



489504

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RS	.	
03/04/2020	.	
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The Committee on Appropriations (Perry) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete everything after the enacting clause  
and insert:

Section 1. Paragraph (f) of subsection (2) of section  
20.121, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

20.121 Department of Financial Services.—There is created a  
Department of Financial Services.

(2) DIVISIONS.—The Department of Financial Services shall  
consist of the following divisions and office:



489504

11           (f) The Division of Public Assistance Fraud, which shall  
12 function as a criminal justice agency for purposes of ss.  
13 943.045-943.08. The division shall conduct investigations  
14 pursuant to s. 414.411 within or outside of this state as it  
15 deems necessary. If, during an investigation, the division has  
16 reason to believe that any criminal law of this state has or may  
17 have been violated, it shall refer any records tending to show  
18 such violation to state or federal law enforcement or  
19 prosecutorial agencies and shall provide investigative  
20 assistance to those agencies as required.

21           Section 2. Section 284.45, Florida Statutes, is created to  
22 read:

23           284.45 Sexual harassment victims.—

24           (1) An individual working for an entity covered by the  
25 State Risk Management Trust Fund may not engage in retaliatory  
26 conduct of any kind against a sexual harassment victim. As used  
27 in this section, the term "sexual harassment victim" means an  
28 individual employed, or being considered for employment, with an  
29 entity participating in the State Risk Management Trust Fund,  
30 who becomes a victim of workplace sexual harassment through the  
31 course of employment, or while being considered for employment,  
32 with the entity.

33           (2) The willful and knowing dissemination of personal  
34 identifying information of a sexual harassment victim to any  
35 party other than a governmental entity in furtherance of its  
36 official duties or pursuant to a court order is a misdemeanor of  
37 the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082. For  
38 purposes of this subsection, personal identifying information  
39 includes the name of the sexual harassment victim and his or



489504

40 her:

41 (a) Home address;

42 (b) Home phone number;

43 (c) Cellular phone number;

44 (d) E-mail address;

45 (e) Social media account username or uniform resource

46 locator (URL); or

47 (f) Any other information that could reasonably be used to

48 identify an alleged sexual harassment victim.

49 Section 3. Subsections (1), (2), (3), (6), and (8) of  
50 section 497.101, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

51 497.101 Board of Funeral, Cemetery, and Consumer Services;  
52 membership; appointment; terms.—

53 (1) The Board of Funeral, Cemetery, and Consumer Services  
54 is created within the Department of Financial Services and shall  
55 consist of 10 members, 9 of whom shall be appointed by the  
56 Governor from nominations made by the Chief Financial Officer  
57 and confirmed by the Senate. The Chief Financial Officer shall  
58 nominate one to three persons for each of the nine vacancies on  
59 the board, and the Governor shall fill each vacancy on the board  
60 by appointing one of the ~~three~~ persons nominated by the Chief  
61 Financial Officer to fill that vacancy. If the Governor objects  
62 to each of the ~~three~~ nominations for a vacancy, she or he shall  
63 inform the Chief Financial Officer in writing. Upon notification  
64 of an objection by the Governor, the Chief Financial Officer  
65 shall submit one to three additional nominations for that  
66 vacancy until the vacancy is filled. One member must be the  
67 State Health Officer or her or his designee.

68 (2) Two members of the board shall be funeral directors



489504

69 licensed under part III of this chapter who are associated with  
70 a funeral establishment. One member of the board shall be a  
71 funeral director licensed under part III of this chapter who is  
72 associated with a funeral establishment licensed under part III  
73 of this chapter that has a valid preneed license issued pursuant  
74 to this chapter and who owns or operates a cinerator facility  
75 approved under chapter 403 and licensed under part VI of this  
76 chapter. Two members of the board shall be persons whose primary  
77 occupation is associated with a cemetery company licensed  
78 pursuant to this chapter. Two ~~Three~~ members of the board shall  
79 be consumers who are residents of the state, have never been  
80 licensed as funeral directors or embalmers, are not connected  
81 with a cemetery or cemetery company licensed pursuant to this  
82 chapter, and are not connected with the death care industry or  
83 the practice of embalming, funeral directing, or direct  
84 disposition. One of the two consumer members shall be at least  
85 60 years of age, ~~and one shall be licensed as a certified public~~  
86 ~~accountant under chapter 473.~~ One member of the board shall be a  
87 consumer who is a resident of this state; is licensed as a  
88 certified public accountant under chapter 473; has never been  
89 licensed as a funeral director or embalmer; is not a principal  
90 or employee of any licensee licensed under this chapter; and  
91 does not otherwise have control, as defined in s. 497.005, over  
92 any licensee licensed under this chapter. One member of the  
93 board shall be a principal of a monument establishment licensed  
94 under this chapter as a monument builder. One member shall be  
95 the State Health Officer or her or his designee. There shall not  
96 be two or more board members who are principals or employees of  
97 the same company or partnership or group of companies or



489504

98 partnerships under common control.

99 (3) Board members shall be appointed for terms of 4 years,  
100 and the State Health Officer shall serve as long as that person  
101 holds that office. The designee of the State Health Officer  
102 shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor. ~~When the terms of~~  
103 ~~the initial board members expire, the Chief Financial Officer~~  
104 ~~shall stagger the terms of the successor members as follows: one~~  
105 ~~funeral director, one cemetery representative, the monument~~  
106 ~~builder, and one consumer member shall be appointed for terms of~~  
107 ~~2 years, and the remaining members shall be appointed for terms~~  
108 ~~of 4 years. All subsequent terms shall be for 4 years.~~

109 (6) The headquarters and records of the board shall be in  
110 the Division of Funeral, Cemetery, and Consumer Services of the  
111 Department of Financial Services in the City of Tallahassee. The  
112 board may be contacted through the Division of Funeral,  
113 Cemetery, and Consumer Services of the Department of Financial  
114 Services in the City of Tallahassee. The Chief Financial Officer  
115 shall annually appoint from among the board members a chair and  
116 vice chair of the board. The board shall meet at least every 6  
117 months, and more often as necessary. Special meetings of the  
118 board shall be convened upon the direction of the Chief  
119 Financial Officer. A quorum is necessary for the conduct of  
120 business by the board. Unless otherwise provided by law, a  
121 majority of the board members eligible to vote shall constitute  
122 a quorum for the purpose of conducting its business ~~six board~~  
123 ~~members shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of the board's~~  
124 ~~business.~~

125 ~~(8) The department shall adopt rules establishing forms by~~  
126 ~~which persons may apply for membership on the board and~~



489504

127 ~~procedures for applying for such membership. Such forms shall~~  
128 ~~require disclosure of the existence and nature of all current~~  
129 ~~and past employments by or contracts with, and direct or~~  
130 ~~indirect affiliations or interests in, any entity or business~~  
131 ~~that at any time was licensed by the board or by the former~~  
132 ~~Board of Funeral and Cemetery Services or the former Board of~~  
133 ~~Funeral Directors and Embalmers or that is or was otherwise~~  
134 ~~involved in the death care industry, as specified by department~~  
135 ~~rule.~~

136 Section 4. Section 497.1411, Florida Statutes, is created  
137 to read:

138 497.1411 Disqualification of applicants and licensees;  
139 penalties against licensees; rulemaking.-

140 (1) For purposes of this section, the term:

141 (a) "Applicant" means an individual applying for licensure  
142 or relicensure under this chapter, and an officer, a director, a  
143 majority owner, a partner, a manager, or other person who  
144 manages or controls an entity applying for licensure or  
145 relicensure under this chapter.

