

1                    A bill to be entitled  
2                    An act relating to boating safety; providing a short  
3                    title; amending s. 327.30, F.S.; authorizing a court  
4                    to impose a specified fine for certain boating  
5                    collisions and accidents; requiring such fines to be  
6                    deposited into the Marine Resources Conservation Trust  
7                    Fund for specified purposes; defining the terms  
8                    "convicted" and "conviction"; amending s. 327.54,  
9                    F.S.; defining terms; prohibiting liveries, beginning  
10                   on a specified date, from offering a vessel for lease  
11                   or rent without a livery permit; specifying  
12                   requirements and qualifications for the permit;  
13                   authorizing the Fish and Wildlife Conservation  
14                   Commission to adopt rules; providing penalties for  
15                   permit violations; revising the conditions under which  
16                   a livery may not knowingly lease or rent a vessel;  
17                   requiring specified boating safety education courses  
18                   for certain instructors; requiring a person receiving  
19                   safety instruction to provide the livery with a  
20                   specified signed attestation; requiring liveries to  
21                   report certain issues and accidents; requiring  
22                   liveries to make facilities and records available to  
23                   law enforcement upon notice; providing penalties for  
24                   violations and additional penalties for subsequent  
25                   violations; prohibiting violators from operating a

26 vessel or acting as a livery for a specified timeframe  
27 after such a violation; authorizing the commission,  
28 beginning on a specified date, to revoke or refuse to  
29 issue permits for repeated violations; amending s.  
30 327.73, F.S.; increasing fines for violations of  
31 certain boating regulations; providing fines for  
32 improper transfers of title and failures to update  
33 vessel registration information; authorizing certain  
34 fees and penalties deposited into the Marine Resources  
35 Conservation Trust Fund to be used for law enforcement  
36 purposes; amending s. 327.731, F.S.; imposing a fine  
37 for persons convicted of certain criminal or  
38 noncriminal infractions; providing for the deposit of  
39 such fines into the Marine Resources Conservation  
40 Trust Fund; requiring the commission to maintain a  
41 program to ensure compliance with certain boating  
42 safety education requirements; specifying requirements  
43 for the program; amending s. 328.03, F.S.; providing  
44 that an improper transfer of vessel title is subject  
45 to a civil penalty; amending s. 328.48, F.S.;  
46 requiring that the address provided in a vessel  
47 registration application and a certificate of  
48 registration be a physical residential or business  
49 address; authorizing the commission to accept post  
50 office box addresses in lieu of the physical

51 residential or business address under certain  
52 circumstances; providing that a person who fails to  
53 update his or her vessel registration information  
54 within a specified timeframe is subject to a civil  
55 penalty; providing effective dates.

56  
57 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

58  
59 Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Boating Safety  
60 Act of 2022."

61 Section 2. Subsection (7) is added to section 327.30,  
62 Florida Statutes, to read:

63 327.30 Collisions, accidents, and casualties.—

64 (7) In addition to any other penalty provided by law, a  
65 court may order a person convicted of a violation of this  
66 section or of any rule adopted or order issued by the commission  
67 pursuant to this section to pay an additional fine of up to  
68 \$1,000 per violation, which must be deposited into the Marine  
69 Resources Conservation Trust Fund to be used to enhance state  
70 and local law enforcement activities related to boating  
71 infractions. As used in this subsection, the terms "convicted"  
72 and "conviction" mean any judicial disposition other than  
73 acquittal or dismissal.

74 Section 3. Section 327.54, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
75 read:

327.54 Liveries; safety regulations; penalty.-

(1) As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Conviction" means any judicial disposition other than acquittal or dismissal.

(b) "Livery" means a person who offers a vessel for use by another in exchange for any type of consideration when such person does not also provide the lessee or renter with a captain, a crew, or any type of staff or personnel to operate, oversee, maintain, or manage the vessel. A vessel rented or leased by a livery is a livery vessel as defined in s. 327.02.

