1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to sovereign immunity; amending s. 3 768.28, F.S.; revising the statutory limits on 4 liability for tort claims against the state and its 5 agencies and subdivisions; revising requirements for 6 the state or an agency or a subdivision of the state 7 to agree to settle a claim or judgment; prohibiting an 8 insurance policy from conditioning the payment of 9 benefits on the enactment of a claim bill; specifying that the limitations in effect on the date a final 10 11 judgment is entered apply to that claim; requiring the Department of Financial Services to adjust the 12 13 limitations on tort liability every year beginning on a specified date; revising exceptions relating to 14 instituting actions on claims against the state or one 15 16 of its agencies and to the statute of limitations for 17 such claims; reenacting ss. 45.061(5), 110.504(4), 18 111.071(1)(a), 163.01(15)(k), 190.043, 213.015(13), 19 252.51, 252.89, 252.944, 260.0125(2), 284.31, 284.38, 322.13(1)(b), 337.19(1), 341.302(17), 373.1395(6), 20 21 375.251(3)(a), 381.0056(9), 393.075(3), 22 395.1055(10)(g), 403.706(17)(c), 409.993(1), (2)(a), 23 and (3) (a), 455.221(3), 455.32(5), 456.009(3), 24 456.076(15)(a), 471.038(3), 472.006(11)(b), 497.167(7), 513.118(2), 548.046(1), 556.106(8), 25

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26 589.19(4) (e), 723.0611(2) (c), 760.11(5), 766.1115(5), 27 766.112(2), 768.1355(3), 768.295(4), 944.713(2), 28 946.5026, 946.514(3), 961.06(5), (6), and (7), 29 1002.33(12)(h), 1002.333(6)(b), 1002.34(17), 1002.55(3)(1), 1002.83(10), 1002.88(1)(p), 1006.24(1), 30 31 and 1006.261(2)(b), F.S., to incorporate the 32 amendments made to s. 768.28, F.S., in references 33 thereto; providing an effective date. 34 35 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 36 Section 1. Subsection (5), paragraph (a) of subsection 37 38 (6), and subsection (14) of section 768.28, Florida Statutes, 39 are amended to read: 768.28 Waiver of sovereign immunity in tort actions; 40 41 recovery limits; civil liability for damages caused during a riot; limitation on attorney fees; statute of limitations; 42 43 exclusions; indemnification; risk management programs.-44 (5) (a) The state and its agencies and subdivisions shall 45 be liable for tort claims in the same manner and to the same 46 extent as a private individual under like circumstances, but 47 liability shall not include punitive damages or interest for the 48 period before judgment. Neither the state nor its agencies or 49 subdivisions shall be liable to pay a claim or a judgment by any one person which exceeds the sum of \$1 million \$200,000 or any 50 Page 2 of 59

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claim or judgment, or portions thereof, which, when totaled with 51 52 all other claims or judgments paid by the state or its agencies 53 or subdivisions arising out of the same incident or occurrence, exceeds the sum of \$300,000. However, a judgment or judgments 54 55 may be claimed and rendered in excess of this amount these 56 amounts and may be settled and paid pursuant to this act up to 57 \$1 million per person, \$200,000 or \$300,000, as the case may be; and that portion of the judgment that exceeds this amount these 58 59 amounts may be reported to the Legislature, and but may be paid in part or in whole only by further act of the Legislature. 60

(b) Notwithstanding the limited waiver of sovereign 61 immunity provided in paragraph (a) herein, the state or an 62 agency or subdivision thereof may agree, within the limits of 63 64 insurance coverage provided, to settle a claim made or a 65 judgment rendered against it in excess of the waiver provided in 66 paragraph (a) without further action by the Legislature, but the state or agency or subdivision thereof shall not be deemed to 67 68 have waived any defense of sovereign immunity or to have 69 increased the limits of its liability as a result of its 70 obtaining insurance coverage for tortious acts in excess of the 71 \$200,000 or \$300,000 waiver provided in paragraph (a) above. An insurance policy may not condition the payment of benefits, in 72 73 whole or in part, on the enactment of a claim bill. 74 (C) The limitations of liability set forth in this 75 subsection shall apply to the state and its agencies and

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56 subdivisions whether or not the state or its agencies or 577 subdivisions possessed sovereign immunity before July 1, 1974. 578 (d) When determining liability limits for a claim, the 579 limitations of liability in effect on the date a final judgment 580 is entered shall apply to the claim. 581 (e) Beginning July 1, 2023, and every July 1 thereafter,

81 <u>(e) Beginning Oury 1, 2023, and every Sury 1 thereafter,</u> 82 <u>the Department of Financial Services shall adjust the</u> 83 <u>limitations of liability in this subsection to reflect changes</u> 84 <u>in the Consumer Price Index for the Southeast or a successor</u> 85 <u>index as calculated by the United States Department of Labor.</u>

(f) (b) A municipality has a duty to allow the municipal 86 87 law enforcement agency to respond appropriately to protect persons and property during a riot or an unlawful assembly based 88 89 on the availability of adequate equipment to its municipal law 90 enforcement officers and relevant state and federal laws. If the 91 governing body of a municipality or a person authorized by the 92 governing body of the municipality breaches that duty, the 93 municipality is civilly liable for any damages, including 94 damages arising from personal injury, wrongful death, or 95 property damages proximately caused by the municipality's breach 96 of duty. The sovereign immunity recovery limits in paragraph (a) do not apply to an action under this paragraph. 97

98 (6)(a) An action may not be instituted on a claim against
99 the state or one of its agencies or subdivisions unless the
100 claimant presents the claim in writing to the appropriate

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101 agency, and also, except as to any claim against a municipality, 102 county, or the Florida Space Authority, presents such claim in 103 writing to the Department of Financial Services, within 3 years 104 after such claim accrues and the Department of Financial 105 Services or the appropriate agency denies the claim in writing; 106 except that, if:

107 1. Such claim is for contribution pursuant to s. 768.31, it must be so presented within 6 months after the judgment 108 109 against the tortfeasor seeking contribution has become final by lapse of time for appeal or after appellate review or, if there 110 is no such judgment, within 6 months after the tortfeasor 111 seeking contribution has either discharged the common liability 112 by payment or agreed, while the action is pending against her or 113 114 him, to discharge the common liability; or

115 2. Such action is for wrongful death, the claimant must 116 present the claim in writing to the Department of Financial 117 Services within 2 years after the claim accrues; or

Such action arises from a violation of s. 794.011
involving a victim who was younger than the age of 16 at the
time of the act, the claimant may present the claim in writing
at any time pursuant to s. 95.11(9).

(14) Every claim against the state or one of its agencies or subdivisions for damages for a negligent or wrongful act or omission pursuant to this section shall be forever barred unless the civil action is commenced by filing a complaint in the court

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126 of appropriate jurisdiction within 4 years after such claim 127 accrues; except that: 128 (a) An action for contribution must be commenced within 129 the limitations provided in s. 768.31(4); - and (b) An action for damages arising from medical malpractice 130 131 or wrongful death must be commenced within the limitations for 132 such actions in s. 95.11(4); and (c) An action arising from acts constituting a violation 133 134 of s. 794.011 involving a victim who was younger than the age of 135 16 at the time of the act may be commenced at any time pursuant 136 to s. 95.11(9). Section 2. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 137 made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a 138 139 reference thereto, subsection (5) of section 45.061, Florida 140 Statutes, is reenacted to read: 141 45.061 Offers of settlement.-Sanctions authorized under this section may be imposed 142 (5) 143 notwithstanding any limitation on recovery of costs or expenses 144 which may be provided by contract or in other provisions of 145 Florida law. This section shall not be construed to waive the limits of sovereign immunity set forth in s. 768.28. 146 147 Section 3. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a 148 149 reference thereto, subsection (4) of section 110.504, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read: 150

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151 110.504 Volunteer benefits.-152 Volunteers shall be covered by state liability (4) 153 protection in accordance with the definition of a volunteer and the provisions of s. 768.28. 154 155 Section 4. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 156 made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a 157 reference thereto, paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 158 111.071, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read: 159 111.071 Payment of judgments or settlements against 160 certain public officers or employees.-161 (1)Any county, municipality, political subdivision, or agency of the state which has been excluded from participation 162 163 in the Insurance Risk Management Trust Fund is authorized to 164 expend available funds to pay: 165 Any final judgment, including damages, costs, and (a) 166 attorney's fees, arising from a complaint for damages or injury 167 suffered as a result of any act or omission of action of any 168 officer, employee, or agent in a civil or civil rights lawsuit 169 described in s. 111.07. If the civil action arises under s. 170 768.28 as a tort claim, the limitations and provisions of s. 171 768.28 governing payment shall apply. If the action is a civil rights action arising under 42 U.S.C. s. 1983, or similar 172 173 federal statutes, payments for the full amount of the judgment 174 may be made unless the officer, employee, or agent has been 175 determined in the final judgment to have caused the harm

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176 intentionally.

