1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to Uniform Voidable Transactions Act; 3 providing a directive to the Division of Law Revision 4 and Information; amending s. 726.101, F.S.; revising a short title; amending s. 726.102, F.S.; revising and 5 6 providing definitions; amending s. 726.103, F.S.; 7 removing conditions under which a partnership is 8 insolvent; imposing the burden of proving insolvency 9 upon certain debtors; amending ss. 726.105 and 10 726.106, F.S.; imposing the burden of proving elements 11 of a claim for relief upon certain creditors; amending 12 s. 726.107, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 726.108, F.S.; providing 13 14 conditions under which attachments or other provisional remedies are available to creditors; 15 16 amending s. 726.109, F.S.; revising the parties 17 subject to judgments for recovery of a creditor's claim; revising conditions under which a transfer is 18 19 not voidable; providing that certain actions related to the formation or conversion of an entity are not 20 21 voidable; imposing the burden of proving certain 22 applicability, claim elements, and adjustments; 23 providing requirements for standard of proof; amending ss. 726.110, 726.111, and 726.112, F.S.; conforming 24 25 provisions to changes made by the act; creating s.

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26 726.113, F.S.; providing that claims for relief are 27 governed by specified claims law; creating s. 726.114, 28 F.S.; providing definitions; providing applicability of specified provisions for series organizations and 29 30 the protected series of such organizations; creating s. 726.115, F.S.; providing applicability for a 31 32 specified federal act; providing an effective date. 33 34 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 35 The Division of Law Revision and Information is 36 Section 1. 37 directed to rename chapter 726, Florida Statutes, entitled "FRAUDULENT TRANSFERS," as "VOIDABLE TRANSACTIONS." 38 39 Section 2. Section 726.101, Florida Statutes, is amended 40 to read: 726.101 Short title.-This act may be cited as the "Uniform 41 42 Voidable Transactions Fraudulent Transfer Act." 43 Section 3. Section 726.102, Florida Statutes, is amended 44 to read: 726.102 Definitions.-As used in this chapter ss. 45 726.101-46 726.112: "Affiliate" means: 47 (1)48 (a) A person that who directly or indirectly owns, 49 controls, or holds with power to vote, 20 percent or more of the 50 outstanding voting securities of the debtor, other than a person Page 2 of 22

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51 that who holds the securities: 52 As a fiduciary or agent without sole discretionary 1. 53 power to vote the securities; or 54 Solely to secure a debt, if the person has not in fact 2. 55 exercised the power to vote. 56 A corporation 20 percent or more of whose outstanding (b) 57 voting securities are directly or indirectly owned, controlled, 58 or held with power to vote, by the debtor or a person that who 59 directly or indirectly owns, controls, or holds, with power to vote, 20 percent or more of the outstanding voting securities of 60 the debtor, other than a person that who holds the securities: 61 62 1. As a fiduciary or agent without sole discretionary 63 power to vote the securities; or 64 2. Solely to secure a debt, if the person has not in fact exercised the power to vote. 65 A person whose business is operated by the debtor 66 (C) 67 under a lease or other agreement, or a person substantially all 68 of whose assets are controlled by the debtor; or 69 A person that who operates the debtor's business under (d) 70 a lease or other agreement or controls substantially all of the 71 debtor's assets. 72 "Asset" means property of a debtor, but the term does (2)not include: 73 (a) Property to the extent it is encumbered by a valid 74 75 lien; Page 3 of 22