(c) "Seaworthy" means the vessel and all of its parts and equipment, including, but not limited to, engines, bilge pumps, and kill switches, are functional and reasonably fit for their intended purpose.

(2) Beginning on January 1, 2023, a livery may not offer a vessel for lease or rent without first being issued a no-cost livery permit by the commission. The permit must be renewed annually. To qualify for issuance or renewal of a livery permit, an applicant must provide the commission with a list of all vessels offered by the livery for lease or rent by another, have valid insurance pursuant to paragraph (3)(j), have an amount of United States Coast Guard-approved lawful personal floatation devices on site sufficient to accommodate the capacity of all vessels offered by the livery for rent or lease by another, have on site all safety equipment required by s. 327.50 and the Code

101 of Federal Regulations sufficient to equip all vessels offered  
 102 by the livery for rent or lease by another, and display the  
 103 information required by paragraph (3) (f). If, before the annual  
 104 renewal of the permit, the information required by this  
 105 subsection changes, the livery must provide the commission with  
 106 the updated information within 10 days after the change.

107 (a) The commission may adopt rules to implement this  
 108 subsection.

109 (b) A person who violates this subsection commits a  
 110 misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s.  
 111 775.082 or s. 775.083.

112 (3) A livery may not knowingly lease, ~~hire,~~ or rent a  
 113 vessel to any person:

114 (a) When the number of persons intending to use the vessel  
 115 exceeds the number considered to constitute a maximum safety  
 116 load for the vessel as specified on the authorized persons  
 117 capacity plate of the vessel.

118 (b) When the horsepower of the motor exceeds the capacity  
 119 of the vessel.

120 (c) When the vessel does not contain the ~~required~~ safety  
 121 equipment required under s. 327.50.

122 (d) When the vessel is not seaworthy, is a derelict vessel  
 123 as defined in s. 823.11, or is at risk of becoming derelict as  
 124 provided in s. 327.4107.

125 (e) ~~When the vessel is equipped with a motor of 10~~

126 ~~horsepower or greater,~~ Unless the livery provides pre-rental  
127 ~~pre-rental~~ or pre-ride ~~preride~~ instruction in compliance with  
128 rules established by the commission. The instruction must  
129 include ~~that includes,~~ but need not be limited to:

- 130 1. Operational characteristics of the vessel to be rented.
- 131 2. Safe vessel operation and vessel right-of-way.
- 132 3. The responsibility of the vessel operator for the safe  
133 and proper operation of the vessel.
- 134 4. Local characteristics of the waterway where the vessel  
135 will be operated, such as navigational hazards, the presence of  
136 boating-restricted areas, and water depths.
- 137 5. Emergency procedures such as appropriate responses to  
138 capsizing, falls overboard, taking on water, and vessel  
139 accidents.

140  
141 ~~Any person delivering the information specified in this~~  
142 ~~paragraph must have successfully completed a boater safety~~  
143 ~~course approved by the National Association of State Boating Law~~  
144 ~~Administrators and this state.~~

145 (f) Unless the livery displays boating safety information  
146 in a place visible to the renting public. The commission shall  
147 prescribe by rule, pursuant to chapter 120, the contents and  
148 size of the boating safety information to be displayed.

149 (g) Unless the livery has a written agreement with the  
150 renter or lessee. The written agreement must include a list of

151 the names, addresses, and dates of birth for all persons who  
152 will be aboard the vessel, as well as the time the vessel is  
153 required to be returned to the livery or another specified  
154 location and an emergency contact name, address, and telephone  
155 number. The livery shall maintain each agreement for no less  
156 than 1 year and, upon request, make each agreement available for  
157 inspection by law enforcement.

158 (h) Who is required to comply with s. 327.395, unless such  
159 person presents to the livery the documentation required by s.  
160 327.395(2) for the operation of a vessel or meets the exemption  
161 provided under s. 327.395(6)(f).

162 (i) Who is under 18 years of age.

