Bill No. HB 725 (2012)

Amendment No.

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE	ACTION
ADOPTED	(Y/N)
ADOPTED AS AMENDED	(Y/N)
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION	(Y/N)
FAILED TO ADOPT	(Y/N)
WITHDRAWN	(Y/N)
OTHER	

Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Insurance & Banking

Subcommittee

Representative Hager offered the following:

Amendment (with title amendment)

Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert: Section 1. Paragraph (e) of subsection (27) of section 624.501, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

9 624.501 Filing, license, appointment, and miscellaneous 10 fees.—The department, commission, or office, as appropriate, 11 shall collect in advance, and persons so served shall pay to it 12 in advance, fees, licenses, and miscellaneous charges as 13 follows:

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(27) Title insurance agents:

15 (e) Title insurer and title insurance agency
16 administrative surcharge:

17 1. On or before January 30 of each calendar year, each 18 title insurer shall pay <u>an administrative surcharge of \$200.00</u> 19 to the office for each licensed title insurance agency appointed

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20 by the title insurer and for each <u>title insurer's</u> retail office 21 of the insurer <u>as of</u> on January 1 of that calendar year an 22 administrative surcharge of \$200.00.

23 2. On or before January 30 of each calendar year, each 24 licensed title insurance agency shall remit to the department an 25 administrative surcharge of \$200.00. The administrative 26 surcharge may be used solely to defray the costs to the 27 department and office for gathering and evaluating in their examination or audit of title insurance agencies and retail 28 29 offices of title insurers and to gather title insurance data 30 from title insurance agencies and insurers for statistical 31 purposes, which shall to be furnished to and used by the office 32 in its regulation of title insurance.

33 Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 624.505, Florida
34 Statutes, is amended to read:

35 624.505 County tax; determination; additional offices; 36 nonresident agents.-

37 The county tax imposed provided for under s. 624.501 (1)38 for as to an agent shall be paid by each insurer for each agent 39 only for the county where the agent resides, or if the such agent's place of business is not located in the a county where 40 41 the agent resides other than that of her or his residence, then 42 for the county in which the agent's wherein is located such 43 place of business is located. If an agent maintains an office or place of business in more than one county, the tax shall be paid 44 for her or him by each such insurer for each county wherein the 45 46 agent represents such insurer and has a place of business. If 47 When under this subsection an insurer is paying the required to 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM

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48	pay county tax for an agent for a county or counties other than
49	the agent's county of residence, the insurer <u>must</u> shall
50	designate the county or counties for which the taxes are paid.
51	Section 3. Subsections (1) and (7) of section 626.015,
52	Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
53	626.015 DefinitionsAs used in this part:
54	(1) "Adjuster" means a public adjuster as defined in s.
55	626.854, <u>a</u> public adjuster apprentice as defined in s. 626.8541,
56	<u>or an all-lines adjuster as defined in s. 626.8548</u> independent
57	adjuster as defined in s. 626.855, or company employee adjuster
58	as defined in s. 626.856.
59	(7) "Home state" means the District of Columbia and any
60	state or territory of the United States in which an insurance
61	agent <u>or adjuster</u> maintains his or her principal place of
62	residence or principal place of business and is licensed to act
63	as an insurance agent <u>or adjuster</u> .
64	Section 4. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 626.0428,
65	Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
66	626.0428 Agency personnel powers, duties, and
67	limitations
68	(2) <u>An</u> No employee of an agent or agency may <u>not</u> bind
69	insurance coverage unless licensed and appointed as <u>an</u> a general
70	lines agent or customer representative.
71	(3) <u>An</u> No employee of an agent or agency may <u>not</u> initiate
72	contact with any person for the purpose of soliciting insurance
73	unless licensed and appointed as <u>an</u> a general lines agent or
74	customer representative.
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Amendment No. 75 Section 5. Subsection (1) and paragraph (b) of subsection 76 (2) of section 626.171, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 77 626.171 Application for license as an agent, customer 78 representative, adjuster, service representative, managing 79 general agent, or reinsurance intermediary.-The department may shall not issue a license as agent, 80 (1)customer representative, adjuster, service representative, 81 82 managing general agent, or reinsurance intermediary to any 83 person except upon written application therefor filed with the 84 department it, meeting the qualifications for the license 85 applied for as determined by the department qualification 86 therefor, and payment in advance of all applicable fees. The Any 87 such application must shall be made under the oath of the applicant and be signed by the applicant. An applicant may 88 permit a third party to complete, submit, and sign an 89 90 application on the applicant's behalf, but is responsible for ensuring that the information on the application is true and 91 92 correct and is accountable for any misstatements or 93 misrepresentations. The department shall accept the uniform 94 application for nonresident agent licensing. The department may 95 adopt revised versions of the uniform application by rule. 96 (2)In the application, the applicant shall set forth: 97 A statement indicating the method the applicant used (b) or is using to meet any required prelicensing education, 98 knowledge, experience, or instructional requirements for the 99 type of license applied for. Proof that he or she has completed 100 101 or is in the process of completing any required prelicensing 102 course. 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM Page 4 of 86

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104	However, the application must contain a statement that an
105	applicant is not required to disclose his or her race or
106	ethnicity, gender, or native language, that he or she will not
107	be penalized for not doing so, and that the department will use
108	this information exclusively for research and statistical
109	purposes and to improve the quality and fairness of the
110	examinations.
111	Section 6. Section 626.191, Florida Statutes, is amended
112	to read:
113	626.191 Repeated applicationsThe failure of an applicant
114	to secure a license upon an application <u>does</u> shall not preclude
115	the applicant from applying again <u>. However</u> as many times as
116	desired , but the department <u>may shall</u> not <u>consider</u> give
117	consideration to or accept any further application by the same
118	applicant individual for a similar license dated or filed within
119	30 days <u>after</u> subsequent to the date the department denied the
120	last application, except as provided <u>under</u> in s. 626.281.
121	Section 7. Subsection (2) of section 626.221, Florida
122	Statutes, is amended to read:
123	626.221 Examination requirement; exemptions
124	(2) However, <u>an</u> no such examination <u>is not</u> shall be
125	necessary <u>for</u> in any of the following cases :
126	(a) An applicant for renewal of appointment as an agent,
127	customer representative, or adjuster, unless the department
128	determines that an examination is necessary to establish the
129	competence or trustworthiness of <u>the</u> such applicant.
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130 (b) An applicant for a limited license as agent for travel 131 insurance, motor vehicle rental personal accident insurance, 132 baggage and motor vehicle excess liability insurance, credit 133 life or disability insurance, credit insurance, credit property 134 insurance, in-transit and storage personal property insurance, 135 or portable electronics communications equipment property 136 insurance or communication equipment inland marine insurance 137 under s. 626.321.