146 (b) "Felony of the first degree" and "capital felony"  
147 include all felonies designated as such in this state at the  
148 time of the commission of the offense, as well as any offense in  
149 another jurisdiction that is substantially similar to an offense  
150 so designated in this state.

151 (c) "Financial services business" means any financial  
152 activity regulated by the department, the Office of Insurance  
153 Regulation, or the Office of Financial Regulation.

154 (2) An applicant who has been found guilty of or has  
155 pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to any of the following



489504

156 crimes, regardless of adjudication, is permanently barred from  
157 licensure under this chapter:

158 (a) A felony of the first degree.

159 (b) A capital felony.

160 (c) A felony money laundering offense.

161 (d) A felony embezzlement.

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

165 (a) A 10-year disqualifying period for all felonies  
166 involving moral turpitude that are not specifically included in  
167 the permanent bar contained in subsection (2).

168 (b) A 5-year disqualifying period for all felonies to which  
169 neither the permanent bar in subsection (2) nor the 10-year  
170 disqualifying period in paragraph (a) applies.

171 (c) A 5-year disqualifying period for all misdemeanors  
172 directly related to the financial services business.

173 (4) The board shall adopt rules to administer this section.  
174 The rules must provide for additional disqualifying periods due  
175 to the commitment of multiple crimes and may include other  
176 factors reasonably related to the applicant's criminal history.  
177 The rules shall provide for mitigating and aggravating factors.  
178 However, mitigation may not result in a period of  
179 disqualification of less than 5 years and may not mitigate the  
180 disqualifying periods in paragraphs (3)(b) and (c).

181 (5) For purposes of this section, a disqualifying period  
182 begins upon the applicant's final release from supervision or  
183 upon completion of the applicant's criminal sentence. The  
184 department may not issue a license to an applicant unless all



489504

185 related fines, court costs and fees, and court-ordered  
186 restitution have been paid.

187 (6) After the disqualifying period has expired, the burden  
188 is on the applicant to demonstrate that he or she has been  
189 rehabilitated, does not pose a risk to the public, is fit and  
190 trustworthy to engage in business regulated by this chapter, and  
191 is otherwise qualified for licensure.

192 (7) Notwithstanding subsections (2) and (3), an applicant  
193 who has been found guilty of, or has pleaded guilty or nolo  
194 contendere to, a crime in subsection (2) or subsection (3) and  
195 who has subsequently been granted a pardon or the restoration of  
196 civil rights pursuant to chapter 940 and s. 8, Art. IV of the  
197 State Constitution, or a pardon or the restoration of civil  
198 rights under the laws of another jurisdiction with respect to a  
199 conviction in that jurisdiction, is not barred or disqualified  
200 from licensure under this chapter. However, such a pardon or  
201 restoration of civil rights does not require the department to  
202 award such license.

203 (8) (a) The board may grant an exemption from  
204 disqualification to any person disqualified from licensure under  
205 subsection (3) if:

206 1. The applicant has paid in full any fee, fine, fund,  
207 lien, civil judgment, restitution, or cost of prosecution  
208 imposed by the court as part of the judgment and sentence for  
209 any disqualifying offense; and

210 2. At least 5 years have elapsed since the applicant  
211 completed or has been lawfully released from confinement,  
212 supervision, or nonmonetary condition imposed by the court for a  
213 disqualifying offense.





489504

214       (b) For the board to grant an exemption under this  
215 subsection, the applicant must clearly and convincingly  
216 demonstrate that he or she would not pose a risk to persons or  
217 property if licensed under this chapter, evidence of which must  
218 include, but need not be limited to, facts and circumstances  
219 surrounding the disqualifying offense, the time that has elapsed  
220 since the offense, the nature of the offense and harm caused to  
221 the victim, the applicant's history before and after the  
222 offense, and any other evidence or circumstances indicating that  
223 the applicant will not present a danger if licensed or  
224 certified.

225       (c) The board has discretion whether to grant or deny an  
226 exemption under this subsection. The board's decision is subject  
227 to chapter 120.

228       (9) The disqualification periods provided in this section  
229 do not apply to the renewal of a license or to a new application  
230 for licensure if the applicant has an active license as of July  
231 1, 2020, and the applicable criminal history was considered by  
232 the board on the prior approval of any active license held by  
233 the applicant. This subsection does not affect any criminal  
234 history disclosure requirement of this chapter.

235       Section 5. Subsection (9) and paragraph (c) of subsection  
236 (10) of section 497.142, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

237       497.142 Licensing; fingerprinting and criminal background  
238 checks.—

239       (9) If any applicant under this chapter has been, ~~within~~  
240 ~~the 10 years preceding the application under this chapter,~~  
241 convicted or found guilty of, or entered a plea of nolo  
242 contendere to, regardless of adjudication, any crime in any



489504

243 jurisdiction, the application shall not be deemed complete until  
244 such time as the applicant provides such certified true copies  
245 of the court records evidencing the conviction, finding, or plea  
246 as required by this section or, as the licensing authority may  
247 by rule require.

248 (10) (c) Crimes to be disclosed are:

249 1. Any felony ~~or misdemeanor~~, no matter when committed,  
250 ~~that was directly or indirectly related to or involving any~~  
251 ~~aspect of the practice or business of funeral directing,~~  
252 ~~embalming, direct disposition, cremation, funeral or cemetery~~  
253 ~~preneed sales, funeral establishment operations, cemetery~~  
254 ~~operations, or cemetery monument or marker sales or~~  
255 ~~installation.~~

256 2. Any misdemeanor, no matter when committed, which was  
257 directly or indirectly related to the financial services  
258 business as defined in s. 497.1411 ~~Any other felony not already~~  
259 ~~disclosed under subparagraph 1. that was committed within the 20~~  
260 ~~years immediately preceding the application under this chapter.~~

261 3. Any other misdemeanor not already disclosed under  
262 subparagraph 2. ~~subparagraph 1.~~ that was committed within the 5  
263 years immediately preceding the application under this chapter.

264 Section 6. Present subsections (2) through (5) of section  
265 497.157, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (4)  
266 through (7), respectively, new subsections (2) and (3) and  
267 subsection (8) are added to that section, and present subsection  
268 (3) of that section is amended, to read:

269 497.157 Unlicensed practice; remedies concerning violations  
270 by unlicensed persons.-

271 (2) A person may not be, act as, or advertise or hold



489504

272 himself or herself out to be a funeral director, embalmer, or  
273 direct disposer unless he or she is currently licensed by the  
274 department.

275 (3) A person may not be, act as, or advertise or hold  
276 himself or herself out to be a preneed sales agent unless he or  
277 she is currently licensed by the department and appointed by a  
278 preneed main licensee for which they are executing preneed  
279 contracts.

280 (5)~~(3)~~ Where the department determines that an emergency  
281 exists regarding any violation of this chapter by any unlicensed  
282 person or entity, the department may issue and serve an  
283 immediate final order upon such unlicensed person or entity, in  
284 accordance with s. 120.569(2)(n). Such an immediate final order  
285 may impose such prohibitions and requirements as are reasonably  
286 necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare, and  
287 shall be effective when served.

