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By the Committee on Banking and Insurance

597-04477-13 20131888

A bill to be entitled An act relating to motor vehicle liability insurance; amending s. 316.646, F.S.; authorizing the use of an electronic device to provide proof of insurance; authorizing the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to adopt rules; amending s. 324.011, F.S.; revising legislative intent with respect to financial responsibility for the damages caused by the operation of a motor vehicle; amending ss. 324.021 and 324.022, F.S.; increasing financial responsibility limits with respect to bodily injury or death; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 324.0221, F.S.; requiring insurers to submit information to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles and to notify insureds about bodily injury insurance rather than personal injury protection coverage; amending s. 324.023, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 324.031, F.S.; deleting the requirement that the owner of a for-hire vehicle post a bond to prove financial responsibility; increasing the financial responsibility limits for motor vehicle liability; amending s. 324.071, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 324.161, F.S.; increasing the amount required for a surety bond or deposit; amending s. 324.171, F.S.; revising the required threshold limit for self-insurers; repealing s. 627.730, F.S., providing citation to the Florida

Motor Vehicle No-Fault Law; repealing s. 627.731,

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F.S., relating to the purpose of the No-Fault Law; repealing s. 627.7311, F.S., relating to the effect of law on personal injury protection policies; amending s. 627.732, F.S.; deleting definitions relating to the no-fault law; amending s. 627.733, F.S.; deleting security requirements with respect to no-fault coverage to substitute security requirements under ch. 324, F.S.; amending s. 627.734, F.S.; conforming cross-references; renumbering and amending s. 627.7401, F.S.; applying notice requirements to bodily injury and property damage liability security instead of personal injury protection; creating s. 627.7355, F.S.; requiring all claims relating to personal injury to be brought in a single action; repealing s. 627.736, F.S., relating to personal injury protection benefits; repealing s. 627.737, F.S., relating to exemption from tort liability for persons maintaining personal injury protection coverage; repealing s. 627.739, F.S., relating to personal injury protection deductibles; repealing s. 627.7403, F.S., relating to the mandatory joinder of derivative claims; repealing s. 627.7405, F.S., relating to the insurers' right of reimbursement; repealing s. 627.7407, F.S., relating to the application of the No-Fault Law; repealing ss. 15 and 16 of chapter 2012-197, Laws of Florida, requiring the Office of Insurance Regulation to contract for a study and perform a data call relating to changes made to the No-Fault Law in 2012; amending ss. 318.18, 320.02, 320.0609, 320.27, 320.771,

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322.251, 400.9905, 400.991, 400.9935, 409.901, 409.910, 456.057, 456.072, 626.9541, 626.989, 626.9895, 627.06501, 627.0652, 627.0653, 627.4132, 627.6482, 627.7263, 627.727, 627.7275, 627.728, 627.7295, 627.8405, 627.915, 628.909, 705.184, 713.78, and 817.234 F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act by removing references to personal injury protection and the Florida Motor Vehicle No-Fault Law; making technical changes; conforming crossreferences; providing for the termination of personal injury protection policies and the requirement for maintaining minimum security requirements that allow a person to respond to property damage and bodily injury by a certain date; requiring the insurer to notify the insured about such changes by a certain date; providing for applicability of suspensions for failure to maintain security; providing effective dates.

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

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Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 316.646, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (5) is added to that section, to read:

316.646 Security required; proof of security and display thereof; dismissal of cases.—

(1) Any person required by s. 324.022 to maintain property damage liability security and, required by s. 324.023 to maintain liability security for bodily injury or death must, or required by s. 627.733 to maintain personal injury protection

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security on a motor vehicle shall have in his or her immediate possession at all times while operating  $\underline{a}$  such motor vehicle proper proof of maintenance of the required security.

- (a) Such proof <u>must</u> shall be <u>in</u> a uniform <u>paper or</u> electronic format, as <u>proof-of-insurance card in a form</u> prescribed by the department, <u>or</u> a valid insurance policy, an insurance policy binder, a certificate of insurance, or such other proof as may be prescribed by the department.
- (b) The act of presenting to a law enforcement officer an electronic device that displays proof of insurance in an electronic format does not constitute consent for the officer to access any other information on the device. The person who presents the device to the officer assumes liability for any resulting damage to the device.
- (5) The department shall adopt rules to administer this section.

Section 2. Section 324.011, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

324.011 Legislative intent and purpose of chapter.—It is the intent of this chapter that the privilege of owning and operating a motor vehicle be exercised to recognize the existing privilege to own or operate a motor vehicle on the public streets and highways of this state when such vehicles are used with due consideration for others and their property in order, and to promote safety and provide financial security requirements for such owners or operators whose responsibility it is to recompense others for injury to person or property caused by the operation of a motor vehicle. Therefore, this chapter requires it is required herein that the owner or

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operator of a motor vehicle establish and maintain the ability to involved in a crash or convicted of certain traffic offenses meeting the operative provisions of s. 324.051(2) shall respond in for such damages and show proof of financial ability to respond for damages arising out of the use of a motor vehicle in future accidents as a requisite to his or her future exercise of such privileges.

Section 3. Subsections (1) and (7) of section 324.021, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

324.021 Definitions; minimum insurance required.—The following words and phrases when used in this chapter shall, for the purpose of this chapter, have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this section, except in those instances where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

- which is designed and required to be licensed for use upon a highway, including trailers and semitrailers designed for use with such vehicles, except <u>for</u> traction engines, road rollers, farm tractors, power shovels, and well drillers, and <u>a every</u> vehicle <u>that</u> which is propelled by electric power obtained from overhead wires but not operated upon rails, but not including <u>a any</u> bicycle or moped. However, the term "motor vehicle" shall not include any motor vehicle as defined in s. 627.732(3) when the owner of such vehicle has complied with the requirements of ss. 627.730-627.7405, inclusive, unless the provisions of s. 324.051 apply; and, in such case, the applicable proof of insurance provisions of s. 320.02 apply.
- (7) PROOF OF FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY.—That Proof of ability to respond in damages for liability on account of

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146 crashes arising out of the use of a motor vehicle:

(a) In the amount of \$25,000 for \$10,000 because of bodily injury to, or the death of, one person in any one crash;

- (b) Subject to the such limits for one person under paragraph (a), in the amount of \$50,000 for \$20,000 because of bodily injury to, or the death of, two or more persons in any one crash;
- (c) In the amount of \$10,000  $\underline{\text{for damage}}$  because of injury to, or destruction of,  $\underline{\text{the}}$  property of others in any one crash; and
- (d) With respect to commercial motor vehicles and nonpublic sector buses, in the amounts specified in ss. 627.7415 and 627.742, respectively.

Section 4. Section 324.022, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

324.022 Financial responsibility  $\underline{\text{requirements}}$  for property damage.

- (1) (a) The Every owner or operator of a motor vehicle required to be registered in this state shall establish and maintain the ability to respond in damages for liability on account of accidents arising out of the use of the motor vehicle in the amount of:
- $\underline{1.}$  Ten thousand dollars for  $\underline{\$10,000}$  because of damage to, or destruction of, property of others in any one crash.
- 2. Twenty-five thousand dollar for bodily injury to, or the death of, one person in any one crash and, subject to such limits for one person, in the amount of \$50,000 for bodily injury to, or the death of, two or more persons in any one crash.

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(b) The requirements of this section may be met by one of the methods established in s. 324.031; by self-insuring as authorized by s. 768.28(16); or by maintaining an insurance policy providing coverage in at least the amounts for bodily injury liability coverage and property damage coverage specified in paragraph (a) for property damage liability in the amount of at least \$10,000 because of damage to, or destruction of, property of others in any one accident arising out of the use of the motor vehicle. The requirements of this section may also be met by having a policy that which provides coverage in the amount of at least \$60,000 \$30,000 for combined property damage liability and bodily injury liability for any one crash arising out of the use of the motor vehicle.

- (c) The policy, with respect to coverage for property damage liability and bodily injury liability, must meet the applicable requirements of s. 324.151, subject to the usual policy exclusions that have been approved in policy forms by the Office of Insurance Regulation.
- (d) An No insurer does not shall have a any duty to defend uncovered claims regardless irrespective of their joinder with covered claims.
  - (2) As used in this section, the term:
- (a) "Motor vehicle" means <u>a</u> any self-propelled vehicle that has four or more wheels and that is of a type designed and required to be licensed for use on the highways of this state, and any trailer or semitrailer designed for use with such vehicle. The term does not include:
  - 1. A mobile home.
  - 2. A motor vehicle that is used in mass transit and

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designed to transport more than five passengers, exclusive of the operator of the motor vehicle, and that is owned by a municipality, transit authority, or political subdivision of the state.

- 3. A school bus as defined in s. 1006.25.
- 4. A vehicle providing for-hire transportation that is subject to the provisions of s. 324.031. The owner of a taxicab shall maintain security as required under s. 324.032(1).
- (b) "Owner" means the person who holds legal title to a motor vehicle or the debtor or lessee who has the right to possession of a motor vehicle that is the subject of a security agreement or lease with an option to purchase.
- (3) Each nonresident owner or registrant of a motor vehicle that, whether operated or not, has been physically present within this state for more than 90 days during the preceding 365 days shall maintain security as required by subsection (1) which that is in effect continuously throughout the period the motor vehicle remains within this state.
- (4) An The owner or registrant of a motor vehicle who is exempt from the requirements of this section if she or he is a member of the United States Armed Forces and is called to or on active duty outside the United States in an emergency situation is exempt from this section. The exemption provided by this subsection applies only as long as the member of the armed forces is on such active duty outside the United States and applies only while the vehicle covered by the security is not operated by any person. Upon receipt of a written request by the insured to whom the exemption provided in this subsection applies, the insurer shall cancel the coverages and return any

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unearned premium or suspend the security required by this section. Notwithstanding s. 324.0221(2) 324.0221(3), the department may not suspend the registration or operator's license of an any owner or registrant of a motor vehicle during the time she or he qualifies for the an exemption under this subsection. An Any owner or registrant of a motor vehicle who qualifies for the an exemption under this subsection shall immediately notify the department before prior to and at the end of the expiration of the exemption.

Section 5. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 324.0221, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

324.0221 Reports by insurers to the department; suspension of driver's license and vehicle registrations; reinstatement.—

(1) (a) Each insurer that has issued a policy providing bodily injury liability personal injury protection coverage or property damage liability coverage shall report the renewal, cancellation, or nonrenewal thereof to the department within 45 days after the effective date of each renewal, cancellation, or nonrenewal. Upon the issuance of a policy providing bodily injury liability personal injury protection coverage or property damage liability coverage to a named insured not previously insured by the insurer during that calendar year, the insurer shall report the issuance of the new policy to the department within 10 30 days. The report must shall be in the form and format and contain any information required by the department and must be provided in a format that is compatible with the data processing capabilities of the department. The department may adopt rules regarding the form and documentation required. Failure by an insurer to file proper reports with the department

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as required by this subsection or <u>related</u> rules <del>adopted with</del> respect to the requirements of this subsection constitutes a violation of the Florida Insurance Code. These records shall be used by the department only for enforcement and regulatory purposes, including the generation by the department of data regarding compliance by owners of motor vehicles with the requirements for financial responsibility coverage.

- (b) With respect to an insurance policy that provides providing bodily injury liability personal injury protection coverage or property damage liability coverage, each insurer shall notify the named insured, or the first-named insured in the case of a commercial fleet policy, in writing that any cancellation or nonrenewal of the policy will be reported by the insurer to the department. The notice must also inform the named insured that failure to maintain bodily injury liability personal injury protection coverage and property damage liability coverage on a motor vehicle when required by law may result in the loss of registration and driving privileges in this state and inform the named insured of the amount of the reinstatement fees required by this section. This notice is for informational purposes only, and an insurer is not civilly liable for failing to provide this notice.
- (2) The department shall suspend, after due notice and an opportunity to be heard, the registration and <u>driver driver's</u> license of any owner or registrant of a motor vehicle with respect to which security is required under ss. 324.022 and 627.733 upon:
- (a) The department's records showing that the owner or registrant of such motor vehicle did not have the in full force

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and effect when required security in full force and effect that complies with the requirements of ss. 324.022 and 627.733; or

(b) Notification by the insurer to the department, in a form approved by the department, of cancellation or termination of the required security.

