HB 1933

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to talent agencies and advance-fee talent services; amending s. 468.401, F.S.; revising, providing, and deleting definitions applicable to regulation of talent agencies and advance-fee talent services; amending s. 468.402, F.S.; specifying prohibited acts; amending s. 468.406, F.S.; requiring the posting of maximum fee, charge, and commission schedules or the inclusion of such schedules in written contracts; extending the period within which a talent agency must pay an artist from money received for the benefit of the artist; amending s. 468.408, F.S.; increasing bond requirements; requiring provision of a copy of the bond to an artist prior to execution of a contract with the artist; amending s. 468.409, F.S.; revising records required to be kept; increasing the minimum period records are required to be preserved; amending s. 468.410, F.S.; revising prohibition against registration fees; providing contract requirements; requiring background checks and fingerprinting of owners and operators; providing grounds for voiding or cancellation of contract; amending s. 468.411, F.S.; requiring prior notification regarding labor disputes; amending s. 468.412, F.S.; providing requirements for talent agencies and advance-fee talent services; amending s. 468.413, F.S.; specifying acts that constitute crimes; providing penalties; amending s. 468.415, F.S.; prohibiting sexual misconduct in the operation of a talent agency or an advance-fee talent service; creating s. 468.416, F.S.; providing for judicial

enforcement; creating s. 468.417, F.S.; authorizing persons injured by a prohibited act or practice in violation of pt. VII, ch. 468, F.S., to bring a civil action for injunctive and other relief, including civil penalties, restitution and damages, and court costs and attorney's fees; abolishing regulation of talent agencies by the Department of Business and Professional Regulation; providing for the use and transfer of remaining regulatory funds; providing for continuation of legal proceedings; repealing ss. 468.403, 468.404, 468.405, 468.407, and 468.414, F.S., relating to license requirements, license fees and renewals, qualifications for licensure, license period, form, content, display, and cancellation, and collection and deposit of moneys from regulatory fines, fees, and penalties, respectively, to conform; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Section 468.401, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

468.401 Regulation of Talent agencies and advance-fee talent services; definitions.--As used in this part, the term or any rule adopted pursuant hereto:

(1)(a) "Advance fee" means any fee that is due from or paid by an artist prior to the artist's obtaining actual employment as an artist or prior to the artist's receiving actual earnings as an artist or that exceeds the actual earnings received by the artist as an artist.

(b) The term does not include reimbursements for out-of-pocket costs actually incurred by an advance-fee talent service on behalf of the artist for services rendered or goods provided to the artist by an independent third party if all of the following conditions are met:

1. The advance-fee talent service has no direct or indirect financial interest in the third party.

- 2. The advance-fee talent service does not accept any referral fee or other consideration for referring the artist.
- 3. The services rendered or goods provided for the out-of-pocket costs are not represented to be, and are not, a condition for the advance-fee talent service to register or list the artist with the advance-fee talent service.
- 4. The advance-fee talent service maintains adequate records to establish that the amount to be reimbursed was actually advanced or owed to a third party and that the third party is not a person in which the advance-fee talent service has a direct or indirect financial interest or from which the advance-fee talent service receives any consideration for referring the artist.
- (c) The burden of producing evidence to support a defense based upon an exemption or an exception provided in this subsection is upon the person claiming it.
- (2) "Advance-fee talent service" means a person who charges, attempts to charge, or receives an advance fee from an artist for one or more of the following:
- (a) Procuring, offering, promising, or attempting to procure employment or engagements for the artist.
 - (b) Managing or directing the development or advancement

of the artist's career as an artist.

- (c) Career counseling, career consulting, vocational guidance, aptitude testing, evaluation, or planning, in each case relating to the preparation of the artist for employment as an artist.
- (d) Promoting or advertising an artist to a casting director, talent agency, talent manager, or any other person represented to be in a position to offer assistance in the procurement of engagements or employment as an artist.

The term does not include the person or entity holding, sponsoring, advertising, or organizing an event during which the services included in paragraphs (a)-(d) are independently offered by any attendee to any other attendee of the event.

