

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Department of Financial
3 Services; amending s. 17.56, F.S.; requiring the
4 Division of Treasury to maintain certain warrants
5 rather than turning them over to the Division of
6 Accounting and Auditing; amending s. 497.263, F.S.;
7 revising the requirements for cemetery companies
8 licenses; amending s. 497.266, F.S.; conforming
9 provisions to changes made by the act; amending s.
10 497.376, F.S.; providing requirements for a
11 combination license as funeral director and embalmer;
12 amending s. 497.377, F.S.; revising the requirements
13 for combination funeral director and embalmer
14 internships; amending s. 497.380, F.S.; revising the
15 requirements for a funeral establishment and the
16 requirements and responsibilities of a funeral
17 director in charge; amending s. 497.385, F.S.;
18 revising the requirements for a licensed embalming
19 facility; amending s. 497.452, F.S.; revising the
20 applicability of specified provisions related to
21 cemeteries; amending s. 497.453, F.S.; providing
22 reporting requirements for certain preneed licensees;
23 amending s. 497.458, F.S.; revising the requirements
24 for the disposition of proceeds received on preneed
25 contracts; amending s. 497.459, F.S.; requiring

26 | preneed licensees, under certain circumstances, to
27 | provide certain persons with a written notice of
28 | intent to distribute funds under the preneed contract;
29 | specifying how and where such notice must be sent;
30 | providing that funds held in trust must be distributed
31 | in accordance with the contract terms if certain
32 | persons fail to respond to the notice within a certain
33 | timeframe; providing construction; providing
34 | rulemaking authority; amending s. 497.464, F.S.;;
35 | revising the requirements of certain preneed
36 | contracts; amending s. 497.604, F.S.;; revising the
37 | requirements for a direct disposal establishment;
38 | amending s. 497.606, F.S.;; revising the requirements
39 | for a cinerator facility; creating s. 553.7921, F.S.;;
40 | requiring a contractor to file a fire alarm permit
41 | application and receive the permit under certain
42 | circumstances; providing requirements for the
43 | application; amending s. 626.175. F.S.;; revising the
44 | requirements for a specified nonrenewable temporary
45 | license; revising the types of nonrenewable temporary
46 | licenses issued by the Department of Financial
47 | Services; amending s. 626.207, F.S.;; authorizing
48 | disqualified persons meeting specified requirements to
49 | reapply for relicensure; amending s. 626.221, F.S.;;
50 | revising the language relating to an exemption from

51 examination for specified license applicants under
52 certain circumstances; amending s. 626.2815, F.S.;
53 deleting provisions requiring certain licensed
54 customer representatives and insurance agents to
55 complete continuation education courses; amending s.
56 626.321, F.S.; revising the requirements for certain
57 lines insurance licenses; prohibiting issuance or
58 reinstatement of certain lines insurance licenses
59 beginning on a specified date; amending s. 626.471,
60 F.S.; revising the method of delivery of certain
61 notice; amending s. 626.536, F.S.; deleting provisions
62 relating to reporting administrative actions taken
63 against an insurance agency; amending s. 626.6215,
64 F.S.; providing additional grounds for which the
65 department may take specified action against the
66 license of an insurance agency; amending s. 626.729,
67 F.S.; redefining the term "industrial fire insurance";
68 amending ss. 626.8437 and 626.844, F.S.; specifying
69 grounds for certain administrative actions against
70 licenses or appointments of specified insurance agents
71 or agencies; amending s. 626.8732, F.S.; revising the
72 requirements for nonresident public adjuster's
73 licenses; amending s. 627.7015, F.S.; requiring
74 mediators to report mediation settlements and
75 settlement amounts to all parties at the close of

76 mediation; amending s. 627.715, F.S.; revising the
77 date on which a surplus lines agent may export a
78 contract or endorsement providing flood coverage to an
79 eligible surplus lines insurer under certain
80 circumstances; amending s. 627.748, F.S.; defining the
81 term "luxury ground transportation network company" or
82 "luxury ground TNC"; authorizing a luxury ground
83 transportation network company to elect to be
84 regulated as a transportation network company;
85 requiring such luxury ground transportation network
86 company to comply with certain requirements; providing
87 that certain provisions apply to such luxury ground
88 transportation network company to a specified extent;
89 amending s. 633.218, F.S.; deleting a provision that
90 requires the identification of specified buildings or
91 space for firesafety purposes; amending s. 633.306,
92 F.S.; providing standards for fire equipment
93 installation; amending s. 633.312, F.S.; specifying
94 the delivery methods of a firesafety inspection
95 report; requiring the State Fire Marshal to adopt
96 rules; amending s. 633.520, F.S.; requiring the
97 Division of State Fire Marshal to adopt rules to
98 establish cancer prevention best practices; amending
99 s. 648.49, F.S.; requiring the department to meet
100 certain requirements when suspending a person's

101 eligibility to apply for a license or appointment;
102 revising methods for reinstatement of a license, an
103 appointment, or certain eligibility; amending s.
104 717.124, F.S.; providing disbursement processes for
105 unclaimed property claims; providing rulemaking
106 authority; repealing ss. 626.521 and 626.7355, F.S.,
107 relating to credit and character reports and to a
108 temporary license as customer representative pending
109 examination, respectively; amending ss. 626.022,
110 626.025, and 633.216, F.S.; conforming cross-
111 references; providing legislative findings;
112 establishing the Florida Blockchain Task Force within
113 the department; requiring the task force to develop a
114 specified master plan; specifying the composition of
115 the task force; specifying duties and procedures of
116 the task force; providing that task force members
117 shall serve without compensation and are not entitled
118 to certain reimbursement; requiring the task force to
119 submit a specified report to the Governor and the
120 Legislature and to make presentations; providing that
121 the task force is entitled to assistance and services
122 of state governmental entities; requiring the
123 department to provide support staff and other
124 assistance to the task force; providing for
125 termination of the task force; providing effective

126 | dates.

127 |

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

129 |

130 | Section 1. Section 17.56, Florida Statutes, is amended to
131 | read:

132 | 17.56 Division of Treasury to maintain ~~turn over to the~~
133 | ~~Division of Accounting and Auditing~~ all warrants paid.—The
134 | Division of Treasury shall maintain ~~turn over to the Division of~~
135 | ~~Accounting and Auditing~~ all warrants drawn by the Chief
136 | Financial Officer ~~or the Comptroller~~ and paid by the Division of
137 | Treasury for 10 years after the date on which a warrant was
138 | presented for payment. ~~The warrants shall be turned over as soon~~
139 | ~~as the Division of Treasury shall have recorded such warrants~~
140 | ~~and charged the same against the accounts upon which such~~
141 | ~~warrants are drawn.~~

142 | Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section
143 | 497.263, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

144 | 497.263 Cemetery companies; license required; licensure
145 | requirements and procedures.—

146 | (3) ACTION CONCERNING APPLICATIONS.—If the licensing
147 | authority finds that the applicant meets the criteria
148 | established in subsection (2), the applicant shall be notified
149 | that a license will be issued when all of the following
150 | conditions are satisfied:

151 (a) The establishment of a care and maintenance trust fund
152 containing not less than \$50,000 has been certified by a trust
153 company ~~operating pursuant to chapter 660~~, a state or national
154 bank holding trust powers, or a savings and loan association
155 holding trust powers as provided in s. 497.458, pursuant to a
156 trust agreement approved by the licensing authority. The \$50,000
157 required for the care and maintenance trust fund shall be over
158 and above the \$50,000 net worth required by subsection (2).

159 Section 3. Subsection (1) of section 497.266, Florida
160 Statutes, is amended to read:

161 497.266 Care and maintenance trust fund; remedy of
162 department for noncompliance.—

163 (1) A ~~No~~ cemetery company may not establish a cemetery, or
164 operate a cemetery if already established, without providing for
165 the future care and maintenance of the cemetery, for which a
166 care and maintenance trust fund shall be established, to be
167 known as "the care and maintenance trust fund of" The
168 trust fund shall be established with a trust company ~~operating~~
169 ~~pursuant to chapter 660~~, with a state or national bank holding
170 trust powers, or with a federal or state savings and loan
171 association holding trust powers. Trust funds which are with a
172 state or national bank or savings and loan association licensed
173 in this state on October 1, 1993, shall remain in force;
174 however, when the amount of any such trust fund exceeds the
175 amount that is insured by an agency of the Federal Government,

176 the cemetery company shall transfer that trust fund to a trust
177 company ~~operating pursuant to chapter 660~~, to a state or
178 national bank holding trust powers, or to a federal or state
179 savings and loan association holding trust powers.

