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A bill to be entitled
 An act relating to vessel registration; amending s.
 328.80, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Highway
 Safety and Motor Vehicles to issue an electronic
 certificate of registration for a vessel and to use
 electronic mail for certain purposes; amending s.
 328.48, F.S.; authorizing a vessel operator to present
 such electronic certificate for inspection under
 certain circumstances; providing construction;
 providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 328.80, Florida Statutes, is amended to
 read:

328.80 Transactions by electronic or telephonic means.—

(1) The department may ~~commission is authorized to~~ accept
 any application provided for under this chapter by electronic or
 telephonic means.

(2) The department may issue an electronic certificate of
registration in lieu of printing a paper registration.

(3) The department may collect electronic mail addresses
and use electronic mail in lieu of the United States Postal
Service for the purpose of providing renewal notices.

Section 2. Subsection (4) of section 328.48, Florida

26 Statutes, is amended to read:

27 328.48 Vessel registration, application, certificate,
28 number, decal, duplicate certificate.-

29 (4) Each certificate of registration issued shall state
30 among other items the numbers awarded to the vessel, the hull
31 identification number, the name and address of the owner, and a
32 description of the vessel, except that certificates of
33 registration for vessels constructed or assembled by the owner
34 registered for the first time shall state all the foregoing
35 information except the hull identification number. The numbers
36 shall be placed on each side of the forward half of the vessel
37 in such position as to provide clear legibility for
38 identification, except, if the vessel is an airboat, the numbers
39 may be placed on each side of the rudder. The numbers awarded to
40 the vessel shall read from left to right and shall be in block
41 characters of good proportion not less than 3 inches in height.
42 The numbers shall be of a solid color which will contrast with
43 the color of the background and shall be so maintained as to be
44 clearly visible and legible; i.e., dark numbers on a light
45 background or light numbers on a dark background. The
46 certificate of registration shall be pocket-sized and shall be
47 available for inspection on the vessel for which issued whenever
48 such vessel is in operation. If the certificate of registration
49 is not available for inspection on the vessel or is damaged or
50 otherwise illegible, the operator may present for inspection an

51 electronic device displaying an electronic certificate issued
52 pursuant to s. 328.80. Such presentation does not constitute
53 consent for inspection of any information on the device other
54 than the displayed certificate.

55 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.