WEEK 3 REPORT // 2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

+ MARINE INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION OF FLORIDA

MARCH 20-24, 2023

2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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SB 1640 Installation of Waterway Markers We have made it through the third week and are anticipating another busy fourth week as the Florida House of Representatives and Florida Senate will be taking up their respective budgets in their full Appropriations Committees this week. This will set up the fifth week of Session to be a short week in honor of the holidays.

We continue to do battle on several bills this Legislative Session. We have three bills we are currently trying to amend to make them more palatable to the industry. Boater safety, anchoring and septic pumpouts are taking a lot of our time and are becoming all consuming. We continue to work with other marine industry groups to have a united front on these issues. We have highlighted some actions this week below in the report.

If those issues are not all consuming enough, the House and Senate have released their budgets. MIAF follows the budget process very closely and highlights many boating line items of interest. One line item that caught our attention is the difference between the House proposed budget and the Senate proposed budget Line Item 1881 relating to Boating and Waterway Activities. It appears the Senate has less money than the House budget. Another issue is the Senate budget has derelict vessel money in the back or the bill, but the House budget does not. These issues are something we will need to watch closely as the budgets head to conference.

Finally, the Legislature is going to have a short the week of April 3rd. Please make your appointment request now if you are planning to attend MIA Days in Tallahassee.

As we mentioned, below are some of the budget highlights we are following for MIAF.

Budget

Proposed SB 2500

1806 SPECIAL CATEGORIES CORAL REEF PROTECTION AND RESTORATION

FROM GENERAL REVENUE FUND 8,000,000

Funds in Specific Appropriation 1806 are provided to implement Florida's Coral Reef Restoration and Recovery (FCR3) Initiative to enter into agreements with academic and private partnerships to establish, expand, and maintain in-state propagation and grow-out facilities; develop and implement strategies and sitespecific restoration plans including curriculum for a trained workforce; and reinforce and expand restoration efforts across Florida's Coral Reef.

1811 SPECIAL CATEGORIES CONTRACTED SERVICES

FROM GENERAL REVENUE FUND 2,515,000

FROM RESILIENT FLORIDA TRUST FUND . 2,000,000

FROM LAND ACQUISITION TRUST FUND . . 524,443

From the funds in Specific Appropriation 1811, \$500,000 in nonrecurring funds from the General Revenue Fund is provided for the Mote Marine Coral Restoration (SF 1150).

From the funds in Specific Appropriation 1811, \$650,000 in nonrecurring funds from the General Revenue Fund is provided for the Monroe County Mobile Vessel Pumpout Program to be administered by the Department of Environmental Protection. Administrative costs for the program shall not exceed five percent.

1821 GRANTS AND AIDS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND NONSTATE ENTITIES -

FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY CLEAN MARINA

FROM FEDERAL GRANTS TRUST FUND . . . 500,000

1868 FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY BOATING INFRASTRUCTURE

FROM FEDERAL GRANTS TRUST FUND . . . 4,000,000

1877 SPECIAL CATEGORIES BOAT RAMP MAINTENANCE CATEGORY

FROM FEDERAL GRANTS TRUST FUND . . . 1,279,730

FROM STATE GAME TRUST FUND 143,750

1881 SPECIAL CATEGORIES BOATING AND WATERWAYS ACTIVITIES

1887 SPECIAL CATEGORIES BOATING SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAM

1889 GRANTS AND AIDS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND NONSTATE ENTITIES - FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY FLORIDA BOATING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

FROM STATE GAME TRUST FUND 1,250,000

1961 GRANTS AND AIDS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND NONSTATE ENTITIES - FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY ARTIFICIAL FISHING REEF CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM

FROM GENERAL REVENUE FUND 10,000,000

FROM FEDERAL GRANTS TRUST FUND . . . 300,000

From the funds in Specific Appropriation 1961, \$10,000,000 in nonrecurring funds from the General Revenue Fund is provided to the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission for the purpose of establishing and implementing a framework for the placement, monitoring, and maintenance of artificial habitat in Monroe County.

Back of the Bill

SECTION 191. The unexpended balances of funds appropriated from the state's award from the federal Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (Public Law 117-2), in section 195, except for funds appropriated to the Department of Environmental Protection for land acquisition, section 196, and section 197 of chapter 2022-156, Laws of Florida, remaining on June 30, 2023, shall revert and are appropriated for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 for the same purposes, except the following unexpended balances which shall revert immediately:

Derelict Vessel Removal Program (s. 197)..... 5,000,000

House Proposed APC 23-01

1806 SPECIAL CATEGORIES CORAL REEF PROTECTION AND RESTORATION

FROM GENERAL REVENUE FUND 8,000,000

Funds in Specific Appropriation 1806 are provided for coral reef restoration and protection efforts.

1811 SPECIAL CATEGORIES CONTRACTED SERVICES FROM GENERAL REVENUE FUND 650,000 FROM RESILIENT FLORIDA TRUST FUND . 2,000,000 FROM LAND ACQUISITION TRUST FUND . . . 524,443 From the funds in Specific Appropriation 1811, \$650,000 in nonrecurring funds from the General Revenue Fund is provided to the Monroe County Mobile Vessel Pumpout Program to be administered by the Department of Environmental Protection. Administrative cost for the program shall not exceed five percent.

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FROM FEDERAL GRANTS TRUST FUND . . . 300,000

Final Reminder!

Make Your Appointment Requests Now for MIA Days in Tallahassee!

If you are planning on attending MIA Days in Tallahassee, please start requesting your appointments to see your Legislators now! Below are the links you can use to find your Legislator!

Florida Senate

Florida House of Representatives

Bills of Interest

HB 571 by Representative Hinson and SB 1602 by Senator Rouson relating to Storage of Firearms in Private Conveyances and Vessels- The House Bill has three committee references. The first committee references. The first committee stop is the Senate Criminal Justice Committee. The Senate Bill also has three committee references. The first committee stop is the Senate Criminal Justice Committee. We will watch these bills carefully as the bill requires a person to store their firearm loaded or unloaded from ordinary observation and in a locked trunk, utility or glove box or another locked container or secured device mechanism that is securely affixed to the private conveyance or vessel. This is a separate bill and is not currently part of the permitless carry bill anticipated to pass this Legislative Session.

The House Bill and Senate Bill have not been heard in their first committees of reference. The bills are not scheduled during the fourth week as of the writing of this report.

HB 261 by Representative Botana relating to Boating Safety and SB 729 by Senator Garcia relating to Liveries-These bills are currently not identical and are comparable. We anticipate these bills to become companion bills as they move forward. These bills were originally supposed to be glitch bills to fix the livery insurance issue from last Legislative Session. MIAF was on board to fix the livery issues, but unfortunately the House Bill went further than just a glitch fix for liveries and was originally filed to make everyone boating in Florida have a boating safety card. (Currently Florida law is anyone born on or after January 1, 1988, may not operate a vessel with ten horsepower or more unless they have a state issued identification card or drivers license indication they are in possession of a boating safety card issued by the commission, an International Certificate of Competency, a boating safety card or certificate from another state or U.S. Territory , or a Canadian Pleasure Craft Operator card.) The House Bill was placed on the agenda the first week in House Agriculture, Conservation and Resiliency Committee. The bill was amended to now state that anyone born on or after January 1, 1960, now must take the boating safety course.

Marine Industries Association of Florida has registered their opposition to the sponsor, Representative Botana, on this issue multiple times.

As we expected, Representative Botana offered an amendment to change the date to January 1, 1978, in the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee. The amended bill passed the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee as a Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for House Bill 261 unanimously. MIAF is not ok with this amendment and prefers the language requiring a moving violation in a vessel be required to take boating safety as it addresses concerns raised about boaters on state waters. We are currently working with other MIAs on drafting a third offer to the sponsor for the last committee stop. The

bill has one more committee stop before it is ready for the House floor. The bill is not on the agenda for the final committee as of the writing of this report.

The Senate Bill passed the Senate Environmental and Natural Resources Committee meeting on March 14th without any amendments. The bill currently does not contain the boating safety language. MIAF prefers this bill because it does not have boating safety language and prefers the livery language in this bill as filed. The Senate Bill is scheduled to be heard in the second committee of reference, Senate Commerce Committee on March 27th. The bill has one amendment filed as of the writing of this report that does not contain the Botana bill boating safety language.

Remember the bills must be identical to pass.

House Bill 1385 by Representative Basabe and Senate Bill 1502 by Rodriquez relating to Vessel Owner and Operation Requirements-MIAF is concerned with provisions of these bills as filed. We met with Representative Basabe and FWC to discuss our issues with the bill. We had a wonderful meeting with the Representative and his staff. We discussed our concerns with the four-hour limitation and the national criminal search components of the bill. We anticipate an amendment will be filed to the bill and eliminate these issues. The bill will still add anchoring restrictions to specific waterbodies in Miami Dade. We also suggested proviso language for more on the water law enforcement in the Miami area. House Bill 1385 has three committees of reference and has not been heard in the first committee of reference. The House Bill is not scheduled to be heard during the fourth week as of the writing of this report. The Senate companion, Senate Bill 1502 is identical to House Bill 1385. The Senate Bill also has three committees of reference and is scheduled to be heard on March 27th. An amendment was filed to the Senate Bill eliminating our two concerns. Unfortunately, the amendment has been withdrawn. We will continue to update you on this bill after we discuss the next steps with the sponsors. The Senate Bill is sponsored by the Chair of the Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee, Senator Rodriguez. Senate Environment and Natural Resources is the first committee stop in the Senate.

House Bill 1103 by Representative Tramont and Senate Bill 1314 by Senator Wright relating to Boating Restricted Areas-Both the House Bill and Senate Bill have three committees of reference. The Senate bill passed the Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee agenda during the third week unanimously. We have offered the Senate sponsor amendment language to the bill. The House bill is scheduled to be heard in its first committee of reference the House Agriculture, Conservation and Resiliency Subcommittee on March 27th. Again, we are working with other MIA's to offer the House sponsor amendment language to the bill. The bill would add to the Boating Restricted area statute an ordinance establishing a slow speed, minimum wake boating-restricted area, if the area is within 500 feet of any private or public marina pumpout. This new language adds "private" to the statute and does not require fuel.

SB 1640 by Senator Gruters relating to Waterway Markers-The Senate Bill does not have a linked companion bill currently. The bill has three committees of reference and was not heard the third week and is not scheduled on the Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee during the fourth week. Simply, the bill requires all waterway markers including informational markers placed by local governments to be attached to a plastic breakaway structure or floating buoy. It bans state and local governments from affixing waterway markers to steel or wood pilings.

HB 847 by Representative Stark and SB 1082 by Senator DiCeglie relating to Floating Vessel Platforms-MIAF sent both bills out for review. As of the writing of this report we still have not received any commentary back from membership on these bills. We will continue to monitor these bills for any amendments and keep you informed as they move through the process. SB 1082 passed.

The bill passed the Senate Environmental and Natural Resources Committee on March 20h unanimously. The bill has three committees of reference. The bill is scheduled to be heard in its second committee of reference, the Senate Community Affairs Committee on March 29th. The House Bill was scheduled to be heard in its first committee of reference, House Water Quality, Supply and Treatment Subcommittee. The bill was again placed on the House Water Quality, Supply and Treatment Subcommittee and passed as a Committee

Substitute. The bill only has two committees of reference and only has one more committee left. The bill was not on the agenda as of the writing of this report.

These are just a few of the bills we re tracking for you this Legislative Session. We have attached our entire tracking list as amendments get filed daily and we have numerous vehicles to watch for these amendments.

Thank you for allowing us to be your voice in Tallahassee!

Magntz

Margaret "Missy" Timmins President Timmins Consulting, LLC



// BOATING SAFETY / LIVERIES

Senate Bill 728 // Sen. Garcia // Referred to: Senate Environment and Natural Resources; Senate Commerce and Tourism (Current); Senate Rules

House Bill 261 // Rep. Botana // Referred to: House Agriculture, Conservation & Resiliency Subcommittee; House Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee (Current Reference); House Infrastructure Strategies Committee

HOUSE/SENATE BILL RELATIONSHIP: COMPARE

Senate Bill 728: Liveries; Revising safety requirements for liveries and requiring hands-on instruction that meets specified requirements; revising insurance requirements for liveries and renters; authorizing the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to enter into agreements with qualified contractors to perform compliance inspections of liveries; requiring liveries to make facilities and records available for inspection by the qualified contractors within a specified timeframe, etc. Effective Date: 7/1/2023

Most Recent Action: 03/22/2023 SENATE On Committee agenda - Commerce and Tourism, 03/27/23, 3:00 pm, 110 S

House Bill 261: Boating Safety: Revises requirement for persons born before specified date to have certain identification & boating safety documentation in their possession while operating vessel; requires liveries to provide hands-on instruction that meets specified requirements; provides exemption from certain safety requirements if renters or lessees hire professional captain; removes requirement that livery obtain & carry insurance that also insures renters & lessees. Effective Date: July 1,2023

Most Recent Action: 03/22/2023 HOUSE Favorable with CS by Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee; 14 Yeas, 0 Nays; 03/23/2023 HOUSE Committee Substitute Text (C2) Filed; 03/24/2023 HOUSE Now in Infrastructure Strategies Committee

// STORAGE OF FIREARMS IN PRIVATE CONVEYANCES AND VESSELS

Senate Bill 1602 // Sen. Rouson // Referred to: Senate Criminal Justice (Current Reference); Senate Appropriations Committee on Criminal and Civil Justice; Senate Fiscal Policy

House Bill 571 // Rep. Hinson // Referred to: House Criminal Justice Subcommittee (Current Reference); House Local Administration, Federal Affairs & Special Districts Subcommittee; House Judiciary Committee



RELATIONSHIP: SIMILAR

Senate Bill 1602: Storage of Firearms in Private Conveyances and Vessels; Prohibiting the storage of firearms in unoccupied private conveyances and vessels unless done in a specified manner; providing definitions; requiring local law enforcement agencies to engage in a certain promotional campaign, etc. Effective Date: 7/1/2023

Most Recent Action: 03/09/2023 SENATE Referred to Criminal Justice; Appropriations Committee on Criminal and Civil Justice; Fiscal Policy

House Bill 571: Storage of Firearms in Private Conveyances and Vessels: Prohibits storage of firearms in unoccupied private conveyances & vessels unless done in specified manner; requires law enforcement agencies to engage in promotional campaign; directs counties to adopt specified ordinances concerning parental responsibility for gun thefts from conveyances & vessels by their minor children. Effective Date: July 1,2023

Most Recent Action: 02/07/2023 HOUSE Now in Criminal Justice Subcommittee

// VESSEL OWNER AND OPERATION REQUIREMENTS

- Senate Bill 1502 // Sen. Rodriguez // Referred to: Senate Environment and Natural Resources (Current Reference); Senate Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government; Senate Fiscal Policy
- House Bill 1385 // Rep. Basabe // Referred to: House Agriculture, Conservation & Resiliency Subcommittee (Current Reference); House Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee; House Infrastructure Strategies Committee

HOUSE/SENATE BILL RELATIONSHIP: IDENTICAL

Senate Bill 1502: Vessel Owner and Operation Requirements; Revising anchoring limitation areas in certain sections of Biscayne Bay in Miami-Dade County; revising the timeframe during which a person may anchor a vessel in an anchoring limitation area within which such anchoring would otherwise be unlawful; requiring law enforcement officers to conduct national criminal background checks for vessel owners who are issued citations for specified violations, etc. Effective Date: 7/1/2023

Most Recent Action: 03/27/2023 SENATE Favorable by Environment and Natural Resources; 9 Yeas, 0 Nays

House Bill 1385: Vessel Owner and Operation Requirements: Revises anchoring limitation areas in certain sections of Biscayne Bay in Miami-Dade County; revises timeframe during which person may anchor vessel in anchoring limitation area within which such anchoring would otherwise be unlawful; requires law enforcement officers to conduct national criminal background checks for vessel owners who are issued citations for specified violations. Effective Date: July 1,2023

Most Recent Action: 03/09/2023 HOUSE Now in Agriculture, Conservation & Resiliency Subcommittee

// BOATING-RESTRICTED AREAS

- Senate Bill 1314 // Sen. Wright // Referred to: Environment and Natural Resources; Community Affairs; Rules
- House Bill 1103 // Rep. Tramont // Referred to: House Agriculture, Conservation & Resiliency Subcommittee (Current Reference); House Local Administration, Federal Affairs & Special Districts Subcommittee; House Infrastructure Strategies Committee

HOUSE/SENATE BILL RELATIONSHIP: IDENTICAL

Senate Bill 1314: Authorizes counties & municipalities to establish within certain portions of Florida Intracoastal Waterway slow speed, minimum wake boating-restricted areas within specified distance from private or public marina pumpouts. Effective Date: July 1, 2023

Most Recent Action: 03/20/2023 SENATE Favorable by Environment and Natural Resources; 9 Yeas, 0 Nays

House Bill 1103: Boating-restricted Areas: Authorizes counties & municipalities to establish within certain portions of Florida Intracoastal Waterway slow speed, minimum wake boating-restricted areas within specified distance from private or public marina pumpouts. Effective Date: July 1, 2023

Most Recent Action: 03/23/2023 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Agriculture, Conservation & Resiliency Subcommittee, 03/27/23, 11:30 am, 404 H

// FLOATING VESSEL PLATFORMS AND FLOATING BOAT LIFTS

Senate Bill 1082 // Sen. DiCeglie // Referred to: Environment and Natural Resources; Community Affairs; Rules

House Bill 847 // Rep. Stark // Referred to: House Water Quality, Supply & Treatment Subcommittee (Current Reference); House Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee; House Infrastructure Strategies Committee

Senate Bill 1082: Removing a provision authorizing local governments to require permitting for certain floating vessel platforms; revising conditions under which local governments may require one-time registrations of floating vessel platforms, etc. Effective Date: 7/1/2023

Most Recent Action: 03/24/2023 SENATE On Committee agenda - Community Affairs, 03/29/23, 8:30 am, 401 S

House Bill 847: Floating Vessel Platforms and Floating Boat Lifts: Removes provision authorizing local governments to require permitting for certain floating vessel platforms; revises conditions under which local governments may require one-time registrations of floating vessel platforms. Effective Date: July 1, 2023

Most Recent Action: 03/24/2023 HOUSE Reference to Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee removed; Remaining reference: Infrastructure Strategies Committee; 03/24/2023 HOUSE Now in Infrastructure Strategies Committee

// INSTALLATION OF WATERWAY MARKERS

Senate Bill 1640 // Sen. Gruters // Referred to: Senate Environment and Natural Resources (Current Reference); Senate Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government; Senate Fiscal Policy

Senate Bill 1640: Installation of Waterway Markers; Revising the application requirements for marking certain waters of this state; requiring all waterway markers to be affixed to certain structures or buoys beginning on a specified date; requiring state and local governmental entities to conform to such requirements by a specified date, etc. Effective Date: 7/1/2023

Most Recent Action: 03/09/2023 SENATE Referred to Environment and Natural Resources; Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government; Fiscal Policy

By Senator Garcia

	36-00399B-23 2023728
1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to liveries; amending s. 327.54, F.S.;
3	revising safety requirements for liveries and
4	requiring hands-on instruction that meets specified
5	requirements; providing an exemption from certain
6	safety requirements when a renter hires a professional
7	captain; revising insurance requirements for liveries
8	and renters; authorizing the Fish and Wildlife
9	Conservation Commission to enter into agreements with
10	qualified contractors to perform compliance
11	inspections of liveries; providing requirements for
12	such contracted inspections; requiring liveries to
13	make facilities and records available for inspection
14	by the qualified contractors within a specified
15	timeframe; providing an effective date.
16	
17	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
18	
19	Section 1. Section 327.54, Florida Statutes, is amended to
20	read:
21	327.54 Liveries; safety regulations; penalty
22	(1) As used in this section, the term:
23	(a) "Advertise" means to describe or draw attention to a
24	vessel and its availability for lease or rental in any medium
25	for the purpose of promoting the lease or rental of the vessel.
26	(b) "Conviction" means any judicial disposition other than
27	acquittal or dismissal.
28	(c) "Livery" means a person who advertises and offers a
29	livery vessel for use by another in exchange for any type of