180 Section 4. Section 497.376, Florida Statutes, is amended
181 to read:

182 497.376 License as funeral director and embalmer
183 permitted.—

184 (1) This chapter does not prohibit a person from holding a
185 license as an embalmer and a license as a funeral director at
186 the same time. There may be issued and renewed by the licensing
187 authority a combination license as both funeral director and
188 embalmer to persons meeting the separate requirements for both
189 licenses as set forth in this chapter. The licensing authority
190 may adopt rules providing procedures for applying for and
191 renewing such combination license. The licensing authority may
192 by rule establish application, renewal, and other fees for such
193 combination license, which fees may ~~shall~~ not exceed the sum of
194 the maximum fees for the separate funeral director and embalmer
195 license categories as provided in this chapter. A person ~~Persons~~
196 holding a combination license as a funeral director and an
197 embalmer is ~~shall be~~ subject to regulation under this chapter
198 both as a funeral director and an embalmer.

199 (2) Except as provided in s. 497.377, an applicant for a
200 combination license as both a funeral director and an embalmer

201 must hold the educational credentials required for licensure of
 202 a funeral director under s. 497.373(1)(d).

203 Section 5. Section 497.377, Florida Statutes, is amended
 204 to read:

205 497.377 Combination funeral directors and embalmers;
 206 ~~Concurrent~~ internships.—

207 (1) The internship requirements ~~requirement~~ for a
 208 combination license as both funeral director and embalmer
 209 ~~embalmers and funeral directors~~ may be served concurrently
 210 pursuant to rules adopted by the licensing authority.

211 (2) (a) An applicant who has not completed the educational
 212 credentials required for a combination license as both funeral
 213 director and embalmer is eligible for licensure as a combination
 214 funeral director and embalmer intern if the applicant:

215 1. Is currently enrolled in and attending a college
 216 accredited by the American Board of Funeral Service Education
 217 (ABFSE) in a course of study in mortuary science accredited by
 218 ABFSE.

219 2. Has completed at least 75 percent of the course of
 220 study in mortuary science as certified by the college in which
 221 the applicant is currently enrolled.

222 3. Has taken and received a passing grade in a college
 223 credit course in mortuary law or funeral service law and has
 224 taken and received a passing grade in a college credit course in
 225 ethics.

226 (b) An application for a combination funeral director and
227 embalmer intern license must include the name and address of the
228 funeral director licensed under s. 497.373 or s. 497.374(1) and
229 the embalmer licensed under s. 497.368 or s. 497.369 under whose
230 supervision the intern will receive training and the name of the
231 licensed funeral establishment at which the training will be
232 conducted.

233 (c) A combination funeral director and embalmer intern may
234 perform only the tasks, functions, and duties relating to
235 funeral directing and embalming which are performed under the
236 direct supervision of a licensed funeral director who has an
237 active, valid license under s. 497.373 or s. 497.374(1) and an
238 embalmer who has an active, valid license under s. 497.368 or s.
239 497.369. However, a combination funeral director and embalmer
240 intern may perform such tasks, functions, and duties under the
241 general supervision of a licensed funeral director and embalmer
242 upon graduation from a college accredited by ABFSE with a degree
243 as specified in s. 497.373(1)(d) and upon passage of the
244 examination required under s. 497.373(2)(b) if the funeral
245 director in charge of the internship training establishment,
246 after 6 months of direct supervision, certifies to the licensing
247 authority that the intern is competent to complete the
248 internship under general supervision.

249 (d)1. A combination funeral director and embalmer intern
250 license expires 1 year after issuance and, except as provided in

251 subparagraph 2., may not be renewed.

252 2. The licensing authority may adopt rules that allow a
253 combination funeral director and embalmer intern to renew her or
254 his combination funeral director and embalmer intern license for
255 an additional 1 year if the combination funeral director and
256 embalmer intern demonstrates her or his failure to complete the
257 internship before expiration of the license due to illness,
258 personal injury, or other substantial hardship beyond her or his
259 reasonable control or demonstrates that she or he has completed
260 the requirements for licensure as a combination funeral director
261 and embalmer but is awaiting the results of a licensure
262 examination.

263 Section 6. Subsection (7) of section 497.380, Florida
264 Statutes, is amended to read:

265 497.380 Funeral establishment; licensure; display of
266 license.—

267 (7) Each licensed funeral establishment shall have a ~~one~~
268 ~~full-time~~ funeral director in charge and shall have a licensed
269 funeral director reasonably available to the public during
270 normal business hours for the establishment. The ~~full-time~~
271 funeral director in charge is responsible for ensuring that the
272 facility, its operation, and all persons employed in the
273 facility comply with all applicable state and federal laws and
274 rules. A funeral director in charge, with appropriate, active
275 licenses, may serve as such for up to a total of four funeral

276 establishments, centralized embalming facilities, direct
 277 disposal establishments, or cinerator facilities, as long as the
 278 two farthest locations are no more than 75 miles apart, as
 279 measured in a straight line. ~~The full-time funeral director in~~
 280 ~~charge must have an active license and may not be the full-time~~
 281 ~~funeral director in charge of any other funeral establishment or~~
 282 ~~of any other direct disposal establishment. Effective October 1,~~
 283 ~~2010,~~ The full-time funeral director in charge must hold an
 284 active, valid funeral director license and an active, valid
 285 embalmer license, or combination license as a funeral director
 286 and an embalmer. However, a funeral director may serve as
 287 funeral director in charge without an embalmer license or
 288 combination license if the establishment does not have an
 289 embalming room on site or may continue as the ~~full-time~~ funeral
 290 director in charge without an embalmer or combination license
 291 if, as of September 30, 2010:

292 (a) The funeral establishment and the funeral director
 293 both have active, valid licenses.

294 (b) The funeral director is currently the full-time
 295 funeral director in charge of the funeral establishment.

296 (c) The name of the funeral director was included, as
 297 required in subsection (4), in the funeral establishment's most
 298 recent application for issuance or renewal of its license or was
 299 included in the establishment's report of change provided under
 300 paragraph (12) (c).

301 Section 7. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section
 302 497.385, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

303 497.385 Removal services; refrigeration facilities;
 304 centralized embalming facilities.—In order to ensure that the
 305 removal, refrigeration, and embalming of all dead human bodies
 306 is conducted in a manner that properly protects the public's
 307 health and safety, the licensing authority shall adopt rules to
 308 provide for the licensure of removal services, refrigeration
 309 facilities, and centralized embalming facilities operated
 310 independently of funeral establishments, direct disposal
 311 establishments, and cinerator facilities.

312 (2) CENTRALIZED EMBALMING FACILITIES.—In order to ensure
 313 that all funeral establishments have access to embalming
 314 facilities that comply with all applicable health and safety
 315 requirements, the licensing authority shall adopt rules to
 316 provide for the licensure and operation of centralized embalming
 317 facilities and shall require, at a minimum, the following:

318 (b) Each licensed centralized embalming facility shall
 319 have at least one ~~full-time~~ embalmer in charge. The ~~full-time~~
 320 embalmer in charge must have an active, valid embalmer license
 321 or combination license as a funeral director and embalmer ~~and~~
 322 ~~may not be the full-time embalmer in charge, full-time funeral~~
 323 ~~director in charge, or full-time direct disposer in charge of~~
 324 ~~any other establishment licensed under this chapter. A funeral~~
 325 director in charge, with appropriate, active licenses, may serve

326 as such for up to a total of four funeral establishments,
 327 centralized embalming facilities, direct disposal
 328 establishments, or cinerator facilities, as long as the two
 329 farthest locations are no more than 75 miles apart, as measured
 330 in a straight line.

331 Section 8. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section
 332 497.452, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (a) of that
 333 subsection is republished, to read:

334 497.452 Preneed license required.—

335 (2) (a) No person may receive any funds for payment on a
 336 preneed contract who does not hold a valid preneed license.

337 (b) ~~The provisions of Paragraph (a) does de~~ not apply to a
 338 trust company ~~operating pursuant to chapter 660~~, to a national
 339 or state bank holding trust powers, or to a federal or state
 340 savings and loan association having trust powers which company,
 341 bank, or association receives any money in trust pursuant to the
 342 sale of a preneed contract.

343 Section 9. Subsection (8) of section 497.453, Florida
 344 Statutes, is amended to read:

345 497.453 Application for preneed license, procedures and
 346 criteria; renewal; reports.—

347 (8) ANNUAL TRUST REPORTS.—

348 (a) On or before April 1 of each year, the preneed
 349 licensee shall file in the form prescribed by rule a full and
 350 true statement as to the activities of any trust established by

351 it pursuant to this part for the preceding calendar year.