- (3) "Agency" means a talent agency or an advance-fee talent service. The term includes owners, operators, employees, and agents of the agency or service, unless specifically designated otherwise.
- $\underline{(4)(8)}$ "Artist" means a person performing on the professional stage or in the production of television, radio, or motion pictures; a musician or group of musicians; or a model.
- (5)(7) "Buyer" or "employer" means a person, company, partnership, or corporation, or other business entity that uses the services of an a talent agency to provide artists.
- (6)(3) "Compensation" means any one or more of the following:
- (a) Any money or other valuable consideration paid or promised to be paid for services rendered by any person

conducting the business of a talent agency or an advance-fee talent service under this part;

- (b) Any money received by any person in excess of that which has been paid out by such person for transportation, transfer of baggage, or board and lodging for any applicant for employment; or
- (c) The difference between the amount of money received by any person who furnishes employees, performers, or entertainers for circus, vaudeville, theatrical, or other entertainments, exhibitions, engagements, or performances and the amount paid by him or her to such employee, performer, or entertainer.
- (7) "Divided fee" means the process by which, without written contractual approval of the artist, any two or more persons receive compensation for placing an artist and the total compensation paid to such agents exceeds the compensation that would have been paid to only one agent acting on behalf of the artist.
- (8)(4) "Engagement" means any employment or placement of an artist in which, where the artist performs in his or her artistic capacity. However, The term does "engagement" shall not apply to procuring opera, music, theater, or dance engagements for any organization defined in s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or any nonprofit Florida arts organization that has received a grant from the Division of Cultural Affairs of the Department of State or has participated in the state touring program of the Division of Cultural Affairs.
- (9) "Manager" means one who advises, guides, or directs an artist in career development and is not primarily involved in placing the artist in employment.

(10) "Modeling or photographing a minor in the nude in the absence of written permission from the minor's parents or legal guardians" means the visual display of the buttocks, genitals, or female breast, areolae, or nipples of a person under the age of 18 years without having both the parents, if living, or legal guardians, of the minor fully advised of the intended activity and both parents' or guardians' execution of written consent for such visual display of their child or ward.

- (11) "Operator" means the person who is or who will be in actual charge of a talent agency or an advance-fee talent service.
- (12)(2) "Owner" means any partner in a partnership, member of a firm, or principal officer or officers of a corporation, whose partnership, firm, or corporation owns a talent agency or an advance-fee talent service, or any individual who is the sole owner of a talent agency or an advance-fee talent service.
- (13)(9) "Person" means any individual, company, society, firm, partnership, association, corporation, or manager, or any agent or employee of any of the foregoing.
- (14)(1) "Talent agency" means any <u>business entity or</u> person who, for compensation, engages in the occupation or business of procuring or attempting to procure engagements for an artist.
- (5) "Department" means the Department of Business and Professional Regulation.
- (10) "License" means a license issued by the Department of Business and Professional Regulation to carry on the business of a talent agency under this part.

(11) "Licensee" means a talent agency which holds a valid unrevoked and unforfeited license issued under this part.

- Section 2. Section 468.402, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 468.402 <u>Prohibited acts</u> Duties of the department; authority to issue and revoke license; adoption of rules.--<u>It is</u> unlawful for any agency to:
- (1) The department may take any one or more of the actions specified in subsection (5) against any person who has:
- (a) Obtained or attempted to obtain any license by means of fraud, misrepresentation, or concealment.
- (1)(b) <u>Violate</u> Violated any provision of this part, chapter 455, any lawful disciplinary order of the department, or any rule of the department.
- (c) Been found guilty of, or entered a plea of nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, a crime involving moral turpitude or dishonest dealings under the laws of this state or any other state or government.
- (2)(d) Make, print, publish, distribute, or cause, authorize, or knowingly permit Made, printed, published, distributed, or caused, authorized, or knowingly permitted the making, printing, publication, or distribution of any false statement, description, or promise of such a character as to reasonably induce any person to act to his or her damage or injury, if such statement, description, or promises were purported to be performed by the talent agency and if the owner or operator then knew, or by the exercise of reasonable care and inquiry, could have known, of the falsity of the statement, description, or promise.

(3)(e) Knowingly commit committed or be been a party to any material fraud, misrepresentation, concealment, conspiracy, collusion, trick, scheme, or device whereby any other person lawfully relying upon the work, representation, or conduct of the talent agency acts or has acted to his or her injury or damage.

