

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to dangerous goods and hazardous
 3 materials certification; creating s. 501.938, F.S.;
 4 providing requirements for the use of professional
 5 titles and abbreviations by certified dangerous goods
 6 professionals, hazardous materials managers, and
 7 hazardous materials practitioners; providing
 8 definitions; providing that a violation of such
 9 requirements is a deceptive and unfair trade practice
 10 and a violation of the Florida Deceptive and Unfair
 11 Trade Practices Act; providing an effective date.

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

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 15 Section 1. Section 501.938, Florida Statutes, is created
 16 to read:

17 501.938 Certified dangerous goods professionals, hazardous
 18 materials managers, and hazardous materials practitioners; use
 19 of professional titles; failure to comply.-

20 (1) Any person representing himself or herself as a
 21 "certified dangerous goods professional," "certified hazardous
 22 materials manager," or "certified hazardous materials
 23 practitioner," or using the abbreviations "CDGP," "CHMM," or
 24 "CHMP," respectively, must accurately disclose his or her
 25 credentials.

26 (2) A person may not represent himself or herself as a
27 "certified dangerous goods professional," "certified hazardous
28 materials manager," or "certified hazardous materials
29 practitioner" unless he or she holds a current valid certificate
30 from the Institute of Hazardous Materials Management or another
31 institution that issues such certificates. A person may not
32 mislead or deceive anyone by the unauthorized use of any
33 certification mark that has been awarded by the United States
34 Patent and Trademark Office.

35 (3) (a) A "certified dangerous goods professional" is a
36 person who has been awarded a Certified Dangerous Goods
37 Professional (CDGP) certificate after successfully demonstrating
38 expertise in transporting and ensuring the security of dangerous
39 goods.

40 (b) A "certified hazardous materials manager" is a person
41 who has been awarded a Certified Hazardous Materials Manager
42 (CHMM) certificate after successfully demonstrating expertise in
43 identifying and assessing the risks of hazardous materials,
44 mitigating or eliminating such risks, and managing the impact
45 that such risks have on the environment and public health.

46 (c) A "certified hazardous materials practitioner" is a
47 person who has been awarded a Certified Hazardous Materials
48 Practitioner (CHMP) certificate after successfully demonstrating
49 expertise in handling hazardous materials in specialties such as
50 environmental protection and site cleanup, emergency response,

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51 transportation, and security.

52 (4) Failure to comply with this section is a deceptive and
53 unfair trade practice and a violation of the Florida Deceptive
54 and Unfair Trade Practices Act.

55 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.