

CHAPTER 2015-143

Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 401

An act relating to public lodging and public food service establishments; amending s. 509.032, F.S.; revising the frequency at which the Division of Hotels and Restaurants of the Department of Business and Professional Regulation must reassess the inspection frequency of public food service establishments; revising the department's duties with respect to distribution of a specified food-recovery brochure; deleting a restriction on the length of time that a licensed public food service establishment may operate at a temporary food service event; amending s. 509.091, F.S.; authorizing the division to deliver lodging inspection reports and food service inspection reports electronically; amending s. 509.101, F.S.; requiring operators of public food service establishments to maintain copies of food service inspection reports and make them available to the division; amending s. 509.251, F.S.; revising certain delinquent fees for license renewal; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraphs (a) and (g) of subsection (2) and paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section 509.032, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

509.032 Duties.—

(2) INSPECTION OF PREMISES.—

(a) The division has jurisdiction and is responsible for all inspections required by this chapter. The division is responsible for quality assurance. The division shall inspect each licensed public lodging establishment at least biannually, except for transient and nontransient apartments, which shall be inspected at least annually. Each establishment licensed by the division shall be inspected at such other times as the division determines is necessary to ensure the public's health, safety, and welfare. The division shall, ~~by no later than July 1, 2014,~~ adopt by rule a risk-based inspection frequency for each licensed public food service establishment. The rule must require at least one, but not more than four, routine inspections that must be performed annually, and may include guidelines that consider the inspection and compliance history of a public food service establishment, the type of food and food preparation, and the type of service. The division shall ~~annually~~ reassess the inspection frequency of all licensed public food service establishments at least annually. Public lodging units classified as vacation rentals or timeshare projects are not subject to this requirement but shall be made available to the division upon request. If, during the inspection of a public lodging establishment classified for renting to transient or nontransient tenants, an inspector identifies vulnerable adults who appear to be victims of neglect, as defined in s. 415.102, or, in the case of a building that is not equipped with automatic sprinkler systems, tenants or clients who may be

unable to self-preserve in an emergency, the division shall convene meetings with the following agencies as appropriate to the individual situation: the Department of Health, the Department of Elderly Affairs, the area agency on aging, the local fire marshal, the landlord and affected tenants and clients, and other relevant organizations, to develop a plan that improves the prospects for safety of affected residents and, if necessary, identifies alternative living arrangements such as facilities licensed under part II of chapter 400 or under chapter 429.

(g) In inspecting public food service establishments, the department shall ~~notify provide~~ each inspected establishment of the availability of ~~with~~ the food-recovery brochure developed under s. 595.420.

(3) SANITARY STANDARDS; EMERGENCIES; TEMPORARY FOOD SERVICE EVENTS.—The division shall:

(c) Administer a public notification process for temporary food service events and distribute educational materials that address safe food storage, preparation, and service procedures.

1. Sponsors of temporary food service events shall notify the division not less than 3 days before the scheduled event of the type of food service proposed, the time and location of the event, a complete list of food service vendors participating in the event, the number of individual food service facilities each vendor will operate at the event, and the identification number of each food service vendor's current license as a public food service establishment or temporary food service event licensee. Notification may be completed orally, by telephone, in person, or in writing. A public food service establishment or food service vendor may not use this notification process to circumvent the license requirements of this chapter.

2. The division shall keep a record of all notifications received for proposed temporary food service events and shall provide appropriate educational materials to the event sponsors and notify the event sponsors of the availability of, including the food-recovery brochure developed under s. 595.420.

3.a. A public food service establishment or other food service vendor must obtain one of the following classes of license from the division: an individual license, for a fee of no more than \$105, for each temporary food service event in which it participates; or an annual license, for a fee of no more than \$1,000, that entitles the licensee to participate in an unlimited number of food service events during the license period. The division shall establish license fees, by rule, and may limit the number of food service facilities a licensee may operate at a particular temporary food service event under a single license.

b. Public food service establishments holding current licenses from the division may operate under the regulations of such a license at temporary food service events ~~of 3 days or less in duration~~.

