LEGISLATIVE ACTION Senate House Comm: RCS 04/19/2023

The Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government (Thompson) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete lines 60 - 384

and insert:

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Section 2. Present paragraphs (r) through (u) of subsection (3) of section 616.242, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as paragraphs (s) through (v), respectively, a new paragraph (r) is added to that subsection and paragraph (g) is added to subsection (6) of that section, and paragraph (h) of subsection (3), paragraph (b) of subsection (5), paragraphs (b) and (f) of subsection (6), subsection (7), paragraph (a) of subsection (8),

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paragraph (b) of subsection (11), subsections (12) and (14), paragraphs (a) and (c) of subsection (15), and subsections (16), (17), and (19) of that section are amended, to read:

616.242 Safety standards for amusement rides.-

- (3) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:
- (h) "Major modification" means any change in the structural characteristics, or operational characteristics, or safety systems of an amusement ride which will alter its performance or settings from those that specified in the manufacturer's design criteria or operator's manual.
- (r) "Ride commissioning and certification report" means a commissioning and certification report by the ride manufacturer which certifies that the ride has been designed and manufactured in conformance with the manufacturer's design criteria, standards referenced in this section, and rules adopted by the department.
 - (5) PERMANENT AMUSEMENT RIDE ANNUAL PERMIT.-
- (b) To apply for an annual permit, an owner or manager must submit to the department a written application on a form prescribed by department rule, which must include all of the following:
- 1. The legal name, address, e-mail address, and primary place of business of the owner or manager, as applicable.
- 2. A description, manufacturer's name, serial number, model number, and, if previously assigned, the United States Amusement Identification Number of the amusement ride.
- 3. A valid certificate of insurance for each amusement ride.
 - 4. If required under subsection (7), An annual affidavit of

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compliance and nondestructive testing certifying that the amusement ride was inspected in person by the affiant and that the amusement ride is in general conformance with the requirements of this section and all applicable department rules. The affidavit must have been executed by a professional engineer or a qualified inspector within the last calendar year.

- 5. The owner or manager shall, At no cost to the department, provide the department an electronic copy of the manufacturer's current recommended operating instructions, the owner's operating fact sheet, and any written bulletins concerning the safety, operation, or maintenance of the amusement ride.
- 6. Beginning July 1, 2023, a ride commissioning and certification report for each permanent amusement ride operated for the first time in this state after July 1, 2023.
 - (6) TEMPORARY AMUSEMENT RIDE PERMIT.-
- (b) To apply for a permit, an owner or manager must submit to the department a written application on a form prescribed by department rule. The written application, which must include all of the following:
- 1. The legal name, address, e-mail address, and primary place of business of the owner or manager, as applicable.
- 2. A description, manufacturer's name, serial number, model number, and, if previously assigned, the United States Amusement Identification Number of the amusement ride.
- 3. A valid certificate of insurance for each amusement ride.
- 4. If required under subsection (7), An affidavit of compliance and nondestructive testing certifying that the

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amusement ride was inspected in person by the affiant and that the amusement ride is in general conformance with the requirements of this section and all applicable department rules. The affidavit must be executed by a professional engineer or a qualified inspector.

- 5. The owner or manager shall, At no cost to the department, provide the department an electronic copy of the manufacturer's current recommended operating instructions, the operating fact sheet, and any written bulletins concerning the safety, operation, or maintenance of the amusement ride.
- (f) A temporary amusement ride is exempt from the required permit if it is:
- 1. Used at a private event and was issued a permit within the preceding 6 months; or
- 2. A kiddie ride used at a public event, provided that not more than three amusement rides are at the event, the kiddie rides at the event do not exceed a capacity of 12 persons, and the kiddie ride passed a department inspection and was issued a permit within the preceding 6 months. Unless the capacity of the ride has been determined and specified by the manufacturer, the department shall determine the capacity of the kiddie ride by rule. An owner or a manager of a kiddie ride operating under this exemption is responsible for ensuring that not more than three amusement rides are operated at the event.
- (g) The permit must be displayed in an accessible location on the amusement ride.
 - (7) NONDESTRUCTIVE TESTING; ANNUAL AFFIDAVIT; EXEMPTIONS.-
- (a) Except as provided in paragraph (d), An owner or manager may not operate an amusement ride unless the owner or

