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A bill to be entitled An act relating to transportation; amending s. 207.001, F.S.; revising a short title; amending s. 207.002, F.S.; providing and revising definitions; amending s. 207.004, F.S.; requiring licensing, rather than registration, of motor carriers; requiring fuel tax decals, rather than identifying devices, for motor carriers; requiring a copy of the license to be carried in each qualified motor vehicle or made available electronically; specifying how fuel tax decals are to be displayed on qualified motor vehicles; requiring the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles or its authorized agent to issue licenses and fuel tax decals; requiring fuel tax decal renewal orders to be submitted electronically beginning on a specified date; revising required contents of temporary fuel-use permits; removing provisions relating to driveaway permits; amending s. 207.005, F.S.; revising reporting periods and due dates for motor fuel use tax returns; requiring such tax returns to be submitted electronically beginning on a specified date; amending s. 207.007, F.S.; revising requirements for calculation of interest due for delinquent tax; providing penalties for any person who counterfeits, alters, manufactures, or sells fuel

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tax licenses, fuel tax decals, or temporary fuel-use permits except under certain circumstances; amending s. 207.019, F.S.; requiring motor carriers to destroy fuel tax decals under certain circumstances and notify the department; amending s. 316.065, F.S.; revising the apparent amount of property damage that requires the driver of a vehicle involved in a crash to notify law enforcement of the crash; amending s. 320.02, F.S.; providing an exemption from certain vehicle registration requirements for certain active duty military members; requiring applicants to provide proof of address; revising requirements for documenting an applicant's address and proof of legal presence; defining the term "REAL ID driver license or identification card"; removing certain requirements for business applicants; amending s. 320.95, F.S.; authorizing the department to use e-mail as a method of notification; amending s. 322.01, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "tank vehicle"; amending ss. 322.051 and 322.17, F.S.; requiring an e-mail address to be included on an identification card application and a request for a replacement driver license or instruction permit, respectively; amending s. 322.251, F.S.; authorizing orders of cancellation, suspension, revocation, or disqualification to be

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provided by e-mail notification; amending ss. 120.80, 207.003, 207.008, 207.011, 207.013, 207.014, 207.023, 207.0281, 212.08, 316.545, 318.15, 319.35, 319.40, 320.03, 322.08, 322.18, 322.21, 322.245, 322.2615, 322.2616, 322.64, 324.091, 324.171, 328.30, 328.73, and 627.7415, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 207.001, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

207.001 Short title.—This chapter shall be known as the "Florida Diesel Fuel and Motor Fuel Use Tax Act of 1981," and the taxes levied under this chapter shall be in addition to all other taxes imposed by law.

Section 2. Section 207.002, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

207.002 Definitions.—As used in this chapter, the term:

- $\underline{\text{(1)}}$ "Department" means the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.
- (2) "International Fuel Tax Agreement" means the reciprocal agreement among certain states of the United States, provinces of Canada, and other member jurisdictions which provides for the administration, collection, and enforcement of

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taxes on the basis of fuel consumed or distance accrued, or both, in member jurisdictions.

- (3) "Diesel fuel" means any liquid product or gas product or combination thereof, including, but not limited to, all forms of fuel known or sold as diesel fuel, kerosene, butane gas, or propane gas and all other forms of liquefied petroleum gases, except those defined as "motor fuel," used to propel a motor vehicle.
- (4) "International Registration Plan" means a registration reciprocity agreement among states of the United States and provinces of Canada providing for payment of license fees or license taxes on the basis of fleet miles operated in various jurisdictions.
- $\underline{(3)}$ "Interstate" means vehicle movement between or through two or more member jurisdictions states.
- $\underline{(4)}$ "Intrastate" means vehicle movement from one point within a <u>member jurisdiction</u> state to another point within the same member jurisdiction state.
- (5) "Member jurisdiction" means a member of the International Fuel Tax Agreement.
- (6) (7) "Motor carrier" means any person owning, controlling, operating, or managing any motor vehicle used to transport persons or property over any public highway.
- (7) (8) "Motor fuel" means any fuel placed in the fuel supply storage unit of a qualified motor vehicle, including an

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alternative fuel such as pure methanol, ethanol, or other alcohol; a blend of 85 percent or more alcohol with gasoline; natural gas and liquid fuel produced from natural gas; propane; coal-derived liquified fuel; hydrogen; electricity; pure biodiesel (B100) fuel, other than alcohol, derived from biological materials; P-series fuel; or any other type of fuel or energy used to propel a qualified motor vehicle what is commonly known and sold as gasoline and fuels containing a mixture of gasoline and other products.

- (8) (9) "Operate," "operated," "operation," or "operating" means and includes the use utilization in any form of any qualified commercial motor vehicle, whether loaded or empty, whether used utilized for compensation or not for compensation, and whether owned by or leased to the motor carrier who uses it or causes it to be used.
- (9) (10) "Person" means and includes natural persons, corporations, copartnerships, firms, companies, agencies, or associations, singular or plural.
- $\underline{\text{(10)}}$ "Public highway" means any public street, road, or highway in this state.
- (11) (1) "Qualified commercial motor vehicle" means any vehicle not owned or operated by a governmental entity which uses diesel fuel or motor fuel on the public highways; and which has two axles and a gross vehicle weight or registered gross vehicle weight in excess of 26,000 pounds, or has three or more

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axles regardless of weight, or is used in combination when the weight of such combination exceeds 26,000 pounds gross vehicle weight or registered gross vehicle weight. The term excludes any recreational vehicle or vehicle owned or operated by a community transportation coordinator as defined in s. 427.011 or by a private operator that provides public transit services under contract with such a provider.

- (12) "Registrant" means a person in whose name or names a vehicle is properly registered.
- (12) (13) "Use," "uses," or "used" means the consumption of diesel fuel or motor fuel in a qualified commercial motor vehicle for the propulsion thereof.