- (4)(f) Fail Failed or refuse refused upon demand to disclose any information, as required by this part, within his or her knowledge, or fail failed or refuse refused to produce any document, book, or record in his or her possession for inspection to any state attorney the department or any authorized agent thereof acting within his or her its jurisdiction or by authority of law.
- (5)(g) Establish an Established the talent agency within any place where intoxicating liquors are sold, any place where gambling is permitted, or any house of prostitution.
- (6)(h) Charge, collect, or receive Charged, collected, or received compensation for any service performed by the talent agency greater than specified in its schedule of maximum fees, charges, and commissions previously filed with the department.
- (i) Had a license to operate a talent agency revoked, suspended, or otherwise acted against, including, but not limited to, having been denied a license for good cause by the licensing authority of another state, territory, or country.
- (j) Willfully made or filed a report or record that the licensee knew to be false, failed to file a report or record required by state or federal law, impeded or obstructed such filing, or induced another person to impede or obstruct such filing. Such reports or records shall include only those that

HB 1933 2004 231 are signed in the licensee's capacity as a licensed talent 232 agency. (7)(k) Advertise Advertised goods or services in a manner 233 that is was fraudulent, false, deceptive, or misleading in form 234 235 or content. 236 (1) Advertised, operated, or attempted to operate under a 237 name other than the name appearing on the license. (8) (m) Commit Been found guilty of fraud or deceit in the 238 operation of an a talent agency. 239 (n) Operated with a revoked, suspended, inactive, or 240 241 delinquent license. (o) Permitted, aided, assisted, procured, or advised any 242 243 unlicensed person to operate a talent agency contrary to this 2.44 part or to a rule of the department. 245 (p) Failed to perform any statutory or legal obligation 246 placed on a licensed talent agency. 247 Practiced or offered to practice beyond the scope permitted by law or has accepted and performed professional 248 responsibilities that the licensee knows or has reason to know 249 250 that he or she is not competent to perform. 251 (9)(r) Conspire Conspired with another agency licensee or 252 with any other person to commit an act, or has committed an act, 253 that would tend to coerce, intimidate, or preclude another 254 agency licensee from advertising its his or her services. 255 (10)(s) Solicit Solicited business, either personally or 256 through an agent or through any other person, through the use of 257 fraud or deception or by other means; through the use of 258 misleading statements; or through the exercise of intimidation or undue influence. 259

HB 1933 2004 260 (11) (t) Exercise Exercised undue influence on the artist 261 in such a manner as to exploit the artist for financial gain of 262 the agency licensee or a third party, which includes, but is not 263 limited to, the promoting or selling of services to the artist. 264 (2) The department may revoke any license that is issued 265 as a result of the mistake or inadvertence of the department. 266 (3) The department has authority to adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement the provisions of this 267 268 part. 269 (4) A revoked or suspended license must be returned to the 270 department within 7 days after the time for appeal has elapsed. 271 (5) Upon a finding of a violation of any one or more of 272 the grounds enumerated in subsection (1) or any other section of 273 this part, the department may take the following actions: 274 (a) Deny an application for licensure as a talent agency. 275 (b) Permanently revoke or suspend the license of a talent 276 agency. 277 (c) Impose an administrative fine, not to exceed \$5,000, 278 for each count or separate offense. 279 (d) Require restitution. 280 (e) Issue a public reprimand. (f) Place the licensee on probation, subject to such 281 282 conditions as the department may specify. 283 (6) A person shall be subject to the disciplinary actions 284 specified in subsection (5) for violations of subsection (1) by 285 that person's agents or employees in the course of their 286 employment with that person. 287 (7) The department may deny a license if any owner or operator listed on the application has been associated with a 288

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289 talent agency whose license has been revoked or otherwise 290 disciplined.