177 Section 5. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 178 made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a 179 reference thereto, paragraph (k) of subsection (15) of section 180 163.01, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

163.01 Florida Interlocal Cooperation Act of 1969.-

182 (15) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section or of any other law except s. 361.14, any public agency of this 183 184 state which is an electric utility, or any separate legal entity 185 created pursuant to the provisions of this section, the membership of which consists only of electric utilities, and 186 which exercises or proposes to exercise the powers granted by 187 part II of chapter 361, the Joint Power Act, may exercise any or 188 189 all of the following powers:

(k) The limitations on waiver in the provisions of s.
191 (k) The limitations on waiver in the provisions of s.
191 768.28 or any other law to the contrary notwithstanding, the
192 Legislature, in accordance with s. 13, Art. X of the State
193 Constitution, hereby declares that any such legal entity or any
194 public agency of this state that participates in any electric
195 project waives its sovereign immunity to:

196

181

1. All other persons participating therein; and

197 2. Any person in any manner contracting with a legal 198 entity of which any such public agency is a member, with 199 relation to:

200

a. Ownership, operation, or any other activity set forth

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201 in sub-subparagraph (b)2.d. with relation to any electric 202 project; or

203 b. The supplying or purchasing of services, output,204 capacity, energy, or any combination thereof.

205 Section 6. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 206 made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a 207 reference thereto, section 190.043, Florida Statutes, is 208 reenacted to read:

209 190.043 Suits against the district.—Any suit or action 210 brought or maintained against the district for damages arising 211 out of tort, including, without limitation, any claim arising 212 upon account of an act causing an injury or loss of property, 213 personal injury, or death, shall be subject to the limitations 214 provided in s. 768.28.

215 Section 7. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 216 made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a 217 reference thereto, subsection (13) of section 213.015, Florida 218 Statutes, is reenacted to read:

219 213.015 Taxpayer rights.—There is created a Florida 220 Taxpayer's Bill of Rights to guarantee that the rights, privacy, 221 and property of Florida taxpayers are adequately safeguarded and 222 protected during tax assessment, collection, and enforcement 223 processes administered under the revenue laws of this state. The 224 Taxpayer's Bill of Rights compiles, in one document, brief but 225 comprehensive statements which explain, in simple, nontechnical

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226 terms, the rights and obligations of the Department of Revenue 227 and taxpayers. Section 192.0105 provides additional rights 228 afforded to payors of property taxes and assessments. The rights 229 afforded taxpayers to ensure that their privacy and property are 230 safeguarded and protected during tax assessment and collection 231 are available only insofar as they are implemented in other 232 parts of the Florida Statutes or rules of the Department of 233 Revenue. The rights so guaranteed Florida taxpayers in the 234 Florida Statutes and the departmental rules are:

(13) The right to an action at law within the limitations of s. 768.28, relating to sovereign immunity, to recover damages against the state or the Department of Revenue for injury caused by the wrongful or negligent act or omission of a department officer or employee (see s. 768.28).

240 Section 8. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 241 made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a 242 reference thereto, section 252.51, Florida Statutes, is 243 reenacted to read:

244 252.51 Liability.—Any person or organization, public or 245 private, owning or controlling real estate or other premises who 246 voluntarily and without compensation, other than payment or 247 reimbursement of costs and expenses, grants a license or 248 privilege or otherwise permits the designation by the local 249 emergency management agency or use of the whole or any part of 250 such real estate or premises for the purpose of sheltering

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251 persons during an actual, impending, mock, or practice 252 emergency, together with her or his successor in interest, if 253 any, shall not be liable for the death of, or injury to, any 254 person on or about such real estate or premises during the 255 actual, impending, mock, or practice emergency, or for loss of, 256 or damage to, the property of such person, solely by reason or 257 as a result of such license, privilege, designation, or use, 258 unless the gross negligence or the willful and wanton misconduct 259 of such person owning or controlling such real estate or 260 premises or her or his successor in interest is the proximate 261 cause of such death, injury, loss, or damage occurring during 262 such sheltering period. Any such person or organization who 263 provides such shelter space for compensation shall be deemed to 264 be an instrumentality of the state or its applicable agency or 265 subdivision for the purposes of s. 768.28.

Section 9. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, section 252.89, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

270 252.89 Tort liability.—The commission and the committees 271 shall be state agencies, and the members of the commission and 272 committees shall be officers, employees, or agents of the state 273 for the purposes of s. 768.28.

274 Section 10. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 275 made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a

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276 reference thereto, section 252.944, Florida Statutes, is 277 reenacted to read:

278 252.944 Tort liability.—The commission and the committees 279 are state agencies, and the members of the commission and 280 committees are officers, employees, or agents of the state for 281 the purpose of s. 768.28.

282 Section 11. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 283 made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a 284 reference thereto, subsection (2) of section 260.0125, Florida 285 Statutes, is reenacted to read:

286 260.0125 Limitation on liability of private landowners 287 whose property is designated as part of the statewide system of 288 greenways and trails.-

(2) Any private landowner who consents to designation of his or her land as part of the statewide system of greenways and trails pursuant to s. 260.016(2)(d) without compensation shall be considered a volunteer, as defined in s. 110.501, and shall be covered by state liability protection pursuant to s. 768.28, including s. 768.28(9).

295 Section 12. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 296 made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a 297 reference thereto, section 284.31, Florida Statutes, is 298 reenacted to read:

284.31 Scope and types of coverages; separate accounts.300 The Insurance Risk Management Trust Fund must, unless

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301 specifically excluded by the Department of Financial Services, 302 cover all departments of the State of Florida and their 303 employees, agents, and volunteers and must provide separate 304 accounts for workers' compensation, general liability, fleet 305 automotive liability, federal civil rights actions under 42 306 U.S.C. s. 1983 or similar federal statutes, state agency 307 firefighter cancer benefits payable under s. 112.1816(2), and court-awarded attorney fees in other proceedings against the 308 309 state except for such awards in eminent domain or for inverse 310 condemnation or for awards by the Public Employees Relations Commission. Unless specifically excluded by the Department of 311 312 Financial Services, the Insurance Risk Management Trust Fund must provide fleet automotive liability coverage to motor 313 314 vehicles titled to the state, or to any department of the state, 315 when such motor vehicles are used by community transportation 316 coordinators performing, under contract to the appropriate 317 department of the state, services for the transportation 318 disadvantaged under part I of chapter 427. Such fleet automotive 319 liability coverage is primary and is subject to s. 768.28 and 320 parts II and III of chapter 284, and applicable rules adopted 321 thereunder, and the terms and conditions of the certificate of 322 coverage issued by the Department of Financial Services.

323 Section 13. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 324 made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a 325 reference thereto, section 284.38, Florida Statutes, is

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326	reenacted to read:
327	284.38 Waiver of sovereign immunity; effectThe insurance
328	programs developed herein shall provide limits as established by
329	the provisions of s. 768.28 if a tort claim. The limits provided
330	in s. 768.28 shall not apply to a civil rights action arising
331	under 42 U.S.C. s. 1983 or similar federal statute. Payment of a
332	pending or future claim or judgment arising under any of said
333	statutes may be made upon this act becoming a law, unless the
334	officer, employee, or agent has been determined in the final
335	judgment to have caused the harm intentionally; however, the
336	fund is authorized to pay all other court-ordered attorney's
337	fees as provided under s. 284.31.
338	Section 14. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment
339	made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a
340	reference thereto, paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section
341	322.13, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:
342	322.13 Driver license examiners
343	(1)
344	(b) Those persons serving as driver license examiners are
345	not liable for actions taken within the scope of their
346	employment or designation, except as provided by s. 768.28.
347	Section 15. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment
348	made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a
349	reference thereto, subsection (1) of section 337.19, Florida
350	Statutes, is reenacted to read:

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351 337.19 Suits by and against department; limitation of 352 actions; forum.-

353 (1) Suits at law and in equity may be brought and 354 maintained by and against the department on any contract claim 355 arising from breach of an express provision or an implied 356 covenant of a written agreement or a written directive issued by 357 the department pursuant to the written agreement. In any such 358 suit, the department and the contractor shall have all of the 359 same rights and obligations as a private person under a like 360 contract except that no liability may be based on an oral modification of either the written contract or written 361 362 directive. Nothing herein shall be construed to waive the 363 sovereign immunity of the state and its political subdivisions 364 from equitable claims and equitable remedies. Notwithstanding 365 anything to the contrary contained in this section, no employee 366 or agent of the department may be held personally liable to an 367 extent greater than that pursuant to s. 768.28 provided that no 368 suit sounding in tort shall be maintained against the 369 department.

