



496196

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/25/2025	.	
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The Committee on Commerce and Tourism (Polsky) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete everything after the enacting clause  
and insert:

Section 1. Subsection (11) of section 117.05, Florida  
Statutes, is amended to read:

117.05 Use of notary commission; unlawful use; notary fee;  
seal; duties; employer liability; name change; advertising;  
photocopies; penalties.—

(11) Literal translation of the phrase "Notary Public" into



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11 a language other than English is prohibited ~~in an advertisement~~  
12 ~~for notarial services~~. A person who violates this subsection is  
13 subject to the penalties in s. 117.107(13)(b).

14 Section 2. Subsection (13) is added to section 117.107,  
15 Florida Statutes, to read:

16 117.107 Prohibited acts.—

17 (13) (a) A notary public, who does not hold an active  
18 license to practice law in a state, territory, or jurisdiction  
19 of the United States and is not otherwise authorized to practice  
20 law or represent others under federal law in an immigration  
21 matter, may not, when advertising his or her notary public  
22 services, use the term notario público, notario, immigration  
23 assistant, immigration consultant, immigration specialist, or  
24 any other designation or title, in any language, which conveys  
25 or implies that he or she possesses professional legal skills in  
26 immigration law.

27 (b) For a violation of paragraph (a) or s. 117.05(11):

28 1. The Attorney General, a state attorney, or a city  
29 attorney may file suit against the appropriate party in a court  
30 of competent jurisdiction for declaratory or injunctive relief.

31 2. An aggrieved person or an entity may, in an appropriate  
32 state court, bring a civil action for injunctive relief or to  
33 recover for actual monetary loss from such a violation, plus an  
34 amount equal to treble the amount of actual damages or \$1,000  
35 per violation, whichever is greater.

36 3. If a person or an entity prevails in a civil action for  
37 injunctive relief, the person or entity is entitled to recover  
38 reasonable attorney fees and costs.

39 Section 3. Subsection (2) of section 908.107, Florida



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40 Statutes, is amended to read:

41 908.107 Enforcement.—

42 (2) ~~In addition,~~ The Attorney General, a state attorney, or  
43 a city attorney may file suit against a local governmental  
44 entity, ~~or~~ local law enforcement agency, or any other  
45 appropriate party in a court of competent jurisdiction for  
46 declaratory or injunctive relief for a violation of this  
47 chapter.

48 Section 4. Section 908.113, Florida Statutes, is created to  
49 read:

50 908.113 Fraud protection.—

51 (1) Persons may not, other than those licensed to practice  
52 law in a state, territory, or jurisdiction of the United States  
53 or otherwise authorized to practice law or represent others  
54 under federal law in an immigration matter, engage in the  
55 practice of law in an immigration matter for compensation.

56 (2) Persons may not, other than those licensed to practice  
57 law in a state, territory, or jurisdiction of the United States  
58 or otherwise authorized to practice law or represent others  
59 under federal law in an immigration matter, engage in the  
60 following acts or practices for compensation:

61 (a) Selecting or assisting another in selecting, or  
62 advising another in selecting, a benefit, visa, or program to  
63 apply for in an immigration matter.

64 (b) Soliciting to prepare documents for, or otherwise  
65 representing the interests of, another in a judicial or  
66 administrative proceeding in an immigration matter.

67 (c) Explaining, advising, or otherwise interpreting the  
68 meaning or intent of a question on a governmental agency form in



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69 an immigration matter.

70 (d) Charging a fee for referring another to a person  
71 licensed to practice law that such person may perform.

72 (e) Selecting, drafting, or completing legal documents  
73 affecting the legal rights of another in an immigration matter.

74 (3) A person or business offering immigration services,  
75 other than those persons or businesses holding active licenses  
76 to practice law in this state or otherwise permitted to practice  
77 law or represent others under federal law in an immigration  
78 matter, must post conspicuous notices on its main website and at  
79 its place of business in English and every other language in  
80 which the person or business proves or offers immigration  
81 assistance with the following statement:

82  
83 I AM NOT AN ATTORNEY LICENSED TO PRACTICE LAW AND MAY  
84 NOT GIVE LEGAL ADVICE OR ACCEPT FEES FOR LEGAL ADVICE.  
85 I AM NOT ACCREDITED TO REPRESENT YOU IN IMMIGRATION  
86 MATTERS.

87  
88 (4) Persons may not, other than those holding an active  
89 license to practice law in a state of the United States or  
90 otherwise authorized to practice law or represent others under  
91 federal law in an immigration matter, engage in the following  
92 acts or practices, regardless of whether compensation is sought:

93 (a) Representing, either orally or in any document,  
94 letterhead, advertisement, stationery, business card, website,  
95 or other comparable written material, that he or she is a  
96 notario público, notario, immigration assistant, immigration  
97 consultant, immigration specialist, or using any other



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98 designation or title, in any language, that conveys or implies  
99 that he or she possesses professional legal skills in the area  
100 of immigration law.

101 (b) Representing, in any language, either orally or in any  
102 document, letterhead, advertisement, stationery, business card,  
103 website, or other comparable written material, that he or she  
104 can or is willing to provide services in an immigration matter,  
105 if such services would constitute the practice of law.

106 (5)(a) The prohibitions of subsections (1)-(4) do not apply  
107 to the activities of nonlawyer assistants acting under the  
108 supervision of a person holding an active license to practice  
109 law in this state or otherwise authorized to practice law or  
110 represent others under federal law in an immigration matter.

111 (b) This section does not prohibit a person from offering  
112 translation or interpretation services, regardless of whether  
113 compensation is sought. Translating words contained on a  
114 governmental form from English to another language and  
115 translating a person's words from another language to English  
116 does not constitute the unauthorized practice of law.

117 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

118  
119 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

120 And the title is amended as follows:

121 Delete everything before the enacting clause  
122 and insert:

123 A bill to be entitled  
124 An act relating to notary public fraud; amending s.  
125 117.05, F.S.; prohibiting the literal translation of  
126 the phrase "Notary Public" into a language other than



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127 English; specifying the applicable penalties for  
128 violations; amending s. 117.107, F.S.; prohibiting  
129 notaries public from using specified terms to describe  
130 themselves under certain circumstances; authorizing  
131 declaratory or injunctive relief and civil actions for  
132 injunctive relief or to recover damages; providing for  
133 the recovery of attorney fees and costs; amending s.  
134 908.107, F.S.; authorizing certain entities to file  
135 suit for declaratory or injunctive relief for certain  
136 violations; creating s. 908.113, F.S.; prohibiting  
137 certain persons from engaging in the practice of law  
138 in immigration matters for compensation or engaging in  
139 specified acts or practices for compensation in  
140 immigration matters; providing exceptions; requiring  
141 certain persons or businesses offering immigration  
142 assistance to make a specified disclosure; providing  
143 applicability; providing construction; providing an  
144 effective date.