

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	•	House
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Floor: 1/AD/2R	•	
03/07/2012 10:31 AM		

Senator Richter moved the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Subsections (1) and (7) of section 626.015, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

626.015 Definitions.-As used in this part:

(1) "Adjuster" means a public adjuster as defined in s. 626.854, a public adjuster apprentice as defined in s. 626.8541, or an all-lines adjuster as defined in s. 626.8548 independent adjuster as defined in s. 626.855, or company employee adjuster as defined in s. 626.856. 12

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(7) "Home state" means the District of Columbia and any

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14 state or territory of the United States in which an insurance 15 agent <u>or adjuster</u> maintains his or her principal place of 16 residence or principal place of business and is licensed to act 17 as an insurance agent <u>or adjuster</u>.

Section 2. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 626.0428,
Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

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626.0428 Agency personnel powers, duties, and limitations.-

(2) <u>An</u> No employee of an agent or agency may <u>not</u> bind
 insurance coverage unless licensed and appointed as <u>an</u> a general
 lines agent or customer representative.

24 (3) An No employee of an agent or agency may not initiate 25 contact with any person for the purpose of soliciting insurance unless licensed and appointed as an a general lines agent or 26 27 customer representative. As to title insurance, an employee of 28 an agent or agency may not initiate contact with any individual 29 proposed insured for the purpose of soliciting title insurance 30 unless licensed as a title insurance agent or exempt from such licensure pursuant to s. 626.8417(4). 31

32 Section 3. Subsection (1) and paragraph (b) of subsection 33 (2) of section 626.171, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

34 626.171 Application for license as an agent, customer 35 representative, adjuster, service representative, managing 36 general agent, or reinsurance intermediary.-

(1) The department <u>may shall</u> not issue a license as agent,
customer representative, adjuster, service representative,
managing general agent, or reinsurance intermediary to any
person except upon written application therefor filed with the
<u>department</u> it, meeting the qualifications for the license
<u>applied for as determined by the department</u> qualification

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43 therefor, and payment in advance of all applicable fees. The Any 44 such application must shall be made under the oath of the 45 applicant and be signed by the applicant. An applicant may permit a third party to complete, submit, and sign an 46 47 application on the applicant's behalf, but is responsible for 48 ensuring that the information on the application is true and 49 correct and is accountable for any misstatements or 50 misrepresentations. The department shall accept the uniform 51 application for nonresident agent licensing. The department may 52 adopt revised versions of the uniform application by rule. 53 (2) In the application, the applicant shall set forth: 54 (b) A statement indicating the method the applicant used or is using to meet any required prelicensing education, knowledge, 55 56 experience, or instructional requirements for the type of 57 license applied for. Proof that he or she has completed or is in 58 the process of completing any required prelicensing course. 59 60 However, the application must contain a statement that an applicant is not required to disclose his or her race or 61 62 ethnicity, gender, or native language, that he or she will not 63 be penalized for not doing so, and that the department will use 64 this information exclusively for research and statistical 65 purposes and to improve the quality and fairness of the 66 examinations. 67 Section 4. Section 626.191, Florida Statutes, is amended to 68 read:

69 626.191 Repeated applications.—The failure of an applicant
70 to secure a license upon an application <u>does</u> shall not preclude
71 the applicant from applying again. However as many times as

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72	desired , but the department <u>may</u> shall not <u>consider</u> give
73	consideration to or accept any further application by the same
74	applicant individual for a similar license dated or filed within
75	30 days <u>after</u> subsequent to the date the department denied the
76	last application, except as provided <u>under</u> in s. 626.281.
77	Section 5. Subsection (2) of section 626.221, Florida
78	Statutes, is amended to read:
79	626.221 Examination requirement; exemptions
80	(2) However, <u>an</u> no such examination <u>is not</u> shall be
81	necessary <u>for</u> in any of the following cases :
82	(a) An applicant for renewal of appointment as an agent,
83	customer representative, or adjuster, unless the department
84	determines that an examination is necessary to establish the
85	competence or trustworthiness of <u>the</u> such applicant.
86	(b) An applicant for <u>a</u> limited license as agent for <u>travel</u>
87	insurance, motor vehicle rental personal accident insurance,
88	baggage and motor vehicle excess liability insurance, credit
89	life or disability insurance, credit insurance, credit property
90	insurance, in-transit and storage personal property insurance,
91	or <u>portable electronics</u> communications equipment property
92	insurance or communication equipment inland marine insurance
93	<u>under s. 626.321</u> .
94	(c) In the discretion of the department, an applicant for
95	reinstatement of license or appointment as an agent, customer
96	representative, company employee adjuster, or <u>all-lines</u>
97	independent adjuster whose license has been suspended within the
98	4 years <u>before</u> prior to the date of application or written
99	request for reinstatement.
100	(d) An applicant who, within <u>the</u> 4 years <u>before</u> prior to



101 application for license and appointment as an agent, customer 102 representative, or adjuster, was a full-time salaried employee 103 of the department who and had continuously been such an employee 104 with responsible insurance duties for <u>at least</u> not less than 2 105 <u>continuous</u> years and who had been a licensee within <u>the</u> 4 years 106 <u>before</u> prior to employment by the department with the same class 107 of license as that being applied for.

(e) An applicant A person who has been licensed as an all-108 109 lines adjuster and appointed as an independent adjuster or company employee adjuster as to all property, casualty, and 110 111 surety insurances may be licensed and appointed as a company 112 employee adjuster or independent adjuster, as to these kinds of insurance, without additional written examination if an 113 114 application for licensure is filed with the department within 48 115 months following the date of cancellation or expiration of the prior appointment. 116

(f) A person who has been licensed as a company employee adjuster or independent adjuster for motor vehicle, property and casualty, workers' compensation, and health insurance may be licensed as such an adjuster without additional written examination if his or her application for licensure is filed with the department within 48 months after cancellation or expiration of the prior license.

124 <u>(f) (g)</u> An applicant for <u>a</u> temporary license, except as 125 <u>otherwise</u> provided in this code.

126 (g) (h) An applicant for a <u>license as a</u> life or health <u>agent</u> 127 license who has received the designation of chartered life 128 underwriter (CLU) from the American College of Life Underwriters 129 and who has been engaged in the insurance business within the



130 past 4 years, except that <u>the applicant</u> such an individual may 131 be examined on pertinent provisions of this code.

132 (h) (i) An applicant for license as a general lines agent, 133 customer representative, or adjuster who has received the 134 designation of chartered property and casualty underwriter 135 (CPCU) from the American Institute for Property and Liability 136 Underwriters and who has been engaged in the insurance business 137 within the past 4 years, except that the applicant such an 138 individual may be examined on pertinent provisions of this code.

139 (i) (i) An applicant for license as a customer 140 representative who has earned the designation of Accredited 141 Advisor in Insurance (AAI) from the Insurance Institute of America, the designation of Certified Insurance Counselor (CIC) 142 143 from the Society of Certified Insurance Service Counselors, the designation of Accredited Customer Service Representative (ACSR) 144 145 from the Independent Insurance Agents of America, the designation of Certified Professional Service Representative 146 147 (CPSR) from the National Foundation for Certified Professional Service Representatives, the designation of Certified Insurance 148 Service Representative (CISR) from the Society of Certified 149 150 Insurance Service Representatives, or the designation of 151 Certified Insurance Representative (CIR) from the National 152 Association of Christian Catastrophe Insurance Adjusters. Also, 153 an applicant for license as a customer representative who has 154 earned an associate degree or bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university and has completed with at least 155 156 9 academic hours of property and casualty insurance curriculum, 157 or the equivalent, or has earned the designation of Certified 158 Customer Service Representative (CCSR) from the Florida

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159 Association of Insurance Agents, or the designation of 160 Registered Customer Service Representative (RCSR) from a 161 regionally accredited postsecondary institution in this state, 162 or the designation of Professional Customer Service Representative (PCSR) from the Professional Career Institute, 163 164 whose curriculum has been approved by the department and which 165 whose curriculum includes comprehensive analysis of basic property and casualty lines of insurance and testing at least 166 167 equal to that of standard department testing for the customer 168 representative license. The department shall adopt rules 169 establishing standards for the approval of curriculum.

170 (j) (k) An applicant for license as a resident or nonresident all-lines an independent or company employee 171 172 adjuster who has the designation of Accredited Claims Adjuster (ACA) from a regionally accredited postsecondary institution in 173 174 this state, Professional Claims Adjuster (PCA) from the Professional Career Institute, Professional Property Insurance 175 Adjuster (PPIA) from the HurriClaim Training Academy, Certified 176 177 Adjuster (CA) from ALL LINES Training, or Certified Claims Adjuster (CCA) from the Association of Property and Casualty 178 179 Claims Professionals whose curriculum has been approved by the department and which whose curriculum includes comprehensive 180 181 analysis of basic property and casualty lines of insurance and 182 testing at least equal to that of standard department testing 183 for the all-lines adjuster license. The department shall adopt 184 rules establishing standards for the approval of curriculum.

185 (k) (1) An applicant qualifying for a license transfer under 186 s. 626.292_{τ} if the applicant:

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1. Has successfully completed the prelicensing examination

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188 requirements in the applicant's previous <u>home</u> state which are 189 substantially equivalent to the examination requirements in this 190 state, as determined by the department;

191 2. Has received the designation of chartered property and 192 casualty underwriter (CPCU) from the American Institute for 193 Property and Liability Underwriters and has been engaged in the 194 insurance business within the past 4 years if applying to 195 transfer a general lines agent license; or

196 3. Has received the designation of chartered life 197 underwriter (CLU) from the American College of Life Underwriters 198 and has been engaged in the insurance business within the past 4 199 years₇ if applying to transfer a life or health agent license.

200 <u>(1) (m)</u> An applicant for a <u>license as a</u> nonresident agent 201 license, if the applicant:

1. Has successfully completed prelicensing examination requirements in the applicant's home state which are substantially equivalent to the examination requirements in this state, as determined by the department, as a requirement for obtaining a resident license in his or her home state;

207 2. Held a general lines agent license, life agent license,
208 or health agent license <u>before</u> prior to the time a written
209 examination was required;

3. Has received the designation of chartered property and casualty underwriter (CPCU) from the American Institute for Property and Liability Underwriters and has been engaged in the insurance business within the past 4 years, if an applicant for a nonresident license as a general lines agent; or

4. Has received the designation of chartered lifeunderwriter (CLU) from the American College of Life Underwriters



217 and has been in the insurance business within the past 4 years, if an applicant for a nonresident license as a life agent or 218 219 health agent. 220 Section 6. Subsection (2) of section 626.231, Florida 221 Statutes, is amended to read: 222 626.231 Eligibility; application for examination.-223 (2) A person required to take an examination for a license 224 may be permitted to take an examination before prior to 225 submitting an application for licensure pursuant to s. 626.171 226 by submitting an application for examination through the 227 department's Internet website or the website of a person 228 designated by the department to administer the examination. The 229 department may require In the application, the applicant to 230 provide the following information as part of the application 231 shall set forth: (a) His or her full name, date of birth age, social 232 233 security number, e-mail address, residence address, business address, and mailing address. 234 235 (b) The type of license which that the applicant intends to 236 apply for. (c) The name of any required prelicensing course he or she 237 238 has completed or is in the process of completing. 239 (d) The method by which the applicant intends to qualify 240 for the type of license if other than by completing a 241 prelicensing course. 242 (e) The applicant's gender (male or female). 243 (f) The applicant's native language. 244 (g) The highest level of education achieved by the 245 applicant.



246 (h) The applicant's race or ethnicity (African American, 247 white, American Indian, Asian, Hispanic, or other). 248 249 However, the application form must contain a statement that an 250 applicant is not required to disclose his or her race or 251 ethnicity, gender, or native language, that he or she will not 252 be penalized for not doing so, and that the department will use 253 this information exclusively for research and statistical 254 purposes and to improve the quality and fairness of the 255 examinations. 256 Section 7. Subsection (6) of section 626.241, Florida 257 Statutes, is amended to read: 258 626.241 Scope of examination.-259 (6) In order to reflect the differences between adjusting 260 claims for an insurer and adjusting claims for an insured, the 261 department shall create an examination for applicants seeking 262 licensure as a public adjuster and a separate examination for 263 applicants seeking licensure as an all-lines a company employee 264 adjuster or independent adjuster. 265 (a) Examinations given applicants for a license as an all-266 lines adjuster must shall cover adjusting in all lines of 267 insurance, other than life and annuity; or, in accordance with 268 the application for the license, the examination may be limited 269 to adjusting in: 270 (a) Automobile physical damage insurance; 271 (b) Property and casualty insurance; 272 (c) Workers' compensation insurance; or 273 (d) Health insurance.

(b) An No examination for workers' on worker's compensation

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275 insurance or health insurance <u>is not</u> shall be required for 276 public adjusters.

277 Section 8. Subsection (1) of section 626.251, Florida 278 Statutes, is amended to read:

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626.251 Time and place of examination; notice.-

280 (1) The department, or a person designated by the 281 department, shall provide mail written notice of the time and 282 place of the examination to each applicant for examination and 283 each applicant for license required to take an examination who 284 will be eligible to take the examination as of the examination 285 date. The notice shall be e-mailed so mailed, postage prepaid, 286 and addressed to the applicant at the e-mail his or her address 287 shown on the application for license or examination at such 288 other address as requested by the applicant in writing filed 289 with the department prior to the mailing of the notice. Notice 290 is shall be deemed given when so mailed.

291 Section 9. Section 626.281, Florida Statutes, is amended to 292 read:

293 626.281 Reexamination.-

294 (1) <u>An</u> Any applicant for license or applicant for 295 examination who has either:

(a) Taken an examination and failed to make a passinggrade, or

(b) Failed to appear for the examination or to take or complete the examination at the time and place specified in the notice of the department,

302 may take additional examinations, after filing with the 303 department or its designee an application for reexamination



304 together with applicable fees. The failure of an applicant to 305 pass an examination, or the failure to appear for the 306 examination, or to take or complete the examination does not 307 preclude the applicant from taking subsequent examinations. 308 (2) Applicants may not take an examination for a license 309 type more than five times in a 12-month period. 310 (3) (2) The department may require an any individual whose license as an agent, customer representative, or adjuster has 311 312 expired or has been suspended to pass an examination before 313 prior to reinstating or relicensing the individual as to any 314 class of license. The examination fee must shall be paid for as 315 to each examination. Section 10. Section 626.2815, Florida Statutes, is amended 316 317 to read: 626.2815 Continuing education required; application; 318 319 exceptions; requirements; penalties.-320 (1) The purpose of this section is to establish requirements and standards for continuing education courses for 321 322 individuals persons licensed to solicit, or sell, or adjust 323 insurance in the state. 324 (2) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the 325 provisions of this section applies apply to individuals persons 326 licensed to engage in the sale of insurance or adjustment of 327 insurance claims in this state for all lines of insurance for 328 which an examination is required for licensing and to each 329 insurer, employer, or appointing entity, including, but not 330 limited to, those created or existing pursuant to s. 627.351. The provisions of This section does shall not apply to an any 331 individual who holds person holding a license for the sale of 332



333 any line of insurance for which an examination is not required 334 by the laws of this state or who holds a, nor shall the provisions of this section apply to any limited license as a 335 336 crop or hail and multiple-peril crop insurance agent the 337 department may exempt by rule. Licensees who are unable to 338 comply with the continuing education requirements due to active 339 duty in the military may submit a written request for a waiver 340 to the department. 341 (3) (a) Each licensee person subject to the provisions of

this section must, except as set forth in paragraphs (b), (c), and (d), and (f), complete a minimum of 24 hours of continuing education courses every 2 years in basic or higher-level courses prescribed by this section or in other courses approved by the department.

