Florida House of Representatives - 2001 By Representative Needelman HB 1359

A bill to be entitled 1 An act relating to insurance; creating the 2 3 Producer Licensing Model Act; providing purpose and scope; defining terms; providing for 4 5 licensing; providing for applications for examination and license; providing for 6 7 nonresident licensing; providing an exemption 8 from examination; requiring notification to the 9 Department of Insurance if an assumed name is used; providing for denial, nonrenewal, and 10 11 revocation of license; providing for commissions and appointments; providing for 12 reciprocity; providing for reporting of 13 14 actions; authorizing the Department of Insurance to adopt rules; providing for 15 16 severability; providing for repeal of inconsistent statutes; providing an effective 17 18 date. 19 20 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 21 2.2 Section 1. Purpose and scope .--(1) This act governs the qualifications and procedures 23 24 for the licensing of insurance producers. It simplifies and 25 organizes some statutory provisions to improve efficiency, 26 permits the use of new technology, and reduces costs 27 associated with issuing and renewing insurance licenses. 28 (2) This act does not apply to excess and surplus 29 lines agents and brokers licensed under part VIII of chapter 30 626, Florida Statutes, except as provided in section 8 and section 16(3). 31

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1 Section 2. Definitions.--As used in this act, the 2 term: 3 (1) "Business entity" means a corporation, 4 association, partnership, limited liability company, limited 5 liability partnership, or other legal entity. (2) "Home state" means the District of Columbia or any 6 7 state or territory of the United States in which an insurance 8 producer maintains his or her principal place of residence or 9 principal place of business and is licensed to act as an 10 insurance producer. 11 (3) "Insurance" means any of the lines of insurance 12 defined in part V of chapter 624, Florida Statutes. 13 (4) "Insurance producer" means a person who is 14 required to be licensed under the laws of this state to sell, 15 solicit, or negotiate insurance. 16 (5) "Insurer" means any person engaged as indemnitor, surety, or contractor in the business of entering into 17 contracts of insurance or of annuity. 18 19 "License" means a document issued by the (6) 20 Department of Insurance which authorizes a person to act as an insurance producer for the lines of authority specified in the 21 22 document. The license itself does not create any authority, 23 actual, apparent, or inherent, in the holder to represent or 24 commit an insurance carrier. 25 "Limited lines insurance" means those lines of (7) 26 insurance defined in s. 626.321, Florida Statutes. 27 "Limited lines producer" means a person authorized (8) 28 by the Department of Insurance to sell, solicit, or negotiate 29 limited lines insurance. "Negotiate" means the act of conferring directly 30 (9) with or offering advice directly to a purchaser or prospective 31 2

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purchaser of a particular contract of insurance concerning any 1 of the substantive benefits, terms, or conditions of the 2 3 contract, provided that the person engaged in that act either 4 sells insurance or obtains insurance from insurers for 5 purchasers. б (10) "Person" means an individual or a business 7 entity. 8 (11) "Sell" means to exchange a contract of insurance 9 by any means, for money or its equivalent, on behalf of an 10 insurance company. 11 (12) "Solicit" means to attempt to sell insurance or 12 ask or urge a person to apply for a particular kind of 13 insurance from a particular company. 14 (13) "Terminate" means to cancel the relationship 15 between an insurance producer and the insurer or to terminate 16 a producer's authority to transact insurance. 17 (14) "Uniform business entity application" means the National Association of Insurance Commissioners Uniform 18 19 Business Entity Application for resident and nonresident 20 business entities. 21 (15) "Uniform application" means the National Association of Insurance Commissioners Uniform Application for 22 23 resident and nonresident producer licensing. 24 Section 3. License required. -- A person may not sell, solicit, or negotiate insurance in this state for any class of 25 26 insurance unless the person is licensed for that class in 27 accordance with this act. 28 Section 4. Exceptions to licensing.--29 (1) This act does not require an insurer to obtain an insurance producer license. As used in this section, the term 30 31