Section 3. Section 468.406, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

468.406 Fees to be charged by talent agencies; rates; display.--

- with the application an itemized schedule of maximum fees, charges, and commissions which it intends to charge and collect for its services. This schedule may thereafter be raised only by filing with the department an amended or supplemental schedule at least 30 days before the change is to become effective. The schedule shall be posted in a conspicuous place in each place of business of the agency and shall be printed in not less than a 30-point boldfaced type, except that an agency that uses written contracts containing maximum fee, charge, and commission schedules need not post such schedules.
- (2) All money collected by a talent agency from an employer for the benefit of an artist shall be paid to the artist, less the talent agency's <u>commission</u> fee, within 7 5 business days after the receipt of such money by the talent agency. No talent agency is required to pay money to an artist until the talent agency receives payment from the employer or buyer.
- Section 4. Section 468.408, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 468.408 Bond required.--
- 316 (1) <u>Each</u> There shall be filed with the department for each
 317 talent agency shall obtain license a bond in the form of a

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surety by a reputable company engaged in the bonding business and authorized to do business in this state. The bond shall be for the penal sum of \$10,000 \$5,000, with one or more sureties to be approved by the department, and shall be conditioned on that the agency's conforming applicant conform to and not violating violate any of the duties, terms, conditions, provisions, or requirements of this part.

- (a) If any person is aggrieved by the misconduct of any talent agency, the person may maintain an action in his or her own name upon the bond of the agency in any court having jurisdiction of the amount claimed. All such claims shall be assignable, and the assignee shall be entitled to the same remedies, upon the bond of the agency or otherwise, as the person aggrieved would have been entitled to if such claim had not been assigned. Any claim or claims so assigned may be enforced in the name of such assignee.
- (b) Prior to execution of a contract with an artist, each agency must provide the artist with a copy of the bond provided in this section. The bonding company shall notify the department of any claim against such bond, and a copy of such notice shall be sent to the talent agency against which the claim is made.
- (2) Any remedies provided in this section shall not be exclusive of any other remedy. This relief shall be cumulative to any other remedies the aggrieved person may have.
- Section 5. Section 468.409, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 468.409 Records required to be kept.--Each talent agency shall keep on file the application, registration, and fully executed or contract of each artist. In addition, such file must

include the name and address of each artist, the amount of the compensation received, all attempts to promote or advertise the artist, and all attempts to procure engagements for the artist. No such agency or employee thereof shall knowingly make any false entry in applicant files or receipt files. Each card or document in such files shall be preserved for a period of $\underline{5}$ years $\underline{1}$ year after the date of the last entry thereon.

Section 6. Section 468.410, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

468.410 Prohibition against registration fees; referral: contract requirements.--

- (1) A talent agency may not charge a registration fee.
- (2) An No talent agency may not shall, as a condition to registering or obtaining employment for any applicant or artist, require the applicant or artist to subscribe to, purchase, or attend any publication, postcard service, advertisement, resume service, photography service, website service, school, acting school, workshop, acting workshop, or video or audiotapes.
- (3) A contract is required to be executed between an artist and an agency when the artist and the agency agree to have the agency secure employment for the artist. If the circumstances of the arrangement between the artist and the agency prevent the execution of a contract prior to the first engagement, the artist and the agency must execute the contract within 7 days after the commencement of the first engagement.
- (4)(3) At the time of execution of a contract, an A talent agency <u>must shall</u> give each <u>artist applicant</u> a copy of <u>the signed or authenticated</u> a contract which lists the services to be provided and the fees <u>or commissions</u> to be charged. The

376 contract shall state that the talent agency is regulated by the
377 department and shall list the address and telephone number of
378 the department.

(5) At the time of execution an agency must give each artist a copy of this part.

- (6) Because agencies occupy positions of trust and responsibility to artists, prior to execution of a contract with an artist each agency must provide the artist a copy of a criminal background check of each owner and operator of the agency. The background check shall include, but not be limited to, fingerprinting for all purposes and checks of a statewide criminal records check through the Department of Law Enforcement and may include local criminal records checks through local law enforcement agencies. The background check must have been completed within the previous 12 months.
- (7) An agency contract that does not conform to this part is voidable by the artist. If an artist voids an agency contract, the artist is not required to pay any consideration or return any consideration received from the agency to induce the artist to enter into the contract.
- (8) An artist may cancel a contract with an agency by giving notice of the cancellation to the agency in writing within 14 days after the contract is signed.
- (9) An artist may not waive the right to cancel a contract with an agency, and any attempt by an agency to have an artist waive his or her right to cancel the contract is a violation of this part.
- (10) If an artist cancels a contract with an agency, the artist is not required to pay any consideration or return any

consideration received from the agency to induce the artist to enter into the contract.