(c) In the discretion of the department, an applicant for
reinstatement of license or appointment as an agent, customer
representative, company employee adjuster, or <u>all-lines</u>
independent adjuster whose license has been suspended within <u>the</u>
4 years <u>before</u> prior to the date of application or written
request for reinstatement.

An applicant who, within the 4 years before prior to 144 (d) application for license and appointment as an agent, customer 145 representative, or adjuster, was a full-time salaried employee 146 of the department who and had continuously been such an employee 147 148 with responsible insurance duties for at least not less than 2 149 continuous years and who had been a licensee within the 4 years 150 before prior to employment by the department with the same class 151 of license as that being applied for.

(e) <u>An applicant A person</u> who has been licensed <u>as an all-</u>
<u>lines adjuster</u> and appointed as an independent adjuster or
company employee adjuster as to all property, casualty, and
surety insurances may be licensed and appointed as a company
employee adjuster or independent adjuster, as to these kinds of
insurance, without additional written examination if an
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158 application for licensure is filed with the department within 48 159 months following the date of cancellation or expiration of the 160 prior appointment.

161 (f) A person who has been licensed as a company employee 162 adjuster or independent adjuster for motor vehicle, property and 163 casualty, workers' compensation, and health insurance may be 164 licensed as such an adjuster without additional written 165 examination if his or her application for licensure is filed 166 with the department within 48 months after cancellation or 167 expiration of the prior license.

168 <u>(f)(g)</u> An applicant for <u>a</u> temporary license, except as 169 <u>otherwise</u> provided in this code.

170 <u>(g)(h)</u> An applicant for a <u>license as a</u> life or health 171 <u>agent license</u> who has received the designation of chartered life 172 underwriter (CLU) from the American College of Life Underwriters 173 and who has been engaged in the insurance business within the 174 past 4 years, except that <u>the applicant</u> such an individual may 175 be examined on pertinent provisions of this code.

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

183 <u>(i)(j)</u> An applicant for license as a customer 184 representative who has earned the designation of Accredited 185 Advisor in Insurance (AAI) from the Insurance Institute of 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM

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186 America, the designation of Certified Insurance Counselor (CIC) 187 from the Society of Certified Insurance Service Counselors, the 188 designation of Accredited Customer Service Representative (ACSR) 189 from the Independent Insurance Agents of America, the 190 designation of Certified Professional Service Representative 191 (CPSR) from the National Foundation for Certified Professional Service Representatives, the designation of Certified Insurance 192 193 Service Representative (CISR) from the Society of Certified 194 Insurance Service Representatives, or the designation of Certified Insurance Representative (CIR) from the National 195 196 Association of Christian Catastrophe Insurance Adjusters. Also, 197 an applicant for license as a customer representative who has 198 earned an associate degree or bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university and has completed with at least 199 9 academic hours of property and casualty insurance curriculum, 200 or the equivalent, or has earned the designation of Certified 201 202 Customer Service Representative (CCSR) from the Florida 203 Association of Insurance Agents, or the designation of 204 Registered Customer Service Representative (RCSR) from a 205 regionally accredited postsecondary institution in this state, 206 or the designation of Professional Customer Service 207 Representative (PCSR) from the Professional Career Institute, 208 whose curriculum has been approved by the department and which 209 whose curriculum includes comprehensive analysis of basic 210 property and casualty lines of insurance and testing at least 211 equal to that of standard department testing for the customer 212 representative license. The department shall adopt rules establishing standards for the approval of curriculum. 213 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM Page 8 of 86

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Amendment No. 214 (j) (k) An applicant for license as a resident or 215 nonresident all-lines an independent or company employee 216 adjuster who has the designation of Accredited Claims Adjuster 217 (ACA) from a regionally accredited postsecondary institution in 218 this state, Professional Claims Adjuster (PCA) from the 219 Professional Career Institute, Professional Property Insurance Adjuster (PPIA) from the HurriClaim Training Academy, Certified 220 221 Adjuster (CA) from ALL LINES Training, or Certified Claims 222 Adjuster (CCA) from the Association of Property and Casualty 223 Claims Professionals whose curriculum has been approved by the 224 department and which whose curriculum includes comprehensive 225 analysis of basic property and casualty lines of insurance and 226 testing at least equal to that of standard department testing 227 for the all-lines adjuster license. The department shall adopt rules establishing standards for the approval of curriculum. 228

229 <u>(k) (1)</u> An applicant qualifying for a license transfer 230 under s. 626.292, if the applicant:

1. Has successfully completed the prelicensing examination requirements in the applicant's previous <u>home</u> state which are substantially equivalent to the examination requirements in this state, as determined by the department;

235 2. Has received the designation of chartered property and 236 casualty underwriter (CPCU) from the American Institute for 237 Property and Liability Underwriters and has been engaged in the 238 insurance business within the past 4 years if applying to 239 transfer a general lines agent license; or

3. Has received the designation of chartered life underwriter (CLU) from the American College of Life Underwriters 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM Page 9 of 86

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and has been engaged in the insurance business within the past 4 years τ if applying to transfer a life or health agent license.

244 <u>(1) (m)</u> An applicant for a <u>license as a</u> nonresident agent 245 license, if the applicant:

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;

251 2. Held a general lines agent license, life agent license,
252 or health agent license <u>before</u> prior to the time a written
253 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 life underwriter (CLU) from the American College of Life Underwriters and has been in the insurance business within the past 4 years, if an applicant for a nonresident license as a life agent or health agent.

264 Section 8. Subsection (2) of section 626.231, Florida 265 Statutes, is amended to read:

266

626.231 Eligibility; application for examination.-

267 (2) A person required to take an examination for a license
268 may be permitted to take an examination before prior to
269 submitting an application for licensure pursuant to s. 626.171
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270	by submitting an application for examination through the
271	department's Internet website <u>or the website of a person</u>
272	designated by the department to administer the examination. The
273	department may require In the application, the applicant to
274	provide the following information as part of the application
275	shall set forth:
276	(a) His or her full name, <u>date of birth</u> age , social
277	security number, <u>e-mail address,</u> residence address, business
278	address, and mailing address.
279	(b) The type of license <u>which</u> that the applicant intends
280	to apply for.
281	(c) The name of any required prelicensing course he or she
282	has completed or is in the process of completing.
283	(d) The method by which the applicant intends to qualify
284	for the type of license if other than by completing a
285	prelicensing course.
286	(e) The applicant's gender (male or female) .
287	(f) The applicant's native language.
288	(g) The highest level of education achieved by the
289	applicant.
290	(h) The applicant's race or ethnicity (African American,
291	white, American Indian, Asian, Hispanic, or other).
292	
293	However, the application form must contain a statement that an
294	applicant is not required to disclose his or her race or
295	ethnicity, gender, or native language, that he or she will not
296	be penalized for not doing so, and that the department will use
297	this information exclusively for research and statistical
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298 purposes and to improve the quality and fairness of the 299 examinations.

