A bill to be entitled 1 2 An act relating to property assessed clean energy 3 program; amending s. 163.08, F.S.; revising 4 legislative intent regarding the types of improvements 5 that qualify for specified financing under this act; 6 providing definitions; specifying that a property 7 owner may apply to a PACE program for certain 8 purposes; providing that costs incurred by the PACE 9 program may be collected as a non-ad valorem 10 assessment; authorizing a local government to enter 11 into agreements with PACE administrators and to incur 12 debt; authorizing a local government to enter into a PACE assessment contract only with the record owner of 13 14 the affected property; revising items a PACE program 15 entity must reasonably determine before entering into a PACE contract; requiring a qualifying improvement to 16 be affixed or plan to be affixed to specified 17 18 properties before final funding; authorizing a PACE assessment contract to cover qualifying improvements 19 20 on real properties under new construction; specifying 21 the information a PACE administrator must provide each real property owner or an authorized representative 22 about the qualifying improvements; requiring a PACE 23 24 administrator to make specified determinations about a

Page 1 of 23

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

hb0387-00

48

25 property owners ability to pay the annual PACE 26 assessment; specifying information a PACE 27 administrator must provide to the residential real 28 property owner or an authorized representative before 29 entering into a PACE assessment contract; specifying a 30 time period within which a residential real property 31 owner may cancel a PACE assessment contract; 32 prohibiting the term of a PACE assessment contract to exceed specified time periods; prohibiting a PACE 33 administrator from offering specified types of 34 35 financing for residential real properties; prohibiting a PACE administrator from enrolling certain PACE 36 37 contractors unless certain conditions are met; providing guidelines that must be met before a PACE 38 39 administrator may disburse funds; specifying marketing and communications guidelines to be used when 40 communicating with residential real property owners; 41 42 prohibiting a PACE contractor to engage in certain 43 practices regarding pricing of qualifying improvement 44 on residential real properties; providing an effective 45 date. 46 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 47

Page 2 of 23

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

hb0387-00

49 Section 1. Subsections (1), (2), (4), (6), (7), (8), (9), 50 (10), (12), (13), and (14) of section 163.08, Florida Statutes, 51 are amended, and subsections (17) through (25) are added to that 52 section, to read:

53 163.08 Supplemental authority for improvements to real 54 property.-

In chapter 2008-227, Laws of Florida, the 55 (1)(a) 56 Legislature amended the energy goal of the state comprehensive 57 plan to provide, in part, that the state shall reduce its energy 58 requirements through enhanced conservation and efficiency measures in all end-use sectors and reduce atmospheric carbon 59 60 dioxide by promoting an increased use of renewable energy 61 resources. That act also declared it the public policy of the state to play a leading role in developing and instituting 62 63 energy management programs that promote energy conservation, 64 energy security, and the reduction of greenhouse gases. In addition to establishing policies to promote the use of 65 66 renewable energy, the Legislature provided for a schedule of 67 increases in energy performance of buildings subject to the 68 Florida Energy Efficiency Code for Building Construction. In chapter 2008-191, Laws of Florida, the Legislature adopted new 69 70 energy conservation and greenhouse gas reduction comprehensive planning requirements for local governments. In the 2008 general 71 election, the voters of this state approved a constitutional 72

Page 3 of 23

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

73 amendment authorizing the Legislature, by general law, to 74 prohibit consideration of any change or improvement made for the 75 purpose of improving a property's resistance to wind <u>or flood</u> 76 damage or the installation of a renewable energy source device 77 in the determination of the assessed value of residential real 78 property.

The Legislature finds that all energy-consuming-79 (b) improved properties that are not using energy conservation 80 81 strategies contribute to the burden affecting all improved 82 property resulting from fossil fuel energy production. Improved 83 property that has been retrofitted with energy-related 84 qualifying improvements receives the special benefit of 85 alleviating the property's burden from energy consumption. All 86 improved properties not protected from wind or flood damage by 87 wind or flood resistant resistance qualifying improvements 88 contribute to the burden affecting all improved property 89 resulting from potential wind or flood damage. Improved property 90 that has been retrofitted with wind or flood resistant resistance qualifying improvements receives the special benefit 91 92 of reducing the property's burden from potential wind or flood 93 damage. Further, the installation and operation of qualifying improvements not only benefit the affected properties for which 94 95 the improvements are made, but also assist in fulfilling the goals of the state's energy and hurricane mitigation policies. 96

Page 4 of 23

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

97 Properties that do not use advanced technologies for (C) 98 wastewater removal contribute to the water quality problems 99 affecting the state and particularly the coastal areas. Improved properties that have been retrofitted with advanced onsite 100 101 treatment systems or have converted to central sewerage 102 significantly benefit the quality of water that may enter 103 streams, lakes, rivers, aquifers, canals, estuaries, or coastal 104 areas. Properties that are not protected from harmful 105 environmental health hazards contribute to the environmental 106 health burdens affecting the state. Properties that have been 107 improved to mitigate against or prevent environmental health 108 hazards benefit the general environmental health of the people 109 within this state.