370 Section 16. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 371 made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a 372 reference thereto, subsection (17) of section 341.302, Florida 373 Statutes, is reenacted to read:

374 341.302 Rail program; duties and responsibilities of the 375 department.—The department, in conjunction with other

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376 governmental entities, including the rail enterprise and the 377 private sector, shall develop and implement a rail program of 378 statewide application designed to ensure the proper maintenance, 379 safety, revitalization, and expansion of the rail system to 380 assure its continued and increased availability to respond to 381 statewide mobility needs. Within the resources provided pursuant 382 to chapter 216, and as authorized under federal law, the 383 department shall:

384 (17) In conjunction with the acquisition, ownership, 385 construction, operation, maintenance, and management of a rail 386 corridor, have the authority to:

387

(a) Assume obligations pursuant to the following:

388 The department may assume the obligation by contract 1.a. 389 to forever protect, defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the 390 freight rail operator, or its successors, from whom the 391 department has acquired a real property interest in the rail 392 corridor, and that freight rail operator's officers, agents, and 393 employees, from and against any liability, cost, and expense, 394 including, but not limited to, commuter rail passengers and rail 395 corridor invitees in the rail corridor, regardless of whether 396 the loss, damage, destruction, injury, or death giving rise to 397 any such liability, cost, or expense is caused in whole or in 398 part, and to whatever nature or degree, by the fault, failure, 399 negligence, misconduct, nonfeasance, or misfeasance of such freight rail operator, its successors, or its officers, agents, 400

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401 and employees, or any other person or persons whomsoever; or 402 The department may assume the obligation by contract to b. 403 forever protect, defend, indemnify, and hold harmless National 404 Railroad Passenger Corporation, or its successors, and officers, 405 agents, and employees of National Railroad Passenger 406 Corporation, from and against any liability, cost, and expense, 407 including, but not limited to, commuter rail passengers and rail 408 corridor invitees in the rail corridor, regardless of whether 409 the loss, damage, destruction, injury, or death giving rise to any such liability, cost, or expense is caused in whole or in 410 411 part, and to whatever nature or degree, by the fault, failure, 412 negligence, misconduct, nonfeasance, or misfeasance of National 413 Railroad Passenger Corporation, its successors, or its officers, 414 agents, and employees, or any other person or persons 415 whomsoever. 416 2. The assumption of liability of the department by 417 contract pursuant to sub-subparagraph 1.a. or sub-subparagraph 418 1.b. may not in any instance exceed the following parameters of

419 allocation of risk:

a. The department may be solely responsible for any loss,
injury, or damage to commuter rail passengers, or rail corridor
invitees, or trespassers, regardless of circumstances or cause,
subject to sub-subparagraph b. and subparagraphs 3., 4., 5., and
6.

425

b.(I) In the event of a limited covered accident, the

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426 authority of the department to protect, defend, and indemnify 427 the freight operator for all liability, cost, and expense, 428 including punitive or exemplary damages, in excess of the 429 deductible or self-insurance retention fund established under 430 paragraph (b) and actually in force at the time of the limited 431 covered accident exists only if the freight operator agrees, 432 with respect to the limited covered accident, to protect, 433 defend, and indemnify the department for the amount of the 434 deductible or self-insurance retention fund established under 435 paragraph (b) and actually in force at the time of the limited 436 covered accident.

437 In the event of a limited covered accident, the (II)438 authority of the department to protect, defend, and indemnify 439 National Railroad Passenger Corporation for all liability, cost, 440 and expense, including punitive or exemplary damages, in excess 441 of the deductible or self-insurance retention fund established 442 under paragraph (b) and actually in force at the time of the 443 limited covered accident exists only if National Railroad 444 Passenger Corporation agrees, with respect to the limited 445 covered accident, to protect, defend, and indemnify the 446 department for the amount of the deductible or self-insurance 447 retention fund established under paragraph (b) and actually in 448 force at the time of the limited covered accident.

3. When only one train is involved in an incident, the department may be solely responsible for any loss, injury, or

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451 damage if the train is a department train or other train 452 pursuant to subparagraph 4., but only if:

a. When an incident occurs with only a freight train
involved, including incidents with trespassers or at grade
crossings, the freight rail operator is solely responsible for
any loss, injury, or damage, except for commuter rail passengers
and rail corridor invitees; or

b. When an incident occurs with only a National Railroad Passenger Corporation train involved, including incidents with trespassers or at grade crossings, National Railroad Passenger Corporation is solely responsible for any loss, injury, or damage, except for commuter rail passengers and rail corridor invitees.

464

4. For the purposes of this subsection:

465 Any train involved in an incident that is neither the a. 466 department's train nor the freight rail operator's train, 467 hereinafter referred to in this subsection as an "other train," 468 may be treated as a department train, solely for purposes of any 469 allocation of liability between the department and the freight 470 rail operator only, but only if the department and the freight 471 rail operator share responsibility equally as to third parties outside the rail corridor who incur loss, injury, or damage as a 472 473 result of any incident involving both a department train and a 474 freight rail operator train, and the allocation as between the 475 department and the freight rail operator, regardless of whether

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476 the other train is treated as a department train, shall remain 477 one-half each as to third parties outside the rail corridor who 478 incur loss, injury, or damage as a result of the incident. The 479 involvement of any other train shall not alter the sharing of 480 equal responsibility as to third parties outside the rail 481 corridor who incur loss, injury, or damage as a result of the 482 incident; or

483 b. Any train involved in an incident that is neither the 484 department's train nor the National Railroad Passenger 485 Corporation's train, hereinafter referred to in this subsection 486 as an "other train," may be treated as a department train, 487 solely for purposes of any allocation of liability between the 488 department and National Railroad Passenger Corporation only, but 489 only if the department and National Railroad Passenger 490 Corporation share responsibility equally as to third parties 491 outside the rail corridor who incur loss, injury, or damage as a 492 result of any incident involving both a department train and a 493 National Railroad Passenger Corporation train, and the 494 allocation as between the department and National Railroad 495 Passenger Corporation, regardless of whether the other train is 496 treated as a department train, shall remain one-half each as to 497 third parties outside the rail corridor who incur loss, injury, or damage as a result of the incident. The involvement of any 498 499 other train shall not alter the sharing of equal responsibility as to third parties outside the rail corridor who incur loss, 500

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501 injury, or damage as a result of the incident.

502 When more than one train is involved in an incident: 5. 503 If only a department train and freight rail a.(I) 504 operator's train, or only an other train as described in sub-505 subparagraph 4.a. and a freight rail operator's train, are 506 involved in an incident, the department may be responsible for 507 its property and all of its people, all commuter rail 508 passengers, and rail corridor invitees, but only if the freight 509 rail operator is responsible for its property and all of its 510 people, and the department and the freight rail operator each 511 share one-half responsibility as to trespassers or third parties 512 outside the rail corridor who incur loss, injury, or damage as a 513 result of the incident; or

514 If only a department train and a National Railroad (II)515 Passenger Corporation train, or only an other train as described 516 in sub-subparagraph 4.b. and a National Railroad Passenger 517 Corporation train, are involved in an incident, the department 518 may be responsible for its property and all of its people, all 519 commuter rail passengers, and rail corridor invitees, but only 520 if National Railroad Passenger Corporation is responsible for 521 its property and all of its people, all National Railroad 522 Passenger Corporation's rail passengers, and the department and 523 National Railroad Passenger Corporation each share one-half 524 responsibility as to trespassers or third parties outside the 525 rail corridor who incur loss, injury, or damage as a result of

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526 the incident.