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"insurer" does not include an insurer's officers, directors, 1 2 employees, subsidiaries, or affiliates. 3 (2) A license as an insurance producer is required of 4 the following: 5 (a) An officer, director, or employee of an insurer or б of an insurance producer if the officer, director, or employee 7 does not receive any commission on policies written or sold to 8 insure risks residing, located, or to be performed in this 9 state and: 10 1. The officer, director, or employee's activities are executive, administrative, managerial, clerical, or a 11 12 combination of these and are only indirectly related to the 13 sale, solicitation, or negotiation of insurance; 2. The officer, director, or employee's function 14 15 relates to underwriting, loss control, inspection, or the processing, adjusting, investigating, or settling of a claim 16 17 on a contract of insurance; or 3. The officer, director, or employee is acting in the 18 19 capacity of a special agent or agency supervisor assisting 20 insurance producers under circumstances in which the person's activities are limited to providing technical advice and 21 22 assistance to licensed insurance producers and do not include the sale, solicitation, or negotiation of insurance. 23 24 (b) A person who secures and furnishes information for the purpose of group life insurance, group property and 25 26 casualty insurance, group annuities, group or blanket accident 27 and health insurance, or for the purpose of enrolling 28 individuals under plans, issuing certificates under plans, or otherwise assisting in administering plans, or who performs 29 administrative services related to mass-marketed property and 30 31

casualty insurance, when no commission is paid to the person 1 2 for the service. 3 (c) An employer or association or its officers, directors, employees, or the trustees of an employee trust 4 5 plan, to the extent that the employers, officers, employees, 6 director, or trustees are engaged in the administration or 7 operation of a program of employee benefits for the employer's 8 or association's own employees or the employees of its 9 subsidiaries or affiliates, which program involves the use of insurance issued by an insurer, as long as the employers, 10 associations, officers, directors, employees, or trustees are 11 12 not in any manner compensated, directly or indirectly, by the 13 company issuing the contracts. 14 (d) Employees of insurers or organizations employed by 15 insurers who are engaging in the inspection, rating, or 16 classification of risks, or in the supervision of the training of insurance producers, and who are not individually engaged 17 in the sale, solicitation, or negotiation of insurance. 18 19 (e) A person whose activities in this state are 20 limited to advertising without the intent to solicit insurance in this state through communications in printed publications 21 22 or other forms of electronic mass media whose distribution is not limited to residents of the state, unless the persons 23 sells, solicits, or negotiates insurance that would insure 24 risks residing, located, or to be performed in this state. 25 26 (f) A person who is not a resident of this state who 27 sells, solicits, or negotiates a contract of insurance for 28 commercial property and casualty risks to an insured with 29 risks located in more than one state insured under that contract, provided that that person is otherwise licensed as 30 an insurance producer to sell, solicit, or negotiate that 31

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insurance in the state where the insured maintains its 1 2 principal place of business and the contract of insurance 3 insures risks located in that state. 4 (g) A salaried full-time employee who counsels or 5 advises his or her employer relative to the insurance 6 interests of the employer or of the subsidiaries or business 7 affiliates of the employer, provided that the employee does 8 not sell or solicit insurance or receive a commission. 9 Section 5. Application for examination .--10 (1) A resident individual applying for an insurance producer license must pass a written examination unless exempt 11 under section 9. The examination shall test the knowledge of 12 13 the individual concerning the lines of authority for which application is made, the duties and responsibilities of an 14 15 insurance producer, and the insurance laws and regulations of this state. Examinations required by this section must be 16 developed and conducted under rules prescribed by the 17 Department of Insurance. 18 19 The Department of Insurance may make arrangements, (2) 20 including contracting with an outside testing service, for administering examinations and collecting the nonrefundable 21 fee prescribed in s. 624.501, Florida Statutes. 22 23 (3) Each individual applying for an examination must 24 remit a nonrefundable fee as prescribed by the Department of Insurance as set forth in s. 624.501, Florida Statutes. 25 26 (4) An individual who fails to appear for the 27 examination as scheduled or fails to pass the examination must 28 reapply for an examination and remit all required fees and 29 forms before being rescheduled for another examination. 30 Section 6. Application for license.--31

(1) A person applying for a resident insurance 1 2 producer license must apply to the Department of Insurance on the uniform application and declare under penalty of refusal, 3 4 suspension, or revocation of the license that the statements 5 made in the application are true, correct, and complete to the 6 best of the individual's knowledge and belief. Before 7 approving the application, the Department of Insurance must 8 find that the individual: 9 (a) Is at least 18 years of age; (b) Has not committed any act that is a ground for 10 denial, suspension, or revocation set forth in section 12; 11 12 (c) Has completed any prelicensing course of study 13 required by law for the lines of authority for which the 14 person has applied; 15 (d) Has paid the fees set forth in s. 624.501, Florida 16 Statutes; and (e) Has successfully passed the examination for the 17 lines of authority for which the person has applied. 18 19 (2) The Department of Insurance may require any 20 documents reasonably necessary to verify the information contained in an application. 21 (3) Each insurer that sells, solicits, or negotiates 22 23 any form of limited line credit insurance shall provide to 24 each individual whose duties will include selling, soliciting, or negotiating limited line credit insurance a program of 25 26 instruction that is approved by the Department of Insurance. 27 Section 7. License.--28 (1) Unless denied licensure under section 12, persons 29 who have met the requirements of sections 5 and 6 shall be 30 issued an insurance producer license. An insurance producer 31

