

By Senator Posey

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the licensing of insurance agents; amending s. 626.171, F.S.; revising certain fingerprinting requirements; amending s. 626.7851, F.S.; revising the number of hours of classroom or correspondence courses in insurance which are required for licensure as a life agent; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (4) of section 626.171, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

626.171 Application for license as an agent, customer representative, adjuster, service representative, managing general agent, or reinsurance intermediary.--

(4) An application for a license as an agent, customer representative, adjuster, service representative, managing general agent, or reinsurance intermediary must be accompanied by a set of the individual applicant's fingerprints, or, if the applicant is not an individual, by a set of the fingerprints of the sole proprietor, majority owner, partners, officers, and directors, on a form adopted by rule of the department and accompanied by the fingerprint processing fee set forth in s. 624.501. Fingerprints shall be used to investigate the applicant's qualifications pursuant to s. 626.201. Fingerprints may ~~The fingerprints shall~~ be taken at ~~by~~ a law enforcement agency or other department-approved entity, and the fingerprints shall be available at all designated examination centers.

1 Section 2. Section 626.7851, Florida Statutes, is
2 amended to read:

3 626.7851 Requirement as to knowledge, experience, or
4 instruction.--No applicant for a license as a life agent,
5 except for a chartered life underwriter (CLU), shall be
6 qualified or licensed unless within the 4 years immediately
7 preceding the date the application for a license is filed with
8 the department he or she has:

9 (1) Successfully completed 20 ~~40~~ hours of classroom
10 courses in insurance, 3 hours of which shall be on the subject
11 matter of ethics, satisfactory to the department at a school
12 or college, or extension division thereof, or other authorized
13 course of study, approved by the department. Courses must
14 include instruction on the subject matter of unauthorized
15 entities engaging in the business of insurance, to include the
16 Florida Nonprofit Multiple-Employer Welfare Arrangement Act
17 and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act, 29 U.S.C. ss.
18 1001 et seq., as it relates to the provision of life insurance
19 by employers to their employees and the regulation thereof;

20 (2) Successfully completed the equivalent of 20 hours
21 of study via a correspondence course in insurance, 3 hours of
22 which shall be on the subject matter of ethics, satisfactory
23 to the department and regularly offered by accredited
24 institutions of higher learning in this state, approved by the
25 department. Courses must include instruction on the subject
26 matter of unauthorized entities engaging in the business of
27 insurance, to include the Florida Nonprofit Multiple-Employer
28 Welfare Arrangement Act and the Employee Retirement Income
29 Security Act, 29 U.S.C. ss. 1001 et seq., as it relates to the
30 provision of life insurance by employers to their employees
31 and the regulation thereof;

1 (3) Held an active license in life, or life and
2 health, insurance in another state. This provision may not be
3 utilized unless the other state grants reciprocal treatment to
4 licensees formerly licensed in Florida; or

5 (4) Been employed by the department or office for at
6 least 1 year, full time in life or life and health insurance
7 regulatory matters and who was not terminated for cause, and
8 application for examination is made within 90 days after the
9 date of termination of his or her employment with the
10 department or office.

11 Section 3. This act shall take effect January 1, 2007.

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SENATE SUMMARY

Revises certain fingerprinting requirements. Revises the number of hours of classroom or correspondence courses in insurance which are required for licensure as a life agent.