347 (a) Each licensee person subject to the provisions of this 348 section must complete, as part of his or her required number of 349 continuing education hours, 3 hours of continuing education, 350 approved by the department, every 2 years on the subject matter 351 of ethics. Each licensed general lines agent and customer 352 representative subject to this section must complete, as part of 353 his or her required number of continuing education hours, 1 hour 354 of continuing education, approved by the department, every 2 355 years on the subject matter of premium discounts available on 356 property insurance policies based on various hurricane 357 mitigation options and the means for obtaining the discounts.

(b) A <u>licensee</u> person who has been licensed for a period of
6 or more years must complete 20 hours <u>of continuing education</u>
every 2 years in intermediate or advanced-level courses
prescribed by this section or in other courses approved by the

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362 department.

(c) A licensee who has been licensed for 25 years or more and is a CLU or a CPCU or has a Bachelor of Science degree in risk management or insurance with evidence of 18 or more semester hours in upper-level insurance-related courses must complete 10 hours of continuing education courses every 2 years in courses prescribed by this section or in other courses approved by the department.

370 (d) An individual Any person who holds a license as a 371 customer representative, limited customer representative, title 372 agent, motor vehicle physical damage and mechanical breakdown 373 insurance agent, crop or hail and multiple-peril crop insurance 374 agent, or as an industrial fire insurance or burglary insurance 375 agent and who is not a licensed life or health insurance agent, 376 must shall be required to complete 10 hours of continuing 377 education courses every 2 years.

378 (e) An individual Any person who holds a license to solicit 379 or sell life or health insurance and a license to solicit or 380 sell property, casualty, surety, or surplus lines insurance must 381 complete the continuing education requirements by completing 382 courses in life or health insurance for one-half of the total 383 hours required and courses in property, casualty, surety, or 384 surplus lines insurance for one-half of the total hours 385 required. However, a licensee who holds an industrial fire or 386 burglary insurance license and who is a licensed life or health 387 agent must shall be required to complete 4 hours of continuing 388 education courses every 2 years related to industrial fire or 389 burglary insurance and the remaining number of hours of continuing education courses required related to life or health 390

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391 insurance. 392 (f) An individual subject to chapter 648 must complete a 393 minimum of 14 hours of continuing education courses every 2 394 years. 395 (g) Excess hours accumulated during any 2-year compliance 396 period may be carried forward to the next compliance period. 397 (h) An individual teaching an approved course of 398 instruction or lecturing at any approved seminar and attending 399 the entire course or seminar qualifies for the same number of 400 classroom hours as would be granted to a person taking and 401 successfully completing such course or seminar. Credit is 402 limited to the number of hours actually taught unless a person 403 attends the entire course or seminar. An individual who is an 404 official of or employed by a governmental entity in this state 405 and serves as a professor, instructor, or other position or 406 office, the duties and responsibilities of which are determined 407 by the department to require monitoring and review of insurance 408 laws or insurance regulations and practices, is exempt from this 409 section. 410

410 <u>(4)(f)1. Except as provided in subparagraph 2.</u>, Compliance 411 with continuing education requirements is a condition precedent 412 to the issuance, continuation, reinstatement, or renewal of any 413 appointment subject to this section. <u>However:</u>

414 <u>(a)</u>^{2.a.} An appointing entity, except one that appoints 415 individuals who are employees or exclusive independent 416 contractors of the appointing entity, may not require, directly 417 or indirectly, as a condition of such appointment or the 418 continuation of such appointment, the taking of an approved 419 course or program by any appointee or potential appointee <u>which</u>

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420 that is not of the appointee's choosing.

421 (b) b. Any entity created or existing pursuant to s. 627.351 422 may require employees to take training of any type relevant to 423 their employment but may not require appointees who are not 424 employees to take any approved course or program unless the 425 course or program deals solely with the appointing entity's 426 internal procedures or products or with subjects substantially 427 unique to the appointing entity.

428 (g) A person teaching any approved course of instruction or 429 lecturing at any approved seminar and attending the entire course or seminar shall qualify for the same number of classroom 430 431 hours as would be granted to a person taking and successfully 432 completing such course, seminar, or program. Credit shall be 433 limited to the number of hours actually taught unless a person 434 attends the entire course or seminar. Any person who is an 435 official of or employed by any governmental entity in this state 436 and serves as a professor, instructor, or in any other position 437 or office the duties and responsibilities of which are 438 determined by the department to require monitoring and review of 439 insurance laws or insurance regulations and practices shall be 440 exempt from this section.

441 (h) Excess classroom hours accumulated during any 442 compliance period may be carried forward to the next compliance 443 period.

444 <u>(5)(i)</u> For good cause shown, the department may grant an 445 extension of time during which the requirements <u>of imposed by</u> 446 this section may be completed, but such extension of time may 447 not exceed 1 year.

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(6) (j) A nonresident licensee who must complete continuing



449 education requirements in his or her home state may use the home state requirements to also meet this state's continuing 450 451 education requirements as well, if the licensee's resident's 452 home state recognizes reciprocity with this state's continuing 453 education requirements. A nonresident licensee whose home state 454 does not have a continuing education requirement but is licensed 455 for the same class of business in another state that has which 456 does have a continuing education requirement may comply with 457 this section by furnishing proof of compliance with the other 458 state's requirement if that state has a reciprocal agreement 459 with this state relative to continuing education. A nonresident 460 licensee whose home state does not have such continuing education requirements, and who is not licensed as a nonresident 461 462 licensee agent in a state that has continuing education 463 requirements and reciprocates with this state, must meet the 464 continuing education requirements of this state.

465 (7) (k) Any person who holds a license to solicit or sell 466 life insurance in this state must complete a minimum of 3 hours 467 in continuing education, approved by the department, on the 468 subject of suitability in annuity and life insurance 469 transactions. This requirement does not apply to an agent who 470 does not have any active life insurance or annuity contracts. In 471 applying this exemption, the department may require the filing 472 of a certification attesting that the agent has not sold life 473 insurance or annuities during the continuing education compliance cycle in question and does not have any active life 474 475 insurance or annuity contracts. A licensee may use the hours obtained under this paragraph to satisfy the requirement for 476 477 continuing education in ethics under paragraph (3)(a).



478 (8) (4) The following courses may be completed in order to 479 meet the elective continuing education course requirements: (a) Any part of the Life Underwriter Training Council Life 480 481 Course Curriculum: 24 hours: Health Course: 12 hours. 482 (b) Any part of the American College "CLU" diploma 483 curriculum: 24 hours. 484 (c) Any part of the Insurance Institute of America's 485 program in general insurance: 12 hours. 486 (d) Any part of the American Institute for Property and 487 Liability Underwriters' Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter 488 (CPCU) professional designation program: 24 hours. 489 (e) Any part of the Certified Insurance Counselor program: 490 21 hours. 491 (f) Any part of the Accredited Advisor in Insurance: 21 492 hours. 493 (g) In the case of title agents, completion of the 494 Certified Land Closer (CLC) professional designation program and 495 receipt of the designation: 24 hours. 496 (h) In the case of title agents, completion of the 497 Certified Land Searcher (CLS) professional designation program 498 and receipt of the designation: 24 hours. 499 (i) Any insurance-related course that which is approved by 500 the department and taught by an accredited college or university per credit hour granted: 12 hours. 501 502 (j) Any course, including courses relating to agency 503 management or errors and omissions, developed or sponsored by an 504 any authorized insurer or recognized agents' association or 505 insurance trade association or an any independent study program of instruction, subject to approval by the department, qualifies 506

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507 for the equivalency of the number of classroom hours assigned 508 thereto by the department. However, unless otherwise provided in 509 this section, continuing education hours may not be credited 510 toward meeting the requirements of this section unless the 511 course is provided by classroom instruction or results in a 512 monitored examination. A monitored examination is not required 513 for:

514 1. An independent study program of instruction presented 515 through interactive, online technology that the department 516 determines has sufficient internal testing to validate the 517 student's full comprehension of the materials presented; or

518 2. An independent study program of instruction presented on paper or in printed material which that imposes a final closed 519 520 book examination that meets the requirements of the department's rule for self-study courses. The examination may be taken 521 522 without a proctor if provided the student presents to the 523 provider a sworn affidavit certifying that the student did not 524 consult any written materials or receive outside assistance of 525 any kind or from any person, directly or indirectly, while 526 taking the examination. If the student is an employee of an 527 agency or corporate entity, the student's supervisor or a 528 manager or owner of the agency or corporate entity must also 529 sign the sworn affidavit. If the student is self-employed, a 530 sole proprietor, or a partner, or if the examination is 531 administered online, the sworn affidavit must also be signed by 532 a disinterested third party. The sworn affidavit must be 533 received by the approved provider before prior to reporting continuing education credits to the department. 534

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(9) (k) Each person or entity sponsoring a course for

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536 continuing education credit must furnish, within <u>21</u> 30 days 537 after completion of the course, in a form satisfactory to the 538 department or its designee, a written and certified roster 539 showing the name and license number of all persons successfully 540 completing such course and requesting credit, accompanied by the 541 required fee.

542 (10) (5) The department may immediately terminate or shall 543 refuse to renew the appointment of an any agent or adjuster who 544 has been notified by the department that who has not had his or her continuing education requirements have not been certified, 545 546 unless the agent or adjuster has been granted an extension or 547 waiver by the department. The department may not issue a new 548 appointment of the same or similar type, with any insurer, to a 549 licensee an agent who was denied a renewal appointment for 550 failing failure to complete continuing education as required 551 until the licensee agent completes his or her continuing 552 education requirement.

553 (6) (a) There is created an 11-member continuing education 554 advisory board to be appointed by the Chief Financial Officer. Appointments shall be for terms of 4 years. The purpose of the 555 556 board is to advise the department in determining standards by 557 which courses may be evaluated and categorized as basic, 558 intermediate, or advanced. The board shall submit 559 recommendations to the department of changes needed in such 560 criteria not less frequently than every 2 years. The department 561 shall require all approved course providers to submit courses 562 for approval to the department using the criteria. All 563 materials, brochures, and advertisements related to the approved 564 courses must specify the level assigned to the course.

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565 (b) The board members shall be appointed as follows: 566 1. Seven members representing agents of which at least one 567 must be a representative from each of the following 568 organizations: the Florida Association of Insurance Agents; the 569 Florida Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors; the Professional Insurance Agents of Florida, Inc.; the Florida 570 571 Association of Health Underwriters; the Specialty Agents' 572 Association; the Latin American Agents' Association; and the 573 National Association of Insurance Women. Such board members must 574 possess at least a bachelor's degree or higher from an 575 accredited college or university with major coursework in insurance, risk management, or education or possess the 576 577 designation of CLU, CPCU, CHFC, CFP, AAI, or CIC. In addition, 578 each member must possess 5 years of classroom instruction 579 experience or 5 years of experience in the development or design 580 of educational programs or 10 years of experience as a licensed 581 resident agent. Each organization may submit to the department a 582 list of recommendations for appointment. If one organization 583 does not submit a list of recommendations, the Chief Financial 584 Officer may select more than one recommended person from a list 585 submitted by other eligible organizations. 586 2. Two members representing insurance companies at least

586 2. Two members representing insurance companies at least 587 one of whom must represent a Florida Domestic Company and one of 588 whom must represent the Florida Insurance Council. Such board 589 members must be employed within the training department of the 590 insurance company. At least one such member must be a member of 591 the Society of Insurance Trainers and Educators.

592 3. One member representing the general public who is not
593 directly employed in the insurance industry. Such board member



594	must possess a minimum of a bachelor's degree or higher from an
595	accredited college or university with major coursework in
596	insurance, risk management, training, or education.
597	4. One member, appointed by the Chief Financial Officer,
598	who represents the department.
599	(c) The members of the board shall serve at the pleasure of
600	the Chief Financial Officer. Each board member shall be entitled
601	to reimbursement for expenses pursuant to s. 112.061. The board
602	shall designate one member as chair. The board shall meet at the
603	call of the chair or the Chief Financial Officer.
604	(11) (7) The department may contract services relative to
605	the administration of the continuing education program to a
606	private entity. The contract shall be procured as a contract for
607	a contractual service pursuant to s. 287.057.
608	Section 11. Effective October 1, 2014, subsections (3) and
609	(7) of section 626.2815, Florida Statutes, as amended by this
610	act, are amended, and subsections (8) through (11) of that
611	section are redesignated as subsections (7) through (10),
612	respectively, to read:
613	626.2815 Continuing education requirements
614	(3) Each licensee <u>except a title insurance agent</u> subject to
615	this section must, except as set forth in paragraphs (b), (c),
616	(d), and (f), complete a <u>5-hour update course every 2 years</u>
617	which is specific to the license held by the licensee. The
618	course must be developed and offered by providers and approved
619	by the department. The content of the course must address all
620	lines of insurance for which examination and licensure are
621	required and include the following subject areas: insurance law
622	updates, ethics for insurance professionals, disciplinary trends

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623 and case studies, industry trends, premium discounts, 624 determining suitability of products and services, and other 625 similar insurance-related topics the department determines are 626 relevant to legally and ethically carrying out the 627 responsibilities of the license granted. A licensee who holds multiple insurance licenses must complete an update course that 628 629 is specific to at least one of the licenses held. Except as 630 otherwise specified, any remaining required hours of continuing education are elective and may consist of any continuing 631 632 education course approved by the department under this section 633 minimum of 24 hours of continuing education courses every 2 634 years in basic or higher-level courses prescribed by this 635 section or in other courses approved by the department. 636 (a) Except as provided in paragraphs (b), (c), (d), (e),

637 and (i), each licensee must also complete 19 3 hours of elective continuing education courses, approved by the department, every 638 639 2 years on the subject matter of ethics. Each licensed general 640 lines agent and customer representative must complete 1 hour of 641 continuing education, approved by the department, every 2 years 642 on the subject matter of premium discounts available on property 643 insurance policies based on various hurricane mitigation options 644 and the means for obtaining the discounts.

(b) A licensee who has been licensed for 6 or more years
must <u>also</u> complete <u>a minimum of 15</u> 20 hours of <u>elective</u>
continuing education every 2 years in intermediate or advancedlevel courses prescribed by this section or in other courses
approved by the department.

(c) A licensee who has been licensed for 25 years or moreand is a CLU or a CPCU or has a Bachelor of Science degree in



652 risk management or insurance with evidence of 18 or more 653 semester hours in upper-level insurance-related courses must 654 <u>also</u> complete <u>a minimum of 5</u> 10 hours of <u>elective</u> continuing 655 education courses every 2 years in courses prescribed by this 656 section or in other courses approved by the department.

(d) An individual who holds a license as a customer
representative, limited customer representative, title agent,
motor vehicle physical damage and mechanical breakdown insurance
agent, or an industrial fire insurance or burglary insurance
agent and who is not a licensed life or health agent, must <u>also</u>
complete <u>a minimum of 5</u> 10 hours of continuing education courses
every 2 years.