527 b.(I) If a department train, a freight rail operator 528 train, and any other train are involved in an incident, the 529 allocation of liability between the department and the freight 530 rail operator, regardless of whether the other train is treated 531 as a department train, shall remain one-half each as to third 532 parties outside the rail corridor who incur loss, injury, or 533 damage as a result of the incident; the involvement of any other 534 train shall not alter the sharing of equal responsibility as to 535 third parties outside the rail corridor who incur loss, injury, 536 or damage as a result of the incident; and, if the owner, 537 operator, or insurer of the other train makes any payment to 538 injured third parties outside the rail corridor who incur loss, 539 injury, or damage as a result of the incident, the allocation of 540 credit between the department and the freight rail operator as 541 to such payment shall not in any case reduce the freight rail 542 operator's third-party-sharing allocation of one-half under this 543 paragraph to less than one-third of the total third party 544 liability; or

(II) If a department train, a National Railroad Passenger Corporation train, and any other train are involved in an incident, the allocation of liability between the department and National Railroad Passenger Corporation, regardless of whether the other train is treated as a department train, shall remain one-half each as to third parties outside the rail corridor who

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551 incur loss, injury, or damage as a result of the incident; the 552 involvement of any other train shall not alter the sharing of 553 equal responsibility as to third parties outside the rail 554 corridor who incur loss, injury, or damage as a result of the 555 incident; and, if the owner, operator, or insurer of the other 556 train makes any payment to injured third parties outside the 557 rail corridor who incur loss, injury, or damage as a result of 558 the incident, the allocation of credit between the department 559 and National Railroad Passenger Corporation as to such payment 560 shall not in any case reduce National Railroad Passenger 561 Corporation's third-party-sharing allocation of one-half under 562 this sub-subparagraph to less than one-third of the total third 563 party liability.

564 6. Any such contractual duty to protect, defend, 565 indemnify, and hold harmless such a freight rail operator or 566 National Railroad Passenger Corporation shall expressly include 567 a specific cap on the amount of the contractual duty, which 568 amount shall not exceed \$200 million without prior legislative 569 approval, and the department to purchase liability insurance and 570 establish a self-insurance retention fund in the amount of the 571 specific cap established under this subparagraph, provided that:

a. No such contractual duty shall in any case be effective nor otherwise extend the department's liability in scope and effect beyond the contractual liability insurance and selfinsurance retention fund required pursuant to this paragraph;

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576 and

577 b.(I) The freight rail operator's compensation to the 578 department for future use of the department's rail corridor 579 shall include a monetary contribution to the cost of such 580 liability coverage for the sole benefit of the freight rail 581 operator.

(II) National Railroad Passenger Corporation's compensation to the department for future use of the department's rail corridor shall include a monetary contribution to the cost of such liability coverage for the sole benefit of National Railroad Passenger Corporation.

587 Purchase liability insurance, which amount shall not (b) 588 exceed \$200 million, and establish a self-insurance retention 589 fund for the purpose of paying the deductible limit established 590 in the insurance policies it may obtain, including coverage for 591 the department, any freight rail operator as described in 592 paragraph (a), National Railroad Passenger Corporation, commuter 593 rail service providers, governmental entities, or any ancillary 594 development, which self-insurance retention fund or deductible 595 shall not exceed \$10 million. The insureds shall pay a 596 reasonable monetary contribution to the cost of such liability coverage for the sole benefit of the insured. Such insurance and 597 598 self-insurance retention fund may provide coverage for all 599 damages, including, but not limited to, compensatory, special, and exemplary, and be maintained to provide an adequate fund to 600

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613

601 cover claims and liabilities for loss, injury, or damage arising 602 out of or connected with the ownership, operation, maintenance, 603 and management of a rail corridor.

(c) Incur expenses for the purchase of advertisements,marketing, and promotional items.

(d) Without altering any of the rights granted to the department under this section, agree to assume the obligations to indemnify and insure, pursuant to s. 343.545, freight rail service, intercity passenger rail service, and commuter rail service on a department-owned rail corridor, whether ownership is in fee or by easement, or on a rail corridor where the department has the right to operate.

614 Neither the assumption by contract to protect, defend, 615 indemnify, and hold harmless; the purchase of insurance; nor the 616 establishment of a self-insurance retention fund shall be deemed 617 to be a waiver of any defense of sovereign immunity for torts 618 nor deemed to increase the limits of the department's or the governmental entity's liability for torts as provided in s. 619 620 768.28. The requirements of s. 287.022(1) shall not apply to the 621 purchase of any insurance under this subsection. The provisions of this subsection shall apply and inure fully as to any other 622 623 governmental entity providing commuter rail service and 624 constructing, operating, maintaining, or managing a rail 625 corridor on publicly owned right-of-way under contract by the

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626 governmental entity with the department or a governmental entity 627 designated by the department. Notwithstanding any law to the 628 contrary, procurement for the construction, operation, 629 maintenance, and management of any rail corridor described in 630 this subsection, whether by the department, a governmental 631 entity under contract with the department, or a governmental 632 entity designated by the department, shall be pursuant to s. 633 287.057 and shall include, but not be limited to, criteria for 634 the consideration of qualifications, technical aspects of the 635 proposal, and price. Further, any such contract for design-build 636 shall be procured pursuant to the criteria in s. 337.11(7).

637 Section 17. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 638 made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a 639 reference thereto, subsection (6) of section 373.1395, Florida 640 Statutes, is reenacted to read:

373.1395 Limitation on liability of water management
district with respect to areas made available to the public for
recreational purposes without charge.-

(6) This section does not relieve any water management
district of any liability that would otherwise exist for gross
negligence or a deliberate, willful, or malicious injury to a
person or property. This section does not create or increase the
liability of any water management district or person beyond that
which is authorized by s. 768.28.

650

Section 18. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment

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651 made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a 652 reference thereto, paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 653 375.251, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

375.251 Limitation on liability of persons making
available to public certain areas for recreational purposes
without charge.-

657 (3) (a) An owner of an area who enters into a written 658 agreement concerning the area with a state agency for outdoor 659 recreational purposes, where such agreement recognizes that the 660 state agency is responsible for personal injury, loss, or damage 661 resulting in whole or in part from the state agency's use of the 662 area under the terms of the agreement subject to the limitations 663 and conditions specified in s. 768.28, owes no duty of care to 664 keep the area safe for entry or use by others, or to give 665 warning to persons entering or going on the area of any 666 hazardous conditions, structures, or activities thereon. An 667 owner who enters into a written agreement concerning the area 668 with a state agency for outdoor recreational purposes:

669 1. Is not presumed to extend any assurance that the area670 is safe for any purpose;

671 2. Does not incur any duty of care toward a person who672 goes on the area that is subject to the agreement; or

3. Is not liable or responsible for any injury to persons
or property caused by the act or omission of a person who goes
on the area that is subject to the agreement.

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576 Section 19. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 577 made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a 578 reference thereto, subsection (9) of section 381.0056, Florida 579 Statutes, is reenacted to read:

680

381.0056 School health services program.-

681 (9) Any health care entity that provides school health 682 services under contract with the department pursuant to a school health services plan developed under this section, and as part 683 684 of a school nurse services public-private partnership, is deemed 685 to be a corporation acting primarily as an instrumentality of the state solely for the purpose of limiting liability pursuant 686 687 to s. 768.28(5). The limitations on tort actions contained in s. 688 768.28(5) shall apply to any action against the entity with 689 respect to the provision of school health services, if the 690 entity is acting within the scope of and pursuant to guidelines 691 established in the contract or by rule of the department. The 692 contract must require the entity, or the partnership on behalf 693 of the entity, to obtain general liability insurance coverage, 694 with any additional endorsement necessary to insure the entity 695 for liability assumed by its contract with the department. The 696 Legislature intends that insurance be purchased by entities, or 697 by partnerships on behalf of the entity, to cover all liability 698 claims, and under no circumstances shall the state or the 699 department be responsible for payment of any claims or defense costs for claims brought against the entity or its subcontractor 700

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for services performed under the contract with the department.
This subsection does not preclude consideration by the
Legislature for payment by the state of any claims bill
involving an entity contracting with the department pursuant to
this section.

Section 20. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, subsection (3) of section 393.075, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

710

393.075 General liability coverage.-

(3) This section shall not be construed as designating or not designating that a person who owns or operates a foster care facility or group home facility as described in this section or any other person is an employee or agent of the state. Nothing in this section amends, expands, or supersedes the provisions of s. 768.28.