Section 3. Section 207.004, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 207.004 <u>Licensing registration</u> of motor carriers; <u>fuel tax</u> <u>decals identifying devices</u>; fees; renewals; temporary fuel-use permits <u>and driveaway permits</u>.
- (1) (a) A no motor carrier may not shall operate or cause to be operated in this state any qualified commercial motor vehicle, other than a Florida-based qualified commercial motor vehicle that travels Florida intrastate mileage only, which that uses diesel fuel or motor fuel until such carrier is licensed has registered with the department or has registered under the International Fuel Tax Agreement a cooperative reciprocal agreement as described in s. 207.0281, after such time as this

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state enters into such agreement, and has been issued fuel tax decals an identifying device or such carrier has been issued a temporary fuel-use permit as authorized under subsection subsections (4) and (5) for each vehicle operated. The fee for each set of fuel tax decals is There shall be a fee of \$4 per year or any fraction thereof. A copy of the license must be carried in each vehicle or made available electronically. The fuel tax decal for each such identifying device issued. The identifying device shall be provided by the department and must be conspicuously displayed on the qualified commercial motor vehicle as prescribed by the instructions on the reverse side of the decal department while the vehicle it is being operated on the public highways of this state. The transfer of a fuel tax decal an identifying device from one vehicle to another vehicle or from one motor carrier to another motor carrier is prohibited. The department or its authorized agent shall issue the licenses and fuel tax decals.

- (b) The motor carrier to whom <u>fuel tax decals have</u> an identifying device has been issued <u>is</u> shall be solely responsible for the proper use of the <u>fuel tax decals</u> identifying device by its employees, consignees, or lessees.
- (2) <u>Fuel tax decals</u> <u>Identifying devices</u> shall be issued each year for the period January 1 through December 31, or any portion thereof, if tax returns and tax payments, when applicable, have been submitted to the department for all prior

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reporting periods. <u>Fuel tax decals</u> <u>Identifying devices</u> may be displayed for the next succeeding indicia period beginning December 1 of each year. <u>Beginning October 1, 2026, except as otherwise authorized by the department, all fuel tax decal renewal orders must be submitted electronically through an online system prescribed by the department.</u>

- operates or causes to be operated in this state any qualified a commercial motor vehicle, the fuel tax decal for each qualified motor vehicle that is no longer operated or caused to be operated by the motor carrier must identifying device shall be destroyed and the motor carrier to whom the fuel tax decal device was issued must shall notify the department immediately by letter of such removal and of the number of the fuel tax decal decal identifying device that was has been destroyed.
- (4) A motor carrier, before operating a <u>qualified</u> commercial motor vehicle on the public highways of this state, must require each qualified motor vehicle to display a fuel tax <u>decal</u> an identifying device as required under subsections (1) and (2) or must obtain a temporary fuel-use permit for that vehicle as provided in subsection (5). A temporary fuel-use permit shall expire within 10 days after date of issuance. The cost of a temporary fuel-use permit is \$45, and the permit exempts the vehicle from the payment of the motor fuel or diesel fuel tax imposed under this chapter during the term for which

the permit is valid. However, the vehicle is not exempt from paying the fuel tax at the pump.

- (5) (a) A registered motor carrier holding a valid <u>license</u>
 may certificate of registration may, upon payment of the \$45 fee
 per permit, secure from the department, or any wire service
 authorized by the department, a temporary fuel-use permit.
- (b) The fee for a temporary fuel-use permit is \$45. A temporary fuel-use permit expires 10 days after the date of issuance and exempts the vehicle from payment of the motor fuel tax imposed under this chapter during the period for which the permit is valid. However, this paragraph does not exempt the vehicle from payment at the pump of the fuel tax imposed under chapter 206.
- (c) A blank temporary fuel-use permit, before its use, must be executed by the motor carrier, in ink or type, so as to identify the carrier, the vehicle to which the permit is assigned, and the permit's effective date and expiration date that the vehicle is placed in and removed from service. The temporary fuel-use permit shall also show a complete identification of the vehicle on which the permit is to be used, together with the name and address of the owner or lessee of the vehicle. The endorsed temporary fuel-use permit must shall then be carried on the vehicle that it identifies and must shall be exhibited on demand to any authorized personnel. Temporary fuel-use permits may be transmitted to the motor carrier by

electronic means and shall be completed as outlined by department personnel prior to transmittal.

(d) The motor carrier to whom a temporary fuel-use permit is issued is shall be solely responsible for the proper use of the permit by its employees, consignees, or lessees. Any erasure, alteration, or unauthorized use of a temporary fuel-use permit renders shall render it invalid and of no effect. A motor carrier to whom a temporary fuel-use permit is issued may not knowingly allow the permit to be used by any other person or organization.

(b) An unregistered motor carrier may, upon payment of the \$45 fee, secure from any wire service authorized by the department, by electronic means, a temporary fuel-use permit that shall be valid for a period of 10 days. Such permit must show the name and address of the unregistered motor carrier to whom it is issued, the date the vehicle is placed in and removed from service, a complete identification of the vehicle on which the permit is to be used, and the name and address of the owner or lessee of the vehicle. The temporary fuel-use permit shall then be carried on the vehicle that it identifies and shall be exhibited on demand to any authorized personnel. The unregistered motor carrier to whom a temporary fuel-use permit is issued shall be solely responsible for the proper use of the permit by its employees, consignees, or lessees. Any crasure, alteration, or unauthorized use of a temporary fuel-use permit

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shall render it invalid and of no effect. The unregistered motor carrier to whom a temporary fuel-use permit is issued may not knowingly allow the permit to be used by any other person or organization.

(c) A registered motor carrier engaged in driveaway transportation, in which the cargo is the vehicle itself and is in transit to stock inventory and the ownership of the vehicle is not vested in the motor carrier, may, upon payment of the \$4 fee, secure from the department a driveaway permit. The driveaway permits shall be issued for the period January 1 through December 31. An original permit must be in the possession of the operator of each vehicle and shall be exhibited on demand to any authorized personnel. Vehicle mileage reports must be submitted by the motor carrier, and the road privilege tax must be paid on all miles operated within this state during the reporting period. All other provisions of this chapter shall apply to the holder of a driveaway permit.

