

Insurance & Banking Subcommittee

Tuesday, February 14, 2023
1:30 PM - 3:30 PM
Morris Hall (17 HOB)

Meeting Packet

Paul Renner
Speaker

Wyman Duggan
Chair

The Florida House of Representatives

Commerce Committee

Insurance & Banking Subcommittee

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Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, February 14, 2023
1:30 PM – 3:30 PM
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I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

III. Welcome and Opening Remarks

IV. Consideration of the following bill(s):

- HB 57 Motor Vehicle Liability Policies by Truenow

V. Presentation:

- Overview – Department of Financial Services
  Austin Stowers, Director of Legislative Affairs

VI. Closing Remarks

VII. Adjournment

HB 57

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: HB 57 Motor Vehicle Liability Policies
SPONSOR(S): Truenow
TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:** SB 516

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR or BUDGET/POLICY CHIEF
1) Insurance & Banking Subcommittee		Herendeen	Lloyd
2) Commerce Committee			

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

Owners or operators of motor vehicles must insure against losses from liability for bodily injury, death, and property damage. They may do so by purchasing auto insurance from an insurance carrier authorized to do business in Florida by the Office of Insurance Regulation (OIR), or by obtaining a certificate of self-insurance from the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (HSMV) after demonstrating the ability to cover potential losses arising out of the ownership, maintenance, or use of a motor vehicle. HSMV does not recognize insurance issued by a risk retention group as a method of proving financial responsibility.

The bill amends Florida's Financial Responsibility Law to permit risk retention groups, which are authorized by federal law, to provide the required motor vehicle coverage to group members. Unlike state-authorized insurers, risk retention groups only sell insurance to eligible members, do not submit rate and form filings to state regulators, and are not members of state guaranty associations that manage claims if an insurer becomes insolvent.

Specifically, the bill permits risk retention groups that have strong ratings from A.M. Best Company (an "A" or higher rating for financial strength and "VIII" or higher for financial size) to provide commercial auto insurance coverage to their members and shareholders.

The bill has an unknown but likely insignificant negative fiscal impact on state government and no impact on local governments.

The bill has an effective date of July 1, 2023.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Current Situation

Florida's Financial Responsibility Law

Chapter 324, F.S., sets forth the financial responsibility laws for owners or operators of motor vehicles, whether they be used for personal or commercial purposes.

In general, the owner or operator of a motor vehicle must insure against losses from liability for bodily injury, death, and property damage by 1) purchasing auto insurance from an insurance carrier authorized by OIR to do business in Florida;[1] or 2) obtaining a certificate of self-insurance from HSMV after demonstrating the ability to cover potential losses arising out of the ownership, maintenance, or use of a motor vehicle.[2]

OIR licenses insurance carriers and reviews policy contracts and premium rates of its licensees.[3] An insurance carrier may not deliver an auto insurance policy in Florida unless the policy includes coverages for both personal injury and property damage.[4]

HSMV administers the Financial Responsibility Law by requiring all licensed insurance companies to provide electronic notification of all policies that are issued or cancelled.[5] Vehicle owners must show proof of personal injury protection and property damage liability coverage to register a vehicle,[6] and must provide proof of bodily injury liability coverage if they are involved in an accident and charged with a moving violation.[7] A vehicle owner who fails to maintain continuous coverage may have his or her driver's license and registration suspended for up to three years.[8]

Required coverages vary based on the use of a motor vehicle.

For individual motorists, the law requires $10,000 in personal injury protection and $10,000 for property damage.[9] However, if a driver of a private passenger vehicle has caused an accident involving bodily injury or death, the required minimum bodily injury liability coverage is $10,000 per person and $20,000 per accident.[10] Additionally, if a driver has been convicted of driving under the influence of alcohol, the motorist must maintain minimum bodily injury liability coverage of $10,000 per person and $20,000 per accident for three years after the license is reinstated.[11]

For leased motor vehicles, the lessor is not liable for the actions of a lessee so long as the lease requires $100,000/$300,000 bodily injury liability and $50,000 property damage liability or not less than $500,000 combined property damage and bodily injury liability.[12]

