

By Senator Torres

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to sensory deprivation tanks; amending
3 s. 514.011, F.S.; revising the terms "public swimming
4 pool" and "public pool" to exclude sensory deprivation
5 tanks used for flotation therapy; amending s.
6 514.0115, F.S.; exempting sensory deprivation tanks
7 from regulation by the Department of Health as public
8 pools; amending s. 553.77, F.S.; conforming a cross-
9 reference to changes made by the act; providing an
10 effective date.

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

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14 Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 514.011, Florida
15 Statutes, is amended to read:

16 514.011 Definitions.—As used in this chapter:

17 (2) "Public swimming pool" or "public pool" means a
18 watertight structure of concrete, masonry, or other approved
19 materials which is located either indoors or outdoors, used for
20 bathing or swimming by humans, and filled with a filtered and
21 disinfected water supply, together with buildings,
22 appurtenances, and equipment used in connection therewith. A
23 public swimming pool or public pool shall mean a conventional
24 pool, spa-type pool, wading pool, special purpose pool, or water
25 recreation attraction, to which admission may be gained with or
26 without payment of a fee and includes, but is not limited to,
27 pools operated by or serving camps, churches, cities, counties,
28 day care centers, group home facilities for eight or more
29 clients, health spas, institutions, parks, state agencies,

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30 schools, subdivisions, or the cooperative living-type projects
31 of five or more living units, such as apartments,
32 boardinghouses, hotels, mobile home parks, motels, recreational
33 vehicle parks, and townhouses. The term does not include a
34 sensory deprivation tank used exclusively for flotation therapy.

35 Section 2. Subsection (7) of section 514.0115, Florida
36 Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (8), and a new
37 subsection (7) is added to that section, to read:

38 514.0115 Exemptions from supervision or regulation;
39 variances.—

40 (7) A sensory deprivation tank used exclusively for
41 flotation therapy may not be regulated as a public pool.

42 Section 3. Subsection (7) of section 553.77, Florida
43 Statutes, is amended to read:

44 553.77 Specific powers of the commission.—

45 (7) Building officials shall recognize and enforce variance
46 orders issued by the Department of Health pursuant to s.
47 514.0115(8) ~~s. 514.0115(7)~~, including any conditions attached to
48 the granting of the variance.

49 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.