Section 4. Section 207.005, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

207.005 Returns and payment of tax; delinquencies; calculation of fuel used during operations in this the state; credit; bond.—

(1) The taxes levied under this chapter <u>are</u> shall be due and payable on the first day of the month following the last month of the reporting period. The department may <u>adopt</u>

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promulgate rules for requiring and establishing procedures for annual, semiannual, or quarterly filing. The reporting period is shall be the 12 months beginning January July 1 and ending December 31 June 30. It shall be the duty of Each motor carrier licensed registered or required to be licensed registered under the provisions of this chapter must to submit a return by the following due dates, except that each due date is extended until the last day of the month of the due date, and, if the last day of the month falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the due date is further extended until the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday within 30 days after the due date. The due date shall be as follows:

- (a) If annual filing, the due date <u>is January 31</u> shall be July 1;
- (b) If semiannual filing, the due dates $\underline{\text{are}}$ shall be January $\underline{31}$ 1 and July $\underline{31}$ 1; or
- (c) If quarterly filing, the due dates $\underline{\text{are}}$ $\underline{\text{shall be}}$ January $\underline{31}$ 1, April $\underline{30}$ 1, July $\underline{31}$ 1, and October $\underline{31}$ 1.
- (2) The amount of fuel used in the propulsion of any qualified commercial motor vehicle within this state may be calculated, if the motor carrier maintains adequate records, by applying total interstate vehicular consumption of all diesel fuel and motor fuel used as related to total miles traveled and applying such rate to total miles traveled within this state. In the absence of adequate documentation by the motor carrier, the

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department <u>may adopt</u> is authorized to promulgate rules converting miles driven to gallons used.

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- For the purpose of computing the carrier's liability for the fuel road privilege tax, the total gallons of fuel used in the propulsion of any qualified commercial motor vehicle in this state shall be multiplied by the rates provided in parts I-III of chapter 206. From the sum determined by this calculation, there shall be allowed a credit equal to the amount of the tax per gallon under parts I-III of chapter 206 for each gallon of fuel purchased in this state during the reporting period when the diesel fuel or motor fuel tax was paid at the time of purchase. If the tax paid under parts I-III of chapter 206 exceeds the total tax due under this chapter, the excess may be allowed as a credit against future tax payments, until the credit is fully offset or until eight calendar quarters shall have passed since the end of the calendar quarter in which the credit accrued, whichever occurs first. A refund may be made for this credit provided it exceeds \$10.
- (4) The department <u>may adopt</u> is authorized to promulgate the necessary rules to provide for an adequate bond from each motor carrier to ensure payment of taxes required under this chapter.
- (5) Beginning October 1, 2026, except as otherwise authorized by the department, all returns must be submitted electronically through an online system prescribed by the

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326 department.

Section 5. Section 207.007, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

207.007 Offenses; penalties and interest.—

- (1) If any motor carrier <u>licensed</u> registered under this chapter fails to file a return <u>or and</u> pay any tax liability under this chapter within the time required hereunder, the department may impose a delinquency penalty of \$50 or 10 percent of the delinquent taxes due, whichever is greater, if the failure is for not more than 30 days, with an additional 10 percent penalty for each additional 30 days, or fraction thereof, during the time which the failure continues, not to exceed a total penalty of 100 percent in the aggregate. However, the penalty may not be less than \$50.
- (2) In addition to any other penalties, any delinquent tax shall bear interest in accordance with the International Fuel

 Tax Agreement at the rate of 1 percent per month, or fraction
 thereof, calculated from the date the tax was due. If the
 department enters into a cooperative reciprocal agreement under
 the provisions of s. 207.0281, the department shall collect and
 distribute all interest due to other jurisdictions at the same
 rate as if such interest were due to the state.
 - (3) Any person who:
- (a) Willfully refuses or neglects to make any statement, report, or return required by the provisions of this chapter;

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(b) Knowingly makes, or assists any other person in
making, a false statement in a return or report $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}$ in connection
with an application for <u>licensure</u> registration under this
chapter or in connection with an audit; or
(c) Counterfeits, alters, manufactures, or sells fuel tax
licenses, fuel tax decals, or temporary fuel-use permits without
first having obtained the department's permission in writing; or
(d) (c) Violates any provision of the provisions of this
chapter, a penalty for which is not otherwise provided,
commits is guilty of a felony of the third degree, punishable as
provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. In addition,
the department may revoke or suspend the <u>licensure and</u>
registration privileges under ss. 207.004 and 320.02 $_{\underline{\prime}}$
respectively, of the violator. Each day or part thereof during
which a person operates or causes to be operated a qualified
$rac{ ext{commercial}}{ ext{motor}}$ motor vehicle without being the holder of $rac{ ext{fuel tax}}{ ext{tax}}$
decals an identifying device or having a valid temporary fuel-
use or driveaway permit as required by this chapter constitutes
a separate offense within the meaning of this section. In
addition to the penalty imposed by this section, the defendant
is shall be required to pay all taxes, interest, and penalties

Section 6. Subsection (1) of section 207.019, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

due to this the state.

207.019 Discontinuance or transfer of business; change of address.—

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- Whenever a person ceases to engage in business as a (1)motor carrier within this the state by reason of the discontinuance, sale, or transfer of the business of such person, the person he or she shall notify the department in writing at least 10 days before prior to the time the discontinuance, sale, or transfer takes effect. Such notice must shall give the date of discontinuance and, in the event of a sale or transfer of the business, the date thereof and the name and address of the purchaser or transferee. All diesel fuel or motor fuel use taxes are shall become due and payable concurrently with such discontinuance, sale, or transfer; and any such person shall, concurrently with such discontinuance, sale, or transfer, make a report and τ pay all such taxes, interest, and penalties; and the fuel tax decals must be destroyed and the motor carrier to whom the decals were issued shall notify the department by letter of their destruction and of the numbers of the fuel tax decals that were destroyed, and surrender to the department the registration issued to such person.
- Section 7. Subsection (1) of section 316.065, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 316.065 Crashes; reports; penalties.-
 - (1) The driver of a vehicle involved in a crash resulting

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in injury to or death of any persons or damage to any vehicle or other property in an apparent amount of at least \$2,000 \$500 shall immediately by the quickest means of communication give notice of the crash to the local police department, if such crash occurs within a municipality; otherwise, to the office of the county sheriff or the nearest office or station of the Florida Highway Patrol. A violation of this subsection is a noncriminal traffic infraction, punishable as a nonmoving violation as provided in chapter 318.

