Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

1

2

3

4

5 6

7

8

9

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION

ADOPTED	(Y/N)
ADOPTED AS AMENDED	(Y/N)
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION	(Y/N)
FAILED TO ADOPT	(Y/N)
WITHDRAWN	(Y/N)
OTHER	

Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Judiciary Committee Representative Grant, J. offered the following:

Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert: Section 1. <u>The Division of Law Revision and Information is</u> <u>directed to create part I of chapter 117, Florida Statutes,</u> <u>consisting of ss. 117.01-117.108, Florida Statutes, to be</u> <u>entitled "General Provisions."</u>

Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 117.01, Florida
Statutes, is amended to read:

12 117.01 Appointment, application, suspension, revocation, 13 application fee, bond, and oath.-

(1) The Governor may appoint as many notaries public as he
or she deems necessary, each of whom shall be at least 18 years
of age and a legal resident of <u>this</u> the state. A permanent

629429 - h0771-strike.docx

Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 1 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

17 resident alien may apply and be appointed and shall file with his or her application a recorded Declaration of Domicile. The 18 19 residence required for appointment must be maintained throughout the term of appointment. Notaries public shall be appointed for 20 21 4 years and may only shall use and exercise the office of notary 22 public if he or she is within the boundaries of this state. An 23 applicant must be able to read, write, and understand the 24 English language. Section 3. Subsections (4) and (5) of section 117.021, 25 Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (5) and (6), 26 respectively, paragraph (c) of subsection (2) is amended, and 27 28 new subsections (4) and (7) are added to that section, to read: 29 117.021 Electronic notarization.-30 (2) In performing an electronic notarial act, a notary public shall use an electronic signature that is: 31 32 Retained under the notary public's sole control and (C) 33 includes access protection through the use of passwords or codes under control of the notary public; and 34 35 (4) A person may not require a notary public to perform a 36 notarial act with respect to an electronic record with a 37 technology that the notary public has not selected. 38 (7) The Department of State, in collaboration with the Agency for State Technology, shall adopt rules establishing 39 standards for tamper-evident technologies that will indicate any 40 alteration or change to an electronic record after completion of 41 629429 - h0771-strike.docx Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

42 an electronic notarial act and shall publish a list of

43 technologies that satisfy such standards and are approved for

44 use in electronic notarizations, effective January 1, 2019. All

45 electronic notarizations performed on or after January 1, 2019,

46 <u>must comply with the adopted standards and use an approved</u> 47 technology.

Section 4. Subsection (1), paragraph (a) of subsection (2), paragraphs (a), (c), (g), (h), and (i) of subsection (4), subsection (5), paragraph (a) of subsection (12), and subsections (13) and (14) of section 117.05, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph (c) is added to subsection (12) of that section, to read:

54 117.05 Use of notary commission; unlawful use; notary fee; 55 seal; duties; employer liability; name change; advertising; 56 photocopies; penalties.-

57 No person shall obtain or use a notary public (1)58 commission in other than his or her legal name, and it is 59 unlawful for a notary public to notarize his or her own 60 signature. Any person applying for a notary public commission 61 must submit proof of identity to the Department of State if so requested. Any person who violates the provisions of this 62 subsection is quilty of a felony of the third degree, punishable 63 64 as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

629429 - h0771-strike.docx Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 3 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

65 The fee of a notary public may not exceed \$10 for (2) (a) 66 any one notarial act, except as provided in ss. s. 117.045 and 67 117.275. 68 (4) When notarizing a signature, a notary public shall 69 complete a jurat or notarial certificate in substantially the 70 same form as those found in subsection (13). The jurat or 71 certificate of acknowledgment shall contain the following 72 elements: 73 (a) The venue stating the location of the notary public at 74 the time of the notarization in the format, "State of Florida, 75 County of" 76 (C) That the signer personally appeared before the notary 77 public at the time of the notarization either by physical presence or by means of audio-video communication technology 78 79 pursuant to part II of this chapter. 80 The notary public's notary's official signature. (q) 81 (h) The notary public's notary's name, typed, printed, or stamped below the signature. 82 83 The notary public's notary's official seal affixed (i) 84 below or to either side of the notary public's notary's 85 signature. (5) A notary public may not notarize a signature on a 86 document unless he or she personally knows, or has satisfactory 87 evidence, that the person whose signature is to be notarized is 88 the individual who is described in and who is executing the 89 629429 - h0771-strike.docx Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

90 instrument. A notary public shall certify in the certificate of 91 acknowledgment or jurat the type of identification, either based 92 on personal knowledge or other form of identification, upon 93 which the notary public is relying. <u>In the case of an online</u> 94 <u>notarization, the online notary public shall comply with the</u> 95 <u>procedures set forth in part II of this chapter.</u>

96 (12) (a) A notary public may supervise the making of a copy 97 photocopy of a tangible or electronic record or the printing of an electronic record, an original document and attest to the 98 99 trueness of the copy or of the printout, provided the document is neither a vital record in this state, another state, a 100 101 territory of the United States, or another country, nor a public record, if a copy can be made by the custodian of the public 102 103 record.

104 (c) A notary public must use a certificate in 105 substantially the following form in notarizing a copy of a 106 tangible or electronic record or a printout of an electronic

107 record:

108 STATE OF FLORIDA

109 <u>COUNTY OF</u>

110 On this day of, ... (year)..., I attest that the

111 preceding or attached document is a true, exact, complete, and

112 unaltered copy of a tangible or electronic record presented to

113 me by the document's custodian or a printout made by me from

114 <u>such record, if, at the time of printing, no security features,</u> 629429 - h0771-strike.docx

Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 5 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

115	if present on the electronic record, indicated that the record
116	had been altered since execution.
117	(Signature of Notary Public - State of Florida)
118	(Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary
119	Public)
120	(13) The following notarial certificates are sufficient
121	for the purposes indicated, if completed with the information
122	required by this chapter. The specification of forms under this
123	subsection does not preclude the use of other forms.
124	(a) For an oath or affirmation:
125	STATE OF FLORIDA
126	COUNTY OF
127	Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me by means of
128	[] physical presence or [] online notarization, this day of
129	,(year), by(name of person making
130	statement)
131	(Signature of Notary Public - State of Florida)
132	(Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary
133	Public)
134	Personally Known OR Produced Identification
135	
136	Type of Identification Produced
137	(b) For an acknowledgment in an individual capacity:
138	STATE OF FLORIDA
139	COUNTY OF
I	629429 - h0771-strike.docx
	Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM
	Page 6 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

