CS/HB 735 2009

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to financial responsibility; amending s. 324.023, F.S.; requiring a person who has been found guilty of or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to a felony traffic offense or had a mandatory revocation of his or her driving privilege to maintain a certain amount of security or insurance for liability coverage of accidents involving the use of a motor vehicle; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 324.023, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

324.023 Financial responsibility for bodily injury or death.—In addition to any other financial responsibility required by law, every owner or operator of a motor vehicle that is required to be registered in this state, or that is located within this state, and who, regardless of adjudication of guilt, has been found guilty of or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to a charge of driving under the influence under s. 316.193 after October 1, 2007, or, after October 1, 2009, has been found guilty of or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to a felony traffic offense or had a mandatory

shall, by one of the methods established in s. 324.031(1), (2), or (3), establish and maintain the ability to respond in damages

revocation of his or her driving privilege under s. 322.26

for liability on account of accidents arising out of the use of

Page 1 of 2

CS/HB 735 2009

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a motor vehicle in the amount of \$100,000 because of bodily injury to, or death of, one person in any one crash and, subject to such limits for one person, in the amount of \$300,000 because of bodily injury to, or death of, two or more persons in any one crash and in the amount of \$50,000 because of property damage in any one crash. If the owner or operator chooses to establish and maintain such ability by posting a bond or furnishing a certificate of deposit pursuant to s. 324.031(2) or (3), such bond or certificate of deposit must be in an amount not less than \$350,000. Such higher limits must be carried for a minimum period of 3 years. If the owner or operator has not been convicted of driving under the influence or a felony traffic offense for a period of 3 years after from the date of reinstatement of driving privileges for a violation of s. 316.193, the owner or operator shall be exempt from this section.

Section 2. This act shall take effect January 1, 2010.