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36-00399B-23 2023728 30 consideration when such person does not also provide the lessee 31 or renter with a captain, a crew, or any type of staff or personnel to operate, oversee, maintain, or manage the vessel. 32 The owner of a vessel who does not advertise his or her vessel 33 34 for use by another for consideration and who loans or offers his 35 or her vessel for use to another known to him or her either for 36 consideration or without consideration is not a livery. A public 37 or private school or postsecondary institution located within this state is not a livery. A vessel rented or leased by a 38 39 livery is a livery vessel as defined in s. 327.02. 40 (d) "Seaworthy" means the vessel and all of its parts and 41 equipment, including, but not limited to, engines, bilge pumps, 42 and kill switches, are functional and reasonably fit for their intended purpose. 43 44 (2) A livery may not offer a vessel for lease or rent 45 without first being issued a no-cost livery permit by the 46 commission. The permit must be renewed annually. To qualify for

47 issuance or renewal of a livery permit, an applicant must provide the commission with a list of all vessels offered by the 48 49 livery for lease or rent by another, have valid insurance 50 pursuant to subsection (8) (7), have an amount of United States 51 Coast Guard-approved lawful personal floatation devices on site 52 sufficient to accommodate the capacity of all vessels offered by 53 the livery for rent or lease by another, have on site all safety 54 equipment required by s. 327.50 and the Code of Federal Regulations sufficient to equip all vessels offered by the 55 56 livery for rent or lease by another, and display the information 57 required by paragraph (3)(f). If, before the annual renewal of 58 the permit, the information required by this subsection changes,

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59	the livery must provide the commission with the updated
60	information within 10 days after the change.
61	(a) The commission may adopt rules to implement this
62	subsection.
63	(b) A person who violates this subsection commits a
64	misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s.
65	775.082 or s. 775.083.
66	(3) A livery may not knowingly lease or rent a vessel to
67	any person:
68	(a) When the number of persons intending to use the vessel
69	exceeds the number considered to constitute a maximum safety
70	load for the vessel as specified on the authorized persons
71	capacity plate of the vessel.
72	(b) When the horsepower of the motor exceeds the capacity
73	of the vessel.
74	(c) When the vessel does not contain the safety equipment
75	required under s. 327.50.
76	(d) When the vessel is not seaworthy, is a derelict vessel
77	as defined in s. 823.11, or is at risk of becoming derelict as
78	provided in s. 327.4107.
79	(e) Unless the livery provides <u>hands-on</u> pre-rental or pre-
80	ride instruction in compliance with rules established by the
81	commission.
82	1. The instruction must include, but need not be limited
83	to:
84	a. Operational characteristics of the vessel to be rented.
85	b. Safe vessel operation and vessel right-of-way.
86	c. The responsibility of the vessel operator for the safe
87	and proper operation of the vessel.
-	

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

SB 728

	36-00399в-23 2023728_
88	d. Local characteristics of the waterway where the vessel
89	will be operated, such as navigational hazards, the presence of
90	boating-restricted areas, and water depths, and education on any
91	safety, regulatory, informational, or navigation markers in the
92	geographic vicinity.
93	e. Emergency procedures, such as appropriate responses to
94	capsizing, falls overboard, taking on water, and vessel
95	accidents.
96	f. A notice of the prohibition against boating under the
97	influence pursuant to s. 327.35.
98	2. Any person receiving instruction in the safe handling of
99	livery vessels pursuant to this paragraph must provide the
100	livery with a written statement attesting to each component of
101	the instruction.
102	a. The commission shall establish by rule the content of
103	the statement form.
104	b. The statement form must be signed by the individual
105	providing the instruction.
106	c. The livery shall maintain the statement form for no less
107	than 90 days and, upon request, make the form available for
108	inspection by law enforcement <u>or an authorized agent of the</u>
109	commission pursuant to subsection (10).
110	(f) Unless the livery displays boating safety information
111	in a place visible to the renting public. The commission shall
112	prescribe by rule, pursuant to chapter 120, the contents and
113	size of the boating safety information to be displayed.
114	(g) Unless the livery has a written agreement with the
115	renter or lessee. The written agreement must include the name,
116	address, and date of birth for the renter and the number of
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117	people aboard the vessel, as well as the time the vessel is
118	required to be returned to the livery or another specified
119	location and an emergency contact name, address, and telephone
120	number. The livery shall maintain each agreement for no less
121	than 1 year and, upon request, make each agreement available for
122	inspection by law enforcement or an authorized agent of the
123	commission pursuant to subsection (10).
124	(4) If a renter or lessee retains a professional captain
125	who holds an active license issued by the United States Coast
126	Guard to command the vessel as required by an agreement between
127	the livery and the renter or lessee, and the livery confirms
128	that a professional captain has been retained, the renter or
129	lessee and the livery are not subject to paragraph (3)(e).
130	(5) A livery may not knowingly lease or rent a vessel to a
131	person who is required to comply with s. 327.395 unless such
132	person presents to the livery the documentation required by s.
133	327.395(2) for the operation of a vessel or meets the exemption
134	provided under s. 327.395(6)(f).
135	<u>(6)</u> If a vessel rented or leased by a livery is
136	unnecessarily overdue more than 4 hours after the contracted
137	vessel rental time has expired, the livery must notify law
138	enforcement.
139	<u>(7)</u> A livery may not knowingly lease or rent a livery
140	vessel, other than a human-powered vessel, to any person who is
141	under 18 years of age.
142	(8) (7) A livery may not lease or rent or offer to lease or

142 <u>(8)</u> (7) A livery may not lease or rent or offer to lease or 143 rent any livery vessel unless the livery first obtains and 144 carries in full force and effect a policy from a licensed 145 insurance carrier in this state which insures the livery and the

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146	renter against any accident, loss, injury, property damage, or
147	other casualty caused by or resulting from the operation of the
148	livery vessel. The insurance policy must provide coverage of at
149	least \$500,000 per person and \$1 million per event. The livery
150	shall have proof of such insurance available for inspection at
151	the location where livery vessels are being leased or rented, or
152	offered for lease or rent, and shall provide to each renter the
153	insurance carrier's name and address and the insurance policy
154	number. A livery may choose to limit insurance covering the
155	renter if the renter or lessee meets one of the following
156	requirements:
157	(a) Has a Florida boating safety identification card issued
158	by the commission, a temporary certificate, or another form of
159	boating certification authorized pursuant to s. 327.395.
160	(b) Hires a professional captain who holds an active
161	license issued by the United States Coast Guard.
162	
163	This subsection does not apply to human-powered vessels.
164	(9) (8) Notwithstanding the person's age or any exemptions
165	provided in s. 327.395, any person delivering instruction
166	regarding the safe operation of vessels or <u>hands-on</u> pre-rental
167	or pre-ride instruction in accordance with subsection (3) must
168	have successfully completed a boating safety education course
169	approved by the National Association of State Boating Law
170	Administrators and this state.
171	(10) To enhance enforcement efforts, the commission may
172	enter into agreements with qualified contractors to perform
173	inspections of liveries to ensure compliance with this section.
174	Inspections may be performed by an authorized agent working
I	

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175	under the supervision of a qualified contractor. The qualified
176	contractor shall provide a copy of a written, signed inspection
177	report to the livery upon completion of the inspection and to
178	the commission within 30 days after the inspection. The
179	commission may develop the contents of the inspection report.
180	(11) (9) If a vessel rented or leased by a livery is
181	involved in an accident, the livery must report the accident to
182	the division.
183	(12) (10) A livery shall make its facilities and records
184	available for inspection upon request by law enforcement or an
185	authorized agent of the commission pursuant to subsection (10)
186	no later than 24 hours after receiving notice from law
187	enforcement or an authorized agent of the commission.
188	(13)(a) (11)(a) Any person convicted of violating this
189	section, other than subsection (2), who has not been convicted
190	of a violation of this section within the past 3 years commits a
191	misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s.
192	775.082 or s. 775.083.
193	(b) Unless the stricter penalties in paragraph (c) apply, a
194	person who violates this section, other than subsection (2),
195	within 3 years after a previous conviction of a violation of
196	this section commits a misdemeanor of the first degree,
197	punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, with a
198	minimum mandatory fine of \$500.
199	(c) A person who violates this section, other than
200	subsection (2), within 5 years after two previous convictions
201	for a violation of this section commits a misdemeanor of the
202	first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s.
203	775.083, with a minimum mandatory fine of \$1,000.
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Page 7 of 8

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204	(14) (12) A person who commits more than one violation of
205	this section, other than subsection (2), within a 3-year period
206	may not act as a livery during a 90-day period immediately after
207	being charged with that violation. The commission may revoke or
208	refuse to issue a permit under subsection (2) based on repeated
209	violations of this section.
210	Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

House

The Committee on Commerce and Tourism (Garcia) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete lines 79 - 204

and insert:

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(e) Unless the livery provides pre-rental or pre-ride instruction, which shall include hands-on instruction, in compliance with rules established by the commission.

1. The instruction must include, but need not be limited to:

a. Operational characteristics of the vessel to be rented.

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11 b. Safe vessel operation and vessel right-of-way. 12 c. The responsibility of the vessel operator for the safe and proper operation of the vessel. 13 14 d. Local characteristics of the waterway where the vessel 15 will be operated, such as navigational hazards, the presence of 16 boating-restricted areas, and water depths, and education on any safety, regulatory, informational, or <u>navigation markers in the</u> 17 18 geographic vicinity. 19 e. Emergency procedures, such as appropriate responses to 20 capsizing, falls overboard, taking on water, and vessel 21 accidents. 22 f. A notice of the prohibition against boating under the 23 influence pursuant to s. 327.35. 24 2. Any person receiving instruction in the safe handling of livery vessels pursuant to this paragraph must provide the 25 26 livery with a written statement attesting to each component of 27 the instruction. 28 a. The commission shall establish by rule the content of 29 the statement form. 30 b. The statement form must be signed by the individual 31 providing the instruction. 32 c. The livery shall maintain the statement form for no less 33 than 90 days and, upon request, make the form available for 34 inspection by law enforcement. 35 (f) Unless the livery displays boating safety information 36 in a place visible to the renting public. The commission shall 37 prescribe by rule, pursuant to chapter 120, the contents and 38 size of the boating safety information to be displayed. 39 (g) Unless the livery has a written agreement with the

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40 renter or lessee. The written agreement must include the name, address, and date of birth for the renter and the number of 41 42 people aboard the vessel, as well as the time the vessel is 43 required to be returned to the livery or another specified 44 location and an emergency contact name, address, and telephone 45 number. The livery shall maintain each agreement for no less than 1 year and, upon request, make each agreement available for 46 47 inspection by law enforcement.

(4) If a renter or lessee retains a professional captain who holds an active license issued by the United States Coast Guard to command the vessel as required by the agreement between the livery and the renter or lessee, the livery is not subject to paragraph (3)(e).

(5) A livery may not knowingly lease or rent a vessel to a person who is required to comply with s. 327.395 unless such person presents to the livery the documentation required by s. 327.395(2) for the operation of a vessel or meets the exemption provided under s. 327.395(6)(f).

(6)(5) If a vessel rented or leased by a livery is unnecessarily overdue more than 4 hours after the contracted vessel rental time has expired, the livery must notify law enforcement.

(7)(6) A livery may not knowingly lease or rent a livery vessel, other than a human-powered vessel, to any person who is under 18 years of age.

(8) (7) A livery may not lease or rent or offer to lease or rent any livery vessel unless the livery first obtains and carries in full force and effect a policy from a licensed insurance carrier in this state which insures the livery and the

Page 3 of 5

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69 renter against any accident, loss, injury, property damage, or 70 other casualty caused by or resulting from the operation of the 71 livery vessel. The insurance policy must provide coverage of at 72 least \$500,000 per person and \$1 million per event. The livery 73 shall have proof of such insurance available for inspection at 74 the location where livery vessels are being leased or rented, or 75 offered for lease or rent, and shall provide to each renter the 76 insurance carrier's name and address and the insurance policy 77 number. A livery may choose to limit insurance covering the 78 renter if the renter or lessee meets one of the following 79 requirements:

(a) Has a Florida boating safety identification card issued by the commission, a temporary certificate, or another form of boating certification authorized pursuant to s. 327.395.

(b) Hires a professional captain who holds an active license issued by the United States Coast Guard.

This subsection does not apply to human-powered vessels.

<u>(9)(8)</u> Notwithstanding the person's age or any exemptions provided in s. 327.395, any person delivering instruction regarding the safe operation of vessels or <u>hands-on</u> pre-rental or pre-ride instruction in accordance with subsection (3) must have successfully completed a boating safety education course approved by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators and this state.

94 <u>(10)(9)</u> If a vessel rented or leased by a livery is 95 involved in an accident, the livery must report the accident to 96 the division.

(11) (10) A livery shall make its facilities and records

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98 available for inspection upon request by law enforcement no99 later than 24 hours after receiving notice from law enforcement.

(12) (a) (11) (a) Any person convicted of violating this section, other than subsection (2), who has not been convicted of a violation of this section within the past 3 years commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

(b) Unless the stricter penalties in paragraph (c) apply, a person who violates this section, other than subsection (2), within 3 years after a previous conviction of a violation of this section commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, with a minimum mandatory fine of \$500.

(c) A person who violates this section, other than subsection (2), within 5 years after two previous convictions for a violation of this section commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, with a minimum mandatory fine of \$1,000.

(13)(12) A person who commits more than one violation of

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete lines 8 - 15

121 and insert:

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and renters; providing an effective date.

The Florida Senate BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT (This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.) Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Commerce and Tourism **SB** 728 BILL: Senator Garcia INTRODUCER: Liveries SUBJECT: March 24, 2023 DATE: **REVISED:** ANALYST STAFF DIRECTOR REFERENCE ACTION 1. Carroll EN **Favorable** Rogers 2. Baird CM McKay **Pre-meeting** 3. RC

I. Summary:

SB 728 specifies that a livery's pre-rental or pre-ride instruction must be hands-on. The instruction must include education on safety, regulatory, informational, or navigation markers in the geographic vicinity, and on the prohibition against boating under the influence.

The bill exempts a renter or lessee and livery from the pre-rental or pre-ride instruction requirement if the renter or lessee retains a professional captain with an active U.S. Coast Guard license, as required by the agreement between the livery and the renter or lessee.

The bill allows a livery to limit insurance covering the renter if the renter or lessee has a boating certification authorized by statute or if the renter or lessee hires a professional captain.

The bill allows the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) to enter into agreements with qualified contractors to inspect liveries for compliance with statutory requirements.

II. Present Situation:

Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) is responsible for regulating, managing, protecting, and conserving the state's fish and wildlife resources.¹ FWC is governed by a board of seven members who are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Florida Senate.² Under Article IV, Section 9 of the Florida Constitution, FWC has the authority to exercise the regulatory and executive powers of the state with respect to wild animal life, fresh water aquatic life, and marine life.

¹ FLA. CONST. art. IV, s. 9.

² Id.; see also s. 379.102(1), F.S.

Chapter 327, F.S., concerning vessel safety is enforced by FWC's Division of Law Enforcement and its officers, county sheriffs and deputies, municipal police officers, and any other law enforcement officer.³ The Division of Law Enforcement manages the state's waterways to ensure boating safety for Florida residents and visitors.⁴ This includes enforcing boating rules and regulations, coordinating boating safety campaigns and education, managing public waters and access to the waters, conducting boating accident investigations, identifying and removing derelict vessels, and investigating vessel theft and title fraud.⁵

Boating Safety Education

A person operating a vessel powered by a motor of 10 horsepower or greater must possess photographic identification and a Florida boating safety identification card; a state-issued identification card or driver license indicating possession of the boating safety identification card; or photographic identification and a temporary certificate issued or approved by FWC, an International Certificate of Competency, a boating safety card or certificate from another state or U.S. territory, or a Canadian Pleasure Craft Operator Card.⁶ A person is exempt from this requirement if he or she:

- Was born before January 1, 1988;⁷
- Is or has been licensed by the U.S. Coast Guard;
- Operates a vessel only on a private lake or pond;
- Is accompanied by an adult who meets boating safety requirements and who is attendant to the operation of the vessel and responsible for safe operation of the vessel;
- Is a nonresident who possesses photographic identification and proof of completion of a boating safety education course or examination that meets or exceeds the minimum requirements established by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators;
- Is operating a vessel within 90 days after purchase and possesses the bill of sale; or
- Is exempted by FWC rule.⁸

A Florida boating safety identification card is issued after successful completion of a boating safety education course approved by FWC.⁹ The card is valid for a person's life.¹⁰ A temporary certificate requires passing an FWC-approved examination and is valid for 90 days after the date

³ Section 327.70(1), F.S.; *see* s. 943.10(1), F.S., which defines "law enforcement officer" as any person who is elected, appointed, or employed full time by any municipality or the state or any political subdivision thereof; who is vested with authority to bear arms and make arrests; and whose primary responsibility is the prevention and detection of crime or the enforcement of the penal, criminal, traffic, or highway laws of the state. The definition also includes all certified supervisory and command personnel whose duties include, in whole or in part, the supervision, training, guidance, and management responsibilities of full-time law enforcement officers, part-time law enforcement officers, or auxiliary law enforcement officers but does not include support personnel employed by the employing agency.

⁴ Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), *Boating*, <u>https://myfwc.com/boating/</u> (last visited March 24, 2023). ⁵ FWC, *Law Enforcement*, <u>https://myfwc.com/about/inside-fwc/le/</u> (last visited March 24, 2023). *See* s. 327.70(1) and (4), F.S.

⁶ Section 327.395(1), (2), F.S.

⁷ Section 327.395(1), F.S.

⁸ Section 327.395(6), F.S.

⁹ Section 327.395(3), F.S.

¹⁰ Section 327.395(5), F.S.

of issuance.¹¹ An FWC-approved boating safety education course or temporary certificate examination must contain information regarding:

- Diving vessels, awareness of divers in the water, divers-down warning devices, and navigation around divers;
- The danger associated with:
 - A passenger riding on a vessel area not designed and designated for seating,
 - A passenger falling overboard,
 - Operating a vessel near a person in the water,
 - Starting a vessel with the engine in gear, and
 - o Leaving the vessel running when a passenger is boarding or disembarking; and
- The proper use and lifesaving benefits of an engine cutoff switch for motorboats and personal watercraft.¹²

Regulation of Liveries

A livery is defined as a person who advertises and offers a livery vessel¹³ for use by another in exchange for any type of consideration, when the livery does not also provide the lessee or renter with a captain, crew, or any type of staff or personnel to operate, oversee, maintain, or manage the vessel.¹⁴ The statute specifies two exemptions from the definition:

- Vessel owners who do not advertise their vessel for use by another for consideration and who loan or offer the vessel to a person they know; and
- A public or private school or postsecondary institution located in the state.¹⁵

A livery may not offer a vessel for lease or rent without obtaining an annual, no-cost livery permit from FWC.¹⁶ To qualify for the issuance or renewal of the permit, a livery must:

- Provide FWC with a list of all vessels available for lease or rent;
- Have valid insurance;
- Have enough U.S. Coast Guard-approved lawful personal flotation devices on site to accommodate the capacity of all available vessels;
- Have enough safety equipment required by statute and the Code of Federal Regulations on site to equip all available vessels; and
- Display boating safety information in a place visible to the renting public.

If the information required to qualify for the permit changes before the annual renewal of the permit, a livery must provide the updated information to FWC within 10 days of the change.¹⁷

Regarding boating safety, the law prohibits a livery from knowingly leasing or renting a vessel to any person:

¹¹ Section 327.395(3), (5), F.S.

¹² Section 327.395(4), F.S.