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[1] S. 324.021(8), F.S.
[2] Ss. 324.161 and 324.171, F.S. *Also see* Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, Self-Insurance, https://www.flhsmv.gov/insurance/self-insurance/firm/ (last visited Feb. 10, 2023).
[3] Ss. 624.404, 627.062, 627.410, and 627.4102.
[4] S. 627.7275, F.S.
[5] Ss. 324.0221, 324.252, and Rules 15A-3.007, and 15A-3.012, F.A.C.
[6] Ss. 324.022, 324.023, and Rule 15A-3.006, F.A.C.
[7] S. 324.021, F.S. *Also see*, Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, *Florida Insurance Requirements*, https://www.flhsmv.gov/insurance/ (last visited Feb. 10, 2023).
[8] S. 324.0221, F.S.
[9] Ss. 324.021(7), § 324.022, and 627.736, F.S.
[10] Ss. 324.051, 324.031, 324.061, F.S.
[11] S. 324.023, F.S.
[12] S. 324.021(9), F.S.

For-hire passenger vehicles like taxicabs and limousines must have bodily injury liability coverage of $125,000 per person and $250,000 per occurrence; and $50,000 property damage coverage.[13]

Commercial motor vehicles operating on Florida's highways are subject to state and federal regulations related to size and weight limits, safety standards, and registration requirements. Commercial vehicles that weigh 10,001 pounds or more, and engage in interstate commerce or haul hazardous materials, are subject to federal law, where required coverages range from $750,000 to $5 million.[14] Commercial vehicles that weigh 26,001 pounds or more, operate only within Florida, and do not transport hazardous materials are subject to Florida law, where required coverages range from $50,000 to $300,000.[15]

Voluntary coverages include collision (repairs the motor vehicle), comprehensive (losses from events other than collision, like fire or theft or wind or vandalism), uninsured motorist (losses that exceed no-fault coverage when an at-fault driver has no liability insurance or inadequate liability insurance), medical (for losses that exceed no-fault coverage), rental reimbursement, and accidental death or dismemberment.

When the owner or operator of a motor vehicle purchases liability insurance to satisfy the financial responsibility law, the policy must be issued by an insurance company authorized to do business in Florida.[16]

When an owner or operator self-insures a vehicle or fleet of vehicles, the owner or operator must provide audited financial statements to HSMV showing an unencumbered net worth that satisfies the Financial Responsibility Law.[17]

Risk Retention Groups

Federal law treats risk retention groups – which may sell insurance only to eligible members – differently than traditional insurance companies.

Authorized insurers must be licensed in every state in which they operate and the domicile state serves as the primary regulator. Risk retention groups need to be licensed as a liability insurer in only one state; further, those that were chartered prior to 1985 may operate under the laws of Bermuda or the Cayman Islands.[18]

State regulators may require risk retention groups to comply with state laws relating to claim settlement and false or fraudulent acts, pay premium taxes, register with the designated state agent for service of process, and submit to financial exams if such exam has not been completed by the state in which the risk retention group is chartered.[19]

States may not require a risk retention group to participate in any insolvency guaranty association.[20] However, states may require notice that insurance provided by a risk retention group is not protected by an insolvency guaranty association.[21] Unlike authorized insurers, risk retention groups do not submit rate and form filings with a state regulator. Instead, risk retention groups apportion risk among their members; thus, rates are based on an actuarial analysis of the membership and policies can be tailored to suit the needs of the membership.[22]

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[13] Ss. 322.032, 324.021(8), and 324.151, F.S.
[14] 49 CFR § 387.9 (2022).
[15] Ss. 207.002(1), 320.01(25), and 627.7415, F.S.
[16] S. 324.021(8), F.S.
[17] S. 324.171, F.S.
[18] 15 U.S.C. § 3901(a)(4) and s. 627.942(9), F.S.
[19] 15 U.S.C. § 3902(a)(1).
[20] 15 U.S.C. § 3902(a)(2).
[21] 15 U.S.C. § 3902(a)(1).
[22] National Association of Insurance Commissioners, *Risk Retention Groups*, Risk Retention Groups (naic.org) (last visited Feb. 10, 2023).