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76	(b) Property to the extent it is generally exempt under
77	nonbankruptcy law; or
78	(c) An interest in property held in tenancy by the
79	entireties to the extent it is not subject to process by a
80	creditor holding a claim against only one tenant.
81	(3) "Charitable contribution" means a charitable
82	contribution as that term is defined in s. 170(c) of the
83	Internal Revenue Code of 1986, if that contribution consists of:
84	(a) A financial instrument as defined in s. 731(c)(2)(C)
85	of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; or
86	(b) Cash.
87	(4) "Claim <u>,</u> " <u>except as used in "claim for relief,"</u> means a
88	right to payment, whether or not the right is reduced to
89	judgment, liquidated, unliquidated, fixed, contingent, matured,
90	unmatured, disputed, undisputed, legal, equitable, secured, or
91	unsecured.
92	(5) "Claims law" means fraudulent conveyance, fraudulent
93	transfer, or voidable transfer laws or other laws of similar
94	effect.
95	<u>(6)</u> "Creditor" means a person <u>that</u> who has a claim.
96	(7) (6) "Debt" means liability on a claim.
97	<u>(8)</u> (7) "Debtor" means a person <u>that</u> who is liable on a
98	claim.
99	(9) "Electronic" means technology having electrical,
100	digital, magnetic, wireless, optical, electromagnetic, or
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101 similar capabilities. 102 (10) (8) "Insider" includes: 103 (a) If the debtor is an individual: 104 1. A relative of the debtor or of a general partner of the 105 debtor; 106 2. A partnership in which the debtor is a general partner; 107 3. A general partner in a partnership described in 108 subparagraph 2.; or 109 4. A corporation of which the debtor is a director, 110 officer, or person in control; (b) If the debtor is a corporation: 111 112 1. A director of the debtor; 2. An officer of the debtor; 113 114 3. A person in control of the debtor; 115 A partnership in which the debtor is a general partner; 4. A general partner in a partnership described in 116 5. 117 subparagraph 4.; or 6. A relative of a general partner, director, officer, or 118 119 person in control of the debtor. 120 (c) If the debtor is a partnership: 121 1. A general partner in the debtor; 122 2. A relative of a general partner in, a general partner of, or a person in control of the debtor; 123 124 3. Another partnership in which the debtor is a general 125 partner; Page 5 of 22

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A general partner in a partnership described in this 126 4. 127 paragraph subparagraph 3.; or 128 5. A person in control of the debtor. (d) An affiliate, or an insider of an affiliate as if the 129 130 affiliate were the debtor. 131 (e) A managing agent of the debtor. (11) (9) "Lien" means a charge against or an interest in 132 property to secure payment of a debt or performance of an 133 obligation, and includes a security interest created by 134 agreement, a judicial lien obtained by legal or equitable 135 136 process or proceedings, a common-law lien, or a statutory lien. 137 (12) "Organization" means a person other than an 138 individual. (13) (10) "Person" means an individual, partnership, 139 140 limited partnership, business corporation, nonprofit business 141 corporation, public corporation, limited liability company, 142 limited cooperative association, unincorporated nonprofit association, organization, government or governmental 143 144 subdivision, instrumentality, or agency, business trust, common 145 law business trust, statutory trust, estate, trust, association, 146 joint venture, or any other legal or commercial entity. (14) (11) "Property" means anything that may be the subject 147 148 of ownership. 149 (15) (12) "Qualified religious or charitable entity or organization" means: 150

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151 An entity described in s. 170(c)(1) of the Internal (a) 152 Revenue Code of 1986; or 153 (b) An entity or organization described in s. 170(c)(2) of 154 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. 155 (16)"Record" means information that is inscribed on a 156 tangible medium or that is stored in an electronic or other 157 medium and is retrievable in perceivable form. 158 (17) (13) "Relative" means an individual related by 159 consanguinity within the third degree as determined by the 160 common law, a spouse, or an individual related to a spouse within the third degree as so determined, and includes an 161 162 individual in an adoptive relationship within the third degree. (18) "Sign" means with present intent to authenticate or 163 164 adopt a record to: 165 Execute or adopt a tangible symbol; or (a) 166 (b) Attach to or logically associate with the record an 167 electronic symbol, sound, or process. (19) (14) "Transfer" means every mode, direct or indirect, 168 169 absolute or conditional, voluntary or involuntary, of disposing 170 of or parting with an asset or an interest in an asset, and 171 includes payment of money, release, lease, license, and creation 172 of a lien or other encumbrance. (20) (15) "Valid lien" means a lien that is effective 173 174 against the holder of a judicial lien subsequently obtained by 175 legal or equitable process or proceedings.

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Section 4. Section 726.103, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 726.103 Insolvency.-(1) A debtor is insolvent if, at a fair valuation, the sum

180 of the debtor's debts is greater than <u>the sum</u> all of the 181 debtor's assets at a fair valuation.