352 (b) Any preneed licensee or group of preneed licensees
353 under common control that in aggregate sold in this state 15,000
354 or more preneed contracts in the preceding year shall
355 additionally comply with this paragraph.

356 1. As to each year, which is referred to in this paragraph
357 as "Year 1," in which any preneed licensee or group of preneed
358 licensees under common control in aggregate sell in this state
359 15,000 or more preneed contracts, the licensee or licensees
360 shall, during the following year, which is referred to in this
361 paragraph as "Year 2":

362 a. Prepare in regard to each such licensee a report of
363 preneed operations in this state in Year 1, on a form prescribed
364 by department rule;

365 b. Cause and pay for the report to be audited by an
366 independent certified public accounting firm concerning the
367 accuracy and fairness of the presentation of the data provided
368 in the report; and

369 c. By December 31 of Year 2, provide the report to the
370 division, along with a written and signed opinion of the
371 certified public accounting firm concerning the accuracy and
372 fairness of the presentation of the data reported in the report.

373 2. The report required under subparagraph 1. shall be
374 prepared and submitted using forms and procedures specified by
375 department rule. The department may adopt rules specifying the

376 format of, and procedures for, the report and the information to
 377 be included in the report.

378 Section 10. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section
 379 497.458, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

380 497.458 Disposition of proceeds received on contracts.—

381 (1)

382 (c) Such deposits shall be made within 30 days after the
 383 end of the calendar month in which payment is received, under
 384 the terms of a revocable trust instrument entered into with a
 385 trust company ~~operating pursuant to chapter 660~~, with a national
 386 or state bank holding trust powers, or with a federal or state
 387 savings and loan association holding trust powers.

388 Section 11. Subsection (7) is added to section 497.459,
 389 Florida Statutes, to read:

390 497.459 Cancellation of, or default on, preneed contracts;
 391 required notice.—

392 (7) NOTICE TO PURCHASER OR LEGALLY AUTHORIZED PERSON.—

393 (a) To ensure the performance of unfulfilled preneed
 394 contracts, upon the occurrence of the earliest of any of the
 395 following events, a preneed licensee shall provide to the
 396 purchaser or to the beneficiary's legally authorized person
 397 written notice of the preneed licensee's intent to distribute
 398 funds in accordance with the terms of the preneed contract, if
 399 any obligation of the preneed licensee remains to be fulfilled
 400 under the contract:

401 1. Fifty years after the date of execution of the preneed
402 contract by the purchaser.

403 2. The beneficiary of the preneed contract attains the age
404 of 105 years of age or older.

405 3. The social security number of the beneficiary of the
406 preneed contract, as shown on the contract, is contained within
407 the United States Social Security Administration Death Master
408 File.

409 (b)1. The notice in paragraph (a) must be provided by
410 certified mail, registered mail, or permitted delivery service,
411 return receipt requested, to the last known mailing address of
412 the purchaser or the beneficiary's legally authorized person,
413 whichever is applicable, as provided to the preneed licensee. If
414 the notice is returned as undeliverable within 30 calendar days
415 after the preneed licensee sent the notice, the trustee shall
416 perform a diligent search and inquiry to obtain a different
417 address for the purchaser or the beneficiary's legally
418 authorized person, whichever is applicable. For purposes of this
419 subparagraph, any address known and used by the purchaser or the
420 beneficiary's legally authorized person, whichever is
421 applicable, for sending regular mailings or other communications
422 from the purchaser or the beneficiary's legally authorized
423 person, whichever is applicable, to the preneed licensee or any
424 address produced through a current address service or searchable
425 database shall be included with other addresses produced from

426 the diligent search and inquiry, if any. If the trustee's
427 diligent search and inquiry produces an address different from
428 the notice address, the trustee shall mail a copy of the notice
429 by certified mail, registered mail, or permitted delivery
430 service, return receipt requested, to any and all addresses
431 produced as a result of the diligent search and inquiry.

432 2. If the purchaser or the beneficiary's legally
433 authorized person, whichever is applicable, fails to respond to
434 such notice within 120 days after delivery of the last mailed
435 notice under subparagraph 1., the funds held in trust must be
436 distributed in accordance with the terms of the preneed
437 contract, the trust agreement, and any applicable provisions of
438 chapter 717.

439 (c) This subsection does not affect a purchaser's rights
440 to cancel the preneed contract and receive a refund or a preneed
441 licensee's obligations to refund established by this chapter.

442 (d) The licensing authority shall have authority to adopt
443 rules for the review and approval of notice forms used by
444 preneed licensees to provide notice under this subsection.

445 Section 12. Subsection (2) of section 497.464, Florida
446 Statutes, is amended to read:

447 497.464 Alternative preneed contracts.—

448 (2) The contract must require that a trust be established
449 by the preneed licensee on behalf of, and for the use, benefit,
450 and protection of, the purchaser and that the trustee must be a

451 trust company ~~operating pursuant to chapter 660~~, a national or
452 state bank holding trust powers, or a federal or state savings
453 and loan association holding trust powers.

454 Section 13. Subsection (8) of section 497.604, Florida
455 Statutes, is amended to read:

456 497.604 Direct disposal establishments, license required;
457 licensing procedures and criteria; license renewal; regulation;
458 display of license.—

459 (8) SUPERVISION OF FACILITIES.—

460 (a) ~~Effective October 1, 2010~~, Each direct disposal
461 establishment shall have a one full-time licensed funeral
462 director ~~acting as the direct disposer~~ in charge, subject to s.
463 497.380(7). However, a licensed direct disposer may continue
464 acting as the direct disposer in charge, if, as of September 30,
465 2010:

466 1. The direct disposal establishment and the licensed
467 direct disposer both have active, valid licenses.

468 2. The licensed direct disposer is currently acting as the
469 direct disposer in charge of the direct disposal establishment.

470 3. The name of the licensed direct disposer was included,
471 as required in paragraph (2)(c), in the direct disposal
472 establishment's most recent application for issuance or renewal
473 of its license or was included in the establishment's notice of
474 change provided under subsection (7).

475 (b) The ~~licensed~~ funeral director in charge or ~~licensed~~

476 direct disposer in charge of a direct disposal establishment
477 must be reasonably available to the public during normal
478 business hours for the establishment ~~and may be in charge of~~
479 ~~only one direct disposal establishment~~. The ~~licensed~~ funeral
480 director in charge or ~~licensed~~ direct disposer in charge of the
481 establishment is responsible for making sure the facility, its
482 operations, and all persons employed in the facility comply with
483 all applicable state and federal laws and rules. A funeral
484 director in charge, with appropriate, active licenses, may serve
485 as such for up to a total of four funeral establishments,
486 centralized embalming facilities, direct disposal
487 establishments, or cinerator facilities, as long as the two
488 farthest locations are no more than 75 miles apart, as measured
489 in a straight line.

490 Section 14. Subsection (8) of section 497.606, Florida
491 Statutes, is amended to read:

492 497.606 Cinerator facility, licensure required; licensing
493 procedures and criteria; license renewal; regulation.—

494 (8) SUPERVISION OF FACILITIES.—Each cinerator facility
495 shall have a ~~one full-time licensed~~ direct disposer in charge or
496 a ~~licensed~~ funeral director in charge for that facility. ~~Such~~
497 ~~person may be in charge of only one facility.~~ Such ~~licensed~~
498 funeral director in charge or ~~licensed~~ direct disposer in charge
499 shall be responsible for making sure the facility, its
500 operations, and all persons employed in the facility comply with

501 all applicable state and federal laws and rules. A funeral
502 director in charge, with appropriate, active licenses, may serve
503 as such for up to a total of four funeral establishments,
504 centralized embalming facilities, direct disposal
505 establishments, or cinerator facilities, as long as the two
506 farthest locations are no more than 75 miles apart, as measured
507 in a straight line.

508 Section 15. Section 553.7921, Florida Statutes, is created
509 to read:

510 553.7921 Fire alarm permit application to local
511 enforcement agency.—

512 (1) A contractor must file a Uniform Fire Alarm Permit
513 Application as provided in subsection (2) with the local
514 enforcement agency and must receive the fire alarm permit
515 before:

516 (a) Installing or replacing a fire alarm if the local
517 enforcement agency requires a plan review for the installation
518 or replacement; or

519 (b) Repairing an existing alarm system that was previously
520 permitted by the local enforcement agency if the local
521 enforcement agency requires a fire alarm permit for the repair.