110 (d) In order to make qualifying improvements more 111 affordable and assist property owners who wish to undertake such 112 improvements, the Legislature finds that there is a compelling 113 state interest in enabling property owners to voluntarily 114 finance such improvements with local government assistance.

115 <u>(e) (c)</u> The Legislature determines that the actions 116 authorized under this section, including, but not limited to, 117 the financing of qualifying improvements through the execution 118 of <u>property assessed clean energy assessment contracts</u> financing 119 agreements and the related imposition of voluntary assessments 120 are reasonable and necessary to serve and achieve a compelling

Page 5 of 23

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

hb0387-00

121 state interest and are necessary for the prosperity and welfare 122 of the state and its property owners and inhabitants. As used in this section, the term: 123 (2) "Commercial real property" means, unless otherwise 124 (a) 125 determined by a local government, any property not defined as a 126 residential real property, that will be or is improved by a 127 qualifying improvement, including, but not limited to, the 128 following: 129 1. A multifamily residential property comprised of 5 or 130 more dwelling units. 131 2. A commercial real property. 132 3. An industrial building or property. 4. Agricultural property. 133 5. A residential property owned by a business entity. 134 (b) (a) "Local government" means a county, a municipality, 135 136 a dependent special district as defined in s. 189.012, or a separate legal entity created pursuant to s. 163.01(7). 137 138 (c) (b) "PACE administrator" means an entity with whom a 139 local government contracts to administer a PACE program. 140 (d) "PACE assessment" means the non-ad valorem assessment 141 securing the annual repayment of financing obtained by an owner 142 of commercial or residential real property for a qualifying 143 improvement under this chapter. "PACE assessment contract" means the financing 144 (e)

Page 6 of 23

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

145 contract, under a PACE program, between a local government and a 146 property owner for the acquisition or installation of qualifying 147 improvements. 148 (f) "PACE contractor" means an independent contractor who 149 contracts with a property owner to install qualifying 150 improvements on real property and is not the owner of such 151 property. 152 "PACE program" means a program established by a local (q) 153 government, alone or in partnership with other local governments 154 or a PACE administrator, to finance qualifying improvements on 155 commercial or residential real properties. 156 "Qualifying improvement" includes any: (h) 157 Energy conservation and efficiency improvement, which 1. 158 is a measure to reduce consumption through conservation or a more efficient use of electricity, natural gas, propane, or 159 160 other forms of energy on the property, including, but not limited to, air sealing; installation of insulation; 161 162 installation of energy-efficient heating, cooling, or 163 ventilation systems; building modifications to increase the use 164 of daylight; replacement of windows; installation of energy 165 controls or energy recovery systems; installation of electric 166 vehicle charging equipment; installation of battery storage 167 systems; and installation of efficient lighting equipment. 168 Renewable energy improvement, which is the installation 2.

Page 7 of 23

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words <u>underlined</u> are additions.

hb0387-00

FL	0	RΙ	D	А	Н	0	U	S	Е	0	F	R	Е	Р	R	Е	S	Е	Ν	Т	Α	Т		V	Е	S
----	---	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	--	---	---	---

169	of any system in which the electrical, mechanical, or thermal							
170	energy is produced from a method that uses one or more of the							
171	following fuels or energy sources: hydrogen, solar energy,							
172	geothermal energy, bioenergy, and wind energy.							
173	3. Wind, storm, and flood resistance improvement, which							
174	includes, but is not limited to:							
175	a. Improving the strength of the roof deck attachment. $\!$							
176	b. Creating a secondary water barrier to prevent water							
177	intrusion <u>.</u> +							
178	c. Installing wind-resistant shingles $\underline{\cdot}$							
179	d. Installing gable-end bracing <u>.</u> +							
180	e. Reinforcing roof-to-wall connections.+							
181	f. Installing storm shutters <u>.; or</u>							
182	g. Installing opening protections.							
183	h. Installing back up power or battery storage systems.							
184	4. Wastewater treatment improvement, which includes the							
185	replacement or improvement of an onsite sewage treatment and							
186	disposal system with an advanced onsite treatment and disposal							
187	system or technology or the replacement of an onsite sewage							
188	treatment and disposal system with a central sewage system. For							
189	purposes of this section, the term "wastewater treatment							
190	improvement" includes repairs or modifications made to an onsite							
191	sewage treatment and disposal system under s. 381.0065.							
192	5. Flood and water damage mitigation and resiliency							