140 The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me by means of 141 [] physical presence or [] online notarization, this day of 142,(year)..., by(name of person acknowledging).... 143 ... (Signature of Notary Public - State of Florida) ... 144 ... (Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public)... Personally Known OR Produced Identification 145 146 147 Type of Identification Produced..... For an acknowledgment in a representative capacity: 148 (C) 149 STATE OF FLORIDA 150 COUNTY OF 151 The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me by means of [] physical presence or [] online notarization, this day of 152 153, ... (year)..., by ... (name of person)... as ... (type of 154 authority, . . . e.g. officer, trustee, attorney in fact)... 155 for ... (name of party on behalf of whom instrument was 156 executed) 157 ... (Signature of Notary Public - State of Florida) ... 158 ... (Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public)... 159 Personally Known OR Produced Identification 160 Type of Identification Produced..... 161 (14) A notary public must make reasonable accommodations 162 to provide notarial services to persons with disabilities. 163 629429 - h0771-strike.docx Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 7 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

164 A notary public may notarize the signature of a person (a) who is blind after the notary public has read the entire 165 166 instrument to that person. 167 (b) A notary public may notarize the signature of a person who signs with a mark if: 168 169 1. The document signing is witnessed by two disinterested 170 persons; 171 2. The notary public prints the person's first name at the beginning of the designated signature line and the person's last 172 name at the end of the designated signature line; and 173 The notary public prints the words "his (or her) mark" 174 3. 175 below the person's signature mark. 176 The following notarial certificates are sufficient for (C) 177 the purpose of notarizing for a person who signs with a mark: 178 1. For an oath or affirmation: 179 ... (First Name) ... (Last Name) ... 180 ...His (or Her) Mark... STATE OF FLORIDA 181 182 COUNTY OF 183 Sworn to and subscribed before me by means of [] physical 184 presence or [] online notarization, this day of, ... (year) ..., by ... (name of person making statement) ..., who 185 signed with a mark in the presence of these witnesses: 186 187 ... (Signature of Notary Public - State of Florida)... 188 ... (Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public)... 629429 - h0771-strike.docx Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 8 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

189 Personally Known OR Produced Identification 190 191 Type of Identification Produced..... 192 2. For an acknowledgment in an individual capacity: 193 ... (First Name) ... (Last Name) ... 194 ...His (or Her) Mark... 195 STATE OF FLORIDA 196 COUNTY OF 197 The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me by means of 198 [] physical presence or [] online notarization, this day of, ... (year)..., by ... (name of person acknowledging)..., 199 200 who signed with a mark in the presence of these witnesses: 201 ... (Signature of Notary Public - State of Florida) ... 202 ... (Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public)... 203 Personally Known OR Produced Identification 204 205 Type of Identification Produced..... 206 (d) A notary public may sign the name of a person whose 207 signature is to be notarized when that person is physically 208 unable to sign or make a signature mark on a document if: 209 The person with a disability directs the notary public 1. to sign in his or her presence; 210 211 2. The document signing is witnessed by two disinterested 212 persons; 629429 - h0771-strike.docx Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

213 3. The notary public writes below the signature the 214 following statement: "Signature affixed by notary public, 215 pursuant to s. 117.05(14), Florida Statutes," and states the 216 circumstances of the signing in the notarial certificate. 217 (e) The following notarial certificates are sufficient for 218 the purpose of notarizing for a person with a disability who directs the notary public to sign his or her name: 219 1. For an oath or affirmation: 220 221 STATE OF FLORIDA 222 COUNTY OF 223 Sworn to (or affirmed) before me by means of [] physical 224 presence or [] online notarization, this day of, 225 ... (year) ..., by ... (name of person making statement) ..., and 226 subscribed by ... (name of notary) ... at the direction of and in 227 the presence of ... (name of person making statement) ..., and in 228 the presence of these witnesses: 229 ... (Signature of Notary Public - State of Florida) (Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public)... 230 231 Personally Known OR Produced Identification 232 233 Type of Identification Produced..... 234 2. For an acknowledgment in an individual capacity: STATE OF FLORIDA 235 236 COUNTY OF 629429 - h0771-strike.docx Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM Page 10 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

237 The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me by means of 238 [] physical presence or [] online notarization, this day of 239,(year)..., by(name of person acknowledging).... 240 and subscribed by ... (name of notary) ... at the direction of and 241 in the presence of ... (name of person acknowledging)..., and in 242 the presence of these witnesses: 243 ... (Signature of Notary Public - State of Florida) ... 244 ... (Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public) ... Personally Known OR Produced Identification 245 246 Type of Identification Produced..... 247 248 Section 5. Subsections (2) and (9) of section 117.107, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 249 250 117.107 Prohibited acts.-251 (2) A notary public may not sign notarial certificates 252 using a facsimile signature stamp unless the notary public has a 253 physical disability that limits or prohibits his or her ability to make a written signature and unless the notary public has 254 255 first submitted written notice to the Department of State with 256 an exemplar of the facsimile signature stamp. This subsection 257 does not apply to or prohibit the use of an electronic signature 258 and seal by a notary public performing an electronic or online notarization in accordance with this chapter. 259 260 A notary public may not notarize a signature on a (9) 261 document if the person whose signature is being notarized does

629429 - h0771-strike.docx

Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 11 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

262	not appear before the notary public either by means of physical
263	presence or audio-video communication technology pursuant to
264	part II of this chapter is not in the presence of the notary
265	public at the time the signature is notarized. Any notary public
266	who violates this subsection is guilty of a civil infraction,
267	punishable by penalty not exceeding \$5,000, and such violation
268	constitutes malfeasance and misfeasance in the conduct of
269	official duties. It is no defense to the civil infraction
270	specified in this subsection that the notary public acted
271	without intent to defraud. A notary public who violates this
272	subsection with the intent to defraud is guilty of violating s.
273	117.105.
274	Section 6. Part II of chapter 117, Florida Statutes,
275	consisting of sections 117.201-117.305, Florida Statutes, is
276	created to read:
277	PART II
278	ONLINE NOTARIZATIONS
279	117.201 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:
280	(1)(a) "Appear before," "before," "appear personally
281	before," or "in the presence of" means:
282	1. In the same physical location as another person and
283	close enough to see, hear, communicate with and exchange
284	credentials with that person; or
	 629429 - h0771-strike.docx

Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 12 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

285	2. In a different physical location from another person
286	but able to see, hear, and communicate with the person by means
287	of audio-video communication technology.
288	(b) This term also applies to ss. 92.50 and 695.03.
289	(2) "Audio-video communication technology" means
290	technology, in compliance with this chapter, that enables real-
291	time, two-way communication using electronic means in which
292	participants are able to see, hear, and communicate with one
293	another.
294	(3) "Credential analysis" means a process or service, in
295	compliance with this chapter, in which a third party affirms
296	the validity of a government-issued identification credential
297	and data thereon through review of public or proprietary data
298	sources.
299	(4) "Errors and omissions insurance" means a type of
300	insurance that provides coverage for potential errors or
301	omissions in or relating to a notarial act.
302	(5) "Government-issued identity credential" means any
303	approved credential for verifying identity in s. 117.05(5)(b)2.
304	(6) "Identity proofing" means a process or service in
305	compliance with this chapter in which a third party affirms the
306	identity of an individual through use of public or proprietary
307	data sources, which may include knowledge-based authentication
308	or biometric verification.

629429 - h0771-strike.docx

Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 13 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

309	(7) "Knowledge-based authentication" means a form of
310	identity proofing based on a set of questions that pertains to
311	an individual and formulated from public or proprietary data
312	sources.
313	(8) "Online notarization" means the performance of an
314	electronic notarization by means of audio-video communication
315	technology in compliance with this chapter.
316	(9) "Online notary public" means a notary public, a
317	civil-law notary appointed under chapter 118, or a commissioner
318	of deeds appointed under part IV of chapter 721, that has
319	registered with the Department of State to perform online
320	notarizations under this part.
321	(10) "Principal" means an individual whose electronic
322	signature is acknowledged, witnessed, or attested in an online
323	notarization or who takes an oath or affirmation from the
324	online notary public.
325	(11) "Remote presentation" means transmission of an image
326	of a government-issued identification credential that is of
327	sufficient quality to enable the online notary public to
328	identify the individual seeking the notary's services and to
329	perform credential analysis through audio-video communication
330	technology.
331	(12) Except where the context otherwise requires, any term
332	defined in s. 668.50(2) shall have the same meaning when used in
333	this chapter.
6	529429 - h0771-strike.docx
	Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 14 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

334	117.209 Authority to perform online notarizations
335	(1) An online notary public may perform any of the
336	functions authorized under chapter 117 as an online
337	notarization.
338	(2) If a notarial act requires a principal to appear
339	before or in the presence of the online notary public, the
340	principal may appear before the online notary public by means of
341	audio-video communication technology that meets the requirements
342	of this chapter and any rules adopted by the Department of State
343	<u>under s. 117.295.</u>
344	(3) An online notary public may perform an online
345	notarization authorized under this chapter, regardless of the
346	physical location of the principal at the time of the notarial
347	act, provided the online notary public, other than a civil-law
348	notary or a commissioner of deeds, is physically located in this
349	state while performing the online notarization.
350	(4) The validity of an online notarization performed by an
351	online notary public registered in this state shall be
352	determined by applicable laws of this state regardless of the
353	physical location of the principal at the time of the notarial
354	act.
355	(5) The authority in subsection (1) to perform a notarial
356	act as an online notarization excludes:
357	(a) Solemnizing the rites of matrimony.
(629429 - h0771-strike.docx
	Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 15 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

358	(b) A notarial act in connection with the creation and
359	execution of a will, codicil, or revocable trust subject to the
360	execution formalities of s. 736.0403(2).
361	(c) A contract, agreement, or waiver subject to ss.
362	732.701 and 732.702.
363	117.215 Relation to other laws.
364	(1) If a provision of law requires a notary public or
365	other authorized state official to notarize a signature or
366	statement; take an acknowledgment of an instrument; or
367	administer an oath or affirmation so that a document may be
368	sworn, affirmed, made under oath, or subject to penalty of
369	perjury, an online notarization performed in accordance with the
370	provisions of this part and any rules adopted hereunder shall
371	satisfy such requirement.
372	(2) If a provision of law requires a signature or act be
373	witnessed, compliance with the online electronic witnessing
374	standards under s. 117.285 and any rules adopted hereunder
375	satisfies that requirement.
376	(3) Subsections (1) and (2) exclude and do not apply to
377	laws governing:
378	(a) Solemnizing the rites of matrimony.
379	(b) A notarial act in connection with the creation and
380	execution of a will, codicil, or revocable trust subject to the
381	execution formalities of s. 736.0403(2).
ļ	629429 - h0771-strike.docx
	Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 16 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

382	(c) A contract, agreement, or waiver subject to ss.
383	732.701 and 732.702.
384	117.225 Registration; qualifications.—A notary public, a
385	civil-law notary appointed under chapter 118, or a commissioner
386	of deeds appointed under part IV of chapter 721, may complete a
387	registration as an online notary public with the Department of
388	State by:
389	(1) Satisfying the requirements for appointment as a
390	notary public under part I of this chapter, as a civil-law
391	notary under chapter 118, or as a commissioner of deeds under
392	part IV of chapter 721.
393	(2) Certifying that the registrant has completed a
394	classroom or online course of at least three hours covering the
395	duties, obligations, and technology requirements for serving as
396	an online notary public.
397	(3) Paying an online notary public application fee in the
398	amount of \$25.
399	(4) Submitting to the Department of State a registration
400	as an online notary public, signed and sworn to by the
401	registrant.
402	(5) Confirming in a statement that the audio-video
403	communication and identity proofing technologies the registrant
404	intends to use in performing online notarizations satisfy the
405	requirements of this chapter.
6	529429 - h0771-strike.docx
	Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 17 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