522 (2) A Uniform Fire Alarm Permit Application must be
523 submitted with any drawing, plan, and supporting documentation
524 required by a local enforcement agency for a project for which a
525 plan review or fire alarm permit is required under subsection

526 | (1). The application may be submitted electronically or by
 527 | facsimile and must be signed by the owner, or the owner's
 528 | authorized representative, and the contractor, or the
 529 | contractor's agent. The application must contain the following
 530 | information, in a substantially similar form:

531 |
 532 | UNIFORM FIRE ALARM PERMIT APPLICATION
 533 |

534 | Tax Folio No. _____ Application No. _____
 535 | Owner's or Representative's Name _____
 536 | Property Address _____
 537 | City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 538 | Phone Number _____
 539 | Fee Simple Titleholder's Name (if other than owner)
 540 | _____
 541 | Fee Simple Titleholder's Address (if other than owner)
 542 | _____
 543 | Description of Work
 544 | _____
 545 | New Install _____ Replacement _____ Addition _____ Other _____
 546 | Construction Type _____
 547 | Proposed Use _____
 548 | Alarm Contractor's Name _____
 549 | Alarm Contractor's Address _____
 550 | City _____ State _____ Zip _____

551 Phone Number

552 Alarm Contractor's License Number

553

554 Application is hereby made to obtain a permit to do the work or
 555 installation as indicated. I certify that no work or
 556 installation has commenced before the filing of this permit
 557 application and that all of the foregoing information is true
 558 and accurate.

559

560 Signature of Owner or Owner's Representative

561

562

563 Printed Name

564

565

566 Signature of Contractor or Agent

567

568

569 Printed Name

570

571 Section 16. Subsection (1) of section 626.175, Florida
 572 Statutes, is amended to read:

573 626.175 Temporary licensing.—

574 (1) The department may issue a nonrenewable temporary
 575 license for a period not to exceed 6 months authorizing

576 | appointment of a general lines insurance agent, ~~or~~ a life agent,
 577 | or a personal lines ~~an industrial fire or burglary~~ agent,
 578 | subject to the conditions described in this section. The fees
 579 | paid for a temporary license and appointment shall be as
 580 | specified in s. 624.501. Fees paid are ~~shall~~ not ~~be~~ refunded
 581 | after a temporary license has been issued.

582 | (a) An applicant for a temporary license must be:

583 | 1. A natural person at least 18 years of age.

584 | 2. A United States citizen or legal alien who possesses
 585 | work authorization from the United States Bureau of Citizenship
 586 | and Immigration Services.

587 | (b)1. In the case of a general lines agent, the department
 588 | may issue a temporary license to an employee, a family member, a
 589 | business associate, or a personal representative of a licensed
 590 | general lines agent for the purpose of continuing or winding up
 591 | the business affairs of the agent or agency in the event the
 592 | licensed agent has died or become unable to perform his or her
 593 | duties because of military service or illness or other physical
 594 | or mental disability, subject to the following conditions:

595 | a. No other individual connected with the agent's business
 596 | may be licensed as a general lines agent.

597 | b. The proposed temporary licensee shall be qualified for
 598 | a regular general lines agent license under this code except as
 599 | to residence, examination, education, or experience.

600 | c. Application for the temporary license shall have been

601 made by the applicant upon statements and affidavit filed with
602 the department on forms prescribed and furnished by the
603 department.

604 d. Under a temporary license and appointment, the licensee
605 may ~~shall~~ not represent any insurer not last represented by the
606 agent being replaced and may ~~shall~~ not be licensed or appointed
607 as to any additional kind, line, or class of insurance other
608 than those covered by the last existing agency appointments of
609 the replaced agent. If an insurer withdraws from the agency
610 during the temporary license period, the temporary licensee may
611 be appointed by another similar insurer but only for the period
612 remaining under the temporary license.

613 2. A regular general lines agent license may be issued to
614 a temporary licensee upon meeting the qualifications for a
615 general lines agent license under s. 626.731.

616 (c) In the case of a life agent, the department may issue
617 a temporary license:

618 1. To the executor or administrator of the estate of a
619 deceased individual licensed and appointed as a life agent at
620 the time of death;

621 2. To a surviving next of kin of the deceased individual,
622 if no administrator or executor has been appointed and
623 qualified; however, any license and appointment under this
624 subparagraph shall be canceled upon issuance of a license to an
625 executor or administrator under subparagraph 1.; or

626 3. To an individual otherwise qualified to be licensed as
627 an agent who has completed the educational or training
628 requirements prescribed in s. 626.7851 and who is appointed ~~has~~
629 ~~successfully sat for the required examination prior to~~
630 ~~termination of such 6-month period. The department may issue~~
631 ~~this temporary license only in the case of a life agent to~~
632 represent an insurer of the industrial or ordinary-combination
633 class solely for the purpose of collecting premiums and
634 servicing in-force policies. Such licensee may not directly or
635 indirectly solicit, negotiate, or effect contracts of insurance.

636 (d) In the case of a personal lines ~~limited license~~
637 ~~authorizing appointment as an industrial fire or burglary agent,~~
638 the department may issue a temporary license:

639 1. To the executor or administrator of the estate of a
640 deceased individual licensed and appointed as a personal lines
641 agent at the time of death;

642 2. To a surviving next of kin of the deceased individual,
643 if no administrator or executor has been appointed and
644 qualified. Any license and appointment under this subparagraph
645 shall be canceled upon issuance of a license to an executor or
646 administrator under subparagraph 1.; or

647 3. To an individual otherwise qualified to be licensed as
648 an agent who has completed the educational or training
649 requirements prescribed in s. 626.732 and who is appointed to
650 represent an insurer of the industrial or ordinary-combination

651 class solely for the purpose of collecting premiums and
652 servicing in-force policies. Such licensee may not directly or
653 indirectly solicit, negotiate, or effect contracts of insurance
654 ~~has successfully sat for the required examination prior to~~
655 ~~termination of the 6-month period.~~

656 Section 17. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section
657 626.207, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

658 626.207 Disqualification of applicants and licensees;
659 penalties against licensees; rulemaking authority.—

660 (3) An applicant who has been found guilty of or has
661 pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to a crime not included in
662 subsection (2), regardless of adjudication, is subject to:

663 (b) A 7-year disqualifying period for all felonies to
664 which neither the permanent bar in subsection (2) nor the 15-
665 year disqualifying period in paragraph (a) applies.

666 Notwithstanding subsection (4), an applicant who served at least
667 half of the disqualifying period may reapply for a license if,
668 during that time, the applicant has not been found guilty of or
669 has not pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to a crime. The
670 department may issue the applicant a license on a probationary
671 basis for the remainder of the disqualifying period. The
672 applicant's probationary period ends at the end of the
673 disqualifying period.

674 Section 18. Subsection (1) and paragraph (e) of subsection
675 (2) of section 626.221, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

676 | 626.221 Examination requirement; exemptions.—

677 | (1) The department may ~~shall~~ not issue any license as
678 | agent or adjuster to any individual who has not qualified for,
679 | taken, and passed to the satisfaction of the department a
680 | written examination of the scope prescribed in s. 626.241.

681 | (2) However, an examination is not necessary for any of
682 | the following:

683 | (e) An applicant who has been licensed as an all-lines
684 | adjuster and appointed as an independent adjuster or company
685 | employee adjuster and who files ~~if~~ an application for an all-
686 | lines adjuster license licensure ~~is filed~~ with the department
687 | within 48 months after ~~following~~ the date of cancellation or
688 | expiration of the prior appointment.

689 | Section 19. Paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of section
690 | 626.2815, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

691 | 626.2815 Continuing education requirements.—

692 | (3) Each licensee except a title insurance agent must
693 | complete a 5-hour update course every 2 years which is specific
694 | to the license held by the licensee. The course must be
695 | developed and offered by providers and approved by the
696 | department. The content of the course must address all lines of
697 | insurance for which examination and licensure are required and
698 | include the following subject areas: insurance law updates,
699 | ethics for insurance professionals, disciplinary trends and case
700 | studies, industry trends, premium discounts, determining

701 suitability of products and services, and other similar
702 insurance-related topics the department determines are relevant
703 to legally and ethically carrying out the responsibilities of
704 the license granted. A licensee who holds multiple insurance
705 licenses must complete an update course that is specific to at
706 least one of the licenses held. Except as otherwise specified,
707 any remaining required hours of continuing education are
708 elective and may consist of any continuing education course
709 approved by the department under this section.