163 (j) Unless the livery first obtains and carries in full  
164 force and effect a policy from a licensed insurance carrier in  
165 this state which insures the livery against any accident, loss,  
166 injury, property damage, or other casualty caused by or  
167 resulting from the operation of the vessel. The insurance policy  
168 must provide coverage of at least \$500,000 per person and \$1  
169 million per event. The livery shall have proof of such insurance  
170 available for inspection at the location where the livery's  
171 vessels are being leased or rented, or offered for lease or  
172 rent, and shall provide to each renter the insurance carrier's  
173 name and address and the insurance policy number.

174 (4) Notwithstanding the person's age or any exemptions  
175 provided in s. 327.395, any person delivering instruction

176 regarding the safe operation of vessels or pre-rental or pre-  
177 ride instruction in accordance with subsection (3) must have  
178 successfully completed a boating safety education course  
179 approved by the National Association of State Boating Law  
180 Administrators and this state.

181 (5) A person who receives instruction regarding the safe  
182 operation of vessels or pre-rental or pre-ride instruction in  
183 accordance with subsection (3) must provide the livery with a  
184 signed form attesting to each component of the instruction.

185 (a) The commission shall establish by rule the content of  
186 the form.

187 (b) The form must be signed by the individual providing  
188 the instruction.

189 (c) The livery shall maintain the form for no less than 90  
190 days and, upon request, make the form available for inspection  
191 by law enforcement.

192 ~~(2) A livery may not knowingly lease, hire, or rent a~~  
193 ~~vessel to a person who is required to comply with s. 327.395~~  
194 ~~unless such person presents to the livery the documentation~~  
195 ~~required by s. 327.395(2) for the operation of a vessel or meets~~  
196 ~~the exemption provided under s. 327.395(6)(f).~~

197 (6)(3) If a vessel rented or leased by a livery is  
198 unnecessarily overdue more than 1 hour after the contracted  
199 vessel rental time has expired, the livery must shall notify law  
200 enforcement and the United States Coast Guard the proper



201 authorities.

202 (7) If a vessel rented or leased by a livery is involved  
 203 in an accident, the livery must, as applicable under s. 327.301,  
 204 report the accident.

205 (8) A livery shall make its facilities and records  
 206 available for inspection upon request by law enforcement no  
 207 later than 24 hours after receiving notice from law enforcement.

208 (9)(a) A person who violates this section other than  
 209 subsection (2), but who has not been convicted of a violation of  
 210 this section within the past 3 years, commits a misdemeanor of  
 211 the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s.  
 212 775.083.

213 (b) Unless the stricter penalties in paragraph (c) apply,  
 214 a person who violates this section other than subsection (2)  
 215 within 3 years after a previous conviction of a violation of  
 216 this section commits a misdemeanor of the first degree,  
 217 punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, with a  
 218 minimum mandatory fine of \$500.

219 (c) A person who violates this section other than  
 220 subsection (2) within 5 years after two previous convictions for  
 221 a violation of this section commits a misdemeanor of the first  
 222 degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, with  
 223 a minimum mandatory fine of \$1,000.

224 (10) A person who commits more than one violation of this  
 225 section, other than subsection (2), within a 3-year period may

226 not act as a livery during a 90-day period immediately after  
227 being charged with that violation. Beginning January 1, 2023,  
228 the commission may revoke or refuse to issue a permit under  
229 subsection (2) based on repeated violations of this section.

230 ~~(4)(a) A livery may not knowingly lease, hire, or rent a~~  
231 ~~personal watercraft to any person who is under 18 years of age.~~

232 ~~(b) A livery may not knowingly lease, hire, or rent a~~  
233 ~~personal watercraft to any person who has not received~~  
234 ~~instruction in the safe handling of personal watercraft, in~~  
235 ~~compliance with rules established by the commission pursuant to~~  
236 ~~chapter 120.~~

237 ~~(c) Any person receiving instruction in the safe handling~~  
238 ~~of personal watercraft pursuant to a program established by rule~~  
239 ~~of the commission must provide the livery with a written~~  
240 ~~statement attesting to the same.~~