406	(6) Providing evidence satisfactory to the Executive
407	Office of the Governor that the registrant has obtained a bond,
408	payable to any individual harmed as a result of a breach of duty
409	by the registrant acting in his or her official capacity as an
410	online notary public, conditioned for the due discharge of the
411	office, in the minimum amount of \$25,000, and on such terms as
412	are specified by rule by the Department of State as reasonably
413	necessary to protect the public. The bond shall be approved and
414	filed with the Department of State and executed by a surety
415	company duly authorized to transact business in this state.
416	Compliance by a notary public with this requirement shall
417	satisfy the requirement of obtaining a bond under s. 117.01(7).
418	(7) Providing evidence satisfactory to the Executive
419	Office of the Governor that the registrant acting in his or her
420	official capacity as an online notary public is covered by an
421	errors and omissions insurance policy from an insurer authorized
422	to transact business in this state, in the minimum amount of
423	\$25,000, and on such terms as are specified by rule by the
424	Department of State as reasonably necessary to protect the
425	public.
426	117.235 Performance of notarial acts
427	(1) An online notary public is subject to part I to the
428	same extent as a notary public appointed and commissioned only
429	under that part, including the provisions of s. 117.021 relating
430	to electronic notarizations.
 629429 - h0771-strike.docx	
	Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 18 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

431	(2) An online notary public may perform notarial acts as
432	provided by part I in addition to performing online
433	notarizations as authorized and pursuant to the provisions of
434	this part.
435	117.245 Electronic journal of online notarizations
436	(1) An online notary public shall keep a secure electronic
437	journal of electronic records notarized by the online notary
438	public. For each online notarization, the electronic journal
439	entry must contain all of the following:
440	(a) Date and time of the notarization.
441	(b) Type of notarial act.
442	(c) Type, title, or description of the electronic record
443	or proceeding.
444	(d) Printed name and address of each principal involved in
445	the transaction or proceeding.
446	(e) Evidence of identity of each principal involved in the
447	transaction or proceeding in any of the following forms:
448	1. Statement that the person is personally known to the
449	online notary public.
450	2. Notation of the type of government-issued identity
451	credential provided to the online notary public.
452	3. Copy of the government-issued identity credential
453	provided.
454	4. Copy of any other identity credential or information
455	provided.
(629429 - h0771-strike.docx
	Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM
	$D_{2} = 10$ of 11

Page 19 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

456	(f) Indication that the principal satisfactorily passed
457	the identity proofing.
458	(g) Indication that the government-issued identity
459	credential satisfied the credential analysis.
460	(h) The fee, if any, charged for the online notarization.
461	(2) The online notary public shall retain a copy of the
462	recording of the audio-video communication in which the:
463	(a) Principal and any witnesses appeared before the notary
464	public.
465	(b) Identity of each participant was confirmed.
466	(c) Electronic records were signed by the principal and
467	any witnesses.
468	(d) Notarial act was performed.
469	(3) The online notary public shall take reasonable steps
470	to:
471	(a) Ensure the integrity, security, and authenticity of
472	online notarizations.
473	(b) Maintain a backup record for the electronic journal
474	required by subsection (1).
475	(c) Protect the electronic journal, the backup record, and
476	any other records received by the online notary public from
477	unauthorized use.
478	(4) The electronic journal required under subsection (1)
479	and the recording of the audio-video communication required
480	under subsection (2) shall be maintained for at least 10 years
6	529429 - h0771-strike.docx
	Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 20 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

481	after the date of the notarial act. The online notary public, a
482	guardian of an incapacitated online notary public, or the
483	personal representative of a deceased online notary public, may,
484	by contract with a secure repository in accordance with any
485	rules established under this chapter, delegate to the repository
486	the online notary public's duty to retain the required
487	electronic journal and copies of the recordings of audio-video
488	communications.
489	(5) An omitted or incomplete entry in the electronic
490	journal does not impair the validity of the notarial act or the
491	electronic record which was notarized, but may be introduced as
492	evidence to establish violations of this chapter or as an
493	indication of possible fraud, forgery, or impersonation or for
494	other evidentiary purposes.
495	117.255 Use of electronic journal, signature, and sealAn
496	online notary public shall:
497	(1) Take reasonable steps to ensure that any registered
498	device used to create an electronic signature is current and has
499	not been revoked or terminated by the issuing or registering
500	authority of the device.
501	(2) Keep the electronic journal, electronic signature, and
502	electronic seal secure and under his or her sole control, which
503	shall include access protection through the use of passwords or
504	codes under control of the notary public. The online notary
505	public may not allow another person to use the online notary
(629429 - h0771-strike.docx
	Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM
	$P_{2} = 21 \text{ of } 14$

Page 21 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

506	public's electronic journal, electronic signature, or electronic
507	seal.
508	(3) Use only an electronic signature for performing online
509	notarization.
510	(4) Attach or logically associate the electronic signature
511	and seal to the electronic notarial certificate of an electronic
512	record in a manner capable of independent verification using
513	tamper-evident technology that renders any subsequent change or
514	modification to the electronic record evident.
515	(5) Immediately notify an appropriate law enforcement
516	agency and the Department of State of theft or vandalism of the
517	electronic journal, electronic signature, or electronic seal. An
518	online notary public shall immediately notify the Department of
519	State of the loss or use by another person of the online notary
520	public's electronic journal, electronic signature, or electronic
521	seal.
522	(6) Make electronic copies, upon request, of the pertinent
523	entries in the electronic journal and provide access to the
524	related audio-video communication recordings to the parties to
525	the notarized electronic records, and to the title agent,
526	settlement agent, or title insurer which engaged the online
527	notary with regard to a real estate transaction. The online
528	notary public may charge a reasonable fee for making and
529	delivering electronic copies of a given series of related

629429 - h0771-strike.docx

Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 22 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

