

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to service of process on financial
 3 institutions; amending s. 655.005, F.S.; providing a
 4 definition; amending s. 655.0201, F.S.; revising
 5 requirements relating to service of process on
 6 financial institutions authorized by federal or state
 7 law to transact business in this state; authorizing
 8 financial institutions to designate a central location
 9 for service of process; providing requirements;
 10 providing responsibilities of the Department of
 11 Financial Services; amending ss. 322.143 and 655.968,
 12 F.S.; correcting cross-references; providing an
 13 effective date.

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

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 17 Section 1. Paragraphs (g) through (q) of subsection (1) of
 18 section 655.005, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as
 19 paragraphs (i) through (s), respectively, paragraphs (r) through
 20 (y) are redesignated as paragraphs (u) through (bb),
 21 respectively, paragraphs (z) and (aa) are redesignated as
 22 paragraphs (t) and (g), respectively, and a new paragraph (h) is
 23 added to that subsection to read:

24 655.005 Definitions.—

25 (1) As used in the financial institutions codes, unless
 26 the context otherwise requires, the term:

27 (h) "Department" means the Department of Financial
 28 Services.

29 Section 2. Section 655.0201, Florida Statutes, is amended
 30 to read:

31 655.0201 Service of process, ~~notice, or demand~~ on
 32 financial institutions.—

33 ~~(1) Process against any financial institution authorized~~
 34 ~~by federal or state law to transact business in this state may~~
 35 ~~be served in accordance with chapter 48, chapter 49, chapter~~
 36 ~~605, or part I of chapter 607, as appropriate.~~

37 (1)(2) A Any financial institution authorized by federal
 38 or state law to transact business in this state may designate a
 39 place or registered agent within the state as the financial
 40 institution's central location agent for service of process.
 41 After a financial institution designates a place or registered
 42 agent, such place or registered agent is the sole location for
 43 service of process on the financial institution and all of its
 44 branches within the state, notice, or demand required or
 45 permitted by law to be served on the financial institution. If
 46 the financial institution has no registered agent, or its
 47 registered agent cannot with reasonable diligence be served,
 48 service may be made to any executive officer of the financial
 49 institution at its principal place of business in this state.

50 (2) (a) To establish a central location for service of
 51 process, a financial institution shall file notice designating
 52 its central location with the department. The filing must

53 contain the central location's:

- 54 1. Addressee name.
- 55 2. Physical address.
- 56 3. Telephone number.
- 57 4. Business hours during which service will be accepted.

58 (b) The central location is the proper venue for service
 59 of process for all types of service of process made on a
 60 financial institution, including service for actions related to
 61 garnishment, levy, injunctions, lawsuits, and the attachment of
 62 safety deposit boxes, in accordance with chapters 60, 76, and 77
 63 and the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure.

64 (c) The department shall publish a list of all central
 65 locations on its website. The department must update the list to
 66 reflect revocations or modifications made by a financial
 67 institution within 15 business days after receipt of such
 68 revocation or modification. The department's website must
 69 specify the date the list was last updated.

70 (3) If service cannot be made in accordance with
 71 subsection (1) ~~(2)~~, service may be made to an ~~any~~ officer,
 72 ~~director, or business agent~~ of the financial institution at its
 73 principal place of business or at any other branch, office, or
 74 place of business in the state.

75 ~~(4) This section does not prescribe the only means, or~~
 76 ~~necessarily the required means, of serving notice or demand on a~~
 77 ~~financial institution.~~

78 Section 3. Subsection (9) of section 322.143, Florida

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79 Statutes, is amended to read:

80 322.143 Use of a driver license or identification card.—

81 (9) This section does not apply to a financial institution
82 as defined in s. 655.005(1) ~~655.005(1)(i)~~.

83 Section 4. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section
84 655.968, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

85 655.968 Financial institutions; transactions relating to
86 Iran or terrorism.—

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

88 (b) "Financial institution" has the same meaning as
89 defined in s. 655.005(1) ~~655.005(1)(i)~~.

90 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.