241 ~~(5) A livery may not lease, hire, or rent any personal~~  
242 ~~watercraft or offer to lease, hire, or rent any personal~~  
243 ~~watercraft unless the livery first obtains and carries in full~~  
244 ~~force and effect a policy from a licensed insurance carrier in~~  
245 ~~this state, insuring against any accident, loss, injury,~~  
246 ~~property damage, or other casualty caused by or resulting from~~  
247 ~~the operation of the personal watercraft. The insurance policy~~  
248 ~~shall provide coverage of at least \$500,000 per person and \$1~~  
249 ~~million per event. The livery must have proof of such insurance~~  
250 ~~available for inspection at the location where personal~~

251 ~~watercraft are being leased, hired, or rented, or offered for~~  
 252 ~~lease, hire, or rent, and shall provide to each renter the~~  
 253 ~~insurance carrier's name and address and the insurance policy~~  
 254 ~~number.~~

255 ~~(6) Any person convicted of violating this section commits~~  
 256 ~~a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s.~~  
 257 ~~775.082 or s. 775.083.~~

258 Section 4. Subsections (1) and (8) of section 327.73,  
 259 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

260 327.73 Noncriminal infractions.—

261 (1) Violations of the following provisions of the vessel  
 262 laws of this state are noncriminal infractions:

263 (a) Section 328.46, relating to operation of unregistered  
 264 and unnumbered vessels.

265 (b) Section 328.48(4), relating to display of number and  
 266 possession of registration certificate.

267 (c) Section 328.48(5), relating to display of decal.

268 (d) Section 328.52(2), relating to display of number.

269 (e) Section 328.54, relating to spacing of digits and  
 270 letters of identification number.

271 (f) Section 328.60, relating to military personnel and  
 272 registration of vessels.

273 (g) Section 328.72(13), relating to operation with an  
 274 expired registration, for which the penalty is:

275 1. For a first or subsequent offense of s. 328.72(13)(a),

276 up to a maximum of \$100 ~~\$50~~.

277       2. For a first offense of s. 328.72(13) (b), up to a  
278 maximum of \$250.

279       3. For a second or subsequent offense of s. 328.72(13) (b),  
280 up to a maximum of \$500. Any person cited for a noncriminal  
281 infraction under this subparagraph may not have the provisions  
282 of paragraph (4)(a) available to him or her but must appear  
283 before the designated official at the time and location of the  
284 scheduled hearing.

285       (h) Section 327.33(2), relating to careless operation.

286       (i) Section 327.37, relating to water skiing, aquaplaning,  
287 parasailing, and similar activities.

288       (j) Section 327.44, relating to interference with  
289 navigation.

290       (k) Violations relating to boating-restricted areas and  
291 speed limits:

292           1. Established by the commission or by local governmental  
293 authorities pursuant to s. 327.46.

294           2. Speed limits established pursuant to s. 379.2431(2).

295       (l) Section 327.48, relating to regattas and races.

296       (m) Section 327.50(1) and (2), relating to required safety  
297 equipment, lights, and shapes.

298       (n) Section 327.65, relating to muffling devices.

299       (o) Section 327.33(3) (b), relating to a violation of  
300 navigation rules:

- 301           1. That does not result in an accident; or
- 302           2. That results in an accident not causing serious bodily
- 303 injury or death, for which the penalty is:
- 304           a. For a first offense, up to a maximum of \$500 ~~\$250~~.
- 305           b. For a second offense, up to a maximum of \$1,000 ~~\$750~~.
- 306           c. For a third or subsequent offense, up to a maximum of
- 307 \$1,500 ~~\$1,000~~.
- 308           (p) Section 327.39(1), (2), (3), and (5), relating to
- 309 personal watercraft.
- 310           (q) Section 327.53(1), (2), (3), and (8), relating to
- 311 marine sanitation.
- 312           (r) Section 327.53(4), (5), and (7), relating to marine
- 313 sanitation, and s. 327.60, relating to no-discharge zones, for
- 314 which the civil penalty is \$250.
- 315           (s) Section 327.395, relating to boater safety education.
- 316 However, a person cited for violating the requirements of s.
- 317 327.395 relating to failure to have required proof of boating
- 318 safety education in his or her possession may not be convicted
- 319 if, before or at the time of a county court hearing, the person
- 320 produces proof of the boating safety education identification
- 321 card or temporary certificate for verification by the hearing
- 322 officer or the court clerk and the identification card or
- 323 temporary certificate was valid at the time the person was
- 324 cited.
- 325           (t) Section 327.52(3), relating to operation of overloaded

326 or overpowered vessels.