Section 6. 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 quilty of or entered a plea of quilty or nolo contendere to a charge of driving under the influence under s. 316.193 after October 1, 2007, shall, by one of the methods established in s. 324.031(1) or, (2), or (3), establish and maintain the ability to respond in damages for liability on account of accidents arising out of the use of 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

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influence or a felony traffic offense for a period of 3 years from the date of reinstatement of driving privileges for a violation of s. 316.193, the owner or operator is shall be exempt from this section.

Section 7. Section 324.031, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 324.031 Manner of proving financial responsibility.—The owner or operator of a taxicab, limousine, jitney, or any other for-hire passenger transportation vehicle may prove financial responsibility by providing satisfactory evidence of holding a motor vehicle liability policy as defined in s. 324.021(8) or s. 324.151, which policy is issued by an insurance carrier that which is a member of the Florida Insurance Guaranty Association. The operator or owner of any other vehicle may prove his or her financial responsibility by:
- (1) Furnishing satisfactory evidence of holding  $\underline{\text{such}}$   $\underline{\text{a}}$  motor vehicle liability policy  $\underline{\text{as defined in ss. } 324.021(8)}$  and  $\underline{324.151}$ ;
- (2) Posting with the department a satisfactory bond of a surety company authorized to do business in this state, conditioned for payment of the amount specified in s. 324.021(7);
- (2) (3) Furnishing a certificate of self insurance the department showing a deposit of cash or securities in accordance with s. 324.161; or
- (3) (4) Furnishing a certificate of self-insurance issued by the department in accordance with s. 324.171.

Any person, including  $\underline{a}$   $\underline{any}$  firm, partnership, association,

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corporation, or other person, other than a natural person, electing to use the method of proof specified in subsection (2) or subsection (3) shall post a bond or deposit equal to the number of vehicles owned times \$60,000 \$30,000, up to a maximum of \$240,000. \$120,000; In addition, any such person, other than a natural person, shall maintain insurance providing coverage in excess of limits of \$25,000/50,000/10,000 \$10,000/20,000/10,000 or \$60,000 \$30,000 combined single limits, and such excess insurance must shall provide minimum limits of \$125,000/250,000/50,000 or \$300,000 combined single limits. These increased limits do shall not affect the requirements for proving financial responsibility under s. 324.032(1).

Section 8. Section 324.071, Florida Statutes, is amended to

Section 8. Section 324.071, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

324.071 Reinstatement; renewal of license; reinstatement fee.—An Any operator or owner whose license or registration has been suspended pursuant to s. 324.051(2), s. 324.072, s. 324.081, or s. 324.121 may effect its reinstatement upon compliance with the provisions of s. 324.051(2)(a)3. or 4., or s. 324.081(2) and (3), as the case may be, and with one of the provisions of s. 324.031 and upon payment to the department of a nonrefundable reinstatement fee as specified in s. 324.0221 of \$15. Only one such fee shall be paid by any one person regardless irrespective of the number of licenses and registrations to be then reinstated or issued to such person. All such fees shall be deposited to a department trust fund. If When the reinstatement of any license or registration is effected by compliance with s. 324.051(2)(a)3. or 4., the department may shall not renew the license or registration

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within a period of 3 years after from such reinstatement, nor may shall any other license or registration be issued in the name of such person, unless the operator continues is continuing to comply with one of the provisions of s. 324.031.

Section 9. Section 324.161, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

324.161 Proof of financial responsibility; surety bond or deposit.—A The certificate of the department of a deposit issued by the department may be obtained by depositing \$60,000 in with it \$30,000 cash or in securities that such as may be legally purchased by savings banks or for trust funds which have, of a market value of \$60,000 \$30,000 and which deposit shall be held by the department to satisfy, in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, any execution on a judgment issued against such person making the deposit, for damages for because of bodily injury to or death of any person or for damages or because of injury to, or destruction of, property resulting from the use or operation of any motor vehicle occurring after such deposit was made. Money or securities so deposited are shall not be subject to attachment or execution unless such attachment or execution arises shall arise out of a suit for such damages as aforesaid.

Section 10. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 324.171, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

324.171 Self-insurer.-

(1) A Any person may qualify as a self-insurer by obtaining a certificate of self-insurance from the department. which may, in its discretion and Upon application of such a person, the department may issue a said certificate if the applicant of self-insurance when such person has satisfied the requirements

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of this section to qualify as a self-insurer under this section:

- (a) A private individual with private passenger vehicles  $\underline{\text{must}}$  shall possess a net unencumbered worth of at least  $\underline{\$60,000}$   $\underline{\$40,000}$ .
- (b) A person, including any firm, partnership, association, corporation, or other person, other than a natural person, <u>must</u> shall:
- 1. Possess a net unencumbered worth of at least  $\frac{$60,000}{}$   $\frac{$40,000}{}$  for the first motor vehicle and  $\frac{$30,000}{}$   $\frac{$20,000}{}$  for each additional motor vehicle; or
- 2. Maintain sufficient net worth, as determined annually by the department, pursuant to rules adopted promulgated by the department, with the assistance of the Office of Insurance Regulation of the Financial Services Commission, to be financially responsible for potential losses. The rules must consider any shall take into consideration excess insurance carried by the applicant. The department's determination shall be based upon reasonable actuarial principles considering the frequency, severity, and loss development of claims incurred by casualty insurers writing coverage on the type of motor vehicles for which a certificate of self-insurance is desired.
- (c) The owner of a commercial motor vehicle, as defined in s. 207.002(2) or s. 320.01, may qualify as a self-insurer subject to the standards provided for in subparagraph (b)2.
- (2) The self-insurance certificate <u>must</u> shall provide limits of liability insurance in the amounts specified under s. 324.021(7) or s. 627.7415 and shall provide personal injury protection coverage under s. 627.733(3)(b).
  - Section 11. Section 627.730, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

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436 Section 12. Section 627.731, Florida Statutes, is repealed. 437 Section 13. Section 627.7311, Florida Statutes, is 438 repealed. Section 14. Section 627.732, Florida Statutes, is reordered 439 440 and amended to read: 441 627.732 Definitions.—As used in ss. 627.733-627.7355 442 627.730-627.7405, the term: 443 (1) "Broker" means any person not possessing a license under chapter 395, chapter 400, chapter 429, chapter 458, 444 chapter 459, chapter 460, chapter 461, or chapter 641 who 445 446 charges or receives compensation for any use of medical equipment and is not the 100-percent owner or the 100-percent 447 448 lessee of such equipment. For purposes of this section, such owner or lessee may be an individual, a corporation, a 449 partnership, or any other entity and any of its 100-percent-450 451 owned affiliates and subsidiaries. For purposes of this 452 subsection, the term "lessee" means a long-term lessee under a 453 capital or operating lease, but does not include a part-time 454 lessee. The term "broker" does not include a hospital or 455 physician management company whose medical equipment is 456 ancillary to the practices managed, a debt collection agency, or 457 an entity that has contracted with the insurer to obtain a discounted rate for such services; nor does the term include a 458 459 management company that has contracted to provide general 460 management services for a licensed physician or health care 461 facility and whose compensation is not materially affected by 462 the usage or frequency of usage of medical equipment or an 463 entity that is 100-percent owned by one or more hospitals or 464 physicians. The term "broker" does not include a person or

597-04477-13 20131888 465 entity that certifies, upon request of an insurer, that: 466 (a) It is a clinic licensed under ss. 400.990-400.995; 467 (b) It is a 100-percent owner of medical equipment; and (c) The owner's only part-time lease of medical equipment 468 for personal injury protection patients is on a temporary basis 469 470 not to exceed 30 days in a 12-month period, and such lease is 471 solely for the purposes of necessary repair or maintenance of 472 the 100-percent-owned medical equipment or pending the arrival 473 and installation of the newly purchased or a replacement for the 474 100-percent-owned medical equipment, or for patients for whom, 475 because of physical size or claustrophobia, it is determined by 476 the medical director or clinical director to be medically necessary that the test be performed in medical equipment that 477 478 is open-style. The leased medical equipment cannot be used by 479 patients who are not patients of the registered clinic for 480 medical treatment of services. Any person or entity making a 481 false certification under this subsection commits insurance 482 fraud as defined in s. 817.234. However, the 30-day period 483 provided in this paragraph may be extended for an additional 60 484 days as applicable to magnetic resonance imaging equipment if 485 the owner certifies that the extension otherwise complies with 486 this paragraph. (2) "Medically necessary" refers to a medical service or 487 488 supply that a prudent physician would provide for the purpose of 489 preventing, diagnosing, or treating an illness, injury, disease, 490 or symptom in a manner that is: 491 (a) In accordance with generally accepted standards of medical practice; 492

(b) Clinically appropriate in terms of type, frequency,

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extent, site, and duration; and

- (c) Not primarily for the convenience of the patient, physician, or other health care provider.
- (2) (3) "Motor vehicle" means any self-propelled vehicle
  that with four or more wheels which is of a type both designed
  and required to be licensed for use on the highways of this
  state and any trailer or semitrailer designed for use with such
  vehicle and includes:
- (a) A "private passenger motor vehicle," which is any motor vehicle which is a sedan, station wagon, or jeep-type vehicle and, if not used primarily for occupational, professional, or business purposes, a motor vehicle of the pickup, panel, van, camper, or motor home type.
- (b) A "commercial motor vehicle," which is any motor vehicle which is not a private passenger motor vehicle.

The term "motor vehicle" does not include a mobile home or any motor vehicle which is used in mass transit, other than public school transportation, and designed to transport more than five passengers exclusive of the operator of the motor vehicle and which is owned by a municipality, a transit authority, or a political subdivision of the state.

- (4) "Named insured" means a person, usually the owner of a vehicle, identified in a policy by name as the insured under the policy.
- (3) (5) "Owner" means a person who holds the legal title to a motor vehicle; or, in the event a motor vehicle is the subject of a security agreement or lease with an option to purchase with the debtor or lessee having the right to possession, then the

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debtor or lessee shall be deemed the owner for the purposes of  $\frac{627.730-627.7405}{627.7405}$ .

- (6) "Relative residing in the same household" means a relative of any degree by blood or by marriage who usually makes her or his home in the same family unit, whether or not temporarily living elsewhere.
- (7) "Certify" means to swear or attest to being true or represented in writing.
- (8) "Immediate personal supervision," as it relates to the performance of medical services by nonphysicians not in a hospital, means that an individual licensed to perform the medical service or provide the medical supplies must be present within the confines of the physical structure where the medical services are performed or where the medical supplies are provided such that the licensed individual can respond immediately to any emergencies if needed.
- (9) "Incident," with respect to services considered as incident to a physician's professional service, for a physician licensed under chapter 458, chapter 459, chapter 460, or chapter 461, if not furnished in a hospital, means such services must be an integral, even if incidental, part of a covered physician's service.
- (1) (10) "Knowingly" means that a person, with respect to information, has actual knowledge of the information; acts in deliberate ignorance of the truth or falsity of the information; or acts in reckless disregard of the information, and proof of specific intent to defraud is not required.
- (11) "Lawful" or "lawfully" means in substantial compliance with all relevant applicable criminal, civil, and administrative

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requirements of state and federal law related to the provision of medical services or treatment.

