

SB 1928 – Household Moving Services

This bill amends s. 507.05, F.S., creating a binding estimate of the cost of services by the mover which would prevent the mover from increasing the price of the initial estimate once belongings are on the truck. S. 507.065, F.S. is also created, specifically stating that “the maximum amount that a mover may charge before relinquishing household goods to a shipper is the exact amount of the binding estimate, unless waived by the shipper.” Furthermore, “a mover must bill a shipper for any charges assessed under this chapter which are not collected upon delivery of household goods at their destination within 15 days after such delivery. A mover may assess a late fee for any uncollected charges if the shipper fails to make payment within 30 days after receipt of the bill.” Finally, this bill amends the Level 1, 3rd degree felony under s. 507.11, F.S., stating the following (new language in bold): “the refusal of a mover or a mover’s employee, agent, or contractor to comply with an order from a law enforcement officer to relinquish a shipper’s household goods after the officer determines that the shipper has tendered payment **in accordance with s. 507.065, F.S.**, or after the officer determines that the mover did not produce a signed **or electronically acknowledged binding** estimate or contract **for service** upon which demand is being made for payment.” Finally, “a mover’s compliance with an order from a law enforcement officer to relinquish **household** goods to a shipper is not a waiver or finding of fact regarding any right to seek further payment from the shipper.”

Per DOC, there have been no new commitments to prison over the last three fiscal years for a violation of the Level 1, 3rd degree felony under s. 507.11, F.S. Given the new language, there should be fewer scams and general disputes by creating a binding estimate and streamlining the process.

CONFERENCE ADOPTED ESTIMATE: Negative Insignificant

Requested by: Senate