Section 7. Section 468.411, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 468.411 Labor disputes; <u>notice statements</u> required.--<u>An Notalent</u> agency <u>may not shall</u> knowingly send any person who has received a motion picture or videotape engagement or any other engagement to any place where a strike, lockout, or other labor dispute is in active progress, without first notifying that person of such conditions.
- Section 8. Section 468.412, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 468.412 Talent Agency requirements regulations .--
- (1) An A talent agency shall maintain a record sheet for each booking. This shall be the only required record of placement and shall be kept for a period of 5 years 1 year after the date of the last entry in the buyer's file.
- (2) Each talent agency shall keep records in which shall be entered:
- (a) The name and address of each artist employing such $\frac{1}{1}$ talent agency.
- (c) The employment in which each such artist is engaged at the time of employing such talent agency and the amount of compensation of the artist in such employment, if any, and the employments subsequently secured by such artist during the term of the contract between the artist and the talent agency and the

amount of compensation received by the artist pursuant thereto;

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- (d) Other information which the department may require from time to time.
- (3) All books, records, and other papers kept pursuant to this <u>part</u> act by any talent agency shall be open at all reasonable hours to the inspection of <u>any state attorney or any authorized agent thereof</u> the department and its agents. Each talent agency shall furnish to <u>any state attorney or any authorized agent thereof</u> the department, upon request, a true copy of such books, records, and papers, or any portion thereof, and shall make such reports as the department may prescribe from time to time.
- (4) Each talent agency shall post in a conspicuous place in the office of such talent agency a printed copy of this part and of the rules adopted under this part. Such copies shall also contain the name and address of the officer charged with enforcing this part. The department shall furnish to talent agencies printed copies of any statute or rule required to be posted under this subsection.
- (4)(5) An No talent agency may not knowingly issue a contract for employment containing any term or condition which, if complied with, would be in violation of law, or attempt to fill an order for help to be employed in violation of law.
- (5)(6) An No talent agency may not publish or cause to be published any false, fraudulent, or misleading information, representation, notice, or advertisement. All advertisements of a talent agency by means of card, circulars, or signs, and in newspapers and other publications, and all letterheads,

receipts, and blanks shall be printed and contain the licensed name, department license number, and address of the talent agency and the words "talent agency." An No talent agency may not give any false information or make any false promises or representations concerning an engagement or employment to any applicant who applies for an engagement or employment.

- (6)(7) An No talent agency may not send or cause to be sent any person as an employee to any house of ill fame, to any house or place of amusement for immoral purposes, to any place resorted to for the purposes of prostitution, to any place for the modeling or photographing of a minor in the nude in the absence of written permission from the minor's parents or legal guardians, the character of which places the talent agency could have ascertained upon reasonable inquiry.
- (7)(8) An No talent agency may not divide fees with anyone, including, but not limited to, an agent or other employee of an employer, a buyer, a casting director, a producer, a director, or any venue that uses entertainment.
- (8)(9) If <u>an</u> a talent agency collects from an artist a fee or expenses for obtaining <u>a specific engagement or</u> employment for the artist, and the artist fails to procure such <u>specific engagement or</u> employment, or the artist fails to be paid for such <u>specific engagement or</u> employment if procured, such <u>talent</u> agency shall, upon demand therefor, repay to the artist the fee and expenses so collected. Unless repayment thereof is made within 48 hours after demand therefor, the <u>talent</u> agency shall pay to the artist an additional sum equal to the amount of the fee.

(9)(10) Each talent agency must maintain a permanent office and must maintain regular operating hours at that office.