717 Section 21. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 718 made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a 719 reference thereto, paragraph (g) of subsection (10) of section 720 395.1055, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

721

395.1055 Rules and enforcement.-

(10) The agency shall establish a pediatric cardiac technical advisory panel, pursuant to s. 20.052, to develop procedures and standards for measuring outcomes of pediatric cardiac catheterization programs and pediatric cardiovascular

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726 surgery programs. 727 Panel members are agents of the state for purposes of (q) 728 s. 768.28 throughout the good faith performance of the duties 729 assigned to them by the Secretary of Health Care Administration. 730 Section 22. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 731 made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a 732 reference thereto, paragraph (c) of subsection (17) of section 733 403.706, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read: 734 403.706 Local government solid waste responsibilities.-735 To effect the purposes of this part, counties and (17)municipalities are authorized, in addition to other powers 736 737 granted pursuant to this part: 738 To waive sovereign immunity and immunity from suit in (C) 739 federal court by vote of the governing body of the county or 740 municipality to the extent necessary to carry out the authority 741 granted in paragraphs (a) and (b), notwithstanding the 742 limitations prescribed in s. 768.28. 743 Section 23. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 744 made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a 745 reference thereto, subsection (1), paragraph (a) of subsection 746 (2), and paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 409.993, 747 Florida Statutes, are reenacted to read: 748 409.993 Lead agencies and subcontractor liability.-749 (1) FINDINGS.-750 The Legislature finds that the state has traditionally (a) Page 30 of 59

751 provided foster care services to children who are the 752 responsibility of the state. As such, foster children have not 753 had the right to recover for injuries beyond the limitations 754 specified in s. 768.28. The Legislature has determined that 755 foster care and related services should be outsourced pursuant 756 to this section and that the provision of such services is of 757 paramount importance to the state. The purpose of such 758 outsourcing is to increase the level of safety, security, and 759 stability of children who are or become the responsibility of 760 the state. One of the components necessary to secure a safe and 761 stable environment for such children is the requirement that 762 private providers maintain liability insurance. As such, 763 insurance needs to be available and remain available to 764 nongovernmental foster care and related services providers 765 without the resources of such providers being significantly 766 reduced by the cost of maintaining such insurance.

(b) The Legislature further finds that, by requiring the following minimum levels of insurance, children in outsourced foster care and related services will gain increased protection and rights of recovery in the event of injury than currently provided in s. 768.28.

772

(2) LEAD AGENCY LIABILITY.-

(a) Other than an entity to which s. 768.28 applies, an
eligible community-based care lead agency, or its employees or
officers, except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b), shall,

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776 as a part of its contract, obtain a minimum of \$1 million per 777 occurrence with a policy period aggregate limit of \$3 million in 778 general liability insurance coverage. The lead agency must also 779 require that staff who transport client children and families in 780 their personal automobiles in order to carry out their job 781 responsibilities obtain minimum bodily injury liability 782 insurance in the amount of \$100,000 per person per any one 783 automobile accident, and subject to such limits for each person, 784 \$300,000 for all damages resulting from any one automobile 785 accident, on their personal automobiles. In lieu of personal 786 motor vehicle insurance, the lead agency's casualty, liability, 787 or motor vehicle insurance carrier may provide nonowned 788 automobile liability coverage. This insurance provides liability 789 insurance for an automobile that the lead agency uses in 790 connection with the lead agency's business but does not own, 791 lease, rent, or borrow. This coverage includes an automobile 792 owned by an employee of the lead agency or a member of the 793 employee's household but only while the automobile is used in 794 connection with the lead agency's business. The nonowned 795 automobile coverage for the lead agency applies as excess 796 coverage over any other collectible insurance. The personal 797 automobile policy for the employee of the lead agency shall be 798 primary insurance, and the nonowned automobile coverage of the 799 lead agency acts as excess insurance to the primary insurance. The lead agency shall provide a minimum limit of \$1 million in 800

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801 nonowned automobile coverage. In a tort action brought against 802 such a lead agency or employee, net economic damages shall be 803 limited to \$2 million per liability claim and \$200,000 per 804 automobile claim, including, but not limited to, past and future 805 medical expenses, wage loss, and loss of earning capacity, 806 offset by any collateral source payment paid or payable. In any 807 tort action brought against a lead agency, noneconomic damages shall be limited to \$400,000 per claim. A claims bill may be 808 809 brought on behalf of a claimant pursuant to s. 768.28 for any amount exceeding the limits specified in this paragraph. Any 810 811 offset of collateral source payments made as of the date of the 812 settlement or judgment shall be in accordance with s. 768.76. 813 The lead agency is not liable in tort for the acts or omissions 814 of its subcontractors or the officers, agents, or employees of 815 its subcontractors.

816

(3) SUBCONTRACTOR LIABILITY.-

817 A subcontractor of an eligible community-based care (a) 818 lead agency that is a direct provider of foster care and related services to children and families, and its employees or 819 820 officers, except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b), must, as a part of its contract, obtain a minimum of \$1 million per 821 822 occurrence with a policy period aggregate limit of \$3 million in 823 general liability insurance coverage. The subcontractor of a 824 lead agency must also require that staff who transport client 825 children and families in their personal automobiles in order to

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826 carry out their job responsibilities obtain minimum bodily 827 injury liability insurance in the amount of \$100,000 per person 828 in any one automobile accident, and subject to such limits for each person, \$300,000 for all damages resulting from any one 829 830 automobile accident, on their personal automobiles. In lieu of 831 personal motor vehicle insurance, the subcontractor's casualty, 832 liability, or motor vehicle insurance carrier may provide 833 nonowned automobile liability coverage. This insurance provides 834 liability insurance for automobiles that the subcontractor uses 835 in connection with the subcontractor's business but does not own, lease, rent, or borrow. This coverage includes automobiles 836 837 owned by the employees of the subcontractor or a member of the 838 employee's household but only while the automobiles are used in 839 connection with the subcontractor's business. The nonowned 840 automobile coverage for the subcontractor applies as excess 841 coverage over any other collectible insurance. The personal 842 automobile policy for the employee of the subcontractor shall be 843 primary insurance, and the nonowned automobile coverage of the 844 subcontractor acts as excess insurance to the primary insurance. 845 The subcontractor shall provide a minimum limit of \$1 million in 846 nonowned automobile coverage. In a tort action brought against such subcontractor or employee, net economic damages shall be 847 848 limited to \$2 million per liability claim and \$200,000 per 849 automobile claim, including, but not limited to, past and future medical expenses, wage loss, and loss of earning capacity, 850

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offset by any collateral source payment paid or payable. In a tort action brought against such subcontractor, noneconomic damages shall be limited to \$400,000 per claim. A claims bill may be brought on behalf of a claimant pursuant to s. 768.28 for any amount exceeding the limits specified in this paragraph. Any offset of collateral source payments made as of the date of the settlement or judgment shall be in accordance with s. 768.76.

Section 24. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, subsection (3) of section 455.221, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

862

455.221 Legal and investigative services.-

(3) Any person retained by the department under contract to review materials, make site visits, or provide expert testimony regarding any complaint or application filed with the department relating to a profession under the jurisdiction of the department shall be considered an agent of the department in determining the state insurance coverage and sovereign immunity protection applicability of ss. 284.31 and 768.28.

870 Section 25. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 871 made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a 872 reference thereto, subsection (5) of section 455.32, Florida 873 Statutes, is reenacted to read:

874

455.32 Management Privatization Act.-

875 (5) Any such corporation may hire staff as necessary to

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876 carry out its functions. Such staff are not public employees for 877 the purposes of chapter 110 or chapter 112, except that the 878 board of directors and the employees of the corporation are 879 subject to the provisions of s. 112.061 and part III of chapter 880 112. The provisions of s. 768.28 apply to each such corporation, 881 which is deemed to be a corporation primarily acting as an 882 instrumentality of the state but which is not an agency within 883 the meaning of s. 20.03(11).

Section 26. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, subsection (3) of section 456.009, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

888

456.009 Legal and investigative services.-

(3) Any person retained by the department under contract to review materials, make site visits, or provide expert testimony regarding any complaint or application filed with the department relating to a profession under the jurisdiction of the department shall be considered an agent of the department in determining the state insurance coverage and sovereign immunity protection applicability of ss. 284.31 and 768.28.

