceedings.—

- (1) The following acts constitute grounds for which the disciplinary actions in subsection (2) may be taken:
- (a) Violation of any provision of this part or s. 455.227(1);

Section 26. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to subsection (1) of section 455.227, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 468.842, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read: 468.842 Disciplinary proceedings.—

- (1) The following acts constitute grounds for which the disciplinary actions in subsection (2) may be taken:
- (a) Violation of any provision of this part or s. 455.227(1);

Section 27. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to subsection (1) of section 455.227, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 471.033, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

- 471.033 Disciplinary proceedings.-
- (1) The following acts constitute grounds for which the

4-00860B-09 20092262

disciplinary actions in subsection (3) may be taken:

(a) Violating any provision of s. 455.227(1), s. 471.025, or s. 471.031, or any other provision of this chapter or rule of the board or department.

Section 28. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section (1) of section 455.227, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 472.033, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read: 472.033 Disciplinary proceedings.—

- (1) The following acts constitute grounds for which the disciplinary actions in subsection (2) may be taken:
- (a) Violation of any provision of s. 472.031 or s. 455.227(1);

Section 29. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to subsection (1) of section 455.227, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 473.323, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read: 473.323 Disciplinary proceedings.—

- (1) The following acts constitute grounds for which the disciplinary actions in subsection (3) may be taken:
- (a) Violation of any provision of s. 455.227(1) or any other provision of this chapter.

Section 30. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to subsection (1) of section 455.227, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 475.25, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read: 475.25 Discipline.—

(1) The commission may deny an application for licensure, registration, or permit, or renewal thereof; may place a

4-00860B-09 20092262

licensee, registrant, or permittee on probation; may suspend a license, registration, or permit for a period not exceeding 10 years; may revoke a license, registration, or permit; may impose an administrative fine not to exceed \$5,000 for each count or separate offense; and may issue a reprimand, and any or all of the foregoing, if it finds that the licensee, registrant, permittee, or applicant:

(a) Has violated any provision of s. 455.227(1) or s. 475.42. However, licensees under this part are exempt from the provisions of s. 455.227(1) (i).

Section 31. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to subsection (1) of section 455.227, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, subsection (1) of section 475.624, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

475.624 Discipline.—The board may deny an application for registration or certification; may investigate the actions of any appraiser registered, licensed, or certified under this part; may reprimand or impose an administrative fine not to exceed \$5,000 for each count or separate offense against any such appraiser; and may revoke or suspend, for a period not to exceed 10 years, the registration, license, or certification of any such appraiser, or place any such appraiser on probation, if it finds that the registered trainee, licensee, or certificateholder:

(1) Has violated any provisions of this part or s. 455.227(1); however, certificateholders, registrants, and licensees under this part are exempt from the provisions of s. 455.227(1)(i).

Section 32. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment

4-00860B-09 20092262

made by this act to subsection (1) of section 455.227, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, paragraph (h) of subsection (1) of section 476.204, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

476.204 Penalties.-

- (1) It is unlawful for any person to:
- (h) Violate any provision of s. 455.227(1), s. 476.194, or s. 476.214.

Section 33. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to subsection (1) of section 455.227, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, paragraph (h) of subsection (1) of section 477.029, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

477.029 Penalty.-

- (1) It is unlawful for any person to:
- (h) Violate any provision of s. 455.227(1), s. 477.0265, or s. 477.028.

Section 34. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to subsection (1) of section 455.227, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 481.225, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

481.225 Disciplinary proceedings against registered architects.—

- (1) The following acts constitute grounds for which the disciplinary actions in subsection (3) may be taken:
- (a) Violating any provision of s. 455.227(1), s. 481.221, or s. 481.223, or any rule of the board or department lawfully adopted pursuant to this part or chapter 455.

Section 35. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to subsection (1) of section 455.227, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, paragraph (a) of subsection

4-00860B-09 20092262

1016 (1) of section 481.325, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:
1017 481.325 Disciplinary proceedings.—

- (1) The following acts constitute grounds for which the disciplinary actions in subsection (3) may be taken:
- (a) Violation of any provision of s. 455.227(1), s. 481.321, or s. 481.323.

Section 36. Section 509.201, Florida Statutes, is repealed. Section 37. Section 509.233, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

509.233 Public food service establishment requirements; local exemption for dogs in designated outdoor portions; pilot program.—

- (1) INTENT.—It is the intent of the Legislature by this section to establish a 3-year pilot program for local governments to allow patrons' dogs within certain designated outdoor portions of public food service establishments.
- (1)-(2) LOCAL EXEMPTION AUTHORIZED.—Notwithstanding s. 509.032(7), the governing body of a local government participating in the pilot program is authorized to establish, by ordinance, a local exemption procedure to certain provisions of the Food and Drug Administration Food Code, as currently adopted by the division, in order to allow patrons' dogs within certain designated outdoor portions of public food service establishments.
 - (2) (3) LOCAL DISCRETION; CODIFICATION.
- (a) The adoption of the local exemption procedure shall be at the sole discretion of the governing body of a participating local government. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require or compel a local governing body to adopt an ordinance

4-00860B-09 20092262

1045 pursuant to this section.