- (12) "Hospital" means a facility that, at the time services or treatment were rendered, was licensed under chapter 395.
- (13) "Properly completed" means providing truthful, substantially complete, and substantially accurate responses as to all material elements to each applicable request for information or statement by a means that may lawfully be provided and that complies with this section, or as agreed by the parties.
- (14) "Upcoding" means an action that submits a billing code that would result in payment greater in amount than would be paid using a billing code that accurately describes the services performed. The term does not include an otherwise lawful bill by a magnetic resonance imaging facility, which globally combines both technical and professional components, if the amount of the global bill is not more than the components if billed separately; however, payment of such a bill constitutes payment in full for all components of such service.
- (15) "Unbundling" means an action that submits a billing code that is properly billed under one billing code, but that has been separated into two or more billing codes, and would result in payment greater in amount than would be paid using one billing code.
- (16) "Emergency medical condition" means a medical condition manifesting itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity, which may include severe pain, such that the absence of immediate medical attention could reasonably be expected to result in any of the following:

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(a) Serious jeopardy to patient health.

- (b) Serious impairment to bodily functions.
- (c) Serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part.
- (17) "Entity wholly owned" means a proprietorship, group practice, partnership, or corporation that provides health care services rendered by licensed health care practitioners and in which licensed health care practitioners are the business owners of all aspects of the business entity, including, but not limited to, being reflected as the business owners on the title or lease of the physical facility, filing taxes as the business owners, being account holders on the entity's bank account, being listed as the principals on all incorporation documents required by this state, and having ultimate authority over all personnel and compensation decisions relating to the entity. However, this definition does not apply to an entity that is wholly owned, directly or indirectly, by a hospital licensed under chapter 395.

Section 15. Section 627.733, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

627.733 Required security.-

- (1) (a) The Every owner or registrant of a motor vehicle, other than a motor vehicle used as a school bus as defined in s. 1006.25 or limousine, required to be registered and licensed in this state shall maintain security as required by this section subsection (3) in effect continuously throughout the registration or licensing period.
- (b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), an Every owner or registrant of a motor vehicle used as a taxicab shall not be governed by paragraph (1)(a) but shall maintain security as

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required under s. 324.032(1), and s. 627.737 shall not apply to any motor vehicle used as a taxicab.

- (2) Every nonresident owner or registrant of a motor vehicle that which, whether operated or not, has been physically present within this state for more than 90 days during the preceding 365 days shall thereafter maintain security as required by this section defined by subsection (3) in effect continuously throughout the period the such motor vehicle remains within this state.
  - (3) Such security must shall be provided:
- (a) By an insurance policy delivered or issued for delivery in this state by an authorized or eligible motor vehicle liability insurer which provides the security required under s.

  324.022 the benefits and exemptions contained in ss. 627.730-627.7405. Any policy of insurance that provides, or is represented or sold as providing, the security required in this section is hereunder shall be deemed to provide insurance for the payment of the required benefits; or
- (b) By any other method authorized by s. 324.031(2) or (3), or (4) and approved by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles as providing affording security equivalent to that afforded by a policy of insurance or by self-insuring as authorized by s. 768.28(16). The person filing such security shall have all of the obligations and rights of an insurer under ss. 627.730-627.7405.
- (4) An owner of a motor vehicle with respect to which security is required by this section who fails to have such security in effect at the time of an accident shall have no immunity from tort liability, but shall be personally liable for

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the payment of benefits under s. 627.736. With respect to such benefits, such an owner shall have all of the rights and obligations of an insurer under ss. 627.730-627.7405.

(4) (5) In addition to other persons who are not required to provide required security as required under this section and s. 324.022, The owner or registrant of a motor vehicle who is exempt from such requirements if she or he is a member of the United States Armed Forces and is called to or on active duty outside the United States in an emergency situation is exempt from this section. The exemption provided by this subsection applies only as long as the member of the armed forces is on such active duty outside the United States and applies only while the vehicle covered by the security required by this section and s. 324.022 is not operated by any person. Upon receipt of a written request by the insured to whom the exemption provided in this subsection applies, the insurer shall cancel the coverages and return any unearned premium or suspend the security required by this section and s. 324.022. Notwithstanding s. 324.0221(2), the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles may not suspend the registration or operator's license of an any owner or registrant of a motor vehicle during the time she or he qualifies for the an exemption under this subsection. An Any owner or registrant of a motor vehicle who qualifies for the an exemption under this subsection shall immediately notify the department before prior to and at the end of the expiration of the exemption.

Section 16. Section 627.734, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

627.734 Proof of security; security requirements;

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668 penalties.-

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- (1) The provisions of chapter 324 which pertain to the method of giving and maintaining proof of financial responsibility and which govern and define a motor vehicle liability policy shall apply to filing and maintaining proof of security required under s. 627.733 by ss. 627.730-627.7405.
  - (2) Any person who:
- (a) Gives information required in a report or otherwise as provided for in ss. 627.730-627.7405, knowing or having reason to believe that such information is false;
- (b) Forges or, without authority, signs any evidence of proof of security; or
- (c) Files, or offers for filing, any such evidence of proof, knowing or having reason to believe that it is forged or signed without authority,

commits is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

Section 17. Section 627.7401, Florida Statutes, is renumbered as section 627.7341, Florida Statutes, and amended to read:

627.7341 627.7401 Notification of security requirements insured's rights.

(1) The commission, by rule, shall adopt a form for notifying the notification of insureds of the security required under s. 627.733 and the proof of security requirement under s. 627.734 their right to receive personal injury protection benefits under the Florida Motor Vehicle No-Fault Law. Such notice must shall include:

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(a) A description of the benefits provided by bodily injury liability coverage and property damage liability coverage personal injury protection, including, but not limited to, the specific types of services for which medical benefits are paid, disability benefits, death benefits, significant exclusions from and limitations on personal injury protection benefits, when payments are due, how benefits are coordinated with other insurance benefits that the insured may have, penalties and interest that may be imposed on insurers for failure to make timely payments of benefits, and rights of parties regarding disputes as to benefits.

- (b) An advisory informing insureds that, ÷
- 1. pursuant to s. 626.9892, the Department of Financial Services may pay rewards of up to \$25,000 to persons providing information leading to the arrest and conviction of persons committing crimes investigated by the Division of Insurance Fraud arising from violations of s. 440.105, s. 624.15, s. 626.989, or s. 817.234.
- 2. Pursuant to s. 627.736(5)(e)1., if the insured notifies the insurer of a billing error, the insured may be entitled to a certain percentage of a reduction in the amount paid by the insured's motor vehicle insurer.
- (c) A notice that solicitation of a person injured in a motor vehicle crash for purposes of filing personal injury protection or tort claims could be a violation of s. 817.234, s 817.505, or the rules regulating The Florida Bar and should be immediately reported to the Division of Insurance Fraud if such conduct has taken place.
  - (2) Each insurer issuing a policy in this state providing

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the security required under s. 627.733 shall personal injury protection benefits must mail or deliver the notice as specified in subsection (1) to an insured within 21 days after receiving notice from the insured notice of an automobile accident or claim involving personal injury to an insured who is covered under the policy. The office may allow an insurer up to 30 days of additional time to provide the notice specified in subsection (1) not to exceed 30 days, upon a showing by the insurer that an emergency justifies an extension of time.

(3) The notice required by this section does not alter or modify the terms of the insurance contract or other <u>security</u> requirements of this part <del>act</del>.

Section 18. Section 627.7355, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

627.7355 Motor vehicle insurance claims brought in a single action.—In any action in which the owner, registrant, operator, or occupant of a motor vehicle, to which security has been provided pursuant to s. 627.733, is claiming personal injury, all claims arising out of the plaintiff's injuries, including all derivative claims, shall be brought together, unless good cause is shown why such claims should be brought separately.

Section 19. <u>Section 627.736</u>, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 20. <u>Section 627.737</u>, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 21. Section 627.739, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 22. <u>Section 627.7403</u>, Florida Statutes, is

751 <u>repealed.</u>

Section 23. <u>Section 627.7405</u>, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 24. Section 627.7407, Florida Statutes, is

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755 repealed.

Section 25. <u>Sections 15 and 16 of chapter 2012-197</u>, <u>Laws of</u> Florida, are repealed.

Section 26. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 318.18, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

318.18 Amount of penalties.—The penalties required for a noncriminal disposition pursuant to s. 318.14 or a criminal offense listed in s. 318.17 are as follows:

- (2) Thirty dollars for all nonmoving traffic violations and:
- (b) For all violations of ss. 320.0605, 320.07(1), 322.065, and 322.15(1). A Any person who is cited for a violation of s. 320.07(1) shall be charged a delinquent fee pursuant to s. 320.07(4).
- 1. If a person who is cited for a violation of s. 320.0605 or s. 320.07 can show proof of having a valid registration at the time of arrest, the clerk of the court may dismiss the case and may assess a dismissal fee of up to \$10. A person who finds it impossible or impractical to obtain a valid registration certificate must submit an affidavit detailing the reasons for the impossibility or impracticality. The reasons may include, but are not limited to, the fact that the vehicle was sold, stolen, or destroyed; that the state in which the vehicle is registered does not issue a certificate of registration; or that the vehicle is owned by another person.
- 2. If a person who is cited for a violation of s. 322.03, s. 322.065, or s. 322.15 can show a <u>driver driver's</u> license issued to him or her and valid at the time of arrest, the clerk of the court may dismiss the case and may assess a dismissal fee

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784 of up to \$10.

3. If a person who is cited for a violation of s. 316.646 can show proof of security as required by s. 627.733, issued to the person and valid at the time of arrest, the clerk of the court may dismiss the case and may assess a dismissal fee of up to \$10. A person who finds it impossible or impractical to obtain proof of security must submit an affidavit detailing the reasons for the impracticality. The reasons may include, but are not limited to, the fact that the vehicle has since been sold, stolen, or destroyed,; that the owner or registrant of the vehicle is not required by s. 627.733 to maintain personal injury protection insurance; or that the vehicle is owned by another person.

Section 27. Paragraphs (a) and (d) of subsection (5) of section 320.02, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

320.02 Registration required; application for registration; forms.—

damage liability coverage personal injury protection benefits have been purchased if when required under ss. 324.022 and s. 627.733, that property damage liability coverage has been purchased as required under s. 324.022, that bodily injury or death coverage has been purchased if required under s. 324.023, and that combined bodily liability insurance and property damage liability insurance have been purchased if when required under s. 627.7415 shall be provided in the manner prescribed by law by the applicant at the time of application for registration of any motor vehicle that is subject to such requirements. The issuing agent may not shall refuse to issue registration if such proof

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813 of purchase is not provided. Insurers shall furnish uniform 814 proof-of-purchase cards in a form prescribed by the department 815 and shall include the name of the insured's insurance company, 816 the coverage identification number, and the make, year, and 817 vehicle identification number of the vehicle insured. The card 818 must shall contain a statement notifying the applicant of the 819 penalty specified in s. 316.646(4). The card or insurance 820 policy, insurance policy binder, or certificate of insurance or a photocopy of any of these; an affidavit containing the name of 821 822 the insured's insurance company, the insured's policy number, 823 and the make and year of the vehicle insured; or such other 824 proof as may be prescribed by the department constitutes shall 825 constitute sufficient proof of purchase. If an affidavit is 826 provided as proof, it must shall be in substantially the 827 following form: 828 829 Under penalty of perjury, I ... (Name of insured) ... do hereby 830 certify that I have ... (Personal Injury Protection, Property 831 Damage Liability, and, when required, Bodily Injury 832 Liability)... Insurance currently in effect with ... (Name of 833 insurance company) ... under ... (policy number) ... covering 834 ... (make, year, and vehicle identification number of 835 vehicle) .... (Signature of Insured) ... 836 837 The Such affidavit must shall include the following warning: 838 839 WARNING: GIVING FALSE INFORMATION IN ORDER TO OBTAIN A VEHICLE 840 REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE UNDER FLORIDA 841 LAW. ANYONE GIVING FALSE INFORMATION ON THIS AFFIDAVIT IS

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842 SUBJECT TO PROSECUTION.