Section 8. Subsection (2) and paragraph (e) of subsection (5) of section 320.02, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

320.02 Registration required; application for registration; forms.—

- (2) (a) The application for registration must include the street address of the owner's permanent <u>Florida</u> residence or the address of his or her permanent place of business <u>in Florida</u> and be accompanied by personal or business identification information. <u>If the vehicle is registered to an active duty member of the United States Armed Forces who is a Florida resident, the active duty member is not required to provide the street address of a permanent Florida residence.</u>
- (b) An individual applicant must provide <u>proof of address</u> satisfactory to the department and:
- $\underline{\text{1.}}$ A valid <u>REAL ID</u> driver license or identification card issued by this state or another state; $\underline{\text{or}}$

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426	2. A valid, unexpired United States passport; or
427	3. A valid, unexpired passport issued by another country
428	and an unexpired Form I-94 issued by the United States Bureau of
429	Customs and Border Protection.
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431	For purposes of this paragraph, the term "REAL ID driver license
432	or identification card" has the same meaning as provided in 6
433	C.F.R. s. 37.3.
434	(c) A business applicant must provide a federal employer
435	identification number, if applicable, or verification that the
436	business is authorized to conduct business in $\underline{\text{this}}$ $\underline{\text{the}}$ state, or
437	a Florida municipal or county business license or number.
438	1. If the owner does not have a permanent residence or
439	permanent place of business or if the owner's permanent
440	residence or permanent place of business cannot be identified by
441	a street address, the application must include:
442	a. If the vehicle is registered to a business, the name
443	and street address of the permanent residence of an owner of the
444	business, an officer of the corporation, or an employee who is
445	in a supervisory position.
446	b. If the vehicle is registered to an individual, the name
447	and street address of the permanent residence of a close
448	relative or friend who is a resident of this state.
449	2. If the vehicle is registered to an active duty member
450	of the Armed Forces of the United States who is a Florida

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resident, the active duty member is exempt from the requirement to provide the street address of a permanent residence.

 $\underline{\text{(d)}}$ The department shall prescribe a form upon which motor vehicle owners may record odometer readings when registering their motor vehicles.

(5)

(e) Upon the expiration date noted in the cancellation notice that the department receives from the insurer, the department shall suspend the registration issued under this chapter or revoke the license issued under s. 207.004(1) for a motor carrier who operates a commercial motor vehicle or a qualified motor vehicle who permits it to be operated in this state during the registration period or licensure period without having in full force liability insurance, a surety bond, or a valid self-insurance certificate that complies with this section. The insurer shall provide notice to the department at the same time the cancellation notice is provided to the insured pursuant to s. 627.7281. The department may adopt rules regarding the electronic submission of the cancellation notice.

Section 9. Subsection (2) of section 320.95, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 320.95 Transactions by electronic or telephonic means.
- (2) The department may collect $\underline{e-mail}$ $\underline{e-ectronic}$ \underline{mail} addresses and use $\underline{e-mail}$ $\underline{e-ectronic}$ \underline{mail} in lieu of the United States Postal Service as a method of notification \underline{for} \underline{the}

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476 purpose of providing renewal notices.

Section 10. Subsection (44) of section 322.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 322.01 Definitions.—As used in this chapter:
- (44) "Tank vehicle" means a <u>commercial motor</u> vehicle that is designed to transport any liquid or gaseous material within one or more tanks that each have an individual rated capacity of more than 119 gallons and an aggregate rated capacity of 1,000 gallons or more and that are a tank either permanently or temporarily attached to the vehicle or chassis. The term does not include a commercial motor vehicle transporting an empty storage tank that is not designed for transportation but that is temporarily attached to a flatbed trailer, if such tank has a designed capacity of 1,000 gallons or more.

Section 11. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 322.051, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 322.051 Identification cards.-
- (1) Any person who is 5 years of age or older, or any person who has a disability, regardless of age, who applies for a disabled parking permit under s. 320.0848, may be issued an identification card by the department upon completion of an application and payment of an application fee.
- (a) The application must include the following information regarding the applicant:
 - 1. Full name (first, middle or maiden, and last), gender,

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proof of social security card number satisfactory to the department, which may include a military identification card, county of residence, mailing address, e-mail address, proof of residential address satisfactory to the department, country of birth, and a brief description.

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- 2. Proof of birth date satisfactory to the department.
- 3. Proof of identity satisfactory to the department. Such proof must include one of the following documents issued to the applicant:
- a. A driver license record or identification card record from another jurisdiction that required the applicant to submit a document for identification which is substantially similar to a document required under sub-subparagraph b., sub-subparagraph c., sub-subparagraph d., sub-subparagraph e., sub-subparagraph f., sub-subparagraph g., or sub-subparagraph h.;
 - b. A certified copy of a United States birth certificate;
 - c. A valid, unexpired United States passport;
- d. A naturalization certificate issued by the United States Department of Homeland Security;
- e. A valid, unexpired alien registration receipt card
 (green card);
- f. A Consular Report of Birth Abroad provided by the United States Department of State;
- g. An unexpired employment authorization card issued by the United States Department of Homeland Security; or

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h. Proof of nonimmigrant classification provided by the United States Department of Homeland Security, for an original identification card. In order to prove nonimmigrant classification, an applicant must provide at least one of the following documents. In addition, the department may require applicants to produce United States Department of Homeland Security documents for the sole purpose of establishing the maintenance of, or efforts to maintain, continuous lawful presence:

(I) A notice of hearing from an immigration court scheduling a hearing on any proceeding.