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manager at all times has a current affidavit of nondestructive testing from a professional engineer or qualified inspector that the amusement ride has undergone nondestructive testing to verify the integrity of all components for metal fatigue at least annually. The nondestructive testing for metal fatigue must be conducted more often than annually if required by any rule adopted under this section, by the manufacturer of the amusement ride, or by the professional engineer or qualified inspector executing the affidavit of nondestructive testing. The nondestructive testing for metal fatigue must consist at least of visual nondestructive testing, as well as nonvisual nondestructive testing for metal fatigue, which must be conducted on the components of the amusement ride as required by any rule adopted under this section, by the manufacturer of the amusement ride, or by the professional engineer or qualified inspector executing the affidavit of nondestructive testing.

- (b) Nonvisual nondestructive testing must be used to verify the integrity of components that, due to their design, location, installation, or a combination thereof, cannot be adequately evaluated by other means.
- (c) Nondestructive testing testings must be performed by a technician who meets the requirements prescribed by department rule.
- (d) (c) An affidavit of nondestructive testing, on a form prescribed by department rule, must state, at a minimum, all of the following:
- 1. That the amusement ride was inspected in person by the affiant.
 - 2. That all of the manufacturer's nondestructive testing

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requirements and recommendations are current.

- 3. That the nondestructive testing was performed by a qualified nondestructive testing technician.
- 4. The components of the amusement ride for which the manufacturer has recommended or required nondestructive testing.
- 5. The type of nondestructive testing required or recommended by the manufacturer.
- 6. The frequency of the nondestructive testing required or recommended by the manufacturer.
- 7. The components of the amusement ride for which the affiant, in addition to the manufacturer's requirements and recommendations, has recommended or required nondestructive testing.
- 8. The type of nondestructive testing required or recommended by the affiant in addition to the manufacturer's requirements and recommendations. If the affiant does not require or recommend additional nondestructive testing, the affiant must affirm that the manufacturer's requirements are sufficient for the safe operation of the amusement ride.
- 9. The frequency of the nondestructive testing as required or recommended by the affiant.
- 10. That visual nondestructive testing is adequate for the amusement ride to be in general conformance with the requirements of this section and all applicable rules, only if only visual nondestructive testing is required or recommended by the manufacturer or the affiant.
- 11. That the amusement ride is in conformance with the requirements of this section and all applicable department rules.

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- 12. Whether the amusement ride has undergone a major modification and, if so, the name of the manager, owner, or operator who authorized the modification and the date the modification took place.
- 13. That the amusement ride and its components are in conformance with the service life specified by the manufacturer.
- (e) (d) Nonvisual nondestructive testing is not required for fun houses, houses of mirrors, haunted houses, mazes, wave pools, wave-making devices, kiddie pools, slides that are fully supported by an earthen mound, nonmotorized playground equipment that requires a manager, or lazy-river-type nonmotorized floating carriers propelled by water.
 - (8) DEPARTMENT INSPECTIONS.-
- (a) In order to obtain an annual or a temporary amusement ride permit, an amusement ride must be inspected by the department.
- 1. A temporary amusement ride is exempt from the required inspection if it is:
 - a. Used at a private event;
- b. A simulator, the capacity of which does not exceed 16 persons; or
- c. A kiddie ride used at a public event, provided that not more than three amusement rides are at the event, the kiddie rides at the event do not exceed a capacity of 12 persons, and the kiddie ride passed a department inspection and was issued a permit within the preceding 6 months. The capacity of a kiddie ride shall be determined by department rule, unless the capacity of the ride has been determined and specified by the manufacturer. Any owner or manager of a kiddie ride operating

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under this exemption is responsible for ensuring that not more than three amusement rides are operated at the event.

2. The department shall inspect permanent amusement rides 6 months after the issuance of the annual permit. The required inspection may be waived for a permanent amusement ride if it was inspected and certified by an accredited trade organization as defined by department rule.