Page 8 of 23

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

2021

193	improvement, which includes projects and installations:
194	a. To raise a structure above the base flood elevation to
195	reduce flood damage.
196	b. To build or repair a flood diversion apparatus or sea
197	wall improvement, which includes, but is not limited to, seawall
198	repairs and replacements, banks, berms, green-grey
199	infrastructure, upland stem walls, or other infrastructure that
200	impedes tidal waters from flowing onto adjacent property or
201	public right-of-way.
202	c. That use flood damage resistant building materials.
203	d. That mitigate or eliminate the potential for microbial
204	growth.
205	e. That use electrical, mechanical, plumbing, or other
206	system improvements to reduce flood damage.
207	f. That may qualify for reductions in flood insurance
208	premiums.
209	6. Health and environmental hazards measure or
210	improvement, which is a measure or an improvement intended to
211	mitigate harmful health and environmental hazards to property
212	occupants, including measures or improvements that mitigate or
213	remove:
214	a. The presence of lead, heavy metals, polyfluoroalkl
215	substance contamination, or other harmful contaminants in
216	potable water systems. Improvements may include conversion of
	Page 9 of 23

FLORIDA HOUSE OF RE	PRESENTATIVES
---------------------	---------------

2021

217	well water to municipal water systems, replacement of lead water
218	service lines, or installation of water filters.
210	
	b. Asbestos.
220	c. Lead paint contamination in housing built before 1978.
221	d. Indoor air pollution or contaminants, including
222	particulate matter, viruses, bacteria, and mold.
223	7. Water conservation or efficiency improvement, which is a
224	measure or improvement to reduce the usage of water or increase
225	the efficiency of water usage.
226	(i) "Residential real property" means a residential
227	property of four or fewer dwelling units that may be benefited
228	by installation of a qualifying improvement.
229	(4) Subject to local government ordinance or resolution, a
230	property owner may apply to <u>a PACE program</u> the local government
231	for funding to finance a qualifying improvement and enter into a
232	PACE assessment contract financing agreement with the local
233	government. Costs incurred by the <u>PACE program</u> local government
234	for such purpose may be collected as a non-ad valorem
235	assessment. A non-ad valorem assessment shall be collected
236	pursuant to s. 197.3632 and, notwithstanding s. 197.3632(8)(a),
237	is shall not be subject to a discount for early payment.
238	However, the notice and adoption requirements of s. 197.3632(4)
239	do not apply if this section is used and complied with, and the
240	intent resolution, publication of notice, and mailed notices to
	Page 10 of 23

Page 10 of 23

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words <u>underlined</u> are additions.

hb0387-00

the property appraiser, tax collector, and Department of Revenue required by s. 197.3632(3)(a) may be provided on or before August 15 in conjunction with any non-ad valorem assessment authorized by this section, if the property appraiser, tax collector, and local government agree.

(6) <u>A local government may enter into an agreement with a</u>
247 <u>PACE administrator to administer a PACE program.</u> A qualifying
248 improvement program may be administered by a for-profit entity
249 or a not-for-profit organization on behalf of and at the
250 discretion of the local government.

(7) A local government may incur debt for the purpose of providing <u>financing for the</u> such improvements, <u>which is</u> payable from revenues received from the improved property, or any other available revenue source authorized by law.