Section 27. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, paragraph (a) of subsection (15) of section 456.076, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

900

456.076 Impaired practitioner programs.-

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901 (15) (a) A consultant retained pursuant to this section and 902 a consultant's directors, officers, employees, or agents shall 903 be considered agents of the department for purposes of s. 768.28 904 while acting within the scope of the consultant's duties under 905 the contract with the department.

906 Section 28. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 907 made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a 908 reference thereto, subsection (3) of section 471.038, Florida 909 Statutes, is reenacted to read:

910

471.038 Florida Engineers Management Corporation.-

911 (3) The Florida Engineers Management Corporation is 912 created to provide administrative, investigative, and 913 prosecutorial services to the board in accordance with the 914 provisions of chapter 455 and this chapter. The management 915 corporation may hire staff as necessary to carry out its 916 functions. Such staff are not public employees for the purposes 917 of chapter 110 or chapter 112, except that the board of 918 directors and the staff are subject to the provisions of s. 919 112.061. The provisions of s. 768.28 apply to the management 920 corporation, which is deemed to be a corporation primarily 921 acting as an instrumentality of the state, but which is not an 922 agency within the meaning of s. 20.03(11). The management 923 corporation shall:

924 (a) Be a Florida corporation not for profit, incorporated925 under the provisions of chapter 617.

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(b) Provide administrative, investigative, and
prosecutorial services to the board in accordance with the
provisions of chapter 455, this chapter, and the contract
required by this section.

930 (c) Receive, hold, and administer property and make only 931 prudent expenditures directly related to the responsibilities of 932 the board, and in accordance with the contract required by this 933 section.

(d) Be approved by the board, and the department, to
operate for the benefit of the board and in the best interest of
the state.

937 (e) Operate under a fiscal year that begins on July 1 of938 each year and ends on June 30 of the following year.

939 (f) Have a seven-member board of directors, five of whom 940 are to be appointed by the board and must be registrants 941 regulated by the board and two of whom are to be appointed by 942 the secretary and must be laypersons not regulated by the board. 943 All appointments shall be for 4-year terms. No member shall 944 serve more than two consecutive terms. Failure to attend three 945 consecutive meetings shall be deemed a resignation from the 946 board, and the vacancy shall be filled by a new appointment.

(g) Select its officers in accordance with its bylaws. The
members of the board of directors who were appointed by the
board may be removed by the board.

950

(h) Select the president of the management corporation,

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951 who shall also serve as executive director to the board, subject 952 to approval of the board.

953 (i) Use a portion of the interest derived from the 954 management corporation account to offset the costs associated 955 with the use of credit cards for payment of fees by applicants 956 or licensees.

(j) Operate under a written contract with the department which is approved by the board. The contract must provide for, but is not limited to:

960 1. Submission by the management corporation of an annual
961 budget that complies with board rules for approval by the board
962 and the department.

963 2. Annual certification by the board and the department 964 that the management corporation is complying with the terms of 965 the contract in a manner consistent with the goals and purposes 966 of the board and in the best interest of the state. This 967 certification must be reported in the board's minutes. The 968 contract must also provide for methods and mechanisms to resolve 969 any situation in which the certification process determines 970 noncompliance.

971 3. Funding of the management corporation through
972 appropriations allocated to the regulation of professional
973 engineers from the Professional Regulation Trust Fund.

974 4. The reversion to the board, or the state if the board 975 ceases to exist, of moneys, records, data, and property held in

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976 trust by the management corporation for the benefit of the 977 board, if the management corporation is no longer approved to 978 operate for the board or the board ceases to exist. All records 979 and data in a computerized database shall be returned to the 980 department in a form that is compatible with the computerized 981 database of the department.

982 5. The securing and maintaining by the management 983 corporation, during the term of the contract and for all acts 984 performed during the term of the contract, of all liability 985 insurance coverages in an amount to be approved by the board to 986 defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the management corporation 987 and its officers and employees, the department and its 988 employees, and the state against all claims arising from state 989 and federal laws. Such insurance coverage must be with insurers 990 qualified and doing business in the state. The management 991 corporation must provide proof of insurance to the department. 992 The department and its employees and the state are exempt from 993 and are not liable for any sum of money which represents a 994 deductible, which sums shall be the sole responsibility of the 995 management corporation. Violation of this subparagraph shall be 996 grounds for terminating the contract.

997 6. Payment by the management corporation, out of its
998 allocated budget, to the department of all costs of
999 representation by the board counsel, including salary and
1000 benefits, travel, and any other compensation traditionally paid

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by the department to other board counsel.

7. Payment by the management corporation, out of its allocated budget, to the department of all costs incurred by the management corporation or the board for the Division of Administrative Hearings of the Department of Management Services and any other cost for utilization of these state services.

8. Payment by the management corporation, out of its allocated budget, to the department of reasonable costs associated with the contract monitor.

(k) Provide for an annual financial audit of its financial accounts and records by an independent certified public accountant. The annual audit report shall include a management letter in accordance with s. 11.45 and a detailed supplemental schedule of expenditures for each expenditure category. The annual audit report must be submitted to the board, the department, and the Auditor General for review.

(1) Provide for persons not employed by the corporation
who are charged with the responsibility of receiving and
depositing fee and fine revenues to have a faithful performance
bond in such an amount and according to such terms as shall be
determined in the contract.

(m) Submit to the secretary, the board, and the Legislature, on or before October 1 of each year, a report on the status of the corporation which includes, but is not limited to, information concerning the programs and funds that have been

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1026 transferred to the corporation. The report must include: the 1027 number of license applications received; the number approved and 1028 denied and the number of licenses issued; the number of 1029 examinations administered and the number of applicants who passed or failed the examination; the number of complaints 1030 1031 received; the number determined to be legally sufficient; the 1032 number dismissed; the number determined to have probable cause; 1033 the number of administrative complaints issued and the status of 1034 the complaints; and the number and nature of disciplinary 1035 actions taken by the board.

1036 (n) Develop and submit to the department, performance 1037 standards and measurable outcomes for the board to adopt by rule 1038 in order to facilitate efficient and cost-effective regulation.

Section 29. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, paragraph (b) of subsection (11) of section 472.006, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

1043 472.006 Department; powers and duties.-The department 1044 shall:

(11) Provide legal counsel for the board by contracting with the Department of Legal Affairs, by retaining private counsel pursuant to s. 287.059, or by providing department staff counsel. The board shall periodically review and evaluate the services provided by its board counsel. Fees and costs of such counsel shall be paid from the General Inspection Trust Fund,

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1051 subject to ss. 215.37 and 472.011. All contracts for independent 1052 legal counsel must provide for periodic review and evaluation by 1053 the board and the department of services provided.

(b) Any person retained by the department under contract to review materials, make site visits, or provide expert testimony regarding any complaint or application filed with the department relating to the practice of surveying and mapping shall be considered an agent of the department in determining the state insurance coverage and sovereign immunity protection applicability of ss. 284.31 and 768.28.

Section 30. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, subsection (7) of section 497.167, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

1065

497.167 Administrative matters.-

(7) Any person retained by the department under contract to review materials, make site visits, or provide expert testimony regarding any complaint or application filed with the department, relating to regulation under this chapter, shall be considered an agent of the department in determining the state insurance coverage and sovereign immunity protection applicability of ss. 284.31 and 768.28.

1073 Section 31. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 1074 made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a 1075 reference thereto, subsection (2) of section 513.118, Florida

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1076 Statutes, is reenacted to read: 1077 513.118 Conduct on premises; refusal of service.-1078 The operator of a recreational vehicle park may (2) 1079 request that a transient quest or visitor who violates 1080 subsection (1) leave the premises immediately. A person who 1081 refuses to leave the premises commits the offense of trespass as 1082 provided in s. 810.08, and the operator may call a law 1083 enforcement officer to have the person and his or her property 1084 removed under the supervision of the officer. A law enforcement 1085 officer is not liable for any claim involving the removal of the 1086 person or property from the recreational vehicle park under this 1087 section, except as provided in s. 768.28. If conditions do not 1088 allow for immediate removal of the person's property, he or she 1089 may arrange a reasonable time, not to exceed 48 hours, with the 1090 operator to come remove the property, accompanied by a law 1091 enforcement officer. 1092 Section 32. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 1093 made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a 1094 reference thereto, subsection (1) of section 548.046, Florida 1095 Statutes, is reenacted to read: 1096 548.046 Physician's attendance at match; examinations; 1097 cancellation of match.-1098 The commission, or the commission representative, (1)1099 shall assign to each match at least one physician who shall observe the physical condition of the participants and advise 1100

