

By Representative Jones

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to notary publics; amending s.
3 117.01, F.S.; increasing the bond required of a
4 notary public; providing an effective date.

5
6 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

7
8 Section 1. Subsection (7) of section 117.01, Florida
9 Statutes, 1996 Supplement, is amended to read:

10 117.01 Appointment, application, suspension,
11 revocation, application fee, bond, and oath.--

12 (7)(a) A notary public shall, prior to executing the
13 duties of the office and throughout the term of office, give
14 bond, payable to any individual harmed as a result of a breach
15 of duty by the notary public acting in his or her official
16 capacity, in the amount of \$10,000~~\$5,000~~, conditioned for the
17 due discharge of the office and shall take an oath that he or
18 she will honestly, diligently, and faithfully discharge the
19 duties of the notary public. The bond shall be approved and
20 filed with the Department of State and executed by a surety
21 company for hire duly authorized to transact business in this
22 state.

23 (b) Any notary public whose term of appointment
24 extends beyond January 1, 1998 ~~1992~~, is required to increase
25 the amount of his or her bond to \$10,000~~\$5,000~~ only upon
26 reappointment on or after January 1, 1998 ~~1992~~.

27 (c) Beginning July 1, 1996, surety companies for hire
28 which process notary public applications, oaths, affidavits of
29 character, and bonds for submission to the Department of State
30 must properly submit these documents in a software and hard
31 copy format approved by the Department of State.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31

Section 2. This act shall take effect January 1, 1998.

HOUSE SUMMARY

Effective January 1, 1998, increases to \$10,000 the bond
required for a notary public.