664 (e) An individual who holds a license to solicit or sell 665 life or health insurance and a license to solicit or sell 666 property, casualty, surety, or surplus lines insurance must 667 complete courses in life or health insurance for one-half of the 668 total hours required and courses in property, casualty, surety, or surplus lines insurance for one-half of the total hours 669 670 required. However, a licensee who holds an industrial fire or 671 burglary insurance license and who is a licensed life or health 672 agent must complete 4 hours of continuing education courses every 2 years related to industrial fire or burglary insurance 673 674 and the remaining number of hours of continuing education courses related to life or health insurance. 675

676 (e) (f) An individual subject to chapter 648 must complete
 677 the 5-hour update course and a minimum of 9 14 hours of elective
 678 continuing education courses every 2 years.

679 (f) Elective continuing education courses for public
 680 adjusters must be specifically designed for public adjusters and

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681 <u>approved by the department. Notwithstanding this subsection,</u> 682 <u>public adjusters for workers' compensation insurance or health</u> 683 <u>insurance are not required to take continuing education courses</u> 684 <u>pursuant to this section.</u>

(g) Excess hours accumulated during any 2-year complianceperiod may be carried forward to the next compliance period.

687 (h) An individual teaching an approved course of 688 instruction or lecturing at any approved seminar and attending 689 the entire course or seminar qualifies for the same number of 690 classroom hours as would be granted to a person taking and 691 successfully completing such course or seminar. Credit is 692 limited to the number of hours actually taught unless a person 693 attends the entire course or seminar. An individual who is an 694 official of or employed by a governmental entity in this state 695 and serves as a professor, instructor, or other position or 696 office, the duties and responsibilities of which are determined 697 by the department to require monitoring and review of insurance 698 laws or insurance regulations and practices, is exempt from this 699 section.

700 (i) For compliance periods beginning on or after October 1, 701 2014, any person who holds a license as a title insurance agent 702 must complete a minimum of 10 hours of continuing education 703 credit every 2 years in title insurance and escrow management 704 specific to this state and approved by the department, which 705 shall include at least 3 hours of continuing education on the 706 subject matter of ethics, rules, or compliance with state and 707 federal regulations relating specifically to title insurance and 708 closing services.

709

(7) Any person who holds a license to solicit or sell life



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710	insurance in this state must complete a minimum of 3 hours in
711	continuing education, approved by the department, on the subject
712	of suitability in annuity and life insurance transactions. This
713	requirement does not apply to an agent who does not have any
714	active life insurance or annuity contracts. In applying this
715	exemption, the department may require the filing of a
716	certification attesting that the agent has not sold life
717	insurance or annuities during the continuing education
718	compliance cycle in question and does not have any active life
719	insurance or annuity contracts. A licensee may use the hours
720	obtained under this paragraph to satisfy the requirement for
721	continuing education in ethics under paragraph (3)(a).
722	Section 12. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 626.292,
723	Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
724	626.292 Transfer of license from another state
725	(1) <u>An</u> Any individual licensed in good standing in another
726	state may apply to the department to have the license
727	transferred to this state to obtain a Florida resident agent <u>or</u>
728	all-lines adjuster license for the same lines of authority
729	covered by the license in the other state.
730	(2) To qualify for a license transfer, an individual
731	applicant must meet the following requirements:
732	(a) The individual <u>must</u> shall become a resident of this
733	state.
734	(b) The individual <u>must</u> shall have been licensed in another
735	state for a minimum of 1 year immediately preceding the date the
736	individual became a resident of this state.
737	(c) The individual <u>must</u> shall submit a completed
738	application for this state which is received by the department
I	



739 within 90 days after the date the individual became a resident 740 of this state, along with payment of the applicable fees set 741 forth in s. 624.501 and submission of the following documents:

742 1. A certification issued by the appropriate official of 743 the applicant's home state identifying the type of license and 744 lines of authority under the license and stating that, at the 745 time the license from the home state was canceled, the applicant 746 was in good standing in that state or that the state's Producer 747 Database records, maintained by the National Association of 748 Insurance Commissioners, its affiliates, or subsidiaries, 749 indicate that the agent or all-lines adjuster is or was licensed 750 in good standing for the line of authority requested.

751 2. A set of the individual applicant's fingerprints in
752 accordance with s. 626.171(4).

753 (d) The individual must shall satisfy prelicensing 754 education requirements in this state, unless the completion of 755 prelicensing education requirements was a prerequisite for 756 licensure in the other state and the prelicensing education 757 requirements in the other state are substantially equivalent to 758 the prelicensing requirements of this state as determined by the 759 department. This paragraph does not apply to all-lines 760 adjusters.

(e) The individual <u>must</u> shall satisfy the examination
 requirement under s. 626.221, unless <u>exempted</u> exempt thereunder.

Section 13. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 626.311,Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

765

626.311 Scope of license.-

766 (2) Except with respect as to a limited license as a credit
 767 life or disability insurance agent, the license of a life agent



768 covers shall cover all classes of life insurance business.

(3) Except with respect as to a limited license as a travel personal accident insurance agent, the license of a health agent covers shall cover all kinds of health insurance; and such no license may not shall be issued limited to a particular class of health insurance.

Section 14. Subsections (1) and (4) of section 626.321,
Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

776

626.321 Limited licenses.-

(1) The department shall issue to a qualified <u>applicant</u> individual, or a qualified individual or entity under paragraphs (c), (d), (e), and (i), a license as agent authorized to transact a limited class of business in any of the following categories <u>of limited lines insurance</u>:

782 (a) Motor vehicle physical damage and mechanical breakdown 783 insurance.-License covering insurance against only the loss of 784 or damage to a any motor vehicle that which is designed for use 785 upon a highway, including trailers and semitrailers designed for use with such vehicles. Such license also covers insurance 786 787 against the failure of an original or replacement part to 788 perform any function for which it was designed. The applicant for such a license shall pass a written examination covering 789 790 motor vehicle physical damage insurance and mechanical breakdown 791 insurance. A licensee under this paragraph may not No individual while so licensed shall hold a license as an agent for as to any 792 793 other or additional kind or class of insurance coverage except 794 as to a limited license for credit insurance life and disability 795 insurances as provided in paragraph (e). Effective October 1, 2012, all licensees holding such limited license and appointment 796

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797 <u>may renew the license and appointment, but no new or additional</u> 798 <u>licenses may be issued pursuant to this paragraph, and a</u> 799 <u>licensee whose limited license under this paragraph has been</u> 800 <u>terminated, suspended, or revoked may not have such license</u> 801 reinstated.

802 (b) Industrial fire insurance or burglary insurance.-803 License covering only industrial fire insurance or burglary 804 insurance. The applicant for such a license must shall pass a written examination covering such insurance. A licensee under 805 806 this paragraph may not No individual while so licensed shall 807 hold a license as an agent for as to any other or additional 808 kind or class of insurance coverage except for as to life 809 insurance and health insurance insurances.

810 (c) Travel insurance.-License covering only policies and 811 certificates of travel insurance, which are subject to review by 812 the office under s. 624.605(1)(q). Policies and certificates of 813 travel insurance may provide coverage for risks incidental to travel, planned travel, or accommodations while traveling, 814 815 including, but not limited to, accidental death and 816 dismemberment of a traveler; trip cancellation, interruption, or 817 delay; loss of or damage to personal effects or travel 818 documents; baggage delay; emergency medical travel or evacuation 819 of a traveler; or medical, surgical, and hospital expenses 820 related to an illness or emergency of a traveler. Any Such 821 policy or certificate may be issued for terms longer than 60 822 days, but each policy or certificate, other than a policy or 823 certificate providing coverage for air ambulatory services only, 824 each policy or certificate must be limited to coverage for travel or use of accommodations of no longer than 60 days. The 825

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826	license may be issued only:
827	1. To a full-time salaried employee of a common carrier or
828	a full-time salaried employee or owner of a transportation
829	ticket agency and may authorize the sale of such ticket policies
830	only in connection with the sale of transportation tickets, or
831	to the full-time salaried employee of such an agent. No Such
832	policy <u>may not</u> shall be for a duration of more than 48 hours or
833	more than for the duration of a specified one-way trip or round
834	trip.
835	2. To an entity or individual that is:
836	a. The developer of a timeshare plan that is the subject of
837	an approved public offering statement under chapter 721;
838	b. An exchange company operating an exchange program
839	approved under chapter 721;
840	c. A managing entity operating a timeshare plan approved
841	under chapter 721;
842	d. A seller of travel as defined in chapter 559; or
843	e. A subsidiary or affiliate of any of the entities
844	described in sub-subparagraphs ad.
845	
846	A licensee shall require each employee who offers policies or
847	certificates under this subparagraph to receive initial training
848	from a general lines agent or an insurer authorized under
849	chapter 624 to transact insurance within this state. For an
850	entity applying for a license as a travel insurance agent, the
851	fingerprinting requirement of this section applies only to the
852	president, secretary, and treasurer and to any other officer or
853	person who directs or controls the travel insurance operations
854	of the entity.

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855 (d) Motor vehicle rental insurance.-

1. License covering only insurance of the risks set forth in this paragraph when offered, sold, or solicited with and incidental to the rental or lease of a motor vehicle and which applies only to the motor vehicle that is the subject of the lease or rental agreement and <u>the</u> occupants of the motor vehicle:

a. Excess motor vehicle liability insurance providing
coverage in excess of the standard liability limits provided by
the lessor in the lessor's lease to a person renting or leasing
a motor vehicle from the licensee's employer for liability
arising in connection with the negligent operation of the leased
or rented motor vehicle.

b. Insurance covering the liability of the lessee to thelessor for damage to the leased or rented motor vehicle.

c. Insurance covering the loss of or damage to baggage,
personal effects, or travel documents of a person renting or
leasing a motor vehicle.

d. Insurance covering accidental personal injury or death
of the lessee and any passenger who is riding or driving with
the covered lessee in the leased or rented motor vehicle.

876 2. Insurance under a motor vehicle rental insurance license 877 may be issued only if the lease or rental agreement is for no 878 more than 60 days, the lessee is not provided coverage for more 879 than 60 consecutive days per lease period, and the lessee is 880 given written notice that his or her personal insurance policy 881 providing coverage on an owned motor vehicle may provide 882 coverage of such risks and that the purchase of the insurance is 883 not required in connection with the lease or rental of a motor



vehicle. If the lease is extended beyond 60 days, the coverage may be extended one time only for a period not to exceed an additional 60 days. Insurance may be provided to the lessee as an additional insured on a policy issued to the licensee's employer.

3. The license may be issued only to the full-time salaried employee of a licensed general lines agent or to a business entity that offers motor vehicles for rent or lease if insurance sales activities authorized by the license are in connection with and incidental to the rental or lease of a motor vehicle.

a. A license issued to a business entity that offers motor vehicles for rent or lease <u>encompasses</u> shall encompass each office, branch office, or place of business making use of the entity's business name in order to offer, solicit, and sell insurance pursuant to this paragraph.

899 b. The application for licensure must list the name, address, and phone number for each office, branch office, or 900 901 place of business that is to be covered by the license. The 902 licensee shall notify the department of the name, address, and 903 phone number of any new location that is to be covered by the 904 license before the new office, branch office, or place of 905 business engages in the sale of insurance pursuant to this 906 paragraph. The licensee must shall notify the department within 907 30 days after closing or terminating an office, branch office, 908 or place of business. Upon receipt of the notice, the department 909 shall delete the office, branch office, or place of business 910 from the license.

911 c. A licensed and appointed entity is directly responsible912 and accountable for all acts of the licensee's employees.



913 (e) Credit life or disability insurance.-License covering 914 only credit life, credit or disability insurance, credit 915 property, credit unemployment, involuntary unemployment, 916 mortgage life, mortgage guaranty, mortgage disability, guaranteed automobile protection (GAP) insurance, and any other 917 918 form of insurance offered in connection with an extension of 919 credit which is limited to partially or wholly extinguishing a 920 credit obligation that the department determines should be 921 designated a form of limited line credit insurance. Effective 922 October 1, 2012, all valid licenses held by persons for any of 923 the lines of insurance listed in this paragraph shall be 924 converted to a credit insurance license. Licensees who wish to 925 obtain a new license reflecting such change must request a 926 duplicate license and pay a \$5 fee as specified in s. 927 624.501(15). The license may be issued only to an individual 928 employed by a life or health insurer as an officer or other 929 salaried or commissioned representative, to an individual 930 employed by or associated with a lending or financial 931 institution or creditor, or to a lending or financial 932 institution or creditor, and may authorize the sale of such 933 insurance only with respect to borrowers or debtors of such 934 lending or financing institution or creditor. However, only the 935 individual or entity whose tax identification number is used in 936 receiving or is credited with receiving the commission from the 937 sale of such insurance shall be the licensed agent of the 938 insurer. No individual while so licensed shall hold a license as 939 an agent as to any other or additional kind or class of life or 940 health insurance coverage. An entity holding a limited license under this paragraph is also authorized to sell credit insurance 941

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and credit property insurance. (f) Credit insurance.—License covering only credit insurance, as such insurance is defined in s. 624.605(1)(i), and no individual or entity so licensed shall, during the same period, hold a license as an agent as to any other or additional kind of life or health insurance with the exception of credit life or disability insurance as defined in paragraph (e). The same licensing provisions as outlined in paragraph (e) apply to
insurance, as such insurance is defined in s. 624.605(1)(i), and no individual or entity so licensed shall, during the same period, hold a license as an agent as to any other or additional kind of life or health insurance with the exception of credit life or disability insurance as defined in paragraph (e). The
no individual or entity so licensed shall, during the same period, hold a license as an agent as to any other or additional kind of life or health insurance with the exception of credit life or disability insurance as defined in paragraph (e). The
period, hold a license as an agent as to any other or additional kind of life or health insurance with the exception of credit life or disability insurance as defined in paragraph (e). The
kind of life or health insurance with the exception of credit life or disability insurance as defined in paragraph (e). The
life or disability insurance as defined in paragraph (e). The
same licensing provisions as outlined in paragraph (c) apply to
entities licensed as credit insurance agents under this
paragraph.
(g) Credit property insurance.—A license covering only
credit property insurance may be issued to any individual except
an individual employed by or associated with a financial
institution as defined in s. 655.005 and authorized to sell such
insurance only with respect to a borrower or debtor, not to
exceed the amount of the loan.
<u>(f) (h)</u> Crop hail and multiple-peril crop insuranceLicense
for insurance covering crops subject to unfavorable weather
conditions, fire or lightening, flood, hail, insect infestation,
disease, or other yield-reducing conditions or perils which is
provided by the private insurance market, or which is subsidized
by the Federal Group Insurance Corporation including multi-peril
crop insurance only crop hail and multiple-peril crop insurance.
Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the limited license
may be issued to a bona fide salaried employee of an association
chartered under the Farm Credit Act of 1971, 12 U.S.C. ss. 2001
et seq., who satisfactorily completes the examination prescribed

by the department pursuant to s. 626.241(5). The limited agent 969 must be appointed by, and his or her limited license requested

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971 by, a licensed general lines agent. All business transacted by 972 the limited agent <u>must be on shall be in</u> behalf of, in the name 973 of, and countersigned by the agent by whom he or she is 974 appointed. Sections 626.561 and 626.748, relating to records, 975 apply to all business written pursuant to this section. The 976 limited licensee may be appointed by and licensed for only one 977 general lines agent or agency.