255 A local government may enter into a PACE assessment (8) 256 contract to finance or refinance a qualifying improvement 257 financing agreement only with the record owner of the affected 258 property. Any PACE assessment contract financing agreement 259 entered into pursuant to this section or a summary memorandum of 260 such contract agreement shall be submitted for recording 261 recorded in the public records of the county within which the 262 property is located by the sponsoring unit of local government 263 within 5 days after execution of the contract agreement. The 264 recorded contract agreement shall provide constructive notice

Page 11 of 23

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

265 that the PACE assessment to be levied on the property 266 constitutes a lien of equal dignity to county taxes and assessments from the date of recordation. 267 268 (9) Before entering into a PACE assessment contract 269 financing agreement, the local government or the PACE administrator local government shall reasonably determine that: 270 271 All property taxes and any other assessments levied on (a) 272 the same bill as property taxes are current and have been paid 273 and have not been delinquent for the preceding 3 years or the 274 property owner's period of ownership, whichever is less; 275 (b) That there are no involuntary liens, including, but 276 not limited to, construction liens on the property; 277 (C) That no notices of default or other evidence of 278 property-based debt delinquency have been recorded and not 279 released during the preceding 3 years or the property owner's 280 period of ownership, whichever is less; 281 The property owner has recorded all other PACE (d) 282 assessments or that the PACE assessments have been funded and 283 not yet recorded on the property; and 284 (e) That the property owner is current on all mortgage 285 debt on the property. 286 Before final funding, a qualifying improvement must (10)287 shall be affixed or plan to be affixed to a commercial or 288 residential real building or facility that is part of the Page 12 of 23

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

hb0387-00

289 property and shall constitute an improvement to that property 290 the building or facility or a fixture attached to the building or facility. A PACE assessment contract An agreement between a 291 292 local government and a qualifying property owner may not cover 293 qualifying wind-resistance improvements on commercial or 294 residential real properties in buildings or facilities under new 295 construction or construction for which a certificate of 296 occupancy or similar evidence of substantial completion of new 297 construction or improvement has not been issued.

(12) (a) Without the consent of the holders or loan servicers of any mortgage encumbering or otherwise secured by the property, the total amount of any non-ad valorem assessment for a property under this section may not exceed 20 percent of the just value of the property as determined by the county property appraiser.

(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), a <u>PACE</u> non-ad valorem
assessment for a qualifying improvement defined in subparagraph
(2) (h)1.(2) (b)1. or subparagraph (2) (h)2.(2) (b)2. that is
supported by an energy audit is not subject to the limits in
this subsection if the audit demonstrates that the annual energy
savings from the qualified improvement equals or exceeds the
annual repayment amount of the <u>PACE</u> non-ad valorem assessment.

(13) At least 30 days before entering into a <u>PACE</u>
 assessment contract financing agreement, the property owner

Page 13 of 23

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

2021

313 shall provide to the holders or loan servicers of any existing 314 mortgages encumbering or otherwise secured by the property a 315 notice of the owner's intent to enter into a PACE assessment 316 contract financing agreement together with the maximum principal 317 amount to be financed and the maximum annual PACE assessment 318 necessary to repay that amount. A verified copy or other proof 319 of such notice shall be provided to the local government. A 320 provision in any PACE assessment contract agreement between a 321 mortgagee or other lienholder and a property owner, or otherwise 322 now or hereafter binding upon a property owner, which allows for 323 acceleration of payment of the mortgage, note, or lien or other 324 unilateral modification solely as a result of entering into a 325 PACE assessment contract financing agreement as provided for in this section is not enforceable. This subsection does not limit 326 327 the authority of the holder or loan servicer to increase the 328 required monthly escrow by an amount necessary to annually pay 329 the annual PACE qualifying improvement assessment.

(14) At or before the time a purchaser executes a contract for the sale and purchase of any property for which a <u>PACE</u> nonad valorem assessment has been levied under this section and has an unpaid balance due, the seller <u>must</u> shall give the prospective purchaser a written disclosure statement in the following form, which shall be set forth in the contract or in a separate writing:

Page 14 of 23

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

hb0387-00

2021

337	QUALIFYING IMPROVEMENTS FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY, RENEWABLE ENERGY,						
338	FLOOD MITIGATION, OR WIND RESISTANCE, ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES FOR						
339	WASTEWATER TREATMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OR WATER						
340	CONSERVATIONThe property being purchased is located within the						
341	jurisdiction of a local government that has placed an assessment						
342	on the property pursuant to s. 163.08, Florida Statutes. The						
343	assessment is for a qualifying improvement to the property						
344	relating to energy efficiency, renewable energy, <u>flood</u>						
345	<u>mitigation,</u> or wind resistance, advanced technologies for						
346	wastewater treatment, environmental health, or water						
347	conservation, and is not based on the value of property. You are						
348	encouraged to contact the county property appraiser's office to						
349	learn more about this and other assessments that may be provided						
350	by law.						
351	(17) Before entering into a PACE assessment contract for a						
352	qualifying improvement on a residential real property, a PACE						
353	administrator must reasonably determine that the property owner						
354	has an ability to pay the estimated annual PACE assessment						
355	based, at a minimum, on the following:						
356	(a) For property owners seeking PACE financing where the						
357	total estimated annual payment amount of all PACE assessments						
358	authorized on the property is \$4,800 or less, or the equivalent						
359	of \$400 per month, plus an additional amount that represents the						
360	rate of inflation established by the United States Bureau of						
	Page 15 of 23						