¹³ A livery vessel is defined as a vessel that is leased, rented, or chartered to another for consideration. Section 327.02(24), F.S.

¹⁴ Section 327.54(1), F.S.

 $^{^{15}}$ *Id*.

¹⁶ Section 327.54(2), F.S.

¹⁷ Id.

- When the number of persons intending to use the vessel exceeds the maximum safety load for the vessel;
- When the horsepower of the motor exceeds the capacity of the vessel;
- When the vessel does not contain required safety equipment;
- When the vessel is not seaworthy, is derelict, or is at risk of becoming derelict;
- Unless the livery provides pre-rental or pre-ride instruction that reviews, at a minimum:
 - The operational characteristics of the livery vessel,
 - Safe vessel operation and right-of-way,
 - The responsibility of the vessel operator for the safe and proper operation of the vessel,
 - o Local characteristics of the waterway, and
 - Emergency procedures;
- Unless the livery displays boating safety information in a place visible to the renting public; and
- Unless the livery has a written agreement with the renter or lessee.¹⁸

A livery also may not knowingly lease or rent a vessel to a person who is required to have a boating safety identification card or other boating safety certificate unless the person presents the card or certificate and photographic identification to the livery.¹⁹A person must be 18 years or more to rent a livery vessel other than a human-powered vessel.²⁰ Liveries must notify law enforcement if a vessel is unnecessarily overdue by more than four hours or if an accident occurs.²¹

Liveries must also obtain and carry in full force and effect a policy from a licensed insurance carrier in the state, which insures the livery and the renter against any accident, loss, injury, property damage, or other casualty caused by or resulting from the operation of the livery vessel. The policy must cover at least \$500,000 per person and \$1 million per event. Proof of insurance must be available for inspection where vessels are rented or leased. The insurance requirement only applies to human-powered vessels.²²

A livery is required to make its facilities and records available for inspection upon request of law enforcement within 24 hours of receiving notice.²³

The Boating Safety Act of 2022

The Legislature passed the Boating Safety Act of 2022 in part to increase protections for individuals who rent or lease livery vessels.²⁴ The Act provided the current statutory definition of a livery as a person who advertises and offers a livery vessel for use by another in exchange for any type of consideration, when the livery does not also provide a captain, crew, or any type of staff or personnel to operate, oversee, maintain, or manage the vessel. It also required liveries to obtain a no-cost, annual livery permit, as well as an insurance policy that insures both the livery

¹⁸ Section 327.54(3), F.S.

¹⁹ Section 327.54(4), F.S.; See generally s. 327.395, F.S.

²⁰ Section 327.54(6), F.S.

²¹ Section 327.54(5) and (9), F.S.

²² Section 327.54(7), F.S.

²³ Section 327.54(10), F.S.

²⁴ Chapter 2022-197, Laws of Fla.

and the renter. The Act added additional components to FWC-approved boating safety education courses and temporary certificate examinations.²⁵

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 amends s. 327.54, F.S., to specify that a livery's pre-rental or pre-ride instruction must be hands-on. The bill requires that the instruction include education on any safety, regulatory, informational, or navigation markers in the geographic vicinity, as well as notice of the prohibition against boating under the influence.

The bill provides that if a renter or lessee retains a professional captain who holds an active U.S. Coast Guard license to command the livery vessel as required by the agreement between the livery and the renter or lessee, and the livery confirms that the captain has been retained, the renter or lessee and the livery will be exempt from the pre-rental or pre-ride instruction requirement.

The bill allows a livery to limit insurance covering the renter if the renter or lessee:

- Has a Florida boating safety identification card issued by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), a temporary certificate, or another authorized form of boating certification; or
- Hires a professional captain who holds an active U.S. Coast Guard license.

To enhance enforcement efforts, the bill allows FWC to enter into agreements with qualified contractors to perform inspections of liveries to ensure compliance with statutory requirements. The inspections may be performed by an authorized agent working under the supervision of a qualified contractor. The bill requires the qualified contractor to provide a copy of a written, signed inspection report to the livery upon completion of the inspection and to FWC within 30 days of the inspection. FWC may develop the contents of the inspection report.

The bill requires that a livery must make the statement form attesting to pre-rental or pre-ride instruction and the written agreement between the livery and the renter or lessee available for inspection by an authorized agent of FWC. The bill further requires that a livery make its facilities and records available for inspection by an authorized agent of FWC no later than 24 hours after receiving notice from the authorized agent.

The bill makes technical changes.

Section 2 provides an effective date of July 1, 2023.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

- D. State Tax or Fee Increases: None.
- E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends section 327.54 of the Florida Statutes.

IX. Additional Information:

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes: (Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to boating safety; amending s.
3	327.395, F.S.; revising the requirement for persons
4	born before a specified date to have certain
5	identification and boating safety documentation in
6	their possession while operating a vessel; amending s.
7	327.54, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; requiring
8	liveries to provide hands-on instruction that meets
9	specified requirements; providing an exemption from
10	certain safety requirements if renters or lessees hire
11	a professional captain; deleting the requirement that
12	a livery obtain and carry insurance that also insures
13	renters and lessees; conforming a provision to changes
14	made by the act; providing an effective date.
15	
16	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
17	
18	Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 327.395, Florida
19	Statutes, is amended to read:
20	327.395 Boating safety education
21	(1) <u>Effective July 1, 2028,</u> a person born on or after
22	January 1, <u>1978</u> 1988 , may not operate a vessel powered by a
23	motor of 10 horsepower or greater unless such person has in his
24	or her possession aboard the vessel the documents required by
25	subsection (2).
	Page 1 of 5

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

26 Section 2. Subsections (4) through (12) of section 327.54, 27 Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (5) through 28 (13), respectively, subsection (2), paragraph (e) of subsection 29 (3), present subsections (7) and (8) are amended, and a new 30 subsection (4) is added to that section, to read: 327.54 Liveries; safety regulations; penalty.-31 32 (2) A livery may not offer a vessel for lease or rent without first being issued a no-cost livery permit by the 33 34 commission. The permit must be renewed annually. To qualify for 35 issuance or renewal of a livery permit, an applicant must provide the commission with a list of all vessels offered by the 36 37 livery for lease or rent by another, have valid insurance 38 pursuant to subsection (8) (7), have an amount of United States 39 Coast Guard-approved lawful personal floatation devices on site 40 sufficient to accommodate the capacity of all vessels offered by 41 the livery for rent or lease by another, have on site all safety equipment required by s. 327.50 and the Code of Federal 42 43 Regulations sufficient to equip all vessels offered by the livery for rent or lease by another, and display the information 44 45 required by paragraph (3)(f). If, before the annual renewal of 46 the permit, the information required by this subsection changes, the livery must provide the commission with the updated 47 48 information within 10 days after the change. 49 The commission may adopt rules to implement this (a)

Page 2 of 5

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

subsection.

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51	(b) A person who violates this subsection commits a
52	misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s.
53	775.082 or s. 775.083.
54	(3) A livery may not knowingly lease or rent a vessel to
55	any person:
56	(e) Unless the livery provides <u>hands-on</u> pre-rental or pre-
57	ride instruction in compliance with rules established by the
58	commission.
59	1. The instruction must include, but need not be limited
60	to:
61	a. Operational characteristics of the vessel to be rented.
62	b. Safe vessel operation and vessel right-of-way.
63	c. The responsibility of the vessel operator for the safe
64	and proper operation of the vessel.
65	d. Local characteristics of the waterway where the vessel
66	will be operated, such as navigational hazards, the presence of
67	boating-restricted areas, and water depths, and education on any
68	safety, regulatory, information, or navigation markers in the
69	geographic vicinity.
70	e. Emergency procedures, such as appropriate responses to
71	capsizing, falls overboard, taking on water, and vessel
72	accidents.
73	f. Proper use of personal floatation devices.
74	g. A notice of the prohibition against boating under the
75	influence pursuant to s. 327.35.
	Page 3 of 5

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

76 2. Any person receiving instruction in the safe handling 77 of livery vessels pursuant to this paragraph must provide the 78 livery with a written statement attesting to each component of 79 the instruction.

a. The commission shall establish by rule the content ofthe statement form.

b. The statement form must be signed by the individualproviding the instruction.

c. The livery shall maintain the statement form for no
less than 90 days and, upon request, make the form available for
inspection by law enforcement.

87 (4) If a renter or lessee retains a professional captain 88 who holds an active license issued by the United States Coast 89 Guard to command the vessel as required by an agreement between 90 the livery and the renter or lessee, and the livery confirms 91 that a professional captain has been retained, the renter or 92 lessee and the livery are not subject to paragraph (3)(e).

93 (8) (7) A livery may not lease or rent or offer to lease or 94 rent any livery vessel unless the livery first obtains and 95 carries in full force and effect a policy from a licensed 96 insurance carrier in this state which insures the livery and the 97 renter against any accident, loss, injury, property damage, or 98 other casualty caused by or resulting from the operation of the 99 livery vessel. The insurance policy must provide coverage of at least \$500,000 per person and \$1 million per event. The livery 100

Page 4 of 5

101 shall have proof of such insurance available for inspection at 102 the location where livery vessels are being leased or rented, or 103 offered for lease or rent, and shall provide to each renter the 104 insurance carrier's name and address and the insurance policy 105 number. This subsection does not apply to human-powered vessels.

106 <u>(9)(8)</u> Notwithstanding the person's age or any exemptions 107 provided in s. 327.395, any person delivering instruction 108 regarding the safe operation of vessels or <u>hands-on</u> pre-rental 109 or pre-ride instruction in accordance with subsection (3) must 110 have successfully completed a boating safety education course 111 approved by the National Association of State Boating Law 112 Administrators and this state.

113

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.

Page 5 of 5

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: CS/CS/HB 261 Boating Safety

SPONSOR(S): Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee, Agriculture, Conservation & Resiliency Subcommittee, Botana

TIED BILLS: IDEN./SIM. BILLS:

ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR or BUDGET/POLICY CHIEF
16 Y, 1 N, As CS	Mamontoff	Moore
14 Y, 0 N, As CS	Byrd	Pigott
_	16 Y, 1 N, As CS	16 Y, 1 N, As CS Mamontoff

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) is responsible for regulating, managing, protecting, and conserving the state's fish and wildlife resources. FWC is also the agency responsible for regulating boating safety in the state. This responsibility includes enforcing boating rules and regulations, coordinating boating safety campaigns and education, managing public water and access to the waters, conducting boating accident investigations, identifying and removing derelict vessels, and investigating vessel theft and title fraud.

In Florida, any person born on or after January 1, 1988, must complete a boating safety education course approved by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators in order to operate a vessel powered by a motor of 10 horsepower or greater. Any operator required by statute to complete the boating safety education course must carry a boating education ID card and a photo ID while operating any qualifying vessel.

According to an FWC report, in 2021, 751 boating accidents, 469 injuries, and 60 fatalities were reported. Most of these boating accidents (77 percent) occurred on owner-operated vessels rather than livery vessels. In 39 percent of reportable boating accidents, the operator's age was 51 years old or older. In 27 percent of reportable accidents, the operator was between the ages of 36 and 50 years old. According to the report, 83 percent of vessel operators involved in boating accidents had no formal boater education.

During the 2022 Regular Session, the Legislature passed CS/SB 606, which created new regulations relating to boating safety and liveries. The new regulations require liveries to provide pre-rental or pre-ride instructions and to carry a policy from a licensed insurance carrier that insures both the livery and the renter.

Effective July 1, 2028, the bill expands requirements related to operating a vessel by requiring any person born on or after January 1, 1978, operating a vessel powered by a motor of 10 horsepower or greater to have in their possession a photo ID and a boating safety ID card or temporary certificate issued by FWC, rather than only a person born on or after January 1, 1988.

The bill requires a livery to provide hands-on pre-rental and pre-ride instruction that must include education on any safety, regulatory, information, or navigation markers in the geographic vicinity; the proper use of personal floatation devices; and a notice of the prohibition against boating under the influence. The bill exempts a renter, lessee, and livery from providing hands-on pre-rental or pre-ride instruction if the renter or lessee retains a professional captain who holds an active license issued by the United States Coast Guard.

The bill removes the requirement for a livery to carry a policy that insures a renter against any accident, loss, injury, property damage, or other casualty caused by or resulting from the operation of the livery vessel.

The bill may have an indeterminate positive fiscal impact on state government revenue and an indeterminate negative fiscal impact on FWC.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Background

Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), created by Article IV, section 9, of the Florida Constitution, is responsible for regulating, managing, protecting, and conserving the state's fish and wildlife resources. FWC is governed by a board of seven members who are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate.¹ Pursuant to its constitutional authority, FWC exercises the regulatory and executive powers of the state with respect to wild animal life, fresh water aquatic life, and marine life.

FWC is also the agency responsible for regulating boating safety in the state. Through its Division of Law Enforcement, FWC manages the state's waterways to ensure boating safety for residents and visitors to the state.² This responsibility includes enforcing boating rules and regulations, coordinating boating safety campaigns and education, managing public water and access to the waters, conducting boating accident investigations, identifying and removing derelict vessels, and investigating vessel theft and title fraud.³

Boating Accidents

In the event of a boating collision, accident, or other casualty, current law imposes a duty on a vessel operator involved in the incident to give notice of the accident, by the quickest means available, to one of the following agencies: FWC's Division of Law Enforcement; the sheriff of the county within which the accident occurred; or the police chief of the municipality within which the accident occurred.⁴ According to an FWC report, in 2021, 751 boating accidents, 469 injuries, and 60 fatalities were reported.⁵ Most of these boating accidents (77 percent) occurred on owner-operated vessels rather than livery vessels. In 39 percent of reportable boating accidents, the operator's age was 51 years old or older. In 27 percent of reportable accidents, the operator was between the ages of 36 and 50 years old. According to the report, 83 percent of vessel operators involved in boating accidents had no formal boater education.⁶

Boating Education

Current law requires any person born on or after January 1, 1988, to complete a boating safety education course approved by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) in order to operate a vessel powered by a motor of 10 horsepower or greater.⁷ Any operator required by statute to complete the boating safety education course must carry a boating safety ID card and a photo ID while operating any qualifying vessel.⁸

NASBLA provides the minimum standards that apply to all basic boating courses in the United States and its territories. The minimum standards are reviewed every five years with the purpose of establishing a national standard for all courses across the country. Under current NASBLA standards, courses must describe state-required equipment. Courses offered in Florida that meet NASBLA's eighthour instruction requirement range in price from free to \$50.⁹ A boating safety education course card is

⁶ Id.

DATE: 3/23/2023

¹ Article IV, s. 9, FLA. CONST.

² Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), *Boating*, https://myfwc.com/boating/ (last visited Feb. 23, 2023). ³ FWC, *Law Enforcement*, https://myfwc.com/about/inside-fwc/le/ (last visited Feb. 23, 2023). See s. 327.70(1) and (4),

F.S.

⁴ Section 327.30(2), F.S.

⁵ FWC, *Boating Accident Statistical Report*, https://myfwc.com/boating/safety-education/accidents/ (last visited March 7, 2023).

⁷ Section 327.395(1), F.S.

⁸ Section 327.395(2), F.S.

⁹ FWC, *Boating Safety Courses*, https://myfwc.com/boating/safety-education/courses/ (last visited March 7, 2023). **STORAGE NAME:** h0261c.ANR

valid for life unless it was obtained through a temporary examination, in which case it is valid for only 90 days.¹⁰

Regulation of Liveries

A livery vessel is a vessel that is leased, rented, or chartered to another for consideration.¹¹ A facility that rents and leases such vessels is called a livery.¹² During the 2022 Regular Session, the Legislature passed CS/SB 606 (ch. 2022-197, L.O.F.), which created new regulations relating to boating safety and liveries.

A livery is now required to carry a policy from a licensed insurance carrier that insures the livery and the renter of a livery vessel against any accident, loss, injury, property damage, or other casualty caused by or resulting from the operation of the vessel. Coverage for at least \$500,000 per person and \$1 million per event must be provided. Proof of insurance must be available for inspection at the location where livery vessels are being leased or rented. Previously, a livery was not required to carry a policy for the renter. Since the passage of these new regulations, there has been growing concern that most insurance companies do not offer the type of insurance policy for renters that is now legally required for liveries.¹³

Additionally, liveries are now required to provide pre-rental or pre-ride instructions to renters, which must include:¹⁴

- Operational characteristics of the vessel to be rented;
- Safe vessel operation and vessel right-of-way;
- The responsibility of the vessel operator for the safe and proper operation of the vessel;
- Local characteristics of the waterway where the vessel will be operated, such as navigational hazards, boating restricted areas, and water depths; and
- Emergency procedures, such as appropriate responses to capsizing, falling overboard, taking on water, and vessel accidents.

Any person providing the instruction must have successfully completed a boating safety education course approved by NASBLA and the state. A person who receives the instruction regarding the safe operation of vessels or pre-rental or pre-ride instruction must provide the livery with a signed form attesting to each component of the instruction.

Effect of the Bill

Effective July 1, 2028, the bill expands requirements related to operating a vessel by requiring any person born on or after January 1, 1978, operating a vessel powered by a motor of 10 horsepower or greater to have in their possession a photo ID and a boating safety ID card or temporary certificate issued by FWC, rather than any person born on or after January 1, 1988.

The bill requires a livery to provide hands-on pre-rental and pre-ride instruction. The livery's pre-rental or pre-ride instruction must include education on any safety, regulatory, information, or navigation markers in the geographic vicinity; the proper use of personal floatation devices; and a notice of the prohibition against boating under the influence.

¹³ WUSF Public Media, Three words in a new law threaten Florida's rental boat industry,

¹⁰ Section 327.395 (5), F.S.

¹¹ Section 327.02(24), F.S.

¹² "Livery" means a person who advertises and offers a livery vessel for use by another person in exchange for any type of consideration when such person does not also provide the lessee or renter with a captain, a crew, or any type of staff or personnel to operate, oversee, maintain, or manage the vessel. The owner of a vessel who does not advertise his or her vessel for use by another for consideration and who loans or offers his or her vessel for use to another known to him or her either for consideration or without consideration is not a livery. A public or private school or postsecondary institution located within this state is not a livery. Section 327.54(1)(c), F.S.

https://wusfnews.wusf.usf.edu/economy-business/2022-12-20/three-words-new-law-threaten-florida-rental-boat-industry (Dec. 20, 2022).

The bill exempts a renter, lessee, and livery from providing hands-on pre-rental or pre-ride instruction if the renter or lessee retains a professional captain who holds an active license issued by the United States Coast Guard to command the vessel.

The bill removes the requirement for a livery to carry an insurance policy that insures a renter against any accident, loss, injury, property damage, or other casualty caused by or resulting from the operation of the livery vessel.

- **B. SECTION DIRECTORY:**
 - Section 1. Amends s. 327.395, F.S., relating to boating safety.
 - Section 2. Amends s. 327.54, F.S., relating to liveries.
 - Section 3. Provides an effective date of July 1, 2023.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

- A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:
 - 1. Revenues:

The bill may have an indeterminate positive fiscal impact on FWC related to the increase in the number of boating safety identification cards being issued.

2. Expenditures:

The bill may have an indeterminate negative fiscal impact on FWC related to an increase in workload.

- B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:
 - 1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

The bill may have an indeterminate positive fiscal impact on companies that teach boating safety education courses due to the increased number of individuals who will need a boating safety ID.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

None.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

None. The bill does not appear to affect county or municipal governments.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

On March 9, 2023, the Agriculture, Conservation & Resiliency Subcommittee adopted an amendment and reported the bill favorably as a committee substitute. The amendment:

- Expanded requirements related to operating a vessel by requiring any person born after January 1, 1960, operating a vessel powered by a motor of 10 horsepower or greater to have in their possession a photo ID and a boating safety ID card or temporary certificate issued by FWC;
- Required a livery to provide hands-on pre-rental and pre-ride instruction;
- Required a livery's pre-rental or pre-ride instruction to include education on any safety, regulatory, information, or navigation markers in the geographic vicinity; proper use of personal floatation devices; and a notice of the prohibition against boating under the influence; and
- Exempted the renter, lessee, and livery from providing hands-on pre-rental or pre-ride instruction if the renter or lessee retains a professional captain who holds an active license issued by the United States Coast Guard to command the vessel.