978 <u>(g)(i)</u> In-transit and storage personal property insurance; 979 communications equipment property insurance, communications 980 equipment inland marine insurance, and communications equipment 981 service warranty agreement sales.-

1. A License for insurance covering only the insurance of 982 983 personal property not held for resale, covering the risks of 984 transportation or storage in rented or leased motor vehicles, 985 trailers, or self-service storage facilities, as the latter are 986 defined in s. 83.803. Such license, may be issued, without 987 examination, only to employees or authorized representatives of 988 lessors who rent or lease motor vehicles, trailers, or self-989 service storage facilities and who are authorized by an insurer 990 to issue certificates or other evidences of insurance to lessees 991 of such motor vehicles, trailers, or self-service storage 992 facilities under an insurance policy issued to the lessor. A 993 person licensed under this paragraph must shall give a 994 prospective purchaser of in-transit or storage personal property 995 insurance written notice that his or her homeowner's policy may 996 provide coverage for the loss of personal property and that the 997 purchase of such insurance is not required under the lease 998 terms.

999

2. A license covering only communications equipment, for



1000	the loss, theft, mechanical failure, malfunction of or damage
1001	to, communications equipment. The license may be issued only to:
1002	a. Employees or authorized representatives of a licensed
1003	general lines agent;
1004	b. The lead business location of a retail vendor of
1005	communications equipment and its branch locations; or
1006	c. Employees, agents, or authorized representatives of a
1007	retail vendor of communications equipment.
1008	
1009	The license authorizes the sale of such policies, or
1010	certificates under a group master policy, only with respect to
1011	the sale of, or provision of communications service for,
1012	communications equipment. A general lines agent is not required
1013	to obtain a license under this subparagraph to offer or sell
1014	communications equipment property insurance or communication
1015	equipment inland marine insurance. The license also authorizes
1016	sales of service warranty agreements covering only
1017	communications equipment to the same extent as if licensed under
1018	s. 634.419 or s. 634.420. The provisions of this chapter
1019	requiring submission of fingerprints do not apply to
1020	communications equipment licenses issued to qualified entities
1021	under this subparagraph. Licensees offering policies under this
1022	subparagraph must receive initial training from, and have a
1023	contractual relationship with, a general lines agent. For the
1024	purposes of this subparagraph, the term "communications
1025	equipment" means handsets, pagers, personal digital assistants,
1026	portable computers, automatic answering devices, and other
1027	devices or accessories used to originate or receive
1028	communications signals or service, and includes services related

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1029	to the use of such devices, such as consumer access to a
1030	wireless network; however, the term does not include
1031	telecommunications switching equipment, transmission wires, cell
1032	site transceiver equipment, or other equipment and systems used
1033	by telecommunications companies to provide telecommunications
1034	service to consumers. A branch location of a retail vendor of
1035	communications equipment licensed pursuant to paragraph (2)(b)
1036	may, in licu of obtaining an appointment from an insurer or
1037	warranty association as provided in paragraph (2)(c), obtain a
1038	single appointment from the associated lead business location
1039	licensee licensed under paragraph (2)(a) and pay the prescribed
1040	appointment fee under s. 624.501 provided the lead business
1041	location has a single appointment from each insurer or warranty
1042	association represented and such appointment provides that it
1043	applies to the lead business location and all of its branch
1044	locations. Any branch location individually appointed by an
1045	insurer under paragraph (2)(c) prior to January 1, 2006, may
1046	replace its appointments with an appointment from its lead
1047	location at no charge. Branch location appointments shall be
1048	renewed on the first annual anniversary of licensure of the lead
1049	business location occurring more than 24 months after the
1050	initial appointment date and every 24 months thereafter.
1051	Notwithstanding s. 624.501, after July 1, 2006, the renewal fee
1052	applicable to such branch location appointments shall be \$30 per
1053	appointment.
1054	(h) Portable electronics insuranceLicense for property
1055	insurance or inland marine insurance that covers only loss,
1056	theft, mechanical failure, malfunction, or damage for portable
1057	<u>electronics.</u>

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1058	1. The license may be issued only to:
1059	a. Employees or authorized representatives of a licensed
1060	general lines agent; or
1061	b. The lead business location of a retail vendor that sells
1062	portable electronics insurance. The lead business location must
1063	have a contractual relationship with a general lines agent.
1064	2. Employees or authorized representatives of a licensee
1065	under subparagraph 1. may sell or offer for sale portable
1066	electronics coverage without being subject to licensure as an
1067	insurance agent if:
1068	a. Such insurance is sold or offered for sale at a licensed
1069	location or at one of the licensee's branch locations if the
1070	branch location is appointed by the licensed lead business
1071	location or its appointing insurers;
1072	b. The insurer issuing the insurance directly supervises or
1073	appoints a general lines agent to supervise the sale of such
1074	insurance, including the development of a training program for
1075	the employees and authorized representatives of vendors that are
1076	directly engaged in the activity of selling or offering the
1077	insurance; and
1078	c. At each location where the insurance is offered,
1079	brochures or other written materials that provide the
1080	information required by this subparagraph are made available to
1081	all prospective customers. The brochures or written materials
1082	may include information regarding portable electronics
1083	insurance, service warranty agreements, or other incidental
1084	services or benefits offered by a licensee.
1085	3. Individuals not licensed to sell portable electronics
1086	insurance may not be paid commissions based on the sale of such

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1087	coverage. However, a licensee who uses a compensation plan for
1088	employees and authorized representatives which includes
1089	supplemental compensation for the sale of noninsurance products,
1090	in addition to a regular salary or hourly wages, may include
1091	incidental compensation for the sale of portable electronics
1092	insurance as a component of the overall compensation plan.
1093	4. Brochures or other written materials related to portable
1094	electronics insurance must:
1095	a. Disclose that such insurance may duplicate coverage
1096	already provided by a customer's homeowners' insurance policy,
1097	renters' insurance policy, or other source of coverage;
1098	b. State that enrollment in insurance coverage is not
1099	required in order to purchase or lease portable electronics or
1100	services;
1101	c. Summarize the material terms of the insurance coverage,
1102	including the identity of the insurer, the identity of the
1103	supervising entity, the amount of any applicable deductible and
1104	how it is to be paid, the benefits of coverage, and key terms
1105	and conditions of coverage, such as whether portable electronics
1106	may be repaired or replaced with similar make and model
1107	reconditioned or nonoriginal manufacturer parts or equipment;
1108	d. Summarize the process for filing a claim, including a
1109	description of how to return portable electronics and the
1110	maximum fee applicable if the customer fails to comply with
1111	equipment return requirements; and
1112	e. State that an enrolled customer may cancel coverage at
1113	any time and that the person paying the premium will receive a
1114	refund of any unearned premium.
1115	5. A licensed and appointed general lines agent is not

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1116	required to obtain a portable electronics insurance license to
1117	offer or sell portable electronics insurance at locations
1118	already licensed as an insurance agency, but may apply for a
1119	portable electronics insurance license for branch locations not
1120	otherwise licensed to sell insurance.
1121	6. A portable electronics license authorizes the sale of
1122	individual policies or certificates under a group or master
1123	insurance policy. The license also authorizes the sale of
1124	service warranty agreements covering only portable electronics
1125	to the same extent as if licensed under s. 634.419 or s.
1126	<u>634.420.</u>
1127	7. A licensee may bill and collect the premium for the
1128	purchase of portable electronics insurance provided that:
1129	a. If the insurance is included with the purchase or lease
1130	of portable electronics or related services, the licensee
1131	clearly and conspicuously discloses that insurance coverage is
1132	included with the purchase. Disclosure of the stand-alone cost
1133	of the premium for same or similar insurance must be made on the
1134	customer's bill and in any marketing materials made available at
1135	the point of sale. If the insurance is not included, the charge
1136	to the customer for the insurance must be separately itemized on
1137	the customer's bill.
1138	b. Premiums are incidental to other fees collected, are
1139	maintained in a manner that is readily identifiable, and are
1140	accounted for and remitted to the insurer or supervising entity
1141	within 60 days of receipt. Licensees are not required to
1142	maintain such funds in a segregated account.
1143	c. All funds received by a licensee from an enrolled
1144	customer for the sale of the insurance are considered funds held

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1145	in trust by the licensee in a fiduciary capacity for the benefit
1146	of the insurer. Licensees may receive compensation for billing
1147	and collection services.
1148	8. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the terms
1149	for the termination or modification of coverage under a policy
1150	of portable electronics insurance are those set forth in the
1151	policy.
1152	9. Notice or correspondence required by the policy, or
1153	otherwise required by law, may be provided by electronic means
1154	if the insurer or licensee maintains proof that the notice or
1155	correspondence was sent. Such notice or correspondence may be
1156	sent on behalf of the insurer or licensee by the general lines
1157	agent appointed by the insurer to supervise the administration
1158	of the program. For purposes of this subparagraph, an enrolled
1159	customer's provision of an electronic mail address to the
1160	insurer or licensee is deemed to be consent to receive notices
1161	and correspondence by electronic means if a conspicuously
1162	located disclosure is provided to the customer indicating the
1163	same.
1164	10. The provisions of this chapter requiring submission of
1165	fingerprints do not apply to licenses issued to qualified
1166	entities under this paragraph.
1167	11. A branch location that sells portable electronics
1168	insurance may, in lieu of obtaining an appointment from an
1169	insurer or warranty association, obtain a single appointment
1170	from the associated lead business location licensee and pay the
1171	prescribed appointment fee under s. 624.501 if the lead business
1172	location has a single appointment from each insurer or warranty
1173	association represented and such appointment applies to the lead

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1174	business location and all of its branch locations. Branch
1175	location appointments shall be renewed 24 months after the
1176	initial appointment date of the lead business location and every
1177	24 months thereafter. Notwithstanding s. 624.501, the renewal
1178	fee applicable to such branch location appointments is \$30 per
1179	appointment.
1180	12. For purposes of this paragraph:
1181	a. "Branch location" means any physical location in this
1182	state at which a licensee offers its products or services for
1183	sale.
1184	b. "Portable electronics" means personal, self-contained,
1185	easily carried by an individual, battery-operated electronic
1186	communication, viewing, listening, recording, gaming, computing
1187	or global positioning devices, including cell or satellite
1188	phones, pagers, personal global positioning satellite units,
1189	portable computers, portable audio listening, video viewing or
1190	recording devices, digital cameras, video camcorders, portable
1191	gaming systems, docking stations, automatic answering devices,
1192	and other similar devices and their accessories, and service
1193	related to the use of such devices.
1194	c. "Portable electronics transaction" means the sale or
1195	lease of portable electronics or a related service, including
1196	portable electronics insurance.
1197	(4) Except as otherwise expressly provided, a person
1198	applying for or holding a limited license <u>is</u> shall be subject to
1199	the same applicable requirements and responsibilities <u>that</u> as
1200	apply to general lines agents in general $_{m{ au}}$ if licensed as to
1201	motor vehicle physical damage and mechanical breakdown
1202	insurance, credit property insurance, industrial fire insurance
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1203 or burglary insurance, motor vehicle rental insurance, credit 1204 insurance, crop hail and multiple-peril crop insurance, in-1205 transit and storage personal property insurance, or portable 1206 electronics insurance communications equipment property 1207 insurance or communications equipment inland marine insurance, 1208 baggage and motor vehicle excess liability insurance, or credit 1209 insurance; or as apply to life agents or health agents in 1210 general, as applicable the case may be, if licensed as to travel 1211 personal accident insurance or credit life or credit disability 1212 insurance.

1213 Section 15. Section 626.342, Florida Statutes, is amended 1214 to read:

1215 626.342 Furnishing supplies to unlicensed life, health, or 1216 general lines agent prohibited; civil liability.-

1217 (1) An insurer, a managing general agent, an insurance 1218 agency, or an agent, directly or through a any representative, 1219 may not furnish to an any agent any blank forms, applications, stationery, or other supplies to be used in soliciting, 1220 1221 negotiating, or effecting contracts of insurance on its behalf 1222 unless such blank forms, applications, stationery, or other 1223 supplies relate to a class of business for with respect to which 1224 the agent is licensed and appointed, whether for that insurer or 1225 another insurer.

(2) <u>An Any</u> insurer, general agent, insurance agency, or
agent who furnishes any of the supplies specified in subsection
(1) to <u>an any</u> agent or prospective agent not appointed to
represent the insurer and who accepts from or writes any
insurance business for such agent or agency is subject to civil
liability to <u>an any</u> insured of such insurer to the same extent

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1232 and in the same manner as if such agent or prospective agent had 1233 been appointed or authorized by the insurer or such agent to act 1234 <u>on in</u> its or his or her behalf. The provisions of this 1235 subsection do not apply to insurance risk apportionment plans 1236 under s. 627.351.

1237 (3) This section does not apply to the placing of surplus1238 lines business under the provisions of ss. 626.913-626.937.

1239 Section 16. Subsection (1) of section 626.381, Florida 1240 Statutes, is amended to read:

1241 626.381 Renewal, continuation, reinstatement, or 1242 termination of appointment.-

1243 (1) The appointment of an appointee continues shall continue in force until suspended, revoked, or otherwise 1244 1245 terminated, but is subject to a renewal request filed by the appointing entity in the appointee's birth month as to natural 1246 1247 persons or the month the original appointment was issued license date as to entities and every 24 months thereafter, accompanied 1248 1249 by payment of the renewal appointment fee and taxes as 1250 prescribed in s. 624.501.

1251 Section 17. Section 626.536, Florida Statutes, is amended 1252 to read:

1253 626.536 Reporting of administrative actions. Each agent and 1254 insurance agency shall submit to the department, Within 30 days 1255 after the final disposition of an any administrative action 1256 taken against a licensee the agent or insurance agency by a 1257 governmental agency or other regulatory agency in this or any 1258 other state or jurisdiction relating to the business of insurance, the sale of securities, or activity involving fraud, 1259 1260 dishonesty, trustworthiness, or breach of a fiduciary duty, the

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1261 <u>licensee or insurance agency must submit</u> a copy of the order, 1262 consent to order, or other relevant legal documents <u>to the</u> 1263 <u>department</u>. The department may adopt rules <u>to administer</u> 1264 <u>implementing the provisions of</u> this section.

1265 Section 18. Section 626.551, Florida Statutes, is amended 1266 to read:

1267 626.551 Notice of change of address, name.-A Every licensee must shall notify the department, in writing, within 30 60 days 1268 1269 after a change of name, residence address, principal business 1270 street address, mailing address, contact telephone numbers, 1271 including a business telephone number, or e-mail address. A 1272 licensee licensed agent who has moved his or her principal place of residence and principal place of business from this state 1273 1274 shall have his or her license and all appointments immediately 1275 terminated by the department. Failure to notify the department within the required time period shall result in a fine not to 1276 1277 exceed \$250 for the first offense and, for subsequent offenses, 1278 a fine of at least \$500 or suspension or revocation of the 1279 license pursuant to s. 626.611, s. 626.6115, or s. 626.621, or 1280 s. 626.6215 for a subsequent offense. The department may adopt 1281 rules to administer and enforce this section.