288 (a) For the purpose of enforcing such an immediate final  
289 order, the department may file an emergency or other proceeding  
290 in the circuit courts of the state seeking enforcement of the  
291 immediate final order by injunctive or other order of the court.  
292 The court shall issue its injunction or other order enforcing  
293 the immediate final order pending administrative resolution of  
294 the matter under subsection (4) ~~(2)~~, unless the court determines  
295 that such action would work a manifest injustice under the  
296 circumstances. Venue for judicial actions under this paragraph  
297 shall be, at the election of the department, in the courts of  
298 Leon County, or in a county where the respondent resides or has  
299 a place of business.

300 (b) After serving an immediate final order to cease and



489504

301 desist upon any person or entity, the department shall within 10  
302 days issue and serve upon the same person or entity an  
303 administrative complaint as set forth in subsection (4) ~~(2)~~,  
304 except that, absent order of a court to the contrary, the  
305 immediate final order shall be effective throughout the pendency  
306 of proceedings under subsection (4) ~~(2)~~.

307 (8) Any person who is not licensed under this chapter and  
308 who engages in activity requiring licensure under this chapter  
309 commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in  
310 s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

311 Section 7. Subsection (6) of section 497.159, Florida  
312 Statutes, is amended to read:

313 497.159 Crimes.—

314 ~~(6) Any person who is not licensed under this chapter who~~  
315 ~~engages in activity requiring licensure under this chapter,~~  
316 ~~commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as~~  
317 ~~provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.~~

318 Section 8. Subsection (13) of section 552.081, Florida  
319 Statutes, is amended to read:

320 552.081 Definitions.—As used in this chapter:

321 (13) "Two-component explosives" means any two inert  
322 components which, when mixed, become capable of detonation by  
323 any detonator ~~a No. 6 blasting cap~~, and shall be classified as a  
324 Class "A" explosive when so mixed.

325 Section 9. Present subsection (2) of section 553.7921,  
326 Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (3), a new  
327 subsection (2) is added to that section, and subsection (1) of  
328 that section is amended, to read:

329 553.7921 Fire alarm permit application to local enforcement



489504

330 agency.-

331 (1) A contractor must file a Uniform Fire Alarm Permit  
332 Application as provided in subsection (3) ~~(2)~~ with the local  
333 enforcement agency and must receive the fire alarm permit  
334 before:

335 ~~(a) installing or replacing a fire alarm,~~ if the local  
336 enforcement agency requires a plan review for the installation  
337 or replacement; ~~or~~

338 ~~(b) Repairing an existing alarm system that was previously~~  
339 ~~permitted by the local enforcement agency if the local~~  
340 ~~enforcement agency requires a fire alarm permit for the repair.~~

341 (2) If the local enforcement agency requires a fire alarm  
342 permit to repair an existing alarm system that was previously  
343 permitted by the local enforcement agency, a contractor may  
344 begin work after filing a Uniform Fire Alarm Permit Application  
345 as provided in subsection (3). A fire alarm repaired pursuant to  
346 this subsection may not be considered compliant until the  
347 required permit is issued and the local enforcement agency  
348 approves the repair.

349 Section 10. Effective January 1, 2021, subsection (3) of  
350 section 626.2815, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

351 626.2815 Continuing education requirements.-

352 (3) Each licensee except a title insurance agent must  
353 complete a 4-hour ~~5-hour~~ update course every 2 years which is  
354 specific to the license held by the licensee. The course must be  
355 developed and offered by providers and approved by the  
356 department. The content of the course must address all lines of  
357 insurance for which examination and licensure are required and  
358 include the following subject areas: insurance law updates,



489504

359 ethics for insurance professionals, disciplinary trends and case  
360 studies, industry trends, premium discounts, determining  
361 suitability of products and services, and other similar  
362 insurance-related topics the department determines are relevant  
363 to legally and ethically carrying out the responsibilities of  
364 the license granted. A licensee who holds multiple insurance  
365 licenses must complete an update course that is specific to at  
366 least one of the licenses held. Except as otherwise specified,  
367 any remaining required hours of continuing education are  
368 elective and may consist of any continuing education course  
369 approved by the department under this section.

370 (a) Except as provided in paragraphs (b), (c), (d), (e),  
371 (i), and (j), each licensee must also complete 20 ~~19~~ hours of  
372 elective continuing education courses every 2 years.

373 (b) A licensee who has been licensed for 6 or more years  
374 must also complete a minimum of 16 ~~15~~ hours of elective  
375 continuing education every 2 years.

376 (c) A licensee who has been licensed for 25 years or more  
377 and is a CLU or a CPCU or has a Bachelor of Science degree in  
378 risk management or insurance with evidence of 18 or more  
379 semester hours in insurance-related courses must also complete a  
380 minimum of 6 ~~5~~ hours of elective continuing education courses  
381 every 2 years.

382 (d) An individual who holds a license as a customer  
383 representative and who is not a licensed life or health agent  
384 must also complete a minimum of 6 ~~5~~ hours of continuing  
385 education courses every 2 years.

386 (e) An individual subject to chapter 648 must complete the  
387 4-hour ~~5-hour~~ update course and a minimum of 10 ~~9~~ hours of



489504

388 elective continuing education courses every 2 years.

389 (f) Elective continuing education courses for public  
390 adjusters must be specifically designed for public adjusters and  
391 approved by the department. Notwithstanding this subsection,  
392 public adjusters for workers' compensation insurance or health  
393 insurance are not required to take continuing education courses  
394 pursuant to this section.

395 (g) Excess hours accumulated during any 2-year compliance  
396 period may be carried forward to the next compliance period.

397 (h) An individual teaching an approved course of  
398 instruction or lecturing at any approved seminar and attending  
399 the entire course or seminar qualifies for the same number of  
400 classroom hours as would be granted to a person taking and  
401 successfully completing such course or seminar. Credit is  
402 limited to the number of hours actually taught unless a person  
403 attends the entire course or seminar. An individual who is an  
404 official of or employed by a governmental entity in this state  
405 and serves as a professor, instructor, or in another position or  
406 office, the duties and responsibilities of which are determined  
407 by the department to require monitoring and review of insurance  
408 laws or insurance regulations and practices, is exempt from this  
409 section.

410 (i) For compliance periods beginning on or after October 1,  
411 2014, any person who holds a license as a title insurance agent  
412 must complete a minimum of 10 hours of continuing education  
413 credit every 2 years in title insurance and escrow management  
414 specific to this state and approved by the department, which  
415 shall include at least 3 hours of continuing education on the  
416 subject matter of ethics, rules, or compliance with state and



489504

417 federal regulations relating specifically to title insurance and  
418 closing services.

419 (j) For a licensee who is an active participant in an  
420 association, 2 hours of elective continuing education credit per  
421 calendar year may be approved by the department, if properly  
422 reported by the association.

