

By Senator Altman

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the regulation of hoisting
3 equipment used in construction, demolition, or
4 excavation work; creating s. 489.1138, F.S.; defining
5 the terms "hoisting equipment," "mobile crane," and
6 "tower crane"; requiring an applicant for a building
7 permit to submit certain information to a local
8 building official; requiring radio communications
9 between certain crane operators; requiring certain
10 preparations for a hurricane or high-wind event;
11 requiring a preparedness plan for certain cranes;
12 requiring that hoisting equipment be secured in a
13 specified manner under certain circumstances;
14 providing penalties for violation of the act by
15 certain licensed contractors; preempting regulation of
16 hoisting equipment and persons operating the equipment
17 to the state; providing that the act does not apply to
18 the regulation of elevators; providing an effective
19 date.

20
21 WHEREAS, cranes, derricks, hoists, elevators, and conveyors
22 used in construction, demolition, or excavation work are
23 currently regulated under federal rules adopted by the
24 Occupational Safety and Health Administration in 29 C.F.R. parts
25 1910 and 1926, and

26 WHEREAS, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration
27 has conducted a thorough and exhaustive review of these rules in
28 an effort to better protect against the hazards presented by
29 these types of hoisting equipment, and

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30 WHEREAS, the review conducted by the Occupational Safety
31 and Health Administration was undertaken in consultation with
32 many of the most knowledgeable engineering, construction, and
33 safety experts in the nation and in the world, and

34 WHEREAS, this review has culminated in the production of
35 proposed rules setting forth comprehensive and detailed new
36 regulations applicable to cranes, derricks, hoists, elevators,
37 and conveyors, and to the operators of these types of hoisting
38 equipment, as published in the Federal Register on October 9,
39 2008, and

40 WHEREAS, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration
41 should be commended and supported in these efforts, and

42 WHEREAS, cranes, derricks, hoists, elevators, and conveyors
43 are routinely transported across city, county, and state lines,
44 making uniform federal regulation of these types of hoisting
45 equipment and their operators essential to commerce, to
46 Florida's economic competitiveness, and to minimizing
47 construction costs in our state, and

48 WHEREAS, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration
49 has recently entered into a strategic alliance with the
50 Associated Builders and Contractors of Florida, the South
51 Florida Chapter of the Associated General Contractors of
52 America, the Construction Association of South Florida, and the
53 Florida Crane Owners Council to improve crane safety, NOW,
54 THEREFORE,

55
56 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

57
58 Section 1. Section 489.1138, Florida Statutes, is created

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59 to read:

60 489.1138 Regulation of hoisting equipment used in
61 construction, demolition, or excavation work.-

62 (1) As used in this section, the term:

63 (a) "Hoisting equipment" means power-operated cranes,
64 derricks, hoists, elevators, and conveyors used in construction,
65 demolition, or excavation work that are regulated by the
66 Occupational Safety and Health Administration under 29 C.F.R.
67 parts 1910 and 1926.

68 (b) "Mobile crane" means a type of hoisting equipment
69 incorporating a cable-suspended latticed boom or hydraulic
70 telescoping boom designed to be moved between operating
71 locations by transport over a roadway. The term does not include
72 a mobile crane with a boom length of less than 25 feet or a
73 maximum rated load capacity of less than 15,000 pounds.

74 (c) "Tower crane" means a type of hoisting equipment using
75 a vertical mast or tower to support a working boom in an
76 elevated position, where the working boom can rotate to move
77 loads laterally either by rotating at the top of the mast or
78 tower or by the rotation of the mast or tower itself, whether
79 the mast or tower base is fixed in one location or ballasted and
80 moveable between locations.

81 (2) An applicant for a building permit for construction,
82 demolition, or excavation work involving the use of a tower
83 crane or mobile crane must submit to the local building official
84 of the appropriate county, municipality, or other political
85 subdivision:

86 (a) A site plan accurately identifying the location of the
87 crane, clearances from above-ground power lines, the location of

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88 adjacent buildings, and the structural foundation of the crane.

89 (b) Documentation of compliance with the requirements of
90 all governmental authorities related to operation of the crane
91 on the work site, including compliance with the lighting
92 requirements of the Federal Aviation Administration.

93 (3) When two or more tower cranes or mobile cranes are
94 operating within the same swing radius, there must be at all
95 times a clear, independent, and operable channel of radio
96 communications between the persons operating the cranes.

97 (4) (a) When a tower crane or mobile crane is located on a
98 work site, a hurricane and high-wind event preparedness plan for
99 the crane must be available for inspection at the site.

100 (b) In preparation for a hurricane or high-wind event,
101 hoisting equipment must be secured in the following manner:

102 1. All hoisting equipment must be secured in compliance
103 with manufacturer recommendations relating to hurricane and
104 high-wind events, including any recommendations relating to the
105 placement, use, and removal of advertising banners and rigging.

106 2. Tower crane turntables must be lubricated before the
107 event.

108 3. Fixed booms on mobile cranes must be laid down whenever
109 feasible.

110 4. Booms on hydraulic cranes must be retracted and stored.

111 5. The counterweights of any hoists must be locked below
112 the top tie-in.

113 6. Tower cranes must be set in the weathervane position.

114 7. All rigging must be removed from hoist blocks.

115 8. All power at the base of tower cranes must be
116 disconnected.

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117 (5) A person licensed under this part who intentionally
118 violates this section is subject to discipline under ss. 455.227
119 and 489.129.

120 (6) This section preempts any local act, law, ordinance, or
121 regulation, including, but not limited to, a local building code
122 or building permit requirement, of a county, municipality, or
123 other political subdivision that pertains to the regulation of
124 hoisting equipment and persons operating the equipment in the
125 state.

126 (7) This section does not apply to the regulation of
127 elevators under chapter 399.

128 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.