If When an application is made through a licensed motor vehicle dealer as required under in s. 319.23, the original or a photostatic copy of such card, insurance policy, insurance policy binder, or certificate of insurance or the original affidavit from the insured shall be forwarded by the dealer to the tax collector of the county or the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles for processing. By executing the aforesaid affidavit, the no licensed motor vehicle dealer will not be liable in damages for any inadequacy, insufficiency, or falsification of any statement contained therein. A card shall also indicate the existence of any bodily injury liability insurance voluntarily purchased.

insurance, proof of property damage liability insurance, proof of combined bodily liability insurance and property damage liability insurance, or proof of financial responsibility insurance and the issuance or failure to issue the motor vehicle registration under the provisions of this chapter is may not be construed in any court as a warranty of the reliability or accuracy of the evidence of such proof. Neither the department nor a any tax collector is liable in damages for any inadequacy, insufficiency, falsification, or unauthorized modification of any item of the proof of personal injury protection insurance, proof of property damage liability insurance, proof of combined bodily liability insurance and property damage liability insurance before prior to, during, or after subsequent to the verification of the

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proof. The issuance of a motor vehicle registration does not constitute prima facie evidence or a presumption of insurance coverage.

Section 28. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 320.0609, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.0609 Transfer and exchange of registration license plates; transfer fee.—

(1)

(b) The transfer of a license plate from a vehicle disposed of to a newly acquired vehicle does not constitute a new registration. The application for transfer shall be accepted without requiring proof of personal injury protection or liability insurance.

Section 29. Subsection (3) of section 320.27, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.27 Motor vehicle dealers.-

application shall be in such form as may be prescribed by the department and is shall be subject to such rules with respect thereto as may be so prescribed by the department it. The Such application shall be verified by oath or affirmation and must shall contain a full statement of the name and birth date of the person or persons applying for the license therefor; the name of the firm or copartnership, with the names and places of residence of all members thereof, if such applicant is a firm or copartnership; the names and places of residence of the principal officers, if the applicant is a body corporate or other artificial body; the name of the state under whose laws the corporation is organized; the present and former place or

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places of residence of the applicant; and the prior business in which the applicant has been engaged and its the location thereof. The Such application must shall describe the exact location of the place of business and shall state whether the place of business is owned by the applicant and when acquired, or, if leased, a true copy of the lease shall be attached to the application. The applicant shall certify that the location provides an adequately equipped office and is not a residence; that the location affords sufficient unoccupied space upon and within which adequately to store all motor vehicles offered and displayed for sale; and that the location is a suitable place where the applicant can in good faith carry on such business and keep and maintain books, records, and files necessary to conduct such business, which shall be available at all reasonable hours to inspection by the department or any of its inspectors or other employees. The applicant shall certify that the business of a motor vehicle dealer is the principal business that will which shall be conducted at that location. The application must shall contain a statement that the applicant is either franchised by a manufacturer of motor vehicles, in which case the name of each motor vehicle that the applicant is franchised to sell must shall be included, or an independent (nonfranchised) motor vehicle dealer. The application must shall contain other relevant information as may be required by the department, including evidence that the applicant is insured under a garage liability insurance policy or a general liability insurance policy coupled with a business automobile policy, which includes shall include, at a minimum, \$60,000 \$25,000 combined single-limit liability coverage including bodily injury

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and property damage protection and \$10,000 personal injury protection. However, a salvage motor vehicle dealer as defined in subparagraph (1)(c)5. is exempt from the requirements for garage liability insurance and personal injury protection insurance on those vehicles that cannot be legally operated on roads, highways, or streets in this state. Franchise dealers must submit a garage liability insurance policy, and all other dealers must submit a garage liability insurance policy or a general liability insurance policy coupled with a business automobile policy. Such policy shall be for the license period, and evidence of a new or continued policy shall be delivered to the department at the beginning of each license period. Upon making initial application, the applicant shall pay to the department a fee of \$300 in addition to any other fees now required by law. Upon making a subsequent renewal application, the applicant shall pay to the department a fee of \$75 in addition to any other fees now required by law. Upon making an application for a change of location, the applicant person shall pay a fee of \$50 in addition to any other fees now required by law. The department shall, in the case of every application for initial licensure, verify whether certain facts set forth in the application are true. Each applicant, general partner in the case of a partnership, or corporate officer and director in the case of a corporate applicant, must file a set of fingerprints with the department for the purpose of determining any prior criminal record or any outstanding warrants. The department shall submit the fingerprints to the Department of Law Enforcement for state processing and forwarding to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for federal processing. The actual cost

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of state and federal processing shall be borne by the applicant and is in addition to the fee for licensure. The department may issue a license to an applicant pending the results of the fingerprint investigation, which license is fully revocable if the department subsequently determines that any facts set forth in the application are not true or correctly represented.

Section 30. Paragraph (j) of subsection (3) of section 320.771, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.771 License required of recreational vehicle dealers.-

- (3) APPLICATION.—The application for such license shall be in the form prescribed by the department and subject to such rules as may be prescribed by it. The application shall be verified by oath or affirmation and shall contain:
- (j) A statement that the applicant is insured under a garage liability insurance policy, which <u>includes</u> shall include, at a minimum, \$60,000 \$25,000 combined single-limit liability coverage, including bodily injury and property damage protection, and \$10,000 personal injury protection, if the applicant is to be licensed as a dealer in, or intends to sell, recreational vehicles.

The department shall, if it deems necessary, cause an investigation to be made to ascertain if the facts set forth in the application are true and shall not issue a license to the applicant until it is satisfied that the facts set forth in the application are true.

Section 31. Subsection (2) of section 322.251, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

322.251 Notice of cancellation, suspension, revocation, or

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987 disqualification of license.-

(2) The giving of notice and an order of cancellation, suspension, revocation, or disqualification by mail is complete upon expiration of 20 days after deposit in the United States mail for all notices except those issued under chapter 324 or ss. 627.733-627.734 627.732-627.734, which are complete 15 days after deposit in the United States mail. Proof of the giving of notice and an order of cancellation, suspension, revocation, or disqualification in either manner shall be made by entry in the records of the department that such notice was given. The entry is admissible in the courts of this state and constitutes sufficient proof that such notice was given.

Section 32. Subsection (4) of section 400.9905, Florida Statutes, is amended, present subsection (7) of that section is renumbered as subsection (8), and new subsection (7) is added to that section, to read:

400.9905 Definitions.-

- (4) "Clinic" means an entity where health care services are provided to individuals and which tenders charges for reimbursement for such services, including a mobile clinic and a portable equipment provider. As used in this part, the term does not include and the licensure requirements of this part do not apply to:
- (a) Entities licensed or registered by the state under chapter 395; entities licensed or registered by the state and providing only health care services within the scope of services authorized under their respective licenses under ss. 383.30-383.335, chapter 390, chapter 394, chapter 397, this chapter except part X, chapter 429, chapter 463, chapter 465, chapter

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466, chapter 478, part I of chapter 483, chapter 484, or chapter 651; end-stage renal disease providers authorized under 42 C.F.R. part 405, subpart U; providers certified under 42 C.F.R. part 485, subpart B or subpart H; or any entity that provides neonatal or pediatric hospital-based health care services or other health care services by licensed practitioners solely within a hospital licensed under chapter 395.

- (b) Entities that own, directly or indirectly, entities licensed or registered by the state pursuant to chapter 395; entities that own, directly or indirectly, entities licensed or registered by the state and providing only health care services within the scope of services authorized pursuant to their respective licenses under ss. 383.30-383.335, chapter 390, chapter 394, chapter 397, this chapter except part X, chapter 429, chapter 463, chapter 465, chapter 466, chapter 478, part I of chapter 483, chapter 484, or chapter 651; end-stage renal disease providers authorized under 42 C.F.R. part 405, subpart U; providers certified under 42 C.F.R. part 485, subpart B or subpart H; or any entity that provides neonatal or pediatric hospital-based health care services by licensed practitioners solely within a hospital licensed under chapter 395.
- (c) Entities that are owned, directly or indirectly, by an entity licensed or registered by the state pursuant to chapter 395; entities that are owned, directly or indirectly, by an entity licensed or registered by the state and providing only health care services within the scope of services authorized pursuant to their respective licenses under ss. 383.30-383.335, chapter 390, chapter 394, chapter 397, this chapter except part X, chapter 429, chapter 463, chapter 465, chapter 466, chapter

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478, part I of chapter 483, chapter 484, or chapter 651; endstage renal disease providers authorized under 42 C.F.R. part
405, subpart U; providers certified under 42 C.F.R. part 485,
subpart B or subpart H; or any entity that provides neonatal or
pediatric hospital-based health care services by licensed
practitioners solely within a hospital under chapter 395.

- (d) Entities that are under common ownership, directly or indirectly, with an entity licensed or registered by the state pursuant to chapter 395; entities that are under common ownership, directly or indirectly, with an entity licensed or registered by the state and providing only health care services within the scope of services authorized pursuant to their respective licenses under ss. 383.30-383.335, chapter 390, chapter 394, chapter 397, this chapter except part X, chapter 429, chapter 463, chapter 465, chapter 466, chapter 478, part I of chapter 483, chapter 484, or chapter 651; end-stage renal disease providers authorized under 42 C.F.R. part 405, subpart U; providers certified under 42 C.F.R. part 485, subpart B or subpart H; or any entity that provides neonatal or pediatric hospital-based health care services by licensed practitioners solely within a hospital licensed under chapter 395.
- (e) An entity that is exempt from federal taxation under 26 U.S.C. s. 501(c)(3) or (4), an employee stock ownership plan under 26 U.S.C. s. 409 that has a board of trustees at least two-thirds of which are Florida-licensed health care practitioners and provides only physical therapy services under physician orders, any community college or university clinic, and any entity owned or operated by the federal or state government, including agencies, subdivisions, or municipalities

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(f) A sole proprietorship, group practice, partnership, or corporation that provides health care services by physicians covered by s. 627.419, that is directly supervised by one or more of such physicians, and that is wholly owned by one or more of those physicians or by a physician and the spouse, parent, child, or sibling of that physician.

- (g) A sole proprietorship, group practice, partnership, or corporation that provides health care services by licensed health care practitioners under chapter 457, chapter 458, chapter 459, chapter 460, chapter 461, chapter 462, chapter 463, chapter 466, chapter 467, chapter 480, chapter 484, chapter 486, chapter 490, chapter 491, or part I, part III, part X, part XIII, or part XIV of chapter 468, or s. 464.012, and that is wholly owned by one or more licensed health care practitioners, or the licensed health care practitioners set forth in this paragraph and the spouse, parent, child, or sibling of a licensed health care practitioner if one of the owners who is a licensed health care practitioner is supervising the business activities and is legally responsible for the entity's compliance with all federal and state laws. However, a health care practitioner may not supervise services beyond the scope of the practitioner's license, except that, for the purposes of this part, a clinic owned by a licensee in s. 456.053(3)(b) which provides only services authorized pursuant to s. 456.053(3)(b) may be supervised by a licensee specified in s. 456.053(3)(b).
- (h) Clinical facilities affiliated with an accredited medical school at which training is provided for medical

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1103 students, residents, or fellows.

- (i) Entities that provide only oncology or radiation therapy services by physicians licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459 or entities that provide oncology or radiation therapy services by physicians licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459 which are owned by a corporation whose shares are publicly traded on a recognized stock exchange.
- (j) Clinical facilities affiliated with a college of chiropractic accredited by the Council on Chiropractic Education at which training is provided for chiropractic students.
- (k) Entities that provide licensed practitioners to staff emergency departments or to deliver anesthesia services in facilities licensed under chapter 395 and that derive at least 90 percent of their gross annual revenues from the provision of such services. Entities claiming an exemption from licensure under this paragraph must provide documentation demonstrating compliance.
- (1) Orthotic or prosthetic clinical facilities that are a publicly traded corporation or that are wholly owned, directly or indirectly, by a publicly traded corporation. As used in this paragraph, a publicly traded corporation is a corporation that issues securities traded on an exchange registered with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission as a national securities exchange.
- (m) Entities that are owned by a corporation that has \$250 million or more in total annual sales of health care services provided by licensed health care practitioners where one or more of the owners is a health care practitioner who is licensed in this state and who is responsible for supervising the business

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activities of the entity and is legally responsible for the entity's compliance with state law for purposes of this part.

