

By the Committee on Judiciary; and Senator Stargel

590-03684-16

20161432c1

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to service of process; amending s.
3 48.031, F.S.; expanding the locations at which
4 substitute service of process may be made when such
5 location is the only discoverable address for the
6 person to be served; defining the terms "virtual
7 office" and "executive office or mini suite";
8 providing an effective date.
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10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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12 Section 1. Subsection (6) of section 48.031, Florida
13 Statutes, is amended to read:

14 48.031 Service of process generally; service of witness
15 subpoenas.—

16 (6) (a) If the only address for a person to be served, ~~which~~
17 is discoverable through public records, ~~is a private mailbox, a~~
18 virtual office, or an executive office or mini suite, substitute
19 service may be made by leaving a copy of the process with the
20 person in charge of the private mailbox, virtual office, or
21 executive office or mini suite, but only if the process server
22 determines that the person to be served maintains a mailbox, a
23 virtual office, or an executive office or mini suite at that
24 location.

25 (b) For purposes of this subsection, the term "virtual
26 office" means an office that provides communications services,
27 such as telephone or facsimile services, and address services
28 without providing dedicated office space, and where all
29 communications are routed through a common receptionist. The
30 term "executive office or mini suite" means an office that
31 provides communications services, such as telephone and
32 facsimile services, a dedicated office space, and other

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33 supportive services, and where all communications are routed
34 through a common receptionist.

35 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.