710 (d) An individual who holds a license as a customer
711 representative, ~~limited customer representative, motor vehicle~~
712 ~~physical damage and mechanical breakdown insurance agent, or an~~
713 ~~industrial fire insurance or burglary insurance agent~~ and who is
714 not a licensed life or health agent, must also complete a
715 minimum of 5 hours of continuing education courses every 2
716 years.

717 Section 20. Paragraphs (b) and (f) of subsection (1) of
718 section 626.321, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

719 626.321 Limited licenses.—

720 (1) The department shall issue to a qualified applicant a
721 license as agent authorized to transact a limited class of
722 business in any of the following categories of limited lines
723 insurance:

724 (b) Industrial fire insurance or burglary insurance.—
725 License covering only industrial fire insurance or burglary

726 insurance. ~~The applicant for such a license must pass a written~~
727 ~~examination covering such insurance.~~ A licensee under this
728 paragraph may not hold a license as an agent for any other or
729 additional kind or class of insurance coverage except for life
730 insurance and health insurance. Effective July 1, 2019, all
731 licensees holding such limited license and appointment may renew
732 the license and appointment, but no new or additional licenses
733 may be issued pursuant to this paragraph, and a licensee whose
734 limited license under this paragraph has been terminated,
735 suspended, or revoked may not have such license reinstated.

736 (f) Crop hail and multiple-peril crop insurance.—License
737 for insurance covering crops subject to unfavorable weather
738 conditions, fire or lightning ~~lightening~~, flood, hail, insect
739 infestation, disease, or other yield-reducing conditions or
740 perils which is provided by the private insurance market, or
741 which is subsidized by the Federal Group Insurance Corporation
742 including multi-peril crop insurance. Notwithstanding any other
743 provision of law, the limited license may be issued to a bona
744 fide salaried employee of an association chartered under the
745 Farm Credit Act of 1971, 12 U.S.C. ss. 2001 et seq., ~~who~~
746 ~~satisfactorily completes the examination prescribed by the~~
747 ~~department pursuant to s. 626.241(5).~~ The agent must be
748 appointed by, and his or her limited license requested by, a
749 licensed general lines agent. All business transacted by the
750 agent must be on behalf of, in the name of, and countersigned by

751 the agent by whom he or she is appointed. Sections 626.561 and
 752 626.748, relating to records, apply to all business written
 753 pursuant to this section. The licensee may be appointed by and
 754 licensed for only one general lines agent or agency.

755 Section 21. Subsection (1) of section 626.471, Florida
 756 Statutes, is amended to read:

757 626.471 Termination of appointment.—

758 (1) Subject to an appointee's contract rights, an
 759 appointing entity may terminate its appointment of any appointee
 760 at any time. Except when termination is upon a ground that ~~which~~
 761 would subject the appointee to suspension or revocation of his
 762 or her license and appointment under s. 626.611 or s. 626.621,
 763 and except as provided by contract between the appointing entity
 764 and the appointee, the appointing entity shall give at least 60
 765 days' advance written notice of its intention to terminate such
 766 appointment to the appointee, ~~either~~ by delivery thereof to the
 767 appointee in person, ~~or~~ by mailing it, postage prepaid, or by e-
 768 mail. If delivery is by mail or e-mail, the notice must be
 769 addressed to the appointee at his or her last mailing or e-mail
 770 address of record with the appointing entity. Notice ~~is~~ ~~so~~
 771 ~~mailed shall be~~ deemed to have been given when deposited in a
 772 United States Postal Service mail depository or when the e-mail
 773 is sent, as applicable.

774 Section 22. Section 626.536, Florida Statutes, is amended
 775 to read:

776 626.536 Reporting of administrative actions.—Within 30
777 days after the final disposition of an administrative action
778 taken against a licensee ~~or insurance agency~~ by a governmental
779 agency or other regulatory agency in this or any other state or
780 jurisdiction relating to the business of insurance, the sale of
781 securities, or activity involving fraud, dishonesty,
782 trustworthiness, or breach of a fiduciary duty, the licensee ~~or~~
783 ~~insurance agency~~ must submit a copy of the order, consent to
784 order, or other relevant legal documents to the department. The
785 department may adopt rules to administer this section.

786 Section 23. Subsection (7) is added to section 626.6215,
787 Florida Statutes, to read:

788 626.6215 Grounds for discretionary refusal, suspension, or
789 revocation of insurance agency license.—The department may, in
790 its discretion, deny, suspend, revoke, or refuse to continue the
791 license of any insurance agency if it finds, as to any insurance
792 agency or as to any majority owner, partner, manager, director,
793 officer, or other person who manages or controls such insurance
794 agency, that any one or more of the following applicable grounds
795 exist:

796 (7) A denial, suspension, or revocation of, or any other
797 adverse administrative action against, a license to practice or
798 conduct any regulated profession, business, or vocation by this
799 state, any other state, any nation, any possession or district
800 of the United States, or any court or any lawful agency thereof.

801 Section 24. Section 626.729, Florida Statutes, is amended
802 to read:

803 626.729 "Industrial fire insurance" defined.—As used in
804 ~~For the purposes of~~ this code, the term "industrial fire
805 insurance" means: is

806 (1) Insurance against loss by fire of either buildings and
807 other structures or contents, which may include extended
808 coverage;

809 (2) Windstorm insurance;

810 (3) Basic limits owners, landlords, or tenants liability
811 insurance with single limits of \$25,000;

812 (4) Comprehensive personal liability insurance with a
813 single limit of \$25,000; or

814 (5) Burglary insurance, under which the premiums are
815 collected quarterly or more often and the face amount of the
816 insurance provided by the policy on one risk is not more than
817 \$50,000, including the contents of such buildings and other
818 structures, ~~and the insurer issuing such policy is operating~~
819 ~~under a system of collecting a debit by its agents. A temporary~~
820 ~~license for an industrial fire or burglary agent issued pursuant~~
821 ~~to s. 626.175 shall be solely for the purpose of collecting~~
822 ~~premiums and servicing in-force policies, and such licensee~~
823 ~~shall not directly or indirectly solicit, negotiate, or effect~~
824 ~~contracts of insurance.~~

825 Section 25. Subsection (9) of section 626.8437, Florida

826 Statutes, is amended to read:

827 626.8437 Grounds for denial, suspension, revocation, or
 828 refusal to renew license or appointment.—The department shall
 829 deny, suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew or continue the
 830 license or appointment of any title insurance agent or agency,
 831 and it shall suspend or revoke the eligibility to hold a license
 832 or appointment of such person, if it finds that as to the
 833 applicant, licensee, appointee, or any principal thereof, any
 834 one or more of the following grounds exist:

835 (9) Willful failure to comply with, or willful violation
 836 of, any proper order or rule of the department or willful
 837 violation of any provision of the Florida Insurance Code ~~this~~
 838 ~~act~~.

839 Section 26. Subsection (2) of section 626.844, Florida
 840 Statutes, is amended to read:

841 626.844 Grounds for discretionary refusal, suspension, or
 842 revocation of license or appointment.—The department may, in its
 843 discretion, deny, suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew or
 844 continue the license or appointment of any title insurance agent
 845 or agency, and it may suspend or revoke the eligibility to hold
 846 a license or appointment of any such title insurance agent or
 847 agency if it finds that as to the applicant or licensee or
 848 appointee, or any principal thereof, any one or more of the
 849 following grounds exist under circumstances for which such
 850 denial, suspension, revocation, or refusal is not mandatory

851 under s. 626.8437:

852 (2) Violation of any provision of the Florida Insurance
853 Code ~~this act~~ in the course of dealing under the license or
854 appointment.

855 Section 27. Paragraph (e) of subsection (1) and paragraphs
856 (b) and (c) of subsection (2) of section 626.8732, Florida
857 Statutes, are amended to read:

858 626.8732 Nonresident public adjuster's qualifications,
859 bond.—

860 (1) The department shall, upon application therefor, issue
861 a license to an applicant for a nonresident public adjuster's
862 license upon determining that the applicant has paid the
863 applicable license fees required under s. 624.501 and:

864 (e) Has been licensed and employed as a public adjuster in
865 the applicant's state of residence on a continual basis for the
866 past 6 months ~~year~~, or, if the applicant's state of residence
867 does not issue licenses to individuals who act as public
868 adjusters, the applicant has been licensed and employed as a
869 resident insurance company adjuster, a public adjuster, or an
870 independent adjuster in his or her state of residence or any
871 other state on a continual basis for the past 6 months ~~year~~.