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may receive qualification for a license in one or more of the 1 2 following lines of authority: (a) Life insurance coverage on human lives, including 3 benefits of endowment and annuities, which may include 4 5 benefits in the event of death or dismemberment by accident 6 and benefits for disability income. 7 (b) Accident and health or sickness insurance coverage 8 for sickness, bodily injury, or accidental death, which may include benefits for disability income. 9 10 (c) Property insurance coverage for the direct or consequential loss or damage to property of any kind. 11 12 (d) Casualty insurance coverage against legal 13 liability, including that for death, injury, or disability or 14 damage to real or personal property. 15 (e) Variable life and variable annuity products 16 insurance coverage provided under variable life insurance contracts and variable annuities. 17 18 (f) Limited lines insurance. 19 (g) Any other line of insurance permitted under state 20 laws. (2) An insurance producer license remains in effect, 21 unless revoked or suspended, as long as the fee set forth in 22 s. 624.501, Florida Statutes, has been paid and the education 23 24 requirements for resident individual producers have been met by the due date. 25 26 (3) An individual insurance producer who allows his or 27 her license to lapse may, within 12 months after the due date 28 of the renewal fee, reinstate the same license without the 29 necessity of passing a written examination. However, a penalty in the amount of twice the unpaid renewal fee is required for 30 any renewal fee received after the due date. 31

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(4) A licensed insurance producer who is unable to 1 comply with license renewal procedures due to military service 2 or other extenuating circumstance such as long-term medical 3 4 disability may request a waiver of those procedures. The 5 producer may also request a waiver of any examination б requirement or any other fine or sanction imposed for failure 7 to comply with renewal procedures. 8 (5) The license shall specify the licensee's name, 9 address, personal identification number, and the date of 10 issuance, the lines of authority, the expiration date, and any other information the Department of Insurance deems necessary. 11 12 (6) Licensees shall inform the Department of Insurance 13 by any means acceptable to the department of a change of 14 address within 30 days after the change occurs. 15 Section 8. Nonresident licensing .--16 (1) Unless denied licensure pursuant to section 12, a nonresident person shall receive a nonresident producer 17 license if: 18 19 (a) The person is currently licensed as a resident and 20 in good standing in his or her home state; 21 (b) The person has submitted the proper request for 22 licensure and has paid the fees required by s. 624.501, 23 Florida Statutes; 24 (c) The person has submitted or transmitted to the Department of Insurance the application for licensure which 25 26 the person submitted to his or her home state, or in lieu of 27 the same, a completed uniform application; and 28 (d) The person's home state awards nonresident 29 producer licenses to residents of this state on the same 30 basis. 31

The Department of Insurance may verify the 1 (2) 2 producer's licensing status through the producer database 3 maintained by the National Association of Insurance 4 Commissioners, its affiliates, or its subsidiaries. 5 (3) A nonresident producer who moves from one state to 6 another state or a resident producer who moves from this state 7 to another state must file a change of address and provide 8 certification from the new resident state within 30 days after 9 the change of legal residence. A fee or license application is 10 not required. (4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this act, a 11 12 person licensed as a surplus lines producer in his or her home 13 state shall receive a nonresident surplus lines producer 14 license pursuant to subsection (1). Except for subsection (1), 15 nothing in this section otherwise amends or supersedes any 16 provision of the Florida Statutes relating to surplus lines 17 insurance. (5) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this act, 18 19 a person licensed as a limited lines producer in his or her 20 home state shall receive a nonresident limited lines producer license, pursuant to subsection (1), granting the same scope 21 22 of authority as granted under the license issued by the producer's home state. For the purposes of this subsection, 23 24 limited lines insurance is any authority granted by the home 25 state which restricts the authority under the license to less 26 than the total authority prescribed in the associated major 27 lines under section 7(1)(a)-(e). 28 Section 9. Exemption from examination .--29 (1) An individual who applies for an insurance producer license in this state who was previously licensed for 30 31 the same lines of authority in another state is not required 10