(n) Entities that employ 50 or more licensed health care practitioners licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459 where the billing for medical services is under a single tax identification number. The application for exemption under this subsection must include shall contain information that includes: the name, residence, and business address, and telephone  $\frac{1}{2}$ number of the entity that owns the practice; a complete list of the names and contact information of all the officers and directors of the corporation; the name, residence address, business address, and medical license number of each licensed Florida health care practitioner employed by the entity; the corporate tax identification number of the entity seeking an exemption; a list <del>listing</del> of health care services to be provided by the entity at the health care clinics owned or operated by the entity and a certified statement prepared by an independent certified public accountant which states that the entity and the health care clinics owned or operated by the entity have not received payment for health care services related to a motor vehicle accident injury under personal injury protection insurance coverage for the preceding year. If the agency determines that an entity that which is exempt under this subsection has received payments for medical services related to a motor vehicle accident injury under personal injury protection insurance coverage, the agency may deny or revoke the exemption from licensure under this subsection.

Notwithstanding this subsection, an entity shall be deemed a

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clinic and must be licensed under this part in order to receive reimbursement under the Florida Motor Vehicle No-Fault Law, ss. 627.730-627.7405, unless exempted under s. 627.736(5)(h).

injury sustained while occupying a motor vehicle as defined in s. 627.732 or, if the injured party is not an occupant of a motor vehicle, an injury caused by physical contract with a motor vehicle.

Section 33. Subsection (6) of section 400.991, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

400.991 License requirements; background screenings; prohibitions.—

(6) All agency forms for licensure application or exemption from licensure under this part must contain the following statement:

INSURANCE FRAUD NOTICE. - A person who knowingly submits

a false, misleading, or fraudulent application or other document when applying for licensure as a health care clinic, seeking an exemption from licensure as a health care clinic, or demonstrating compliance with part X of chapter 400, Florida Statutes, with the intent to use the license, exemption from licensure, or demonstration of compliance to provide services or seek reimbursement related to a motor vehicle accident injury under the Florida Motor Vehicle No-Fault Law, commits a fraudulent insurance act, as defined in s.

claim for personal injury protection benefits knowing

626.989, Florida Statutes. A person who presents a

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that the payee knowingly submitted such health care clinic application or document, commits insurance fraud, as defined in s. 817.234, Florida Statutes.

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Section 34. Paragraph (g) of subsection (1) of section 400.9935, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

400.9935 Clinic responsibilities.-

- (1) Each clinic shall appoint a medical director or clinic director who shall agree in writing to accept legal responsibility for the following activities on behalf of the clinic. The medical director or the clinic director shall:
- (g) Conduct systematic reviews of clinic billings to ensure that the billings are not fraudulent or unlawful. Upon discovery of an unlawful charge, the medical director or clinic director shall take immediate corrective action. If the clinic performs only the technical component of magnetic resonance imaging, static radiographs, computed tomography, or positron emission tomography, and provides the professional interpretation of such services, in a fixed facility that is accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations or the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care, and the American College of Radiology; and if, in the preceding quarter, the percentage of scans performed by that clinic relating to a motor vehicle accident injury which was billed to all personal injury protection insurance carriers was less than 15 percent, the chief financial officer of the clinic may, in a written acknowledgment provided to the agency, assume the responsibility for the conduct of the systematic reviews of clinic billings to ensure that the billings are not fraudulent or unlawful.

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Section 35. Subsection (28) of section 409.901, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.901 Definitions; ss. 409.901-409.920.—As used in ss. 409.901-409.920, except as otherwise specifically provided, the term:

(28) "Third-party benefit" means any benefit that is or may be available at any time through contract, court award, judgment, settlement, agreement, or any arrangement between a third party and any person or entity, including, without limitation, a Medicaid recipient, a provider, another third party, an insurer, or the agency, for any Medicaid-covered injury, illness, goods, or services, including costs of medical services related thereto, for bodily personal injury or for death of the recipient, but specifically excluding policies of life insurance policies on the recipient, unless available under terms of the policy to pay medical expenses before prior to death. The term includes, without limitation, collateral, as defined in this section, health insurance, any benefit under a health maintenance organization, a preferred provider arrangement, a prepaid health clinic, liability insurance, uninsured motorist insurance or personal injury protection coverage, medical benefits under workers' compensation, and any obligation under law or equity to provide medical support.

Section 36. Paragraph (f) of subsection (11) of section 409.910, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 409.910 Responsibility for payments on behalf of Medicaideligible persons when other parties are liable.—
- (11) The agency may, as a matter of right, in order to enforce its rights under this section, institute, intervene in,

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or join any legal or administrative proceeding in its own name in one or more of the following capacities: individually, as subrogee of the recipient, as assignee of the recipient, or as lienholder of the collateral.

- (f) Notwithstanding any other provision in this section to the contrary, if in the event of an action in tort against a third party in which the recipient or his or her legal representative is a party which results in a judgment, award, or settlement from a third party, the amount recovered shall be distributed as follows:
- 1. After attorney attorney's fees and taxable costs as defined by the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, one-half of the remaining recovery shall be paid to the agency up to the total amount of medical assistance provided by Medicaid.
- 2. The remaining amount of the recovery shall be paid to the recipient.
- 3. For purposes of calculating the agency's recovery of medical assistance benefits paid, the fee for services of an attorney retained by the recipient or his or her legal representative shall be calculated at 25 percent of the judgment, award, or settlement.
- 4. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section to the contrary, the agency is shall be entitled to all medical coverage benefits up to the total amount of medical assistance provided by Medicaid. For purposes of this paragraph, "medical coverage" means any benefits under health insurance, a health maintenance organization, a preferred provider arrangement, or a prepaid health clinic, and the portion of benefits designated for medical payments under coverage for workers' compensation,

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1277 personal injury protection, and casualty.

Section 37. Paragraph (k) of subsection (2) of section 456.057, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

456.057 Ownership and control of patient records; report or copies of records to be furnished.—

- (2) As used in this section, the terms "records owner," "health care practitioner," and "health care practitioner's employer" do not include any of the following persons or entities; furthermore, the following persons or entities are not authorized to acquire or own medical records, but are authorized under the confidentiality and disclosure requirements of this section to maintain those documents required by the part or chapter under which they are licensed or regulated:
  - (k) Persons or entities practicing under s. 627.736(7).

Section 38. Paragraphs (gg) through (nn) of subsection (1) of section 456.072, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as paragraphs (ee) through (ll), respectively, and paragraphs (ee) and (ff) of that subsection are amended, to read:

456.072 Grounds for discipline; penalties; enforcement.

- (1) The following acts shall constitute grounds for which the disciplinary actions specified in subsection (2) may be taken:
- (ee) With respect to making a personal injury protection claim as required by s. 627.736, intentionally submitting a claim, statement, or bill that has been "upcoded" as defined in s. 627.732.
- (ff) With respect to making a personal injury protection claim as required by s. 627.736, intentionally submitting a claim, statement, or bill for payment of services that were not

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Section 39. Paragraph (i) of subsection (1) of section 626.9541, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

626.9541 Unfair methods of competition and unfair or deceptive acts or practices defined.—

- (1) UNFAIR METHODS OF COMPETITION AND UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACTS.—The following are defined as unfair methods of competition and unfair or deceptive acts or practices:
  - (i) Unfair claim settlement practices.-
- 1. Attempting to settle claims on the basis of an application, when serving as a binder or intended to become a part of the policy, or any other material document that which was altered without notice to, or knowledge or consent of, the insured:
- 2. A material misrepresentation made to an insured or any other person having an interest in the proceeds  $\underline{\text{that are}}$  payable under  $\underline{\text{a}}$  such contract or policy, for the purpose and with the intent of effecting settlement of such claims, loss, or damage under such contract or policy on less favorable terms than those provided in, and contemplated by,  $\underline{\text{the}}$  such contract or policy; or
- 3. Committing or performing with such frequency as to indicate a general business practice any of the following:
- a. Failing to adopt and implement standards for the proper investigation of claims;
- b. Misrepresenting pertinent facts or insurance policy provisions relating to coverages at issue;
- c. Failing to acknowledge and act promptly upon communications with respect to claims;

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d. Denying claims without conducting reasonable investigations based upon available information;

- e. Failing to affirm or deny full or partial coverage of claims, and, as to partial coverage, the dollar amount or extent of coverage, or failing to provide a written statement that the claim is being investigated, upon the written request of the insured, within 30 days after proof-of-loss statements have been completed;
- f. Failing to promptly provide a reasonable explanation in writing to the insured of the basis in the insurance policy, in relation to the facts or applicable law, for denial of a claim or for the offer of a compromise settlement;
- g. Failing to promptly notify the insured of any additional information necessary for the processing of a claim; or
- h. Failing to clearly explain the nature of the requested information and the reasons why such information is necessary.
- i. Failing to pay personal injury protection insurance claims within the time periods required by s. 627.736(4)(b). The office may order the insurer to pay restitution to a policyholder, medical provider, or other claimant, including interest at a rate consistent with the amount set forth in s. 55.03(1), for the time period within which an insurer fails to pay claims as required by law. Restitution is in addition to any other penalties allowed by law, including, but not limited to, the suspension of the insurer's certificate of authority.
- 4. Failing to pay undisputed amounts of partial or full benefits owed under first-party property insurance policies within 90 days after an insurer receives notice of a residential property insurance claim, determines the amounts of partial or

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full benefits, and agrees to coverage, unless payment of the undisputed benefits is prevented by an act of God, prevented by the impossibility of performance, or due to actions by the insured or claimant which that constitute fraud, lack of cooperation, or intentional misrepresentation regarding the claim for which benefits are owed.

Section 40. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 626.989, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

626.989 Investigation by department or Division of Insurance Fraud; compliance; immunity; confidential information; reports to division; division investigator's power of arrest.—

- (1) For the purposes of this section:
- (a) A person commits a "fraudulent insurance act" if the person:
- 1. Knowingly and with intent to defraud presents, causes to be presented, or prepares with knowledge or belief that it will be presented, to or by an insurer, self-insurer, self-insurance fund, servicing corporation, purported insurer, broker, or any agent thereof, any written statement as part of, or in support of, an application for the issuance of, or the rating of, any insurance policy, or a claim for payment or other benefit pursuant to any insurance policy, which the person knows to contain materially false information concerning any fact material thereto or if the person conceals, for the purpose of misleading another, information concerning any fact material thereto.
  - 2. Knowingly submits:
- a. A false, misleading, or fraudulent application or other document when applying for licensure as a health care clinic,

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seeking an exemption from licensure as a health care clinic, or demonstrating compliance with part X of chapter 400 with an intent to use the license, exemption from licensure, or demonstration of compliance to provide services or seek reimbursement relating to a motor vehicle accident under the Florida Motor Vehicle No-Fault Law.

b. A claim for payment or other benefit relating to a motor vehicle accident pursuant to a personal injury protection insurance policy under the Florida Motor Vehicle No-Fault Law if the person knows that the payee knowingly submitted a false, misleading, or fraudulent application or other document when applying for licensure as a health care clinic, seeking an exemption from licensure as a health care clinic, or demonstrating compliance with part X of chapter 400.

Section 41. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section 626.9895, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

626.9895 Motor vehicle insurance fraud direct-support organization.—

- (4) BOARD OF DIRECTORS.
- (a) The board of directors of the organization <u>consists</u> shall consist of the following 11 members:
- 1. The Chief Financial Officer, or designee, who <u>serves</u> shall serve as chair.
- 2. Two state attorneys, one of whom shall be appointed by the Chief Financial Officer and the other one of whom shall be appointed by the Attorney General.
- 3. Two representatives of motor vehicle insurers appointed by the Chief Financial Officer.
  - 4. Two representatives of local law enforcement agencies,

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one of whom shall be appointed by the Chief Financial Officer and the other one of whom shall be appointed by the Attorney General.