Members of a risk retention group must be engaged in similar businesses or activities that have similar exposures due to the type of business, trade, product, service, premises, or operations.[23]

Risk retention groups may only provide liability insurance; the law defines liability insurance as coverage for liability for damages to persons or property arising out of any business, trade, product, professional service, premise, operation, or activity of a state or local government.[24] Liability insurance does not include an employer's liability to its employees; thus, risk retention groups may not issue workers' compensation insurance policies to their members.[25]

Risk retention groups may operate in Florida if they obtain a certificate of authority as a liability insurer, or are licensed in another state and provide a copy of their business plan and annual financial statement to OIR and designate the Chief Financial Officer as agent for service of process.[26] According to OIR, 140 risk retention groups are licensed in a state other than Florida and registered to do business in Florida.[27]

Risk retention groups licensed in Florida pay the same premium taxes as Florida-licensed insurers.[28] Risk retention groups registered to operate in Florida but licensed in another state pay the same premium taxes as surplus lines insurers that are allowed to sell lines of insurance that consumers cannot obtain from Florida-licensed insurers.[29] All risk retention groups operating in Florida must use agents who are licensed and appointed in Florida. [30]

American Contractors Insurance Group

American Contractors Insurance Group Ltd. of Bermuda (ACIG) is a risk retention group that is owned by 41 construction companies and affiliated with American Contractors Insurance Company Risk Retention Group (ACIG RRG) of Texas which writes general liability and auto coverages for its members and is registered to do business in Florida. According to company representatives, ACIG provides auto liability insurance for 17 of its 41 member companies, including 7 member companies that have active operations in Florida.

ACIG is also affiliated with ACIG Insurance Company of Illinois, which writes workers' compensation coverages; ACIG Insurance Agency, Inc. of Texas, which coordinates customer service); and American Contractors Risk Purchasing Group, Inc., of Texas, which acts as a purchasing group for professional, pollution, and cyber liability coverages.[31]

The International Risk Management Institute describes "fronting" as the use of a licensed, admitted insurer to issue an insurance policy on behalf of a self-insured organization or captive insurer without transferring any risk. The risk of loss under the policy remains with the self-insured entity or captive insurer, but the authorized insurer (and, in the event of insolvency, the guaranty association the insurer belongs to) assumes a credit risk because it would be required to honor the policy if the insured fails to do so. This provides proof of coverage that is needed to satisfy financial responsibility laws.

[23] 15 U.S.C. §3901(a)(4)(F) and s. 627.942(9), F.S.
[24] 15 U.S.C. 3901(a)(2)(A) and s. 627.942(9)(g), F.S.
[25] 15 U.S.C. 3901(a)(2)(B) and s. 627.942(4), F.S.
[26] Ss. 627.943 and 627.944, F.S.
[27] Florida Office of Insurance Regulation, *Active Company Search*, https://companysearch.myfloridacfo.gov/ (last visited Feb. 10, 2023).
[28] S. 627.943(4), F.S. Pursuant to s. 624.509, F.S., premium taxes (typically 1.75 percent of the premium) are collected by the licensed insurer and paid to the Department of Revenue on or before March 1 of each year.
[29] S. 627.944 (3), F.S. Pursuant to s. 626.932, F.S., premium taxes (4.94 percent of the premium) are collected by the licensed insurance agent and paid to the Department of Financial Services on a quarterly basis; premiums are also reported to the Florida Surplus Lines Service Office (FSLSO) which oversees the reporting requirements of eligible surplus lines insurers. The FSLSO website is https://www.fslso.com/.
[30] Ss. 627.943(5) and 627.944(12), F.S.
[31] American Contractors Insurance Group, *Organization Chart – Construction Industry Shareholders*, https://www.acig.com/assets/docs/ACIG_Organization_Chart.pdf (last visited Feb. 10, 2023).

The Florida Insurance Code[32] describes a "fronting company" as "an authorized insurer which by reinsurance or otherwise generally transfers more than 50 percent to one unauthorized insurer which does not meet the requirements" to be an accredited or trusteed reinsurer in Florida.[33]

Further, s. 624.404(4)(a), F.S., states: "No authorized insurer shall act as a fronting company for any unauthorized insurer which is not an approved reinsurer."

