1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to services provided by the Department 3 of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles or its agents; 4 amending s. 319.28, F.S.; providing that a certain 5 affidavit constitutes proof of ownership and right of 6 possession to a motor vehicle or mobile home the 7 previous owner of which died testate; amending s. 8 319.29, F.S.; prohibiting the department or a tax 9 collector from charging a fee for reissuance of certain certificates of title; amending s. 320.06, 10 11 F.S.; authorizing the department to deem a license 12 plate with reduced dimensions to be necessary to 13 accommodate trailers; amending s. 320.084, F.S.; 14 authorizing certain disabled veterans to be issued a 15 military license plate or specialty license plate in 16 lieu of a "DV" license plate; specifying applicable fees; specifying nonapplicability of certain 17 18 provisions; amending s. 320.131, F.S.; removing 19 provisions requiring a written, notarized request for the purchase of a temporary tag; authorizing the 20 department or its agents to renew an initial temporary 21 22 tag, subject to certain provisions; providing an 23 effective date. 24

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

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26 27 Section 1. Paragraphs (c) and (d) of subsection (1) of 28 section 319.28, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as paragraphs (d) and (e), respectively, and a new paragraph (c) is added to 29 that subsection to read: 30 31 319.28 Transfer of ownership by operation of law.-32 (1)(c) If the previous owner died testate and the application 33 34 for a certificate of title is made by, and accompanied by an 35 affidavit attested by, a Florida-licensed attorney in good 36 standing with The Florida Bar who is representing the previous 37 owner's estate, such affidavit shall, for purposes of paragraph 38 (a), constitute satisfactory proof of ownership and right of 39 possession to the motor vehicle or mobile home, so long as the affidavit sets forth the rightful heir or heirs and the attorney 40 41 attests in the affidavit that such heir or heirs are lawfully 42 entitled to the rights of ownership and possession of the motor 43 vehicle or mobile home. It shall not be necessary for the 44 application for certificate of title filed under this paragraph 45 to be accompanied by a copy of the will or other testamentary 46 instrument. Section 2. Subsection (3) of section 319.29, Florida 47 48 Statutes, is amended to read: 49 319.29 Lost or destroyed certificates.-50 If, following the issuance of an original, duplicate,

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or corrected certificate of title by the department, the certificate is lost in transit and is not delivered to the addressee, the owner of the motor vehicle or mobile home, or the holder of a lien thereon, may, within 180 days <u>after of</u> the date of issuance of the title, apply to the department for reissuance of the certificate of title. <u>An</u> No additional fee shall <u>not</u> be charged by the department or a tax collector, as agent for the department, for reissuance under this subsection.

Section 3. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 320.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.06 Registration certificates, license plates, and validation stickers generally.—

(3)(a) Registration license plates must be made of metal specially treated with a retroreflection material, as specified by the department. The registration license plate is designed to increase nighttime visibility and legibility and must be at least 6 inches wide and not less than 12 inches in length, unless a plate with reduced dimensions is deemed necessary by the department to accommodate motorcycles, mopeds, or similar smaller vehicles, or trailers. Validation stickers must also be treated with a retroreflection material, must be of such size as specified by the department, and must adhere to the license plate. The registration license plate must be imprinted with a combination of bold letters and numerals or numerals, not to exceed seven digits, to identify the registration license plate

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number. The license plate must be imprinted with the word "Florida" at the top and the name of the county in which it is sold, the state motto, or the words "Sunshine State" at the bottom. Apportioned license plates must have the word "Apportioned" at the bottom, and license plates issued for vehicles taxed under s. 320.08(3)(d), (4)(m) or (n), (5)(b) or (c), or (14) must have the word "Restricted" at the bottom. License plates issued for vehicles taxed under s. 320.08(12) must be imprinted with the word "Florida" at the top and the word "Dealer" at the bottom unless the license plate is a specialty license plate as authorized in s. 320.08056. Manufacturer license plates issued for vehicles taxed under s. 320.08(12) must be imprinted with the word "Florida" at the top and the word "Manufacturer" at the bottom. License plates issued for vehicles taxed under s. 320.08(5)(d) or (e) must be imprinted with the word "Wrecker" at the bottom. Any county may, upon majority vote of the county commission, elect to have the county name removed from the license plates sold in that county. The state motto or the words "Sunshine State" shall be printed in lieu thereof. A license plate issued for a vehicle taxed under s. 320.08(6) may not be assigned a registration license number, or be issued with any other distinctive character or designation, that distinguishes the motor vehicle as a for-hire motor vehicle.

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Section 4. Subsection (1) of section 320.084, Florida

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Statutes, is amended, and subsection (6) is added to that section, to read:

320.084 Free motor vehicle license plate to certain disabled veterans.—

- (1) One free "DV" motor vehicle license number plate shall be issued by the department for use on any motor vehicle owned or leased by any disabled veteran who has been a resident of this state continuously for the preceding 5 years or has established a domicile in this state as provided by s.

 222.17(1), (2), or (3), and who has been honorably discharged from the United States Armed Forces, upon application, accompanied by proof that:
- (a) A vehicle was initially acquired through financial assistance by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or its predecessor specifically for the purchase of an automobile;
- (b) The applicant has been determined by the United States
 Department of Veterans Affairs or its predecessor to have a
 service-connected 100-percent disability rating for
 compensation; or
- (c) The applicant has been determined to have a service-connected disability rating of 100 percent and is in receipt of disability retirement pay from any branch of the United States Armed Services.
 - (6)(a) A disabled veteran who meets the requirements of

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subsection (1) may be issued, in lieu of the "DV" license plate,

127	a military license plate for which he or she is eligible or a
128	specialty license plate. A disabled veteran electing a military
129	license plate or specialty license plate under this subsection
130	must pay all applicable fees related to such license plate,
131	except for fees otherwise waived under subsections (1) and (4).
132	(b) A military license plate or specialty license plate
133	elected under this subsection:
134	1. Does not provide the protections or rights afforded by
135	ss. 316.1955, 316.1964, 320.0848, 526.141, and 553.5041.
136	2. Is not eligible for the international symbol of
137	accessibility as described in s. 320.0842.
138	Section 5. Subsection (2) of section 320.131, Florida
139	Statutes, is amended to read:
140	320.131 Temporary tags.—
141	(2) $\underline{\text{(a)}}$ The department $\underline{\text{may}}$ $\underline{\text{is authorized to}}$ sell temporary
142	tags, in addition to those listed above, to $\underline{\text{its}}$ $\underline{\text{their}}$ agents and
143	where need is demonstrated by a consumer complainant. The fee
144	for a temporary tag issued under this section shall be \$2 each.
145	One dollar from each tag sold shall be deposited into the Brain

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and Spinal Cord Injury Program Trust Fund, with the remaining

proceeds being deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust

Fund. Agents of the department shall sell temporary tags for \$2

each and shall charge the service charge authorized by s. 320.04

per transaction, regardless of the quantity sold. Requests for

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purchase of temporary tags to the department or its agents shall		
be made, where applicable, on letterhead stationery and		
notarized. Except as specifically provided otherwise, a		
temporary tag <u>issued under this section</u> shall be valid for 30		
days, and no more than two shall be issued to the same person		
for the same vehicle.		

(b) At the request of the applicant, the department or its agents may, in lieu of issuing a second temporary tag under paragraph (a), renew the initial temporary tag for the same period applicable to the initial issuance. Such renewal is subject to the fee, service charge, and deposit requirements provided in paragraph (a).

Section 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.