1282 Section 19. Subsection (14) is added to section 626.621, 1283 Florida Statutes, to read:

1284 626.621 Grounds for discretionary refusal, suspension, or 1285 revocation of agent's, adjuster's, customer representative's, 1286 service representative's, or managing general agent's license or 1287 appointment.—The department may, in its discretion, deny an 1288 application for, suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew or continue 1289 the license or appointment of any applicant, agent, adjuster,

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1290	customer representative, service representative, or managing
1291	general agent, and it may suspend or revoke the eligibility to
1292	hold a license or appointment of any such person, if it finds
1293	that as to the applicant, licensee, or appointee any one or more
1294	of the following applicable grounds exist under circumstances
1295	for which such denial, suspension, revocation, or refusal is not
1296	mandatory under s. 626.611:
1297	(14) Failure to comply with any civil, criminal, or
1298	administrative action taken by the child support enforcement
1299	program under Title IV-D of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C.
1300	ss. 651 et seq., to determine paternity or to establish, modify,
1301	enforce, or collect support.
1302	Section 20. Subsection (4) of section 626.641, Florida
1303	Statutes, is amended to read:
1304	626.641 Duration of suspension or revocation
1305	(4) During the period of suspension or revocation of <u>a</u> the
1306	license or appointment, and until the license is reinstated or,
1307	if revoked, a new license issued, the former licensee or
1308	appointee <u>may</u> shall not engage in or attempt or profess to
1309	engage in any transaction or business for which a license or
1310	appointment is required under this code or directly or
1311	indirectly own, control, or be employed in any manner by <u>an</u> any
1312	insurance agent, or agency, or adjuster, or adjusting firm.
1313	Section 21. Subsection (1) of section 626.651, Florida
1314	Statutes, is amended to read:
1315	626.651 Effect of suspension, revocation upon associated
1316	licenses and appointments and licensees and appointees
1317	(1) Upon suspension, revocation, or refusal to renew or
1318	continue any one license of <u>a licensee</u> an agent or customer
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1319 representative, or upon suspension or revocation of eligibility 1320 to hold a license or appointment, the department shall at the 1321 same time likewise suspend or revoke all other licenses, 1322 appointments, or status of eligibility held by the licensee or 1323 appointee under this code.

Section 22. Subsection (4) of section 626.730, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (5) of that section is created, to read:

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626.730 Purpose of license.-

1328 (4) This section does not prohibit the licensing under a 1329 licensee holding a limited license for credit insurance or as to 1330 motor vehicle physical damage and mechanical breakdown insurance 1331 from being or credit property insurance of any person employed 1332 by or associated with a motor vehicle sales or financing agency, a retail sales establishment, or a consumer loan office for the 1333 1334 purpose of insuring, other than a consumer loan office owned by or affiliated with a financial institution as defined in s. 1335 655.005, with respect to insurance of the interest of such 1336 1337 entity agency in a motor vehicle sold or financed by it or in 1338 personal property if used as collateral for a loan.

1339 (5) This section does not apply with respect to the 1340 interest of a real estate mortgagee in or as to insurance 1341 covering such interest or in the real estate subject to such 1342 mortgage.

1343 Section 23. Section 626.732, Florida Statutes, is amended 1344 to read:

1345 626.732 Requirement as to knowledge, experience, or 1346 instruction.-

(1) Except as provided in subsection (4) (3), an no

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1348 applicant for a license as a general lines agent or personal 1349 lines agent, except for a chartered property and casualty 1350 underwriter (CPCU), may not other than as to a limited license 1351 as to baggage and motor vehicle excess liability insurance, credit property insurance, credit insurance, in-transit and 1352 1353 storage personal property insurance, or communications equipment property insurance or communication equipment inland marine 1354 1355 insurance, shall be qualified or licensed unless, within the 4 1356 years immediately preceding the date the application for license 1357 is filed with the department, the applicant has:

(a) Taught or successfully completed classroom courses in insurance, 3 hours of which <u>must</u> shall be on the subject matter of ethics, satisfactory to the department at a school, college, or extension division thereof, approved by the department. To qualify for licensure as a personal lines agent, the applicant must complete a total of 52 hours of classroom courses in insurance;

1365 (b) Completed a correspondence course in insurance, 3 hours 1366 of which must shall be on the subject matter of ethics, which is 1367 satisfactory to the department and regularly offered by 1368 accredited institutions of higher learning in this state or 1369 extensions thereof and approved by the department, and have $_{\overline{r}}$ 1370 except if he or she is applying for a limited license under s. 1371 626.321, for licensure as a general lines agent, has had at 1372 least 6 months of responsible insurance duties as a 1373 substantially full-time bona fide employee in all lines of 1374 property and casualty insurance set forth in the definition of general lines agent under s. 626.015 or, for licensure as a 1375 personal lines agent, has completed at least 3 months in 1376

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1377 responsible insurance duties as a substantially full-time 1378 employee in property and casualty insurance sold to individuals 1379 and families for noncommercial purposes;

(c) For licensure as a general lines agent, Completed at 1380 1381 least 1 year in responsible insurance duties as a substantially 1382 full-time bona fide employee in all lines of property and casualty insurance, exclusive of aviation and wet marine and 1383 1384 transportation insurances but not exclusive of boats of less 1385 than 36 feet in length or aircraft not held out for hire, as set 1386 forth in the definition of a general lines agent under s. 1387 626.015, but without the education requirement described 1388 mentioned in paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) or, for licensure as 1389 a personal lines agent, has completed at least 6 months in 1390 responsible insurance duties as a substantially full-time 1391 employee in property and casualty insurance sold to individuals and families for noncommercial purposes without the education 1392 requirement in paragraph (a) or paragraph (b); 1393

(d)1. For licensure as a general lines agent, Completed at least 1 year of responsible insurance duties as a licensed and appointed customer representative or limited customer representative in commercial or personal lines of property and casualty insurance and 40 hours of classroom courses approved by the department covering the areas of property, casualty, surety, health, and marine insurance; or

1401 2. For licensure as a personal lines agent, completed at 1402 least 6 months of responsible duties as a licensed and appointed 1403 customer representative or limited customer representative in 1404 property and casualty insurance sold to individuals and families 1405 for noncommercial purposes and 20 hours of classroom courses



1406 approved by the department which are related to property and 1407 casualty insurance sold to individuals and families for 1408 noncommercial purposes; 1409 (e) 1. For licensure as a general lines agent, Completed at 1410 least 1 year of responsible insurance duties as a licensed and 1411 appointed service representative in either commercial or 1412 personal lines of property and casualty insurance and 80 hours 1413 of classroom courses approved by the department covering the 1414 areas of property, casualty, surety, health, and marine 1415 insurance.; or 1416 2. For licensure as a personal lines agent, completed at least 6 months of responsible insurance duties as a licensed and 1417 appointed service representative in property and casualty 1418 1419 insurance sold to individuals and families for noncommercial 1420 purposes and 40 hours of classroom courses approved by the 1421 department related to property and casualty insurance sold to 1422 individuals and families for noncommercial purposes; or 1423 (2) Except as provided under subsection (4), an applicant 1424 for a license as a personal lines agent, except for a chartered 1425 property and casualty underwriter (CPCU), may not be qualified 1426 or licensed unless, within the 4 years immediately preceding the 1427 date the application for license is filed with the department, 1428 the applicant has: 1429 (a) Taught or successfully completed classroom courses in 1430 insurance, 3 hours of which must be on the subject matter of 1431 ethics, at a school, college, or extension division thereof, 1432 approved by the department. To qualify for licensure, the 1433 applicant must complete a total of 52 hours of classroom courses 1434 in insurance;

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1435	(b) Completed a correspondence course in insurance, 3 hours
1436	of which must be on the subject matter of ethics, which is
1437	regularly offered by accredited institutions of higher learning
1438	in this state or extensions thereof and approved by the
1439	department, and completed at least 3 months of responsible
1440	insurance duties as a substantially full-time employee in the
1441	area of property and casualty insurance sold to individuals and
1442	families for noncommercial purposes;
1443	(c) Completed at least 6 months of responsible insurance
1444	duties as a substantially full-time employee in the area of
1445	property and casualty insurance sold to individuals and families
1446	for noncommercial purposes, but without the education
1447	requirement described in paragraph (a) or paragraph (b);
1448	(d) Completed at least 6 months of responsible duties as a
1449	licensed and appointed customer representative or limited
1450	customer representative in property and casualty insurance sold
1451	to individuals and families for noncommercial purposes and 20
1452	hours of classroom courses approved by the department which are
1453	related to property and casualty insurance sold to individuals
1454	and families for noncommercial purposes;
1455	(e) Completed at least 6 months of responsible insurance
1456	duties as a licensed and appointed service representative in
1457	property and casualty insurance sold to individuals and families
1458	for noncommercial purposes and 40 hours of classroom courses
1459	approved by the department related to property and casualty
1460	insurance sold to individuals and families for noncommercial
1461	purposes; or
1462	(f) For licensure as a personal lines agent, Completed at
1463	least 3 years of responsible duties as a licensed and appointed



1464 customer representative in property and casualty insurance sold 1465 to individuals and families for noncommercial purposes.

1466 (3) (2) If Where an applicant's qualifications as required 1467 under subsection (1) or subsection (2) in paragraph (1) (b) or 1468 paragraph (1)(c) are based in part upon the periods of 1469 employment in at responsible insurance duties prescribed 1470 therein, the applicant shall submit with the license application 1471 for license, on a form prescribed by the department, an the 1472 affidavit of his or her employer setting forth the period of 1473 such employment, that the employment same was substantially 1474 full-time, and giving a brief abstract of the nature of the 1475 duties performed by the applicant.

(4) (3) An individual who was or became qualified to sit for 1476 1477 an agent's, customer representative's, or adjuster's examination 1478 at or during the time he or she was employed by the department or office and who, while so employed, was employed in 1479 1480 responsible insurance duties as a full-time bona fide employee 1481 may shall be permitted to take an examination if application for 1482 such examination is made within 90 days after the date of 1483 termination of his or her employment with the department or 1484 office.

1485 (5) (4) Classroom and correspondence courses under 1486 subsections (1) and (2) subsection (1) must include instruction 1487 on the subject matter of unauthorized entities engaging in the 1488 business of insurance. The scope of the topic of unauthorized 1489 entities must shall include the Florida Nonprofit Multiple-1490 Employer Welfare Arrangement Act and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act, 29 U.S.C. ss. 1001 et seq., as it relates 1491 1492 to the provision of health insurance by employers and the

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1493	regulation thereof.
1494	(6) This section does not apply to an individual holding
1495	only a limited license for travel insurance, motor vehicle
1496	rental insurance, credit insurance, in-transit and storage
1497	personal property insurance, or portable electronics insurance.
1498	Section 24. Section 626.8411, Florida Statutes, is amended
1499	to read:
1500	626.8411 Application of Florida Insurance Code provisions
1501	to title insurance agents or agencies
1502	(1) The following provisions of part II $_{\overline{}}$ applicable to
1503	general lines agents or agencies $_{m{ au}}$ also apply to title insurance
1504	agents or agencies:
1505	(a) Section 626.734, relating to liability of certain
1506	agents.
1507	(b) Section 626.175, relating to temporary licenses.
1508	(b) (c) Section 626.747, relating to branch agencies.
1509	(c) Section 626.749, relating to place of business in
1510	residence.
1511	(d) Section 626.753, relating to sharing of commissions.
1512	(e) Section 626.754, relating to rights of agent following
1513	termination of appointment.
1514	(2) The following provisions of part I do not apply to
1515	title insurance agents or title insurance agencies:
1516	(a) Section 626.112(7), relating to licensing of insurance
1517	agencies.
1518	(b) Section 626.231, relating to eligibility for
1519	examination.
1520	(c) Section 626.572, relating to rebating, when allowed.
1521	(d) Section 626.172, relating to agent in full-time charge.

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1522 Section 25. Subsection (1) of section 626.8419, Florida 1523 Statutes, is amended to read:

626.8419 Appointment of title insurance agency.-

(1) The title insurer engaging or employing the title insurance agency must file with the department, on printed forms furnished by the department, an application certifying that the proposed title insurance agency meets all of the following requirements:

(a) The agency must have obtained a fidelity bond in an amount, not less than \$50,000, acceptable to the insurer appointing the agency. If a fidelity bond is unavailable generally, the department must adopt rules for alternative methods to comply with this paragraph.

(b) The agency must have obtained errors and omissions insurance in an amount acceptable to the insurer appointing the agency. The amount of the coverage may not be less than \$250,000 per claim and an aggregate limit with a deductible no greater than \$10,000. If errors and omissions insurance is unavailable generally, the department must adopt rules for alternative methods to comply with this paragraph.

1542 (c) Notwithstanding s. 626.8418(2), the agency must have 1543 obtained a surety bond in an amount not less than \$35,000 made 1544 payable to the title insurer or title insurers appointing the 1545 agency. The surety bond must be for the benefit of any 1546 appointing title insurer damaged by a violation by the title 1547 insurance agency of its contract with the appointing title 1548 insurer. If the surety bond is payable to multiple title 1549 insurers, the surety bond must provide that each title insurer is to be notified in the event a claim is made upon the surety 1550

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1551	bond or the bond is terminated.
1552	(d) The surety bond must remain in effect and unimpaired as
1553	long as the agency is appointed by a title insurer. The agency
1554	must provide written proof to the appointing title insurer or
1555	insurers on an annual basis evidencing that the surety bond is
1556	still in effect and unimpaired.
1557	(e) A title insurer may not provide the surety bond
1558	directly or indirectly on behalf of the agency.
1559	Section 26. Section 626.8548, Florida Statutes, is created
1560	to read:
1561	626.8548 "All-lines adjuster" defined.—An "all-lines
1562	adjuster" is a person who is self-employed or employed by an
1563	insurer, a wholly owned subsidiary of an insurer, or an
1564	independent adjusting firm or other independent adjuster, and
1565	who undertakes on behalf of an insurer or other insurers under
1566	common control or ownership to ascertain and determine the
1567	amount of any claim, loss, or damage payable under an insurance
1568	contract or undertakes to effect settlement of such claim, loss,
1569	or damage. The term does not apply to life insurance or annuity
1570	contracts.
1571	Section 27. Section 626.855, Florida Statutes, is amended
1572	to read:
1573	626.855 "Independent adjuster" definedAn "independent
1574	adjuster" <u>means a</u> is any person <u>licensed as an all-lines</u>
1575	adjuster who is self-appointed self-employed or appointed and is
1576	associated with or employed by an independent adjusting firm or
1577	other independent adjuster, and who undertakes on behalf of an
1578	insurer to ascertain and determine the amount of any claim,
1579	loss, or damage payable under an insurance contract or

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1580 undertakes to effect settlement of such claim, loss, or damage. Section 28. Section 626.856, Florida Statutes, is amended 1581 1582 to read: 1583 626.856 "Company employee adjuster" defined.-A "company 1584 employee adjuster" means is a person licensed as an all-lines 1585 adjuster who is appointed and employed on an insurer's staff of adjusters or a wholly owned subsidiary of the insurer, and who 1586 1587 undertakes on behalf of such insurer or other insurers under 1588 common control or ownership to ascertain and determine the 1589 amount of any claim, loss, or damage payable under a contract of 1590 insurance, or undertakes to effect settlement of such claim, 1591 loss, or damage. 1592 Section 29. Section 626.858, Florida Statutes, is repealed. 1593 Section 30. Section 626.8584, Florida Statutes, is amended 1594 to read: 1595 626.8584 "Nonresident all-lines independent adjuster" 1596 defined.-A "nonresident all-lines independent adjuster" means is 1597 a person who: 1598 (1) Is not a resident of this state; 1599 (2) Is a currently licensed as an independent adjuster in 1600 his or her state of residence for all lines of insurance except 1601 life and annuities the type or kinds of insurance for which the 1602 licensee intends to adjust claims in this state or, if a 1603 resident of a state that does not license such independent 1604 adjusters, meets the qualifications has passed the department's 1605 adjuster examination as prescribed in s. 626.8734(1)(b); and 1606 (3) Is licensed as an all-lines adjuster and self-appointed or appointed and a self-employed independent adjuster or 1607 associated with or employed by an independent adjusting firm or 1608