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1101 the commissioner or commission representative in charge and the 1102 referee of the participants' conditions before, during, and 1103 after the match. The commission shall establish a schedule of fees for the physician's services. The physician's fee shall be 1104 paid by the promoter of the match attended by the physician. The 1105 1106 physician shall be considered an agent of the commission in 1107 determining the state insurance coverage and sovereign immunity 1108 protection applicability of ss. 284.31 and 768.28. 1109 Section 33. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a 1110 1111 reference thereto, subsection (8) of section 556.106, Florida 1112 Statutes, is reenacted to read: 1113 556.106 Liability of the member operator, excavator, and 1114 system.-Any liability of the state, its agencies, or its 1115 (8) 1116 subdivisions which arises out of this chapter is subject to the provisions of s. 768.28. 1117 1118 Section 34. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 1119 made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, paragraph (e) of subsection (4) of section 1120 1121 589.19, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read: 1122 589.19 Creation of certain state forests; naming of 1123 certain state forests; Operation Outdoor Freedom Program.-1124 (4)1125 (e)1. A private landowner who provides land for Page 45 of 59

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1126 designation and use as an Operation Outdoor Freedom Program 1127 hunting site shall have limited liability pursuant to s. 1128 375.251. A private landowner who consents to the designation and 1129 2. 1130 use of land as part of the Operation Outdoor Freedom Program 1131 without compensation shall be considered a volunteer, as defined 1132 in s. 110.501, and shall be covered by state liability 1133 protection pursuant to s. 768.28, including s. 768.28(9). 1134 3. This subsection does not: Relieve any person of liability that would otherwise 1135 a. 1136 exist for deliberate, willful, or malicious injury to persons or 1137 property. 1138 b. Create or increase the liability of any person. 1139 Section 35. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 1140 made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a 1141 reference thereto, paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section 723.0611, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read: 1142 1143 723.0611 Florida Mobile Home Relocation Corporation.-(2)1144 1145 The corporation shall, for purposes of s. 768.28, be (C) 1146 considered an agency of the state. Agents or employees of the corporation, members of the board of directors of the 1147 1148 corporation, or representatives of the Division of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes shall be considered 1149 officers, employees, or agents of the state, and actions against 1150

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1151

them and the corporation shall be governed by s. 768.28.

1152 Section 36. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 1153 made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a 1154 reference thereto, subsection (5) of section 760.11, Florida 1155 Statutes, is reenacted to read:

1156

760.11 Administrative and civil remedies; construction.-

1157 In any civil action brought under this section, the (5) 1158 court may issue an order prohibiting the discriminatory practice 1159 and providing affirmative relief from the effects of the 1160 practice, including back pay. The court may also award 1161 compensatory damages, including, but not limited to, damages for mental anguish, loss of dignity, and any other intangible 1162 injuries, and punitive damages. The provisions of ss. 768.72 and 1163 1164 768.73 do not apply to this section. The judgment for the total amount of punitive damages awarded under this section to an 1165 1166 aggrieved person shall not exceed \$100,000. In any action or proceeding under this subsection, the court, in its discretion, 1167 1168 may allow the prevailing party a reasonable attorney's fee as 1169 part of the costs. It is the intent of the Legislature that this 1170 provision for attorney's fees be interpreted in a manner 1171 consistent with federal case law involving a Title VII action. 1172 The right to trial by jury is preserved in any such private 1173 right of action in which the aggrieved person is seeking 1174 compensatory or punitive damages, and any party may demand a trial by jury. The commission's determination of reasonable 1175

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1176 cause is not admissible into evidence in any civil proceeding, 1177 including any hearing or trial, except to establish for the 1178 court the right to maintain the private right of action. A civil 1179 action brought under this section shall be commenced no later than 1 year after the date of determination of reasonable cause 1180 1181 by the commission. The commencement of such action shall divest 1182 the commission of jurisdiction of the complaint, except that the 1183 commission may intervene in the civil action as a matter of 1184 right. Notwithstanding the above, the state and its agencies and subdivisions shall not be liable for punitive damages. The total 1185 1186 amount of recovery against the state and its agencies and subdivisions shall not exceed the limitation as set forth in s. 1187 768.28(5). 1188

1189 Section 37. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 1190 made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a 1191 reference thereto, subsection (5) of section 766.1115, Florida 1192 Statutes, is reenacted to read:

1193766.1115Health care providers; creation of agency1194relationship with governmental contractors.-

(5) NOTICE OF AGENCY RELATIONSHIP.—The governmental contractor must provide written notice to each patient, or the patient's legal representative, receipt of which must be acknowledged in writing, that the provider is an agent of the governmental contractor and that the exclusive remedy for injury or damage suffered as the result of any act or omission of the

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1201 provider or of any employee or agent thereof acting within the 1202 scope of duties pursuant to the contract is by commencement of 1203 an action pursuant to the provisions of s. 768.28. With respect to any federally funded community health center, the notice 1204 1205 requirements may be met by posting in a place conspicuous to all 1206 persons a notice that the federally funded community health 1207 center is an agent of the governmental contractor and that the 1208 exclusive remedy for injury or damage suffered as the result of 1209 any act or omission of the provider or of any employee or agent 1210 thereof acting within the scope of duties pursuant to the 1211 contract is by commencement of an action pursuant to the 1212 provisions of s. 768.28.

1213 Section 38. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 1214 made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a 1215 reference thereto, subsection (2) of section 766.112, Florida 1216 Statutes, is reenacted to read:

1217

766.112 Comparative fault.-

1218 In an action for damages for personal injury or (2)1219 wrongful death arising out of medical negligence, whether in 1220 contract or tort, when an apportionment of damages pursuant to 1221 s. 768.81 is attributed to a board of trustees of a state 1222 university, the court shall enter judgment against the board of 1223 trustees on the basis of the board's percentage of fault and not 1224 on the basis of the doctrine of joint and several liability. The sole remedy available to a claimant to collect a judgment or 1225

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1226 settlement against a board of trustees, subject to the 1227 provisions of this subsection, shall be pursuant to s. 768.28. 1228 Section 39. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 1229 made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, subsection (3) of section 768.1355, Florida 1230 1231 Statutes, is reenacted to read: 1232 768.1355 Florida Volunteer Protection Act.-1233 Members of elected or appointed boards, councils, and (3) 1234 commissions of the state, counties, municipalities, authorities, 1235 and special districts shall incur no civil liability and shall 1236 have immunity from suit as provided in s. 768.28 for acts or 1237 omissions by members relating to members' conduct of their 1238 official duties. It is the intent of the Legislature to 1239 encourage our best and brightest people to serve on elected and 1240 appointed boards, councils, and commissions. 1241 Section 40. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a 1242 1243 reference thereto, subsection (4) of section 768.295, Florida 1244 Statutes, is reenacted to read: 1245 768.295 Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation 1246 (SLAPP) prohibited.-(4) A person or entity sued by a governmental entity or 1247 1248 another person in violation of this section has a right to an 1249 expeditious resolution of a claim that the suit is in violation of this section. A person or entity may move the court for an 1250

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1251 order dismissing the action or granting final judgment in favor 1252 of that person or entity. The person or entity may file a motion 1253 for summary judgment, together with supplemental affidavits, 1254 seeking a determination that the claimant's or governmental 1255 entity's lawsuit has been brought in violation of this section. 1256 The claimant or governmental entity shall thereafter file a 1257 response and any supplemental affidavits. As soon as 1258 practicable, the court shall set a hearing on the motion, which 1259 shall be held at the earliest possible time after the filing of 1260 the claimant's or governmental entity's response. The court may 1261 award, subject to the limitations in s. 768.28, the party sued 1262 by a governmental entity actual damages arising from a governmental entity's violation of this section. The court shall 1263 1264 award the prevailing party reasonable attorney fees and costs 1265 incurred in connection with a claim that an action was filed in 1266 violation of this section.

1267 Section 41. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 1268 made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a 1269 reference thereto, subsection (2) of section 944.713, Florida 1270 Statutes, is reenacted to read:

1271

944.713 Insurance against liability.-

1272 (2) The contract shall provide for indemnification of the
1273 state by the private vendor for any liabilities incurred up to
1274 the limits provided under s. 768.28(5). The contract shall
1275 provide that the private vendor, or the insurer of the private

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1276 vendor, is liable to pay any claim or judgment for any one 1277 person which does not exceed the sum of \$100,000 or any claim or 1278 judgment, or portions thereof, which, when totaled with all 1279 other claims or judgments arising out of the same incident or occurrence, does not exceed the sum of \$200,000. In addition, 1280 1281 the contractor must agree to defend, hold harmless, and 1282 indemnify the department against any and all actions, claims, 1283 damages and losses, including costs and attorney's fees.