On March 22, 2023, the Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee adopted an amendment and reported the bill favorably as a committee substitute. The amendment:

• Changed the requirements related to operating a vessel, effective July 1, 2028, by requiring any person born after January 1, 1978, operating a vessel powered by a motor of 10 horsepower or greater to have in their possession a photo ID and a boating safety ID card or temporary certificate issued by FWC.

This analysis is drafted to the committee substitute adopted by the Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee.

By Senator Rouson

	16-00479B-23 20231602
1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to storage of firearms in private
3	conveyances and vessels; amending s. 790.25, F.S.;
4	prohibiting the storage of firearms in unoccupied
5	private conveyances and vessels unless done in a
6	specified manner; providing definitions; requiring
7	local law enforcement agencies to engage in a certain
8	promotional campaign; providing a finding of important
9	state interest; providing an effective date.
10	
11	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
12	
13	Section 1. Subsection (5) of section 790.25, Florida
14	Statutes, is amended to read:
15	790.25 Lawful ownership, possession, and use of firearms
16	and other weapons
17	(5) POSSESSION IN PRIVATE CONVEYANCE.—
18	(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), notwithstanding
19	subsection (2), it is lawful and is not a violation of s. 790.01
20	for a person 18 years of age or older to possess a concealed
21	firearm or other weapon for self-defense or other lawful purpose
22	within the interior of a private conveyance, without a license,
23	if the firearm or other weapon is securely encased or is
24	otherwise not readily accessible for immediate use. Nothing \underline{in}
25	this paragraph herein contained prohibits the carrying of a
26	legal firearm other than a handgun anywhere in a private
27	conveyance when such firearm is being carried for a lawful use.
28	Nothing <u>in this paragraph</u> herein contained shall be construed to
29	authorize the carrying of a concealed firearm or other weapon on

Page 1 of 2

	16-00479B-23 20231602
30	the person. This <u>paragraph</u> subsection shall be liberally
31	construed in favor of the lawful use, ownership, and possession
32	of firearms and other weapons, including lawful self-defense as
33	provided in s. 776.012.
34	(b)1. A person may not store a firearm, loaded or unloaded,
35	in an unoccupied, unsecured private conveyance or vessel unless
36	the firearm is kept from ordinary observation and view and
37	locked within a trunk, utility or glove box, or another locked
38	container or secured with a device or mechanism that is securely
39	affixed to the private conveyance or vessel.
40	2. As used in subparagraph 1., the term:
41	a. "Private conveyance" includes any motor vehicle as
42	defined in s. 790.251(2)(b) other than a public conveyance.
43	b. "Unsecured" means a private conveyance interior or
44	vessel interior that is unlocked or otherwise left open to
45	entry.
46	c. "Vessel" has the same meaning as provided in s. 327.02.
47	3. Each law enforcement agency shall engage in a
48	promotional campaign to educate the public and gun owners of the
49	requirements of subparagraph 1. and that with gun ownership
50	comes responsibility.
51	Section 2. It is the intent of the Legislature to provide
52	for the most efficient and effective deterrent to juvenile theft
53	of firearms from vessels and conveyances, tailored to local
54	conditions and resources. Therefore, the Legislature determines
55	and declares that the provisions of this act fulfill an
56	important state interest.
57	Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.

Page 2 of 2

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to storage of firearms in private
3	conveyances and vessels; amending s. 790.25, F.S.;
4	prohibiting the storage of a firearms in unoccupied
5	private conveyances and vessels unless done so in a
6	specified manner; providing definitions; requiring
7	local law enforcement agencies to engage in a
8	promotional campaign; providing legislative findings;
9	directing counties to adopt specified ordinances
10	concerning parental responsibility for gun thefts from
11	conveyances and vessels by their minor children;
12	providing a finding of important state interest;
13	providing an effective date.
14	
15	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
16	
17	Section 1. Subsection (5) of section 790.25, Florida
18	Statutes, is amended to read:
19	790.25 Lawful ownership, possession, and use of firearms
20	and other weapons
21	(5) POSSESSION IN PRIVATE CONVEYANCE
22	(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), notwithstanding
23	subsection (2), it is lawful and is not a violation of s. 790.01
24	for a person 18 years of age or older to possess a concealed
25	firearm or other weapon for self-defense or other lawful purpose
	Page 1 of 3
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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

2023

26 within the interior of a private conveyance, without a license, 27 if the firearm or other weapon is securely encased or is 28 otherwise not readily accessible for immediate use. Nothing in this paragraph herein contained prohibits the carrying of a 29 30 legal firearm other than a handgun anywhere in a private conveyance when such firearm is being carried for a lawful use. 31 32 Nothing in this paragraph herein contained shall be construed to authorize the carrying of a concealed firearm or other weapon on 33 34 the person. This paragraph subsection shall be liberally construed in favor of the lawful use, ownership, and possession 35 36 of firearms and other weapons, including lawful self-defense as 37 provided in s. 776.012. 38 (b)1. A person may not store a firearm, loaded or 39 unloaded, in an unoccupied, unsecured private conveyance or 40 vessel unless the firearm is kept from ordinary observation and 41 view and locked within a trunk, utility or glove box, or another 42 locked container or secured with a device or mechanism that is 43 securely affixed to the private conveyance or vessel. 2. As used in subparagraph 1., the term: 44 45 "Private conveyance" includes any "motor vehicle" as a. defined in s. 790.251(2)(b) other than a public conveyance. 46 "Unsecured" means a private conveyance interior or 47 b. 48 vessel interior that is unlocked or otherwise left open to 49 entry. 50 "Vessel" has the same meaning as provided in s. 327.02. с.

Page 2 of 3

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Page 3 of 3

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 ${\bf By}$ Senator Rodriguez

	40-01732D-23 20231502
1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to vessel owner and operation
3	requirements; amending s. 327.4108, F.S.; revising
4	anchoring limitation areas in certain sections of
5	Biscayne Bay in Miami-Dade County; revising the
6	timeframe during which a person may anchor a vessel in
7	an anchoring limitation area within which such
8	anchoring would otherwise be unlawful; amending s.
9	327.70, F.S.; requiring law enforcement officers to
10	conduct national criminal background checks for vessel
11	owners who are issued citations for specified
12	violations; providing an effective date.
13	
14	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
15	
16	Section 1. Subsection (1) and paragraph (c) of subsection
17	(4) of section 327.4108, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
18	327.4108 Anchoring of vessels in anchoring limitation
19	areas
20	(1) The following densely populated urban areas, which have
21	narrow state waterways, residential docking facilities, and
22	significant recreational boating traffic, are designated as and
23	shall be considered to be grandfathered-in anchoring limitation
24	areas, within which, except as provided in subsections (4) and
25	(5), a person may not anchor a vessel at any time during the
26	period between one-half hour after sunset and one-half hour
27	before sunrise and, at any other time, for more than 4 hours in
28	a single day except as provided in subsections (4) and (5):
29	(a) The section of Middle River lying between Northeast

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	40-01732D-23 20231502
30	21st Court and the Intracoastal Waterway in Broward County.
31	(b) Sunset Lake in Miami-Dade County.
32	(c) The sections of Biscayne Bay in Miami-Dade County lying
33	between:
34	1. Rivo Alto Island and Di Lido Island.
35	2. Di Lido Island and San Marino Island.
36	<u>3.</u> 2. San Marino Island and San Marco Island.
37	4.3. San Marco Island and Biscayne Island.
38	5. Star Island and MacArthur Causeway.
39	6. Palm Island and MacArthur Causeway.
40	7. Hibiscus Island and Palm Island.
41	8. Julia Tuttle Causeway and Kennedy Causeway.
42	9. The Sunset Islands.
43	10. Belle Isle and Rivo Alto Island.
44	
45	For the purposes of this paragraph, the term "lying between"
46	includes, without limitation, all of the area 200 yards to the
47	west from the western shore of the Sunset Islands and Di Lido
48	Island, all of the area 200 yards to the north from the northern
49	shore of the Sunset Islands, and all of the area 200 yards to
50	the east from the eastern shore of Di Lido Island.
51	(4) Notwithstanding subsections (1), (2), and (3), a person
52	may anchor a vessel in an anchoring limitation area during a
53	time that would otherwise be unlawful:
54	(c) <u>For the duration of</u> During events described in s.
55	327.48 or other special events, including, but not limited to,
56	public music performances, local government waterfront
57	activities, or fireworks displays. A vessel may anchor for the
58	lesser of the duration of the special event or 3 days, whichever
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Page 3 of 3

Pre	pared By: The I	Professio	onal Staff of the Co	ommittee on Enviro	nment and Natural Resources
ILL:	SB 1502				
NTRODUCER:	Senator Rodriguez				
SUBJECT:	Vessel Own	er and (Operation Requi	irements	
DATE:	March 24, 2	023	REVISED:		
ANAL	YST	STAI	F DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
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I. Summary:

SB 1502 prohibits a person from anchoring a vessel in certain listed anchoring limitation areas for more than four hours per day. This is an expansion of current law, which limits anchoring in these areas between one-half hour before sunrise and one-half hour after sunset. The bill adds sections of Biscayne Bay in Miami-Dade County to the list of anchoring limitation areas.

The list of anchoring limitation areas are described as areas lying between certain islands or landmarks and the bill defines "lying between" as including all of the area 200 yards to the west from the western shore of the Sunset Islands and Di Lido Island, all of the area 200 yards to the north from the northern shore of the Sunset Islands, and all of the area 200 yards to the east from the eastern shore of Di Lido Island.

The bill deletes language that currently allows anchoring in an anchoring limitation area during special events (not including regattas, tournaments, or marine parades or exhibitions) that include public music performances, local government waterfront activities, or fireworks displays.

The bill requires a law enforcement officer who issues a citation to a vessel owner for a violation of vessel safety laws to conduct a national criminal background check on the vessel owner.

II. Present Situation:

Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) is governed by a board of seven members who are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Florida Senate.¹ The Division of Law Enforcement Boating and Waterways Section of FWC oversees and coordinates statewide regulatory waterway markers to ensure compliance with uniform markers and state boating and resource protection zones for the benefit of all waterway users and fish and wildlife resources in the state.² The Boating and Waterways Section takes public input and provides notice of proposed local boating-restricted areas.³

FWC's boating laws are enforced by the Division of Law Enforcement and its officers, county sheriffs and deputies, municipal police officers, and any other law enforcement officer.⁴ The Division of Law Enforcement manages the state's waterways to ensure boating safety for residents of and visitors to the state.⁵ This includes enforcing boating rules and regulations, coordinating boating safety campaigns and education, managing public waters and access to the waters, conducting boating accident investigations, identifying and removing derelict vessels, and investigating vessel theft and title fraud.⁶

Anchoring or Mooring

Anchoring or mooring refers to a boater's practice of seeking and using a safe harbor on the public waterway system for an undefined duration. Anchoring is accomplished using an anchor carried on the vessel.⁷ Mooring is accomplished through the use of moorings permanently affixed to the bottom of the waterbody. Anchorages are areas that boaters regularly use for anchoring or mooring, whether designated or managed for that purpose or not. Mooring fields are areas designated and used for a system of properly spaced moorings.⁸

¹ FLA. CONST. art. IV, s. 9; see also s. 379.102(1), F.S.

² FWC, Waterway Management, https://myfwc.com/boating/waterway/ (last visited Mar. 13, 2023). 3 Id.

⁴ Section 327.70(1), F.S.; see s. 943.10(1), F.S., which defines "law enforcement officer" as any person who is elected, appointed, or employed full time by any municipality or the state or any political subdivision thereof; who is vested with authority to bear arms and make arrests; and whose primary responsibility is the prevention and detection of crime or the enforcement of the penal, criminal, traffic, or highway laws of the state. The definition also includes all certified supervisory and command personnel whose duties include, in whole or in part, the supervision, training, guidance, and management responsibilities of full-time law enforcement officers, part-time law enforcement officers, or auxiliary law enforcement officers but does not include support personnel employed by the employing agency.

⁵ Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), *Boating*, https://myfwc.com/boating/ (last visited Mar. 13, 2023).

⁶ FWC, Law Enforcement, https://myfwc.com/about/inside-fwc/le/ (last visited Mar. 13, 2023). See s. 327.70(1) and (4), F.S. ⁷ Section 327.02, F.S., defines the term "vessel" to include every description of watercraft, barge, and airboat, other than a seaplane on the water, used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on water.

⁸ Ankersen, Hamann, & Flagg, Anchoring Away: Government Regulation and the Rights of Navigation in Florida, 2 (Rev. May 2012), available at https://repository.library.noaa.gov/view/noaa/36907.

Anchoring Limitation Areas

State law designates certain densely populated urban areas as anchoring limitation areas.⁹ These areas usually have narrow state waterways, residential docking facilities, and significant recreational boating traffic. The listed anchoring limitation areas are:

- The section of Middle River lying between Northeast 21st Court and the Intracoastal Waterway in Broward County;
- Sunset Lake in Miami-Dade County; and
- The sections of Biscayne Bay in Miami-Dade County lying between:
 - Rivo Alto Island and Di Lido Island,
 - San Marino Island and San Marco Island, and
 - San Marco Island and Biscayne Island.¹⁰

Exceptions to anchoring prohibitions in an anchoring limitation area include the following:

- When a vessel suffers a mechanical failure that poses an unreasonable risk of harm to the vessel or the persons onboard unless the vessel anchors;
- If imminent or existing weather conditions in the vicinity of the vessel pose an unreasonable risk of harm to the vessel or the persons onboard unless the vessel anchors; and
- During a regatta, tournament, or marine parade or exhibition or other special events, including, but not limited to, public music performances, local government waterfront activities, or fireworks displays.¹¹

Vessels exempt from anchoring prohibitions in an anchoring limitation area include the following:

- Vessels owned or operated by a government entity for law enforcement, firefighting, military, or rescue purposes;
- Construction or dredging vessels on an active job site;
- Vessels actively engaged in commercial fishing; and
- Vessels engaged in recreational fishing if the persons onboard are actively tending hook and line fishing gear or nets.¹²

Law enforcement officers or agencies may remove and impound, for up to 48 hours, vessels from anchoring limitation areas when a vessel operator who was previously issued a citation:

- Continues to anchor the vessel in an anchoring limitation area within 12 hours of being issued a citation; or
- Refuses to leave the anchoring limitation area after being directed to do so by a law enforcement officer or agency.¹³

In addition to the civil penalty imposed by a citation, a vessel operator whose vessel has been impounded must pay all of the applicable removal and storage fees before the vessel is released.¹⁴

⁹ Section 327.4108(1), F.S.

¹⁰ Id. Counties may create more anchoring limitation areas under certain circumstances. Section 327.4108(2), F.S.

¹¹ Section 327.4108 (4), F.S.

¹² Section 327.4108(5), F.S.

¹³ Section 327.4108(6), F.S.

 $^{^{14}}$ Id.

An owner or operator of a vessel who anchors in an anchoring limitation area commits a noncriminal infraction and is subject to a uniform boating citation and penalties. The civil penalty provided is up to a maximum of:

- \$100 for a first offense;
- \$250 for a second offense; and
- \$500 for a third or subsequent offense.¹⁵

Section 327.73(1) F.S., provides that any person who fails to appear or otherwise properly respond to a uniform boating citation must, in addition to the charge relating to the violation of the boating laws, be charged with a second degree misdemeanor, which is punishable by a maximum fine of \$500 and no more than a 60-day imprisonment.¹⁶

National Criminal Background Check

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement makes state and national criminal history information available to governmental agencies for licensing and employment.¹⁷ A State of Florida criminal history record check may currently be ordered online for a fee paid at the time of request.¹⁸

Biscayne Bay

Biscayne Bay is a 428-square mile estuary extending nearly the entire length of Miami-Dade County.¹⁹ The Bay is home to over 500 species of fish and other marine organisms, and its extensive areas of seagrasses are an important food source for the Florida manatee and as nursery areas for many ecologically and commercially important estuarine species like shrimps, crabs, lobster, and sponges.²⁰ Miami-Dade County is one of Florida's most populous counties, with approximately 2.7 million residents.²¹ The county sees millions of visitors each year.²²

¹⁷ Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE), *State and National Criminal History Record Check*, <u>https://www.fdle.state.fl.us/Criminal-History-Records/National-Checks</u> (last visited Mar. 13, 2023).

¹⁵ Section 327.73(1)(z), F.S.

¹⁶ Sections 775.082 and 775.083, F.S.

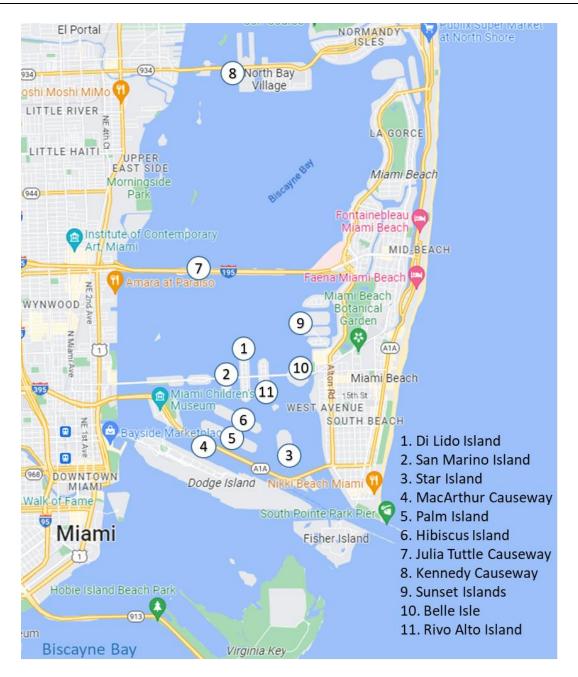
¹⁸ FDLE, *State of Florida Criminal History Record Check*, <u>https://www.fdle.state.fl.us/Criminal-History-Records/Florida-Checks.aspx</u> (last visited Mar. 20, 2023).

¹⁹ Miami-Dade County, *About Biscayne Bay*, <u>https://www.miamidade.gov/global/economy/environment/about-biscayne-bay.page</u> (last visited Mar. 12, 2023).

²⁰ U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, *Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands Project*, <u>https://www.saj.usace.army.mil/BBCW/</u> (last visited Mar. 12, 2023).

²¹ Florida Department of Environmental Protection, *Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserves*, <u>https://floridadep.gov/rcp/aquatic-preserve/BiscayneBayAquaticPreserves</u> (last visited Mar. 12, 2023).

²² Miami-Dade County, About Biscayne Bay.



III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 amends s. 327.4108, F.S., to prohibit a person from anchoring a vessel in certain listed anchoring limitation areas for more than four hours per day. This is an expansion of current law, which limits anchoring in these areas between one-half hour before sunrise and one-half hour after sunset.

The bill adds sections of Biscayne Bay in Miami-Dade County to the listed anchoring limitation areas that lie between:

- Di Lido Island and San Marino Island,
- Star Island and MacArthur Causeway,

- Palm Island and MacArthur Causeway,
- Hibiscus Island and Palm Island,
- Julia Tuttle Causeway and Kennedy Causeway,
- The Sunset Islands, and
- Belle Isle and Rivo Alto Island.

The bill defines "lying between" as including, without limitation, all of the area 200 yards to the west from the western shore of the Sunset Islands and Di Lido Island, all of the area 200 yards to the north from the northern shore of the Sunset Islands, and all of the area 200 yards to the east from the eastern shore of Di Lido Island.

The bill removes language allowing anchoring in an anchoring limitation area during special events (not including regattas, tournaments, or marine parades or exhibitions) that include public music performances, local government waterfront activities, or fireworks displays.

The bill makes technical changes.