327 (u) Section 327.331, relating to divers-down warning  
 328 devices, except for violations meeting the requirements of s.  
 329 327.33.

330 (v) Section 327.391(1), relating to the requirement for an  
 331 adequate muffler on an airboat.

332 (w) Section 327.391(3), relating to the display of a flag  
 333 on an airboat.

334 (x) Section 253.04(3)(a), relating to carelessly causing  
 335 seagrass scarring, for which the civil penalty upon conviction  
 336 is:

- 337 1. For a first offense, \$100 ~~\$50~~.
- 338 2. For a second offense occurring within 12 months after a  
 339 prior conviction, \$250.
- 340 3. For a third offense occurring within 36 months after a  
 341 prior conviction, \$500.
- 342 4. For a fourth or subsequent offense occurring within 72  
 343 months after a prior conviction, \$1,000.

344 (y) Section 327.45, relating to protection zones for  
 345 springs, for which the penalty is:

- 346 1. For a first offense, \$100 ~~\$50~~.
- 347 2. For a second offense occurring within 12 months after a  
 348 prior conviction, \$250.
- 349 3. For a third offense occurring within 36 months after a  
 350 prior conviction, \$500.

351 4. For a fourth or subsequent offense occurring within 72  
352 months after a prior conviction, \$1,000.

353 (z) Section 327.4108, relating to the anchoring of vessels  
354 in anchoring limitation areas, for which the penalty is:

355 1. For a first offense, up to a maximum of \$100 ~~\$50~~.

356 2. For a second offense, up to a maximum of \$250 ~~\$100~~.

357 3. For a third or subsequent offense, up to a maximum of  
358 \$500 ~~\$250~~.

359 (aa) Section 327.4107, relating to vessels at risk of  
360 becoming derelict on waters of this state, for which the civil  
361 penalty is:

362 1. For a first offense, \$100.

363 2. For a second offense occurring 30 days or more after a  
364 first offense, \$250.

365 3. For a third or subsequent offense occurring 30 days or  
366 more after a previous offense, \$500.

367

368 A vessel that is the subject of three or more violations issued  
369 pursuant to the same paragraph of s. 327.4107(2) within an 18-  
370 month period which result in dispositions other than acquittal  
371 or dismissal shall be declared to be a public nuisance and  
372 subject to ss. 705.103(2) and (4) and 823.11(3). The commission,  
373 an officer of the commission, or a law enforcement agency or  
374 officer specified in s. 327.70 may relocate, remove, or cause to  
375 be relocated or removed such public nuisance vessels from waters

376 of this state. The commission, an officer of the commission, or  
 377 a law enforcement agency or officer acting pursuant to this  
 378 paragraph upon waters of this state shall be held harmless for  
 379 all damages to the vessel resulting from such relocation or  
 380 removal unless the damage results from gross negligence or  
 381 willful misconduct as these terms are defined in s. 823.11.

382 (bb) Section 327.4109, relating to anchoring or mooring in  
 383 a prohibited area, for which the penalty is:

- 384 1. For a first offense, up to a maximum of \$100 ~~\$50~~.
- 385 2. For a second offense, up to a maximum of \$250 ~~\$100~~.
- 386 3. For a third or subsequent offense, up to a maximum of  
 387 \$500 ~~\$250~~.

388 (cc) Section 327.463(4)(a) and (b), relating to vessels  
 389 creating special hazards, for which the penalty is:

- 390 1. For a first offense, \$100 ~~\$50~~.
- 391 2. For a second offense occurring within 12 months after a  
 392 prior offense, \$250 ~~\$100~~.
- 393 3. For a third offense occurring within 36 months after a  
 394 prior offense, \$500 ~~\$250~~.