- 5. Two representatives of the types of health care providers who regularly make claims for benefits related to motor vehicle accidents under ss. 627.730-627.7405, one of whom shall be appointed by the President of the Senate and the other one of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The appointees may not represent the same type of health care provider.
- 6. A private attorney who has experience in representing claimants in motor vehicle tort claims, actions for benefits under ss. 627.730-627.7405, who shall be appointed by the President of the Senate.
- 7. A private attorney who has experience in representing insurers in motor vehicle tort claims, actions for benefits under ss. 627.730-627.7405, who shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Section 42. Subsection (1) of section 627.06501, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 627.06501 Insurance discounts for certain persons completing driver improvement course.—
- (1) Any rate, rating schedule, or rating manual for the liability, personal injury protection, and collision coverages of a motor vehicle insurance policy filed with the office may provide for an appropriate reduction in premium charges as to such coverages if when the principal operator on the covered vehicle has successfully completed a driver improvement course approved and certified by the Department of Highway Safety and

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Motor Vehicles which is effective in reducing crash or violation rates, or both, as determined pursuant to s. 318.1451(5). Any discount, not to exceed 10 percent, used by an insurer is presumed to be appropriate unless credible data demonstrates otherwise.

Section 43. Subsection (1) of section 627.0652, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

627.0652 Insurance discounts for certain persons completing safety course.—

(1) Any rates, rating schedules, or rating manuals for the liability, personal injury protection, and collision coverages of a motor vehicle insurance policy filed with the office <u>must shall</u> provide for an appropriate reduction in premium charges as to such coverages <u>if</u> when the principal operator on the covered vehicle is an insured 55 years of age or older who has successfully completed a motor vehicle accident prevention course approved by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. Any discount used by an insurer is presumed to be appropriate unless credible data demonstrates otherwise.

Section 44. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 627.0653, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

627.0653 Insurance discounts for specified motor vehicle equipment.—

- (1) Any rates, rating schedules, or rating manuals for the liability, personal injury protection, and collision coverages of a motor vehicle insurance policy filed with the office <u>must shall</u> provide a premium discount if the insured vehicle is equipped with factory-installed, four-wheel antilock brakes.
  - (3) Any rates, rating schedules, or rating manuals for

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personal injury protection coverage and medical payments coverage, if offered, of a motor vehicle insurance policy filed with the office <u>must shall</u> provide a premium discount if the insured vehicle is equipped with one or more air bags which are factory installed.

Section 45. Section 627.4132, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 627.4132 Stacking of coverages prohibited.—If an insured or named insured is protected by any type of motor vehicle insurance policy for liability, personal injury protection, or other coverage, the policy <u>must shall</u> provide that the insured or named insured is protected only to the extent of the coverage she or he has on the vehicle involved in the accident. However, if none of the insured's or named insured's vehicles is involved in the accident, coverage is available only to the extent of coverage on any one of the vehicles with applicable coverage. Coverage on any other vehicles <u>may shall</u> not be added to or stacked <u>onto upon</u> that coverage. This section does not apply:
- (1) To uninsured motorist coverage, which is separately governed by s. 627.727.
- (2) To reduce the coverage available by reason of insurance policies insuring different named insureds.
- Section 46. Subsection (6) of section 627.6482, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 627.6482 Definitions.—As used in ss. 627.648-627.6498, the term:
- (6) "Health insurance" means any hospital and medical expense incurred policy, minimum premium plan, stop-loss coverage, health maintenance organization contract, prepaid

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health clinic contract, multiple-employer welfare arrangement contract, or fraternal benefit society health benefits contract, whether sold as an individual or group policy or contract. The term does not include <u>a any policy covering medical payment coverage or bodily personal injury liability protection coverage in a motor vehicle policy, coverage issued as a supplement to liability insurance, or workers' compensation.</u>

Section 47. Section 627.7263, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

627.7263 Rental and leasing driver's insurance to be primary; exception.—

- (1) The Valid and collectible liability insurance or personal injury protection insurance providing coverage for the lessor of a motor vehicle for rent or lease is primary unless otherwise stated in at least 10-point type on the face of the rental or lease agreement. Such insurance is primary for the limits of liability required under s. 324.021(7) and personal injury protection coverage as required by ss. 324.021(7) and 627.736.
- (2) If the lessee's coverage is to be primary, the rental or lease agreement must contain the following language, in at least 10-point type:

"The valid and collectible liability insurance and personal injury protection insurance of an any authorized rental or leasing driver is primary for the limits of liability and personal injury protection coverage required under s. by ss. 324.021(7) and 627.736, Florida Statutes."

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Section 48. Subsections (8) through (10) of section 627.727, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (7) through (9), respectively, and subsection (1) and present subsection (7) of that section are amended, to read:

627.727 Motor vehicle insurance; uninsured and underinsured vehicle coverage; insolvent insurer protection.—

(1) No motor vehicle liability insurance policy which provides bodily injury liability coverage shall be delivered or issued for delivery in this state with respect to any specifically insured or identified motor vehicle registered or principally garaged in this state unless uninsured motor vehicle coverage is provided therein or supplemental thereto for the protection of persons insured thereunder who are legally entitled to recover damages from owners or operators of uninsured motor vehicles because of bodily injury, sickness, or disease, including death, resulting therefrom. However, the coverage required under this section is not applicable if when, or to the extent that, an insured named in the policy makes a written rejection of the coverage on behalf of all insureds under the policy. If When a motor vehicle is leased for a period of 1 year or longer and the lessor of such vehicle, by the terms of the lease contract, provides liability coverage on the leased vehicle, the lessee of such vehicle shall have the sole privilege to reject uninsured motorist coverage or to select lower limits than the bodily injury liability limits, regardless of whether the lessor is qualified as a self-insurer pursuant to s. 324.171. Unless an insured, or lessee having the privilege of rejecting uninsured motorist coverage, requests such coverage or requests higher uninsured motorist limits in writing, the

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1567 coverage or such higher uninsured motorist limits need not be 1568 provided in or supplemental to any other policy that which renews, extends, changes, supersedes, or replaces an existing 1569 1570 policy with the same bodily injury liability limits if when an 1571 insured or lessee had rejected the coverage. If When an insured 1572 or lessee has initially selected limits of uninsured motorist 1573 coverage lower than her or his bodily injury liability limits, 1574 higher limits of uninsured motorist coverage need not be 1575 provided in or supplemental to any other policy that which 1576 renews, extends, changes, supersedes, or replaces an existing 1577 policy with the same bodily injury liability limits unless an 1578 insured requests higher uninsured motorist coverage in writing. 1579 The rejection or selection of lower limits shall be made on a 1580 form approved by the office. The form must shall fully advise 1581 the applicant of the nature of the coverage and shall state that 1582 the coverage is equal to bodily injury liability limits unless 1583 lower limits are requested or the coverage is rejected. The 1584 heading of the form shall be in 12-point bold type and shall 1585 state: "You are electing not to purchase certain valuable 1586 coverage that which protects you and your family or you are 1587 purchasing uninsured motorist limits less than your bodily 1588 injury liability limits when you sign this form. Please read 1589 carefully." If this form is signed by a named insured, it will 1590 be conclusively presumed that there was an informed, knowing 1591 rejection of coverage or election of lower limits on behalf of 1592 all insureds. The insurer shall notify the named insured at 1593 least annually of her or his options as to the coverage required 1594 by this section. Such notice must shall be part of, and attached 1595 to, the notice of premium, must shall provide for a means to

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allow the insured to request such coverage, and must shall be given in a manner approved by the office. Receipt of this notice does not constitute an affirmative waiver of the insured's right to uninsured motorist coverage if where the insured has not signed a selection or rejection form. The coverage described under this section is shall be over and above, but may shall not duplicate, the benefits available to an insured under any workers' compensation law, personal injury protection benefits, disability benefits law, or similar law; under any automobile medical expense coverage; under any motor vehicle liability insurance coverage; or from the owner or operator of the uninsured motor vehicle or any other person or organization jointly or severally liable together with such owner or operator for the accident; and such coverage must shall cover the difference, if any, between the sum of such benefits and the damages sustained, up to the maximum amount of such coverage provided under this section. The amount of coverage available under this section may shall not be reduced by a setoff against any coverage, including liability insurance. Such coverage does shall not inure, directly or indirectly, to the benefit of any workers' compensation or disability benefits carrier or any person or organization qualifying as a self-insurer under any workers' compensation or disability benefits law or similar law.

(7) The legal liability of an uninsured motorist coverage insurer does not include damages in tort for pain, suffering, mental anguish, and inconvenience unless the injury or disease is described in one or more of paragraphs (a) - (d) of s. 627.737(2).

Section 49. Subsection (1) and paragraph (a) of subsection

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1625 (2) of section 627.7275, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
1626 627.7275 Motor vehicle liability.—

- (1) A motor vehicle insurance policy providing personal injury protection as set forth in s. 627.736 may not be delivered or issued for delivery in this state for a with respect to any specifically insured or identified motor vehicle registered or principally garaged in this state must provide unless the policy also provides coverage for property damage liability and bodily injury liability as required under by s. 324.022.
- (2) (a) Insurers writing motor vehicle insurance in this state shall make available, subject to the insurers' usual underwriting restrictions:
- 1. Coverage under policies as described in subsection (1) to any applicant for private passenger motor vehicle insurance coverage who is seeking the coverage in order to reinstate the applicant's driving privileges in this state if when the driving privileges were revoked or suspended pursuant to s. 316.646 or s. 324.0221 due to the failure of the applicant to maintain required security.
- 2. Coverage under policies as described in subsection (1), which also provides bodily injury liability coverage and property damage liability coverage for bodily injury, death, and property damage arising out of the ownership, maintenance, or use of the motor vehicle in an amount not less than the limits described in s. 324.021(7) and conforms to the requirements of s. 324.151, to any applicant for private passenger motor vehicle insurance coverage who is seeking the coverage in order to reinstate the applicant's driving privileges in this state after

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such privileges were revoked or suspended under s. 316.193 or s. 322.26(2) for driving under the influence.

Section 50. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 627.728, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

627.728 Cancellations; nonrenewals.-

- (1) As used in this section, the term:
- (a) "Policy" means the bodily injury and property damage liability, personal injury protection, medical payments, comprehensive, collision, and uninsured motorist coverage portions of a policy of motor vehicle insurance delivered or issued for delivery in this state:
- 1. Insuring a natural person as named insured or one or more related individuals who are residents resident of the same household; and
- 2. Insuring only a motor vehicle of the private passenger type or station wagon type which is not used as a public or livery conveyance for passengers or rented to others; or insuring any other four-wheel motor vehicle having a load capacity of 1,500 pounds or less which is not used in the occupation, profession, or business of the insured other than farming; other than any policy issued under an automobile insurance assigned risk plan; insuring more than four automobiles; or covering garage, automobile sales agency, repair shop, service station, or public parking place operation hazards.

The term "policy" does not include a binder as defined in s. 627.420 unless the duration of the binder period exceeds 60 days.