Section 2 amends s. 327.70, F.S., to require a law enforcement officer who issues a citation to a vessel owner for a violation of ch. 327, F.S., concerning vessel safety, to conduct a national criminal background check on the vessel owner.

Section 3 provides an effective date of July 1, 2023.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

Art. III, s. 10 of the Florida Constitution prohibits the Legislature from enacting any special law unless notice is first published or a referendum is conducted. A special law or "local law" relates to or operates upon a particular person, thing, or part of the state; it does not apply with geographic uniformity across the state and bears no reasonable

relationship to differences in population or other legitimate criteria.²³ On the other hand, a general law of local application relates to a class of persons or things or subdivisions of the state, based upon distinctions or differences that are inherent or particular to the class or location. The Legislature is granted wide discretion in making such classifications.²⁴ If a particular condition exists in only a portion of the state, enactments that reference the limited geographic area may be general laws.²⁵ "[I]f a law utilizes a classification that is geographical in its terms but the purpose of the statue is one of statewide importance and impact, and the classification is reasonably related to the law's purpose, it is a valid general law.²⁶

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

According to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), law enforcement officers may conduct criminal background checks on vessel owners who have been issued a citation, however a national criminal background check is more in-depth than what officers typically conduct. FWC has suggested removing "national" from the requirement in Section 2 of the bill.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends sections 327.4108 and 327.70 of the Florida Statutes.

²³ See State ex rel. Landis v. Harris, 163 So. 237, 240 (Fla. 1934); and Lawnwood Medical Center, Inc. v. Seeger, 990 So.2d 503 (Fla. 2008).

²⁴ Shelton v. Reeder, 121 So. 2d 145, 151 (Fla. 1960). But see also FLA. CONST. Art. X, s. 11s.

²⁵ Schrader v. Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority, 840 So.2d 1050, 1055 (Fla. 2003).

²⁶ Id. at 1056.

IX. **Additional Information:**

Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes: (Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.) Α.

None.

Β. Amendments:

None.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to vessel owner and operation
3	requirements; amending s. 327.4108, F.S.; revising
4	anchoring limitation areas in certain sections of
5	Biscayne Bay in Miami-Dade County; revising the
6	timeframe during which a person may anchor a vessel in
7	
	an anchoring limitation area within which such
8	anchoring would otherwise be unlawful; amending s.
9	327.70, F.S.; requiring law enforcement officers to
10	conduct national criminal background checks for vessel
11	owners who are issued citations for specified
12	violations; providing an effective date.
13	
14	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
15	
16	Section 1. Subsection (1) and paragraph (c) of subsection
17	(4) of section 327.4108, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
18	327.4108 Anchoring of vessels in anchoring limitation
19	areas
20	(1) The following densely populated urban areas, which
21	have narrow state waterways, residential docking facilities, and
22	significant recreational boating traffic, are designated as and
23	shall be considered to be grandfathered-in anchoring limitation
24	areas, within which, except as provided in subsections (4) and
25	(5), a person may not anchor a vessel at any time during the
	Page 1 of 3

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

FLORIDA	HOUSE	OF REP	RESENTA	A T I V E S
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26	period between one-half hour after sunset and one-half hour
27	before sunrise and, at any other time, for more than 4 hours in
28	a single day except as provided in subsections (4) and (5):
29	(a) The section of Middle River lying between Northeast
30	21st Court and the Intracoastal Waterway in Broward County.
31	(b) Sunset Lake in Miami-Dade County.
32	(c) The sections of Biscayne Bay in Miami-Dade County
33	lying between:
34	1. Rivo Alto Island and Di Lido Island.
35	2. Di Lido Island and San Marino Island.
36	<u>3.</u> 2. San Marino Island and San Marco Island.
37	4.3. San Marco Island and Biscayne Island.
38	5. Star Island and MacArthur Causeway.
39	6. Palm Island and MacArthur Causeway.
40	7. Hibiscus Island and Palm Island.
41	8. Julia Tuttle Causeway and Kennedy Causeway.
42	9. The Sunset Islands.
43	10. Belle Isle and Rivo Alto Island.
44	
45	For the purposes of this paragraph, the term "lying between"
46	includes, without limitation, all of the area 200 yards to the
47	west from the western shore of the Sunset Islands and Di Lido
48	Island, all of the area 200 yards to the north from the northern
49	shore of the Sunset Islands, and all of the area 200 yards to
50	the east from the eastern shore of Di Lido Island.
	Page 2 of 3

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

51	(4) Notwithstanding subsections (1), (2), and (3), a
52	person may anchor a vessel in an anchoring limitation area
53	during a time that would otherwise be unlawful:
54	(c) <u>For the duration of</u> During events described in s.
55	327.48 or other special events, including, but not limited to,
56	public music performances, local government waterfront
57	activities, or fireworks displays. A vessel may anchor for the
58	lesser of the duration of the special event or 3 days, whichever
59	<u>is less</u> .
60	Section 2. Present subsection (5) of section 327.70,
61	Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (6), and a new
62	subsection (5) is added to that section, to read:
63	327.70 Enforcement of this chapter and chapter 328
64	(5) When a law enforcement officer issues a citation to a
65	vessel owner for a violation of this chapter, the law
66	enforcement officer must conduct a national criminal background
67	check on the vessel owner.
68	Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.
	Page 3 of 3

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

The Florida Senate BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Pre	epared By: The Pr	ofessional Staff of the C	committee on Enviro	onment and Natur	al Resources
BILL:	SB 1314				
INTRODUCER:	Senator Wrig	ht			
SUBJECT:	Boating-restri	cted Areas			
DATE:	March 17, 202	23 REVISED:			
ANAL	YST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE		ACTION
1. Carroll		Rogers	EN	Favorable	
2.			CA		
3.			RC		

I. Summary:

SB 1314 allows local governments to establish by ordinance no wake boating-restricted areas within 500 feet of any private or public marina pumpout.

II. Present Situation:

Boating-Restricted Areas

Boating-restricted areas, which may restrict the speed and operation of vessels, may be established on the waters of the state for any purpose necessary to protect the safety of the public, taking into account boating accidents, visibility, hazardous currents or water levels, vessel traffic congestion, or other navigational hazards, as well as seagrass protection on privately-owned submerged lands.¹

Local governments have the authority to establish certain boating-restricted areas by ordinance, including within the portion of the Florida Intracoastal Waterway within their jurisdiction.² These areas include:

- Idle-speed, no wake boating-restricted areas, if the area is:
 - Within 500 feet of any boat ramp, hoist, marine railway, or other launching or landing facility available for use by the general boating public on waterways not exceeding 300 feet in width;
 - Within 500 feet of fuel pumps or dispensers at any marine fueling facility that sells motor fuel to the general boating public on waterways more than 300 feet in width;
 - Within 300 feet of the fuel pumps or dispensers at any licensed terminal facility that sells motor fuel to the general boating public on waterways not exceeding 300 feet in width; or

¹ Section 327.46(1), F.S.

² Section 327.46(1), F.S. Apart from this authorization, local governments are generally prohibited from regulating any vessel upon the Florida Intracoastal Waterway. Section 327.60(2)(c), F.S.

- Inside or within 300 feet of any lock structure;
- Slow speed, minimum wake boating-restricted areas if the area is:
 - Within 300 feet of any bridge fender system;
 - Within 300 feet of any bridge span presenting a vertical clearance of less than 25 feet or a horizontal clearance of less than 100 feet;
 - On a creek, stream, canal, or similar linear waterway if the waterway is less than 75 feet in width from shoreline or shoreline;
 - \circ On a lake or pond of less than 10 acres in total surface area; or
 - Within the boundaries of a permitted public mooring field and a buffer around the mooring field of up to 100 feet; and
- Vessel-exclusion zones if the area is:
 - Designated as a public bathing beach or swim area, except that such areas may not be created on waters that include any portion of the Florida Intracoastal Waterway or that are within 100 feet of the marked channel of the Florida Intracoastal Waterway; or
 - Within 300 feet of a dam, spillway, or flood control structure.³

Local governments also have the authority to establish by ordinance the following other boatingrestricted areas:

- An idle speed, no wake boating-restricted area, if the area is within 300 feet of a confluence of water bodies presenting a blind corner, a bend in a narrow channel or fairway, or such other area if an intervening obstruction to visibility may obscure other vessels or other users of the waterway;
- A slow speed, minimum wake, or numerical speed limit boating-restricted area if the area is:
 - Within 300 feet of a confluence of waterbodies presenting a blind corner, a bend in a narrow channel or fairway, or such other area if an intervening obstruction to visibility may obscure other vessels or other users of the waterway;
 - Subject to unsafe levels of vessel traffic congestion;
 - o Subject to hazardous water levels or currents, or containing other navigational hazards; or
 - An area that accident reports, uniform boating citations, vessel traffic studies, or other creditable data demonstrate to present a significant risk of collision or a significant threat to boating safety; and
- A vessel-exclusion zone if the area is reserved exclusively:
 - As a canoe trail or otherwise limited to vessels under oars or under sail; or
 - For a particular activity and user group separation must be imposed to protect the safety of the participants.⁴

Florida Intracoastal Waterway

The Florida Intracoastal Waterway consists of the following waterways: the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, the Georgia state line north of Fernandina to Miami; the Port Canaveral lock and canal to the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway; the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, Miami to Key West; the Okeechobee Waterway, Stuart to Fort Myers; the St. Johns River, Jacksonville to Sanford; the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, Anclote to Fort Myers; the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, Waterway, Carrabelle to Tampa Bay; Carrabelle to Anclote open bay section, using the Gulf of

³ *Id*.

⁴ Id.

Florida Intracoastal Waterway.⁶

Mexico; the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, Carrabelle to the Alabama state line west of Pensacola; and the Apalachicola, Chattahoochee, and Flint rivers in Florida.⁵ The map below shows the



Marina Pumpout

Florida law prohibits the discharge of raw sewage from any vessel or any floating structure in Florida waters.⁷ An operator of any vessel which is plumbed so that a toilet may be flushed into the water or so that a holding tank may be emptied into the water must take certain measures to prevent direct discharge of sewage while the vessel is on waters of the state.⁸ All waste from

⁵ Section 327.02(15), F.S.

⁶ Florida Department of Transportation, *Florida Waterways System Plan*, Figure 1-2 on p. 1-12 (2015), *available at* <u>https://www.fdot.gov/docs/default-source/seaport/pdfs/2015-Florida-Waterways-System-Plan_Final.pdf</u> (last visited Mar. 15, 2023).

⁷ Section 327.53(4), F.S.

⁸ Id.

Type III marine sanitation devices⁹ must be disposed of in an approved sewage pump-out facility.¹⁰ A violation of the marine sanitation laws is a noncriminal infraction.¹¹

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 amends s. 327.46, F.S., adds areas within 500 feet of any private or public marina pumpout to the list of slow speed, minimum wake boating-restricted areas that municipalities and counties may establish by ordinance, including within the portion of the Florida Intracoastal Waterway within their jurisdiction.

Section 2 reenacts s. 327.41(2), F.S., for the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this bill to the law governing boating restricted areas in a reference thereto.

Section 3 provides an effective date of July 1, 2023.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

⁹ Type III marine sanitation devices are typically a holding tank where sewage is stored until it can be discharged shore-side or at sea (beyond three miles from shore). U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, *Marine Sanitation Devices (MSDs)*, https://www.epa.gov/vessels-marinas-and-ports/marine-sanitation-devices-msds (last visited Mar. 15, 2023).

¹⁰ Section 327.53(4), F.S.

¹¹ Section 327.53(6)(a), F.S.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends section 327.46 of the Florida Statutes.

This bill reenacts section 327.41(2) of the Florida Statutes.

IX. Additional Information:

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes: (Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.

By Senator Wright

_	8-01353-23 20231314
1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to boating-restricted areas; amending
3	s. 327.46, F.S.; authorizing counties and
4	municipalities to establish within certain portions of
5	the Florida Intracoastal Waterway slow speed, minimum
6	wake boating-restricted areas within a specified
7	distance from private or public marina pumpouts;
8	reenacting s. 327.41(2), F.S., relating to uniform
9	waterway regulatory markers, to incorporate the
10	amendment made to s. 327.46, F.S., in a reference
11	thereto; providing an effective date.
12	
13	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
14	
15	Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section
16	327.46, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
17	327.46 Boating-restricted areas
18	(1) Boating-restricted areas, including, but not limited
19	to, restrictions of vessel speeds and vessel traffic, may be
20	established on the waters of this state for any purpose
21	necessary to protect the safety of the public if such
22	restrictions are necessary based on boating accidents,
23	visibility, hazardous currents or water levels, vessel traffic
24	congestion, or other navigational hazards or to protect
25	seagrasses on privately owned submerged lands.
26	(b) Municipalities and counties may establish the following
27	boating-restricted areas by ordinance, including,
28	notwithstanding the prohibition in s. 327.60(2)(c), within the
29	portion of the Florida Intracoastal Waterway within their
I	

Page 1 of 4

8-01353-23 20231314 30 jurisdiction: 31 1. An ordinance establishing an idle speed, no wake boating-restricted area, if the area is: 32 a. Within 500 feet of any boat ramp, hoist, marine railway, 33 or other launching or landing facility available for use by the 34 general boating public on waterways more than 300 feet in width 35 36 or within 300 feet of any boat ramp, hoist, marine railway, or 37 other launching or landing facility available for use by the 38 general boating public on waterways not exceeding 300 feet in 39 width. 40 b. Within 500 feet of fuel pumps or dispensers at any 41 marine fueling facility that sells motor fuel to the general 42 boating public on waterways more than 300 feet in width or within 300 feet of the fuel pumps or dispensers at any licensed 43 44 terminal facility that sells motor fuel to the general boating public on waterways not exceeding 300 feet in width. 45 46 c. Inside or within 300 feet of any lock structure. 47 2. An ordinance establishing a slow speed, minimum wake boating-restricted area if the area is: 48 49 a. Within 300 feet of any bridge fender system. 50 b. Within 300 feet of any bridge span presenting a vertical 51 clearance of less than 25 feet or a horizontal clearance of less than 100 feet. 52 53 c. On a creek, stream, canal, or similar linear waterway if 54 the waterway is less than 75 feet in width from shoreline to 55 shoreline. 56 d. On a lake or pond of less than 10 acres in total surface 57 area. e. Within the boundaries of a permitted public mooring 58

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

SB 1314

8-01353-23

20231314 59 field and a buffer around the mooring field of up to 100 feet. 60 f. Within 500 feet of any private or public marina pumpout. 3. An ordinance establishing a vessel-exclusion zone if the 61 62 area is: 63 a. Designated as a public bathing beach or swim area, 64 except that such areas may not be created on waters that include 65 any portion of the Florida Intracoastal Waterway or that are within 100 feet of the marked channel of the Florida 66 67 Intracoastal Waterway. 68 b. Within 300 feet of a dam, spillway, or flood control 69 structure. 70 71 Vessel exclusion zones created pursuant to this subparagraph 72 must be marked with uniform waterway markers permitted by the 73 commission in accordance with this chapter. Such zones may not 74 be marked by ropes. 75 Section 2. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 76 made by this act to section 327.46, Florida Statutes, in a 77 reference thereto, subsection (2) of section 327.41, Florida 78 Statutes, is reenacted to read: 79 327.41 Uniform waterway regulatory markers.-80 (2) Any county or municipality which has been granted a 81 boating-restricted area designation, by rule of the commission 82 pursuant to s. 327.46(1)(a), for a portion of the Florida 83 Intracoastal Waterway within its jurisdiction or which has adopted a boating-restricted area by ordinance pursuant to s. 84 85 327.46(1)(b) or (c) or s. 379.2431(2)(p), or any other 86 governmental entity which has legally established a boating-87 restricted area, may apply to the commission for permission to

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SB 1314

	8-01353-23 20231314
88	place regulatory markers within the boating-restricted area.
89	Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.

Page 4 of 4

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to boating-restricted areas; amending
3	s. 327.46, F.S.; authorizing counties and
4	municipalities to establish within certain portions of
5	the Florida Intracoastal Waterway slow speed, minimum
6	wake boating-restricted areas within a specified
7	distance from private or public marina pumpouts;
8	reenacting s. 327.41(2), F.S., relating to uniform
9	waterway regulatory markers, to incorporate the
10	amendment made to s. 327.46, F.S., in a reference
11	thereto; providing an effective date.
12	
13	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
14	
15	Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section
16	327.46, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
17	327.46 Boating-restricted areas
18	(1) Boating-restricted areas, including, but not limited
19	to, restrictions of vessel speeds and vessel traffic, may be
20	established on the waters of this state for any purpose
21	necessary to protect the safety of the public if such
22	restrictions are necessary based on boating accidents,
23	visibility, hazardous currents or water levels, vessel traffic
24	congestion, or other navigational hazards or to protect
25	seagrasses on privately owned submerged lands.
	Dece 1 of 4

Page 1 of 4

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(b) Municipalities and counties may establish the following boating-restricted areas by ordinance, including, notwithstanding the prohibition in s. 327.60(2)(c), within the portion of the Florida Intracoastal Waterway within their jurisdiction:

31 1. An ordinance establishing an idle speed, no wake32 boating-restricted area, if the area is:

a. Within 500 feet of any boat ramp, hoist, marine railway, or other launching or landing facility available for use by the general boating public on waterways more than 300 feet in width or within 300 feet of any boat ramp, hoist, marine railway, or other launching or landing facility available for use by the general boating public on waterways not exceeding 300 feet in width.

b. Within 500 feet of fuel pumps or dispensers at any marine fueling facility that sells motor fuel to the general boating public on waterways more than 300 feet in width or within 300 feet of the fuel pumps or dispensers at any licensed terminal facility that sells motor fuel to the general boating public on waterways not exceeding 300 feet in width.

46

c. Inside or within 300 feet of any lock structure.

47 2. An ordinance establishing a slow speed, minimum wake48 boating-restricted area if the area is:

49 50 a. Within 300 feet of any bridge fender system.

b. Within 300 feet of any bridge span presenting a

Page 2 of 4

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

vertical clearance of less than 25 feet or a horizontal 51 clearance of less than 100 feet. 52 53 c. On a creek, stream, canal, or similar linear waterway 54 if the waterway is less than 75 feet in width from shoreline to 55 shoreline. 56 d. On a lake or pond of less than 10 acres in total 57 surface area. e. Within the boundaries of a permitted public mooring 58 59 field and a buffer around the mooring field of up to 100 feet. f. Within 500 feet of any private or public marina 60 61 pumpout. 3. An ordinance establishing a vessel-exclusion zone if 62 63 the area is: 64 a. Designated as a public bathing beach or swim area, except that such areas may not be created on waters that include 65 66 any portion of the Florida Intracoastal Waterway or that are within 100 feet of the marked channel of the Florida 67 68 Intracoastal Waterway. 69 b. Within 300 feet of a dam, spillway, or flood control 70 structure. 71 72 Vessel exclusion zones created pursuant to this subparagraph 73 must be marked with uniform waterway markers permitted by the 74 commission in accordance with this chapter. Such zones may not be marked by ropes. 75 Page 3 of 4

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

HB 1103

76 Section 2. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 77 made by this act to section 327.46, Florida Statutes, in a 78 reference thereto, subsection (2) of section 327.41, Florida 79 Statutes, is reenacted to read: 80 327.41 Uniform waterway regulatory markers.-Any county or municipality which has been granted a 81 (2) 82 boating-restricted area designation, by rule of the commission 83 pursuant to s. 327.46(1)(a), for a portion of the Florida 84 Intracoastal Waterway within its jurisdiction or which has 85 adopted a boating-restricted area by ordinance pursuant to s. 327.46(1)(b) or (c) or s. 379.2431(2)(p), or any other 86 87 governmental entity which has legally established a boatingrestricted area, may apply to the commission for permission to 88 89 place regulatory markers within the boating-restricted area.

90

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.