300 Section 9. Subsection (6) of section 626.241, Florida 301 Statutes, is amended to read:

302

626.241 Scope of examination.-

(6) In order to reflect the differences between adjusting claims for an insurer and adjusting claims for an insured, the department shall create an examination for applicants seeking licensure as a public adjuster and a separate examination for applicants seeking licensure as <u>an all-lines</u> a company employee adjuster or independent adjuster.

309 <u>(a)</u> Examinations given applicants for <u>a</u> license as an all-310 lines adjuster <u>must</u> shall cover adjusting in all lines of 311 insurance, other than life and annuity; or, in accordance with 312 the application for the license, the examination may be limited 313 to adjusting in:

314 (a) Automobile physical damage insurance;

315

(b) Property and casualty insurance;

316 (c) Workers' compensation insurance; or

317 (d) Health insurance.

318 (b) An No examination for workers' on worker's 319 compensation insurance or health insurance is not shall be 320 required for public adjusters.

321 Section 10. Subsection (1) of section 626.251, Florida 322 Statutes, is amended to read:

323

626.251 Time and place of examination; notice.-

(1) The department, or a person designated by the department, shall provide mail written notice of the time and 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM

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Amendment No. 326 place of the examination to each applicant for examination and 327 each applicant for license required to take an examination who 328 will be eligible to take the examination as of the examination 329 date. The notice shall be e-mailed so mailed, postage prepaid, 330 and addressed to the applicant at the e-mail his or her address 331 shown on the application for license or examination at such 332 other address as requested by the applicant in writing filed 333 with the department prior to the mailing of the notice. Notice 334 is shall be deemed given when so mailed.

335 Section 11. Section 626.281, Florida Statutes, is amended 336 to read:

337

345

626.281 Reexamination.-

338 (1) <u>An</u> Any applicant for license or applicant for 339 examination who has either:

340 (a) Taken an examination and failed to make a passing341 grade, 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,

346 may take additional examinations, after filing with the 347 department <u>or its designee</u> an application for reexamination 348 together with applicable fees. The failure of an applicant to 349 pass an examination<u>, or the failure</u> to appear for the 350 examination<u>, or to take or complete the examination does not 351 preclude the applicant from taking subsequent examinations.</u>

352 (2) Applicants may not take an examination for a license 353 type more than five times in a 12-month period. 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM Page 13 of 86

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Amendment No. 354 (3)(2) The department may require <u>an</u> any individual whose 355 license as an agent, customer representative, or adjuster has 356 expired or has been suspended to pass an examination <u>before</u> 357 prior to reinstating or relicensing the individual as to any 358 class of license. The examination fee <u>must shall</u> be paid <u>for as</u> 359 to each examination.

360 Section 12. Section 626.2815, Florida Statutes, is amended 361 to read:

362 626.2815 Continuing education required; application;
 363 exceptions; requirements; penalties.-

(1) The purpose of this section is to establish
requirements and standards for continuing education courses for
<u>individuals</u> persons licensed to solicit, or sell, or adjust
insurance in the state.

Except as otherwise provided in this section, the 368 (2) provisions of this section applies apply to individuals persons 369 370 licensed to engage in the sale of insurance or adjustment of 371 insurance claims in this state for all lines of insurance for 372 which an examination is required for licensing and to each 373 insurer, employer, or appointing entity, including, but not 374 limited to, those created or existing pursuant to s. 627.351. 375 The provisions of This section does shall not apply to an any 376 individual who holds person holding a license for the sale of 377 any line of insurance for which an examination is not required 378 by the laws of this state or who holds a, nor shall the 379 provisions of this section apply to any limited license as a 380 crop or hail and multiple-peril crop insurance agent as the department may exempt by rule. Licensees who are unable to 381 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM

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382 <u>comply with the continuing education requirements due to active</u> 383 <u>duty in the military may submit a written request for a waiver</u> 384 <u>to the department.</u>

(3) (a) Each <u>licensee</u> person subject to the provisions of this section must, except as set forth in paragraphs (b), (c), and (d), <u>and (f)</u>, 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.

391 (a) Each licensee person subject to the provisions of this 392 section must complete, as part of his or her required number of 393 continuing education hours, 3 hours of continuing education, 394 approved by the department, every 2 years on the subject matter 395 of ethics. Each licensed general lines agent and customer representative subject to this section must complete, as part of 396 397 his or her required number of continuing education hours, 1 hour of continuing education, approved by the department, every 2 398 399 years on the subject matter of premium discounts available on 400 property insurance policies based on various hurricane 401 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</u>
<u>education</u> every 2 years in intermediate or advanced-level
courses prescribed by this section or in other courses approved
by the department.

407 (c) A licensee who has been licensed for 25 years or more 408 and is a CLU or a CPCU or has a Bachelor of Science degree in 409 risk management or insurance with evidence of 18 or more 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM Page 15 of 86

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410 semester hours in upper-level insurance-related courses must 411 complete 10 hours of continuing education courses every 2 years 412 in courses prescribed by this section or in other courses 413 approved by the department.

An individual Any person who holds a license as a 414 (d) 415 customer representative, limited customer representative, title 416 agent, motor vehicle physical damage and mechanical breakdown 417 insurance agent, crop or hail and multiple-peril crop insurance 418 agent, or as an industrial fire insurance or burglary insurance 419 agent and who is not a licensed life or health insurance agent, 420 must shall be required to complete 10 hours of continuing 421 education courses every 2 years.

422 (e) An individual Any person who holds a license to solicit or sell life or health insurance and a license to 423 solicit or sell property, casualty, surety, or surplus lines 424 425 insurance must complete the continuing education requirements by 426 completing courses in life or health insurance for one-half of 427 the total hours required and courses in property, casualty, 428 surety, or surplus lines insurance for one-half of the total 429 hours required. However, a licensee who holds an industrial fire 430 or burglary insurance license and who is a licensed life or 431 health agent must shall be required to complete 4 hours of 432 continuing education courses every 2 years related to industrial 433 fire or burglary insurance and the remaining number of hours of 434 continuing education courses required related to life or health 435 insurance.