- (II) A notice from the Board of Immigration Appeals acknowledging pendency of an appeal.
- (III) A notice of the approval of an application for adjustment of status issued by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.
- (IV) An official documentation confirming the filing of a petition for asylum or refugee status or any other relief issued by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.
- (V) A notice of action transferring any pending matter from another jurisdiction to Florida, issued by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.
- (VI) An order of an immigration judge or immigration officer granting relief that authorizes the alien to live and work in the United States, including, but not limited to,

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551 asylum.

(VII) Evidence that an application is pending for adjustment of status to that of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the United States or conditional permanent resident status in the United States, if a visa number is available having a current priority date for processing by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.

(VIII) On or after January 1, 2010, an unexpired foreign passport with an unexpired United States Visa affixed, accompanied by an approved I-94, documenting the most recent admittance into the United States.

An identification card issued based on documents required in sub-subparagraph g. or sub-subparagraph h. is valid for a period not to exceed the expiration date of the document presented or 1 year, whichever occurs first.

Section 12. Subsection (1) of section 322.17, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

322.17 Replacement licenses and permits.-

(1) (a) In the event that an instruction permit or driver license issued under the provisions of this chapter is lost or destroyed, the person to whom the same was issued may, upon payment of the appropriate fee pursuant to s. 322.21, obtain a replacement upon furnishing proof satisfactory to the department that such permit or license has been lost or destroyed, and

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further furnishing the full name, date of birth, sex, residence and mailing address, <u>e-mail address</u>, proof of birth satisfactory to the department, and proof of identity satisfactory to the department.

- (b) In the event that an instruction permit or driver license issued under the provisions of this chapter is stolen, the person to whom the same was issued may, at no charge, obtain a replacement upon furnishing proof satisfactory to the department that such permit or license was stolen and further furnishing the full name, date of birth, sex, residence and mailing address, e-mail address, proof of birth satisfactory to the department, and proof of identity satisfactory to the department.
- Section 13. Subsections (1), (2), (3), and (6) of section 322.251, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
- 322.251 Notice of cancellation, suspension, revocation, or disqualification of license.—
- (1) All orders of cancellation, suspension, revocation, or disqualification issued under the provisions of this chapter, chapter 318, chapter 324, or ss. 627.732-627.734 must shall be given either by personal delivery thereof to the licensee whose license is being canceled, suspended, revoked, or disqualified; or by deposit in the United States mail in an envelope, first class, postage prepaid, addressed to the licensee at his or her last known mailing address furnished to the department; or by e-

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mail notification if authorized by the licensee. Such methods of notification mailing by the department constitute notice constitutes notification, and any failure by the person to receive the mailed order does will not affect or stay the effective date or term of the cancellation, suspension, revocation, or disqualification of the licensee's driving privilege.

- (2) The giving of notice and an order of cancellation, suspension, revocation, or disqualification by mail is complete upon expiration of 20 days after e-mail notification or deposit in the United States mail for all notices except those issued under chapter 324 or ss. 627.732-627.734, which are complete 15 days after e-mail notification or deposit in the United States mail. Proof of the giving of notice and an order of cancellation, suspension, revocation, or disqualification in such either manner must shall be made by entry in the records of the department that such notice was given. The entry is admissible in the courts of this state and constitutes sufficient proof that such notice was given.
- (3) Whenever the driving privilege is suspended, revoked, or disqualified under the provisions of this chapter, the period of such suspension, revocation, or disqualification must shall be indicated on the order of suspension, revocation, or disqualification, and the department shall require the licensee whose driving privilege is suspended, revoked, or disqualified

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to surrender all licenses then held by him or her to the department. However, if should the person fails fail to surrender such licenses, the suspension, revocation, or disqualification period does shall not expire until a period identical to the period for which the driving privilege was suspended, revoked, or disqualified has expired after the date of surrender of the licenses, or the date an affidavit swearing such licenses are lost has been filed with the department. In any instance where notice of the suspension, revocation, or disqualification order is given mailed as provided herein, and the license is not surrendered to the department, and such license thereafter expires, the department may shall not renew that license until a period of time identical to the period of such suspension, revocation, or disqualification imposed has expired.

(6) Whenever a cancellation, suspension, revocation, or disqualification occurs, the department shall enter the cancellation, suspension, revocation, or disqualification order on the licensee's driver file 20 days after e-mail notification or deposit the notice was actually placed in the United States mail. Any inquiry into the file after the 20-day period shall reveal that the license is canceled, suspended, revoked, or disqualified and whether the license has been received by the department.

Section 14. Paragraph (a) of subsection (8) of section

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120.80.	Florida	Statutes,	is	amended	to	read:
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- 120.80 Exceptions and special requirements; agencies.-
- (8) DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES.—
- (a) Driver licenses.

- 1. Notwithstanding s. 120.57(1)(a), hearings regarding driver licensing pursuant to chapter 322 need not be conducted by an administrative law judge assigned by the division.
- 2. Notwithstanding s. 120.60(5), cancellation, suspension, or revocation of a driver license shall be by personal delivery to the licensee or by first-class mail or e-mail as provided in s. 322.251.

Section 15. Section 207.003, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

207.003 Privilege tax levied.—A tax for the privilege of operating any <u>qualified</u> commercial motor vehicle upon the public highways of this state shall be levied upon every motor carrier at a rate which includes the minimum rates provided in parts I-III of chapter 206 on each gallon of diesel fuel or motor fuel used for the propulsion of a <u>qualified</u> commercial motor vehicle by such motor carrier within <u>this</u> the state.

Section 16. Section 207.008, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

207.008 Retention of records by motor carrier.—Each licensed registered motor carrier shall maintain and keep pertinent records and papers as may be required by the

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department for the reasonable administration of this chapter and shall preserve the records upon which each quarterly tax return is based for 4 years <u>after</u> following the due date or filing date of the return, whichever is later.