530 electronic records. Such fee must be disclosed to the requestor 531 before copies are made. 532 117.265 Online notarization procedures.-533 (1) An online notary public physically located in this 534 state may perform an online notarization that meets the requirements of this part regardless of whether the principal or 535 any witnesses are physically located in this state at the time 536 of the online notarization. A civil-law notary or a commissioner 537 of deeds registered as an online notary public may perform an 538 539 online notarization while located outside of this state. An 540 online notarial act performed in accordance with this chapter is 541 deemed to have been performed within this state and is governed 542 by applicable laws of this state. (2) In performing an online notarization, an online notary 543 544 public shall confirm the identity of a principal and any witness 545 appearing online at the time that the signature is taken by 546 using audio-video communication technology and processes that 547 meet the requirements of this part and any rules adopted 548 hereunder and record the entire audio-video conference session 549 between the notary public and the principal and any subscribing 550 witnesses. A principal may not act in the capacity of a witness 551 for his or her own signature in an online notarization. 552 (3) In performing an online notarization of a principal 553 not located within this state, an online notary public shall 554 confirm that the principal desires for the notarial act to be 629429 - h0771-strike.docx Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 23 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

555	performed by a Florida online notary public and under the
556	general law of this state.
557	(4) An online notary public shall confirm the identity of
558	the principal or any witness by:
559	(a) Personal knowledge of each such individual; or
560	(b) All of the following, as the same may be refined or
561	supplemented in rules adopted pursuant to s. 117.295:
562	1. Remote presentation of a government-issued
563	identification credential by each individual.
564	2. Credential analysis of each government-issued
565	identification credential.
566	3. Identity proofing of each individual in the form of
567	knowledge-based authentication or another method of identity
568	proofing that conforms to standards of this chapter.
569	
570	If the online notary public does not satisfy subparagraphs
571	(b)13., or if the databases consulted for identity proofing do
572	not contain sufficient information to permit authentication, the
573	online notary public may not perform the online notarization.
574	(5) An online notary public shall take reasonable steps to
575	ensure that the audio-video communication technology used in an
576	online notarization is secure from unauthorized interception.
577	(6) An electronic notarial certificate for an online
578	notarization shall include a notation that the notarization is
579	an online notarization.
6	529429 - h0771-strike.docx
	Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 24 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

580	(7) Except where otherwise expressly provided in this
581	part, the provisions of part I of this chapter apply to an
582	online notarization and an online notary public.
583	(8) Any failure to comply with the online notarization
584	procedures of this section does not impair the validity of the
585	notarial act or the electronic record which was notarized, but
586	may be introduced as evidence to establish violations of this
587	chapter or as an indication of possible fraud, forgery, or
588	impersonation or for other evidentiary purposes. This subsection
589	in no way alters the duty of the online notary public to comply
590	with this chapter and any rules adopted hereunder.
591	117.275 Fees for online notarization.—An online notary
592	public or employer of such online notary public may charge a
593	fee, not to exceed \$25, for performing an online notarization in
594	addition to any other fees authorized under part I. Fees for
595	services other than notarial acts are not governed by this
596	section.
597	117.285 Supervising the witnessing of electronic records
598	An online notary public may supervise the witnessing of
599	electronic records by the same audio-video communication
600	technology used for online notarization, as follows:
601	(1) The identity of the witness must be verified in the
602	same manner as the identity of the principal.

629429 - h0771-strike.docx

Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 25 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

603	(2) The witness may be physically present with the
604	principal or remote from the principal provided the witness and
605	principal are using audio-video communication technology.
606	(3) The witness is present in either physical proximity to
607	the principal or through audio-video communication technology at
608	the time the principal affixes the electronic signature and
609	hears the principal make a statement to the effect that the
610	principal has signed the electronic record.
611	117.295 Standards for electronic and online notarization;
612	rulemaking authority
613	(1) The Legislature intends for the standards applicable
614	to electronic notarization under s. 117.021 and for online
615	notarization under this part to reflect future improvements in
616	technology and methods of assuring the identity of principals
617	and the security of an electronic record. The Department of
618	State, in collaboration with the Agency for State Technology,
619	may adopt rules and standards necessary to implement the
620	requirements of this chapter and such other rules and standards
621	as may be required to facilitate the integrity, security, and
622	reliability of online notarization, including education
623	requirements for online notaries public, the required terms but
624	not the amount of online notary public bonds and errors and
625	omissions insurance, standards regarding identity proofing,
626	credential analysis, unauthorized interception, remote
627	presentation, tamper-evident technology, audio-video
6	529429 - h0771-strike.docx
	Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 26 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

628	communication technology, and retention of the electronic
629	journal and copies of recordings of audio-video communications
630	in a secure repository, and may publish lists of technologies
631	that satisfy the standards and are approved for use in online
632	notarizations.
633	(2) Until such time as the Department of State adopts
634	applicable rules, identity proofing, credential analysis,
635	unauthorized interception, remote presentation, tamper-evident
636	technology, and audio-video communication technology shall be
637	governed by the following minimum standards:
638	(a) Identity proofing by means of knowledge-based
639	authentication shall have these or greater security
640	characteristics:
641	1. The principal must be presented with five or more
642	questions with a minimum of five possible answer choices per
643	question.
644	2. Each question must be drawn from a third-party provider
645	of public and proprietary data sources and be identifiable to
646	the principal's social security number or other identification
647	information, or the principal's identity and historical events
648	records.
649	3. Responses to all questions must be made within a 2-
650	minute time constraint.
651	4. The principal must answer a minimum of 80 percent of
652	the questions correctly.
	629429 - h0771-strike.docx
	Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 27 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

653	5. The principal may be offered one additional attempt in
654	the event of a failed attempt.
655	6. During the second attempt, the principal may not be
656	presented with more than three questions from the prior attempt.
657	(b) Credential analysis must confirm that the credential
658	is valid and matches the signer's claimed identity using one or
659	more automated software or hardware processes which scan the
660	credential, including its format features, data, barcodes, or
661	other security elements.
662	(c) Tamper-evident technology requirements are deemed
663	satisfied by use of technology that renders any subsequent
664	change or modification to the electronic record evident.
665	(d) Audio-video communication technology used in
666	completing online notarizations must meet the following
667	requirements:
668	1. The signal transmission must be reasonably secure from
669	interception, access, or viewing by anyone other than the
670	participants communicating.
671	2. The technology must provide sufficient audio clarity
672	and video resolution to enable the notary to communicate with
673	the principal and to confirm the identity of the principal using
674	identification methods described in s. 117.265.
675	(e) An online notary public is not responsible for the
676	security of the systems used by the principal or others to
677	access the online notarization session.
6	529429 - h0771-strike.docx
	Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 28 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