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436	(f) An individual subject to chapter 648 must complete a
437	minimum of 14 hours of continuing education courses every 2
438	years.
439	(g) Excess hours accumulated during any 2-year compliance
440	period may be carried forward to the next compliance period.
441	(h) An individual teaching an approved course of
442	instruction or lecturing at any approved seminar and attending
443	the entire course or seminar qualifies for the same number of
444	classroom hours as would be granted to a person taking and
445	successfully completing such course or seminar. Credit is
446	limited to the number of hours actually taught unless a person
447	attends the entire course or seminar. An individual who is an
448	official of or employed by a governmental entity in this state
449	and serves as a professor, instructor, or other position or
450	office, the duties and responsibilities of which are determined
451	by the department to require monitoring and review of insurance
452	laws or insurance regulations and practices, is exempt from this
453	section.
454	(4) (f) 1. Except as provided in subparagraph 2., Compliance
455	with continuing education requirements is a condition precedent
456	to the issuance, continuation, reinstatement, or renewal of any
457	appointment subject to this section. However:

458 <u>(a)2.a.</u> An appointing entity, except one that appoints 459 individuals who are employees or exclusive independent 460 contractors of the appointing entity, may not require, directly 461 or indirectly, as a condition of such appointment or the 462 continuation of such appointment, the taking of an approved

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463 course or program by any appointee or potential appointee <u>which</u>
464 that is not of the appointee's choosing.

465 (b)b. Any entity created or existing pursuant to s.
466 627.351 may require employees to take training of any type
467 relevant to their employment but may not require appointees who
468 are not employees to take any approved course or program unless
469 the course or program deals solely with the appointing entity's
470 internal procedures or products or with subjects substantially
471 unique to the appointing entity.

472 (g) A person teaching any approved course of instruction 473 or lecturing at any approved seminar and attending the entire 474 course or seminar shall qualify for the same number of classroom 475 hours as would be granted to a person taking and successfully completing such course, seminar, or program. Credit shall be 476 limited to the number of hours actually taught unless a person 477 478 attends the entire course or seminar. Any person who is an 479 official of or employed by any governmental entity in this state 480 and serves as a professor, instructor, or in any other position 481 or office the duties and responsibilities of which are 482 determined by the department to require monitoring and review of 483 insurance laws or insurance regulations and practices shall be 484 exempt from this section.

485 (h) Excess classroom hours accumulated during any 486 compliance period may be carried forward to the next compliance 487 period.

488 <u>(5)-(i)</u> For good cause shown, the department may grant an 489 extension of time during which the requirements <u>of</u> imposed by

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490 this section may be completed, but such extension of time may 491 not exceed 1 year.

492 (6) (j) A nonresident licensee who must complete continuing 493 education requirements in his or her home state may use the home 494 state requirements to also meet this state's continuing education requirements as well, if the licensee's resident's 495 496 home state recognizes reciprocity with this state's continuing 497 education requirements. A nonresident licensee whose home state 498 does not have a continuing education requirement but is licensed 499 for the same class of business in another state that has which 500 does have a continuing education requirement may comply with 501 this section by furnishing proof of compliance with the other 502 state's requirement if that state has a reciprocal agreement with this state relative to continuing education. A nonresident 503 504 licensee whose home state does not have such continuing 505 education requirements, and who is not licensed as a nonresident 506 licensee agent in a state that has continuing education 507 requirements and reciprocates with this state, must meet the 508 continuing education requirements of this state.

509 (7) (*k*) Any person who holds a license to solicit or sell 510 life insurance in this state must complete a minimum of 3 hours 511 in continuing education, approved by the department, on the 512 subject of suitability in annuity and life insurance 513 transactions. This requirement does not apply to an agent who 514 does not have any active life insurance or annuity contracts. In applying this exemption, the department may require the filing 515 of a certification attesting that the agent has not sold life 516 517 insurance or annuities during the continuing education 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM

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Amendment No. 518 compliance cycle in question and does not have any active life 519 insurance or annuity contracts. A licensee may use the hours 520 obtained under this paragraph to satisfy the requirement for 521 continuing education in ethics under paragraph (a).

522 (8)(4) The following courses may be completed in order to 523 meet the elective continuing education course requirements:

(a) Any part of the Life Underwriter Training Council LifeCourse Curriculum: 24 hours; Health Course: 12 hours.

(b) Any part of the American College "CLU" diplomacurriculum: 24 hours.

528 (c) Any part of the Insurance Institute of America's529 program in general insurance: 12 hours.

(d) Any part of the American Institute for Property and
Liability Underwriters' Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter
(CPCU) professional designation program: 24 hours.

(e) Any part of the Certified Insurance Counselor program:534 21 hours.

535 (f) Any part of the Accredited Advisor in Insurance: 21 536 hours.

(g) In the case of title agents, completion of the
Certified Land Closer (CLC) professional designation program and
receipt of the designation: 24 hours.

(h) In the case of title agents, completion of the
Certified Land Searcher (CLS) professional designation program
and receipt of the designation: 24 hours.

(i) Any insurance-related course <u>that</u> which is approved by the department and taught by an accredited college or university per credit hour granted: 12 hours.

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Amendment No. 546 Any course, including courses relating to agency (j) 547 management or errors and omissions, developed or sponsored by an 548 any authorized insurer or recognized agents' association or 549 insurance trade association or an any independent study program 550 of instruction, subject to approval by the department, qualifies 551 for the equivalency of the number of classroom hours assigned 552 thereto by the department. However, unless otherwise provided in 553 this section, continuing education hours may not be credited 554 toward meeting the requirements of this section unless the course is provided by classroom instruction or results in a 555 556 monitored examination. A monitored examination is not required 557 for:

558 1. An independent study program of instruction presented 559 through interactive, online technology that the department 560 determines has sufficient internal testing to validate the 561 student's full comprehension of the materials presented; or

562 2. An independent study program of instruction presented on paper or in printed material which that imposes a final 563 564 closed book examination that meets the requirements of the 565 department's rule for self-study courses. The examination may be 566 taken without a proctor if provided the student presents to the 567 provider a sworn affidavit certifying that the student did not 568 consult any written materials or receive outside assistance of 569 any kind or from any person, directly or indirectly, while taking the examination. If the student is an employee of an 570 agency or corporate entity, the student's supervisor or a 571 572 manager or owner of the agency or corporate entity must also sign the sworn affidavit. If the student is self-employed, a 573 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM

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574 sole proprietor, or a partner, or if the examination is administered online, the sworn affidavit must also be signed by a disinterested third party. The sworn affidavit must be received by the approved provider <u>before</u> prior to reporting continuing education credits to the department.

Amendment No.

579 <u>(9)(k)</u> Each person or entity sponsoring a course for 580 continuing education credit must furnish, within <u>15</u> 30 days 581 after completion of the course, in a form satisfactory to the 582 department or its designee, a written and certified roster 583 showing the name and license number of all persons successfully 584 completing such course and requesting credit, accompanied by the 585 required fee.

586 (10) (5) The department may immediately terminate or shall 587 refuse to renew the appointment of an any agent or adjuster who 588 has been notified by the department that who has not had his or 589 her continuing education requirements have not been certified, unless the agent or adjuster has been granted an extension or 590 591 waiver by the department. The department may not issue a new 592 appointment of the same or similar type, with any insurer, to a 593 licensee an agent who was denied a renewal appointment for 594 failing failure to complete continuing education as required 595 until the licensee agent completes his or her continuing 596 education requirement.