(2) A debtor <u>that</u> who is generally not paying <u>their</u> his or
her debts as they become due <u>for reasons other than as a result</u>
<u>of a bona fide dispute</u> is presumed to be insolvent. <u>The party</u>
<u>against which the presumption is directed</u>, has the burden of
<u>proving that the nonexistence of insolvency is more probable</u>
than its existence.

188 (3) A partnership is insolvent under subsection (1) if the 189 sum of the partnership's debts is greater than the aggregate, at 190 a fair valuation, of all of the partnership's assets and the sum 191 of the excess of the value of each general partner's

192 nonpartnership assets over the partner's nonpartnership debts.

193 <u>(3) (4)</u> Assets under this section do not include property 194 that has been transferred, concealed, or removed with intent to 195 hinder, delay, or defraud creditors or that has been transferred 196 in a manner making the transfer voidable under <u>this chapter</u> ss. 197 726.101-726.112.

198 <u>(4) (5)</u> Debts under this section do not include an 199 obligation to the extent it is secured by a valid lien on 200 property of the debtor not included as an asset.

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201 Section 5. Section 726.105, Florida Statutes, is amended 202 to read:

203 726.105 Transfers <u>or obligations voidable</u> fraudulent as to 204 present and future creditors.—

(1) A transfer made or obligation incurred by a debtor is
 voidable fraudulent as to a creditor, whether the creditor's
 claim arose before or after the transfer was made or the
 obligation was incurred, if the debtor made the transfer or
 incurred the obligation:

(a) With actual intent to hinder, delay, or defraud anycreditor of the debtor; or

(b) Without receiving a reasonably equivalent value in
exchange for the transfer or obligation, and the debtor:

214 1. Was engaged or was about to engage in a business or a 215 transaction for which the remaining assets of the debtor were 216 unreasonably small in relation to the business or transaction; 217 or

218 2. Intended to incur, or believed or reasonably should 219 have believed that <u>the debtor</u> he or she would incur, debts 220 beyond <u>the debtor's</u> his or her ability to pay as they became 221 due.

(2) In determining actual intent under paragraph (1)(a),
 consideration may be given, among other factors, to whether:

224 225 (a) The transfer or obligation was to an insider.

(b) The debtor retained possession or control of the

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226 property transferred after the transfer. 227 The transfer or obligation was disclosed or concealed. (C) 228 (d) Before the transfer was made or obligation was incurred, the debtor had been sued or threatened with suit. 229 230 (e) The transfer was of substantially all the debtor's 231 assets. The debtor absconded. 232 (f) The debtor removed or concealed assets. 233 (g) The value of the consideration received by the debtor, 234 (h) 235 including value by way of asset substitution or otherwise, was 236 reasonably equivalent to the value of the asset transferred or 237 the amount of the obligation incurred. 238 The debtor was insolvent or became insolvent shortly (i) 239 after the transfer was made or the obligation was incurred. 240 The transfer occurred shortly before or shortly after (j) 241 a substantial debt was incurred. 242 The debtor transferred the essential assets of the (k) 243 business to a lienor that $\frac{1}{2}$ transferred the assets to an 244 insider of the debtor. 245 (3) A creditor making a claim for relief under subsection 246 (1) has the burden of proving the elements of the claim for 247 relief by a preponderance of the evidence. Section 6. Section 726.106, Florida Statutes, is amended 248 to read: 249 250 726.106 Transfers or obligations voidable fraudulent as to

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251 present creditors.-252 (1) A transfer made or obligation incurred by a debtor is 253 voidable fraudulent as to a creditor whose claim arose before 254 the transfer was made or the obligation was incurred if the 255 debtor made the transfer or incurred the obligation without 256 receiving a reasonably equivalent value in exchange for the 257 transfer or obligation and the debtor was insolvent at that time 258 or the debtor became insolvent as a result of the transfer or 259 obligation. 260 (2) A transfer made by a debtor is voidable fraudulent as 261 to a creditor whose claim arose before the transfer was made if the transfer was made to an insider for an antecedent debt, the 262 263 debtor was insolvent at that time, and the insider had 264 reasonable cause to believe that the debtor was insolvent. 265 (3) Subject to s. 726.103(2), a creditor making a claim 266 for relief under subsection (1) or subsection (2) has the burden 267 of proving the elements of the claim for relief by a 268 preponderance of the evidence. 269 Section 7. Section 726.107, Florida Statutes, is amended 270 to read: 271 726.107 When transfer made or obligation incurred.-For the 272 purposes of this chapter ss. 726.101-726.112: A transfer is made: 273 (1)274 With respect to an asset that is real property other (a) 275 than a fixture, but including the interest of a seller or