678	117.305 Relation to Electronic Signatures in Global and
679	National Commerce ActThis part modifies, limits and supersedes
680	the Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act,
681	15 U.S.C. ss. 7001 et seq., but does not modify, limit, or
682	supersede s. 101(c) of that act, 15 U.S.C. s. 7001(c), or
683	authorize electronic delivery of any of the notices described in
684	s. 103(b) of that act, 15 U.S.C. s. 7003(b).
685	Section 7. Paragraph (h) of subsection (3) of section
686	28.222, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph (i), and
687	a new paragraph (h) is added to that subsection to read:
688	28.222 Clerk to be county recorder
689	(3) The clerk of the circuit court shall record the
690	following kinds of instruments presented to him or her for
691	recording, upon payment of the service charges prescribed by
692	law:
693	(h) Copies of any instruments originally created and
694	executed using an electronic signature, as defined in s. 695.27,
695	and certified to be a true and correct paper printout by a
696	notary public in accordance with chapter 117, if the county
697	recorder is not prepared to accept electronic documents for
698	recording electronically.
699	Section 8. Subsection (4) is added to section 92.50,
700	Florida Statutes, to read:
701	92.50 Oaths, affidavits, and acknowledgments; who may take
702	or administer; requirements
6	629429 - h0771-strike.docx
	Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM
	Page 29 of 44

Page 29 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

703 (4) DEFINITION.-As used in this section, the term "before" 704 has the same meaning as provided in s. 117.201(1). 705 Section 9. Subsection (1) of section 95.231, Florida 706 Statutes, is amended to read: 707 95.231 Limitations where deed or will on record.-708 (1) Five years after the recording of an instrument required to be executed in accordance with s. 689.01; 5 years 709 after the recording of a power of attorney accompanying and used 710 711 for an instrument required to be executed in accordance with s. 689.01; or 5 years after the probate of a will purporting to 712 713 convey real property, from which it appears that the person 714 owning the property attempted to convey, affect, or devise it, 715 the instrument, power of attorney, or will shall be held to have 716 its purported effect to convey, affect, or devise, the title to 717 the real property of the person signing the instrument, as if 718 there had been no lack of seal or seals, witness or witnesses, 719 defect in, failure of, or absence of acknowledgment or relinquishment of dower, in the absence of fraud, adverse 720 possession, or pending litigation. The instrument is admissible 721 722 in evidence. A power of attorney validated under this subsection 723 shall be valid only for the purpose of effectuating the 724 instrument with which it was recorded. 725 Section 10. Section 689.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 726

727

689.01 How real estate conveyed.-

629429 - h0771-strike.docx

Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 30 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

728 (1) No estate or interest of freehold, or for a term of 729 more than 1 year, or any uncertain interest of, in or out of any 730 messuages, lands, tenements or hereditaments shall be created, 731 made, granted, transferred or released in any other manner than 732 by instrument in writing, signed in the presence of two 733 subscribing witnesses by the party creating, making, granting, conveying, transferring or releasing such estate, interest, or 734 735 term of more than 1 year, or by the party's lawfully authorized agent, unless by will and testament, or other testamentary 736 737 appointment, duly made according to law; and no estate or 738 interest, either of freehold, or of term of more than 1 year, or 739 any uncertain interest of, in, to, or out of any messuages, 740 lands, tenements or hereditaments, shall be assigned or 741 surrendered unless it be by instrument signed in the presence of 742 two subscribing witnesses by the party so assigning or 743 surrendering, or by the party's lawfully authorized agent, or by 744 the act and operation of law. No seal shall be necessary to give validity to any instrument executed in conformity with this 745 746 section. Corporations may execute any and all conveyances in 747 accordance with the provisions of this section or ss. 692.01 and 748 692.02.

749

(2) For purposes of this chapter:

750 (a) Any requirement that an instrument be signed in the 751 presence of two subscribing witnesses may be satisfied by witnesses being present and electronically signing by means of 752

629429 - h0771-strike.docx

Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 31 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

753	audio-video communication technology that meets the requirements
754	of part II of chapter 117 and any rules adopted thereunder.
755	(b) The act of witnessing an electronic signature is
756	satisfied if a witness is present either in physical proximity
757	to the principal or by audio-video communication technology at
758	the time the principal affixes the electronic signature and
759	hears the principal make a statement acknowledging that the
760	principal has signed the electronic record.
761	(3) All acts of witnessing heretofore made or taken
762	pursuant to subsection (2) are hereby validated and, upon
763	recording, may not be denied to have provided constructive
764	notice based on any alleged failure to have strictly complied
765	with this section, as currently or previously in effect, or the
766	laws governing notarization of instruments, including online
767	notarization in this state.
768	Section 11. Subsection (1) of section 694.08, Florida
769	Statutes, is amended to read:
770	694.08 Certain instruments validated, notwithstanding lack
771	of seals or witnesses, or defect in acknowledgment, etc
772	(1) Whenever any power of attorney has been executed and
773	delivered, or any conveyance has been executed and delivered to
774	any grantee by the person owning the land therein described, or
775	conveying the same in an official or representative capacity,
776	and has, for a period of 7 years or more been spread upon the
777	records of the county wherein the land therein described has
6	29429 - h0771-strike.docx
	Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 32 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

778 been or was at the time situated, and one or more subsequent 779 conveyances of said land or parts thereof have been made, 780 executed, delivered and recorded by parties claiming under such 781 instrument or instruments, and such power of attorney or 782 conveyance, or the public record thereof, shows upon its face a 783 clear purpose and intent of the person executing the same to 784 authorize the conveyance of said land or to convey the said 785 land, the same shall be taken and held by all the courts of this state, in the absence of any showing of fraud, adverse 786 787 possession, or pending litigation, to have authorized the 788 conveyance of, or to have conveyed, the fee simple title, or any 789 interest therein, of the person signing such instruments, or the 790 person in behalf of whom the same was conveyed by a person in an 791 official or representative capacity, to the land therein 792 described as effectively as if there had been no defect in, 793 failure of, or absence of the acknowledgment or the certificate 794 of acknowledgment, if acknowledged, or the relinquishment of dower, and as if there had been no lack of the word "as" 795 796 preceding the title of the person conveying in an official or 797 representative capacity, of any seal or seals, or of any witness 798 or witnesses, and shall likewise be taken and held by all the 799 courts of this state to have been duly recorded so as to be admissible in evidence; 800