Section 2. Section 509.091, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

509.091 Notices; form and service.—

(1) Each notice served by the division pursuant to this chapter must be in writing and must be delivered personally by an agent of the division or by registered letter to the operator of the public lodging establishment or public food service establishment. If the operator refuses to accept service or evades service or the agent is otherwise unable to effect service after due diligence, the division may post such notice in a conspicuous place at the establishment.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), the division may deliver lodging inspection reports and food service inspection reports to the operator of the public lodging establishment or public food service establishment by electronic means.

Section 3. Subsection (1) of section 509.101, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

509.101 Establishment rules; posting of notice; food service inspection report; maintenance of guest register; mobile food dispensing vehicle registry.—

(1) Any operator of a public lodging establishment or a public food service establishment may establish reasonable rules and regulations for the management of the establishment and its guests and employees; and each guest or employee staying, sojourning, eating, or employed in the establishment shall conform to and abide by such rules and regulations so long as the guest or employee remains in or at the establishment. Such rules and regulations shall be deemed to be a special contract between the operator and each guest or employee using the services or facilities of the operator. Such rules and regulations shall control the liabilities, responsibilities, and obligations of all parties. Any rules or regulations established pursuant to this section shall be printed in the English language and posted in a prominent place within such public lodging establishment or public food service establishment. In addition, any operator of a public food service establishment shall maintain a copy of the latest food service inspection report ~~or a duplicate copy on premises~~ and shall make it available to the division at the time of any division inspection of the establishment and to the public, upon request.

Section 4. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 509.251, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

509.251 License fees.—

(1) The division shall adopt, by rule, a schedule of fees to be paid by each public lodging establishment as a prerequisite to issuance or renewal of a license. Such fees shall be based on the number of rental units in the establishment. The aggregate fee per establishment charged any public lodging establishment may ~~shall~~ not exceed \$1,000; however, the fees

described in paragraphs (a) and (b) may not be included as part of the aggregate fee subject to this cap. Vacation rental units or timeshare projects within separate buildings or at separate locations but managed by one licensed agent may be combined in a single license application, and the division shall charge a license fee as if all units in the application are in a single licensed establishment. The fee schedule shall require an establishment which applies for an initial license to pay the full license fee if application is made during the annual renewal period or more than 6 months before ~~prior to~~ the next such renewal period and one-half of the fee if application is made 6 months or less before ~~prior to~~ such period. The fee schedule shall include fees collected for the purpose of funding the Hospitality Education Program, pursuant to s. 509.302, which are payable in full for each application regardless of when the application is submitted.

(a) Upon making initial application or an application for change of ownership, the applicant shall pay to the division a fee as prescribed by rule, not to exceed \$50, in addition to any other fees required by law, which shall cover all costs associated with initiating regulation of the establishment.

(b) A license renewal filed with the division ~~within 30 days~~ after the expiration date shall be accompanied by a delinquent fee as prescribed by rule, not to exceed \$50, in addition to the renewal fee and any other fees required by law. ~~A license renewal filed with the division more than 30 but not more than 60 days after the expiration date shall be accompanied by a delinquent fee as prescribed by rule, not to exceed \$100, in addition to the renewal fee and any other fees required by law.~~

(2) The division shall adopt, by rule, a schedule of fees to be paid by each public food service establishment as a prerequisite to issuance or renewal of a license. The fee schedule shall prescribe a basic fee and additional fees based on seating capacity and services offered. The aggregate fee per establishment charged any public food service establishment may not exceed \$400; however, the fees described in paragraphs (a) and (b) may not be included as part of the aggregate fee subject to this cap. The fee schedule shall require an establishment which applies for an initial license to pay the full license fee if application is made during the annual renewal period or more than 6 months before ~~prior to~~ the next such renewal period and one-half of the fee if application is made 6 months or less before ~~prior to~~ such period. The fee schedule shall include fees collected for the purpose of funding the Hospitality Education Program, pursuant to s. 509.302, which are payable in full for each application regardless of when the application is submitted.

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Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.

Approved by the Governor June 11, 2015.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 11, 2015.