- (b) Any ordinance adopted pursuant to this section shall provide for codification within the land development code of a participating local government.
 - (3) (4) LIMITATIONS ON EXEMPTION; PERMIT REQUIREMENTS.—
- (a) Any local exemption procedure adopted pursuant to this section shall only provide a variance to those portions of the currently adopted Food and Drug Administration Food Code in order to allow patrons' dogs within certain designated outdoor portions of public food service establishments.
- (b) In order to protect the health, safety, and general welfare of the public, the local exemption procedure shall require participating public food service establishments to apply for and receive a permit from the governing body of the local government before allowing patrons' dogs on their premises. The local government shall require from the applicant such information as the local government deems reasonably necessary to enforce the provisions of this section, but shall require, at a minimum, the following information:
- 1. The name, location, and mailing address of the public food service establishment.
- 2. The name, mailing address, and telephone contact information of the permit applicant.
- 3. A diagram and description of the outdoor area to be designated as available to patrons' dogs, including dimensions of the designated area; a depiction of the number and placement of tables, chairs, and restaurant equipment, if any; the entryways and exits to the designated outdoor area; the boundaries of the designated area and of other areas of outdoor

4-00860B-09 20092262

dining not available for patrons' dogs; any fences or other barriers; surrounding property lines and public rights-of-way, including sidewalks and common pathways; and such other information reasonably required by the permitting authority. The diagram or plan shall be accurate and to scale but need not be prepared by a licensed design professional.

- 4. A description of the days of the week and hours of operation that patrons' dogs will be permitted in the designated outdoor area.
- (c) In order to protect the health, safety, and general welfare of the public, the local exemption ordinance shall include such regulations and limitations as deemed necessary by the participating local government and shall include, but not be limited to, the following requirements:
- 1. All public food service establishment employees shall wash their hands promptly after touching, petting, or otherwise handling dogs. Employees shall be prohibited from touching, petting, or otherwise handling dogs while serving food or beverages or handling tableware or before entering other parts of the public food service establishment.
- 2. Patrons in a designated outdoor area shall be advised that they should wash their hands before eating. Waterless hand sanitizer shall be provided at all tables in the designated outdoor area.
- 3. Employees and patrons shall be instructed that they shall not allow dogs to come into contact with serving dishes, utensils, tableware, linens, paper products, or any other items involved in food service operations.
 - 4. Patrons shall keep their dogs on a leash at all times

4-00860B-09 20092262

1103 and shall keep their dogs under reasonable control.

5. Dogs shall not be allowed on chairs, tables, or other furnishings.

- 6. All table and chair surfaces shall be cleaned and sanitized with an approved product between seating of patrons. Spilled food and drink shall be removed from the floor or ground between seating of patrons.
- 7. Accidents involving dog waste shall be cleaned immediately and the area sanitized with an approved product. A kit with the appropriate materials for this purpose shall be kept near the designated outdoor area.
- 8. A sign or signs reminding employees of the applicable rules shall be posted on premises in a manner and place as determined by the local permitting authority.
- 9. A sign or signs reminding patrons of the applicable rules shall be posted on premises in a manner and place as determined by the local permitting authority.
- 10. A sign or signs shall be posted in a manner and place as determined by the local permitting authority that places the public on notice that the designated outdoor area is available for the use of patrons and patrons' dogs.
- 11. Dogs shall not be permitted to travel through indoor or nondesignated outdoor portions of the public food service establishment, and ingress and egress to the designated outdoor portions of the public food service establishment must not require entrance into or passage through any indoor area of the food establishment.
- (d) A permit issued pursuant to this section shall not be transferred to a subsequent owner upon the sale of a public food

4-00860B-09 20092262

service establishment but shall expire automatically upon the sale of the establishment. The subsequent owner shall be required to reapply for a permit pursuant to this section if the subsequent owner wishes to continue to accommodate patrons' dogs.

- $\underline{(4)}$ FOWERS; ENFORCEMENT.—Participating local governments shall have such powers as are reasonably necessary to regulate and enforce the provisions of this section.
- (5)(6) STATE AND LOCAL COOPERATION.—The division shall provide reasonable assistance to participating local governments in the development of enforcement procedures and regulations, and participating local governments shall monitor permitholders for compliance in cooperation with the division. At a minimum, participating local governments shall establish a procedure to accept, document, and respond to complaints and to timely report to the division all such complaints and the participating local governments' enforcement responses to such complaints. A participating local government shall provide the division with a copy of all approved applications and permits issued, and the participating local government shall require that all applications, permits, and other related materials contain the appropriate division—issued license number for each public food service establishment.
- (7) FUTURE REVIEW AND REPEAL.—This section shall expire July 1, 2009, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.
 - Section 38. This act shall take effect October 1, 2009.