423 Section 11. Section 627.70132, Florida Statutes, is amended  
424 to read:

425 627.70132 Notice of windstorm or hurricane claim.—A claim,  
426 supplemental claim, or reopened claim under an insurance policy  
427 that provides property insurance, as defined in s. 624.604, for  
428 loss or damage caused by the peril of windstorm or hurricane is  
429 barred unless notice of the claim, supplemental claim, or  
430 reopened claim was given to the insurer in accordance with the  
431 terms of the policy within 24 months ~~3 years~~ after the hurricane  
432 first made landfall or the windstorm caused the covered damage.  
433 For purposes of this section, the term "supplemental claim" or  
434 "reopened claim" means any additional claim for recovery from  
435 the insurer for losses from the same hurricane or windstorm  
436 which the insurer has previously adjusted pursuant to the  
437 initial claim. This section does not affect any applicable  
438 limitation on civil actions provided in s. 95.11 for claims,  
439 supplemental claims, or reopened claims timely filed under this  
440 section.

441 Section 12. Section 627.7154, Florida Statutes, is created  
442 to read:

443 627.7154 Water damage limitation.—

444 (1) As used in this section, the term "water damage" means  
445 damage caused by any of the following:





489504

446 (a) Water, waterborne material, sewage, or any other  
447 substance that backs up, overflows, or is discharged through or  
448 from a sewer, sewer system, drain, septic tank system, drain  
449 field, sump, sump pump, or related equipment.

450 (b) Water, waterborne material, sewage, or any other  
451 substance that overflows from a sump pump, sump pump well, or  
452 any other system designed for the removal of subsurface water  
453 that is drained from foundation areas of a structure.

454 (c) Water, waterborne material, sewage, or any other  
455 substance on or below the surface of the ground, regardless of  
456 its source, including water or any other substance that exerts  
457 pressure on or flows, seeps, or leaks through a building,  
458 sidewalk, driveway, foundation, swimming pool, or other  
459 structure.

460 (d) Discharge or overflow of water or steam from within a  
461 plumbing, heating, air conditioning, or automatic fire sprinkler  
462 system or from within a household appliance.

463 (e) Water penetration through the roof system or exterior  
464 walls or windows, unless water penetration is a direct result of  
465 damage caused by a peril other than water.

466 (f) Escape, overflow, or discharge, for any reason, of  
467 water or waterborne material from a dam, levee, seawall, or any  
468 other boundary or containment system.

469 (2) (a) An insurer offering homeowners' policies or  
470 endorsements may offer the option of a policy or endorsement  
471 with a policy limit for water damage as low as 5 percent of the  
472 coverage A policy limit per occurrence, and may also offer  
473 homeowners' policies or endorsements with greater policy limits  
474 for water damage. Such policy or endorsement may be offered on



489504

475 all new business and on all renewals. Except as provided in  
476 paragraph (b), an insurer may not condition renewals upon  
477 acceptance of the base 5 percent of the coverage A policy limit  
478 per occurrence or upon acceptance of an optional higher limit. A  
479 policyholder who accepts the base 5 percent of the coverage A  
480 policy limit per occurrence option must receive at least a 10  
481 percent discount on the non-wind portion of the premium, and a  
482 policyholder who accepts a limit that is greater than 5 percent  
483 of the coverage A policy limit must be provided an actuarially  
484 reasonable premium credit or discount. An insurer that issues or  
485 renews a homeowner's policy with a sublimit pursuant to this  
486 subsection must include within the policy documents at initial  
487 issuance and at every renewal, in no smaller than 18-point bold  
488 type, the following statement: "THIS POLICY LIMITS COVERAGE FOR  
489 WATER DAMAGE. YOU MAY WISH TO PURCHASE FULL COVERAGE FOR WATER  
490 DAMAGE. PLEASE DISCUSS WITH YOUR INSURANCE AGENT."

491 (b) An insurer may condition the issuance or renewal of a  
492 homeowner's insurance policy on a home older than 40 years of  
493 age on the policyholder's acceptance of a policy limit for water  
494 damage which is less than the coverage A policy limit.

495 (c) An insurer may condition the provision of full water  
496 damage coverage under a homeowner's insurance policy on the use  
497 of a managed repair or preferred vendor program approved by the  
498 office.

499 (d) An insurer may require a water intrusion inspection  
500 before binding full water damage coverage under a homeowner's  
501 insurance policy.

502 Section 13. Subsection (3) of section 633.102, Florida  
503 Statutes, is amended to read:



489504

504 633.102 Definitions.—As used in this chapter, the term:

505 (3) (a) "Contractor I" means a contractor whose business  
506 includes the execution of contracts requiring the ability to lay  
507 out, fabricate, install, inspect, alter, repair, and service all  
508 types of fire protection systems, excluding preengineered  
509 systems.

510 (b) "Contractor II" means a contractor whose business is  
511 limited to the execution of contracts requiring the ability to  
512 lay out, fabricate, install, inspect, alter, repair, and service  
513 water sprinkler systems, water spray systems, foam-water  
514 sprinkler systems, foam-water spray systems, standpipes,  
515 combination standpipes and sprinkler risers, all piping that is  
516 an integral part of the system beginning at the point of service  
517 as defined in this section, sprinkler tank heaters, air lines,  
518 thermal systems used in connection with sprinklers, and tanks  
519 and pumps connected thereto, excluding preengineered systems.

520 (c) "Contractor III" means a contractor whose business is  
521 limited to the execution of contracts requiring the ability to  
522 fabricate, install, inspect, alter, repair, and service carbon  
523 dioxide systems, foam extinguishing systems, dry chemical  
524 systems, and Halon and other chemical systems, excluding  
525 preengineered systems.

526 (d) "Contractor IV" means a contractor whose business is  
527 limited to the execution of contracts requiring the ability to  
528 lay out, fabricate, install, inspect, alter, repair, and service  
529 automatic fire sprinkler systems for detached one-family  
530 dwellings, detached two-family dwellings, and mobile homes,  
531 excluding preengineered systems and excluding single-family  
532 homes in cluster units, such as apartments, condominiums, and



489504

533 assisted living facilities or any building that is connected to  
534 other dwellings. A Contractor IV is limited to the scope of  
535 practice specified in NFPA 13D.

536 (e) "Contractor V" means a contractor whose business is  
537 limited to the execution of contracts requiring the ability to  
538 fabricate, install, inspect, alter, repair, and service the  
539 underground piping for a fire protection system using water as  
540 the extinguishing agent beginning at the point of service as  
541 defined in this act and ending no more than 1 foot above the  
542 finished floor.

543  
544 The definitions in this subsection may not be construed to  
545 include engineers or architects and do not limit or prohibit a  
546 licensed fire protection engineer or architect with fire  
547 protection design experience from designing any type of fire  
548 protection system. A distinction is made between system design  
549 concepts prepared by the design professional and system layout  
550 as defined in this section and typically prepared by the  
551 contractor. However, a person certified as a Contractor I or  
552 Contractor II, ~~or Contractor IV~~ under this chapter may design  
553 new fire protection systems of 49 or fewer sprinklers; ~~and~~ may  
554 design the alteration of an existing fire sprinkler system if  
555 the alteration consists of the relocation, addition, or deletion  
556 of ~~not more than~~ 49 or fewer sprinklers, notwithstanding the  
557 size of the existing fire sprinkler system; or may design the  
558 alteration of an existing fire sprinkler system if the  
559 alteration consists of the relocation or deletion of 249 or  
560 fewer sprinklers, notwithstanding the size of the existing fire  
561 sprinkler system, if there is no change of occupancy, as defined



489504

562 in the Florida Building Code, of the affected areas and there is  
563 no change in the water demand as defined in National Fire  
564 Protection Association publication NFPA 13 "Standard for the  
565 Installation of Sprinkler Systems," and if the occupancy hazard  
566 classification as defined in NFPA 13 is reduced or remains the  
567 same as a result of the alteration. A person certified as a  
568 Contractor I, Contractor II, or Contractor IV may design or  
569 alter a fire protection system, the scope of which complies with  
570 NFPA 13D, Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in  
571 One- and Two-Family Dwellings and Manufactured Homes, as adopted  
572 by the State Fire Marshal, notwithstanding the number of fire  
573 sprinklers. Contractor-developed plans may not be required by  
574 any local permitting authority to be sealed by a registered  
575 professional engineer.