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Section 51. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (1), paragraph (a) of subsection (5), and subsection (7) of section 627.7295, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

627.7295 Motor vehicle insurance contracts.-

- (1) As used in this section, the term:
- (a) "Policy" means a motor vehicle insurance policy that provides bodily injury liability personal injury protection coverage, property damage liability coverage, or both.
- (b) "Binder" means a binder that provides motor vehicle bodily injury liability personal injury protection and property damage liability coverage.
- (5) (a) A licensed general lines agent may charge a perpolicy fee of up to not to exceed \$10 to cover the agent's administrative costs of the agent associated with selling the motor vehicle insurance policy if the policy covers only bodily injury liability personal injury protection coverage as provided by s. 627.736 and property damage liability coverage as provided by s. 627.7275 and if no other insurance is sold or issued in conjunction with or collateral to the policy. The fee is not considered part of the premium.
- (7) A policy of private passenger motor vehicle insurance or a binder for such a policy may be initially issued in this state only if, before the effective date of such binder or policy, the insurer or agent has collected from the insured an amount equal to 2 months' premium from the insured. An insurer, agent, or premium finance company may not, directly or indirectly, take any action that results resulting in the insured paying having paid from the insured's own funds an amount less than the 2 months' premium required by this

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subsection. This subsection applies without regard to whether the premium is financed by a premium finance company or is paid pursuant to a periodic payment plan of an insurer or an insurance agent.

- (a) This subsection does not apply:
- 1. If an insured or member of the insured's family is renewing or replacing a policy or a binder for such policy written by the same insurer or a member of the same insurer group; This subsection does not apply
- 2. To an insurer that issues private passenger motor vehicle coverage primarily to active duty or former military personnel or their dependents; or. This subsection does not apply
- 3. If all policy payments are paid pursuant to a payroll deduction plan or an automatic electronic funds transfer payment plan from the policyholder.
  - (b) This subsection and subsection (4) do not apply if:
- 1. All policy payments to an insurer are paid pursuant to an automatic electronic funds transfer payment plan from an agent, a managing general agent, or a premium finance company and if the policy includes, at a minimum, bodily injury liability and personal injury protection pursuant to ss. 627.730-627.7405; motor vehicle property damage liability pursuant to s. 627.7275; or and bodily injury liability in at least the amount of \$10,000 because of bodily injury to, or death of, one person in any one accident and in the amount of \$20,000 because of bodily injury to, or death of, two or more persons in any one accident. This subsection and subsection (4) do not apply if

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 $\underline{2}$ . An insured has had a policy in effect for at least 6 months, the insured's agent is terminated by the insurer that issued the policy, and the insured obtains coverage on the policy's renewal date with a new company through the terminated agent.

Section 52. Section 627.8405, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 627.8405 Prohibited acts; financing companies.—A No premium finance company shall, in a premium finance agreement or other agreement, may not finance the cost of or otherwise provide for the collection or remittance of dues, assessments, fees, or other periodic payments of money for the cost of:
- "automobile club" means a legal entity that which, in consideration of dues, assessments, or periodic payments of money, promises its members or subscribers to assist them in matters relating to the ownership, operation, use, or maintenance of a motor vehicle; however, the term this definition of "automobile club" does not include persons, associations, or corporations that which are organized and operated solely for the purpose of conducting, sponsoring, or sanctioning motor vehicle races, exhibitions, or contests upon racetracks, or upon racecourses established and marked as such for the duration of such particular events. The term words "motor vehicle" has used herein have the same meaning as provided defined in chapter 320.
- (2) An accidental death and dismemberment policy sold in combination with a <u>bodily injury liability</u> <del>personal injury protection</del> and property-damage-only <del>property damage only</del> policy.

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(3) Any product not regulated under the provisions of this insurance code.

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This section also applies to premium financing by any insurance agent or insurance company under part XVI. The commission shall adopt rules to assure disclosure, at the time of sale, of coverages financed with <u>bodily injury liability coverage</u> personal injury protection and shall prescribe the form of such disclosure.

Section 53. Subsection (1) of section 627.915, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

627.915 Insurer experience reporting.-

(1) Each insurer transacting private passenger automobile insurance in this state shall report certain information annually to the office. The information is will be due on or before July 1 of each year. The information shall be divided into the following categories: bodily injury liability; property damage liability; uninsured motorist; personal injury protection benefits; medical payments; comprehensive and collision. The information must given shall be on direct insurance writings in the state alone and shall represent total limits data. The information set forth in paragraphs (a)-(f) is applicable to voluntary private passenger and Joint Underwriting Association private passenger writings and shall be reported for each of the latest 3 calendar-accident years, with an evaluation date of March 31 of the current year. The information set forth in paragraphs (g)-(j) is applicable to voluntary private passenger writings and shall be reported on a calendar-accident year basis ultimately seven times at seven different stages of development.

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1799 (a) Premiums earned for the latest 3 calendar-accident years.

- (b) Loss development factors and the historic development of those factors.
  - (c) Policyholder dividends incurred.
  - (d) Expenses for other acquisition and general expense.
- (e) Expenses for agents' commissions and taxes, licenses, and fees.
- (f) Profit and contingency factors as utilized in the insurer's automobile rate filings for the applicable years.
  - (g) Losses paid.
  - (h) Losses unpaid.
  - (i) Loss adjustment expenses paid.
  - (j) Loss adjustment expenses unpaid.

Section 54. Present paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section 628.909, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph (d), present paragraph (d) of that subsection is amended, present paragraph (e) of subsection (3) of that section is redesignated as paragraph (d), and present paragraph (d) of that subsection is amended, to read:

628.909 Applicability of other laws.-

- (2) The following provisions of the Florida Insurance Code apply to captive insurers who are not industrial insured captive insurers to the extent that such provisions are not inconsistent with this part:
- 1824 (d) Sections 627.730-627.7405, when no-fault coverage is provided.
  - (3) The following provisions of the Florida Insurance Code apply to industrial insured captive insurers to the extent that

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such provisions are not inconsistent with this part:

(d) Sections 627.730-627.7405 when no-fault coverage is provided.

Section 55. Subsections (2), (6), and (7) of section 705.184, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

705.184 Derelict or abandoned motor vehicles on the premises of public-use airports.—

(2) The airport director or the director's designee shall contact the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to notify that department that the airport has possession of the abandoned or derelict motor vehicle and to determine the name and address of the owner of the motor vehicle, the insurance company insuring the motor vehicle, notwithstanding the provisions of s. 627.736, and any person who has filed a lien on the motor vehicle. Within 7 business days after receipt of the information, the director or the director's designee shall send notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the owner of the motor vehicle, the insurance company insuring the motor vehicle, notwithstanding the provisions of s. 627.736, and all persons of record claiming a lien against the motor vehicle. The notice shall state the fact of possession of the motor vehicle, that charges for reasonable towing, storage, and parking fees, if any, have accrued and the amount thereof, that a lien as provided in subsection (6) will be claimed, that the lien is subject to enforcement pursuant to law, that the owner or lienholder, if any, has the right to a hearing as set forth in subsection (4), and that any motor vehicle which, at the end of 30 calendar days after receipt of the notice, has not been removed from the airport upon payment in full of all accrued

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charges for reasonable towing, storage, and parking fees, if any, may be disposed of as provided in s. 705.182(2)(a), (b), (d), or (e), including, but not limited to, the motor vehicle being sold free of all prior liens after 35 calendar days after the time the motor vehicle is stored if any prior liens on the motor vehicle are more than 5 years of age or after 50 calendar days after the time the motor vehicle is stored if any prior liens on the motor vehicle are 5 years of age or less.

- (6) The airport pursuant to this section or, if used, a licensed independent wrecker company pursuant to s. 713.78 shall have a lien on an abandoned or derelict motor vehicle for all reasonable towing, storage, and accrued parking fees, if any, except that no storage fee shall be charged if the motor vehicle is stored less than 6 hours. As a prerequisite to perfecting a lien under this section, the airport director or the director's designee must serve a notice in accordance with subsection (2) on the owner of the motor vehicle, the insurance company insuring the motor vehicle, notwithstanding the provisions of s. 627.736, and all persons of record claiming a lien against the motor vehicle. If attempts to notify the owner, the insurance company insuring the motor vehicle, notwithstanding the provisions of s. 627.736, or lienholders are not successful, the requirement of notice by mail shall be considered met. Serving of the notice does not dispense with recording the claim of lien.
- (7) (a) For the purpose of perfecting its lien under this section, the airport shall record a claim of lien which states shall state:
  - 1. The name and address of the airport.

...(Signature)...

597-04477-13 20131888 1886 2. The name of the owner of the motor vehicle, the 1887 insurance company insuring the motor vehicle, notwithstanding the provisions of s.  $627.736_r$  and all persons of record claiming 1888 1889 a lien against the motor vehicle. 1890 3. The costs incurred from reasonable towing, storage, and 1891 parking fees, if any. 1892 4. A description of the motor vehicle sufficient for identification. 1893 1894 (b) The claim of lien shall be signed and sworn to or 1895 affirmed by the airport director or the director's designee. 1896 (c) The claim of lien is shall be sufficient if it is in 1897 substantially the following form: 1898 1899 CLAIM OF LIEN 1900 State of ..... 1901 County of ..... 1902 Before me, the undersigned notary public, personally appeared 1903 ....., who was duly sworn and says that he/she is the 1904 ..... of ....., whose address is....; and that the 1905 following described motor vehicle: 1906 ... (Description of motor vehicle) ... 1907 owned by ....., whose address is ....., has accrued 1908 \$..... in fees for a reasonable tow, for storage, and for 1909 parking, if applicable; that the lienor served its notice to the 1910 owner, the insurance company insuring the motor vehicle 1911 notwithstanding the provisions of s. 627.736, Florida Statutes, 1912 and all persons of record claiming a lien against the motor 1913 vehicle on ...., ... (year)..., by......

and vessels.-

597-04477-13 20131888 1915 Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me this .... day of 1916 ..., ... (year)..., by ... (name of person making statement).... 1917 ... (Signature of Notary Public)..... (Print, Type, or Stamp 1918 Commissioned name of Notary Public) ... 1919 Personally Known....OR Produced....as identification. 1920 1921 However, the negligent inclusion or omission of any information 1922 in this claim of lien which does not prejudice the owner does 1923 not constitute a default that operates to defeat an otherwise 1924 valid lien. 1925 (d) The claim of lien shall be served on the owner of the 1926 motor vehicle, the insurance company insuring the motor vehicle, 1927 notwithstanding the provisions of s. 627.736, and all persons of 1928 record claiming a lien against the motor vehicle. If attempts to 1929 notify the owner, the insurance company insuring the motor 1930 vehicle notwithstanding the provisions of s. 627.736, or 1931 lienholders are not successful, the requirement of notice by mail shall be considered met. The claim of lien shall be so 1932 1933 served before recordation. 1934 (e) The claim of lien shall be recorded with the clerk of 1935 court in the county where the airport is located. The recording of the claim of lien shall be constructive notice to all persons 1936 of the contents and effect of such claim. The lien shall attach 1937 1938 at the time of recordation and shall take priority as of that 1939 time. 1940 Section 56. Subsection (4) of section 713.78, Florida 1941 Statutes, is amended to read: 1942 713.78 Liens for recovering, towing, or storing vehicles

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(4) (a) Any person regularly engaged in the business of recovering, towing, or storing vehicles or vessels who comes into possession of a vehicle or vessel pursuant to subsection (2), and who claims a lien for recovery, towing, or storage services, shall give notice to the registered owner, the insurance company insuring the vehicle notwithstanding the provisions of s. 627.736, and to all persons claiming a lien thereon, as disclosed by the records in the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles or of a corresponding agency in any other state.

(b) If a Whenever any law enforcement agency authorizes the removal of a vehicle or vessel or if a whenever any towing service, garage, repair shop, or automotive service, storage, or parking place notifies the law enforcement agency of possession of a vehicle or vessel pursuant to s. 715.07(2)(a)2., the law enforcement agency of the jurisdiction where the vehicle or vessel is stored shall contact the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, or the appropriate agency of the state of registration, if known, within 24 hours through the medium of electronic communications, giving the full description of the vehicle or vessel. Upon receipt of the full description of the vehicle or vessel, the department shall search its files to determine the owner's name, the insurance company insuring the vehicle or vessel, and whether any person has filed a lien upon the vehicle or vessel as provided in s. 319.27(2) and (3) and notify the applicable law enforcement agency within 72 hours. The person in charge of the towing service, garage, repair shop, or automotive service, storage, or parking place shall obtain such information from the applicable law enforcement agency

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within 5 days after the date of storage and shall give notice pursuant to paragraph (a). The department may release the insurance company information to the requestor notwithstanding the provisions of s. 627.736.