Florida law explicitly prohibits:

- An authorized insurer or licensed motor vehicle service agreement company from acting as a fronting company for any unauthorized insurer or unlicensed motor vehicle service agreement company.[34]
- An authorized insurer or licensed home warranty association from acting as a fronting company for any unauthorized insurer or unlicensed home warranty association.[35]
- An authorized insurer or licensed service warranty association from acting as a fronting company for any unauthorized insurer or unlicensed service warranty association.[36]

The Insurance Code does not contemplate the situation presented by ACIG RRG, where an authorized insurer acts as a fronting company for a risk retention group.

Representatives of ACIG stated that ACIG RRG must use a fronting policy to write auto liability insurance for Florida members, so they can provide evidence of auto liability coverage. According to documentation provided by company representatives, ACIG retains the entirety of its $5 million auto liability limit by reinsuring the fronting insurer at 100 percent.

Each of the 7 ACIG members with operations in Florida pays a fronting fee of $25,000 annually. This creates a $175,000 annual expense that would be avoided if ACIG RRG were permitted to directly issue auto liability policies to its Florida members. Collectively, the 7 companies insure about 975 vehicles and pay annual auto liability premiums of $1,954,944.

ACIG has an "A" rating from A.M. Best, in category VIII, which applies to companies with a policyholder surplus of $100 million-$250 million.

Effect of the Bill

The bill permits the owner or operator of a motor vehicle to provide proof of financial responsibility by obtaining an insurance policy from a risk retention group that: 1) has an "A" or higher rating for financial strength, and "VIII" or higher for financial size by the A.M. Best Company, and 2) only provides commercial coverage to its members and shareholders.

The bill would permit ACIG RRG to directly provide commercial auto insurance to its Florida members, annually saving each of the 7 Florida members $25,000 each.

It is unclear whether other similarly situated RRGs would be able to write auto insurance policies for Florida members; additional information from OIR is expected but was not immediately available.

B. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1. Amends s. 324.021, F.S.

[32] Chapters 624-632, 634, 635, 636, 641, 642, 648, and 651 constitute the "Florida Insurance Code."
[33] S. 624.404(4)(b), F.S.
[34] S. 634.241, F.S.
[35] S. 634.326, F.S.
[36] S. 634.429, F.S.

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:

   If adopted, HSMV will have to engage in structural testing to confirm successful file transfers with any risk retention group that directly insures its members in Florida. This is needed to ensure that HSMV receives timely insurance information about policies that are issued or cancelled. This administrative cost would be absorbed within current resources.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

   None.

2. Expenditures:

   None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

The bill benefits 7 Florida-based construction companies that are members of American Contractors Insurance Group Ltd. of Bermuda (ACIG), and obtain auto insurance through American Contractors Insurance Company Risk Retention Group of Texas (ACIG RRG). Each company would save $25,000 per year because they would no longer pay a “fronting” fee to obtain auto insurance through a Florida-authorized insurer.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

None.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

   Not Applicable. This bill does not appear to affect county or municipal governments.

2. Other:

   None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None provided by the bill

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to motor vehicle liability policies; amending s. 324.021, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "motor vehicle liability policy" to include certain policies issued by specified risk retention groups; defining the term "risk retention group"; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (8) of section 324.021, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (12) is added to that section, to read:

324.021 Definitions; minimum insurance required.—The following words and phrases when used in this chapter shall, for the purpose of this chapter, have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this section, except in those instances where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

(8) MOTOR VEHICLE LIABILITY POLICY.—Any owner's or operator's policy of liability insurance furnished as proof of financial responsibility pursuant to s. 324.031, insuring such owner or operator against loss from liability for bodily injury, death, and property damage arising out of the ownership, maintenance, or use of a motor vehicle in not less than the limits described in subsection (7) and conforming to the

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

requirements of s. 324.151, issued by any insurance company authorized to do business in this state or by a risk retention group described in subsection (12). The owner, registrant, or operator of a motor vehicle is exempt from providing such proof of financial responsibility if he or she is a member of the United States Armed Forces and is called to or on active duty outside this state or the United States, or if the owner of the vehicle is the dependent spouse of such active duty member and is also residing with the active duty member at the place of posting of such member, and the vehicle is primarily maintained at such place of posting. The exemption provided by this subsection applies only as long as the member of the armed forces is on such active duty outside this state or the United States and the owner complies with the security requirements of the state of posting or any possession or territory of the United States.

