

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to emergency preparedness and  
3 response; creating s. 252.359, F.S.; directing the  
4 Division of Emergency Management to create a statewide  
5 system to facilitate the transport and distribution of  
6 essentials in commerce during a declared emergency;  
7 defining the term "essentials"; directing the division  
8 to create a certification system for persons  
9 transporting or distributing essentials in commerce;  
10 providing requirements and conditions for the  
11 certification system; permitting certain activities by  
12 certified persons during a curfew; authorizing a law  
13 enforcement officer to specify a permissible route of  
14 ingress or egress for a certified person; providing an  
15 effective date.

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

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19 Section 1. Section 252.359, Florida Statutes, is created  
20 to read:

21 252.359 Ensuring availability of emergency supplies.—

22 (1) In order to meet the needs of residents affected  
23 during a declared emergency and to ensure the continuing  
24 economic resilience of communities impacted by disaster, the  
25 division shall establish a statewide system to facilitate the  
26 transport and distribution of essentials in commerce.

27 (2) As used in this section, the term "essentials" means  
28 goods that are consumed or used as a direct result of a declared  
29 emergency, or that are consumed or used to preserve, protect, or  
30 sustain life, health, safety, or economic well-being.

31 (3) The division shall develop a system to certify each  
32 person who facilitates the transport or distribution of  
33 essentials in commerce. The division may not certify a person  
34 other than a person who routinely transports or distributes  
35 essentials. In developing the system, the division:

36 (a) May provide for a preemergency or postemergency  
37 declaration certification.

38 (b) Shall allow the certification of an employer, if  
39 requested by the employer, to constitute a certification of the  
40 employer's employees.

41 (c) Shall create an easily recognizable indicium of  
42 certification to assist local officials' efforts in determining  
43 which persons have been certified under this subsection.

44 (d) Shall limit the duration of each certificate to no  
45 more than 1 year. Each certificate may be renewed so long as the  
46 criteria for certification are met.

47 (4) A person or employer certified under subsection (3) is  
48 not required to obtain any additional certification or fulfill  
49 any additional requirement to transport or distribute  
50 essentials.

51 (5) Notwithstanding any curfew, a person or employer  
52 certified under subsection (3) may enter or remain in the curfew

CS/CS/HB 775

2016

53 area for the limited purpose of facilitating the transport or  
54 distribution of essentials and may provide service that exceeds  
55 otherwise applicable hours of service maximums to the extent  
56 authorized by a duly executed declaration of a state of  
57 emergency.

58 (6) This section does not prohibit a law enforcement  
59 officer from specifying the permissible route of ingress or  
60 egress for a person certified under subsection (3).

61 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.