Section 9. Section 468.413, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

468.413 Legal requirements; penalties.--

- (1) Each of the following acts <u>related to services</u>

 <u>provided by an agency</u> constitutes a felony of the third degree,

 punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084:
- (a) Making, printing, publishing, distributing, causing, or authorizing, or knowingly permitting the making, printing, publication, or distribution of, any false statement, description, or promise of such a character as to reasonably induce any person to act to his or her damage or injury, if such statement, description, or promises were purported to be performed by the agency and if the owner or operator then knew, or by the exercise of reasonable care and inquiry, could have known, of the falsity of the statement, description, or promise.
- (b) Knowingly committing or being a party to any material fraud, misrepresentation, concealment, conspiracy, collusion, trick, scheme, or device whereby any other person lawfully relying upon the work, representation, or conduct of the agency acts or has acted to his or her injury or damage.
- (c) Establishing an agency within any place in which intoxicating liquors are sold, any place in which gambling is permitted, or any house of prostitution.
- (d) Sending or causing to be sent any person as an employee to any house of ill fame, to any house or place of amusement for immoral purposes, to any place resorted to for the purposes of prostitution, to any place for the modeling or

HB 1933 2004 519 photographing of a minor in the nude in the absence of written 520 permission from the minor's parents or legal guardians, the 521 character of which places the agency could have ascertained upon 522 reasonable inquiry. (e) Committing fraud or deceit in the operation of an 523 524 agency. (f) Conspiring with another agency or with any other 525 526 person to commit an act that would tend to coerce, intimidate, 527 or preclude another agency from advertising its services. 528 (g) Soliciting business, either personally or through an 529 agent or other person, through the use of fraud or deception or 530 by other means, through the use of misleading statements, or through the exercise of intimidation or undue influence. 531 532 (h) Exercising undue influence on the artist in such a 533 manner as to exploit the artist for financial gain of the agency 534 or a third party. 535 (i) Committing sexual misconduct as prohibited in s. 536 468.415. 537 (a) Owning or operating, or soliciting business as, a 538 talent agency in this state without first procuring a license 539 from the department. (b) Obtaining or attempting to obtain a license by means 540 541 of fraud, misrepresentation, or concealment. 542 Each of the following acts related to services (2) 543 provided by an agency constitutes a misdemeanor of the second 544 degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083: 545 (a) Relocating a business as a talent agency, or operating

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under any name other than that designated on the license, unless

written notification is given to the department and to the

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surety or sureties on the original bond, and unless the license
is returned to the department for the recording thereon of such
changes.

(b) Assigning or attempting to assign a license issued under this part.

- (c) Failing to show on a license application whether or not the agency or any owner of the agency is financially interested in any other business of like nature and, if so, failing to specify such interest or interests.
- $\underline{\text{(a)}}$ (d) Failing to maintain the records required by s. 468.409 or knowingly making false entries in such records.
- (b)(e) Requiring as a condition to registering or obtaining employment or placement for any applicant that the applicant subscribe to, purchase, or attend any publication, postcard service, advertisement, resume service, photography service, website service, school, acting school, workshop, or acting workshop.
- (c)(f) Failing, at the time of execution, to give each artist applicant a copy of the signed or authenticated a contract which lists the services to be provided and the fees or commissions to be charged, which states that the talent agency is regulated by the department, and which lists the address and telephone number of the department.
- $\underline{(d)}(g)$ Failing to maintain a record sheet as required by s. 468.412(1).
- (e)(h) Knowingly sending or causing to be sent any artist to a prospective employer or place of business, the character or operation of which employer or place of business the talent

HB 1933 2004 576 agency knows to be in violation of the laws of the United States 577 or of this state. 578 (f) Failing to provide a copy of this part as required in 579 s. 468.410(5). 580 (q) Failing to provide a copy of a criminal background 581 check as required in s. 468.410(6). 582 (h) Failing to provide a copy of a bond as required in s. 583 468.408. 584 (i) Failing to maintain a bond as required in s. 468.408. 585 (j) Violating any provision of this part. 586 (k) Charging, collecting, or receiving compensation for 587 any service performed by the agency greater than specified in 588 its schedule of maximum fees, charges, and commissions. 589 (1) Failing to post in a conspicuous place or include in 590 the contract an itemized schedule of maximum fees, charges, and 591 commissions which it intends to charge and collect for its 592 services. 593 (m) Charging a registration fee, except as permitted for 594 advance-fee talent services. 595 (n) Dividing fees with anyone, including, but not limited 596 to, an agent or other employee of an employer, a buyer, a 597 casting director, a producer, a director, or any venue that uses 598 entertainment. 599 (o) Advertising goods or services in a manner that is fraudulent, false, deceptive, or misleading in form or content. 600 601 (p) Failing to notify an artist prior to sending an artist to an engagement that there is a strike, lockout, or other labor 602 603 dispute in active progress.

