

By the Committee on Appropriations; and Senator Hutson

576-03572-18

20181132c1

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to vessel safety inspection decals;
3 amending s. 327.70, F.S.; providing rulemaking
4 authority to the Fish and Wildlife Conservation
5 Commission regarding expiration and design of safety
6 inspection decals; specifying standards for such
7 rulemaking; providing a maximum period of validity for
8 the decal; specifying that decals issued on or before
9 a specified date are no longer valid after that date;
10 providing an effective date.

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

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14 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section
15 327.70, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

16 327.70 Enforcement of this chapter and chapter 328.—
17 (2) (a) 1. Upon demonstrated compliance with the safety equipment
18 carriage and use requirements of this chapter during a safety
19 inspection initiated by a law enforcement officer, the operator
20 of a vessel shall be issued a safety inspection decal signifying
21 that the vessel is deemed to have met the safety equipment
22 carriage and use requirements of this chapter at the time and
23 location of such inspection. The commission may designate by
24 rule the timeframe for expiration of, and the specific design
25 for, the safety inspection decal. However, a decal may not be
26 valid for more than 5 years and, at a minimum, must meet the
27 standards specified in this paragraph. All decals issued by the
28 commission on or before December 31, 2018, are no longer valid
29 after that date.

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30 2. The safety inspection decal, if displayed, must be
31 located within 6 inches of the inspected vessel's properly
32 displayed vessel registration decal. For nonmotorized vessels
33 that are not required to be registered, the safety inspection
34 decal, if displayed, must be located above the waterline on the
35 forward half of the port side of the vessel.

36 Section 2. This act shall take effect January 1, 2019.