to complete any prelicensing education or examination. The 1 2 exemption is available only if the person is currently 3 licensed in that state or if the application is received within 90 days after the cancellation of the applicant's 4 5 previous license and if the prior state issues a certification 6 that, at the time of cancellation, the applicant was in good 7 standing in that state or that the state's producer database 8 records, maintained by the National Association of Insurance 9 Commissioners, its affiliates, or its subsidiaries, indicate that the producer is or was licensed in good standing for the 10 11 line of authority requested. 12 (2) A person licensed as an insurance producer in 13 another state who moves to this state must apply within 90 14 days after establishing legal residence to become a resident 15 licensee under section 6. Prelicensing education and 16 examination are not required of that person to obtain any line of authority previously held in the prior state unless the 17 Department of Insurance requires otherwise by rule. 18 19 Section 10. Assumed names. -- An insurance producer 20 doing business under any name other than the producer's legal name must notify the Department of Insurance prior to using 21 22 the assumed name. 23 Section 11. Temporary licensing.--24 (1) The Department of Insurance may issue a temporary 25 insurance producer license for a period not to exceed 180 days 26 without requiring an examination if it finds that the 27 temporary license is necessary for the servicing of an 28 insurance business in the following cases: 29 (a) To the surviving spouse or court-appointed personal representative of a licensed insurance producer who 30 dies or becomes mentally or physically disabled, to allow 31

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adequate time for the sale of the insurance business owned by 1 2 the producer or for the recovery or return of the producer to the business or to provide for the training and licensing of 3 new personnel to operate the producer's business. 4 5 (b) To a member or employee of a business entity б licensed as an insurance producer, upon the death or 7 disability of an individual designated in the business entity 8 application or the license. (c) To the designee of a licensed insurance producer 9 entering active service in the armed forces of the United 10 11 States of America. 12 (d) In any other circumstance under which the 13 Department of Insurance considers that the public interest will be best served by the issuance of this license. 14 15 (2) The Department of Insurance may by order limit the 16 authority of any temporary licensee in any way considered necessary to protect insureds and the public. The Department 17 of Insurance may require the temporary licensee to have a 18 19 suitable sponsor who is a licensed producer or insurer and who 20 assumes responsibility for all acts of the temporary licensee, and may impose other similar requirements designed to protect 21 22 insureds and the public. The Department of Insurance may by 23 order revoke a temporary license if the interests of insureds 24 or the public are endangered. A temporary license may not continue after the owner or the personal representative 25 26 disposes of the business. 27 Section 12. License denial, nonrenewal, or 28 revocation.--29 (1) The Department of Insurance may place on probation, suspend, revoke, or refuse to issue or renew an 30 insurance producer's license or may levy a civil penalty in 31

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accordance with s. 626.681, Florida Statutes, or any 1 combination of actions, for any one or more of the following 2 3 causes: 4 (a) Providing incorrect, misleading, incomplete, or 5 materially untrue information in the license application. б (b) Violating any insurance laws, or violating any 7 rule, subpoena, or order of the Department of Insurance or of 8 the comparable agency of another state. 9 (c) Obtaining or attempting to obtain a license 10 through misrepresentation or fraud. (d) Improperly withholding, misappropriating, or 11 12 converting any moneys or properties received in the course of 13 doing insurance business. 14 (e) Intentionally misrepresenting the terms of an 15 actual or proposed insurance contract or application for 16 insurance. (f) Having been convicted of a felony. 17 (g) Having admitted or been found to have committed 18 19 any insurance unfair trade practice or fraud. 20 (h) Using fraudulent, coercive, or dishonest practices, or demonstrating incompetence, untrustworthiness, 21 22 or financial irresponsibility in the conduct of business in 23 this state or elsewhere. 24 (i) Having an insurance producer license, or its equivalent, denied, suspended, or revoked in any other state, 25 26 province, district, or territory. 27 (j) Forging another's name to an application for 28 insurance or to any document related to an insurance 29 transaction. (k) Improperly using notes or any other reference 30 31 material to complete an examination for an insurance license. 13