Page 4 of 4

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

2023

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: HB 1103 Boating-restricted Areas SPONSOR(S): Tramont TIED BILLS: IDEN./SIM. BILLS: SB 1314

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR or BUDGET/POLICY CHIEF
1) Agriculture, Conservation & Resiliency Subcommittee		Mamontoff	Moore
2) Local Administration, Federal Affairs & Special Districts Subcommittee			
3) Infrastructure Strategies Committee			

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), created by Article IV, section 9, of the Florida Constitution, is the agency responsible for regulating boating in the state. This responsibility includes enforcing boating rules and regulations, and managing public water and access to the waters.

Boating-restricted areas, which restrict vessel speeds and traffic, may be established on the waters of the state for any purpose necessary to protect the safety of the public, taking into account boating accidents, visibility, hazardous currents or water levels, vessel traffic congestion, or other navigational hazards, as well as seagrass protection on privately-owned submerged lands.

The bill allows a municipality or county to adopt an ordinance that establishes a slow speed, minimum wake boating-restricted area, if the area is within 500 feet of any private or public marina pumpout.

The bill does not appear to have a fiscal impact on state or local government.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Background

Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), created by Article IV, section 9, of the Florida Constitution, is responsible for regulating, managing, protecting, and conserving the state's fish and wildlife resources. FWC is governed by a board of seven members who are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate.¹ Pursuant to its constitutional authority, FWC exercises the regulatory and executive powers of the state with respect to wild animal life, fresh water aquatic life, and marine life.

FWC is also the agency responsible for regulating boating in the state. Through its Division of Law Enforcement, FWC manages the state's waterways to ensure boating safety for residents and visitors to the state.² This responsibility includes enforcing boating rules and regulations, coordinating boating safety campaigns and education, managing public water and access to the waters, conducting boating accident investigations, identifying and removing derelict vessels, and investigating vessel theft and title fraud.³

Boating Restricted Areas

Boating-restricted areas, which restrict vessel speeds and traffic, may be established on the waters of the state for any purpose necessary to protect the safety of the public, taking into account boating accidents, visibility, hazardous currents or water levels, vessel traffic congestion, or other navigational hazards, as well as seagrass protection on privately-owned submerged lands.⁴

Local governments are generally prohibited from regulating any vessel upon the Florida Intercoastal Waterway.⁵ However, local governments have been delegated authority to establish certain boating-restricted areas by ordinance, including in the portion of the Florida Intercoastal Waterway that is within their jurisdiction.⁶

A municipality or county may adopt an ordinance that establishes an idle speed, no wake boatingrestricted area, if the area is:

- Within 500 feet of any boat ramp, hoist, marine railway, or other launching or landing facility available for use by the general boating public on waterways more than 300 feet in width or within 300 feet of any boat ramp, hoist, marine railway, or other launching or landing facility available for use by the general boating public on waterways not exceeding 300 feet in width.
- Within 500 feet of fuel pumps or dispensers at any marine fueling facility that sells motor fuel to the general boating public on waterways more than 300 feet in width or within 300 feet of the fuel pumps or dispensers at any licensed terminal facility that sells motor fuel to the general boating public on waterways not exceeding 300 feet in width.

¹ Article IV, s. 9, FLA. CONST.

² Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), *Boating*, https://myfwc.com/boating/ (last visited March 22, 2023). ³ FWC, Law Enforcement, https://myfwc.com/about/inside-fwc/le/ (last visited Feb. 23, 2023). See s. 327.70(1) and (4), F.S.

⁴ Section 327.46(1), F.S.

⁵ Section 327.60(2)(c), F.S.; "Florida Intracoastal Waterway" means the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, the Georgia state line north of Fernandina to Miami; the Port Canaveral lock and canal to the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway; the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, Miami to Key West; the Okeechobee Waterway, Stuart to Fort Myers; the St. Johns River, Jacksonville to Sanford; the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, Anclote to Fort Myers; the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, Carrabelle to Tampa Bay; Carrabelle to Anclote open bay section, using the Gulf of Mexico; the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, Carrabelle to the Alabama state line west of Pensacola; and the Apalachicola, Chattahoochee, and Flint Rivers in Florida. Section 327.02(15), F.S. ⁶ Section 327.46(1), F.S.

• Inside or within 300 feet of any lock structure.⁷

A municipality or county may adopt an ordinance that establishes a slow speed, minimum wake boating-restricted area, if the area is:

- Within 300 feet of any bridge fender system.
- Within 300 feet of any bridge span presenting vertical clearance of less than 25 feet or a horizontal clearance of less than 100 feet.
- On a creek, stream, canal, or similar linear waterway if the waterway is less than 75 feet in width from shoreline to shoreline.
- On a lake or pond of less than 10 acres in total surface area.
- Within the boundaries of a permitted public mooring field and a buffer around the mooring field of up to 100 feet.⁸

A municipality or county may adopt an ordinance that establishes a vessel-exclusion zone if the area is:

- Designated as a public bathing beach or swim area, except that such areas may not be created on waters that include any portion of the Florida Intracoastal Waterway or that are within 100 feet of the marked channel of the Florida Intracoastal Waterway.
- Within 300 feet of a dam, spillway, or flood control structure.⁹

It is unlawful for any person to operate a vessel in a prohibited manner or to carry on any prohibited activity within a boating-restricted area which has been clearly marked by regulatory markers as an authorized restricted area.¹⁰ These restrictions do not apply in the case of an emergency or to a law enforcement, firefighting, or rescue vessel owned or operated by a government entity.¹¹

Effect of the Bill

The bill allows a municipality or county to adopt an ordinance that establishes a slow speed, minimum wake boating-restricted area if the area is within 500 feet of any private or public marina pumpout.

- B. SECTION DIRECTORY:
 - Section 1. Amends s. 327.46, F.S., relating to boating-restricted areas.
 - Section 2. Reenacts s. 327.41, F.S., relating to uniform waterway regulatory markers.
 - Section 3. Provides an effective date of July 1, 2023.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

- B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:
 - 1. Revenues:

PAGE: 3

⁷ Section 327.46(1)(b)1., F.S.

⁸ Section 327.36 (1)(b)2., F.S.

⁹ Section 327.46(1)(b)3., F.S.

¹⁰ Section 327.46(3), F.S.

¹¹ Section 327.46(4), F.S.

STORAGE NAME: h1103.ACR DATE: 3/23/2023

None.

- 2. Expenditures: None.
- C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR: None.
- D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

None.

III. COMMENTS

- A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:
 - 1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

Not applicable. The bill does not appear to require counties or municipalities to spend funds or take action requiring the expenditure of funds; reduce the authority that counties or municipalities have to raise revenues in the aggregate; or reduce the percentage of state tax shared with counties or municipalities.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

Not applicable.

By Senator DiCeglie

	18-00374-23 20231082
1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to floating vessel platforms; amending
3	s. 403.813, F.S.; removing a provision authorizing
4	local governments to require permitting for certain
5	floating vessel platforms; revising conditions under
6	which local governments may require one-time
7	registrations of floating vessel platforms; making
8	technical changes; providing an effective date.
9	
10	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
11	
12	Section 1. Paragraph (s) of subsection (1) of section
13	403.813, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
14	403.813 Permits issued at district centers; exceptions
15	(1) A permit is not required under this chapter, chapter
16	373, chapter 61-691, Laws of Florida, or chapter 25214 or
17	chapter 25270, 1949, Laws of Florida, and a local government may
18	not require a person claiming this exception to provide further
19	department verification, for activities associated with the
20	following types of projects; however, except as otherwise
21	provided in this subsection, this subsection does not relieve an
22	applicant from any requirement to obtain permission to use or
23	occupy lands owned by the Board of Trustees of the Internal
24	Improvement Trust Fund or a water management district in its
25	governmental or proprietary capacity or from complying with
26	applicable local pollution control programs authorized under
27	this chapter or other requirements of county and municipal
28	governments:
29	(s) The construction, installation, operation, or

Page 1 of 4

	18-00374-23 20231082
30	maintenance of floating vessel platforms or floating boat
31	lifts., provided that such structures:
32	1. To qualify for an exemption under this paragraph, the
33	structure must:
34	$\underline{a.}$ Float at all times in the water for the sole purpose of
35	supporting a vessel so that the vessel is out of the water when
36	not in use;
37	<u>b.2. Be</u> Are wholly contained within a boat slip previously
38	permitted under ss. 403.91-403.929, 1984 Supplement to the
39	Florida Statutes 1983, as amended, or part IV of chapter 373, or
40	do not exceed a combined total of 500 square feet, or 200 square
41	feet in an Outstanding Florida Water, when associated with a
42	dock that is exempt under this subsection or associated with a
43	permitted dock with no defined boat slip or attached to a
44	bulkhead on a parcel of land where there is no other docking
45	structure;
46	c.3. Not be Are not used for any commercial purpose or for
47	mooring vessels that remain in the water when not in use, and $rac{\mathrm{d} o}{\mathrm{d} o}$
48	not substantially impede the flow of water, create a
49	navigational hazard, or unreasonably infringe upon the riparian
50	rights of adjacent property owners, as defined in s. 253.141;
51	$\underline{d.4.}$ Be Are constructed and used so as to minimize adverse
52	impacts to submerged lands, wetlands, shellfish areas, aquatic
53	plant and animal species, and other biological communities,
54	including locating such structures in areas where seagrasses are
55	least dense adjacent to the dock or bulkhead; and
56	<u>e.</u> 5. Are Not <u>be</u> constructed in areas specifically
57	prohibited for boat mooring under conditions of a permit issued
58	in accordance with ss. 403.91-403.929, 1984 Supplement to the

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

18-00374-23 20231082 59 Florida Statutes 1983, as amended, or part IV of chapter 373, or 60 other form of authorization issued by a local government. 61 2. The owner of a structure Structures that qualifies 62 qualify for an this exemption under this paragraph is not 63 required are relieved from any requirement to obtain permission to use or occupy lands owned by the Board of Trustees of the 64 65 Internal Improvement Trust Fund, and, with the exception of 66 those structures attached to a bulkhead on a parcel of land 67 where there is no docking structure, the structure may not be 68 subject to any more stringent permitting requirements, 69 registration requirements, or other regulation by any local 70 government. For a floating vessel platform to be attached to a 71 bulkhead on a parcel of land where there is no docking 72 structure, a local government governments may require the 73 platform owner to obtain a permit either permitting or one-time 74 registration of the floating vessel platform platforms to be 75 attached to a bulkhead on a parcel of land where there is no 76 other docking structure as necessary to ensure compliance with 77 local ordinances, codes, or regulations. A local government 78 governments may require only a either permitting or one-time 79 registration of all other floating vessel platforms where the 80 platform owner self-certifies as necessary to ensure compliance with the exemption criteria in this section; to ensure 81 82 compliance with local ordinances, codes, state-delegated or 83 state-mandated plans or programs, or regulations relating to building or zoning, which may not be applied more stringently 84 85 are no more stringent than, or inconsistent with, the exemption criteria in this section and or address subjects other than 86 87 subjects addressed by the exemption criteria in this section;

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	18-00374-23 20231082
88	and to ensure proper installation, maintenance, and
89	precautionary or evacuation action following a tropical storm or
90	hurricane watch of a floating vessel platform or floating boat
91	lift that is proposed to be attached to a bulkhead or parcel of
92	land where there is no other docking structure.
93	<u>3.</u> The exemption provided in this paragraph <u>is</u> shall be in
94	addition to the exemption provided in paragraph (b). The
95	department shall adopt a general permit by rule for the
96	construction, installation, operation, or maintenance of those
97	floating vessel platforms or floating boat lifts that do not
98	qualify for the exemption provided in this paragraph but do not
99	cause significant adverse impacts to occur individually or
100	cumulatively. The issuance of such general permit constitutes
101	shall also constitute permission to use or occupy lands owned by
102	the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund. \underline{A}
103	local <u>government</u> governments may not impose a more stringent
104	regulation, permitting requirement, registration requirement, or
105	other regulation covered by such general permit. <u>A</u> local
106	government governments may require <u>a</u> structure owner to obtain
107	either <u>a permit</u> permitting or one-time registration of floating
108	vessel platforms as necessary to ensure compliance with the
109	general permit in this section; to ensure compliance with local
110	ordinances, codes, or regulations relating to building or zoning
111	that are no more stringent than the general permit in this
112	section; and to ensure proper installation and maintenance of a
113	floating vessel platform or floating boat lift that is proposed
114	to be attached to a bulkhead or parcel of land where there is no
115	other docking structure.
116	Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.

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

The Florida Senate BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Pre	pared By: The	Professio	nal Staff of the C	ommittee on Enviro	onment and Natur	al Resources
BILL:	SB 1082					
INTRODUCER:	Senator Di	Ceglie				
SUBJECT:	Floating Ve	essel Plat	forms			
DATE:	March 17, 2	2023	REVISED:			
ANAL	YST	STAF	F DIRECTOR	REFERENCE		ACTION
l. Barriero		Roger	S	EN	Favorable	
2.				CA		
3.				RC		

I. Summary:

SB 1082 removes the provision within s. 403.813, F.S., that authorizes a local government to require a permit for certain floating vessel platforms (*i.e.*, those not attached to a bulkhead).

The bill provides that a local government may only require a one-time registration of such platforms where the platform owner self-certifies compliance with the exemption criteria. Local governments may require this self-certification to ensure, among other things, compliance with ordinances, codes, state-delegated or state mandated plans or programs, or regulations relating to building or zoning, which may not be applied more stringently than, or inconsistent with, the exemption criteria and address subjects other than subjects addressed by the exemption criteria.

II. Present Situation:

Environmental Resource Permitting

The Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Environmental Resource Permitting (ERP) program regulates activities involving the alteration of surface water flows.¹ The ERP program governs the construction, alteration, operation, maintenance, repair, abandonment, and removal of stormwater management systems, dams, impoundments, reservoirs, appurtenant works, and works (including docks, piers, structures, dredging, and filling located in, on, or over wetlands or other surface waters).²

For a number of low impact activities and projects that are narrow in scope, an ERP permit is not required under state law.³ Engaging in these activities and projects requires compliance with

² Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-330.010(1)-(3). The responsibilities for implementing the statewide ERP program are partially delegated by DEP to the water management districts and certain local governments.

¹ Chapter 373, p. IV, F.S.; Fla. Admin. Code Ch. 62-330.

³ Section 403.813, F.S.

applicable local requirements, but generally requires no notice to DEP.⁴ A broad array of activities are expressly exempted from the ERP program, including, but are not limited to: the installation of overhead transmission lines; installation and maintenance of boat ramps; work on seawalls and mooring pilings, swales, and foot bridges; the removal of aquatic plants; construction and operation of floating vessel platforms; and work on county roads and bridges.⁵ Although permitting is not required for these activities, there may be a requirement to obtain permission to use or occupy lands owned by the Board of Trustees or a water management district in its governmental or proprietary capacity.⁶

Permits for Floating Vessel Platforms or Floating Boat Lifts

Generally, an ERP permit is required to construct, alter, operate, maintain, or remove floating vessel platforms or floating boat lifts.⁷ Local governments may require either permitting or one-time registration of floating vessel platforms to be attached to a bulkhead on a parcel of land where there is no other docking structure as necessary to ensure compliance with local ordinances, codes, or regulations.⁸ Local governments may also require permitting or one-time registration of all other floating vessel platforms (*i.e.*, those not attached to a bulkhead) as necessary to ensure compliance with the exemption criteria under s. 403.813, F.S., and to ensure compliance with local ordinances, codes, or regulations relating to building or zoning, which are no more stringent than the exemption criteria under s. 403.813, F.S., or address subjects other than subjects addressed by the exemption criteria in this statute.⁹

However, a permit is *not* required for the construction, installation, operation, or maintenance of floating vessel platforms or floating boat lifts, provided that such structures:¹⁰

- Float at all times in the water for the sole purpose of supporting a vessel so that the vessel is out of the water when not in use;
- Are wholly contained within a boat slip previously permitted under state law, or do not exceed a combined total of 500 square feet, or 200 square feet in an Outstanding Florida Water, when associated with a dock that is exempt under this subsection or associated with a permitted dock with no defined boat slip or attached to a bulkhead on a parcel of land where there is no other docking structure;
- Are not used for any commercial purpose or for mooring vessels that remain in the water when not in use, and do not substantially impede the flow of water, create a navigational hazard, or unreasonably infringe upon the riparian rights of adjacent property owners, as defined in state law;
- Are constructed and used so as to minimize adverse impacts to submerged lands, wetlands, shellfish areas, aquatic plant and animal species, and other biological communities, including locating such structures in areas where seagrasses are least dense adjacent to the dock or bulkhead; and

⁷ Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-330.428.

⁹ Id.

⁴ Fla. Admin. Code Rules 62-330.050(1) and 62-330.051(2).

⁵ Section 403.813(1), F.S.; Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-330.051.

⁶ Section 403.813(1), F.S.; *but see* s. 403.813(1)(s), F.S. (specifically relieving qualifying floating structures from any requirement to obtain permission to use or occupy lands owned by the Board of Trustees).

⁸ Section 403.813(1)(s), F.S.

¹⁰ Section 403.813(1)(s), F.S.

• Are not constructed in areas specifically prohibited for boat mooring under conditions of a permit issued in accordance with state law, or other form of authorization issued by a local government.¹¹

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 amends s. 403.813, F.S., which provides exemptions to Environmental Resource Permitting (ERP) requirements. The bill removes the provision that authorizes a local government to require a permit for certain floating vessel platforms (*i.e.*, those not attached to a bulkhead). The bill provides that a local government may only require a one-time registration of such platforms where the platform owner self-certifies compliance with the exemption criteria established under this section. Local governments may require this self-certification to ensure, among other things, compliance with ordinances, codes, state-delegated or state mandated plans or programs, or regulations relating to building or zoning, which may not be applied more stringently than, or inconsistent with, the exemption criteria and address subjects other than subjects addressed by the exemption criteria.

Section 2 provides an effective date of July 1, 2023.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

¹¹ Section 403.813(1)(s)1.-5., F.S.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends section 403.813 of the Florida Statutes.

IX. Additional Information:

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes: (Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: CS/HB 847 Floating Vessel Platforms and Floating Boat Lifts SPONSOR(S): Water Quality, Supply & Treatment Subcommittee, Stark TIED BILLS: IDEN./SIM. BILLS: SB 1082

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR or BUDGET/POLICY CHIEF
1) Water Quality, Supply & Treatment Subcommittee	17 Y, 0 N, As CS	Gawin	Curtin
2) Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee			
3) Infrastructure Strategies Committee			

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) regulates activities in, on, or over surface waters, as well as any activity that alters surface water flows, through environmental resource permits (ERPs). ERPs are required for development or construction activities typically involving the dredging or filling of surface waters, construction of flood protection facilities, building dams or reservoirs, and any other activities that affect state waters. Current law provides exceptions from ERP permitting for certain types of projects. Generally, these permit exceptions restrict how the project is undertaken, provide size and location requirements, or provide for maintenance, repair, or replacement of existing structures. An exemption currently exists for the construction, installation, operation, or maintenance of floating vessel platforms or floating boat lifts that meet certain requirements.

The bill revises the ERP permitting exemption for floating vessel platforms and floating boat lifts to specify local governments may only require a one-time registration for a floating vessel platform where the owner of such platform self-certifies compliance with the ERP exemption criteria to ensure compliance with ordinances, codes, state-delegated or state-mandated plans or programs, which may not be applied more stringently than, or inconsistent with, the ERP exemption criteria for certain floating vessel platforms.