395 (dd) Section 327.371, relating to the regulation of human-  
 396 powered vessels.

397 (ee) Section 328.03, relating to an improper transfer of  
 398 title, for which the penalty is up to a maximum of \$500.

399 (ff) Section 328.48(9), relating to the failure to update  
 400 vessel registration information, for which the penalty is up to



401 a maximum of \$500.

402

403 Any person cited for a violation of ~~any provision of~~ this  
 404 subsection shall be deemed to be charged with a noncriminal  
 405 infraction, shall be cited for such an infraction, and shall be  
 406 cited to appear before the county court. The civil penalty for  
 407 any such infraction is \$100 ~~\$50~~, except as otherwise provided in  
 408 this section. Any person who fails to appear or otherwise  
 409 properly respond to a uniform boating citation ~~shall~~, in  
 410 addition to the charge relating to the violation of the boating  
 411 laws of this state, must be charged with the offense of failing  
 412 to respond to such citation and, upon conviction, be guilty of a  
 413 misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s.  
 414 775.082 or s. 775.083. A written warning to this effect shall be  
 415 provided at the time such uniform boating citation is issued.

416 (8) All fees and civil penalties assessed and collected  
 417 pursuant to this section shall be remitted by the clerk of the  
 418 court to the Department of Revenue to be deposited into the  
 419 Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund for boating safety  
 420 education or law enforcement purposes.

421 Section 5. Subsection (1) of section 327.731, Florida  
 422 Statutes, is amended, and subsection (4) is added to that  
 423 section, to read:

424 327.731 Mandatory education for violators.—

425 (1) A person convicted of a criminal violation under this

426 chapter, convicted of a noncriminal infraction under this  
 427 chapter if the infraction resulted in a reportable boating  
 428 accident, or convicted of two noncriminal infractions as  
 429 specified in s. 327.73(1)(h)-(k), (m), (o), (p), and (s)-(y),  
 430 the said infractions occurring within a 12-month period, must:

431 (a) Enroll in, attend, and successfully complete, at his  
 432 or her own expense, a classroom or online boating safety course  
 433 that is approved by and meets the minimum standards established  
 434 by commission rule;

435 (b) File with the commission within 90 days proof of  
 436 successful completion of the course; ~~and~~

437 (c) Refrain from operating a vessel until he or she has  
 438 filed proof of successful completion of the course with the  
 439 commission; and

440 (d) Pay a fine of \$500. The clerk of the court shall remit  
 441 all fines assessed and collected under this paragraph to the  
 442 Department of Revenue to be deposited into the Marine Resources  
 443 Conservation Trust Fund to support law enforcement activities.

444 (4) The commission shall maintain a program to ensure  
 445 compliance with the mandatory boating safety education  
 446 requirements under this section. This program must:

447 (a) Track any citations resulting in a conviction under  
 448 this section and the disposition of such citations.

449 (b) Send specific notices to each person subject to the  
 450 requirement for mandatory boating safety education.

451 Section 6. Subsection (3) of section 328.03, Florida  
 452 Statutes, is amended to read:

453 328.03 Certificate of title required.—

454 (3) A person may ~~shall~~ not sell, assign, or transfer a  
 455 vessel titled by the state without delivering to the purchaser  
 456 or transferee a valid certificate of title with an assignment on  
 457 it showing the transfer of title to the purchaser or transferee.  
 458 A person may ~~shall~~ not purchase or otherwise acquire a vessel  
 459 required to be titled by the state without obtaining a  
 460 certificate of title for the vessel in his or her name. The  
 461 purchaser or transferee shall, within 30 days after a change in  
 462 vessel ownership, file an application for a title transfer with  
 463 the county tax collector. An additional \$10 fee must ~~shall~~ be  
 464 charged against the purchaser or transferee if he or she files a  
 465 title transfer application after the 30-day period. The county  
 466 tax collector may ~~shall be entitled to~~ retain \$5 of the  
 467 additional amount. Any person who does not properly transfer  
 468 title of a vessel pursuant to this chapter is subject to the  
 469 penalties provided in s. 327.73(1)(ee).