(1) Knowingly accepting insurance business from an 1 2 individual who is not licensed. (m) Failing to comply with an administrative or court 3 4 order imposing a child-support obligation. 5 (2) If the Department of Insurance fails to renew or б denies an application for a license, it shall advise, in 7 writing, the applicant or licensee of the reason for the 8 denial or nonrenewal. The applicant or licensee may make 9 written demand upon the Department of Insurance within 15 days for a hearing to determine the reasonableness of the action. 10 11 The hearing must be held pursuant to chapter 120, Florida 12 Statutes. 13 (3) The license of a business entity may be suspended, 14 revoked, or refused if the Department of Insurance finds, 15 after hearing, that an individual licensee's violation was 16 known or should have been known by one or more of the partners, officers, or managers acting on behalf of the 17 partnership or corporation and that the violation was not 18 19 reported to the department nor corrective action taken. 20 (4) In addition to or in lieu of any applicable denial, suspension, or revocation of a license, a person may, 21 after hearing, be subject to a civil fine in accordance with 22 23 s. 626.681, Florida Statutes. 24 (5) The Department of Insurance shall retain the 25 authority to enforce the provisions of and impose any penalty 26 or remedy authorized by this act and chapter 626, Florida 27 Statutes, against any person who is under investigation for or 28 charged with a violation of this act or chapter 626, Florida 29 Statutes, even if the person's license or registration has been surrendered or has lapsed by operation of law. 30 31 Section 13. Commissions.--

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(1) An insurance company or insurance producer may not 1 pay a commission, service fee, brokerage, or other valuable 2 consideration to a person for selling, soliciting, or 3 4 negotiating insurance in this state if that person is required 5 to be licensed under this act and is not so licensed. 6 (2) A person may not accept a commission, service fee, 7 brokerage, or other valuable consideration for selling, 8 soliciting, or negotiating insurance in this state if that person is required to be licensed under this act and is not so 9 10 licensed. 11 (3) Renewal or other deferred commissions may be paid 12 to a person for selling, soliciting, or negotiating insurance 13 in this state if the person was required to be licensed under 14 this act at the time of the sale, solicitation, or negotiation and was so licensed at that time. 15 (4) An insurer or insurance producer may pay or assign 16 commissions, service fees, brokerages, or other valuable 17 consideration to an insurance agency or to persons who do not 18 19 sell, solicit, or negotiate insurance in this state, unless 20 the payment would violate s. 626.572, Florida Statutes. 21 Section 14. Appointments.--22 (1) An insurance producer may not act as an agent of 23 an insurer unless the insurance producer becomes an appointed 24 agent of that insurer. An insurance producer who is not acting as an agent of an insurer is not required to become appointed. 25 26 (2) Upon receipt of the notice of appointment, the 27 Department of Insurance must verify within a reasonable time 28 not to exceed 30 days that the insurance producer is eligible for appointment. If the insurance producer is found to be 29 ineligible for appointment, the department shall, within 5 30 days, notify the insurer of that determination. 31

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(3) An insurer shall pay an appointment fee, in the 1 2 amount and method of payment set forth in s. 624.501, Florida 3 Statutes, for each insurance producer appointed by the 4 insurer. 5 (4) An insurer shall remit, in a manner prescribed by б the Department of Insurance, a renewal appointment fee in the 7 amount set forth in s. 624.501, Florida Statutes. 8 Section 15. Notification to Department of Insurance of 9 termination.--10 (1) An insurer or authorized representative of the insurer that terminates the appointment, employment, contract, 11 12 or other insurance business relationship with a producer shall 13 notify the Department of Insurance within 30 days following 14 the effective date of the termination, using a format 15 prescribed by the department, if the reason for termination is 16 one of the reasons set forth in section 12 or if the insurer knows that the producer has been found by a court, government 17 body, or self-regulatory organization authorized by law to 18 19 have engaged in any of the activities in section 12. Upon the 20 written request of the Department of Insurance, the insurer shall provide additional information, documents, records, or 21 22 other data pertaining to the termination or activity of the 23 producer. 24 (2) An insurer or authorized representative of the 25 insurer that terminates the appointment, employment, or 26 contract with a producer for any reason not set forth in 27 section 12 shall notify the Department of Insurance within 30 28 days following the effective date of the termination, using a 29 format prescribed by the department. Upon written request of the Department of Insurance, the insurer shall provide 30 31

additional information, documents, records, or other data pertaining to the termination. (3) The insurer or the authorized representative of the insurer shall promptly notify the Department of Insurance in a format acceptable to the department if, upon further review or investigation, the insurer discovers additional information that should have been reported to the department in accordance with subsection (1) had the insurer then known of its existence. (4)(a) Within 15 days after making the notification required by subsection (1), subsection (2), or subsection (3), the insurer shall mail a copy of the notification to the producer at his or her last known address. If the producer is terminated for cause for any of the reasons listed in section 12, the insurer shall provide a copy of the notification to the producer at his or her last known address by certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, or by overnight delivery using a nationally recognized carrier. Within 30 days after the producer has received the (b) original or additional notification, the producer may file written comments concerning the substance of the notification with the Department of Insurance. The producer shall by the same means, simultaneously send a copy of the comments to the reporting insurer, and the comments shall become a part of the

