1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to nicotine products; providing a 3 short title; amending s. 569.33, F.S.; requiring the 4 Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco to inspect 5 on a regular basis the place or premises of certain 6 retail nicotine products dealers for a specified 7 purpose; providing that an applicant for a retail 8 nicotine products dealer permit, by accepting the 9 permit, agrees to such inspections; amending s. 569.35, F.S.; authorizing the division to assess 10 11 certain fines and penalties for violations involving 12 the sale of certain nicotine dispensing devices, or the advertising, promoting, or displaying for sale 13 14 such devices; requiring specified amounts of the fines collected by the division to de deposited in the 15 16 Professional Regulation Trust Fund and the Department of Law Enforcement Operating Trust Fund; amending s. 17 569.37, F.S.; prohibiting dealers of certain nicotine 18 dispensing devices that do not prohibit individuals 19 under 21 years of age on the licensed premises from 20 21 advertising, promoting, or displaying for sale such 22 devices in a specified manner; providing 23 applicability; authorizing dealers of certain nicotine 24 dispensing devices that prohibit individuals under 21 25 years of age on the licensed premises to advertise,

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promote, or display for sale such devices in a specified manner; amending s. 569.39, F.S.; revising the rulemaking authority of the division under the Beverage Law; amending s. 569.44, F.S.; revising the annual reporting requirement of the division under the Beverage Law to include the number of certain violations; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Florida Age Gate Act."

Section 2. Section 569.33, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

569.33 Consent to inspection and search without warrant.—
(1)(a) An applicant for a retail nicotine products dealer permit, by accepting the permit when issued, agrees that the place or premises covered by the permit is subject to inspection and search without a search warrant by the division or its authorized assistants, and by sheriffs, deputy sheriffs, or police officers, to determine compliance with this part.

(b) The division or its authorized assistants shall inspect on a regular basis the place or premises of a retail nicotine products dealer who advertises, promotes, or displays for sale a nicotine dispensing device that has not received a

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marketing granted order under 21 U.S.C. s. 387j in order to determine compliance with this part.

(2) An applicant for a retail nicotine products dealer permit, by accepting the permit when issued, agrees that the place or premises covered by the permit is subject to inspection and search without a search warrant by the Department of Law Enforcement for any violation involving the advertisement, promotion, or display for sale of a nicotine dispensing device that has not received a marketing granted order under 21 U.S.C. s. 387j.

## Section 3. Section 569.35, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

569.35 Retail nicotine product dealers; administrative penalties.—

- <u>(1)</u> The division may suspend or revoke the permit of a retail nicotine products dealer, including the retail tobacco products dealer permit of a retail tobacco products dealer as defined in s. 569.002(4), upon sufficient cause appearing of the violation of any of the provisions of this part, by a dealer, or by a dealer's agent or employee.
- (2)(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), the division may also assess and accept an administrative fine of up to \$1,000 against a dealer for each violation. The division shall deposit all fines collected into the General Revenue Fund as collected.

(b) For each violation involving the sale of a nicotine dispensing device that has not received a marketing granted order under 21 U.S.C. s. 387j, or the advertising, promoting, or displaying for sale such a device, the division may:

- 1. For a first violation, assess and accept an administrative fine in an amount not less than \$500, but no more than \$1,000, and shall order a dealer to take corrective action within 15 days after notice of the violation.
- 2. For a second violation, assess and accept an administrative fine in an amount not less than \$1,000, but no more than \$2,500, and shall suspend the dealer's permit for not more than 3 days.
- 3. For a third violation, assess and accept an administrative fine in an amount not less than \$2,500, but no more than \$5,000, and shall suspend the dealer's permit for not more than 30 days.
- 4. For a fourth violation, assess and accept an administrative fine in an amount not less than \$5,000, and shall suspend the dealer's permit for not more than 90 days.
- 5. For a fifth or subsequent violation, revoke the dealer's permit.

One-half of the fines collected under this paragraph shall be deposited in the Professional Regulation Trust Fund, and the other half to the Department of Law Enforcement Operating Trust

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101 Fund.

