

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to insurance agents; amending s.
 3 626.785, F.S.; clarifying the qualifications for
 4 licensure as a life agent; increasing the amount of
 5 coverage allowed for certain life insurance policies
 6 covering funeral expenses; providing an effective
 7 date.

8
 9 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

10
 11 Section 1. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 626.785,
 12 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

13 626.785 Qualifications for license.—

14 (1) The department shall not grant or issue a license as
 15 life agent to any individual found by it to be untrustworthy or
 16 incompetent. In addition, to obtain a license, each individual
 17 must meet all of, ~~or who does not meet~~ the following
 18 qualifications:

19 (a) Must be a natural person of at least 18 years of age.

20 (b) Must be a United States citizen or legal alien who
 21 possesses work authorization from the United States Bureau of
 22 Citizenship and Immigration Services and a bona fide resident of
 23 this state.

24 (c) Must not be an employee of the United States
 25 Department of Veterans Affairs or state service office, as
 26 referred to in s. 626.788.

CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

27 (d) Must not be a funeral director or direct disposer, or
 28 an employee or representative thereof, or have an office in, or
 29 in connection with, a funeral establishment, except that a
 30 funeral establishment may contract with a life insurance agent
 31 to sell a preneed contract as defined in s. 497.005.
 32 Notwithstanding other provisions of this chapter, such insurance
 33 agent may sell limited policies of insurance covering the
 34 expense of final disposition or burial of an insured in the
 35 amount of \$21,000 ~~\$12,500~~, plus an annual percentage increase
 36 based on the Annual Consumer Price Index compiled by the United
 37 States Department of Labor, beginning with the Annual Consumer
 38 Price Index announced by the United States Department of Labor
 39 for the year 2016 ~~2003~~.

40 (e) Must take and pass any examination for license
 41 required under s. 626.221.

42 (f) Must be qualified as to knowledge, experience, or
 43 instruction in the business of insurance and meet the
 44 requirements relative thereto provided in s. 626.7851.

45 (3) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter,
 46 a funeral director, a direct disposer, or an employee of a
 47 funeral establishment that holds a preneed license ~~certificate~~
 48 ~~of authority~~ pursuant to s. 497.452 may obtain an agent's
 49 license to sell only policies of life insurance covering the
 50 expense of a prearrangement for funeral services or merchandise
 51 so as to provide funds at the time the services and merchandise
 52 are needed. The face amount of insurance covered by any such

CS/HB 1303

2016

53 | policy shall not exceed \$21,000 ~~\$12,500~~, plus an annual
54 | percentage increase based on the Annual Consumer Price Index
55 | compiled by the United States Department of Labor, beginning
56 | with the Annual Consumer Price Index announced by the United
57 | States Department of Labor for 2016 ~~2003~~.

58 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.