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276 purchaser under a contract for the sale of the asset, when the 277 transfer is so far perfected that a good faith purchaser of the 278 asset from the debtor against <u>which</u> whom applicable law permits 279 the transfer to be perfected cannot acquire an interest in the 280 asset that is superior to the interest of the transferee.

(b) With respect to an asset that is not real property or that is a fixture, when the transfer is so far perfected that a creditor on a simple contract cannot acquire a judicial lien otherwise than under <u>this chapter</u> ss. 726.101-726.112 that is superior to the interest of the transferee.

(2) If applicable law permits the transfer to be perfected
as provided in subsection (1) and the transfer is not so
perfected before the commencement of an action for relief under
this chapter ss. 726.101-726.112, the transfer is deemed made
immediately before the commencement of the action.

(3) If applicable law does not permit the transfer to be
perfected as provided in subsection (1), the transfer is made
when it becomes effective between the debtor and the transferee.

(4) A transfer is not made until the debtor has acquiredrights in the asset transferred.

296

(5) An obligation is incurred:

(a) If oral, when it becomes effective between theparties; or

(b) If evidenced by a <u>record</u> writing, when the <u>record</u>
 300 <u>signed</u> writing executed by the obligor is delivered to or for

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301 the benefit of the obligee.

302 Section 8. Section 726.108, Florida Statutes, is amended 303 to read:

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320

726.108 Remedies of creditors.-

305 (1) In an action for relief against a transfer or
306 obligation under <u>this chapter</u> ss. 726.101-726.112, a creditor,
307 subject to the limitations in s. 726.109 may obtain:

308 (a) Avoidance of the transfer or obligation to the extent309 necessary to satisfy the creditor's claim;

(b) An attachment or other provisional remedy against the asset transferred or other property of the transferee <u>if and to</u> the extent available under <u>in accordance with</u> applicable law;

313 (c) Subject to applicable principles of equity and in 314 accordance with applicable rules of civil procedure:

315 1. An injunction against further disposition by the debtor 316 or a transferee, or both, of the asset transferred or of other 317 property;

318 2. Appointment of a receiver to take charge of the asset319 transferred or of other property of the transferee; or

3. Any other relief the circumstances may require.

321 (2) If a creditor has obtained a judgment on a claim
322 against the debtor, the creditor, if the court so orders, may
323 levy execution on the asset transferred or its proceeds.

324 Section 9. Section 726.109, Florida Statutes, is amended 325 to read:

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326 726.109 Defenses, liability, and protection of transferee 327 or obligee.-328 A transfer or obligation is not voidable under s. (1) 329 726.105(1)(a) against a person that who took in good faith and 330 for a reasonably equivalent value given the debtor or against 331 any subsequent transferee or obligee. 332 (2) (a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, to 333 the extent a transfer is voidable in an action by a creditor 334 under s. 726.108(1)(a), the creditor may recover judgment for the value of the asset transferred, as adjusted under subsection 335 336 (3), or the amount necessary to satisfy the creditor's claim, 337 whichever is less. The judgment may be entered against: 1.(a) The first transferee of the asset or the person for 338 339 whose benefit the transfer was made; or 2.(b) An immediate or mediate transferee of the first Any 340 341 subsequent transferee other than: 342 a. A good faith transferee that who took for value; or 343 An immediate or mediate good faith transferee of a b. 344 person described in sub-subparagraph a from any subsequent 345 transferee. 346 (b) Recovery pursuant to s. 726.108(1)(a) or (2) of or 347 from the asset transferred or its proceeds, by levy or 348 otherwise, is available only against a person described in subparagraph (a)1. or subparagraph(a)2. 349 350 (3) If the judgment under subsection (2) is based upon the Page 14 of 22