- (c) Notice by certified mail shall be sent within 7 business days after the date of storage of the vehicle or vessel to the registered owner, the insurance company insuring the vehicle notwithstanding the provisions of s. 627.736, and all persons of record claiming a lien against the vehicle or vessel. The notice must It shall state the fact of possession of the vehicle or vessel, that a lien as provided in subsection (2) is claimed, that charges have accrued and the amount thereof, that the lien is subject to enforcement pursuant to law, and that the owner or lienholder, if any, has the right to a hearing as set forth in subsection (5), and that any vehicle or vessel which remains unclaimed, or for which the charges for recovery, towing, or storage services remain unpaid, may be sold free of all prior liens after 35 days if the vehicle or vessel is more than 3 years of age or after 50 days if the vehicle or vessel is 3 years of age or less.
- (d) If attempts to locate the name and address of the owner or lienholder prove unsuccessful, the towing-storage operator shall, after 7 working days, excluding Saturday and Sunday, of the initial tow or storage, notify the public agency of jurisdiction where the vehicle or vessel is stored in writing by certified mail or acknowledged hand delivery that the towing-storage company has been unable to locate the name and address of the owner or lienholder and a physical search of the vehicle or vessel has disclosed no ownership information and a good

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faith effort has been made. As used in For purposes of this paragraph and subsection (9), the term "good faith effort" means that the following checks have been performed by the company to establish prior state of registration and for title:

- 1. Check of vehicle or vessel for any type of tag, tag record, temporary tag, or regular tag.
- 2. Check of law enforcement report for tag number or other information identifying the vehicle or vessel $_{7}$  if the vehicle or vessel was towed at the request of a law enforcement officer.
- 3. Check of trip sheet or tow ticket of tow truck operator to see if a tag was on vehicle or vessel at beginning of tow, if private tow.
- 4. If there is no address of the owner on the impound report, check of law enforcement report to see if an out-of-state address is indicated from driver license information.
- 5. Check of vehicle or vessel for inspection sticker or other stickers and decals that may indicate a state of possible registration.
- 6. Check of the interior of the vehicle or vessel for any papers that may be in the glove box, trunk, or other areas for a state of registration.
  - 7. Check of vehicle for vehicle identification number.
  - 8. Check of vessel for vessel registration number.
- 9. Check of vessel hull for a hull identification number, which should be carved, burned, stamped, embossed, or otherwise permanently affixed to the outboard side of the transom or, if there is no transom, to the outmost seaboard side at the end of the hull that bears the rudder or other steering mechanism.
  - Section 57. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1), paragraph (c)

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of subsection (7), paragraphs (a) through (c) of subsection (8), and subsections (9) and (10) of section 817.234, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

- 817.234 False and fraudulent insurance claims.-
- (1) (a) A person commits insurance fraud punishable as provided in subsection (11) if that person, with the intent to injure, defraud, or deceive any insurer:
- 1. Presents or causes to be presented any written or oral statement as part of, or in support of, a claim for payment or other benefit pursuant to an insurance policy or a health maintenance organization subscriber or provider contract, knowing that such statement contains any false, incomplete, or misleading information concerning any fact or thing material to such claim;
- 2. Prepares or makes any written or oral statement that is intended to be presented to <u>an</u> <u>any</u> insurer in connection with, or in support of, any claim for payment or other benefit pursuant to an insurance policy or a health maintenance organization subscriber or provider contract, knowing that such statement contains <u>any</u> false, incomplete, or misleading information concerning any fact or thing material to such claim;
- 3.a. Knowingly presents, causes to be presented, or prepares or makes with knowledge or belief that it will be presented to <u>an</u> <u>any</u> insurer, purported insurer, servicing corporation, insurance broker, or insurance agent, or <u>any</u> employee or agent thereof, <u>any</u> false, incomplete, or misleading information or written or oral statement as part of, or in support of, an application for the issuance of, or the rating of, any insurance policy, or a health maintenance organization

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subscriber or provider contract; or

- b. Knowingly conceals information concerning any fact material to such application; or
- 4. Knowingly presents, causes to be presented, or prepares or makes with knowledge or belief that it will be presented to any insurer a claim for payment or other benefit under a motor vehicle personal injury protection insurance policy if the person knows that the payee knowingly submitted a false, misleading, or fraudulent application or other document when applying for licensure as a health care clinic, seeking an exemption from licensure as a health care clinic, or demonstrating compliance with part X of chapter 400.

**(7)** 

- (c) An insurer, or any person acting at the direction of or on behalf of an insurer, may not change an opinion in a mental or physical report prepared under s. 627.736(8) or direct the physician preparing the report to change such opinion; however, this provision does not preclude the insurer from calling to the attention of the physician errors of fact in the report based upon information in the claim file. Any person who violates this paragraph commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.
- (8) (a) It is unlawful for any person intending to defraud any other person to solicit or cause to be solicited any business from a person involved in a motor vehicle accident for the purpose of making, adjusting, or settling motor vehicle tort claims or claims for personal injury protection benefits required by s. 627.736. Any person who violates the provisions of this paragraph commits a felony of the second degree,

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punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

A person who is convicted of a violation of this subsection

shall be sentenced to a minimum term of imprisonment of 2 years.

- (b) A person may not solicit or cause to be solicited any business from a person involved in a motor vehicle accident by any means of communication other than advertising directed to the public for the purpose of making motor vehicle tort claims or claims for personal injury protection benefits required by s. 627.736, within 60 days after the occurrence of the motor vehicle accident. Any person who violates this paragraph commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.
- (c) A lawyer, health care practitioner as defined in s. 456.001, or owner or medical director of a clinic required to be licensed pursuant to s. 400.9905 may not, at any time after 60 days have elapsed from the occurrence of a motor vehicle accident, solicit or cause to be solicited any business from a person involved in a motor vehicle accident by means of in person or telephone contact at the person's residence, for the purpose of making motor vehicle tort claims or claims for personal injury protection benefits required by s. 627.736. Any person who violates this paragraph commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.
- (9) A person may not organize, plan, or knowingly participate in an intentional motor vehicle crash or a scheme to create documentation of a motor vehicle crash that did not occur for the purpose of making motor vehicle tort claims or claims for personal injury protection benefits as required by s.

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2118 627.736. Any person who violates this subsection commits a
2119 felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s.
2120 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. A person who is convicted of
2121 a violation of this subsection shall be sentenced to a minimum
2122 term of imprisonment of 2 years.

(10) A licensed health care practitioner who is found guilty of insurance fraud under this section for an act relating to a motor vehicle personal injury protection insurance policy loses his or her license to practice for 5 years and may not receive reimbursement for bodily personal injury liability protection benefits for 10 years.

Section 58. Applicability; notice to policyholders.-

- (1) As used in this section, the term "minimum security requirements" means security that enables a person to respond in damages for liability on account of accidents arising out of the use of a motor vehicle in the amount of \$10,000 for damage to, or destruction of, property of others in any one crash; in the amount of \$25,000 for bodily injury to, or the death of, one person in any one crash; and, subject to such limits for one person, in the amount of \$50,000 for bodily injury to, or the death of, two or more persons in any one crash.
  - (2) Effective January 1, 2014:
- (a) Motor vehicle insurance policies issued or renewed on or after that date may not include personal injury protection.
- (b) Any person subject to ss. 324.022 and 627.733, Florida Statutes, must maintain at least minimum security requirements.
- (c) Any new or renewal motor vehicle insurance policy delivered or issued for delivery in this state must provide coverage that complies with minimum security requirements.

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(d) An existing motor vehicle insurance policy issued before that date which provides personal injury protection and property damage liability coverage that meet the requirements of ss. 324.022 and 627.733, Florida Statutes, on December 31, 2013, but that do not meet minimum security requirements on or after January 1, 2014, shall be deemed to meet the security requirements of s. 324.022 and s. 627.733, Florida Statutes, until such policy is renewed, nonrenewed, or canceled on or after January 1, 2014.

- (3) Each insurer shall allow each insured who has a new or renewal policy providing personal injury protection which becomes effective before January 1, 2014, and whose policy does not meet minimum security requirements on or after January 1, 2014, to change coverages so as to eliminate personal injury protection and obtain coverage providing minimum security requirements, which shall be effective on or after January 1, 2014. The insurer is not required to provide coverage complying with minimum security requirements in such policies if the insured does not pay the required premium, if any, by January 1, 2014, or such later date as the insurer may allow. Any reduction in the premium must be refunded by the insurer. The insurer may not impose an additional fee or charge on the insured which applies solely to a change in coverage; however, the insurer may charge an additional required premium that is actuarially indicated.
- (4) By September 1, 2013, each motor vehicle insurer shall provide notice of the provisions of this section to each motor vehicle policyholder who is subject to this section. The notice is subject to approval by the Office of Insurance Regulation and

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2176 must clearly inform the policyholder that:

(a) The Florida Motor Vehicle No-Fault Law is repealed, effective January 1, 2014, and that on or after that date, the insured is no longer required to maintain personal injury protection insurance coverage, that personal injury protection coverage is no longer available for purchase in this state, and that all new or renewal policies issued on or after that date do not contain such coverage.

- (b) Effective January 1, 2014, any person subject to the financial responsibility requirements of s. 324.022, Florida Statutes, must maintain minimum security requirements that enable such person to respond in damages for liability on account of accidents arising out of the use of a motor vehicle in the amount of \$10,000 for damage to, or destruction of, property of others in any one crash; in the amount of \$25,000 for bodily injury to, or the death of, one person in any one crash; and, subject to such limits for one person, in the amount of \$50,000 for bodily injury to, or the death of, two or more persons in any one crash.
- (c) Personal injury protection insurance pays covered medical expenses for injuries sustained in the motor vehicle crash by the policyholder, passengers, and relatives residing in the policyholder's household.
- (d) Bodily injury liability coverage protects the insured, up to the coverage limits, against loss if the insured is legally responsible for the death of or bodily injury to others in a motor vehicle accident.
- (e) The policyholder may be able to obtain medical payments coverage that pays covered medical expenses for injuries

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sustained in a motor vehicle crash by the policyholder and relatives residing in the policyholder's household, but that such coverage is not required under state law.

- (f) Policyholders whose insurance policies do not contain bodily injury liability coverage are without coverage that protects against loss if the policyholder is legally responsible for the death or bodily injury of others in a motor vehicle accident.
- (g) Underinsured motorist coverage provides benefits up to the limits of such coverage to a policyholder or other insured under the policy who is entitled to recover damages from owners or operators of uninsured or underinsured motor vehicles because of bodily injury, sickness, disease, or death in a motor vehicle accident.
- (h) If the policyholder's new or renewal motor vehicle insurance policy is effective before January 1, 2014, and contains personal injury protection and property damage liability coverage as required by state law before January 1, 2014, but does not meet minimum security requirements on or after January 1, 2014, such policy shall be deemed to meet minimum security requirements until it is renewed, nonrenewed, or canceled on or after January 1, 2014.
- (i) A policyholder whose new or renewal policy becomes effective before January 1, 2014, but does not meet minimum security requirements on or after January 1, 2014, may change coverages under the policy so as to eliminate personal injury protection and to obtain coverage providing minimum security requirements, including bodily injury liability coverage, which are effective on or after January 1, 2014.

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(j) If the policyholder has any questions, he or she should contact the name and phone number provided in the notice.

(5) This section shall take effect upon this act becoming a law.

Section 59. Application of suspensions for failure to maintain security; reinstatement.—All suspensions for failure to maintain required security as required by law in effect before January 1, 2014, remain in full force and effect after the effective date of this act. A driver may reinstate a suspended driver license or registration as provided under s. 324.0221.

Section 60. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act, and except for this section, which shall take effect upon becoming law, this act shall take effect January 1, 2014.