470 Section 7. Effective July 1, 2023, subsection (4) of  
 471 section 328.03, Florida Statutes, as amended by chapter 2019-76,  
 472 Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

473 328.03 Certificate of title required.—

474 (4) An additional \$10 fee shall be charged against the  
 475 purchaser or transferee if he or she files a title transfer

476 application after the 30-day period. The county tax collector  
 477 may ~~shall be entitled to~~ retain \$5 of the additional amount. Any  
 478 person who does not properly transfer title of a vessel pursuant  
 479 to this chapter is subject to the penalties provided in s.  
 480 327.73(1)(ee).

481 Section 8. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) and subsection  
 482 (4) of section 328.48, Florida Statutes, are amended, and  
 483 subsection (9) is added to that section, to read:

484 328.48 Vessel registration, application, certificate,  
 485 number, decal, duplicate certificate.-

486 (1)(a) The owner of each vessel required by this law to  
 487 pay a registration fee and secure an identification number shall  
 488 file an application with the county tax collector. The  
 489 application must ~~shall~~ provide the owner's name and physical  
 490 residential or business address; residency status; personal or  
 491 business identification; and a complete description of the  
 492 vessel, and must ~~shall~~ be accompanied by payment of the  
 493 applicable fee required in s. 328.72. An individual applicant  
 494 must provide a valid driver license or identification card  
 495 issued by this state or another state or a valid passport. A  
 496 business applicant must provide a federal employer  
 497 identification number, if applicable, verification that the  
 498 business is authorized to conduct business in this ~~the~~ state, or  
 499 a Florida city or county business license or number.

500 Registration is not required for any vessel that is not used on

501 the waters of this state. Upon receipt of an application from a  
 502 live-aboard vessel owner, the commission may authorize such  
 503 owner to provide a post office box address in lieu of a physical  
 504 residential or business address so long as he or she has not  
 505 been convicted of a criminal offense under this chapter or  
 506 chapter 327.

507 (4) Each certificate of registration issued must ~~shall~~  
 508 state among other items the numbers awarded to the vessel, the  
 509 hull identification number, the name and physical residential or  
 510 business address of the owner, and a description of the vessel,  
 511 except that certificates of registration for vessels constructed  
 512 or assembled by the owner registered for the first time must  
 513 ~~shall~~ state all the foregoing information except the hull  
 514 identification number. The numbers must ~~shall~~ be placed on each  
 515 side of the forward half of the vessel in such position as to  
 516 provide clear legibility for identification, except, if the  
 517 vessel is an airboat, the numbers may be placed on each side of  
 518 the rudder. The numbers awarded to the vessel must ~~shall~~ read  
 519 from left to right and must ~~shall~~ be in block characters of good  
 520 proportion not less than 3 inches in height. The numbers must  
 521 ~~shall~~ be of a solid color that ~~which~~ will contrast with the  
 522 color of the background and must ~~shall~~ be so maintained as to be  
 523 clearly visible and legible; i.e., dark numbers on a light  
 524 background or light numbers on a dark background. The  
 525 certificate of registration must ~~shall~~ be pocket-sized and must

526 ~~shall~~ be available for inspection on the vessel for which issued  
527 whenever such vessel is in operation. Upon receipt of an  
528 application from a live-aboard vessel owner, the commission may  
529 authorize such owner to provide a post office box address in  
530 lieu of a physical residential address so long as he or she has  
531 not been convicted of a criminal offense under this chapter or  
532 chapter 327.

533 (9) A person who does not update his or her vessel  
534 registration information with the county tax collector within 6  
535 months after a change to the information is subject to the  
536 penalties provided in s. 327.73(1)(ff).

537 Section 9. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this  
538 act, this act shall take effect July 1, 2022.