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1609	other independent adjuster, by an insurer admitted to do
1610	business in this state or a wholly-owned subsidiary of an
1611	insurer admitted to do business in this state, or by other
1612	insurers under the common control or ownership of such insurer.
1613	Section 31. Section 626.863, Florida Statutes, is amended
1614	to read:
1615	626.863 <u>Claims referrals to</u> Licensed independent adjusters
1616	required; insurers' responsibility
1617	(1) An insurer <u>may</u> shall not knowingly refer any claim or
1618	loss for adjustment in this state to any person purporting to be
1619	or acting as an independent adjuster unless the person is
1620	currently licensed as an all-lines adjuster and appointed as an
1621	independent adjuster under this code.
1622	(2) Before referring any claim or loss, the insurer shall
1623	ascertain from the department whether the proposed independent
1624	adjuster is currently licensed <u>as an all-lines adjuster</u> and
1625	appointed as <u>an independent adjuster</u> such . Having once
1626	ascertained that a particular person is so licensed and
1627	appointed, the insurer may assume that he or she will continue
1628	to be so licensed and appointed until the insurer has knowledge,
1629	or receives information from the department, to the contrary.
1630	(3) This section does not apply to catastrophe or emergency
1631	adjusters as provided for in this part.
1632	Section 32. Section 626.864, Florida Statutes, is amended
1633	to read:
1634	626.864 Adjuster license types
1635	(1) A qualified individual may be licensed and appointed as
1636	either:
1637	(a) A public adjuster; <u>or</u>
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1638	(b) An <u>all-lines</u> independent adjuster ; or
1639	(c) A company employee adjuster.
1640	(2) The same individual <u>may</u> shall not be concurrently
1641	<u>licensed</u> appointed as a public adjuster and an all-lines
1642	adjuster to more than one of the adjuster types referred to in
1643	subsection (1).
1644	(3) An all-lines adjuster may be appointed as an
1645	independent adjuster or company employee adjuster, but not both
1646	concurrently.
1647	Section 33. Subsection (1) of section 626.865, Florida
1648	Statutes, is amended to read:
1649	626.865 Public adjuster's qualifications, bond
1650	(1) The department shall issue a license to an applicant
1651	for a public adjuster's license upon determining that the
1652	applicant has paid the applicable fees specified in s. 624.501
1653	and possesses the following qualifications:
1654	(a) Is a natural person at least 18 years of age.
1655	(b) Is a United States citizen or legal alien who possesses
1656	work authorization from the United States Bureau of Citizenship
1657	and Immigration Services and a bona fide resident of this state.
1658	(c) Is trustworthy and has such business reputation as
1659	would reasonably assure that the applicant will conduct his or
1660	her business as insurance adjuster fairly and in good faith and
1661	without detriment to the public.
1662	(d) Has had sufficient experience, training, or instruction
1663	concerning the adjusting of damages or losses under insurance
1664	contracts, other than life and annuity contracts, is
1665	sufficiently informed as to the terms and effects of the
1666	provisions of those types of insurance contracts, and possesses

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1667	adequate knowledge of the laws of this state relating to such
1668	contracts as to enable and qualify him or her to engage in the
1669	business of insurance adjuster fairly and without injury to the
1670	public or any member thereof with whom the applicant may have
1671	business as a public adjuster, or has been licensed and employed
1672	as a resident insurance company adjuster or independent adjuster
1673	in this state on a continual basis for the past year.
1674	(e) Is licensed as a public adjuster apprentice under s.
1675	626.8651 and complies with the requirements of that license
1676	throughout the licensure period.
1677	Section 34. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and subsection
1678	(7) of section 626.8651, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
1679	626.8651 Public adjuster apprentice license;
1680	qualifications
1681	(1) The department shall issue a license as a public
1682	adjuster apprentice to an applicant who is:
1683	(b) A United States citizen or legal alien who possesses
1684	work authorization from the United States Bureau of Citizenship
1685	and Immigration Services and is a resident of this state.
1686	(7) An appointing public adjusting firm may not maintain
1687	more than 12 public adjuster apprentices simultaneously.
1688	However, a supervising public adjuster may not be responsible
1689	for more than three public adjuster apprentices simultaneously
1690	and shall be accountable for the acts of all public adjuster
1691	apprentices which are related to transacting business as a
1692	public adjuster apprentice. This subsection does not apply to a
1693	public adjusting firm that adjusts claims primarily for
1694	commercial entities with operations in more than one state and
1695	that does not directly or indirectly perform adjusting services
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1696 for insurers or individual homeowners.

1697 Section 35. Section 626.866, Florida Statutes, is amended 1698 to read:

1699 626.866 <u>All-lines adjuster</u> Independent adjuster's qualifications.—The department shall issue a license to an applicant for an <u>all-lines adjuster</u> independent adjuster's license to an applicant upon determining that the applicable license fee specified in s. 624.501 has been paid and that the applicant possesses the following qualifications:

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(1) Is a natural person at least 18 years of age.

(2) Is a United States citizen or legal alien who possesses
work authorization from the United States Bureau of Citizenship
and Immigration Services and a bona fide resident of this state.

(3) Is trustworthy and has such business reputation as would reasonably assure that the applicant will conduct his or her business as insurance adjuster fairly and in good faith and without detriment to the public.

1713 (4) Has had sufficient experience, training, or instruction 1714 concerning the adjusting of damage or loss under insurance 1715 contracts, other than life and annuity contracts, is 1716 sufficiently informed as to the terms and the effects of the 1717 provisions of such types of contracts, and possesses adequate 1718 knowledge of the insurance laws of this state relating to such 1719 contracts as to enable and qualify him or her to engage in the 1720 business of insurance adjuster fairly and without injury to the 1721 public or any member thereof with whom he or she may have 1722 relations as an insurance adjuster and to adjust all claims in 1723 accordance with the policy or contract and the insurance laws of 1724 this state.



1725	(5) Has passed any required written examination <u>or has met</u>
1726	one of the exemptions prescribed under s. 626.221.
1727	Section 36. Section 626.867, Florida Statutes, is repealed.
1728	Section 37. Section 626.869, Florida Statutes, is amended
1729	to read:
1730	626.869 License, adjusters; continuing education
1731	(1) <u>Having</u> An applicant for a license as an <u>all-lines</u>
1732	adjuster <u>qualifies the licensee to adjust</u> may qualify and his or
1733	her license when issued may cover adjusting in any one of the
1734	following classes of insurance:
1735	(a) all lines of insurance except life and annuities.
1736	(b) Motor vehicle physical damage insurance.
1737	(c) Property and casualty insurance.
1738	(d) Workers' compensation insurance.
1739	(c) Health insurance.
1740	
1741	No examination on workers' compensation insurance or health
1742	insurance shall be required for public adjusters.
1743	(2) All individuals who on October 1, 1990, hold an
1744	adjuster's license and appointment limited to fire and allied
1745	lines, including marine or casualty or boiler and machinery, may
1746	remain licensed and appointed under the limited license and may
1747	renew their appointment, but <u>a</u> no license or appointment <u>that</u>
1748	which has been terminated, not renewed, suspended, or revoked
1749	may not shall be reinstated, and no new or additional licenses
1750	or appointments <u>may not</u> shall be issued.
1751	(3) All individuals who on October 1, 2012, hold an
1752	adjuster's license and appointment limited to motor vehicle
1753	physical damage and mechanical breakdown, property and casualty,

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1754 workers' compensation, or health insurance may remain licensed 1755 and appointed under such limited license and may renew their 1756 appointment, but a license that has been terminated, suspended, 1757 or revoked may not be reinstated, and new or additional licenses 1758 may not be issued. The applicant's application for license shall 1759 specify which of the foregoing classes of business the 1760 application for license is to cover.

1761 (4) (a) An Any individual holding a license as a public 1762 adjuster or an all-lines a company employee adjuster must complete all continuing education requirements as specified in 1763 1764 s. 626.2815. or independent adjuster for 24 consecutive months 1765 or longer must, beginning in his or her birth month and every 2 1766 years thereafter, have completed 24 hours of courses, 2 hours of 1767 which relate to ethics, in subjects designed to inform the 1768 licensee regarding the current insurance laws of this state, so 1769 as to enable him or her to engage in business as an insurance 1770 adjuster fairly and without injury to the public and to adjust 1771 all claims in accordance with the policy or contract and the 1772 laws of this state.

1773 (b) Any individual holding a license as a public adjuster for 24 consecutive months or longer, beginning in his or her 1774 1775 birth month and every 2 years thereafter, must have completed 24 hours of courses, 2 hours of which relate to ethics, in subjects 1776 1777 designed to inform the licensee regarding the current laws of 1778 this state pertaining to all lines of insurance other than life 1779 and annuities, the current laws of this state pertaining to the 1780 duties and responsibilities of public adjusters as set forth in 1781 this part, and the current rules of the department applicable to public adjusters and standard or representative policy forms 1782



1783 used by insurers, other than forms for life insurance and 1784 annuities, so as to enable him or her to engage in business as 1785 an adjuster fairly and without injury to the public and to 1786 adjust all claims in accordance with the policy or contract and 1787 laws of this state. In order to receive credit for continuing 1788 education courses, public adjusters must take courses that are specifically designed for public adjusters and approved by the 1789 1790 department, provided, however, no continuing education course shall be required for public adjusters for workers' compensation 1791 1792 insurance or health insurance. 1793 (c) The department shall adopt rules necessary to implement and administer the continuing education requirements of this 1794 1795 subsection. For good cause shown, the department may grant an

1796 extension of time during which the requirements imposed by this 1797 section may be completed, but such extension of time may not 1798 exceed 1 year.

1799 (d) A nonresident public adjuster must complete the continuing education requirements provided by this section; 1800 1801 provided, a nonresident public adjuster may meet the 1802 requirements of this section if the continuing education 1803 requirements of the nonresident public adjuster's home state are 1804 determined to be substantially comparable to the requirements of 1805 this state's continuing education requirements and if the 1806 resident's state recognizes reciprocity with this state's 1807 continuing education requirements. A nonresident public adjuster 1808 whose home state does not have such continuing education 1809 requirements for adjusters, and who is not licensed as a nonresident adjuster in a state that has continuing education 1810 requirements and reciprocates with this state, must meet the 1811

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1812	continuing education requirements of this section.
1813	(5) The regulation of continuing education for licensees,
1814	course providers, instructors, school officials, and monitor
1815	groups shall be as provided for in s. 626.2816.
1816	Section 38. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section
1817	626.8697, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
1818	626.8697 Grounds for refusal, suspension, or revocation of
1819	adjusting firm license
1820	(2) The department may, in its discretion, deny, suspend,
1821	revoke, or refuse to continue the license of any adjusting firm
1822	if it finds that any of the following applicable grounds exist
1823	with respect to the firm or any owner, partner, manager,
1824	director, officer, or other person who is otherwise involved in
1825	the operation of the firm:
1826	(c) Violation of <u>an</u> any order or rule of the <u>department,</u>
1827	office <u>,</u> or commission.
1828	Section 39. Subsections (1) and (5) of section 626.872,
1829	Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
1830	626.872 Temporary license
1831	(1) The department may, in its discretion, issue a
1832	temporary license as an <u>all-lines</u> independent adjuster or as a
1833	company employee adjuster, subject to the following conditions:
1834	(a) The applicant must be an employee of an adjuster
1835	currently licensed by the department, an employee of an
1836	authorized insurer, or an employee of an established adjusting
1837	firm or corporation <u>who</u> which is supervised by a currently
1838	licensed <u>all-lines</u> independent adjuster.
1839	(b) The application must be accompanied by a certificate of
1840	employment and a report as to the applicant's integrity and

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1841 moral character on a form prescribed by the department and 1842 executed by the employer.

1843 (b) (c) The applicant must be a natural person of at least 1844 18 years of age, must be a bona fide resident of this state, 1845 must be trustworthy, and must have <u>a</u> such business reputation 1846 <u>that as would reasonably ensure</u> assure that the applicant will 1847 conduct his or her business as an adjuster fairly and in good 1848 faith and without detriment to the public.

1849 <u>(c) (d)</u> The applicant's employer is responsible for the 1850 adjustment acts of <u>the temporary</u> any licensee <u>under this</u> 1851 <u>section</u>.

1852(d) (e)The applicable license fee specified must be paid1853before issuance of the temporary license.

1854 <u>(e) (f)</u> The temporary license <u>is shall be</u> effective for a 1855 period of 1 year, but <u>is</u> subject to earlier termination at the 1856 request of the employer, or if the licensee fails to take an 1857 examination as an <u>all-lines</u> independent adjuster or company 1858 employee adjuster within 6 months after issuance of the 1859 temporary license, or if <u>the temporary license is</u> suspended or 1860 revoked by the department.

1861 (5) The department <u>may</u> shall not issue a temporary license 1862 as an <u>all-lines</u> independent adjuster or as a company employee 1863 adjuster to <u>an</u> any individual who has ever held such a license 1864 in this state.

1865Section 40. Section 626.873, Florida Statutes, is repealed.1866Section 41. Paragraph (e) of subsection (1) and subsection1867(2) of section 626.8732, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1868 626.8732 Nonresident public adjuster's qualifications, 1869 bond.-



(1) The department shall, upon application therefor, issue a license to an applicant for a nonresident public adjuster's license upon determining that the applicant has paid the applicable license fees required under s. 624.501 and:

1874 (e) Has been licensed and employed as a public adjuster in 1875 the applicant's state of residence on a continual basis for the 1876 past year 3 years, or, if the applicant's state of residence 1877 does not issue licenses to individuals who act as public 1878 adjusters, the applicant has been licensed and employed as a 1879 resident insurance company or independent adjuster, insurance 1880 agent, insurance broker, or other insurance representative in 1881 his or her state of residence or any other state on a continual 1882 basis for the past year 3 years. This paragraph does not apply 1883 to individuals who are licensed to transact only life insurance 1884 and annuity business.

1885 (2) The applicant shall furnish the following with his or 1886 her application:

1887 (a) A complete set of his or her fingerprints. The 1888 applicant's fingerprints must be certified by an authorized law 1889 enforcement officer. The department may not authorize an 1890 applicant to take the required examination or issue a 1891 nonresident public adjuster's license to the applicant until the 1892 department has received a report from the Florida Department of 1893 Law Enforcement and the Federal Bureau of Investigation relative 1894 to the existence or nonexistence of a criminal history report 1895 based on the applicant's fingerprints.