(11) EXEMPTIONS.—

- (b) All of the following are exempt from subsections (5), (6), (8), and (9), but may be inspected by the department upon request following a complaint or pursuant to an accident that is required to be reported under subsection (15), and such exemption may be removed if the exempted amusement ride is found to have been operating in a manner or circumstance that presents a risk or resulted in a serious injury to patrons:
- 1. Museums or other institutions principally devoted to the exhibition of products of agriculture, industry, education, science, religion, or the arts.
- 2. Conventions or trade shows for the sale or exhibit of amusement rides if there are a minimum of 15 amusement rides on display or exhibition and if any operation of such amusement rides is limited to the registered attendees of the convention or trade show.
- 3. Nonmotorized playground equipment that is not required to have a manager.
- 4. Coin-actuated amusement rides designed to be operated by depositing coins, tokens, credit cards, debit cards, bills, or other cash money and which are not required to have a manager, and which have a capacity of six persons or less.

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- 5. Facilities described in s. 549.09(1)(a) when such facilities are operating cars, trucks, or motorcycles only.
- 6. Battery-powered cars or other vehicles that are designed to be operated by children 7 years of age or under and that cannot exceed a speed of 4 miles per hour.
- 7. Mechanically driven vehicles that pull train cars, carts, wagons, or other similar vehicles, that are not confined to a metal track or confined to an area but are steered by an operator and do not exceed a speed of 4 miles per hour.
- 8. A water-related amusement ride operated by a business licensed under chapter 509 if the water-related amusement ride is an incidental amenity and the operating business is not primarily engaged in providing amusement, pleasure, thrills, or excitement and does not offer day rates.
- 9. An amusement ride at a private, membership-only facility if the amusement ride is an incidental amenity and the facility is not open to the general public; is not primarily engaged in providing amusement, pleasure, thrills, or excitement; and does not offer day rates.
- 10. A nonprofit permanent facility registered under chapter 496 which is not open to the general public.
- (12) INSPECTION STANDARDS.—An amusement ride must conform to all of the following standards:
- (a) All mechanical, structural, and electrical components that affect patron safety must be in good working order.
- (b) All control devices, speed-limiting devices, brakes, and safety equipment must be in good working order.
- (c) Parts must be properly aligned and may not be bent, distorted, cut, or otherwise injured to force a fit. Parts

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requiring lubrication must be lubricated in the course of assembly. Fastening and locking devices must be installed when required for safe operation.

- (d) The proper positioning, measurements, and demonstration of proper patron loading procedures related to patron safety restraint systems must be provided to the department upon request.
- (e) An amusement ride must be placed or secured with blocking, cribbing, outriggers, guys, or other means so as to be stable under all operating conditions.
- (f) (e) Areas in which patrons may be endangered by the operation of an amusement ride must be fenced, barricaded, or otherwise effectively quarded against inadvertent contact.
- (g) (f) Machinery used in or with an amusement ride must be enclosed, barricaded, or otherwise effectively guarded against inadvertent contact.
- (h) (g) An amusement ride powered so as to be capable of exceeding its maximum safe operating speed must be provided with a maximum-speed-limiting device.
- (i) (h) The interior and exterior parts of all patroncarrying amusement rides with which a patron may come in contact must be smooth and rounded and free from sharp, rough, or splintered edges and corners, and from projecting studs, bolts, and screws or other projections that might cause injury.
- (j) (i) Signs that advise or warn patrons of age restrictions, size restrictions, health restrictions, weight limitations, or any other special consideration or use restrictions, or lack thereof, required or recommended for the amusement ride by the manufacturer must be prominently displayed



273 at the patron entrance of each amusement ride. If such rider 274 restrictions are not provided by the manufacturer, the owner or manager must provide the department with documentation from the 275 276 manufacturer or a licensed professional engineer stating that 277 such rider restrictions are not necessary for the safe operation 278 of the amusement ride. 279 (k) (j) All amusement rides presented for inspection as 280 ready for operation or in operation must comply with this 281 section and department rule. 282 (1) (k) A sign containing the toll-free number of the 283 284 ======= T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ========== 285 And the title is amended as follows: 286 Delete lines 17 - 19 287 and insert: 288 nondestructive testing; requiring the department to 289 remove an