597 (6) (a) There is created an 11-member continuing education 598 advisory board to be appointed by the Chief Financial Officer. 599 Appointments shall be for terms of 4 years. The purpose of the 600 board is to advise the department in determining standards by 601 which courses may be evaluated and categorized as basic, 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM Page 22 of 86

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Amendment No. 602 intermediate, or advanced. The board shall submit 603 recommendations to the department of changes needed in such 604 criteria not less frequently than every 2 years. The department 605 shall require all approved course providers to submit courses 606 for approval to the department using the criteria. All 607 materials, brochures, and advertisements related to the approved 608 courses must specify the level assigned to the course. 609 (b) The board members shall be appointed as follows: 610 1. Seven members representing agents of which at least one 611 must be a representative from each of the following 612 organizations: the Florida Association of Insurance Agents; the Florida Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors; the 613 614 Professional Insurance Agents of Florida, Inc.; the Florida 615 Association of Health Underwriters; the Specialty Agents' Association; the Latin American Agents' Association; and the 616 617 National Association of Insurance Women. Such board members must 618 possess at least a bachelor's degree or higher from an 619 accredited college or university with major coursework in 620 insurance, risk management, or education or possess the 621 designation of CLU, CPCU, CHFC, CFP, AAI, or CIC. In addition, each member must possess 5 years of classroom instruction 62.2 623 experience or 5 years of experience in the development or design 624 of educational programs or 10 years of experience as a licensed 625 resident agent. Each organization may submit to the department a 626 list of recommendations for appointment. If one organization 627 does not submit a list of recommendations, the Chief Financial 628 Officer may select more than one recommended person from a list submitted by other eligible organizations. 629 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM Page 23 of 86

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Amendment No. 630 2. Two members representing insurance companies at least 631 one of whom must represent a Florida Domestic Company and one of 632 whom must represent the Florida Insurance Council. Such board 633 members must be employed within the training department of the insurance company. At least one such member must be a member of 634 635 the Society of Insurance Trainers and Educators. 636 3. One member representing the general public who is not 637 directly employed in the insurance industry. Such board member 638 must possess a minimum of a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited college or university with major coursework in 639 640 insurance, risk management, training, or education. 641 4. One member, appointed by the Chief Financial Officer, 642 who represents the department. (c) The members of the board shall serve at the pleasure 643 of the Chief Financial Officer. Each board member shall be 644 645 entitled to reimbursement for expenses pursuant to s. 112.061. 646 The board shall designate one member as chair. The board shall 647 meet at the call of the chair or the Chief Financial Officer. 648 (11) (7) The department may contract services relative to 649 the administration of the continuing education program to a 650 private entity. The contract shall be procured as a contract for 651 a contractual service pursuant to s. 287.057. 652 Section 13. Effective October 1, 2014, subsections (3) and (7) of section 626.2815, Florida Statutes, as amended by this 653 654 act, is amended to read: 655 626.2815 Continuing education requirements.-656 (3) Each licensee subject to this section must, except as set forth in paragraphs (b), (c), (d), and (f), complete a 7-hour 657 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM Page 24 of 86

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658	Amendment No.
	update course every 2 years which is specific to the license
659	held by the licensee. The course must be developed and offered
660	by providers and approved by the department. The content of the
661	course must address all lines of insurance for which examination
662	and license is required and include the following subject areas:
663	insurance law updates, ethics for insurance professionals,
664	disciplinary trends and case studies, industry trends, premium
665	discounts, determining suitability of products and services, and
666	other similar insurance-related topics the department determines
667	are relevant to legally and ethically carrying out the
668	responsibilities of the license granted. A licensee who holds
669	multiple insurance licenses must complete an update course that
670	is specific to at least one of the licenses held. Except as
671	otherwise specified, any remaining required hours of continuing
672	education are elective and may consist of any continuing
673	education course approved by the department or under this
674	section minimum of 24 hours of continuing education courses
675	every 2 years in basic or higher-level courses prescribed by
676	this section or in other courses approved by the department.
677	(a) Except as provided in paragraphs (b), (c), (d), and
678	(e), each licensee must also complete $17 \xrightarrow{3}$ hours of elective
679	continuing education <u>courses</u> , approved by the department, every
680	2 years on the subject matter of ethics. Each licensed general
681	lines agent and customer representative must complete 1 hour of
682	continuing education, approved by the department, every 2 years
683	on the subject matter of premium discounts available on property
684	insurance policies based on various hurricane mitigation options
685	and the means for obtaining the discounts.
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Amendment No.

(b) A licensee who has been licensed for 6 or more years
must <u>also</u> complete <u>a minimum of 13</u> 20 hours of <u>elective</u>
continuing education every 2 years <u>in intermediate or advanced</u>
level courses prescribed by this section or in other courses
approved by the 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 also complete a minimum of 3 10 hours of elective continuing education courses every 2 years in courses prescribed by this section or in other courses approved by the department.

698 (d) An individual who holds a license as a customer 699 representative, limited customer representative, title agent, 700 motor vehicle physical damage and mechanical breakdown insurance 701 agent, crop or hail and multiple-peril crop insurance agent, or 702 an industrial fire insurance or burglary insurance agent and who 703 is not a licensed life or health agent, must also complete a 704 minimum of 3 10 hours of continuing education courses every two 705 years.

(c) An individual who holds a license to solicit or sell 706 life or health insurance and a license to solicit or sell 707 708 property, casualty, surety, or surplus lines insurance must 709 complete courses in life or health insurance for one-half of the 710 total hours required and courses in property, casualty, surety, 711 or surplus lines insurance for one-half of the total hours required. However, a licensee who holds an industrial fire or 712 burglary insurance license and who is a licensed life or health 713 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM

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Amendment No. 714 agent must complete 4 hours of continuing education courses 715 every 2 years related to industrial fire or burglary insurance 716 and the remaining number of hours of continuing education 717 courses related to life or health insurance. 718 (e) An individual subject to chapter 648 must complete the 719 7-hour update course and a minimum of 7 hours of elective 720 continuing education courses every 2 years. 721 (f) Elective continuing education courses for public 722 adjusters must be specifically designed for public adjusters and

723 <u>approved by the department. Notwithstanding this subsection,</u> 724 <u>public adjusters for workers' compensation insurance or health</u> 725 <u>insurance are not required to take continuing education courses</u> 726 pursuant to this section.

727 (f) An individual subject to chapter 648 must complete a 728 minimum of 14 hours of continuing education courses every 2 729 years.

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

732 (h) An individual teaching an approved course of 733 instruction or lecturing at any approved seminar and attending 734 the entire course or seminar qualifies for the same number of 735 classroom hours as would be granted to a person taking and 736 successfully completing such course or seminar. Credit is limited to the number of hours actually taught unless a person 737 738 attends the entire course or seminar. An individual who is an 739 official of or employed by a governmental entity in this state and serves as a professor, instructor, or other position or 740 office, the duties and responsibilities of which are determined 741 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM

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Amendment No.