Page 15 of 23

361 Labor Statistics' Consumer Price Index, the PACE administrator, 362 at a minimum, must use the underwriting requirements in 363 subsection (9) and confirm the property owner is not currently 364 in bankruptcy in determining whether the property owner has a 365 reasonable ability to pay the PACE assessment. 366 For property owners seeking PACE financing where the (b) 367 total estimated annual payment amount of all PACE assessments 368 authorized on the property is greater than \$4,800, or the 369 equivalent of \$400 per month, plus an additional amount that 370 represents the rate of inflation established by the United 371 States Bureau of Labor Statistics' Consumer Price Index, the 372 PACE administrator, at a minimum, must use the underwriting 373 requirements in subsection (9), to confirm that the property 374 owner is not in bankruptcy and determine that the total 375 estimated annual payment amount for all the PACE assessment 376 contracts authorized on the property does not exceed 10 percent 377 of the property owner's household annual income. Income may be 378 confirmed using information gathered from reputable third-379 parties that provide reasonably reliable evidence of the 380 property owner's household income. Income may not be confirmed 381 solely from a property owner's statement. 382 (18)Before entering into a PACE assessment contract for a 383 qualifying improvement on a residential real property, the PACE 384 administrator must:

Page 16 of 23

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

385 Provide a financing estimate and disclosure to the (a) 386 residential real property owner that includes: 387 1. The total amount estimated to be funded, including the cost of the qualifying improvements, program fees, and 388 389 capitalized interest, if any. 390 2. The estimated annual PACE assessment. 391 3. The term of the PACE assessment. 392 4. The fixed interest charged and estimated annual 393 percentage rate. 394 5. A description of the qualifying improvement. 395 6. A disclosure that if the property owner sells or 396 refinances the property, the property owner, as a condition of 397 the sale or the refinance, may be required by a mortgage lender 398 to pay off the full amount owed under each PACE assessment 399 contract. 400 7. A disclosure that the PACE assessment will be collected 401 along with the property owner's property taxes and will result 402 in a lien on the property from the date the PACE assessment 403 contract is executed. 404 8. A disclosure that failure to pay the PACE assessment 405 may result in penalties and fees, along with the issuance of a 406 tax certificate that could result in the property owner losing 407 the real property. 408 (b) Conduct, with a residential real property owner or an Page 17 of 23

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

2021

409	authorized representative, an oral, recorded telephone call
410	during which time the PACE administrator must use plain
411	language. The PACE administrator must ask the residential real
412	property owner if he or she would like to communicate primarily
413	in a language other than English. A PACE administrator may not
414	leave a voicemail to the residential real property owner to
415	satisfy this requirement. A PACE administrator, as part of this
416	telephone call, must confirm with the residential real property
417	owner:
418	1. That at least one residential real property owner has
419	access to a copy of the PACE assessment contract and financing
420	estimates and disclosures.
421	2. The qualifying improvement that is being financed.
422	3. The total estimated annual costs that the residential
423	real property owner will have to pay under the PACE assessment
424	contract, including applicable fees.
425	4. The total estimated average monthly equivalent amount
426	of funds the residential real property owner would have to save
427	in order to pay the annual costs of the PACE assessment,
428	including applicable fees.
429	5. The estimated date the residential real property
430	owner's first property tax payment that includes the PACE
431	assessment will be due.
432	6. The term of the PACE assessment contract.