(b) If currently licensed as a resident public adjuster in the applicant's state of residence, a certificate or letter of authorization from the licensing authority of the applicant's



1899 state of residence, stating that the applicant holds a current 1900 or comparable license to act as a public adjuster and has held 1901 the license continuously for the past year 3 years. The 1902 certificate or letter of authorization must be signed by the 1903 insurance commissioner or his or her deputy or the appropriate 1904 licensing official and must disclose whether the adjuster has 1905 ever had any license or eligibility to hold any license 1906 declined, denied, suspended, revoked, or placed on probation or 1907 whether an administrative fine or penalty has been levied 1908 against the adjuster and, if so, the reason for the action.

1909 (c) If the applicant's state of residence does not require 1910 licensure as a public adjuster and the applicant has been 1911 licensed as a resident insurance adjuster, agent, broker, or 1912 other insurance representative in his or her state of residence 1913 or any other state, a certificate or letter of authorization from the licensing authority stating that the applicant holds or 1914 1915 has held a license to act as such an insurance adjuster, agent, 1916 or other insurance representative and has held the license 1917 continuously for the past year 3 years. The certificate or 1918 letter of authorization must be signed by the insurance 1919 commissioner or his or her deputy or the appropriate licensing 1920 official and must disclose whether or not the adjuster, agent, 1921 or other insurance representative has ever had any license or 1922 eligibility to hold any license declined, denied, suspended, 1923 revoked, or placed on probation or whether an administrative 1924 fine or penalty has been levied against the adjuster and, if so, 1925 the reason for the action.

1926 Section 42. Section 626.8734, Florida Statutes, is amended 1927 to read:



1928626.8734Nonresident all-lines adjuster license1929independent adjuster's qualifications.-

(1) The department shall, upon application therefor, issue
a license to an applicant for a nonresident <u>all-lines adjuster</u>
independent adjuster's license upon determining that the
applicant has paid the applicable license fees required under s.
624.501 and:

1935

(a) Is a natural person at least 18 years of age.

(b) Has passed to the satisfaction of the department a written Florida <u>all-lines adjuster</u> independent adjuster's examination of the scope prescribed in s. 626.241(6); however, the requirement for the examination does not apply to any of the following:

1941 1. An applicant who is licensed as <u>an all-lines</u> a resident 1942 independent adjuster in his or her <u>home</u> state <u>if</u> of residence 1943 when that state <u>has entered into</u> requires the passing of a 1944 written examination in order to obtain the license and a 1945 reciprocal agreement with the appropriate official of that state 1946 has been entered into by the department; or

1947 2. An applicant who is licensed as a nonresident <u>all-lines</u> 1948 <u>independent</u> adjuster in a state other than his or her <u>home</u> state 1949 of residence when the state of licensure requires the passing of 1950 a written examination in order to obtain the license and a 1951 reciprocal agreement with the appropriate official of the state 1952 of licensure has been entered into <u>with</u> by the department.

(c) Is <u>licensed as an all-lines adjuster and is self</u>
appointed, or appointed and employed by an independent adjusting
firm or other independent adjuster, or is an employee of an
insurer admitted to do business in this state, a wholly owned

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1957 subsidiary of an insurer admitted to business in this state, or 1958 other insurers under the common control or ownership of such 1959 insurers self-employed or associated with or employed by an 1960 independent adjusting firm or other independent adjuster. 1961 Applicants licensed as nonresident all-lines independent 1962 adjusters under this section must be appointed as an independent 1963 adjuster or company employee adjuster such in accordance with 1964 the provisions of ss. 626.112 and 626.451. Appointment fees as 1965 in the amount specified in s. 624.501 must be paid to the 1966 department in advance. The appointment of a nonresident 1967 independent adjuster continues shall continue in force until 1968 suspended, revoked, or otherwise terminated, but is subject to 1969 biennial renewal or continuation by the licensee in accordance 1970 with procedures prescribed in s. 626.381 for licensees in 1971 general.

(d) Is trustworthy and has such business reputation as would reasonably <u>ensure</u> assure that he or she will conduct his or her business as a nonresident <u>all-lines</u> <u>independent</u> adjuster fairly and in good faith and without detriment to the public.

1976 (e) Has had sufficient experience, training, or instruction 1977 concerning the adjusting of damages or losses under insurance contracts, other than life and annuity contracts; is 1978 1979 sufficiently informed as to the terms and effects of the 1980 provisions of those types of insurance contracts; and possesses 1981 adequate knowledge of the laws of this state relating to such 1982 contracts as to enable and qualify him or her to engage in the 1983 business of insurance adjuster fairly and without injury to the 1984 public or any member thereof with whom he or she may have 1985 business as an all-lines independent adjuster.

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1986 (2) The applicant <u>must</u> shall furnish the following with his 1987 or her application:

(a) A complete set of his or her fingerprints. The
applicant's fingerprints must be certified by an authorized law
enforcement officer.

1991 (b) If currently licensed as an all-lines a resident 1992 independent adjuster in the applicant's home state of residence, a certificate or letter of authorization from the licensing 1993 1994 authority of the applicant's home state of residence, stating 1995 that the applicant holds a current license to act as an all 1996 lines independent adjuster. The Such certificate or letter of 1997 authorization must be signed by the insurance commissioner, or his or her deputy or the appropriate licensing official, and 1998 1999 must disclose whether the adjuster has ever had a any license or 2000 eligibility to hold any license declined, denied, suspended, 2001 revoked, or placed on probation or whether an administrative 2002 fine or penalty has been levied against the adjuster and, if so, the reason for the action. Such certificate or letter is not 2003 2004 required if the nonresident applicant's licensing status can be 2005 verified through the Producer Database maintained by the 2006 National Association of Insurance Commissioners, its affiliates, 2007 or subsidiaries.

(c) If the applicant's <u>home</u> state of residence does not require licensure as an <u>all-lines</u> independent adjuster and the applicant has been licensed as a resident insurance adjuster, agent, broker, or other insurance representative in his <u>or her</u> <u>home</u> state of residence or any other state within the past 3 years, a certificate or letter of authorization from the licensing authority stating that the applicant holds or has held

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2015 a license to act as an insurance adjuster, agent, or other 2016 insurance representative. The certificate or letter of 2017 authorization must be signed by the insurance commissioner, or 2018 his or her deputy or the appropriate licensing official, and must disclose whether the adjuster, agent, or other insurance 2019 2020 representative has ever had a any license or eligibility to hold 2021 any license declined, denied, suspended, revoked, or placed on 2022 probation or whether an administrative fine or penalty has been 2023 levied against the adjuster and, if so, the reason for the 2024 action. Such certificate or letter is not required if the 2025 nonresident applicant's licensing status can be verified through 2026 the Producer Database maintained by the National Association of 2027 Insurance Commissioners, its affiliates, or subsidiaries.

2028 (3) The usual and customary records pertaining to 2029 transactions under the license of a nonresident all-lines 2030 independent adjuster must be retained for at least 3 years after 2031 completion of the adjustment and must be made available in this 2032 state to the department upon request. The failure of a 2033 nonresident all-lines independent adjuster to properly maintain 2034 records and make them available to the department upon request 2035 constitutes grounds for the immediate suspension of the license 2036 issued under this section.

(4) After licensure as a nonresident independent adjuster,
As a condition of doing business in this state <u>as a nonresident</u>
<u>independent adjuster</u>, the <u>appointee must</u> licensee must annually
on or before January 1, on a form prescribed by the department,
submit an affidavit <u>to the department</u> certifying that the
licensee is familiar with and understands the insurance laws and
administrative rules of this state and the provisions of the



2044 contracts negotiated or to be negotiated. Compliance with this 2045 filing requirement is a condition precedent to the issuance, 2046 continuation, reinstatement, or renewal of a nonresident 2047 independent adjuster's appointment.

2048 Section 43. Section 626.8736, Florida Statutes, is amended 2049 to read:

2050 626.8736 Nonresident independent or public adjusters; 2051 service of process.-

2052 (1) Each licensed nonresident independent or public 2053 adjuster or all-lines adjuster appointed as an independent 2054 adjuster shall appoint the Chief Financial Officer and his or 2055 her successors in office as his or her attorney to receive 2056 service of legal process issued against such the nonresident 2057 independent or public adjuster in this state, upon causes of 2058 action arising within this state out of transactions under his 2059 license and appointment. Service upon the Chief Financial 2060 Officer as attorney constitutes shall constitute effective legal 2061 service upon the nonresident independent or public adjuster.

(2) The appointment of the Chief Financial Officer for service of process <u>is</u> shall be irrevocable for as long as there could be any cause of action against the nonresident independent or public adjuster <u>or all-lines adjuster appointed as an</u> <u>independent adjuster</u> arising out of his or her insurance transactions in this state.

(3) Duplicate copies of legal process against the nonresident independent or public adjuster or all-lines adjuster appointed as an independent adjuster shall be served upon the Chief Financial Officer by a person competent to serve a summons.

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(4) Upon receiving the service, the Chief Financial Officer shall forthwith send one of the copies of the process, by registered mail with return receipt requested, to the defendant nonresident independent or public adjuster or all-lines adjuster appointed as an independent adjuster at his or her last address of record with the department.

(5) The Chief Financial Officer shall keep a record of the day and hour of service upon him or her of all legal process received under this section.

2082 Section 44. Subsection (1) of section 626.874, Florida 2083 Statutes, is amended to read:

626.874 Catastrophe or emergency adjusters.-

2085 (1) In the event of a catastrophe or emergency, the 2086 department may issue a license, for the purposes and under the 2087 conditions which it shall fix and for the period of emergency as 2088 it shall determine, to persons who are residents or nonresidents 2089 of this state, who are at least 18 years of age, who are United 2090 States citizens or legal aliens who possess work authorization 2091 from the United States Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration 2092 Services, and who are not licensed adjusters under this part but 2093 who have been designated and certified to it as qualified to act 2094 as adjusters by all-lines independent resident adjusters, or by 2095 an authorized insurer, or by a licensed general lines agent to 2096 adjust claims, losses, or damages under policies or contracts of 2097 insurance issued by such insurers. The fee for the license is 2098 shall be as provided in s. 624.501(12)(c).

2099 Section 45. Subsection (1) of section 626.875, Florida 2100 Statutes, is amended to read: 2101 626.875 Office and records.-

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2084



2102 (1) Each appointed Every licensed independent adjuster and every licensed public adjuster must shall have and maintain in 2103 2104 this state a place of business in this state which is accessible 2105 to the public and keep therein the usual and customary records 2106 pertaining to transactions under the license. This provision 2107 does shall not be deemed to prohibit maintenance of such an 2108 office in the home of the licensee. 2109 Section 46. Section 626.876, Florida Statutes, is amended

2109 Section 46. Section 626.876, Florida Statutes, is amended 2110 to read:

2111 626.876 Exclusive employment; public adjusters, independent 2112 adjusters.-

(1) <u>An</u> No individual licensed and appointed as a public adjuster <u>may not</u> shall be so employed during the same period by more than one public adjuster or public adjuster firm or corporation.

(2) <u>An</u> No individual licensed <u>as an all-lines adjuster</u> and
appointed as an independent adjuster <u>may not</u> shall be so
employed during the same period by more than one independent
adjuster or independent adjuster firm or corporation.

2121 Section 47. Subsection (2) of section 626.8796, Florida 2122 Statutes, is amended to read:

2123

626.8796 Public adjuster contracts; fraud statement.-

(2) A public adjuster contract relating to a property and casualty claim must contain the full name, permanent business address, and license number of the public adjuster; the full name of the public adjusting firm; and the insured's full name and street address, together with a brief description of the loss. The contract must state the percentage of compensation for the public adjuster's services; the type of claim, including an



2131 emergency claim, nonemergency claim, or supplemental claim; the 2132 signatures of the public adjuster and all named insureds; and the signature date. If all of the named insureds' signatures are 2133 2134 not available, the public adjuster must submit an affidavit 2135 signed by the available named insureds attesting that they have 2136 authority to enter into the contract and settle all claim issues 2137 on behalf of the named insureds. An unaltered copy of the 2138 executed contract must be remitted to the insurer within 30 days 2139 after execution. A public adjusting firm that adjusts claims 2140 primarily for commercial entities with operations in more than 2141 one state and that does not directly or indirectly perform 2142 adjusting services for insurers or individual homeowners is 2143 deemed to comply with the requirements of this subsection if, at 2144 the time a proof of loss is submitted, the public adjusting firm 2145 remits to the insurer an affidavit signed by the public adjuster 2146 or public adjuster apprentice that identifies: 2147 (a) The full name, permanent business address, and license 2148 number of the public adjuster or public adjuster apprentice. 2149 (b) The full name of the public adjusting firm. 2150 (c) The insured's full name and street address, together 2151 with a brief description of the loss. 2152 (d) An attestation that the compensation for public adjusting services will not exceed the limitations provided by 2153 2154 law. 2155 (e) The type of claim, including an emergency claim, 2156 nonemergency claim, or supplemental claim. 2157 Section 48. Subsections (5), (6), and (7) of section 2158 626.927, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 2159 626.927 Licensing of surplus lines agent.-

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2160 (5) The applicant must file and thereafter maintain the 2161 bond as required under s. 626.928.

2162 <u>(5)-(6)</u> Examinations as to surplus lines, as required under 2163 subsections (1) and (2), <u>are shall be</u> subject to the provisions 2164 of part I as applicable to applicants for licenses in general. 2165 No such examination shall be required as to persons who held a 2166 Florida surplus lines agent's license as of January 1, 1959, 2167 except when examinations subsequent to issuance of an initial 2168 license are provided for in general under part I.

2169 (6) (7) An Any individual who has been licensed by the 2170 department as a surplus lines agent as provided in this section 2171 may be subsequently appointed without additional written 2172 examination if his or her application for appointment is filed 2173 with the department within 48 months after next following the 2174 date of cancellation or expiration of the prior appointment. The 2175 department may, in its discretion, require an any individual to 2176 take and successfully pass an examination as for original issuance of license as a condition precedent to the 2177 2178 reinstatement or continuation of the licensee's current license 2179 or reinstatement or continuation of the licensee's appointment.

2180

Section 49. Section 626.928, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

2181Section 50. Section 626.933, Florida Statutes, is amended2182to read:

2183 626.933 Collection of tax and service fee.—If the tax or 2184 service fee payable by a surplus lines agent under the this 2185 Surplus Lines Law is not so paid within the time prescribed, it 2186 the same shall be recoverable in a suit brought by the 2187 department against the surplus lines agent and the surety or 2188 sureties on the bond filed by the surplus lines agent under s.



2189 626.928. The department may authorize the Florida Surplus Lines 2190 Service Office to file suit on its behalf. All costs and 2191 expenses incurred in a suit brought by the office which are not 2192 recoverable from the agent or surety shall be borne by the 2193 office.

2194 Section 51. Subsection (1) of section 626.935, Florida 2195 Statutes, is amended to read:

2196 626.935 Suspension, revocation, or refusal of surplus lines
2197 agent's license.-

(1) The department shall deny an application for, suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew the appointment of a surplus lines agent and all other licenses and appointments held by the licensee under this code, <u>on</u> upon any of the following grounds:

(a) Removal of the licensee's office from the licensee'sstate of residence.

(b) Removal of the accounts and records of his or her surplus lines business from this state or the licensee's state of residence during the period when such accounts and records are required to be maintained under s. 626.930.

(c) Closure of the licensee's office for a period of more than 30 consecutive days.

(d) Failure to make and file his or her affidavit orreports when due as required by s. 626.931.

(e) Failure to pay the tax or service fee on surplus lines
premiums, as provided for in the this Surplus Lines Law.