Section 42. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, section 946.5026, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

1288 946.5026 Sovereign immunity in tort actions.—The 1289 provisions of s. 768.28 shall be applicable to the corporation 1290 established under this part, which is deemed to be a corporation 1291 primarily acting as an instrumentality of the state.

Section 43. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, subsection (3) of section 946.514, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

1296 946.514 Civil rights of inmates; inmates not state 1297 employees; liability of corporation for inmate injuries.-

(3) The corporation is liable for inmate injury to the
extent specified in s. 768.28; however, the members of the board
of directors are not individually liable to any inmate for any

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1301 injury sustained in any correctional work program operated by 1302 the corporation.

1303 Section 44. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 1304 made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a 1305 reference thereto, subsections (5), (6), and (7) of section 1306 961.06, Florida Statutes, are reenacted to read:

1307

961.06 Compensation for wrongful incarceration.-

1308 Before the department approves the application for (5) 1309 compensation, the wrongfully incarcerated person must sign a release and waiver on behalf of the wrongfully incarcerated 1310 1311 person and his or her heirs, successors, and assigns, forever releasing the state or any agency, instrumentality, or any 1312 political subdivision thereof, or any other entity subject to s. 1313 1314 768.28, from all present or future claims that the wrongfully incarcerated person or his or her heirs, successors, or assigns 1315 1316 may have against such entities arising out of the facts in 1317 connection with the wrongful conviction for which compensation 1318 is being sought under the act.

(6) (a) A wrongfully incarcerated person may not submit an application for compensation under this act if the person has a lawsuit pending against the state or any agency, instrumentality, or any political subdivision thereof, or any other entity subject to the provisions of s. 768.28, in state or federal court requesting compensation arising out of the facts in connection with the claimant's conviction and incarceration.

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(b) A wrongfully incarcerated person may not submit an application for compensation under this act if the person is the subject of a claim bill pending for claims arising out of the facts in connection with the claimant's conviction and incarceration.

(c) Once an application is filed under this act, a wrongfully incarcerated person may not pursue recovery under a claim bill until the final disposition of the application.

(d) Any amount awarded under this act is intended to provide the sole compensation for any and all present and future claims arising out of the facts in connection with the claimant's conviction and incarceration. Upon notification by the department that an application meets the requirements of this act, a wrongfully incarcerated person may not recover under a claim bill.

(e) Any compensation awarded under a claim bill shall be the sole redress for claims arising out of the facts in connection with the claimant's conviction and incarceration and, upon any award of compensation to a wrongfully incarcerated person under a claim bill, the person may not receive compensation under this act.

(7) Any payment made under this act does not constitute a
waiver of any defense of sovereign immunity or an increase in
the limits of liability on behalf of the state or any person
subject to the provisions of s. 768.28 or other law.

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1351	Section 45. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment
1352	made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a
1353	reference thereto, paragraph (h) of subsection (12) of section
1354	1002.33, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:
1355	1002.33 Charter schools
1356	(12) EMPLOYEES OF CHARTER SCHOOLS
1357	(h) For the purposes of tort liability, the charter
1358	school, including its governing body and employees, shall be
1359	governed by s. 768.28. This paragraph does not include any for-
1360	profit entity contracted by the charter school or its governing
1361	body.
1362	Section 46. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment
1363	made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a
1364	reference thereto, paragraph (b) of subsection (6) of section
1365	1002.333, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:
1366	1002.333 Persistently low-performing schools
1367	(6) STATUTORY AUTHORITY
1368	(b) For the purposes of tort liability, the hope operator,
1369	the school of hope, and its employees or agents shall be
1370	governed by s. 768.28. The sponsor shall not be liable for civil
1371	damages under state law for the employment actions or personal
1372	injury, property damage, or death resulting from an act or
1373	omission of a hope operator, the school of hope, or its
1374	employees or agents. This paragraph does not include any for-
1375	profit entity contracted by the charter school or its governing

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1376	body.
1377	Section 47. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment
1378	made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a
1379	reference thereto, subsection (17) of section 1002.34, Florida
1380	Statutes, is reenacted to read:
1381	1002.34 Charter technical career centers
1382	(17) IMMUNITYFor the purposes of tort liability, the
1383	governing body and employees of a center are governed by s.
1384	768.28.
1385	Section 48. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment
1386	made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a
1387	reference thereto, paragraph (1) of subsection (3) of section
1388	1002.55, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:
1389	1002.55 School-year prekindergarten program delivered by
1390	private prekindergarten providers
1391	(3) To be eligible to deliver the prekindergarten program,
1392	a private prekindergarten provider must meet each of the
1393	following requirements:
1394	(l) Notwithstanding paragraph (j), for a private
1395	prekindergarten provider that is a state agency or a subdivision
1396	thereof, as defined in s. 768.28(2), the provider must agree to
1397	notify the coalition of any additional liability coverage
1398	maintained by the provider in addition to that otherwise
1399	established under s. 768.28. The provider shall indemnify the
1400	coalition to the extent permitted by s. 768.28. Notwithstanding
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1401 paragraph (j), for a child development program that is 1402 accredited by a national accrediting body and operates on a 1403 military installation that is certified by the United States 1404 Department of Defense, the provider may demonstrate liability 1405 coverage by affirming that it is subject to the Federal Tort 1406 Claims Act, 28 U.S.C. ss. 2671 et seq. 1407 Section 49. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a 1408 1409 reference thereto, subsection (10) of section 1002.83, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read: 1410 1411 1002.83 Early learning coalitions.-(10) For purposes of tort liability, each member or 1412 1413 employee of an early learning coalition shall be governed by s. 1414 768.28. Section 50. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 1415 1416 made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, paragraph (p) of subsection (1) of section 1417 1418 1002.88, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read: 1419 1002.88 School readiness program provider standards; eligibility to deliver the school readiness program.-1420 1421 (1)To be eligible to deliver the school readiness 1422 program, a school readiness program provider must: 1423 Notwithstanding paragraph (m), for a provider that is (p) 1424 a state agency or a subdivision thereof, as defined in s. 768.28(2), agree to notify the coalition of any additional 1425

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1426 liability coverage maintained by the provider in addition to 1427 that otherwise established under s. 768.28. The provider shall 1428 indemnify the coalition to the extent permitted by s. 768.28. 1429 Notwithstanding paragraph (m), for a child development program that is accredited by a national accrediting body and operates 1430 1431 on a military installation that is certified by the United 1432 States Department of Defense, the provider may demonstrate 1433 liability coverage by affirming that it is subject to the 1434 Federal Tort Claims Act, 28 U.S.C. ss. 2671 et seq.

1435 Section 51. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 1436 made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a 1437 reference thereto, subsection (1) of section 1006.24, Florida 1438 Statutes, is reenacted to read:

1439

1006.24 Tort liability; liability insurance.-

Each district school board shall be liable for tort 1440 (1)1441 claims arising out of any incident or occurrence involving a 1442 school bus or other motor vehicle owned, maintained, operated, 1443 or used by the district school board to transport persons, to 1444 the same extent and in the same manner as the state or any of 1445 its agencies or subdivisions is liable for tort claims under s. 1446 768.28, except that the total liability to persons being 1447 transported for all claims or judgments of such persons arising 1448 out of the same incident or occurrence shall not exceed an 1449 amount equal to \$5,000 multiplied by the rated seating capacity of the school bus or other vehicle, as determined by rules of 1450

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1451 the State Board of Education, or \$100,000, whichever is greater. 1452 The provisions of s. 768.28 apply to all claims or actions 1453 brought against district school boards, as authorized in this 1454 subsection.

1455 Section 52. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 1456 made by this act to section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in a 1457 reference thereto, paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 1458 1006.261, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

1006.261 Use of school buses for public purposes.-(2)

(b) For purposes of liability for negligence, state agencies or subdivisions as defined in s. 768.28(2) shall be covered by s. 768.28. Every other corporation or organization shall provide liability insurance coverage in the minimum amounts of \$100,000 on any claim or judgment and \$200,000 on all claims and judgments arising from the same incident or occurrence.

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Section 53. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.

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