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351 value of the asset transferred, the judgment must be for an 352 amount equal to the value of the asset at the time of the 353 transfer, subject to adjustment as the equities may require. 354 Notwithstanding voidability of a transfer or an (4) 355 obligation under this chapter ss. 726.101-726.112, a good faith 356 transferee or obligee is entitled, to the extent of the value 357 given the debtor for the transfer or obligation, to: 358 A lien on or a right to retain an any interest in the (a) 359 asset transferred; 360 (b) Enforcement of an any obligation incurred; or 361 (c) A reduction in the amount of the liability on the 362 judgment. A transfer is not voidable under s. 726.105(1)(b) or 363 (5) s. 726.106 if the transfer results from: 364 365 Termination of a lease upon default by the debtor when (a) 366 the termination is pursuant to the lease and applicable law; or 367 (b) Enforcement of a security interest in compliance with 368 Article 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code other than acceptance 369 of collateral in full or partial satisfaction of the obligation 370 it secures. 371 (6) A transfer is not voidable under s. 726.106(2): 372 To the extent the insider gave new value to or for the (a) benefit of the debtor after the transfer was made, except to the 373 374 extent unless the new value was secured by a valid lien; 375 (b) If made in the ordinary course of business or

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376 financial affairs of the debtor and the insider; or

377 (c) If made pursuant to a good faith effort to 378 rehabilitate the debtor and the transfer secured present value 379 given for that purpose as well as an antecedent debt of the 380 debtor.

(7) (a) The transfer of a charitable contribution that is received in good faith by a qualified religious or charitable entity or organization is not a fraudulent transfer under s. 726.105(1)(b) or s. 726.106(1).

385 (b) However, a charitable contribution from a natural 386 person is a fraudulent transfer if the transfer was received on, 387 or within 2 years before, the earlier of the date of 388 commencement of an action under this chapter, the filing of a 389 petition under the federal Bankruptcy Code, or the commencement 390 of insolvency proceedings by or against the debtor under any 391 state or federal law, including the filing of an assignment for 392 the benefit of creditors or the appointment of a receiver, 393 unless:

The transfer was consistent with the practices of the
 debtor in making the charitable contribution; or

396 2. The transfer was received in good faith and the amount 397 of the charitable contribution did not exceed 15 percent of the 398 gross annual income of the debtor for the year in which the 399 transfer of the charitable contribution was made.

400

(8) If, with respect to the formation of an entity or the

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401	conversion of any entity into another form of entity, regardless
402	of the local law of such entity, it is subsequently determined
403	that, as a result of such formation or conversion, a holder of
404	equity interests in such entity violated any other provisions of
405	this chapter, such formation or conversion shall not
406	presumptively be deemed to be voidable, and the creditors of
407	such member shall have available all other remedies and actions
408	under this chapter. For purposes of this subsection, the term
409	"entity" has the same meaning as provided in s. 605.0102(23),
410	notwithstanding that such entity may be organized under the laws
411	of a foreign jurisdiction.
412	(9)(a) A party that seeks to invoke subsection (1),
413	subsection (4), subsection (5), or subsection (6) has the burden
414	of proving the applicability of that subsection.
415	(b) Except as otherwise provided in paragraphs (c) and
416	(d), the creditor has the burden of proving each applicable
417	element of subsection (2) or subsection (3).
418	(c) The transferee has the burden of proving the
419	applicability to the transferee under subparagraph (2)(a)2.
420	(d) A party that seeks adjustment under subsection (3) has
421	the burden of proving the adjustment.
422	(10) The standard of proof required to establish matters
423	referred to in this section is preponderance of the evidence.
424	(11) The creditor has the burden of proving the requisite
425	elements of any claim under this chapter, as set forth in ss.