872 (2) The applicant shall furnish the following with his or
873 her application:

874 (b) If currently licensed as a resident public adjuster in
875 the applicant's state of residence, a certificate or letter of

876 authorization from the licensing authority of the applicant's
877 state of residence, stating that the applicant holds a current
878 or comparable license to act as a public adjuster and has held
879 the license continuously for the past 6 months ~~year~~. The
880 certificate or letter of authorization must be signed by the
881 insurance commissioner or his or her deputy or the appropriate
882 licensing official and must disclose whether the adjuster has
883 ever had any license or eligibility to hold any license
884 declined, denied, suspended, revoked, or placed on probation or
885 whether an administrative fine or penalty has been levied
886 against the adjuster and, if so, the reason for the action.

887 (c) If the applicant's state of residence does not require
888 licensure as a public adjuster and the applicant has been
889 licensed as a resident insurance adjuster in his or her state of
890 residence or any other state, a certificate or letter of
891 authorization from the licensing authority stating that the
892 applicant holds or has held a license to act as such an
893 insurance adjuster and has held the license continuously for the
894 past 6 months ~~year~~. The certificate or letter of authorization
895 must be signed by the insurance commissioner or his or her
896 deputy or the appropriate licensing official and must disclose
897 whether or not the adjuster has ever had any license or
898 eligibility to hold any license declined, denied, suspended,
899 revoked, or placed on probation or whether an administrative
900 fine or penalty has been levied against the adjuster and, if so,

901 the reason for the action.

902 Section 28. Subsection (6) of section 627.7015, Florida
 903 Statutes, is amended to read:

904 627.7015 Alternative procedure for resolution of disputed
 905 property insurance claims.—

906 (6) (a) Mediation is nonbinding; however, if a written
 907 settlement is reached, the policyholder has 3 business days
 908 within which the policyholder may rescind the settlement unless
 909 the policyholder has cashed or deposited any check or draft
 910 disbursed to the policyholder for the disputed matters as a
 911 result of the conference. If a settlement agreement is reached
 912 and is not rescinded, it is binding and acts as a release of all
 913 specific claims that were presented in that mediation
 914 conference.

915 (b) At the conclusion of the mediation, the mediator shall
 916 provide a written report of the results of mediation, including
 917 any settlement amount, to the insurer, the policyholder, and the
 918 policyholder's representative if the policyholder is represented
 919 at the mediation.

920 Section 29. Subsection (4) of section 627.715, Florida
 921 Statutes, is amended to read:

922 627.715 Flood insurance.—An authorized insurer may issue
 923 an insurance policy, contract, or endorsement providing personal
 924 lines residential coverage for the peril of flood or excess
 925 coverage for the peril of flood on any structure or the contents

926 of personal property contained therein, subject to this section.
927 This section does not apply to commercial lines residential or
928 commercial lines nonresidential coverage for the peril of flood.
929 An insurer may issue flood insurance policies, contracts,
930 endorsements, or excess coverage on a standard, preferred,
931 customized, flexible, or supplemental basis.

932 (4) A surplus lines agent may export a contract or
933 endorsement providing flood coverage to an eligible surplus
934 lines insurer without making a diligent effort to seek such
935 coverage from three or more authorized insurers under s.
936 626.916(1) (a). This subsection expires July 1, 2025 ~~2019~~, or on
937 the date on which the Commissioner of Insurance Regulation
938 determines in writing that there is an adequate admitted market
939 to provide coverage for the peril of flood consistent with this
940 section, whichever date occurs first. If there are fewer than
941 three admitted insurers on the date this subsection expires, the
942 number of declinations necessary to meet the diligent-effort
943 requirement shall be no fewer than the number of authorized
944 insurers providing flood coverage.

945 Section 30. Effective upon this act becoming a law,
946 paragraphs (b) through (g) of subsection (1) of section 627.748,
947 Florida Statutes, are redesignated as paragraphs (c) through
948 (h), respectively, a new paragraph (b) is added to that
949 subsection, and subsection (16) is added to that section, to
950 read:

951 627.748 Transportation network companies.—

952 (1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

953 (b) "Luxury ground transportation network company" or
954 "luxury ground TNC" means an entity that complies with all
955 applicable requirements for a TNC in accordance with subsection
956 (16), but uses its digital network to connect riders exclusively
957 to drivers who operate for-hire vehicles as defined in s.
958 320.01(15), including limousines and luxury sedans and excluding
959 taxicabs.

960 (16) LUXURY GROUND TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES.—A
961 luxury ground TNC may elect, upon written notification to the
962 Department of Financial Services, to be regulated pursuant to
963 this section. In such instance, the luxury ground TNC shall be
964 required to comply with all requirements of this section
965 applicable to a TNC, and all of the provisions of this section,
966 including subsection (15), apply to the luxury ground TNC to the
967 same extent they would to a TNC.

968 Section 31. Paragraph (f) of subsection (1) of section
969 633.218, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraphs (a)
970 through (e) of that subsection are republished, to read:

971 633.218 Inspections of state buildings and premises; tests
972 of firesafety equipment; building plans to be approved.—

973 (1) (a) It is the duty of the State Fire Marshal and her or
974 his agents to inspect, or cause to be inspected, each state-
975 owned building on a recurring basis established by rule, and to

976 | ensure that high-hazard occupancies are inspected at least
 977 | annually, for the purpose of ascertaining and causing to be
 978 | corrected any conditions liable to cause fire or endanger life
 979 | from fire and any violation of the firesafety standards for
 980 | state-owned buildings, this chapter, or the rules adopted
 981 | pursuant hereto. The State Fire Marshal shall, within 7 days
 982 | following an inspection, submit a report of such inspection to
 983 | the head of the state agency responsible for the building.

984 | (b) Except as provided in s. 255.45, the department head
 985 | is responsible for ensuring that deficiencies noted in the
 986 | inspection are corrected as soon as practicable.

987 | (c) Each department shall, in its annual budget proposal,
 988 | include requests for sufficient funds to correct any firesafety
 989 | deficiencies noted by the State Fire Marshal.

990 | (d) Each department shall, in its annual budget proposal
 991 | and for all proposals for new construction or renovations to
 992 | existing structures, include requests for sufficient funds to
 993 | pay for any charges or fees imposed by the State Fire Marshal
 994 | for review of plans, renovations, occupancy, or inspections,
 995 | whether recurring or high hazard.

996 | (e) For purposes of this section:

997 | 1.a. The term "high-hazard occupancy" means any building
 998 | or structure:

999 | (I) That contains combustible or explosive matter or
 1000 | flammable conditions dangerous to the safety of life or

1001 property;

1002 (II) At which persons receive educational instruction;

1003 (III) At which persons reside, excluding private

1004 dwellings; or

1005 (IV) Containing three or more floor levels.

1006 b. As used in this subparagraph, the phrase "building or

1007 structure":

1008 (I) Includes, but is not limited to, all hospitals and

1009 residential health care facilities, nursing homes and other

1010 adult care facilities, correctional or detention facilities,

1011 public schools, public lodging establishments, migrant labor

1012 camps, residential child care facilities, and self-service

1013 gasoline stations.

1014 (II) Does not include any residential condominium where

1015 the declaration of condominium or the bylaws provide that the

1016 rental of units shall not be permitted for less than 90 days.

1017 2. The term "state-owned building" includes private

1018 correctional facilities as defined under s. 944.710(3).

1019 ~~(f) A state-owned building or state-leased building or~~

1020 ~~space shall be identified through use of the United States~~

1021 ~~National Grid Coordinate System.~~

1022 Section 32. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section

1023 633.306, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1024 633.306 Requirements for installation, inspection, and

1025 maintenance of fire suppression equipment.-

1026 (1) The requirements for installation of fire
1027 extinguishers and preengineered systems are as follows:

1028 (c) Equipment shall be installed in accordance with the
1029 applicable standards of the National Fire Protection Association
1030 and the manufacturer's drawings and specifications, using only
1031 components and parts specified by the manufacturer or listed as
1032 equal parts by a nationally recognized testing laboratory, such
1033 as Underwriters Laboratories, Inc., or Factory Mutual
1034 Laboratories, Inc.