(3) An order imposing an administrative fine becomes effective 15 days after the date of the order. The division may suspend the imposition of a penalty against a dealer, conditioned upon the dealer's compliance with terms the division considers appropriate.

Section 4. Section 569.37, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

569.37 Sale or delivery of nicotine products; restrictions.—

- (1) In order to prevent persons under 21 years of age from purchasing or receiving nicotine products, the sale or delivery of nicotine products is prohibited, except:
- (a) When under the direct control or line of sight of the dealer or the dealer's agent or employee; or
- (b) Sales from a vending machine are prohibited under paragraph (a) and are only permissible from a machine that is equipped with an operational lockout device that is under the control of the dealer or the dealer's agent or employee who directly regulates the sale of items through the machine by triggering the lockout device to allow the dispensing of one nicotine product. The lockout device must include a mechanism to prevent the machine from functioning if the power source for the lockout device fails or if the lockout device is disabled and a mechanism to ensure that only one nicotine product is dispensed

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- (2) (a) A dealer that sells nicotine products may not sell, permit to be sold, offer for sale, or display for sale such products or devices by means of self-service merchandising.
- (b) A dealer that sells nicotine products may not place such products or devices in an open display unit unless the unit is located in an area that is inaccessible to customers.
- (3) (a) 1. A dealer that sells a nicotine dispensing device that has not received a marketing granted order under 21 U.S.C. s. 387j, and that does not prohibit individuals under 21 years of age on the licensed premises, may not:
  - a. Advertise, promote, or display for sale such device.
- b. Advertise, promote, or display for sale such device in an area visible to any person outside the licensed premises.
- c. Advertise, promote, or display for sale such device inside the licensed premises in a manner visible to persons under 21 years of age, including, but not limited to, the placement of such a device in an open display unit visible to persons under 21 years of age.
- 2. Subparagraph 1. does not apply to a nicotine dispensing device that has received a marketing granted order under 21 U.S.C. s. 387j, including:
- a. Each stock keeping unit marketed by the manufacturer of such a device under the same brand family; and
  - b. A closed-system, replacement cartridge device designed

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exclusively for use with a proprietary, reusable, and rechargeable device that has received a marketing granted order under 21 U.S.C. s. 387j, provided a dealer sells such device, or advertises, promotes, or displays for sale such device, in compliance with this section.

- (b) A dealer that sells a nicotine dispensing device that has received a marketing granted order under 21 U.S.C. s. 387j, and that prohibits persons under 21 years of age on the licensed premises, may advertise, promote, or display for sale such device in areas visible to any person inside or outside the licensed premises.
- (4) Notwithstanding subsections (1) (3), this section does The provisions of subsections (1) and (2) shall not apply to an establishment that prohibits persons under 21 years of age on the licensed premises.
- (5)(4) A dealer or a dealer's agent or employee must require proof of age of a purchaser of a nicotine product before selling the product to that person, unless the purchaser appears to be 30 years of age or older.
- Section 5. Section 569.39, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 569.39 Rulemaking authority.—The division shall adopt rules to administer and enforce this part. Such rules must include guidelines for compliance audits and enforcement actions relating to advertising, promoting, or displaying for sale

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nicotine dispensing devices that have not received a marketing granted order under 21 U.S.C. s. 387j, and shall expressly authorize establishments that prohibit persons under 21 years of age on the licensed premises to sell single-use nicotine dispensing devices that have not received a marketing granted order under 21 U.S.C. s. 387j, consistent with s. 569.37.

Section 6. Subsections (3) and (4) of section 569.44, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (4) and (5), respectively, and a new subsection (3) is added to that section, to read:

569.44 Annual report.—The division shall report annually with written findings to the Legislature and the Governor by December 31 on the progress of implementing the enforcement provisions of this part. This must include, but is not limited to:

(3) The number of violations of s. 569.37(3) for advertising, promoting, or displaying for sale a nicotine dispensing device that has not received a marketing granted order under 21 U.S.C. s. 387j, and any penalties imposed pursuant to s. 569.35(2).

Section 7. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.