The bill does not appear to have a fiscal impact on state or local government.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Background

Environmental Resource Permits

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) regulates activities in, on, or over surface waters, as well as any activity that alters surface water flows, through environmental resource permits (ERPs). ERPs are required for development or construction activities typically involving the dredging or filling of surface waters, construction of flood protection facilities, building dams or reservoirs, and any other activities that affect state waters.¹ ERP applications are processed by either DEP or one of the state's water management districts (WMDs) in accordance with the division of responsibilities specified in operating agreements between DEP and the WMDs.²

ERP Exceptions

Current law provides exceptions from ERP³ permitting for certain types of projects.⁴ Generally, these permit exceptions restrict how the project is undertaken, provide size and location requirements, or provide for maintenance, repair, or replacement of existing structures.⁵ For example, state law provides exceptions from ERP permitting for the installation of overhead transmission lines with support structures that are not constructed in waters of the state and that do not create a navigational hazard; the installation and maintenance of certain boat ramps on artificial bodies of water where navigational access is provided; and the construction of private docks of 1,000 square feet or less of over-water surface area and seawalls in artificially created waterways when such construction will not violate existing water quality standards, impede navigation, or affect flood control.⁶ These exceptions do not relieve an applicant from obtaining permission to use or occupy lands owned by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund (Board) or a WMD or from complying with local pollution control programs or other requirements of local governments.⁷

ERP Exceptions for Docks

Included among the projects that are exempt from ERP permitting requirements is the installation and repair of mooring pilings and dolphins associated with private docking facilities or piers; the installation of private docks, piers, and recreational docking facilities; or the installation of piers and recreational docking facilities of local governmental entities when the entity's activities will not take place in any manatee habitat.⁸ This exemption applies when the dock:

- Has 500 square feet or less of over-water surface area and is located in an area designated as an Outstanding Florida Water or has 1,000 square feet or less of over-water surface area and is not located in an area that is designated as an Outstanding Florida Water;
- Is constructed on or held in place by pilings or is a floating dock constructed so as not to involve filling or dredging other than that necessary to install the pilings;
- Does not substantially impede the flow of water or create a navigational hazard;
- Is used for recreational, noncommercial activities associated with the mooring or storage of boats and boat paraphernalia; and

¹ South Florida Water Management District, *Environmental Resource Permits*, https://www.sfwmd.gov/doing-business-with-us/permits/environmental-resource-permits (last visited Mar. 1, 2023).

² DEP, *Submerged Lands and Environmental Resources Coordination Program*, https://floridadep.gov/water/submerged-landsenvironmental-resources-coordination (last visited Mar. 1, 2023).

³ See chs. 373 and 403, F.S.

⁴ S. 403.813(1), F.S.

⁵ See s. 403.813(1)(a)-(v), F.S., see also r. 62-330.051, F.A.C.

⁶ Id.

⁷ S. 403.813(1), F.S.

⁸ S. 403.813(1)(b), F.S.

STORAGE NAME: h0847a.WST DATE: 3/22/2023

Is the sole dock constructed pursuant to this exemption as measured along the shoreline for a distance of 65 feet, unless the parcel of land or individual lot as platted is less than 65 feet in length along the shoreline, in which case one exempt dock may be allowed per parcel or lot.⁹

ERP Exceptions for Floating Structures

Additionally, there is an ERP permit exemption for the construction, installation, operation, or maintenance of floating vessel platforms or floating boat lifts, provided that such structures:

- Float at all times in the water for the sole purpose of supporting a vessel so that the vessel is out of the water when not in use;
- Are wholly contained within a previously permitted boat slip or do not exceed a combined total of 500 square feet, or 200 square feet in an Outstanding Florida Water, when associated with a dock that is exempt from ERP permitting or associated with a permitted dock with no defined boat slip or attached to a bulkhead on a parcel of land where there is no other docking structure;
- Are not used for any commercial purpose or for mooring vessels that remain in the water when not in use, and do not substantially impede the flow of water, create a navigational hazard, or unreasonably infringe upon the riparian rights of adjacent property owners;
- Are constructed and used so as to minimize the adverse impacts to submerged lands, wetlands, shellfish areas, aquatic plant and animal species, and other biological communities, including locating such structures in areas where seagrasses are least dense adjacent to the dock or bulkhead; and
- Are not constructed in areas specifically prohibited for boat mooring under conditions of an ERP permit or other form of authorization issued by a local government.¹⁰

Structures that qualify for this exemption are not required to obtain permission to use or occupy lands owned by the Board, and, with certain exceptions, may not be subject to any more stringent permitting requirements, registration requirements, or other regulation by any local government.¹¹ Local governments may require either permitting or one-time registration of floating vessel platforms.¹²

Effect of the Bill

The bill revises the ERP permitting exemption for floating vessel platforms and floating boat lifts to specify local governments may only require a one-time registration for a floating vessel platform where the owner of such platform self-certifies compliance with the ERP exemption criteria to ensure compliance with ordinances, codes, state-delegated or state-mandated plans or programs, which may not be applied more stringently than, or inconsistent with, the ERP exemption criteria for certain floating vessel platforms.

B. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1. Amends s. 403.813, F.S., to specify floating vessel platform ERP exemption criteria.

Section 2. Provides an effective date of July 1, 2023.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

⁹ *Id.*¹⁰ S. 403.813(1)(s), F.S.; Rule 62-330.428, F.A.C.
¹¹ *Id.*¹² S. 403.813(1)(s), F.S. **STORAGE NAME:** h0847a.WST **DATE:** 3/22/2023

- B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:
 - 1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

- C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR: None.
- D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

None.

III. COMMENTS

- A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:
 - 1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

Not applicable. This bill does not appear to require counties or municipalities to spend funds or take action requiring the expenditure of funds; reduce the authority that counties or municipalities have to raise revenues in the aggregate; or reduce the percentage of state tax shared with counties or municipalities.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

On March 22, 2023, the Water Quality, Supply & Treatment Subcommittee adopted a proposed committee substitute (PCS) and reported the bill favorably as a committee substitute. The PCS specified local governments may only require the registration of certain floating vessel platforms where the owner of such platform self-certifies they are following the ERP exemption criteria and other regulations.

This analysis is drafted to the committee substitute as approved by the Water Quality, Supply & Treatment Subcommittee.

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to floating vessel platforms and
3	floating boat lifts; amending s. 403.813, F.S.;
4	removing a provision authorizing local governments to
5	require permitting for certain floating vessel
6	platforms; revising conditions under which local
7	governments may require one-time registrations of
8	floating vessel platforms; making technical changes;
9	providing an effective date.
10	
11	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
12	
13	Section 1. Paragraph (s) of subsection (1) of section
14	403.813, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
15	403.813 Permits issued at district centers; exceptions
16	(1) A permit is not required under this chapter, chapter
17	373, chapter 61-691, Laws of Florida, or chapter 25214 or
18	chapter 25270, 1949, Laws of Florida, and a local government may
19	not require a person claiming this exception to provide further
20	department verification, for activities associated with the
21	following types of projects; however, except as otherwise
22	provided in this subsection, this subsection does not relieve an
23	applicant from any requirement to obtain permission to use or
24	occupy lands owned by the Board of Trustees of the Internal
25	Improvement Trust Fund or a water management district in its
	Page 1 of 5

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2023

26 governmental or proprietary capacity or from complying with 27 applicable local pollution control programs authorized under 28 this chapter or other requirements of county and municipal 29 governments:

30 (s) The construction, installation, operation, or 31 maintenance of floating vessel platforms or floating boat 32 lifts., provided that such structures:

33 1. <u>To qualify for an exemption under this paragraph, the</u> 34 <u>structure must:</u>

35 <u>a.</u> Float at all times in the water for the sole purpose of 36 supporting a vessel so that the vessel is out of the water when 37 not in use;

b.2. Be Are wholly contained within a boat slip previously 38 39 permitted under ss. 403.91-403.929, 1984 Supplement to the Florida Statutes 1983, as amended, or part IV of chapter 373, or 40 41 do not exceed a combined total of 500 square feet, or 200 square feet in an Outstanding Florida Water, when associated with a 42 43 dock that is exempt under this subsection or associated with a permitted dock with no defined boat slip or attached to a 44 45 bulkhead on a parcel of land where there is no other docking 46 structure;

47 <u>c.3.</u> Not be Are not used for any commercial purpose or for 48 mooring vessels that remain in the water when not in use, and do 49 not substantially impede the flow of water, create a 50 navigational hazard, or unreasonably infringe upon the riparian

Page 2 of 5

51 rights of adjacent property owners, as defined in s. 253.141;
52 <u>d.4.</u> <u>Be</u> Are constructed and used so as to minimize adverse
53 impacts to submerged lands, wetlands, shellfish areas, aquatic
54 plant and animal species, and other biological communities,
55 including locating such structures in areas where seagrasses are
56 least dense adjacent to the dock or bulkhead; and

57 <u>e.5.</u> Are Not <u>be</u> constructed in areas specifically 58 prohibited for boat mooring under conditions of a permit issued 59 in accordance with ss. 403.91-403.929, 1984 Supplement to the 60 Florida Statutes 1983, as amended, or part IV of chapter 373, or 61 other form of authorization issued by a local government.

2. The owner of a structure Structures that qualifies 62 63 qualify for an this exemption under this paragraph is not 64 required are relieved from any requirement to obtain permission 65 to use or occupy lands owned by the Board of Trustees of the 66 Internal Improvement Trust Fund, and, with the exception of those structures attached to a bulkhead on a parcel of land 67 68 where there is no docking structure, the structure may not be 69 subject to any more stringent permitting requirements, 70 registration requirements, or other regulation by any local government. For a floating vessel platform to be attached to a 71 72 bulkhead on a parcel of land where there is no docking 73 structure, a local government governments may require the 74 platform owner to obtain a permit either permitting or one-time 75 registration of the floating vessel platform platforms to be

Page 3 of 5

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76 attached to a bulkhead on a parcel of land where there is no 77 other docking structure as necessary to ensure compliance with 78 local ordinances, codes, or regulations. A local government 79 governments may require only a either permitting or one-time 80 registration of all other floating vessel platforms where the 81 platform owner self-certifies as necessary to ensure compliance 82 with the exemption criteria in this section + to ensure 83 compliance with local ordinances, codes, state-delegated or state-mandated plans or programs, or regulations relating to 84 85 building or zoning, which may not be applied more stringently 86 are no more stringent than, or inconsistent with, the exemption criteria in this section and or address subjects other than 87 88 subjects addressed by the exemption criteria in this section; 89 and to ensure proper installation, maintenance, and precautionary or evacuation action following a tropical storm or 90 91 hurricane watch of a floating vessel platform or floating boat 92 lift that is proposed to be attached to a bulkhead or parcel of 93 land where there is no other docking structure. 94 3. The exemption provided in this paragraph is shall be in

95 addition to the exemption provided in paragraph (b). The 96 department shall adopt a general permit by rule for the 97 construction, installation, operation, or maintenance of those 98 floating vessel platforms or floating boat lifts that do not 99 qualify for the exemption provided in this paragraph but do not 100 cause significant adverse impacts to occur individually or

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101 cumulatively. The issuance of such general permit constitutes 102 shall also constitute permission to use or occupy lands owned by 103 the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund. A 104 local government governments may not impose a more stringent 105 regulation, permitting requirement, registration requirement, or other regulation covered by such general permit. A local 106 107 government governments may require a structure owner to obtain either a permit permitting or one-time registration of floating 108 109 vessel platforms as necessary to ensure compliance with the general permit in this section; to ensure compliance with local 110 111 ordinances, codes, or regulations relating to building or zoning 112 that are no more stringent than the general permit in this section; and to ensure proper installation and maintenance of a 113 114 floating vessel platform or floating boat lift that is proposed 115 to be attached to a bulkhead or parcel of land where there is no 116 other docking structure.

117

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.

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By Senator Gruters

	22-00188-23 20231640
1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to the installation of waterway
3	markers; amending s. 327.40, F.S.; revising the
4	application requirements for marking certain waters of
5	this state; requiring all waterway markers to be
6	affixed to certain structures or buoys beginning on a
7	specified date; requiring state and local governmental
8	entities to conform to such requirements by a
9	specified date; making technical changes; reenacting
10	ss. 327.4108(2)(a) and 403.813(1)(k), F.S., relating
11	to the anchoring of vessels in anchoring limitation
12	areas and to permits issued at district centers,
13	respectively, to incorporate the amendments made to s.
14	327.40, F.S., in references thereto; providing an
15	effective date.
16	
17	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
18	
19	Section 1. Section 327.40, Florida Statutes, is amended to
20	read:
21	327.40 Uniform waterway markers; installation
22	requirements
23	(1) Waters of this state shall be marked only in conformity
24	with the United States Aids to Navigation System, 33 C.F.R. part
25	62.
26	(2)(a) Application for marking inland lakes and state
27	waters and any navigable waters under concurrent jurisdiction of
28	the Coast Guard and the division \underline{must} \underline{shall} be made to the
29	division, accompanied by a map locating the approximate
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	22-00188-23 20231640
30	placement of markers, a list of the markers to be placed, a
31	statement of the specification of the markers and the structure
32	or buoy to which the markers will be attached, a statement of
33	the purpose of marking, and the names of persons responsible for
34	the placement and upkeep of such markers <u>and structures</u> . The
35	division shall do all of the following:
36	1. will Assist the applicant to secure the proper
37	permission from the Coast Guard where required, make such
38	investigations as needed, and issue a permit.
39	2. The division shall Furnish the applicant with the
40	information concerning the system adopted and the rules existing
41	for placing and maintaining the markers.
42	<u>3.</u> The division shall Keep records of all approvals given
43	and counsel with individuals, counties, municipalities,
44	motorboat clubs, or other groups desiring to mark waterways for
45	safety and navigation purposes in Florida.
46	(b)1. <u>A</u> No person or municipality, county, or other
47	governmental entity <u>may not</u> shall place any uniform waterway
48	marker in, on, or over the waters or shores of <u>this</u> the state
49	without a permit from the division.
50	2. The placement of information markers by counties,
51	municipalities, or other governmental entities on inland lakes
52	and their associated canals are exempt from permitting under
53	this section.
54	(3) All waterway markers, including waterway markers
55	permitted on or after July 1, 2023, pursuant to this section and
56	information markers placed by counties, municipalities, or other
57	governmental entities, must be affixed to a plastic breakaway
58	structure or a floating buoy. A state or local governmental
I	Page 2 of 5

	22-00188-23 20231640
59	entity may not affix a waterway marker to a steel beam or wood
60	piling. Any state or local governmental entity waterway marker
61	affixed to a steel beam or wood piling before July 1, 2023, must
62	be replaced with a waterway marker affixed to a plastic
63	breakaway structure or floating buoy by January 1, 2024.
64	(4) (c) The commission is authorized to adopt rules pursuant
65	to chapter 120 to implement this section.
66	(5) (3) The placement under this section or s. 327.41 of any
67	uniform waterway marker on state submerged lands does not
68	subject such lands to the lease requirements of chapter 253.
69	Section 2. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment
70	made by this act to section 327.40, Florida Statutes, in a
71	reference thereto, paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section
72	327.4108, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:
73	327.4108 Anchoring of vessels in anchoring limitation
74	areas
75	(2)(a) Notwithstanding s. 327.60(2)(f), a county, except
76	for Monroe County, may establish, in accordance with this
77	subsection, an anchoring limitation area adjacent to urban areas
78	that have residential docking facilities and significant
79	recreational boating traffic. The aggregate total of anchoring
80	limitation areas in a county may not exceed 10 percent of the
81	county's delineated navigable-in-fact waterways. As used in this
82	subsection, the term "navigable-in-fact waterways" means
83	waterways that are navigable in their natural or unimproved
84	condition over which useful commerce or public recreation of a
85	substantial and permanent character is or may be conducted in
86	the customary mode of trade and travel on water. The term does
87	not include lakes or streams that are theoretically navigable;
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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

	22-00188-23 20231640
117	chapter 25270, 1949, Laws of Florida, and a local government may
118	not require a person claiming this exception to provide further
119	department verification, for activities associated with the
120	following types of projects; however, except as otherwise
121	provided in this subsection, this subsection does not relieve an
122	applicant from any requirement to obtain permission to use or
123	occupy lands owned by the Board of Trustees of the Internal
124	Improvement Trust Fund or a water management district in its
125	governmental or proprietary capacity or from complying with
126	applicable local pollution control programs authorized under
127	this chapter or other requirements of county and municipal
128	governments:
129	(k) The installation of aids to navigation and buoys

(k) The installation of aids to navigation and buoys
associated with such aids, provided the devices are marked
pursuant to s. 327.40.

132

Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.



MIAF - 2023 Regular Session

Ordered by Bill Number

HB 0027	Judgment L	iens by Benjamin	
	Current Committee of Reference: No Current Committee		
	Actions		
	03/23/2023	HOUSE Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading	
HB 0041	Land Develo	opment Initiative and Referendum Processes by Garcia (A)	
	Current Con	nmittee of Reference: No Current Committee	
	Actions		
	03/24/2023	HOUSE Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading	
SB 0054	Land Acquis	sition Trust Fund by Rodriguez	
	Current Con General Gov	nmittee of Reference: Senate Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and ernment	
	Actions		
	01/19/2023	SENATE Now in Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government	
SB 0076	State Park C	campsite Reservations by Hooper	
	Current Committee of Reference: Senate Fiscal Policy		
	Actions		
	03/23/2023	SENATE On Committee agenda - Fiscal Policy, 03/28/23, 8:30 am, 110 S	
HB 0083	Yacht and S	hip Brokers by LaMarca	
	Current Con	mmittee of Reference: House Regulatory Reform & Economic Development Subcommittee	
	Actions		
	01/10/2023	HOUSE Now in Regulatory Reform & Economic Development Subcommittee	
SB 0100	100 Mangrove Replanting and Restoration by Garcia (I)		
	Current Con General Gov	nmittee of Reference: Senate Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and ernment	
	Actions		
	03/06/2023	SENATE Now in Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government	
HB 0109	State Park C	Campsite Reservations by Canady	
	Current Con	nmittee of Reference: No Current Committee	
	Actions		
	03/27/2023	SENATE Received; Referred to Fiscal Policy	
HB 0111	Flooding an	d Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Studies by Hunschofsky	

	Current Con	mmittee of Reference: House Infrastructure Strategies Committee	
	Actions		
	03/22/2023	HOUSE Now in Infrastructure Strategies Committee	
HB 0129	Requiring B	roader Public Support for Constitutional Amendments or Revisions by Roth	
	Current Con	mmittee of Reference: House State Affairs Committee	
	Actions		
	03/16/2023	HOUSE Now in State Affairs Committee	
HB 0135	Land Acquis	sition Trust Fund by Mooney, Jr.	
	Current Con Subcommitte	mmittee of Reference: House Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations	
	Actions		
	01/17/2023	HOUSE Now in Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee	
SB 0150	Public Safet	t y by Collins	
	Current Con	nmittee of Reference: No Current Committee	
	Actions		
	03/10/2023	SENATE Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading	
SB 0172	Safe Waterv	vays Act by Berman	
	Current Committee of Reference: Senate Health Policy		
	Actions		
	01/19/2023	SENATE Referred to Health Policy; Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services; Fiscal Policy	
HB 0175	Everglades	Protection Area by Busatta Cabrera	
	Current Con	mmittee of Reference: House Agriculture, Conservation & Resiliency Subcommittee	
	Actions		
	03/23/2023	HOUSE On Committee agenda - Agriculture, Conservation & Resiliency Subcommittee, 03/27/23, 11:30 am, 404 H	
HB 0177	Safe Waterv	vays Act by Gossett-Seidman	
	Current Con	nmittee of Reference: House Healthcare Regulation Subcommittee	
	Actions		
	01/17/2023	HOUSE Now in Healthcare Regulation Subcommittee	
SB 0192	Everglades	Protection Area by Avila	
	Current Committee of Reference: Senate Rules		
	Actions		
	03/27/2023	SENATE On Committee agenda - Rules, 03/30/23, 8:30 am, 412 K	
HB 0215	Possession	or Use of a Firearm in a Sensitive Location by Rayner-Goolsby	
	Current Cor	nmittee of Reference: House Criminal Justice Subcommittee	
	Actions		
	01/25/2023	HOUSE Now in Criminal Justice Subcommittee	