25 Department of Insurance's file and accompany each copy of a 26 report distributed or disclosed for any reason concerning the

27 producer.

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28 (5)(a) In the absence of actual malice, an insurer,

29 the authorized representative of the insurer, a producer, the

30 Department of Insurance, or an organization of which the

31 Insurance Commissioner is a member and which compiles the

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information and makes it available to other insurance 1 2 commissioners or to regulatory or law enforcement agencies is not subject to civil liability, and a civil cause of action of 3 4 any nature may not arise against these entities of their 5 respective agents or employees as a result of any statement or б information required by or provided under this section or any 7 information relating to any statement that is requested in 8 writing by the Department of Insurance, from an insurer or 9 producer, or a statement by a terminating insurer or producer to an insurer or producer, limited solely and exclusively to 10 whether a termination for cause under subsection (1) was 11 12 reported to the Department of Insurance, provided that the 13 propriety of any termination for cause under subsection (1) is 14 certified in writing by an officer or authorized 15 representative of the insurer or producer terminating the 16 relationship. (b) In any action brought against a person that has 17 immunity under paragraph (a) for making any statement required 18 19 by this section or providing any information relating to any 20 statement that has been requested by the Department of Insurance, the party bringing the action must plead 21 22 specifically in any allegation that paragraph (a) does not 23 apply because the person making the statement or providing the 24 information did so with actual malice. (c) Neither paragraph (a) nor paragraph (b) abrogates 25 26 or modifies any other statutory or common-law privilege or 27 immunity. 28 (6) An insurer, the authorized representative of the 29 insurer, or a producer that fails to report as required under this section or that is found to have reported with actual 30 malice by a court of competent jurisdiction may, after notice 31

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and hearing, have its license or certificate of authority 1 2 suspended or revoked and may be fined in accordance with s. 3 626.681, Florida Statutes. 4 Section 16. Reciprocity.--5 (1) The Department of Insurance may not assess a 6 greater fee for an insurance license or related service to a 7 person not residing in this state based solely on the fact 8 that the person does not reside in this state. 9 The Department of Insurance may waive any (2) requirements for a nonresident license applicant with a valid 10 license from his or her home state, except the requirements 11 12 imposed by section 8, if the applicant's home state awards 13 nonresident licenses to residents of this state on the same 14 basis. 15 (3) A nonresident producer's satisfaction of his or 16 her home state's continuing-education requirements for licensed insurance producers constitutes satisfaction of this 17 state's continuing-education requirements if the nonresident 18 19 producer's home state recognizes the satisfaction of its 20 continuing-education requirements imposed upon producers from this state on the same basis. 21 Section 17. Reporting of actions .--22 23 (1) A producer shall report to the Department of 24 Insurance any administrative action taken against the producer 25 in another jurisdiction or by another governmental agency in 26 this state within 30 days after the final disposition of the matter. This report must include a copy of the order, consent 27 28 to order, or other relevant legal documents. 29 (2) Within 30 days after the initial pretrial hearing date, a producer must report to the Department of Insurance 30 any criminal prosecution of the producer undertaken in any 31

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jurisdiction. The report must include a copy of the initial 1 2 complaint filed, the order resulting from the hearing, and any 3 other relevant legal documents. 4 Section 18. Regulations.--The Department of Insurance 5 may, in accordance with chapter 120, Florida Statutes, adopt б rules necessary to carry out the purposes of this act. 7 Section 19. Severability.--If any provision of this 8 act or its application to any person or circumstances, is held 9 invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or application of the act which can be given effect without the 10 invalid provision or application, and to this end the 11 provisions of this act are declared severable. 12 13 Section 20. Any statute inconsistent with this act is repealed to the extent of the inconsistency. 14 15 Section 21. This act shall take effect January 1, 2002. 16 17 18 19 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY 20 Creates the Insurance Producer Licensing Act. See bill for details. 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

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