Section 17. Subsection (3) of section 207.011, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

207.011 Inspection of records; hearings; forms; rules.-

is authorized to examine the records, books, papers, and equipment of any motor carrier, any retail dealer of motor diesel fuels, and any wholesale distributor of diesel fuels or motor fuels which that are deemed necessary to verify the truth and accuracy of any statement, or return and ascertain whether the tax imposed by this chapter has been paid.

Section 18. Section 207.013, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

207.013 Suits for collection of unpaid taxes, penalties, and interest.—Upon demand of the department, the Department of Legal Affairs or the state attorney for a judicial circuit shall bring appropriate actions, in the name of the state or in the name of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles in the capacity of its office, for the recovery of taxes, penalties, and interest due under this chapter; and judgment shall be rendered for the amount so found to be due together with costs. However, if it is shall be found as a fact that such

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claim for, or grant of, an exemption or credit was willful on the part of any motor carrier, retail dealer, or distributor of diesel fuel or motor fuel, judgment must shall be rendered for double the amount of the tax found to be due with costs. The department may employ an attorney at law to institute and prosecute proper proceedings to enforce payment of the taxes, penalties, and interest provided for by this chapter and may fix the compensation for the services of such attorney at law.

Section 19. Subsection (3) of section 207.014, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

207.014 Departmental warrant for collection of unpaid taxes.—

with reference to the property levied upon or the amount of taxes, costs, or penalties due, such contest or claim <u>must shall</u> be tried in the circuit court in and for the county in which the warrant was executed, as nearly as may be in the same manner and means as such contest or claim would have been tried in such court had the warrant originally issued upon a judgment rendered by such court. The warrant issued as provided in this section <u>constitutes shall constitute</u> prima facie evidence of the amount of taxes, interest, and penalties due to the state by the motor carrier, and the burden of proof <u>is shall be</u> upon the motor carrier, retail dealer, or distributor of <u>diesel fuel or</u> motor fuel to show that the amounts or penalties were incorrect.

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Section 20. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 207.023, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

- 207.023 Authority to inspect vehicles, make arrests, seize property, and execute warrants.—
- (1) As a part of their responsibility when inspecting qualified motor commercial vehicles, the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and the Department of Transportation shall ensure that all vehicles are properly qualified under the provisions of this chapter.
- (3) Qualified commercial motor vehicles owned or operated by any motor carrier who refuses to comply with this chapter may be seized by authorized agents or employees of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, or the Department of Transportation; or authorized agents and employees of any of these departments also may seize property as set out in ss. 206.205, 206.21, and 206.215. Upon such seizure, the property must shall be surrendered without delay to the sheriff of the county where the property was seized for further proceedings.
- Section 21. Subsections (1) and (6) of section 207.0281, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
- 207.0281 Registration; Cooperative reciprocal agreements between states.—
 - (1) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles

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may enter into a cooperative reciprocal agreement, including, but not limited to, the International Fuel Tax fuel-tax

Agreement, with another state or group of states for the administration of the tax imposed by this chapter. An agreement arrangement, declaration, or amendment is not effective until stated in writing and filed with the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.

(6) This section and the contents of any reciprocal agreement entered into under this section supersede all other fuel-tax requirements of this chapter for <u>qualified</u> commercial motor vehicles.

Section 22. Paragraph (aa) of subsection (7) of section 212.08, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 212.08 Sales, rental, use, consumption, distribution, and storage tax; specified exemptions.—The sale at retail, the rental, the use, the consumption, the distribution, and the storage to be used or consumed in this state of the following are hereby specifically exempt from the tax imposed by this chapter.
- (7) MISCELLANEOUS EXEMPTIONS.—Exemptions provided to any entity by this chapter do not inure to any transaction that is otherwise taxable under this chapter when payment is made by a representative or employee of the entity by any means, including, but not limited to, cash, check, or credit card, even when that representative or employee is subsequently reimbursed

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by the entity. In addition, exemptions provided to any entity by this subsection do not inure to any transaction that is otherwise taxable under this chapter unless the entity has obtained a sales tax exemption certificate from the department or the entity obtains or provides other documentation as required by the department. Eligible purchases or leases made with such a certificate must be in strict compliance with this subsection and departmental rules, and any person who makes an exempt purchase with a certificate that is not in strict compliance with this subsection and the rules is liable for and shall pay the tax. The department may adopt rules to administer this subsection.

- (aa) <u>Qualified motor</u> certain commercial vehicles.—Also exempt is the sale, lease, or rental of a <u>qualified</u> commercial motor vehicle as defined in s. 207.002, when the following conditions are met:
- 1. The sale, lease, or rental occurs between two commonly owned and controlled corporations;
- 2. Such vehicle was titled and registered in this state at the time of the sale, lease, or rental; and
- 3. Florida sales tax was paid on the acquisition of such vehicle by the seller, lessor, or renter.

Section 23. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (4) of section 316.545, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

316.545 Weight and load unlawful; special fuel and motor

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fuel tax enforcement; inspection; penalty; review.-

- (4) (a) A commercial vehicle may not be operated over the highways of this state unless it has been properly <u>licensed</u> registered under s. 207.004. Whenever any law enforcement officer identified in s. 207.023(1), upon inspecting the vehicle or combination of vehicles, determines that the vehicle is in violation of s. 207.004, a penalty in the amount of \$50 shall be assessed, and the vehicle may be detained until payment is collected by the law enforcement officer.
- (b) In addition to the penalty provided for in paragraph (a), the vehicle may be detained until the owner or operator of the vehicle furnishes evidence that the vehicle has been properly <u>licensed registered</u> pursuant to s. 207.004. Any officer of the Florida Highway Patrol or agent of the Department of Transportation may issue a temporary <u>fuel-use fuel use</u> permit and collect the appropriate fee as provided for in <u>s. 207.004(5)</u> s. 207.004(4). Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (6), all permit fees collected pursuant to this paragraph shall be transferred to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to be allocated pursuant to s. 207.026.