576 Section 14. Section 633.136, Florida Statutes, is amended  
577 to read:

578 633.136 Fire and Emergency Incident Information Reporting  
579 Program; duties; fire reports.—

580 (1) (a) The Fire and Emergency Incident Information  
581 Reporting Program is created within the division. The program  
582 shall:

583 1. Establish and maintain an electronic communication  
584 system capable of transmitting fire and emergency incident  
585 information to and between fire service providers ~~protection~~  
586 ~~agencies~~.

587 2. Initiate a Fire and Emergency Incident Information  
588 Reporting System that shall be responsible for:

589 a. Receiving fire and emergency incident information from  
590 fire service providers ~~protection agencies~~.



489504

591           b. Preparing and disseminating annual reports to the  
592 Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House  
593 of Representatives, fire service providers ~~protection agencies~~,  
594 and, upon request, the public. Each report shall include, but  
595 not be limited to, the information listed in the National Fire  
596 Incident Reporting System.

597           c. Upon request, providing other states and federal  
598 agencies with fire and emergency incident data of this state.

599           3. Adopt rules to effectively and efficiently implement,  
600 administer, manage, maintain, and use the Fire and Emergency  
601 Incident Information Reporting Program. The rules shall be  
602 considered minimum requirements and shall not preclude a fire  
603 service provider ~~protection agency~~ from implementing its own  
604 requirements which may not conflict with the rules of the  
605 division.

606           4. By rule, establish procedures and a format for each fire  
607 service provider ~~protection agency~~ to voluntarily monitor its  
608 records and submit reports to the program.

609           5. Maintain ~~Establish~~ an electronic information database  
610 that is accessible and searchable by fire service providers  
611 ~~protection agencies~~.

612           (b) The division shall consult with the Florida Forest  
613 Service of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services  
614 and the State Surgeon General of the Department of Health to  
615 coordinate data, ensure accuracy of the data, and limit  
616 duplication of efforts in data collection, analysis, and  
617 reporting.

618           (2) The Fire and Emergency Incident Information System  
619 Technical Advisory Panel is created within the division. The



489504

620 panel shall advise, review, and recommend to the State Fire  
621 Marshal with respect to the requirements of this section. The  
622 membership of the panel shall consist of the ~~following~~ 15  
623 members:

624 ~~(a) The current 13 members of the Firefighters Employment,~~  
625 ~~Standards, and Training Council as established in s. 633.402.~~

626 ~~(b) One member from the Florida Forest Service of the~~  
627 ~~Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, appointed by~~  
628 ~~the director of the Florida Forest Service.~~

629 ~~(c) One member from the Department of Health, appointed by~~  
630 ~~the State Surgeon General.~~

631 (3) As used in ~~For the purpose of~~ this section, the term  
632 "fire service provider" has the same meaning as in s. 633.102  
633 ~~"fire protection agency" shall be defined by rule by the~~  
634 ~~division.~~

635 Section 15. Subsections (18) and (20) of section 633.202,  
636 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

637 633.202 Florida Fire Prevention Code.—

638 (18) The authority having jurisdiction shall determine the  
639 minimum radio signal strength for fire department communications  
640 in all new high-rise and existing high-rise buildings. Existing  
641 buildings are not required to comply with minimum radio strength  
642 for fire department communications and two-way radio system  
643 enhancement communications as required by the Florida Fire  
644 Prevention Code until January 1, 2023 ~~2022~~. However, by January  
645 1, 2022 ~~December 31, 2019~~, an existing building that is not in  
646 compliance with the requirements for minimum radio strength for  
647 fire department communications must have completed a minimum  
648 radio strength assessment ~~apply for an appropriate permit for~~



489504

649 the required installation with the local government agency  
650 having jurisdiction and must demonstrate that the building will  
651 become compliant by January 1, 2023 ~~2022~~. Existing apartment  
652 buildings are not required to comply until January 1, 2025.  
653 However, existing apartment buildings are required to apply for  
654 the appropriate permit for the required communications  
655 installation by December 31, 2022.

656 (20) (a) In apartment occupancies with enclosed corridors  
657 served by interior or exterior exit stairs, doorstep refuse and  
658 recycling collection containers, which stand upright on their  
659 own and do not leak liquids when standing upright, must be  
660 allowed in exit access corridors when all of the following  
661 conditions exist:

662 1. The maximum doorstep refuse and recycling collection  
663 container size does not exceed 13 gallons.

664 2. Waste, which is in a doorstep refuse and recycling  
665 collection container, is not placed in the exit access corridors  
666 for single periods exceeding 5 hours.

667 3. Doorstep refuse and recycling collection containers do  
668 not occupy the exit access corridors for single periods  
669 exceeding 12 hours.

670 4. Doorstep refuse and recycling collection containers do  
671 not reduce the means of egress width below that required under  
672 NFPA Life Safety Code 101:31, as adopted under the Florida Fire  
673 Prevention Code.

674 5. Management staff have written policies and procedures in  
675 place and enforce them to ensure compliance with this paragraph,  
676 and, upon request, provide a copy of such policies and  
677 procedures to the authority having jurisdiction.





489504

678 (b) In apartment occupancies with open-air corridors or  
679 balconies served by exterior exit stairs, doorstep refuse and  
680 recycling collection containers, which stand upright on their  
681 own and do not leak liquids when standing upright, must be  
682 allowed in exit access corridors when all of the following  
683 conditions exist:

684 1. The maximum doorstep refuse and recycling collection  
685 container size does not exceed 27 gallons.

686 2. Waste, which is in a doorstep refuse and recycling  
687 collection container, is not placed in the exit access corridors  
688 for single periods exceeding 5 hours.

689 3. Doorstep refuse and recycling collection containers do  
690 not reduce the means of egress width below that required under  
691 NFPA Life Safety Code 101:31, as adopted under the Florida Fire  
692 Prevention Code.

693 4. Management staff have written policies and procedures in  
694 place and enforce them to ensure compliance with this paragraph,  
695 and, upon request, provide a copy of such policies and  
696 procedures to the authority having jurisdiction.

697 (c) The authority having jurisdiction may approve  
698 alternative containers and storage arrangements that are  
699 demonstrated to provide an equivalent level of safety to that  
700 provided under paragraphs (a) and (b).

701 (d) The authority having jurisdiction shall allow apartment  
702 occupancies a phase-in period until December 31, 2020, to comply  
703 with this subsection.

704 (e) This subsection is repealed on January 1, 2024 ~~July 1,~~  
705 ~~2021~~.