(12) RISK RETENTION GROUP.—A risk retention group operating in accordance with s. 627.943 or s. 627.944 which is rated "A" or higher for financial strength and "VIII" or higher for financial size category by A.M. Best Company and which only provides commercial coverage for its members and shareholders.

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

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

INSURANCE & BANKING SUBCOMMITTEE

HB 57 by Rep. Truenow
Motor Vehicle Liability Policies

AMENDMENT SUMMARY
February 14, 2023

Amendment 1 (barcode 869305) by Rep. Truenow (Line 46): The amendment:

- Increases the minimum required bodily injury and property damage coverage for certain commercial motor vehicles to $1 million per occurrence.
- The increased minimum coverage applies to commercial motor vehicles (basically vehicles over 26,000 pounds) of a contractor or subcontractor working on a public transportation-related construction or maintenance project.

- Currently, commercial motor vehicle coverage requirements are:
    - Under state law – ranges from $50,000 to $300,000, depending on the weight of the vehicle.
    - Under federal law – ranges from $750,000 to $5 million (those that operate across state lines or carry hazardous materials).

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION

ADOPTED	____	(Y/N)
ADOPTED AS AMENDED	____	(Y/N)
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION	____	(Y/N)
FAILED TO ADOPT	____	(Y/N)
WITHDRAWN	____	(Y/N)
OTHER		

Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Insurance & Banking Subcommittee

Representative Truenow offered the following:

Amendment (with title amendment)

Between lines 46 and 47, insert:

Section 2. Subsection (5) is added to section 627.7415, Florida Statutes, to read:

627.7415 Commercial motor vehicles; additional liability insurance coverage.—Commercial motor vehicles, as defined in s. 207.002 or s. 320.01, operated upon the roads and highways of this state shall be insured with the following minimum levels of combined bodily liability insurance and property damage liability insurance in addition to any other insurance requirements:

(5) Notwithstanding subsections (1), (2), (3), and (4), one million dollars per occurrence for a commercial motor vehicle of an entity under contract to a governmental entity, or as a subcontractor or supplier to an entity under contract to a government entity, for a project involving construction or maintenance of a transportation facility, bridge, road, street, highway, or railroad, and services incidental thereto, if the commercial motor vehicle is furnishing equipment or materials to said project.

A violation of this section is a noncriminal traffic infraction, punishable as a nonmoving violation as provided in chapter 318.

T I T L E A M E N D M E N T

Remove line 7 and insert:
amending s. 627.7415, F.S.; creating a requirement for commercial motor vehicles of contractors that provide equipment or materials to certain projects for a government entity; providing an effective date.

Department of Financial Services

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

Department of Financial Services (DFS)

House Insurance and Banking Subcommittee

February 14, 2023

CFO JIMMY PATRONIS

Department Overview

- Chief Financial Officer and State Fire Marshal.
- **13 Divisions**
- More than **2,500** FTE, including the Office of Financial Regulation and Office of Insurance Regulation.

Financial Services Commission

- Consists of Florida's Governor and Cabinet
- Appoints two officials to handle the regulation of banking, securities and insurance.
- Office of Financial Regulation (OFR)
- Office of Insurance Regulation (OIR)
- OFR and OIR are administratively housed within DFS.

DFS Organization

- **Consumer Protection**
  - Consumer Services
  - Insurance Agent and Agency Services
  - Rehabilitation and Liquidation
  - Unclaimed Property
- **Finance**
  - Accounting and Auditing
  - Treasury
- **Law Enforcement**
  - Investigative and Forensic Services
  - Public Assistance Fraud
  - State Fire Marshal
  - Workers' Compensation
- **Operations**
  - Administration
  - Funeral, Cemetery and Consumer Services
  - Risk Management

Consumer Protection

Consumer Services

- Insurance and financial consumer advocacy.
  - Insurance Consumer Helpline: **1-877-MYFLCFO** (1-877-693-5236)
  - Financial Literacy
  - Mediation Programs
  - Disaster Response

Insurance Agent and Agency Services

- Licenses and investigates insurance agents, agencies, adjusters, and other representatives.
- Total License & Registration Types: **97**.
- Total Number of Active Licenses and Registrations: **1,143,834**.
- Number of investigations and audits completed in 2022: **2,852**.