Page 18 of 23

433 That payments for the PACE assessment contract will 7. 434 cause the residential real property owner's annual tax bill to 435 increase, that payments will be made through an additional 436 annual assessment on the property, and will be paid either 437 directly to the county tax collector's office as part of the 438 total annual secured property tax bill or may be paid through 439 the residential real property owner's mortgage escrow account. 440 That the qualifying residential property owner has 8. 441 disclosed whether the property has received or is seeking 442 additional PACE assessments and has disclosed all other PACE 443 assessments or special taxes that are or about to be placed on 444 the property. 445 9. That the property will be subject to a lien during the 446 term of the PACE assessment contract and that the obligations 447 under the contract may be required to be paid in full before the 448 residential real property owner sells or refinances the 449 property. 450 10. That any potential utility or insurance savings are 451 not guaranteed and will not reduce the PACE assessment or total 452 assessment amount. 453 That the PACE administrator or PACE contractor do not 11. 454 provide tax advice and that the residential real property owner 455 should seek professional tax advice if he or she has questions 456 regarding tax credits, tax deductibility, or other tax impacts

Page 19 of 23

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

FLORID/	A HOUS	E O F R	EPRES	ENTATIVES
---------	--------	---------	-------	-----------

457 of the qualifying improvement or the PACE assessment contract. 458 (19) The residential real property owner may cancel the 459 PACE assessment contract within three business days after 460 signing the PACE assessment contract without any financial 461 penalty for doing so. 462 (20) The term of a PACE assessment contract on residential 463 real property may not exceed the useful life of the qualifying 464 improvement being installed or the weighted average useful life 465 of all qualifying improvements being financed if multiple 466 qualifying improvements are being financed. A financing term may 467 not exceed 30 years. 468 (21) A PACE administrator may not offer PACE assessment 469 financing on any residential real property that includes any of 470 the following: 471 A negative amortization schedule; (a) 472 (b) A balloon payment; or 473 (c) Pre-payment fees, other than nominal administrative 474 costs. (22) For residential real property, a PACE administrator: 475 476 (a) May not enroll a PACE contractor who offers PACE 477 financing on residential real property unless: 478 The PACE administrator must make a reasonable effort to 1. 479 review that the PACE contractor maintains in good standing an 480 appropriate license from the state, if applicable, as well as Page 20 of 23

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

hb0387-00

2021

481	any other permits, licenses, or registrations required for											
482	engaging in its business in the jurisdiction where it operates											
483	and maintains all state required bond and insurance coverage.											
484	2. A PACE administrator obtains the PACE contractor's											
485	written agreement that the PACE contractor will act in											
486	accordance with all applicable laws including applicable											
487	advertising and marketing laws and regulations.											
488	(b) Must maintain a process to enroll new PACE contractors											
489	that includes reasonable review of the following for each											
490	contractor:											
491	1. Relevant work or project history.											
492	2. Financial and reputational background checks.											
493	3. Criminal background check.											
494	4. Status on Better Business Bureau or other online											
495	platforms that track contractor reviews.											
496	(23)(a) Before disbursing funds to a PACE contractor for a											
497	qualifying improvement on residential real property, a PACE											
498	administrator must first confirm the applicable work or service											
499	has been completed, either through written certification from											
500	the property owner, a recorded telephone call with the property											
501	owner, or a site inspection through third-party means.											
502	(b) A PACE administrator may not disclose to a PACE											
503	contractor or to a third party engaged in soliciting a PACE											
504	assessment contract the maximum PACE financing amount that a for											

Page 21 of 23

FLORIDA HOUSE O	F R E P R E S E N T A T I V E S
-----------------	---------------------------------

2021

505	which a residential real property owner is eligible.
506	(24) Each PACE administrator and PACE contractor must
507	comply with the following marketing and communications
508	guidelines when communicating with residential real property
509	owners:
510	(a) A PACE administrator or PACE contractor may not
511	suggest or imply:
512	1. That PACE is a government assistance program;
513	2. That qualifying improvements are free or that PACE
514	assessment financing is a free program; or
515	3. That the financing of a qualifying improvement using
516	the PACE program does not require the property owner to repay
517	the financial obligation.
518	(b) A PACE administrator or PACE contractor may not make
519	any representation as to the tax deductibility of a PACE
520	assessment on residential real property. A PACE administrator or
521	PACE contractor may encourage a property owner to seek the
522	advice of a tax professional regarding tax matters related to
523	PACE assessments.
524	(25) A PACE contractor should not present a higher price
525	for a qualifying improvement on residential real property
526	financed by a PACE assessment contract than the PACE contractor
527	would otherwise reasonably present if the qualifying improvement
528	were not being financed through a PACE assessment contract.

Page 22 of 23

FL /	ORI	DA	ΗО	US	ε	ΟF	REI	PRE	SE	ΕΝΤ	ΑΤ	ΙV	E S
------	-----	----	----	----	---	----	-----	-----	----	-----	----	----	-----

2021

529	Section	2.	This	act	shall	take	effect	July	1,	2021.	
					Page	23 of 23	3				