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742 by the department to require monitoring and review of insurance 743 laws or insurance regulations and practices, is exempt from this 744 section.

745 (7) Any person who holds a license to solicit or sell life 746 insurance in this state must complete a minimum of 3 hours in 747 continuing education, approved by the department, on the subject of suitability in annuity and life insurance transactions. This 748 749 requirement does not apply to an agent who does not have any 750 active life insurance or annuity contracts. In applying this 751 exemption, the department may require the filing of a 752 certification attesting that the agent has not sold life 753 insurance or annuities during the continuing education 754 compliance cycle in question and does not have any active life 755 insurance or annuity contracts. A licensee may use the hours 756 obtained under this paragraph to satisfy the requirement for 757 continuing education in ethics under paragraph (a).

Section 14. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 626.292,
Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

(1) <u>An Any</u> individual licensed in good standing in another
state may apply to the department to have the license
transferred to this state to obtain a Florida resident agent <u>or</u>
<u>all-lines adjuster</u> license for the same lines of authority
covered by the license in the other state.

626.292 Transfer of license from another state.-

766 (2) To qualify for a license transfer, an individual767 applicant must meet the following requirements:

768 (a) The individual <u>must shall</u> become a resident of this
769 state.
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(b) The individual <u>must</u> shall have been licensed in
another state for a minimum of 1 year immediately preceding the
date the individual became a resident of this state.

Amendment No.

(c) The individual <u>must</u> shall submit a completed application for this state which is received by the department within 90 days after the date the individual became a resident of this state, along with payment of the applicable fees set forth in s. 624.501 and submission of the following documents:

778 1. A certification issued by the appropriate official of 779 the applicant's home state identifying the type of license and 780 lines of authority under the license and stating that, at the 781 time the license from the home state was canceled, the applicant 782 was in good standing in that state or that the state's Producer 783 Database records, maintained by the National Association of 784 Insurance Commissioners, its affiliates, or subsidiaries, indicate that the agent or all-lines adjuster is or was licensed 785 in good standing for the line of authority requested. 786

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

789 (d) The individual must shall satisfy prelicensing 790 education requirements in this state, unless the completion of 791 prelicensing education requirements was a prerequisite for 792 licensure in the other state and the prelicensing education 793 requirements in the other state are substantially equivalent to 794 the prelicensing requirements of this state as determined by the 795 department. This paragraph does not apply to all-lines 796 adjusters.

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Amendment No. 797 The individual must shall satisfy the examination (e) 798 requirement under s. 626.221, unless exempted exempt thereunder. Section 15. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 626.311, 799 800 Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 801 626.311 Scope of license.-802 (2) Except with respect as to a limited license as a 803 credit life or disability insurance agent, the license of a life 804 agent covers shall cover all classes of life insurance business. 805 Except with respect as to a limited license as a (3) 806 travel personal accident insurance agent, the license of a 807 health agent covers shall cover all kinds of health insurance; 808 and such no license may not shall be issued limited to a 809 particular class of health insurance. Section 16. Subsections (1) and (4) of section 626.321, 810 Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 811 812 626.321 Limited licenses.-813 (1)The department shall issue to a qualified applicant 814 individual, or a qualified individual or entity under paragraphs 815 (c), (d), (c), and (i), a license as agent authorized to 816 transact a limited class of business in any of the following 817 categories of limited lines insurance: 818 (a) Motor vehicle physical damage and mechanical breakdown 819 insurance.-License covering insurance against only the loss of 820 or damage to a any motor vehicle that which is designed for use 821 upon a highway, including trailers and semitrailers designed for 822 use with such vehicles. Such license also covers insurance against the failure of an original or replacement part to 823 perform any function for which it was designed. The applicant 824 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM Page 30 of 86

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Amendment No. 825 for such a license shall pass a written examination covering 826 motor vehicle physical damage insurance and mechanical breakdown 827 insurance. A licensee under this paragraph may not No individual 828 while so licensed shall hold a license as an agent for as to any 829 other or additional kind or class of insurance coverage except as to a limited license for credit insurance life and disability 830 831 insurances as provided in paragraph (e). Effective October 1, 832 2012, all licensees holding such limited license and appointment 833 may renew the license and appointment, but no new or additional licenses may be issued pursuant to this paragraph, and a 834 835 licensee whose limited license under this paragraph has been 836 terminated, suspended, or revoked may not have such license 837 reinstated.

Industrial fire insurance or burglary insurance.-838 (b) License covering only industrial fire insurance or burglary 839 insurance. The applicant for such a license must shall pass a 840 written examination covering such insurance. A licensee under 841 842 this paragraph may not No individual while so licensed shall 843 hold a license as an agent for as to any other or additional 844 kind or class of insurance coverage except for as to life 845 insurance and health insurance insurances.

846 (C) Travel insurance.-License covering only policies and 847 certificates of travel insurance, which are subject to review by the office under s. 624.605(1)(q). Policies and certificates of 848 849 travel insurance may provide coverage for risks incidental to travel, planned travel, or accommodations while traveling, 850 including, but not limited to, accidental death and 851 852 dismemberment of a traveler; trip cancellation, interruption, or 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM Page 31 of 86

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Amendment No. 853 delay; loss of or damage to personal effects or travel 854 documents; baggage delay; emergency medical travel or evacuation of a traveler; or medical, surgical, and hospital expenses 855 856 related to an illness or emergency of a traveler. Any Such 857 policy or certificate may be issued for terms longer than 60 858 days, but each policy or certificate, other than a policy or 859 certificate providing coverage for air ambulatory services only, each policy or certificate must be limited to coverage for 860 861 travel or use of accommodations of no longer than 60 days. The 862 license may be issued only:

863 To a full-time salaried employee of a common carrier or 1. 864 a full-time salaried employee or owner of a transportation 865 ticket agency and may authorize the sale of such ticket policies 866 only in connection with the sale of transportation tickets, or to the full-time salaried employee of such an agent. No Such 867 policy may not shall be for a duration of more than 48 hours or 868 869 more than for the duration of a specified one-way trip or round 870 trip.

871

2. To an entity or individual that is:

a. The developer of a timeshare plan that is the subject of an approved public offering statement under chapter 721;

b. An exchange company operating an exchange programapproved under chapter 721;

c. A managing entity operating a timeshare plan approvedunder chapter 721;

d. A seller of travel as defined in chapter 559; or
e. A subsidiary or affiliate of any of the entities
described in sub-subparagraphs a.-d.
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Amendment No.