801 Section 12. Section 695.03, Florida Statutes, is amended 802 to read:

629429 - h0771-strike.docx

Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 33 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

803 695.03 Acknowledgment and proof; validation of certain 804 acknowledgments; legalization or authentication before foreign 805 officials.-To entitle any instrument concerning real property to 806 be recorded, the execution must be acknowledged by the party 807 executing it, proved by a subscribing witness to it, or legalized or authenticated by a civil-law notary or notary 808 public who affixes her or his official seal, before the officers 809 810 and in the form and manner following:

811 (1) WITHIN THIS STATE. - An acknowledgment or proof made by 812 a person located within this state may be made before a judge, 813 clerk, or deputy clerk of any court; a United States 814 commissioner or magistrate; any or a notary public or civil-law 815 notary of this state; or any notary public of another state 816 located in such other state and authorized to perform remote 817 notarial acts by audio-video communication under the laws of 818 that state; τ and the certificate of acknowledgment or proof must 819 be under the seal of the court or officer, as the case may be. If the acknowledgment or proof is made before a notary public 820 who does not affix a seal, the notary public may type, print, or 821 822 write by hand on the instrument, "I am a Notary Public of the State of ... (state)..., and my commission expires on 823 824 ... (date) " All affidavits and acknowledgments heretofore 825 made or taken in this manner are hereby validated. 826 OUTSIDE WITHOUT THIS STATE BUT WITHIN THE UNITED (2) STATES.-An acknowledgment or proof made by a person located 827 629429 - h0771-strike.docx

Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 34 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

828 outside out of this state but within the United States may be made before an online notary public of this state who is located 829 830 within this state, in compliance with part II of chapter 117; a 831 civil-law notary of this state or a commissioner of deeds 832 appointed by the Governor of this state; a judge or clerk of any 833 court of the United States or of any state, territory, or district; a United States commissioner or magistrate; or any a 834 835 notary public, justice of the peace, master in chancery, or registrar or recorder of deeds of any state, territory, or 836 837 district having a seal, and the certificate of acknowledgment or 838 proof must be under the seal of the court or officer, as the 839 case may be. If the acknowledgment or proof is made before a 840 notary public who does not affix a seal, it is sufficient for 841 the notary public to type, print, or write by hand on the 842 instrument, "I am a Notary Public of the State of ... (state) ..., 843 and my commission expires on ... (date) " 844 (3) OUTSIDE OF THE UNITED STATES OR WITHIN FOREIGN 845 COUNTRIES. - An If the acknowledgment, affidavit, oath, 846 legalization, authentication, or proof is made by a person 847 located outside of the United States or in a foreign country, it 848 may be made before an online notary public of this state who is 849 located within this state, in compliance with part II of chapter 850 117, or a commissioner of deeds appointed by the Governor of 851 this state to act in such country; before any notary public of another state located in such other state and authorized to 852

629429 - h0771-strike.docx

Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 35 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

853 perform remote notarial acts by audio-video communication under 854 the laws of that other state; before any a notary public of such 855 foreign country or a civil-law notary of this state or of such 856 foreign country who has an official seal; before an ambassador, 857 envoy extraordinary, minister plenipotentiary, minister, commissioner, charge d'affaires, consul general, consul, vice 858 859 consul, consular agent, or other diplomatic or consular officer of the United States appointed to reside in such country; or 860 before a military or naval officer authorized by 10 U.S.C. s. 861 1044(a) the Laws or Articles of War of the United States to 862 863 perform the duties of notary public, and the certificate of 864 acknowledgment, legalization, authentication, or proof must be 865 under the seal of the officer. A certificate legalizing or 866 authenticating the signature of a person executing an instrument 867 concerning real property and to which a civil-law notary or 868 notary public of that country has affixed her or his official 869 seal is sufficient as an acknowledgment. For the purposes of 870 this section, the term "civil-law notary" means a civil-law notary as defined in chapter 118 or an official of a foreign 871 872 country who has an official seal and who is authorized to make 873 legal or lawful the execution of any document in that 874 jurisdiction, in which jurisdiction the affixing of her or his official seal is deemed proof of the execution of the document 875 876 or deed in full compliance with the laws of that jurisdiction.

629429 - h0771-strike.docx

Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 36 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

877	(4) The affixing of the official seal or the electronic
878	equivalent thereof under s. 117.021 or other applicable law,
879	including part II of chapter 117, conclusively establishes that
880	the acknowledgment or proof was made in full compliance with the
881	laws of this state or, as applicable, the laws of the other
882	state, or of the foreign country governing remote notarial acts.
883	All affidavits, oaths, acknowledgments, legalizations,
884	authentications, or proofs made or taken in any of the manners
885	in subsections (1), (2), or (3) are validated and upon recording
886	shall not be denied to have provided constructive notice based
887	on any alleged failure to have strictly complied with this
888	section, as currently or previously in effect, or the laws
889	governing notarization of instruments.
890	(5) For purposes of this section, the term "before" has
891	the meaning as provided in s. 117.201(1).
892	
893	All affidavits, legalizations, authentications, and
894	acknowledgments heretofore made or taken in the manner set forth
895	above are hereby validated.
896	Section 13. Section 695.04, Florida Statutes, is amended
897	to read:
898	695.04 Requirements of certificateThe certificate of the
899	officer before whom the acknowledgment or proof is taken, except
900	for a certificate legalizing or authenticating the signature of
901	a person executing an instrument concerning real property
(629429 - h0771-strike.docx
	Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 37 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

902 pursuant to s. 695.03(3), shall contain and set forth 903 substantially the matter required to be done or proved to make 904 such acknowledgment or proof effectual <u>as set forth in s.</u> 905 <u>117.05</u>.