1035 Section 33. Subsections (4) and (5) of section 633.312,
1036 Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (5) and (6),
1037 respectively, subsection (3) is amended, and a new subsection
1038 (4) is added to that section, to read:

1039 633.312 Inspection of fire control systems, fire hydrants,
1040 and fire protection systems.—

1041 (3) (a) The inspecting contractor shall provide to the
1042 building owner or hydrant owner and the local authority having
1043 jurisdiction a copy of the applicable uniform summary inspection
1044 report established under this chapter. The local authority
1045 having jurisdiction may accept uniform summary inspection
1046 reports by United States mail, by hand delivery, by electronic
1047 submission, or through a third-party vendor that collects the
1048 reports on behalf of the local authority having jurisdiction.

1049 (b) The State Fire Marshal shall adopt rules to implement
1050 a uniform summary inspection report and submission procedures to

1051 be used by all third-party vendors and local authorities having
1052 jurisdiction. For purposes of this section, a uniform summary
1053 inspection report must record the address where the fire
1054 protection system or hydrant is located, the company and person
1055 conducting the inspection and their license number, the date of
1056 the inspection, and the fire protection system or hydrant
1057 inspection status, including a brief summary of each deficiency,
1058 critical deficiency, noncritical deficiency, or impairment
1059 found. A contractor's detailed inspection report is not required
1060 to follow the uniform summary inspection report format. The
1061 State Fire Marshal shall establish by rule a submission
1062 procedure for each means provided under paragraph (a) by which a
1063 local authority having jurisdiction may accept uniform summary
1064 inspection reports. Each of the submission procedures must allow
1065 a contractor to attach additional documents with the submission
1066 of a uniform summary inspection report, including a physical
1067 copy of the contractor's detailed inspection report. A
1068 submission procedure may not require a contractor to submit
1069 information contained within the detailed inspection report
1070 unless the information is required to be included in the uniform
1071 summary inspection report.

1072 (4) The maintenance of fire hydrant and fire protection
1073 systems as well as corrective actions on deficient systems is
1074 the responsibility of the owner of the system or hydrant.
1075 Equipment requiring periodic testing or operation to ensure its

1076 maintenance shall be tested or operated as specified in the Fire
1077 Prevention Code, Life Safety Code, National Fire Protection
1078 Association standards, or as directed by the appropriate
1079 authority, provided that such appropriate authority may not
1080 require a sprinkler system not required by the Fire Prevention
1081 Code, Life Safety Code, or National Fire Protection Association
1082 standards to be removed regardless of its condition. This
1083 section does not prohibit governmental entities from inspecting
1084 and enforcing firesafety codes.

1085 Section 34. Section 633.520, Florida Statutes, is amended
1086 to read:

1087 633.520 Safety; firefighter employer responsibilities.—
1088 (1) Each ~~Every~~ firefighter employer shall furnish and use
1089 safety devices and safeguards, adopt and use methods and
1090 processes reasonably adequate to render such an employment and
1091 place of employment safe, and do every other thing reasonably
1092 necessary to protect the lives, health, and safety of such
1093 firefighter employees. As used in this section, the terms "safe"
1094 and "safety," as applied to any employment or place of
1095 employment, mean such freedom from danger as is reasonably
1096 necessary for the protection of the lives, health, and safety of
1097 firefighter employees, including conditions and methods of
1098 sanitation and hygiene. Safety devices and safeguards required
1099 to be furnished by the firefighter employer by this section or
1100 by the division under authority of this section do not include

1101 personal apparel and protective devices that replace personal
 1102 apparel normally worn by firefighter employees during regular
 1103 working hours.

1104 (2) The division shall adopt rules to establish employers'
 1105 cancer prevention best practices related to personal protective
 1106 equipment, decontamination, fire suppression equipment, and fire
 1107 stations.

1108 Section 35. Subsection (1) of section 648.49, Florida
 1109 Statutes, is amended to read:

1110 648.49 Duration of suspension or revocation.—

1111 (1) The department shall, in its order suspending a
 1112 license or appointment or in its order suspending the
 1113 eligibility of a person to hold or apply for a license or
 1114 appointment, specify the period during which the suspension is
 1115 to be in effect, but such period may not exceed 2 years. The
 1116 license, ~~or~~ appointment, or and eligibility to hold or apply for
 1117 a license or appointment remains ~~shall remain~~ suspended during
 1118 the period so specified, subject, however, to any rescission or
 1119 modification of the order by the department, or modification or
 1120 reversal thereof by the court, before the ~~prior to~~ expiration of
 1121 the suspension period. A license or appointment that ~~which~~ has
 1122 been suspended may not be reinstated, nor shall the eligibility
 1123 to hold such license or appointment be reinstated, except upon
 1124 the filing and approval of an application ~~request~~ for such
 1125 reinstatement, but the department may not approve an application

1126 for ~~grant~~ such reinstatement if it finds that the circumstances
1127 for which the license or appointment was suspended still exist
1128 or are likely to recur. In each case involving suspension, the
1129 department has the discretion to require the former licensee to
1130 successfully complete a basic certification course in the
1131 criminal justice system, consisting of not less than 80 hours
1132 approved by the department.

1133 Section 36. Subsection (8) of section 717.124, Florida
1134 Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (11), and a new subsection
1135 (8) and subsections (9) and (10) are added to that section, to
1136 read:

1137 717.124 Unclaimed property claims.—

1138 (8) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter,
1139 the department may develop and implement an identification
1140 verification and disbursement process by which an account valued
1141 at \$2,000 or less, after being received by the department and
1142 added to the unclaimed property database, may be disbursed to an
1143 apparent owner after the department has verified that the
1144 apparent owner is living and that the apparent owner's current
1145 address is correct. The department shall include with the
1146 payment a notification and explanation of the dollar amount, the
1147 source, and the property type of each account included in the
1148 disbursement. The department shall adopt rules to implement this
1149 subsection.

1150 (9) (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this

1151 chapter, the department may develop and implement a verification
1152 and disbursement process by which an account, after being
1153 received by the department and added to the unclaimed property
1154 database, for which the apparent owner entity is:

1155 1. A state agency in this state or a subdivision or
1156 successor agency thereof;

1157 2. A county government in this state or a subdivision
1158 thereof;

1159 3. A public school district in this state or a subdivision
1160 thereof;

1161 4. A municipality in this state or a subdivision thereof;

1162 or

1163 5. A special taxing district or authority in this state,

1164
1165 may be disbursed to the apparent owner entity or successor
1166 entity. The department shall include with the payment a
1167 notification and explanation of the dollar amount, the source,
1168 and the property type of each account included in the
1169 disbursement.

1170 (b) The department may adopt rules to implement this
1171 subsection.

1172 (10) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter,
1173 the department may develop a process by which a registered
1174 claimant's representative or a buyer of unclaimed property may
1175 electronically submit to the department an electronic image of a

1176 completed claim and claims-related documents pursuant to this
1177 chapter, including a limited power of attorney or purchase
1178 agreement that has been manually signed and dated by a claimant
1179 or seller pursuant to s. 717.135 or s. 717.1351, after the
1180 claimant's representative or the buyer of unclaimed property
1181 receives the original documents provided by the claimant or the
1182 seller for any claim. Each claim filed by a registered
1183 claimant's representative or a buyer of unclaimed property must
1184 include a statement by the claimant's representative or the
1185 buyer of unclaimed property attesting that all documents are
1186 true copies of the original documents and that all original
1187 documents are physically in the possession of the claimant's
1188 representative or the buyer of unclaimed property. All original
1189 documents must be kept in the original form, by claim number,
1190 under the secure control of the claimant's representative or the
1191 buyer of unclaimed property and must be available for inspection
1192 by the department in accordance with s. 717.1315. The department
1193 may adopt rules to implement this subsection.

1194 Section 37. Section 626.521, Florida Statutes, is
1195 repealed.

1196 Section 38. Section 626.7355, Florida Statutes, is
1197 repealed.

1198 Section 39. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section
1199 626.022, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1200 626.022 Scope of part.—

1201 (1) This part applies as to insurance agents, service
 1202 representatives, adjusters, and insurance agencies; as to any
 1203 and all kinds of insurance; and as to stock insurers, mutual
 1204 insurers, reciprocal insurers, and all other types of insurers,
 1205 except that:

1206 (a) It does not apply as to reinsurance, except that ss.
 1207 626.011-626.022, ss. 626.112-626.181, ss. 626.191-626.211, ss.
 1208 626.291-626.301, s. 626.331, ss. 626.342-626.511 ~~ss. 626.342-~~
 1209 ~~626.521~~, ss. 626.541-626.591, and ss. 626.601-626.711 shall
 1210 apply as to reinsurance intermediaries as defined in s.
 1211 626.7492.