Section 24. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 318.15, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 318.15 Failure to comply with civil penalty or to appear; penalty.—
 - (1) (a) If a person fails to comply with the civil

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penalties provided in s. 318.18 within the time period specified in s. 318.14(4), fails to enter into or comply with the terms of a penalty payment plan with the clerk of the court in accordance with ss. 318.14 and 28.246, fails to attend driver improvement school, or fails to appear at a scheduled hearing, the clerk of the court must notify the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles of such failure within 10 days after such failure. Upon receipt of such notice, the department must immediately issue an order suspending the driver license and privilege to drive of such person effective 20 days after the date the order of suspension is provided mailed in accordance with s. 322.251(1), (2), and (6). The order also must inform the person that he or she may contact the clerk of the court to establish a payment plan pursuant to s. 28.246(4) to make partial payments for court-related fines, fees, service charges, and court costs. Any such suspension of the driving privilege which has not been reinstated, including a similar suspension imposed outside of this state, must remain on the records of the department for a period of 7 years after from the date imposed and must be removed from the records after the expiration of 7 years after from the date it is imposed. The department may not accept the resubmission of such suspension.

Section 25. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 319.35, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

319.35 Unlawful acts in connection with motor vehicle

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852 (1)853 (b) It is unlawful for any person to knowingly provide 854 false information on the odometer readings required pursuant to 855 ss. 319.23(3) and 320.02(2)(d) $\frac{320.02(2)(b)}{b}$. 856 Section 26. Subsection (3) of section 319.40, Florida 857 Statutes, is amended to read: 858 319.40 Transactions by electronic or telephonic means. 859 The department may collect e-mail electronic mail addresses and use e-mail electronic mail in lieu of the United 860 861 States Postal Service as a method of notification. However, any 862 notice regarding the potential forfeiture or foreclosure of an 863 interest in property must be sent via the United States Postal 864 Service. 865 Section 27. Paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section

odometer readings; penalties.-

320.03, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.03 Registration; duties of tax collectors; International Registration Plan. -

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Upon a tax collector's request, the department may (b) provide ancillary technology to integrate other tax collection systems used by tax collectors in order to provide tax collectors with data access and uniform interface functionalities for registration renewal transactions performed at a tax collector's office or online via a tax collector's

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website. The department shall prescribe the best manner of delivering the data access and uniform interface functionalities to tax collectors for the purpose of processing registration renewal transactions and shall provide the ability to record and process registration renewal transactions in the state system in real time and bulk data reporting for vehicle registrations, including each applicant's e-mail electronic mail address collected pursuant to s. 320.95. Such data and functionality may be used only for purposes of fulfilling the tax collector's statutory duties pursuant to this chapter, chapter 319, chapter 322, or chapter 328 and may not be resold or used for any other purpose. Such data access and uniform interface functionalities shall be developed no later than July 1, 2023. For the purposes of this paragraph, the term "registration renewal transactions" means issuance of motor vehicle, mobile home, and trailer registration certificates, registration license plates, and validation stickers.

Section 28. Subsection (10) of section 322.08, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 322.08 Application for license; requirements for license and identification card forms.—
- (10) The department may collect $\underline{e-mail}$ electronic mail addresses and use $\underline{e-mail}$ electronic mail in lieu of the United States Postal Service as a method of notification for the purpose of providing renewal notices.

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Section 29. Paragraph (a) of subsection (8) of section 322.18, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 322.18 Original applications, licenses, and renewals; expiration of licenses; delinquent licenses.—
- (8) The department shall issue 8-year renewals using a convenience service without reexamination to drivers who have not attained 80 years of age. The department shall issue 6-year renewals using a convenience service when the applicant has satisfied the requirements of subsection (5).
- (a) If the department determines from its records that the holder of a license about to expire is eligible for renewal, the department <u>must shall</u> mail a renewal notice to the licensee at his or her last known address <u>or provide a renewal notice to the licensee by e-mail notification at least</u>, not less than 30 days <u>before prior to</u> the licensee's birthday. The renewal notice <u>must shall</u> direct the licensee to appear at a driver license office for in-person renewal or to transmit the completed renewal notice and the fees required by s. 322.21 to the department using a convenience service.

Section 30. Subsection (4) of section 322.21, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 322.21 License fees; procedure for handling and collecting fees.—
- (4) If the department determines from its records or is otherwise satisfied that the holder of a license about to expire

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is entitled to have it renewed, the department <u>must shall</u> mail a renewal notice to the licensee at his or her last known address or provide a renewal notice to the licensee by e-mail <u>notification at least</u>, within 30 days before the licensee's birthday. The licensee <u>must shall</u> be issued a renewal license, after reexamination, if required, during the 30 days immediately preceding his or her birthday upon presenting a renewal notice, his or her current license, and the fee for renewal to the department at any driver license examining office.

Section 31. Subsection (3) and paragraph (a) of subsection (5) of section 322.245, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

322.245 Suspension of license upon failure of person charged with specified offense under chapter 316, chapter 320, or this chapter to comply with directives ordered by traffic court or upon failure to pay child support in non-IV-D cases as provided in chapter 61 or failure to pay any financial obligation in any other criminal case.—

(3) If the person fails to comply with the directives of the court within the 30-day period, or, in non-IV-D cases, fails to comply with the requirements of s. 61.13016 within the period specified in that statute, the depository or the clerk of the court must electronically notify the department of such failure within 10 days. Upon electronic receipt of the notice, the department shall immediately issue an order suspending the person's driver license and privilege to drive effective 20 days

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after the date the order of suspension is <u>provided</u> mailed in accordance with s. 322.251(1), (2), and (6). The order of suspension must also contain information specifying that the person may contact the clerk of the court to establish a payment plan pursuant to s. 28.246(4) to make partial payments for fines, fees, service charges, and court costs.

(5)(a) When the department receives notice from a clerk of the court that a person licensed to operate a motor vehicle in this state under the provisions of this chapter has failed to pay financial obligations for any criminal offense other than those specified in subsection (1), in full or in part under a payment plan pursuant to s. 28.246(4), the department must suspend the license of the person named in the notice. The department shall provide mail an order of suspension in accordance with s. 322.251(1), (2), and (6), which must also contain information specifying that the person may contact the clerk of the court to establish a payment plan pursuant to s. 28.246(4) to make partial payments for fines, fees, service charges, and court costs.