Consumer Protection

Unclaimed Property

- Recovers and safeguards unclaimed property accounts of Floridians.
- FLTreasureHunt.gov
- Since July 1, 2017:
  - Unclaimed Funds Recovered: **$2,955,526,527**
  - Funds Returned to Florida residents and businesses: **$1,879,473,609**

Rehabilitation and Liquidation

- Serves as court-appointed Receiver of any insurer placed into receivership in Florida and plans, coordinates, and directs the receivership processes on behalf of the Department.
- FY 2021-22 - Division distributed a total of over **$142 million** to claimants.

Finance

Accounting and Auditing

Underlying mission is making sure the state's bills are paid accurately and on time.

- The Bureau of Auditing.
- The Bureau of Financial Reporting
  The Bureau of State Payrolls.
- The Bureau of Vendor Relations.

Treasury

- Ensure that cash and other assets held for safekeeping within the Treasury are accurately accounted for, effectively invested, and competently protected.
- Treasury Investment Portfolio: **$59.6 Billion** *(As of December 31, 2022)*
- **$2.8 Billion** in Distributed Income *(FY 18-19 – Current)*

Law Enforcement

Investigative and Forensic Services

- DFS law enforcement and forensic services units investigate fraudulent and criminal acts, including:
  - Fire, Arson, and Explosives Investigations
  - Fire and Explosives Sample Analysis
  - Insurance Fraud
  - Theft/Misuse of State Funds
  - Workers' Compensation Fraud

Public Assistance Fraud

- Investigates suspected fraud and misuse of public assistance benefits by recipients, program administrators, or others who transact business using public assistance dollars.
  - FY 2021-22 Fraud Uncovered: **$13,651,365**
  - FY 2021-22 Benefits Halted from Being Issued: **$19,191,892**

Law Enforcement

State Fire Marshal

- Works to protect life, property, and environment from the devastation of fire through education, engineering, and enforcement.
  - Florida Fire Incident Reporting System
  - Bureau of Fire Prevention
  - Bureau of Fire Standards and Training
    - Florida State Fire College
  - Disaster Response

- Certified Firefighters: **46,861**
- Certified Volunteer Firefighters: **3,500**

Workers' Compensation

- Ensures the self-execution of the state's workers' compensation system by:
  - Educating system participants of their rights and responsibilities,
  - Leveraging data to deliver exceptional value, and
  - Holding participants accountable for fulfilling their obligations.

Operations

Risk Management

- Providing self-insurance, purchase of insurance, claims handling assistance in managing risk for participating state agencies and universities.
- Coverages:
  - Workers' Compensation
  - Property
  - Automobile Liability
  - General Liability
  - Federal Civil Rights/Employment Discrimination
  - Firefighter Cancer Benefits

Funeral, Cemetery, and Consumer Services

- Protecting health, safety and welfare of the public, the division licenses and regulates the death care industry in Florida.
- Licenses: **9,400**
- Inspections: **1,601**
- Examinations: **76**
- Investigations: **331**

Other Programs

Florida PALM

- The Florida Planning, Accounting, and Ledger Management Project was established in 2014 to replace FLAIR.
- The Florida PALM Project is replacing the State of Florida's current accounting and cash management systems with an integrated, enterprise financial management solution that will allow the State to organize, define, and standardize its financial management processes.

My Safe Florida Home Program

- May 2022 - Florida Legislature reinstituted the MSFH Program by appropriating **$150 million** in non-recurring General Revenue.
- Purpose - to assist homeowners with reducing their insurance premiums by providing grant funds to mitigate their homes against future wind damage.
- Slated to expire **October 1, 2024.**

Questions?

Austin Stowers, Legislative Affairs Director
DFS Legislative Affairs Office: (850) 413-2863

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES



CFO JIMMY PATRONIS