(f) Failure to maintain the bond as required by s. 626.928.
(f) G) Suspension, revocation, or refusal to renew or
continue the license or appointment as a general lines agent,
service representative, or managing general agent.

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(g) (h) Lack of qualifications as for an original surplus

2219 lines agent's license. 2220 (h) (i) Violation of this Surplus Lines Law. 2221 (i) (j) For any other applicable cause for which the license 2222 of a general lines agent could be suspended, revoked, or refused 2223 under s. 626.611 or s. 626.621. 2224 Section 52. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 2225 627.952, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 2226 627.952 Risk retention and purchasing group agents.-2227 (1) Any person offering, soliciting, selling, purchasing, 2228 administering, or otherwise servicing insurance contracts, 2229 certificates, or agreements for any purchasing group or risk 2230 retention group to any resident of this state, either directly 2231 or indirectly, by the use of mail, advertising, or other means of communication, shall obtain a license and appointment to act 2232 as a resident general lines agent, if a resident of this state, 2233 2234 or a nonresident general lines agent if not a resident. Any such 2235 person shall be subject to all requirements of the Florida 2236 Insurance Code. 2237 (b) Any person required to be licensed and appointed under 2238 by this subsection, in order to place business through Florida 2239 eligible surplus lines carriers, must shall, if a resident of 2240 this state, be licensed and appointed as a surplus lines agent. 2241 Any such person, If not a resident of this state, such person 2242 must shall be licensed and appointed as a surplus lines agent in 2243 her or his state of residence and shall file and thereafter 2244 maintain a fidelity bond in favor of the people of the State of 2245 Florida executed by a surety company admitted in this state and 2246 payable to the State of Florida; provided, however, any

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2247 activities carried out by such nonresident is pursuant to this 2248 part shall be limited to the provision of insurance for 2249 purchasing groups. The bond must shall be continuous in form and 2250 maintained in the amount of not less than \$50,000, aggregate 2251 liability set out in s. 626.928. The bond must shall remain in 2252 force and effect until the surety is released from liability by 2253 the department or until the bond is canceled by the surety. The 2254 surety may cancel the bond and be released from further 2255 liability thereunder upon 30 days' prior written notice to the 2256 department. The cancellation does shall not affect any liability 2257 incurred or accrued thereunder before the termination of the 30-2258 day period. Upon receipt of a notice of cancellation, the 2259 department shall immediately notify the agent.

2260 Section 53. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 635.051, 2261 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

2262 635.051 Licensing and appointment of mortgage guaranty 2263 insurance agents.-

2264 (1) Effective October 1, 2012, a person may not transact 2265 mortgage guaranty insurance unless licensed and appointed as a 2266 credit insurance agent in accordance with the applicable 2267 provisions of the insurance code. Mortgage guaranty licenses 2268 held by persons on October 1, 2012, shall be transferred to a 2269 credit insurance agent license. Persons who wish to obtain a new 2270 license identification card that reflects this change must 2271 submit the \$5 fee as prescribed in s. 624.501(15). Agents of 2272 mortgage guaranty insurers shall be licensed and appointed and 2273 shall be subject to the same qualifications and requirements applicable to general lines agents under the laws of this state, 2274 2275 except that:



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2276	(a) Particular preliminary specialized education or
2277	training is not required of an applicant for such an agent's
2278	license, and continuing education is not required for renewal of
2279	the agent's appointment if, as part of the application for
2280	license and appointment, the insurer guarantees that the
2281	applicant will receive the necessary training to enable him or
2282	her properly to hold himself or herself out to the public as a
2283	mortgage guaranty insurance agent and if the department, in its
2284	discretion, accepts such guaranty;
2285	(b) The agent's license and appointment shall be a limited
2286	license, limited to the handling of mortgage guaranty insurance
2287	only; and
2288	(c) An examination may be required of an applicant for such
2289	a license if the insurer fails to provide the guaranty described
2290	in paragraph (a).
2291	(2) Any general lines agent licensed under chapter 626 is
2292	qualified to represent a mortgage guaranty insurer without
2293	additional <u>licensure</u> examination.
2294	Section 54. Subsection (1) of section 648.34, Florida
2295	Statutes, is amended to read:
2296	648.34 Bail bond agents; qualifications
2297	(1) An application for licensure as a bail bond agent must
2298	be submitted on forms prescribed by the department. The
2299	application must include the applicant's full name; date of
2300	birth; social security number; residence, business, and mailing
2301	addresses; contact telephone numbers, including a business
2302	telephone number; and e-mail address.
2303	Section 55. Subsection (2) of section 648.38, Florida
2304	Statutes, is amended to read:



2305 648.38 Licensure examination for bail bond agents; time; 2306 place; fees; scope.-

(2) The department or a person designated by the department 2307 2308 shall provide mail written notice of the time and place of the 2309 examination to each applicant for licensure required to take an 2310 examination who will be eligible to take the examination as of 2311 the examination date. The notice shall be e-mailed so mailed, 2312 postage prepaid, and addressed to the applicant at the e-mail 2313 his or her address shown on his or her application for licensure 2314 or at such other address as requested by the applicant in 2315 writing filed with the department prior to the mailing of the 2316 notice. Notice shall be deemed given when so mailed.

2317 Section 56. Section 648.385, Florida Statutes, is amended 2318 to read:

2319 648.385 Continuing education required; application; 2320 exceptions; requirements; penalties.-

(1) The purpose of this section is to establish
requirements and standards for continuing education courses for
persons authorized to write bail bonds in this state.

(2) (a) Each person subject to the provisions of this
chapter must complete a minimum of 14 hours of continuing
education courses every 2 years as specified in s. 626.2815 in
courses approved by the department. Compliance with continuing
education requirements is a condition precedent to the issuance,
continuation, or renewal of any appointment subject to the
provisions of this chapter.

(b) A person teaching any approved course of instruction or
 2332 lecturing at any approved seminar and attending the entire
 2333 course or seminar shall qualify for the same number of classroom



2334 hours as would be granted to a person taking and successfully 2335 completing such course, seminar, or program. Credit shall be 2336 limited to the number of hours actually taught unless a person 2337 attends the entire course or seminar. 2338 (c) For good cause shown, the department may grant an extension of time during which the requirements imposed by this 2339 2340 section may be completed, but such extension of time may not 2341 exceed 1 year. 2342 (3) (a) Any bail-related course developed or sponsored by 2343 any authorized insurer or recognized bail bond agents' 2344 association, or any independent study program of instruction, 2345 subject to approval by the department, qualifies for the 2346 equivalency of the number of classroom hours assigned to such 2347 course by the department. However, unless otherwise provided in 2348 this section, continuing education credit may not be credited 2349 toward meeting the requirements of this section unless the 2350 course is provided by classroom instruction or results in a 2351 monitored examination. 2352 (b) Each person or entity sponsoring a course for 2353 continuing education credit must furnish, within 30 days after 2354 completion of the course, in a form satisfactory to the 2355 department or its designee, a written and certified roster 2356 showing the name and license number of all persons successfully 2357 completing such course and requesting credit, accompanied by the 2358 required fee. The department shall refuse to issue, continue, or 2359 renew the appointment of any bail bond agent who has not had the 2360 continuing education requirements certified unless the agent has 2361 been granted an extension by the department.

2362

Section 57. Section 648.421, Florida Statutes, is amended

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2363	to read:
2364	648.421 Notice of change of address or telephone number
2365	Each licensee under this chapter shall notify in writing the
2366	department, insurer, managing general agent, and the clerk of
2367	each court in which the licensee is registered within 10 working
2368	days after a change in the licensee's principal business address
2369	or telephone number. The licensee shall also notify the
2370	department within 10 working days after a change of the name,
2371	address, or telephone number of each agency or firm for which he
2372	or she writes bonds and any change in the licensee's name, home
2373	address, <u>e-mail address,</u> or telephone number.
2374	Section 58. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this
2375	act, this act shall take effect October 1, 2012.
2376	
2377	======================================
2378	And the title is amended as follows:
2379	Delete everything before the enacting clause
2380	and insert:
2381	A bill to be entitled
2382	An act relating to insurance agents and adjusters;
2383	amending s. 626.015, F.S.; revising the definitions of
2384	"adjuster" and "home state"; amending s. 626.0428,
2385	F.S.; revising provisions relating to who may bind
2386	insurance coverage; amending s. 626.171, F.S.;
2387	providing that an applicant is responsible for the
2388	information in an application even if completed by a
2389	third party; requiring an application to include a
2390	statement about the method used to meet certain
2391	requirements; amending s. 626.191, F.S.; revising
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2392 provisions relating to when an applicant may apply for 2393 a license after an initial application is denied by 2394 the Department of Financial Services; amending s. 2395 626.221, F.S.; revising provisions relating to license 2396 examinations; conforming provisions relating to all-2397 lines adjusters; deleting an exemption from 2398 examination for certain adjusters; amending s. 2399 626.231, F.S.; providing for submitting an application 2400 for examination on a designee's website; amending s. 2401 626.241, F.S.; revising the scope of the examination 2402 for an all-lines adjuster; amending s. 626.251, F.S.; 2403 providing for e-mailing notices of examinations; 2404 amending s. 626.281, F.S.; specifying how many times 2405 an applicant may take an examination during a year; 2406 amending s. 626.2815, F.S.; revising provisions 2407 relating to continuing education requirements; 2408 providing that persons on active military duty may 2409 seek a waiver; providing for an update course and the 2410 contents of such course; deleting requirements 2411 relating specifically to certain types of insurance; 2412 providing education requirements for bail bond agents 2413 and public adjusters; eliminating the continuing education advisory board; amending s. 626.292, F.S.; 2414 2415 conforming provisions to changes made by the act 2416 relating to all-lines adjusters; amending s. 626.311, 2417 F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act 2418 relating to limited licenses; amending s. 626.321, 2419 F.S.; revising provisions relating to limited 2420 licenses; prohibiting the future issuance of new



2421 limited licenses for motor vehicle physical damage and 2422 mechanical breakdown insurance; combining limited 2423 licenses relating to credit insurance; specifying 2424 events covered by crop hail and multiple-peril crop 2425 insurance; revising in-transit and storage personal 2426 property insurance to create a limited license for 2427 portable electronics insurance; amending s. 626.342, 2428 F.S.; clarifying that the prohibition relating to the 2429 furnishing of supplies to unlicensed agents applies to 2430 all unlicensed agents; amending s. 626.381, F.S.; 2431 revising provisions relating to the reporting of 2432 administrative actions; amending s. 626.536, F.S.; 2433 clarifying requirements for reporting administrative 2434 actions taken against a licensee; amending s. 626.551, 2435 F.S.; shortening the time within which a licensee must 2436 report to the department a change in certain 2437 information; authorizing the Department of Financial 2438 Services to adopt rules relating to notification of a 2439 change of address; amending s. 626.621, F.S.; adding 2440 failure to comply with child support requirements as 2441 grounds for action against a license; amending s. 2442 626.641, F.S.; clarifying provisions relating to the 2443 suspension or revocation of a license or appointment; 2444 amending s. 626.651, F.S.; revising provisions 2445 relating to the suspension or revocation of licenses; amending ss. 626.730 and 626.732, F.S.; revising 2446 2447 provisions relating to the purpose of the general lines and personal lines license and certain 2448 2449 requirements related to general lines and personal



2450 lines agents; conforming provisions to changes made by 2451 the act relating to limited licenses; amending s. 2452 626.8411, F.S.; revising requirements and exemptions 2453 relating to title insurance agents or agencies; 2454 amending s. 626.8419, F.S.; requiring title insurance 2455 agencies to obtain surety bonds payable to appointing 2456 title insurers under certain circumstances; providing 2457 that such surety bonds must require notification of 2458 title insurers under certain circumstances; requiring 2459 title insurance agencies to periodically provide 2460 certain evidence relating to surety bonds; restricting 2461 title insurers from providing surety bonds under 2462 certain circumstances; creating s. 626.8548, F.S.; 2463 defining the term "all-lines adjuster"; amending s. 2464 626.855, F.S.; revising the definition of "independent 2465 adjuster"; amending s. 626.856, F.S.; revising the 2466 definition of "company employee adjuster"; repealing 2467 s. 626.858, F.S., relating to defining "nonresident 2468 company employee adjuster"; amending s. 626.8584, 2469 F.S.; revising the definition of "nonresident all-2470 lines adjuster"; amending s. 626.863, F.S.; conforming 2471 provisions to changes made by the act relating to all-2472 lines adjusters; amending s. 626.864, F.S.; revising 2473 provisions relating to adjuster license types; 2474 amending s. 626.865, F.S.; deleting the requirement 2475 that an applicant for public adjuster be a resident of 2476 the state; requiring an applicant for public adjuster to be licensed as a public adjuster apprentice; 2477 2478 amending s. 626.8651, F.S.; deleting the requirement



2479 that an applicant for public adjuster apprentice be a 2480 resident of the state; providing that a limitation on 2481 the number of public adjuster apprentices does not 2482 apply to a public adjusting firm that adjusts claims 2483 exclusively for institutions that service or guarantee 2484 mortgages; amending s. 626.866, F.S.; conforming 2485 provisions to changes made by the act relating to all-2486 lines adjusters; repealing s. 626.867, F.S., relating 2487 to qualifications for company employee adjusters; 2488 amending s. 626.869, F.S.; revising provisions 2489 relating to an all-lines adjuster license; ceasing the 2490 issuance of certain adjuster licenses; revising 2491 continuing education requirements; amending s. 2492 626.8697, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the 2493 violation of rules resulting in the suspension or 2494 revocation of an adjuster's license; amending s. 2495 626.872, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made 2496 by the act relating to all-lines adjusters; repealing 2497 s. 626.873, F.S., relating to licensure for 2498 nonresident company employee adjusters; amending s. 2499 626.8732, F.S.; revising the requirements for 2500 nonresident public adjuster licensure; amending s. 2501 626.8734, F.S.; amending provisions relating to 2502 nonresident all-lines adjusters; providing for verifying an applicant's status through the National 2503 2504 Association of Insurance Commissioners' Producer 2505 Database; amending ss. 626.8736, 626.874, 626.875, and 2506 626.876, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made 2507 by the act relating to all-lines adjusters; amending

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2508 s. 626.8796, F.S.; requiring a public adjusting firm 2509 that adjusts claims exclusively for institutions that 2510 guarantee or service mortgages to provide an affidavit 2511 to an insurer with certain information; amending s. 2512 626.927, F.S.; deleting a requirement that a licensed 2513 surplus lines agent maintain a bond; repealing s. 2514 626.928, F.S., relating to a surplus lines agent's 2515 bond; amending ss. 626.933, 626.935, and 627.952, 2516 F.S.; conforming cross-references; amending s. 2517 635.051, F.S.; requiring persons transacting mortgage 2518 guaranty insurance to be licensed and appointed as a 2519 credit insurance agent; amending s. 648.34, F.S.; 2520 requiring application information for bail bond 2521 agents; amending s. 648.38, F.S.; revising the notice 2522 of examination requirements for bail bond agents; 2523 amending s. 648.385, F.S.; revising continuing 2524 education courses for bail bond agents, to conform to 2525 changes made by the act; amending s. 648.421, F.S.; 2526 requiring a bail bond agent to provide notification of 2527 a change in his or her e-mail address; providing 2528 effective dates.