

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to emergency preparedness and
3 response; creating s. 252.359, F.S.; directing the
4 Division of Emergency Management to create a statewide
5 system to facilitate the transport and distribution of
6 essentials and the restoration of utility services
7 throughout the state during a declared emergency;
8 defining the term "essentials"; directing the division
9 to create a certification system for persons
10 transporting or distributing essentials or assisting
11 in restoring utility services; providing requirements
12 and conditions for the certification system;
13 permitting certain activities by certified persons
14 during a curfew; authorizing a law enforcement officer
15 to specify a permissible route of ingress or egress
16 for a certified person; providing an effective date.

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

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20 Section 1. Section 252.359, Florida Statutes, is created
21 to read:

22 252.359 Ensuring availability of emergency supplies.-

23 (1) In order to meet the needs of residents affected
24 during a declared emergency and to ensure the continuing
25 economic resilience of communities impacted by disaster, the
26 division shall establish a statewide system to facilitate the

27 transport and distribution of essentials in commerce and the
28 restoration of utility services in the state.

29 (2) As used in this section, the term "essentials" means
30 goods that are consumed or used as a direct result of a declared
31 emergency, or that are consumed or used to preserve, protect, or
32 sustain life, health, safety, or economic well-being.

33 (3) The division shall develop a system to certify each
34 person who facilitates the transport or distribution of
35 essentials in commerce or who assists in restoring utility
36 services. The division may not certify a person other than a
37 person who routinely transports or distributes essentials or
38 assists in restoring utility services. In developing the system,
39 the division:

40 (a) May provide for a preemergency or postemergency
41 declaration certification.

42 (b) Shall allow the certification of an employer, if
43 requested by the employer, to constitute a certification of the
44 employer's employees.

45 (c) Shall create an easily recognizable indicium of
46 certification to assist local officials' efforts in determining
47 which persons have been certified under this subsection.

48 (d) Shall limit the duration of each certificate to no
49 more than 1 year. Each certificate may be renewed so long as the
50 criteria for certification are met.

51 (4) A person or employer certified under subsection (3) is
52 not required to obtain any additional certification or fulfill

53 any additional requirement to transport or distribute essentials
54 or assist in restoring utility services.

55 (5) Notwithstanding any curfew, a person or employer
56 certified under subsection (3) may enter or remain in the curfew
57 area for the limited purpose of facilitating the transport or
58 distribution of essentials or assisting in restoring utility
59 services and may provide service that exceeds otherwise
60 applicable hours of service maximums to the extent authorized by
61 a duly executed declaration of a state of emergency.

62 (6) This section does not prohibit a law enforcement
63 officer from specifying the permissible route of ingress or
64 egress for a person certified under subsection (3).

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