882 A licensee shall require each employee who offers policies or 883 certificates under this subparagraph to receive initial training 884 from a general lines agent or an insurer authorized under 885 chapter 624 to transact insurance within this state. For an 886 entity applying for a license as a travel insurance agent, the 887 fingerprinting requirement of this section applies only to the 888 president, secretary, and treasurer and to any other officer or 889 person who directs or controls the travel insurance operations 890 of the entity.

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(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.

904b. Insurance covering the liability of the lessee to the905lessor for damage to the leased or rented motor vehicle.

906 c. Insurance covering the loss of or damage to baggage,907 personal effects, or travel documents of a person renting or

908 leasing a motor vehicle.

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

Amendment No.

912 2. Insurance under a motor vehicle rental insurance 913 license may be issued only if the lease or rental agreement is 914 for no more than 60 days, the lessee is not provided coverage 915 for more than 60 consecutive days per lease period, and the 916 lessee is given written notice that his or her personal 917 insurance policy providing coverage on an owned motor vehicle may provide coverage of such risks and that the purchase of the 918 919 insurance is not required in connection with the lease or rental 920 of a motor vehicle. If the lease is extended beyond 60 days, the 921 coverage may be extended one time only for a period not to 922 exceed an additional 60 days. Insurance may be provided to the 923 lessee as an additional insured on a policy issued to the 924 licensee's employer.

925 3. The license may be issued only to the full-time 926 salaried employee of a licensed general lines agent or to a 927 business entity that offers motor vehicles for rent or lease if 928 insurance sales activities authorized by the license are in 929 connection with and incidental to the rental or lease of a motor 930 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.

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Amendment No. 936 The application for licensure must list the name, b. 937 address, and phone number for each office, branch office, or 938 place of business that is to be covered by the license. The 939 licensee shall notify the department of the name, address, and 940 phone number of any new location that is to be covered by the 941 license before the new office, branch office, or place of 942 business engages in the sale of insurance pursuant to this 943 paragraph. The licensee must shall notify the department within 944 30 days after closing or terminating an office, branch office, 945 or place of business. Upon receipt of the notice, the department 946 shall delete the office, branch office, or place of business from the license. 947

948 c. A licensed and appointed entity is directly responsible 949 and accountable for all acts of the licensee's employees.

950 (e) Credit life or disability insurance.-License covering 951 only credit life, credit or disability insurance, credit 952 property, credit unemployment, involuntary unemployment, 953 mortgage life, mortgage guaranty, mortgage disability, 954 guaranteed automobile protection (GAP) insurance, and any other 955 form of insurance offered in connection with an extension of 956 credit which is limited to partially or wholly extinguishing a 957 credit obligation that the department determines should be 958 designated a form of limited line credit insurance. Effective October 1, 2012, all valid licenses held by persons for any of 959 960 the lines of insurance listed in this paragraph shall be 961 converted to a credit insurance license. Licensees who wish to 962 obtain a new license reflecting such change must request a 963 duplicate license and pay a \$5 fee as specified in s. 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM

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Amendment No. 964 624.501(15). The license may be issued only to an individual 965 employed by a life or health insurer as an officer or other 966 salaried or commissioned representative, to an individual employed by or associated with a lending or financial 967 968 institution or creditor, or to a lending or financial 969 institution or creditor, and may authorize the sale of such 970 insurance only with respect to borrowers or debtors of such 971 lending or financing institution or creditor. However, only the 972 individual or entity whose tax identification number is used in 973 receiving or is credited with receiving the commission from the 974 sale of such insurance shall be the licensed agent of the insurer. No individual while so licensed shall hold a license as 975 976 an agent as to any other or additional kind or class of life or 977 health insurance coverage. An entity holding a limited license under this paragraph is also authorized to sell credit insurance 978 979 and credit property insurance.

980 (f) Credit insurance.-License covering only credit 981 insurance, as such insurance is defined in s. 624.605(1)(i), and 982 no individual or entity so licensed shall, during the same 983 period, hold a license as an agent as to any other or additional 984 kind of life or health insurance with the exception of credit 985 life or disability insurance as defined in paragraph (e). The 986 same licensing provisions as outlined in paragraph (e) apply to 987 entities licensed as credit insurance agents under this 988 paragraph.

989 (g) Credit property insurance.—A license covering only 990 credit property insurance may be issued to any individual except 991 an individual employed by or associated with a financial 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM Page 36 of 86
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Amendment No.

992 institution as defined in s. 655.005 and authorized to sell such 993 insurance only with respect to a borrower or debtor, not to 994 exceed the amount of the loan.

995 (f) (h) Crop hail and multiple-peril crop insurance. 996 License for insurance covering crops subject to unfavorable 997 weather conditions, fire or lightening, flood, hail, insect 998 infestation, disease, or other yield-reducing conditions or 999 perils which is provided by the private insurance market, or 1000 which is subsidized by the Federal Group Insurance Corporation including multi-peril crop insurance only crop hail and 1001 1002 multiple-peril crop insurance. Notwithstanding any other 1003 provision of law, the limited license may be issued to a bona 1004 fide salaried employee of an association chartered under the Farm Credit Act of 1971, 12 U.S.C. ss. 2001 et seq., who 1005 1006 satisfactorily completes the examination prescribed by the 1007 department pursuant to s. 626.241(5). The limited agent must be 1008 appointed by, and his or her limited license requested by, a licensed general lines agent. All business transacted by the 1009 1010 limited agent must be on shall be in behalf of, in the name of, 1011 and countersigned by the agent by whom he or she is appointed. Sections 626.561 and 626.748, relating to records, apply to all 1012 1013 business written pursuant to this section. The limited licensee 1014 may be appointed by and licensed for only one general lines 1015 agent or agency.

- 1016 (g) (i) In-transit and storage personal property insurance; 1017 communications equipment property insurance, communications 1018 equipment inland marine insurance, and communications equipment
- 1019 service warranty agreement sales.-

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Amendment No. 1020 1. A License for insurance covering only the insurance of 1021 personal property not held for resale, covering the risks of 1022 transportation or storage in rented or leased motor vehicles, 1023 trailers, or self-service storage facilities, as the latter are defined in s. 83.803. Such license, may be issued, without 1024 1025 examination, only to employees or authorized representatives of 1026 lessors who rent or lease motor vehicles, trailers, or self-1027 service storage facilities and who are authorized by an insurer to issue certificates or other evidences of insurance to lessees 1028 of such motor vehicles, trailers, or self-service storage 1029 1030 facilities under an insurance policy issued to the lessor. A 1031 person licensed under this paragraph must shall give a 1032 prospective purchaser of in-transit or storage personal property 1033 insurance written notice that his or her homeowner's policy may provide coverage for the loss of personal property and that the 1034 1035 purchase of such insurance is not required under the lease 1036 terms. 1037 2. A license covering only communications equipment, for 1038 the loss, theft, mechanical failure, malfunction of or damage 1039 to, communications equipment. The license may be issued only to: 1040 a. Employees or authorized representatives of a licensed 1041 general lines agent;

1042b. The lead business location of a retail vendor of1043communications equipment and its branch locations; or

1044 c. Employees, agents, or authorized representatives of a 1045 retail vendor of communications equipment.