706 Section 16. Section 633.217, Florida Statutes, is created



489504

707 to read:

708 633.217 Influencing a firesafety inspector; prohibited  
709 acts.—

710 (1) A person may not influence a firesafety inspector by:

711 (a) Threatening, coercing, tricking, or attempting to  
712 threaten, coerce, or trick the firesafety inspector into  
713 violating any provision of the Florida Fire Prevention Code, any  
714 rule adopted by the State Fire Marshal, or any provision of this  
715 chapter.

716 (b) Offering any compensation to the firesafety inspector  
717 to induce a violation of the Florida Fire Prevention Code, any  
718 rule adopted by the State Fire Marshal, or any provision of this  
719 chapter.

720 (2) A firesafety inspector may not knowingly and willfully  
721 accept an attempt by a person to influence the firesafety  
722 inspector into violating any provision of the Florida Fire  
723 Prevention Code, any rule adopted by the State Fire Marshal, or  
724 any provision of this chapter.

725 Section 17. Paragraphs (d), (g), and (h) of subsection (4)  
726 of section 633.304, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

727 633.304 Fire suppression equipment; license to install or  
728 maintain.—

729 (4)

730 (d) A license of any class may not be issued or renewed by  
731 the division and a license of any class does not remain  
732 operative unless:

733 1. The applicant has submitted to the State Fire Marshal  
734 evidence of registration as a Florida corporation or evidence of  
735 compliance with s. 865.09.



489504

736           2. The State Fire Marshal or his or her designee has by  
737 inspection determined that the applicant possesses the equipment  
738 required for the class of license sought. The State Fire Marshal  
739 shall give an applicant a reasonable opportunity to correct any  
740 deficiencies discovered by inspection. To obtain such  
741 inspection, an applicant with facilities located outside this  
742 state must:

743           a. Provide a notarized statement from a professional  
744 engineer licensed by the applicant's state of domicile  
745 certifying that the applicant possesses the equipment required  
746 for the class of license sought and that all such equipment is  
747 operable; or

748           b. Allow the State Fire Marshal or her or his designee to  
749 inspect the facility. All costs associated with the State Fire  
750 Marshal's inspection must be paid by the applicant. The State  
751 Fire Marshal, in accordance with s. 120.54, may adopt rules to  
752 establish standards for the calculation and establishment of the  
753 amount of costs associated with any inspection conducted by the  
754 State Fire Marshal under this section. Such rules must include  
755 procedures for invoicing and receiving funds in advance of the  
756 inspection.

757           3. The applicant has submitted to the State Fire Marshal  
758 proof of insurance providing coverage for comprehensive general  
759 liability for bodily injury and property damage, products  
760 liability, completed operations, and contractual liability. The  
761 State Fire Marshal shall adopt rules providing for the amounts  
762 of such coverage, but such amounts may not be less than \$300,000  
763 for Class A or Class D licenses, \$200,000 for Class B licenses,  
764 and \$100,000 for Class C licenses; and the total coverage for



489504

765 any class of license held in conjunction with a Class D license  
766 may not be less than \$300,000. The State Fire Marshal may, at  
767 any time after the issuance of a license or its renewal, require  
768 upon demand, and in no event more than 30 days after notice of  
769 such demand, the licensee to provide proof of insurance, on the  
770 insurer's form, containing confirmation of insurance coverage as  
771 required by this chapter. Failure, for any length of time, to  
772 provide proof of insurance coverage as required must result in  
773 the immediate suspension of the license until proof of proper  
774 insurance is provided to the State Fire Marshal. An insurer that  
775 provides such coverage shall notify the State Fire Marshal of  
776 any change in coverage or of any termination, cancellation, or  
777 nonrenewal of any coverage.

778 4. The applicant applies to the State Fire Marshal,  
779 provides proof of experience, and successfully completes a  
780 prescribed training course that includes both written and  
781 practical training offered at by the State Fire College and ~~or~~  
782 an equivalent course approved by the State Fire Marshal as  
783 applicable to the class of license being sought. This  
784 subparagraph does not apply to any holder of or applicant for a  
785 permit under paragraph (g) or to a business organization or a  
786 governmental entity seeking initial licensure or renewal of an  
787 existing license solely for the purpose of inspecting,  
788 servicing, repairing, marking, recharging, and maintaining fire  
789 extinguishers used and located on the premises of and owned by  
790 such organization or entity.

791 5. The applicant has a current retestor identification  
792 number that is appropriate for the license for which the  
793 applicant is applying and that is listed with the United States



489504

794 Department of Transportation.

795         6. The applicant has passed, with a grade of at least 70  
796 percent, a written examination testing his or her knowledge of  
797 the rules and statutes governing the activities authorized by  
798 the license and demonstrating his or her knowledge and ability  
799 to perform those tasks in a competent, lawful, and safe manner.  
800 Such examination must be developed and administered by the State  
801 Fire Marshal, or his or her designee in accordance with policies  
802 and procedures of the State Fire Marshal. An applicant shall pay  
803 a nonrefundable examination fee of \$50 for each examination or  
804 reexamination scheduled. A reexamination may not be scheduled  
805 sooner than 30 days after any administration of an examination  
806 to an applicant. An applicant may not be permitted to take an  
807 examination for any level of license more than a total of four  
808 times during 1 year, regardless of the number of applications  
809 submitted. As a prerequisite to licensure of the applicant, he  
810 or she:

811             a. Must be at least 18 years of age.

812             b. Must have 4 years of proven experience as a fire  
813 equipment permittee at a level equal to or greater than the  
814 level of license applied for or have a combination of education  
815 and experience determined to be equivalent thereto by the State  
816 Fire Marshal. Having held a permit at the appropriate level for  
817 the required period constitutes the required experience.

818             c. Must not have been convicted of a felony or a crime  
819 punishable by imprisonment of 1 year or more under the law of  
820 the United States or of any state thereof or under the law of  
821 any other country. "Convicted" means a finding of guilt or the  
822 acceptance of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere in any federal



489504

823 or state court or a court in any other country, without regard  
824 to whether a judgment of conviction has been entered by the  
825 court having jurisdiction of the case. If an applicant has been  
826 convicted of any such felony, the applicant is excluded from  
827 licensure for a period of 4 years after expiration of sentence  
828 or final release by the Florida Commission on Offender Review  
829 unless the applicant, before the expiration of the 4-year  
830 period, has received a full pardon or has had her or his civil  
831 rights restored.

832

833 This subparagraph does not apply to any holder of or applicant  
834 for a permit under paragraph (g) or to a business organization  
835 or a governmental entity seeking initial licensure or renewal of  
836 an existing license solely for the purpose of inspecting,  
837 servicing, repairing, marking, recharging, hydrotesting, and  
838 maintaining fire extinguishers used and located on the premises  
839 of and owned by such organization or entity.

840 (g) A permit of any class may not be issued or renewed to a  
841 person by the division, and a permit of any class does not  
842 remain operative, unless the person has:

843 1. Submitted a nonrefundable examination fee in the amount  
844 of \$50.

845 2. Successfully completed a training course that includes  
846 both written and practical training offered at by the State Fire  
847 College and or an equivalent course approved by the State Fire  
848 Marshal as applicable to the class of license being sought.