Section 32. Subsections (3) and (5) of section 322.2615, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

- 322.2615 Suspension of license; right to review.-
- (3) If the department determines that the license should be suspended pursuant to this section and if the notice of suspension has not already been served upon the person by a law

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enforcement officer or correctional officer as provided in subsection (1), the department shall issue a notice of suspension and, unless the notice is <u>provided</u> mailed pursuant to s. 322.251, a temporary permit that expires 10 days after the date of issuance if the driver is otherwise eligible.

(5) After completion of the informal review, notice of the department's decision sustaining, amending, or invalidating the suspension of the driver license of the person whose license was suspended must be provided to such person. Such notice must be mailed to the person at the last known address shown on the department's records, mailed er to the address provided in the law enforcement officer's report if such address differs from the address of record, or e-mailed to the e-mail address furnished to the department within 21 days after the expiration of the temporary permit issued pursuant to subsection (1) or subsection (3).

Section 33. Subsection (4) of section 322.2616, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 322.2616 Suspension of license; persons under 21 years of age; right to review.—
- (4) If the department finds that the license of the person should be suspended under this section and if the notice of suspension has not already been served upon the person by a law enforcement officer or correctional officer as provided in subsection (2), the department must shall issue a notice of

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suspension and, unless the notice is <u>provided</u> mailed under s. 322.251, a temporary driving permit that expires 10 days after the date of issuance if the driver is otherwise eligible.

Section 34. Subsection (3) of section 322.64, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 322.64 Holder of commercial driver license; persons operating a commercial motor vehicle; driving with unlawful blood-alcohol level; refusal to submit to breath, urine, or blood test.—
- should be disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle pursuant to this section and if the notice of disqualification has not already been served upon the person by a law enforcement officer or correctional officer as provided in subsection (1), the department must shall issue a notice of disqualification and, unless the notice is provided mailed pursuant to s.

 322.251, a temporary permit which expires 10 days after the date of issuance if the driver is otherwise eligible.

Section 35. Subsection (1) of section 324.091, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 324.091 Notice to department; notice to insurer.-
- (1) Each owner and operator involved in a crash or conviction case within the purview of this chapter shall furnish evidence of automobile liability insurance or motor vehicle liability insurance within 14 days after the date of providing

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the mailing of notice of crash by the department in the form and manner as it may designate. Upon receipt of evidence that an automobile liability policy or motor vehicle liability policy was in effect at the time of the crash or conviction case, the department shall forward to the insurer such information for verification in a method as determined by the department. The insurer shall respond to the department within 20 days after the notice whether or not such information is valid. If the department determines that an automobile liability policy or motor vehicle liability policy was not in effect and did not provide coverage for both the owner and the operator, it must shall take action as it is authorized to do under this chapter.

Section 36. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section 324.171, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

324.171 Self-insurer.-

- (1) Any person may qualify as a self-insurer by obtaining a certificate of self-insurance from the department which may, in its discretion and upon application of such a person, issue said certificate of self-insurance when such person has satisfied the requirements of this section to qualify as a self-insurer under this section:
- (c) The owner of a commercial motor vehicle τ as defined in s. 207.002 or s. 320.01 or a qualified motor vehicle as defined in s. 207.002 may qualify as a self-insurer subject to the standards provided for in subparagraph (b) 2.

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Section 37. Subsection (3) of section 328.30, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

328.30 Transactions by electronic or telephonic means.-

(3) The department may collect <u>e-mail</u> <u>electronic mail</u> addresses and use <u>e-mail</u> <u>electronic mail</u> in lieu of the United States Postal Service <u>as a method of notification</u> for the purpose of providing renewal notices.

Section 38. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 328.73, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

328.73 Registration; duties of tax collectors.—

(1)

(b) Upon a tax collector's request, the department may provide ancillary technology to integrate other tax collection systems used by tax collectors in order to provide tax collectors with data access and uniform interface functionalities for registration renewal transactions performed at a tax collector's office or online via a tax collector's website. The department shall prescribe the best manner of delivering the data access and uniform interface functionalities to tax collectors for the purpose of processing registration renewal transactions and shall provide the ability to record and process registration renewal transactions in the state system in real time and bulk data reporting for vessel registrations, including each applicant's e-mail electronic mail address collected pursuant to s. 328.30. Such data and functionality may

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be used only for purposes of fulfilling the tax collector's statutory duties pursuant to this chapter, chapter 319, chapter 320, or chapter 322 and may not be resold or used for any other purpose. Such data access and uniform interface functionalities shall be developed no later than July 1, 2023. For the purposes of this paragraph, the term "registration renewal transactions" means vessel registration certificates, vessel numbers, and decals.

Section 39. Section 627.7415, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- vehicles; additional liability insurance coverage.—Commercial motor vehicles, as defined in s. 207.002 or s. 320.01 and qualified motor vehicles as defined in s. 207.002, operated upon the roads and highways of this state must shall be insured with the following minimum levels of combined bodily liability insurance and property damage liability insurance in addition to any other insurance requirements:
- (1) Fifty thousand dollars per occurrence for a commercial motor vehicle or qualified motor vehicle with a gross vehicle weight of 26,000 pounds or more, but less than 35,000 pounds.
- (2) One hundred thousand dollars per occurrence for a commercial motor vehicle or qualified motor vehicle with a gross vehicle weight of 35,000 pounds or more, but less than 44,000 pounds.

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(3)	Three	hundred	thousand	dollars	per	occurre	ence	for	a a
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- vehicles subject to regulations of the United States Department of Transportation, 49 C.F.R. part 387, subparts A and B, and as may be hereinafter amended, <u>must shall</u> be insured in an amount equivalent to the minimum levels of financial responsibility as set forth in such regulations.
- A violation of this section is a noncriminal traffic infraction, punishable as a nonmoving violation as provided in chapter 318.

Section 40. This act shall take effect October 1, 2026.