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Failing or refusing upon demand to disclose any

HB 1933 2004 605 information, as required by this part, within his or her 606 knowledge, or failing or refusing to produce any document, book, 607 or record in his or her possession for inspection, to any state attorney or any authorized agent thereof acting within the 608 609 jurisdiction of the state attorney or by authority of law. (r) Failing to maintain a permanent office and regular 610 611 operating hours at that office. 612 (s) Attempting to have an artist waive his or her right to 613 cancel a contract with the agency. (t) Failing to provide payment to an artist as provided in 614 615 s. 468.406(2). (u) Failing to return fees as provided in s. 468.412(8). 616 617 (v) Failing to maintain records as provided in s. 468.409. 618 (3) The court may, in addition to other punishment provided for in subsection (2), suspend or revoke the license of 619 620 any licensee under this part who has been found quilty of any misdemeanor listed in subsection (2). 621 622 (3) In the event the department or any state attorney 623 shall have probable cause to believe that an a talent agency or 624 other person has violated any provision of subsection (1) or 625 subsection (2), an action may be brought by the department or 626 any state attorney to enjoin such talent agency or any person from continuing such violation, or engaging therein or doing any 627 628 acts in furtherance thereof, and for such other relief as to the court seems appropriate. In addition to this remedy, the 629 630 department may assess a penalty against any talent agency or any 631 person in an amount not to exceed \$1,000. 632 Section 10. Section 468.415, Florida Statutes, is amended 633 to read:

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468.415 Sexual misconduct in the operation of a talent agency or an advance-fee talent service. -- The talent agentartist relationship between a talent agency or an advance-fee talent service and an artist is founded on mutual trust. Sexual misconduct in the operation of a talent agency or an advance-fee talent service means violation of the talent agent-artist relationship through which the talent agency or advance-fee talent service or owner, operator, or employee of the agency or service agent uses the relationship to induce or attempt to induce the artist to engage or attempt to engage in sexual activity. Sexual misconduct is prohibited in the operation of a talent agency or an advance-fee talent service. If any agent, owner, or operator of a licensed talent agency is found to have committed sexual misconduct in the operation of a talent agency, the agency license shall be permanently revoked. Such agent, owner, or operator shall be permanently disqualified from present and future licensure as owner or operator of a Florida talent agency.

Section 11. Section 468.416, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

468.416 Judicial enforcement.--In addition to other penalties provided in this part, state attorneys and their assistants are authorized to apply to the court of competent jurisdiction within their respective jurisdictions, upon the sworn affidavit of any person alleging a violation of any of the provisions of this part. Such court shall have jurisdiction, upon hearing and for cause shown, to grant a temporary or permanent injunction restraining any person from violating any

HB 1933 2004 662 provision of this part, whether or not there exists an adequate 663 remedy at law; and such injunction shall issue without bond. 664 Section 12. Section 468.417, Florida Statutes, is created 665 to read: 666 468.417 Civil actions. -- Any person injured by a prohibited 667 act or practice in violation of this part may bring a civil 668 action in circuit court for temporary or permanent injunctive 669 relief and may seek appropriate civil relief, including, but not limited to, a civil penalty not to exceed \$5,000 for each 670 671 violation, restitution and treble damages for injured parties, 672 and court costs and reasonable attorney's fees. 673 Section 13. The regulation of talent agencies by the 674 Department of Business and Professional Regulation is abolished. 675 Any funds and balances associated with the regulation of talent 676 agencies remaining in the Professional Regulation Trust Fund 677 after the effective date of this act shall be used to pay any remaining expenses associated with this regulation. Any funds or 678 679 balances remaining in the trust fund after January 1, 2005, shall be transferred to the General Revenue Fund. 680 681 Section 14. The Department of Business and Professional 682 Regulation may continue to prosecute any legal proceedings and 683 related administrative cases that are in existence on the effective date of this act. 684 685 Section 15. Sections 468.403, 468.404, 468.405, 468.407, 686 and 468.414, Florida Statutes, are repealed. 687 Section 16. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004.