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426 726.105(3) and 726.106(3). 427 Section 10. Section 726.110, Florida Statutes, is amended 428 to read: 429 726.110 Extinguishment of claim for relief cause of 430 action.-A claim for relief cause of action with respect to a 431 fraudulent transfer or obligation under this chapter ss. 432 726.101-726.112 is extinguished unless action is brought: (1) Under s. 726.105(1)(a), within 4 years after the 433 434 transfer was made or the obligation was incurred or, if later, 435 within 1 year after the transfer or obligation and its wrongful 436 nature was or could reasonably have been discovered by the 437 claimant; (2) Under s. 726.105(1)(b) or s. 726.106(1), within 4 438 439 years after the transfer was made or the obligation was 440 incurred; or Under s. 726.106(2), within 1 year after the transfer 441 (3) 442 was made or the obligation was incurred. 443 Section 11. Section 726.111, Florida Statutes, is amended 444 to read: 726.111 Supplementary provisions.-Unless displaced by the 445 446 provisions of this chapter ss. 726.101-726.112, the principles 447 of law and equity, including the law merchant and the law relating to principal and agent, estoppel, laches, fraud, 448 misrepresentation, duress, coercion, mistake, insolvency, or 449 450 other validating or invalidating cause, supplement those

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451	provisions.
452	Section 12. Section 726.112, Florida Statutes, is amended
453	to read:
454	726.112 Uniformity of application and construction
455	Chapter 87-79, Laws of Florida, shall be applied and construed
456	to effectuate its general purpose to make uniform the law with
457	respect to the subject of the law among states enacting <u>the law</u>
458	it .
459	Section 13. Section 726.113, Florida Statutes, is created
460	to read:
461	726.113 Governing law
462	(1) For the purposes of this section, the following
463	provisions shall determine a debtor's physical location:
464	(a) A debtor that is an individual is located at his or
465	her principal residence.
466	(b) A debtor that is an organization and has only one
467	place of business is located at its place of business.
468	(c) A debtor that is an organization and has more than one
469	place of business is located at its chief executive office.
470	(2) A claim for relief in the nature of a claim for relief
471	under this chapter is governed by the claims law of the
472	jurisdiction in which the debtor is located when the transfer is
473	made or the obligation is incurred.
474	(3) This section does not affect the governing law for any
475	other claims or issues between the parties arising outside of

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476	this chapter or other claims law. If this section requires the
477	application of the claims law of a foreign jurisdiction, such a
478	determination does not affect which jurisdiction's exemption
479	laws apply, the availability of exemptions under applicable law,
480	or the debtor's entitlement to any protections afforded to the
481	debtor's homestead under the Florida Constitution.
482	Section 14. Section 726.114, Florida Statutes, is created
483	to read:
484	726.114 Application to series organization
485	(1) As used in this section, the term:
486	(a) "Protected series" means an arrangement, however
487	denominated, created by a series organization that, pursuant to
488	the law under which the series organization is organized, meets
489	the criteria set forth in paragraph (b).
490	(b) "Series organization" means an organization that,
491	pursuant to the law under which it is organized, has the
492	following characteristics:
493	1. The organic record of the organization provides for
494	creation by the organization of one or more protected series,
495	however denominated, with respect to specified property of the
496	organization, and for records to be maintained for each
497	protected series that identify the property of, or associated
498	with, the protected series.
499	2. Debt incurred or existing with respect to the
500	activities of, or property of or associated with, a particular
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501 protected series is enforceable against the property of or 502 associated with the protected series only, and not against the 503 property of or associated with the organization or other 504 protected series of the organization. 505 3. Debt incurred or existing with respect to the 506 activities or property of the organization is enforceable 507 against the property of the organization only, and not against 508 the property of or associated with a protected series of the 509 organization. 510 (2) A series organization and each protected series of the 511 organization is a separate person for purposes of this chapter, even if for other purposes a protected series is not a person 512 513 separate from the organization or other protected series of the 514 organization. Provisions of law other than this chapter 515 determines whether and to what extent a series organization and 516 each protected series of the organization is a separate person 517 for purposes other than the purposes of this chapter. 518 Section 15. Section 726.115, Florida Statutes, is created 519 to read: 520 726.115 Relation to Electronic Signatures in Global and 521 National Commerce Act.-This chapter modifies, limits, and 522 supersedes the federal Electronic Signatures in Global and 523 National Commerce Act, 15 U.S.C. ss. 7001, et seq., but does not 524 modify, limit, or supersede section 101(c) of that act, 15 525 U.S.C. s. 7001(c), or authorize electronic delivery of any of

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526	the	notices	described	in	s.	103(b)	of	that	act,	15	U.S.C.	s.
527	700	3(b).										
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Section 16. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.

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