HB 0261	Boating Safety by Botana
	Current Committee of Reference: House Infrastructure Strategies Committee
	Actions
	03/24/2023 HOUSE Now in Infrastructure Strategies Committee
HB 0277	Storage of Firearms in Private Conveyances and Vessels by Hinson
	Current Committee of Reference: No Current Committee
	Actions
	01/20/2023 HOUSE Withdrawn prior to introduction
SB 0288	Florida Main Street Program and Historic Preservation Tax Credits by DiCeglie
	Current Committee of Reference: Senate Appropriations
	Actions
	03/15/2023 SENATE Now in Appropriations
SB 0320	Land Acquisition Trust Fund by Harrell
	Current Committee of Reference: Senate Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government
	Actions
	02/21/2023 SENATE Now in Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government
SB 0346	Public Construction by DiCeglie
	Current Committee of Reference: Senate Governmental Oversight and Accountability
	Actions
	03/24/2023 SENATE On Committee agenda - Governmental Oversight and Accountability, 03/29/23, 8:30 am, 37 S
HB 0371	Management and Storage of Surface Waters by Killebrew
	Current Committee of Reference: House Water Quality, Supply & Treatment Subcommittee
	Actions
	02/01/2023 HOUSE Now in Water Quality, Supply & Treatment Subcommittee
HB 0383	Public Construction by Griffitts Jr.
	Current Committee of Reference: House State Affairs Committee
	Actions
	02/28/2023 HOUSE Now in State Affairs Committee
SB 0406	Yacht and Ship Brokers by Hooper
	Current Committee of Reference: Senate Regulated Industries
	Actions
	03/24/2023 SENATE On Committee agenda - Regulated Industries, 03/29/23, 12:00 pm, 401 S
HB 0407	Apalachicola Bay Area of Critical State Concern by Shoaf
	Current Committee of Reference: House Water Quality, Supply & Treatment Subcommittee
	Actions

02/01/2023 HOUSE Now in Water Quality, Supply & Treatment Subcommittee

HB 0423	Implementation of the Recommendations of the Blue-Green Algae Task Force by Cross		
	Current Committee of Reference: House Water Quality, Supply & Treatment Subcommittee		
	Actions		
	02/01/2023 HOUSE Now in Water Quality, Supply & Treatment Subcommittee		
HB 0439	Land Use and Development Regulations by McClain		
	Current Committee of Reference: House Commerce Committee		
	Actions		
	03/14/2023 HOUSE Now in Commerce Committee		
SB 0456	Possession or use of a Firearm in a Sensitive Location by Berman		
	Current Committee of Reference: Senate Criminal Justice		
	Actions		
	02/09/2023 SENATE Referred to Criminal Justice; Judiciary; Rules		
HB 0489	Professional Licensing Requirements for Barbers and Cosmetologists by Chambliss		
	Current Committee of Reference: No Current Committee		
	Actions		
	03/17/2023 HOUSE Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading		
HB 0527	Office of the Blue Economy by Skidmore		
	Current Committee of Reference: House Regulatory Reform & Economic Development Subcommittee		
	Actions		
	02/07/2023 HOUSE Now in Regulatory Reform & Economic Development Subcommittee		
HB 0543	Public Safety by Brannan III		
	Current Committee of Reference: No Current Committee		
	Actions		
	03/27/2023 SENATE Received; Referred to Fiscal Policy		
SB 0546	Restoration of Osborne Reef by Avila		
	Current Committee of Reference: Senate Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government		
	Actions		
	03/06/2023 SENATE Now in Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government		
HB 0547	Land Acquisition Trust Fund by Sirois		
	Current Committee of Reference: House Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee		
	Actions		
	02/07/2023 HOUSE Now in Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee		
HB 0549	Operating Vehicles and Vessels Under the Influence by Casello		
	Current Committee of Reference: House Criminal Justice Subcommittee		

	Actions
	02/07/2023 HOUSE Now in Criminal Justice Subcommittee
HB 0559	Land Acquisition Funding by Roth
	Current Committee of Reference: House Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee
	Actions
	02/07/2023 HOUSE Now in Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee
HB 0561	Mangrove Replanting and Restoration by Mooney, Jr.
	Current Committee of Reference: House Agriculture, Conservation & Resiliency Subcommittee
	Actions
	02/07/2023 HOUSE Now in Agriculture, Conservation & Resiliency Subcommittee
HB 0571	Storage of Firearms in Private Conveyances and Vessels by Hinson
	Current Committee of Reference: House Criminal Justice Subcommittee
	Actions
	02/07/2023 HOUSE Now in Criminal Justice Subcommittee
HB 0641	Restoration of Osborne Reef by LaMarca
	Current Committee of Reference: House Infrastructure Strategies Committee
	Actions
	03/23/2023 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Infrastructure Strategies Committee, 03/27/23, 2:00 pm, 17 H
HB 0701	Wrecker and Towing-Storage Operators by Bell
	Current Committee of Reference: House Civil Justice Subcommittee
	Actions
	03/23/2023 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Civil Justice Subcommittee, 03/27/23, 8:00 am, 404 H
SB 0702	Apalachicola Bay Area of Critical State Concern by Simon
	Current Committee of Reference: Senate Environment and Natural Resources
	Actions
	03/27/2023 SENATE Favorable by Environment and Natural Resources; 9 Yeas, 0 Nays
SB 0712	Motor Vehicle Sales by Avila
	Current Committee of Reference: Senate Commerce and Tourism
	Actions
	03/22/2023 SENATE Now in Commerce and Tourism
HB 0713	Administrative Procedures and Permitting Process Review by McFarland
	Current Committee of Reference: House Agriculture, Conservation & Resiliency Subcommittee
	Actions
	03/23/2023 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Agriculture, Conservation & Resiliency Subcommittee, 03/27/23, 11:30 am, 404 H
SB 0724	Seagrass Restoration Technology Development Initiative by Boyd

SB 0724 Seagrass Restoration Technology Development Initiative by Boyd

Current Committee of Reference: Senate Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government

	Actions		
	03/15/2023	SENATE Now in Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government	
SB 0728	Liveries by (Garcia (I)	
	Current Con	mmittee of Reference: Senate Commerce and Tourism	
	Actions		
	03/22/2023	SENATE On Committee agenda - Commerce and Tourism, 03/27/23, 3:00 pm, 110 S	
HB 0739	Disposal of	Food Waste Material by Cassel	
	Current Con	nmittee of Reference: House Agriculture, Conservation & Resiliency Subcommittee	
	Actions		
	02/21/2023	HOUSE Now in Agriculture, Conservation & Resiliency Subcommittee	
SB 0822	Specialty Lie	cense Plates/Paddling in Florida by Berman	
	Current Con	mmittee of Reference: Senate Transportation	
	Actions		
	02/23/2023	SENATE Referred to Transportation; Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; Fiscal Policy	
HB 0847	Floating Ves	ssel Platforms and Floating Boat Lifts by Stark	
	Current Con	nmittee of Reference: House Infrastructure Strategies Committee	
	Actions		
	03/24/2023	HOUSE Now in Infrastructure Strategies Committee	
SB 0876	Review of E	mployment Contracts by Stewart	
	Current Con	nmittee of Reference: Senate Commerce and Tourism	
	Actions		
	02/23/2023	SENATE Referred to Commerce and Tourism; Judiciary; Rules	
SB 0952	Employer Co	overage of Gender Dysphoria Treatment by Ingoglia	
	Current Con	nmittee of Reference: Senate Health Policy	
	Actions		
	02/28/2023	SENATE Referred to Health Policy; Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government; Fiscal Policy	
HB 1003	Fill Material	for Reclamation Activities by Truenow	
	Current Committee of Reference: House Water Quality, Supply & Treatment Subcommittee		
	Actions		
	02/28/2023	HOUSE Now in Water Quality, Supply & Treatment Subcommittee	
HB 1013	COVID-19 M	andates and Treatment Options by Griffitts Jr.	
	Current Con	mittee of Reference: House Health & Human Services Committee	
	Actions		

02/28/2023 HOUSE Now in Health & Human Services Committee

HB 1015	Pub. Rec./C	OVID-19 Vaccination Mandates by Griffitts Jr.
	Current Con	mmittee of Reference: House Health & Human Services Committee
	Actions	
	02/28/2023	HOUSE Now in Health & Human Services Committee
SB 1028	Professiona	Il Licensing Requirements for Barbers and Cosmetologists by Stewart
	Current Con	nmittee of Reference: Senate Criminal Justice
	Actions	
	03/22/2023	SENATE Now in Criminal Justice
SB 1044	Photograph	ic Evidence of Illegally Taken Wildlife, Freshwater Fish, and Saltwater Fish by Martin
	Current Con	nmittee of Reference: Senate Environment and Natural Resources
	Actions	
	03/20/2023	SENATE Temporarily Postponed by Environment and Natural Resources
SB 1082	Floating Ves	ssel Platforms by DiCeglie
	Current Con	nmittee of Reference: Senate Community Affairs
	Actions	
	03/24/2023	SENATE On Committee agenda - Community Affairs, 03/29/23, 8:30 am, 401 S
HB 1103	Boating-rest	tricted Areas by Tramont
	Current Con	nmittee of Reference: House Agriculture, Conservation & Resiliency Subcommittee
	Actions	
	03/23/2023	HOUSE On Committee agenda - Agriculture, Conservation & Resiliency Subcommittee, 03/27/23, 11:30 am, 404 H
SB 1124	Employmen	t of Ex-offenders by Calatayud
	Current Con	nmittee of Reference: Senate Rules
	Actions	
	03/24/2023	SENATE Now in Rules
SB 1134	Outstanding	g Florida Springs by Gruters
	Current Con	nmittee of Reference: Senate Environment and Natural Resources
	Actions	
	03/27/2023	SENATE Temporarily Postponed by Environment and Natural Resources
HB 1147	Resilience D	Districts by Buchanan
	Current Con Subcommitte	nmittee of Reference: House Local Administration, Federal Affairs & Special Districts
	Actions	
	03/06/2023	HOUSE Now in Local Administration, Federal Affairs & Special Districts Subcommittee
HB 1157	Hunting and	I Fishing by Melo
	Current Con	nmittee of Reference: House Agriculture, Conservation & Resiliency Subcommittee

	Actions		
	03/23/2023 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Agriculture, Conservation & Resiliency Subcommittee, 03/27/23, 11:30 am, 404 H		
HB 1161	Venomous Reptiles by Abbott		
	Current Committee of Reference: House Infrastructure Strategies Committee		
	Actions		
	03/23/2023 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Infrastructure Strategies Committee, 03/27/23, 2:00 pm 17 H		
SB 1170	Flooding and Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Studies by Calatayud		
	Current Committee of Reference: Senate Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government		
	Actions		
	03/14/2023 SENATE Now in Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government		
HB 1181	Seagrass Restoration by Robinson (W) Jr.		
	Current Committee of Reference: House Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee		
	Actions		
	03/22/2023 HOUSE Now in Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee		
HB 1197	Land and Water Management by Maggard		
	Current Committee of Reference: House Water Quality, Supply & Treatment Subcommittee		
	Actions		
	03/06/2023 HOUSE Now in Water Quality, Supply & Treatment Subcommittee		
SB 1200	Resilience Districts by Grall		
	Current Committee of Reference: Senate Community Affairs		
	Actions		
	03/02/2023 SENATE Referred to Community Affairs; Finance and Tax; Fiscal Policy		
HB 1229	Endangered and Threatened Species by Campbell		
	Current Committee of Reference: House Agriculture, Conservation & Resiliency Subcommittee		
	Actions		
	03/06/2023 HOUSE Now in Agriculture, Conservation & Resiliency Subcommittee		
SB 1230	Fill Material for Reclamation Activities by Brodeur		
	Current Committee of Reference: Senate Environment and Natural Resources		
	Actions		
	03/06/2023 SENATE Referred to Environment and Natural Resources; Community Affairs; Rules		
HB 1265	Employer Coverage of Gender Dysphoria Treatment by Yarkosky		
	Current Committee of Reference: House Regulatory Reform & Economic Development Subcommittee		
	Actions		
	03/06/2023 HOUSE Now in Regulatory Reform & Economic Development Subcommittee		

HB 1287	Universal Regulatory Sandbox by Giallombardo		
	Current Committee of Reference: House Regulatory Reform & Economic Development Subcommittee		
	Actions		
	03/06/2023 HOUSE Now in Regulatory Reform & Economic Development Subcommittee		
HB 1289	Pub. Rec. and Meetings/Regulatory Sandbox by Giallombardo		
	Current Committee of Reference: House Regulatory Reform & Economic Development Subcommittee		
	Actions		
	03/06/2023 HOUSE Now in Regulatory Reform & Economic Development Subcommittee		
SB 1298	Endangered and Threatened Species by Jones		
	Current Committee of Reference: Senate Environment and Natural Resources		
	Actions		
	03/06/2023 SENATE Referred to Environment and Natural Resources; Agriculture; Rules		
SB 1314	Boating-restricted Areas by Wright		
	Current Committee of Reference: Senate Community Affairs		
	Actions		
	03/20/2023 SENATE Now in Community Affairs		
SB 1336	Disposal of Food Waste Materials Study by Polsky		
	Current Committee of Reference: Senate Environment and Natural Resources		
	Actions		
	03/06/2023 SENATE Referred to Environment and Natural Resources; Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government; Fiscal Policy		
HB 1367	Unlawful Dumping by Altman		
	Current Committee of Reference: House Water Quality, Supply & Treatment Subcommittee		
	Actions		
	03/21/2023 HOUSE Now in Water Quality, Supply & Treatment Subcommittee		
SB 1368	Unlawful Dumping by Wright		
	Current Committee of Reference: Senate Community Affairs		
	Actions		
	03/24/2023 SENATE On Committee agenda - Community Affairs, 03/29/23, 8:30 am, 401 S		
HB 1379	Pollutant Load Reduction by Steele		
	Current Committee of Reference: House Water Quality, Supply & Treatment Subcommittee		
	Actions		
	03/09/2023 HOUSE Now in Water Quality, Supply & Treatment Subcommittee		
HB 1385	Vessel Owner and Operation Requirements by Basabe		
	Current Committee of Reference: House Agriculture, Conservation & Resiliency Subcommittee		
	Actions		
	03/09/2023 HOUSE Now in Agriculture, Conservation & Resiliency Subcommittee		

SB 1390	Universal Re	egulatory Sandbox by Martin	
	Current Committee of Reference: Senate Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development		
	Actions		
	03/21/2023	SENATE Now in Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development	
SB 1392	Public Reco	rds and Meetings/Universal Regulatory Sandbox by Martin	
	Current Con Economic De	mittee of Reference: Senate Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and evelopment	
	Actions		
	03/21/2023	SENATE Now in Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development	
HB 1403	Protections	of Medical Conscience by Rudman	
	Current Con	mittee of Reference: House Healthcare Regulation Subcommittee	
	Actions		
	03/09/2023	HOUSE Now in Healthcare Regulation Subcommittee	
SB 1410	Requiring B	roader Public Support for Constitutional Amendments or Revisions by Gruters	
	Current Con	mittee of Reference: Senate Ethics and Elections	
	Actions		
	03/09/2023	SENATE Referred to Ethics and Elections; Judiciary; Rules	
HB 1443	Disqualificat Waldron	tion from Licensing, Permitting, or Certification Based on Criminal Conviction by	
	Current Con	mittee of Reference: House Regulatory Reform & Economic Development Subcommittee	
	Actions		
	03/09/2023	HOUSE Now in Regulatory Reform & Economic Development Subcommittee	
SB 1484	Office of the	Blue Economy by Pizzo	
	Current Con	mittee of Reference: Senate Commerce and Tourism	
	Actions		
	03/09/2023	SENATE Referred to Commerce and Tourism; Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; Fiscal Policy	
HB 1489	Designation	of Brevard Barrier Island Area as Area of Critical State Concern by Altman	
	Current Con	mittee of Reference: House Infrastructure Strategies Committee	
	Actions		
	03/22/2023	HOUSE Now in Infrastructure Strategies Committee	
HB 1491	Marine Encr	oachment on Spaceflight and Military Operations by Altman	
	Current Con Subcommitte	nmittee of Reference: House Local Administration, Federal Affairs & Special Districts e	
	Actions		
	03/09/2023	HOUSE Now in Local Administration, Federal Affairs & Special Districts Subcommittee	

SB 1502	Vessel Owne	er and Operation Requirements by Rodriguez
	Current Con General Gove	nmittee of Reference: Senate Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and ernment
	Actions	
	03/27/2023	SENATE Now in Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government
HB 1505	Outstanding	Florida Springs by Grant
	Current Com	mittee of Reference: House Water Quality, Supply & Treatment Subcommittee
	Actions	
	03/09/2023	HOUSE Now in Water Quality, Supply & Treatment Subcommittee
HB 1521	Facility Requ	uirements Based on Sex by Plakon
	Current Com	mittee of Reference: House Regulatory Reform & Economic Development Subcommittee
	Actions	
	03/24/2023	HOUSE On Committee agenda - Regulatory Reform & Economic Development Subcommittee, 03/28/23, 2:00 pm, 212 K
SB 1538	Implementat	tion of the Recommendations of the Blue-Green Algae Task Force by Stewart
	Current Com	mittee of Reference: Senate Environment and Natural Resources
	Actions	
	03/09/2023	SENATE Referred to Environment and Natural Resources; Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government; Fiscal Policy
HB 1559	Review of Er	mployment Contracts by Campbell
HB 1559		mployment Contracts by Campbell mmittee of Reference: House Regulatory Reform & Economic Development Subcommittee
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HB 1559 SB 1574	Current Com Actions 03/09/2023	mmittee of Reference: House Regulatory Reform & Economic Development Subcommittee
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	Actions
	03/09/2023 SENATE Referred to Criminal Justice; Appropriations Committee on Criminal and Civil Justice; Fiscal Policy
SB 1604	Land Use and Development Regulations by Ingoglia
	Current Committee of Reference: Senate Community Affairs
	Actions
	03/09/2023 SENATE Referred to Community Affairs; Judiciary; Rules
SB 1640	Installation of Waterway Markers by Gruters
	Current Committee of Reference: Senate Environment and Natural Resources
	Actions
	03/09/2023 SENATE Referred to Environment and Natural Resources; Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government; Fiscal Policy
SB 1664	Economic Development by Hooper
	Current Committee of Reference: Senate Commerce and Tourism
	Actions
	03/22/2023 Bill to be Discussed During the Office of EDR's Revenue Estimating Impact Conference, 03/24/23, 9:00 am, 117 K (No Votes Will Be Taken)
SB 1666	Marine Encroachment on Spaceflight and Military Operations by Wright
	Current Committee of Reference: Senate Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security
	Actions
	03/22/2023 SENATE Now in Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security
SB 1674	Facility Requirements Based on Sex by Grall
	Current Committee of Reference: Senate Rules
	Actions
	03/27/2023 SENATE On Committee agenda - Rules, 03/30/23, 8:30 am, 412 K
SB 1686	Designation of Brevard Barrier Island Area as an Area of Critical State Concern by Wright
	Current Committee of Reference: Senate Environment and Natural Resources
	Actions
	03/27/2023 SENATE Favorable with CS by Environment and Natural Resources; 9 Yeas, 0 Nays
SB 1702	Mitigation Credits by DiCeglie
	Current Committee of Reference: Senate Environment and Natural Resources
	Actions
	03/09/2023 SENATE Referred to Environment and Natural Resources; Community Affairs; Rules
HB 7003	OGSR/Water Management District Surplus Lands by Ethics, Elections & Open Government Subcommittee
	Current Committee of Reference: No Current Committee
	Actions
	03/23/2023 HOUSE Placed on Special Order Calendar, 03/30/23

RRS2	Tourism Dev	Tourism Development by Regulatory Reform & Economic Development Subcommittee	
	Current Committee of Reference: House Regulatory Reform & Economic Development Subcommittee		
	Actions		
	03/24/2023	HOUSE On Committee agenda - Regulatory Reform & Economic Development Subcommittee, 03/28/23, 2:00 pm, 212 K	

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