1212 Section 40. Subsection (4) of section 626.025, Florida
 1213 Statutes, is amended to read:

1214 626.025 Consumer protections.—To transact insurance,
 1215 agents shall comply with consumer protection laws, including the
 1216 following, as applicable:

1217 (4) The submission of credit and character reports, as
 1218 required by s. 626.171 ~~or s. 626.521~~.

1219 Section 41. Subsection (1) of section 633.216, Florida
 1220 Statutes, is amended to read:

1221 633.216 Inspection of buildings and equipment; orders;
 1222 firesafety inspection training requirements; certification;
 1223 disciplinary action.—The State Fire Marshal and her or his
 1224 agents or persons authorized to enforce laws and rules of the
 1225 State Fire Marshal shall, at any reasonable hour, when the State

1226 Fire Marshal has reasonable cause to believe that a violation of
1227 this chapter or s. 509.215, or a rule adopted thereunder, or a
1228 minimum firesafety code adopted by the State Fire Marshal or a
1229 local authority, may exist, inspect any and all buildings and
1230 structures which are subject to the requirements of this chapter
1231 or s. 509.215 and rules adopted thereunder. The authority to
1232 inspect shall extend to all equipment, vehicles, and chemicals
1233 which are located on or within the premises of any such building
1234 or structure.

1235 (1) Each county, municipality, and special district that
1236 has firesafety enforcement responsibilities shall employ or
1237 contract with a firesafety inspector. Except as provided in s.
1238 633.312(2), ~~and (3)~~, and (4), the firesafety inspector must
1239 conduct all firesafety inspections that are required by law. The
1240 governing body of a county, municipality, or special district
1241 that has firesafety enforcement responsibilities may provide a
1242 schedule of fees to pay only the costs of inspections conducted
1243 pursuant to this subsection and related administrative expenses.
1244 Two or more counties, municipalities, or special districts that
1245 have firesafety enforcement responsibilities may jointly employ
1246 or contract with a firesafety inspector.

1247 Section 42. (1) The Legislature finds that:

1248 (a) Blockchain technology and distributed ledger
1249 technology allow the secure recording of transactions through
1250 cryptographic algorithms and distributed record sharing, and

1251 such technology has reached a point where the opportunities for
1252 efficiency, cost savings, and cybersecurity deserve study.

1253 (b) Blockchain technology is a promising way to facilitate
1254 more efficient government service delivery models and economies
1255 of scale, including facilitating safe paperless transactions and
1256 recordkeeping that are nearly impervious to cyberattacks and
1257 data destruction.

1258 (c) Blockchain technology can reduce the prevalence of
1259 disparate government computer systems, databases, and custom-
1260 built software interfaces; reduce costs associated with
1261 maintenance and implementation; streamline information sharing;
1262 and allow more areas of the state to electronically participate
1263 in government services.

1264 (d) Nations, other states, and municipalities across the
1265 world are studying and implementing governmental reforms that
1266 bolster trust and reduce bureaucracy through verifiable open
1267 source blockchain technology in a variety of areas, including,
1268 but not limited to, medical and health records, land records,
1269 banking, tax and fee payments, smart contracts, professional
1270 accrediting, and property auctions.

1271 (e) It is in the public interest to establish a Florida
1272 Blockchain Task Force comprised of government and industry
1273 representatives to study the ways in which state, county, and
1274 municipal governments can benefit from a transition to a
1275 blockchain-based system for recordkeeping, security, and service

1276 delivery and to develop and submit recommendations to the
1277 Governor and the Legislature concerning the potential for
1278 implementation of blockchain-based systems that promote
1279 government efficiencies, better services for citizens, economic
1280 development, and safer cyber-secure interaction between
1281 government and the public.

1282 (2) The Florida Blockchain Task Force, a task force as
1283 defined in s. 20.03, Florida Statutes, is established within the
1284 Department of Financial Services to explore and develop a master
1285 plan for fostering the expansion of the blockchain industry in
1286 the state, to recommend policies and state investments to help
1287 make this state a leader in blockchain technology, and to issue
1288 a report to the Governor and the Legislature. The task force
1289 shall study if and how state, county, and municipal governments
1290 can benefit from a transition to a blockchain-based system for
1291 recordkeeping, data security, financial transactions, and
1292 service delivery and identify ways to improve government
1293 interaction with businesses and the public.

1294 (a) The master plan shall:

1295 1. Identify the economic growth and development
1296 opportunities presented by blockchain technology.

1297 2. Assess the existing blockchain industry in the state.

1298 3. Identify innovative and successful blockchain
1299 applications currently used by industry and other governments to
1300 determine viability for state applications.

1301 4. Review workforce needs and academic programs required
1302 to build blockchain technology expertise across all relevant
1303 industries.

1304 5. Make recommendations to the Governor and the
1305 Legislature that will promote innovation and economic growth by
1306 reducing barriers to and expediting the expansion of the state's
1307 blockchain industry.

1308 (b) The task force shall consist of 12 members. Membership
1309 shall be as follows:

1310 1. Three agency heads or executive directors of cabinet
1311 agencies, or their designees, appointed by the Governor.

1312 2. Four members of the public or private sector with
1313 knowledge and experience in blockchain technology, appointed by
1314 the Governor.

1315 3. Three members from the public or private sector with
1316 knowledge and experience in blockchain technology, appointed by
1317 the Chief Financial Officer.

1318 4. One member from the private sector with knowledge and
1319 experience in blockchain technology, appointed by the President
1320 of the Senate.

1321 5. One member from the private sector with knowledge and
1322 experience in blockchain technology, appointed by the Speaker of
1323 the House of Representatives.

1324
1325 Members of the task force shall reflect the ethnic diversity of

1326 the state.

1327 (c) Within 90 days after the effective date of this act, a
1328 majority of the members of the task force must be appointed and
1329 the task force shall hold its first meeting. The task force
1330 shall elect one of its members to serve as chair. Members of the
1331 task force shall serve for the duration of the existence of the
1332 task force. Any vacancy that occurs shall be filled in the same
1333 manner as the original appointment. Task force members shall
1334 serve without compensation, and are not entitled to
1335 reimbursement for per diem or travel expenses.

1336 (d) The task force shall study blockchain technology,
1337 including, but not limited to, the following:

1338 1. Opportunities and risks associated with using
1339 blockchain and distributed ledger technology for state and local
1340 governments.

1341 2. Different types of blockchains, both public and
1342 private, and different consensus algorithms.

1343 3. Projects and cases currently under development in other
1344 states and local governments, and how these cases could be
1345 applied in this state.

1346 4. Ways the Legislature can modify general law to support
1347 secure paperless recordkeeping, increase cybersecurity, improve
1348 interactions with citizens, and encourage blockchain innovation
1349 for businesses in the state.

1350 5. Identifying potential economic incentives for companies

1351 investing in blockchain technologies in collaboration with the
1352 state.

1353 6. Recommending projects for potential blockchain
1354 solutions, including, but not limited to, use cases for state
1355 agencies that would improve services for citizens or businesses.

1356 7. Identifying the technical skills necessary to develop
1357 blockchain technology and ensuring that instruction in such
1358 skills is available at secondary and postsecondary educational
1359 institutions in this state.

1360 (3) The task force shall submit a report to the Governor,
1361 the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
1362 Representatives and present its findings to the appropriate
1363 legislative committees in each house of the Legislature within
1364 180 days after the initial meeting of the task force. The report
1365 must include:

1366 (a) A general description of the costs and benefits of
1367 state and local government agencies using blockchain technology.

1368 (b) Recommendations concerning the feasibility of
1369 implementing blockchain technology in the state and the best
1370 approach to finance the cost of implementation.

1371 (c) Recommendations for specific implementations to be
1372 developed by relevant state agencies.

1373 (d) Any draft legislation the task force deems appropriate
1374 to implement such blockchain technologies.

1375 (e) Identification of one pilot project that may be

1376 | implemented in the state.

1377 | (f) Any other information deemed relevant by the task
1378 | force.

1379 | (4) The task force is entitled to the assistance and
1380 | services of any state agency, board, bureau, or commission as
1381 | necessary and available for the purposes of this section.

1382 | (5) The Department of Financial Services shall provide
1383 | support staff for the task force and any relevant studies, data,
1384 | and materials in its possession to assist the task force in the
1385 | performance of its duties.

1386 | (6) The task force shall terminate upon submission of the
1387 | report and the presentation of findings.

1388 | (7) This section shall take effect upon this act becoming
1389 | a law.

1390 | Section 43. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this
1391 | act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon
1392 | this act becoming a law, this act shall take effect July 1,
1393 | 2019.