849 3. Passed, with a grade of at least 70 percent, a written  
850 examination testing his or her knowledge of the rules and  
851 statutes governing the activities authorized by the permit and



489504

852 demonstrating his or her knowledge and ability to perform those  
853 tasks in a competent, lawful, and safe manner. Such examination  
854 must be developed and administered by the State Fire Marshal in  
855 accordance with the policies and procedures of the State Fire  
856 Marshal. An examination fee must be paid for each examination  
857 scheduled. A reexamination may not be scheduled sooner than 30  
858 days after any administration of an examination to an applicant.  
859 An applicant may not be permitted to take an examination for any  
860 level of permit more than four times during 1 year, regardless  
861 of the number of applications submitted. As a prerequisite to  
862 taking the permit examination, the applicant must be at least 16  
863 years of age.

864 (h) An applicant for a license or permit under this section  
865 who fails the examination may take it three more times during  
866 the 1-year period after he or she originally filed an  
867 application for the examination. If the applicant fails the  
868 examination within 1 year after the application date and he or  
869 she seeks to retake the examination, he or she must file a new  
870 application, pay the application and examination fees, and  
871 successfully complete a prescribed training course that includes  
872 both written and practical training offered at by the State Fire  
873 College and ~~or an equivalent~~ course approved by the State Fire  
874 Marshal as applicable to the class of license being sought. The  
875 applicant may not submit a new application within 6 months after  
876 the date of his or her fourth reexamination. An applicant who  
877 passes the examination but does not meet the remaining  
878 qualifications prescribed by law and rule within 1 year after  
879 the application date must file a new application, pay the  
880 application and examination fee, successfully complete a



489504

881 prescribed training course that includes both written and  
882 practical training offered at ~~approved by~~ the State Fire College  
883 and or an equivalent course approved by the State Fire Marshal  
884 as applicable to the class of license being sought, and pass the  
885 written examination.

886 Section 18. Subsection (1) of section 633.402, Florida  
887 Statutes, is amended to read:

888 633.402 Firefighters Employment, Standards, and Training  
889 Council; organization; meetings; quorum; compensation; seal;  
890 special powers; firefighter training.-

891 (1) There is created within the department a Firefighters  
892 Employment, Standards, and Training Council of 15 ~~14~~ members.

893 (a) The members shall be appointed as follows:

894 1. Two fire chiefs appointed by the Florida Fire Chiefs  
895 Association.

896 2. Two firefighters, who are not officers, appointed by the  
897 Florida Professional Firefighters Association.

898 3. Two firefighter officers, who are not fire chiefs,  
899 appointed by the State Fire Marshal.

900 4. One individual appointed by the Florida League of  
901 Cities.

902 5. One individual appointed by the Florida Association of  
903 Counties.

904 6. One individual appointed by the Florida Association of  
905 Special Districts.

906 7. One individual appointed by the Florida Fire Marshals'  
907 and Inspectors' Association.

908 8. One employee of the Florida Forest Service of the  
909 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services appointed by the





489504

910 director of the Florida Forest Service.

911 9. One individual appointed by the State Fire Marshal.

912 10. One director or instructor of a state-certified  
913 firefighting training facility appointed by the State Fire  
914 Marshal.

915 11. One individual ~~The remaining member, who shall be~~  
916 appointed by the State Fire Marshal, who may not be a member or  
917 representative of the firefighting profession or of any local  
918 government.

919 12. One individual from the Department of Health, appointed  
920 by the Surgeon General.

921 (b) To be eligible for appointment as a member under  
922 subparagraph (a)1., subparagraph (a)2., subparagraph (a)3.,  
923 subparagraph (a)8., or subparagraph (a)10., a person must have  
924 had at least 4 years' experience in the firefighting profession.  
925 Members shall serve only as long as they continue to meet the  
926 criteria under which they were appointed, or unless a member has  
927 failed to appear at three consecutive and properly noticed  
928 meetings unless excused by the chair.

929 Section 19. Subsection (1) of section 633.416, Florida  
930 Statutes, is amended to read:

931 633.416 Firefighter employment and volunteer firefighter  
932 service; saving clause.—

933 (1) A fire service provider may not employ an individual  
934 to:

935 (a) Extinguish fires for the protection of life or property  
936 or to supervise individuals who perform such services unless the  
937 individual holds a current and valid Firefighter Certificate of  
938 Compliance. However, a person who is currently serving as a



489504

939 volunteer firefighter and holds a volunteer firefighter  
940 certificate of completion with a fire service provider, who is  
941 then employed as a regular or permanent firefighter by such fire  
942 service provider, may function, for a period of 1 year under the  
943 direct supervision of an individual holding a valid firefighter  
944 certificate of compliance, in the same capacity in which he or  
945 she acted as a volunteer firefighter, provided that he or she  
946 has completed all training required by the volunteer  
947 organization. Under no circumstance can this period extend  
948 beyond 1 year either collectively or consecutively from the  
949 start of employment to obtain a Firefighter Certificate of  
950 Compliance; or

951 (b) Serve as the administrative and command head of a fire  
952 service provider for a period in excess of 1 year unless the  
953 individual holds a current and valid Firefighter Certificate of  
954 Compliance or Special Certificate of Compliance.

955 Section 20. Section 843.08, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
956 read:

957 843.08 False personation.—A person who falsely assumes or  
958 pretends to be a firefighter, a sheriff, an officer of the  
959 Florida Highway Patrol, an officer of the Fish and Wildlife  
960 Conservation Commission, an officer of the Department of  
961 Environmental Protection, ~~a fire or arson investigator of the~~  
962 ~~Department of Financial Services,~~ an officer of the Department  
963 of Financial Services, any personnel or representative of the  
964 Division of Investigative and Forensic Services, an officer of  
965 the Department of Corrections, a correctional probation officer,  
966 a deputy sheriff, a state attorney or an assistant state  
967 attorney, a statewide prosecutor or an assistant statewide



489504

968 prosecutor, a state attorney investigator, a coroner, a police  
969 officer, a lottery special agent or lottery investigator, a  
970 beverage enforcement agent, a school guardian as described in s.  
971 30.15(1)(k), a security officer licensed under chapter 493, any  
972 member of the Florida Commission on Offender Review or any  
973 administrative aide or supervisor employed by the commission,  
974 any personnel or representative of the Department of Law  
975 Enforcement, or a federal law enforcement officer as defined in  
976 s. 901.1505, and takes upon himself or herself to act as such,  
977 or to require any other person to aid or assist him or her in a  
978 matter pertaining to the duty of any such officer, commits a  
979 felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s.  
980 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. However, a person who  
981 falsely personates any such officer during the course of the  
982 commission of a felony commits a felony of the second degree,  
983 punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.  
984 If the commission of the felony results in the death or personal  
985 injury of another human being, the person commits a felony of  
986 the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s.  
987 775.083, or s. 775.084.

988 Section 21. Paragraph (f) is added to subsection (11) of  
989 section 943.045, Florida Statutes, to read:

990 943.045 Definitions; ss. 943.045-943.08.—The following  
991 words and phrases as used in ss. 943.045-943.08 shall have the  
992 following meanings:

993 (11) "Criminal justice agency" means:

994 (f) The investigations component of the Department of  
995 Financial Services which investigates the crimes of fraud and  
996 official misconduct in all public assistance given to residents



489504

997 of the state or provided to others by the state.