906 Section 14. Section 695.05, Florida Statutes, is amended 907 to read:

908 695.05 Certain defects cured as to acknowledgments and 909 witnesses.-All deeds, conveyances, bills of sale, mortgages or other transfers of real or personal property within the limits 910 of this state, heretofore or hereafter made and received bona 911 912 fide and upon good consideration by any corporation, and acknowledged for record by before some officer, stockholder or 913 914 other person interested in the corporation, grantee, or 915 mortgagee as a notary public or other officer authorized to take 916 acknowledgments of instruments for record within this state, 917 shall be held, deemed and taken as valid as if acknowledged by 918 the proper notary public or other officer authorized to take acknowledgments of instruments for record in this state not so 919 interested in said corporation, grantee or mortgagee; and said 920 921 instrument whenever recorded shall be deemed notice to all persons; provided, however, that this section shall not apply to 922 923 any instrument heretofore made, the validity of which shall be contested by suit commenced within 1 year of the effective date 924 of this law. 925

629429 - h0771-strike.docx

Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 38 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

926 Section 15. Section 695.28, Florida Statutes, is amended 927 to read: 928 695.28 Validity of recorded electronic documents.-(1) A document that is otherwise entitled to be recorded 929 930 and that was or is submitted to the clerk of the court or county 931 recorder by electronic or other means and accepted for 932 recordation is deemed validly recorded and provides notice to 933 all persons notwithstanding: 934 That the document was received and accepted for (a) 935 recordation before the Department of State adopted standards 936 implementing s. 695.27; or 937 (b) Any defects in, deviations from, or the inability to 938 demonstrate strict compliance with any statute, rule, or 939 procedure relating to electronic signatures, electronic 940 witnesses, electronic notarization, online notarization, or for 941 submitting or recording to submit or record an electronic 942 document in effect at the time the electronic document was 943 executed or was submitted for recording; 944 That the document was signed, witnessed, or notarized (C) 945 electronically or that witnessing or notarization may have been 946 done outside the physical presence of the notary public or 947 principal; or (d) That the document recorded was a certified printout of 948 949 a document to which one or more electronic signatures have been 950 affixed. 629429 - h0771-strike.docx Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

951 This section does not alter the duty of the clerk or (2)952 recorder to comply with s. 28.222 or s. 695.27 or rules adopted 953 pursuant to those sections that section. 954 This section does not preclude a challenge to the (3) validity or enforceability of an instrument or electronic record 955 956 based upon fraud, forgery, impersonation, duress, undue 957 influence, minority, illegality, unconscionability, or any other 958 basis not in the nature of those matters described in subsection 959 (1). 960 Section 16. Subsection (1) of section 709.2202, Florida 961 Statutes, is amended to read: 962 709.2202 Authority that requires separate signed 963 enumeration.-964 (1) Notwithstanding s. 709.2201, an agent may exercise the 965 following authority in this subsection only if the principal 966 signed or initialed next to each specific enumeration of the 967 authority, the exercise of the authority is consistent with the 968 agent's duties under s. 709.2114, the power of attorney was 969 witnessed and notarized in person without the use of online 970 witnessing of electronic records pursuant to s. 117.285 or 971 online notarization under part II of chapter 117, and the 972 exercise is not otherwise prohibited by another agreement or 973 instrument. A power of attorney or any authority granted therein 974 to an agent, including where such authority is witnessed and 975 notarized online through the use of online witnessing of 629429 - h0771-strike.docx Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 40 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

976	electronic records pursuant to s. 117.285 or online notarization
977	under part II of chapter 117, is not affected by this section
978	except that a power of attorney or other authority notarized and
979	witnessed is not effective to grant powers pursuant to the
980	following:
981	(a) Create an inter vivos trust;
982	(b) With respect to a trust created by or on behalf of the
983	principal, amend, modify, revoke, or terminate the trust, but
984	only if the trust instrument explicitly provides for amendment,
985	modification, revocation, or termination by the settlor's agent;
986	(c) Make a gift, subject to subsection (4);
987	(d) Create or change rights of survivorship;
988	(e) Create or change a beneficiary designation;
989	(f) Waive the principal's right to be a beneficiary of a
990	joint and survivor annuity, including a survivor benefit under a
991	retirement plan; or
992	(g) Disclaim property and powers of appointment.
993	Section 17. Subsection (5) of section 117.209, Florida
994	Statutes, is repealed effective January 1, 2020.
995	Section 18. Subsection (3) of section 117.215, Florida
996	Statutes, is repealed effective January 1, 2020.
997	Section 19. This act shall take effect January 1, 2019.
998	
999	
1000	TITLE AMENDMENT
I	629429 - h0771-strike.docx
	Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 41 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

Page 42 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

1026 performance of certain notarial acts; requiring a 1027 notary public to keep an electronic journal of online 1028 notarizations; providing requirements for electronic journals, signatures, and seals; providing online 1029 1030 notarization procedures; providing fees for online 1031 notarizations; authorizing a notary public to supervise the witnessing of electronic records of 1032 online notarizations; providing standards for 1033 electronic and online notarizations; authorizing the 1034 1035 Department of State and the Agency for State 1036 Technology to adopt rules; providing construction; 1037 amending s. 28.222, F.S.; requiring the clerk of the circuit court to record certain instruments; amending 1038 s. 92.50, F.S.; providing a definition; amending s. 1039 1040 95.231, F.S.; providing a limitation period for 1041 certain recorded instruments; amending s. 689.01, 1042 F.S.; providing for witnessing of documents in connection with real estate conveyances; providing for 1043 1044 validation of certain recorded documents; amending s. 1045 694.08, F.S.; providing for validation of certain 1046 recorded documents; amending s. 695.03, F.S.; 1047 providing and revising requirements for making acknowledgments, proofs, and other documents; 1048 1049 providing a definition; amending s. 695.04, F.S.; 1050 conforming a provision to changes made by the act; 629429 - h0771-strike.docx

Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 43 of 44

Bill No. CS/HB 771 (2018)

Amendment No.

1051 amending s. 695.05, F.S.; making an editorial change; 1052 amending s. 695.28, F.S.; providing for validity of 1053 recorded documents; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; repealing exclusions to the authority 1054 1055 to perform a notarial act as an online notarization on 1056 a certain date; repealing exclusions to required 1057 compliance with specified laws on a certain date; 1058 providing an effective date.

629429 - h0771-strike.docx

Published On: 2/20/2018 8:02:26 PM

Page 44 of 44