998       Section 22. Effective upon this act becoming a law,  
999 subsection (3) of section 40 of chapter 2019-140, Laws of  
1000 Florida, is amended to read:

1001       Section 40. (3) The task force shall submit a report to the  
1002 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the  
1003 House of Representatives and present its findings to the  
1004 appropriate legislative committees in each house of the  
1005 Legislature by January 31, 2021 ~~within 180 days after the~~  
1006 ~~initial meeting of the task force.~~ The report must include:

1007       (a) A general description of the costs and benefits of  
1008 state and local government agencies using blockchain technology.

1009       (b) Recommendations concerning the feasibility of  
1010 implementing blockchain technology in the state and the best  
1011 approach to finance the cost of implementation.

1012       (c) Recommendations for specific implementations to be  
1013 developed by relevant state agencies.

1014       (d) Any draft legislation the task force deems appropriate  
1015 to implement such blockchain technologies.

1016       (e) Identification of one pilot project that may be  
1017 implemented in the state.

1018       (f) Any other information deemed relevant by the task  
1019 force.

1020       Section 23. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this  
1021 act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon  
1022 this act becoming a law, this act shall take effect July 1,  
1023 2020.

1024  
1025 ===== T I T L E   A M E N D M E N T =====



489504

1026 And the title is amended as follows:

1027 Delete everything before the enacting clause  
1028 and insert:

1029 A bill to be entitled

1030 An act relating to financial services; amending s.  
1031 20.121, F.S.; specifying powers and duties of the  
1032 Division of Public Assistance Fraud; creating s.  
1033 284.45, F.S.; prohibiting individuals working for  
1034 entities covered by the State Risk Management Trust  
1035 Fund from engaging in retaliatory conduct against  
1036 sexual harassment victims; defining the term "sexual  
1037 harassment victim"; specifying a criminal penalty for  
1038 the willful and knowing dissemination of a sexual  
1039 harassment victim's personal identifying information,  
1040 except under certain circumstances; specifying  
1041 protected personal identifying information; amending  
1042 s. 497.101, F.S.; revising provisions relating to  
1043 membership of the Board of Funeral, Cemetery, and  
1044 Consumer Services within the department; deleting a  
1045 requirement for the department to adopt certain rules;  
1046 creating s. 497.1411, F.S.; defining terms; providing  
1047 for permanent disqualification of applicants for  
1048 licensure under ch. 497, F.S., for certain offenses;  
1049 providing for disqualifying periods for applicants for  
1050 certain offenses; requiring the board to adopt rules;  
1051 providing for calculation of disqualifying periods;  
1052 providing conditions for licensure after completion of  
1053 a disqualifying period; specifying the effect of a  
1054 pardon or clemency; providing for exemptions from



489504

1055 disqualification in certain circumstances; providing  
1056 procedures for consideration of applications for such  
1057 exemptions; providing construction; amending s.  
1058 497.142, F.S.; revising criminal history disclosure  
1059 requirements for applicants seeking licensure under  
1060 ch. 497, F.S.; amending s. 497.157, F.S.; prohibiting  
1061 persons from acting as or advertising themselves as  
1062 being funeral directors, embalmers, direct disposers,  
1063 or preneed sales agents unless they are so licensed;  
1064 prohibiting persons from engaging in certain  
1065 activities requiring licensure without holding  
1066 required licenses; revising the criminal penalty for  
1067 unlicensed activity; amending s. 497.159, F.S.;  
1068 conforming a provision to changes made by the act;  
1069 amending s. 552.081, F.S.; revising the definition of  
1070 the term "two-component explosives" for the purpose of  
1071 regulation by the Division of State Fire Marshal;  
1072 amending s. 553.7921, F.S.; authorizing a contractor  
1073 repairing certain existing fire alarm systems to begin  
1074 work after filing an application for a required permit  
1075 but before receiving the permit; providing  
1076 construction; amending s. 626.2815, F.S.; revising  
1077 continuing education requirements for certain persons  
1078 licensed to solicit, sell, or adjust insurance;  
1079 amending s. 627.70132, F.S.; reducing the timeframe in  
1080 which a notice of windstorm or hurricane claim must be  
1081 given to a property insurer; creating s. 627.7154,  
1082 F.S.; defining the term "water damage"; authorizing  
1083 insurers offering homeowners' insurance policies or



489504

1084           endorsements to offer policies or endorsements with  
1085           policy limits for water damage as low as a specified  
1086           percentage; prohibiting such insurers from  
1087           conditioning renewals upon the acceptance of certain  
1088           policy limits; specifying premium discounts or credits  
1089           that must be provided to policyholders who accept  
1090           certain policy limits; requiring such insurers to  
1091           provide a specified statement in policy documents;  
1092           authorizing an insurer to condition the issuance or  
1093           renewal of a homeowner's insurance policy or the  
1094           provision of full water damage coverage under certain  
1095           circumstances; authorizing an insurer to require a  
1096           water intrusion inspection before binding full water  
1097           damage coverage; amending s. 633.102, F.S.; revising  
1098           the authority of certain fire protection system  
1099           contractors to design and alter certain systems;  
1100           amending s. 633.136, F.S.; replacing fire protection  
1101           agencies in the Fire and Emergency Incident  
1102           Information Reporting Program with fire service  
1103           providers and defining the term; revising the  
1104           composition of the Fire and Emergency Incident  
1105           Information System Technical Advisory Panel; amending  
1106           s. 633.202, F.S.; extending a deadline for certain  
1107           buildings to comply with a minimum radio signal  
1108           strength requirement under the Florida Fire Prevention  
1109           Code; requiring such buildings to meet certain  
1110           conditions by a specified date; extending the repeal  
1111           date of exemptions to the Florida Fire Prevention Code  
1112           which authorize doorstep refuse and recycling



489504

1113 collection containers to be in exit access corridors  
1114 in certain apartment occupancies under certain  
1115 circumstances; creating s. 633.217, F.S.; prohibiting  
1116 certain acts to influence a firesafety inspector into  
1117 violating certain laws; prohibiting a firesafety  
1118 inspector from knowingly and willfully accepting an  
1119 attempt to influence him or her into violating certain  
1120 laws; amending s. 633.304, F.S.; revising requirements  
1121 for training courses for licensees installing or  
1122 maintaining certain fire suppression equipment;  
1123 amending s. 633.402, F.S.; revising the composition of  
1124 the Firefighters Employment, Standards, and Training  
1125 Council; amending s. 633.416, F.S.; providing that  
1126 certain persons serving as volunteer firefighters may  
1127 serve as a regular or permanent firefighter for a  
1128 limited period, subject to certain restrictions;  
1129 amending s. 843.08, F.S.; prohibiting false  
1130 personation of personnel or representatives of the  
1131 Division of Investigative and Forensic Services;  
1132 providing criminal penalties; amending s. 943.045,  
1133 F.S.; revising the definition of the term "criminal  
1134 justice agency" to include the investigations  
1135 component of the department which investigates certain  
1136 crimes; amending chapter 2019-140, L.O.F.; extending  
1137 the deadline for the Florida Blockchain Task Force to  
1138 submit its report to the Governor and the Legislature;  
1139 providing effective dates.