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Amendment No. 1047 The license authorizes the sale of such policies, or 1048 certificates under a group master policy, only with respect to 1049 the sale of, or provision of communications service for, 1050 communications equipment. A general lines agent is not required 1051 to obtain a license under this subparagraph to offer or sell 1052 communications equipment property insurance or communication equipment inland marine insurance. The license also authorizes 1053 1054 sales of service warranty agreements covering only 1055 communications equipment to the same extent as if licensed under 1056 s. 634.419 or s. 634.420. The provisions of this chapter 1057 requiring submission of fingerprints do not apply to 1058 communications equipment licenses issued to qualified entities 1059 under this subparagraph. Licensees offering policies under this 1060 subparagraph must receive initial training from, and have a 1061 contractual relationship with, a general lines agent. For the purposes of this subparagraph, the term "communications 1062 1063 equipment" means handsets, pagers, personal digital assistants, 1064 portable computers, automatic answering devices, and other 1065 devices or accessories used to originate or receive 1066 communications signals or service, and includes services related to the use of such devices, such as consumer access to a 1067 1068 wireless network; however, the term does not include 1069 telecommunications switching equipment, transmission wires, cell 1070 site transceiver equipment, or other equipment and systems used 1071 by telecommunications companies to provide telecommunications 1072 service to consumers. A branch location of a retail vendor of communications equipment licensed pursuant to paragraph (2) (b) 1073 1074 may, in lieu of obtaining an appointment from an insurer or 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM Page 39 of 86

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1095	Amendment No.
1075	warranty association as provided in paragraph (2)(c), obtain a
1076	single appointment from the associated lead business location
1077	licensee licensed under paragraph (2)(a) and pay the prescribed
1078	appointment fee under s. 624.501 provided the lead business
1079	location has a single appointment from each insurer or warranty
1080	association represented and such appointment provides that it
1081	applies to the lead business location and all of its branch
1082	locations. Any branch location individually appointed by an
1083	insurer under paragraph (2)(c) prior to January 1, 2006, may
1084	replace its appointments with an appointment from its lead
1085	location at no charge. Branch location appointments shall be
1086	renewed on the first annual anniversary of licensure of the lead
1087	business location occurring more than 24 months after the
1088	initial appointment date and every 24 months thereafter.
1089	Notwithstanding s. 624.501, after July 1, 2006, the renewal fee
1090	applicable to such branch location appointments shall be \$30 per
1091	appointment.
1092	(h) Portable electronics insuranceLicense for property
1093	insurance or inland marine insurance that covers only loss,
1094	theft, mechanical failure, malfunction, or damage for portable
1095	electronics.
1096	1. The license may be issued only to:
1097	a. Employees or authorized representatives of a licensed
1098	general lines agent; or
1099	b. The lead business location of a retail vendor that
1100	sells portable electronics insurance. The lead business location
1101	must have a contractual relationship with a general lines agent.
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1102	Amendment No. 2. Employees or authorized representatives of a licensee
1103	under subparagraph 1. may sell or offer for sale portable
1104	electronics coverage without being subject to licensure as an
1105	insurance agent if:
1106	a. Such insurance is sold or offered for sale at a
1107	licensed location or at one of the licensee's branch locations
1108	
	if the branch location is appointed by the licensed lead
1109	business location or its appointing insurers;
1110	b. The insurer issuing the insurance directly supervises
1111	or appoints a general lines agent to supervise the sale of such
1112	insurance, including the development of a training program for
1113	the employees and authorized representatives of vendors that are
1114	directly engaged in the activity of selling or offering the
1115	insurance; and
1116	c. At each location where the insurance is offered,
1117	brochures or other written materials that provide the
1118	information required by this subparagraph are made available to
1119	all prospective customers. The brochures or written materials
1120	may include information regarding portable electronics
1121	insurance, service warranty agreements, or other incidental
1122	services or benefits offered by a licensee.
1123	3. Individuals not licensed to sell portable electronics
1124	insurance may not be paid commissions based on the sale of such
1125	coverage. However, a licensee who uses a compensation plan for
1126	employees and authorized representatives which includes
1127	supplemental compensation for the sale of noninsurance products,
1128	in addition to a regular salary or hourly wages, may include

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Amendment No

1129	incidental compensation for the sale of portable electronics
1130	insurance as a component of the overall compensation plan.
1131	4. Brochures or other written materials related to
1132	portable electronics insurance must:
1133	a. Disclose that such insurance may duplicate coverage
1134	already provided by a customer's homeowners' insurance policy,
1135	renters' insurance policy, or other source of coverage;
1136	b. State that enrollment in insurance coverage is not
1137	required in order to purchase or lease portable electronics or
1138	services;
1139	c. Summarize the material terms of the insurance coverage,
1140	including the identity of the insurer, the identity of the
1141	supervising entity, the amount of any applicable deductible and
1142	how it is to be paid, the benefits of coverage, and key terms
1143	and conditions of coverage, such as whether portable electronics
1144	may be repaired or replaced with similar make and model
1145	reconditioned or nonoriginal manufacturer parts or equipment;
1146	d. Summarize the process for filing a claim, including a
1147	description of how to return portable electronics and the
1148	maximum fee applicable if the customer fails to comply with
1149	equipment return requirements; and
1150	e. State that an enrolled customer may cancel coverage at
1151	any time and that the person paying the premium will receive a
1152	refund of any unearned premium.
1153	5. A licensed and appointed general lines agent is not
1154	required to obtain a portable electronics insurance license to
1155	offer or sell portable electronics insurance at locations
1156	already licensed as an insurance agency, but may apply for a
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	Amendment No.
1157	portable electronics insurance license for branch locations not
1158	otherwise licensed to sell insurance.
1159	6. A portable electronics license authorizes the sale of
1160	individual policies or certificates under a group or master
1161	insurance policy. The license also authorizes the sale of
1162	service warranty agreements covering only portable electronics
1163	to the same extent as if licensed under s. 634.419 or s.
1164	634.420.
1165	7. A licensee may bill and collect the premium for the
1166	purchase of portable electronics insurance provided that:
1167	a. If the insurance is included with the purchase or lease
1168	of portable electronics or related services, the licensee
1169	clearly and conspicuously discloses that insurance coverage is
1170	included with the purchase. Disclosure of the dollar amount of
1171	the premium for the insurance must be made on the customer's
1172	bill and in any marketing materials made available at the point
1173	of sale. If the insurance is not included, the charge to the
1174	customer for the insurance must be separately itemized on the
1175	customer's bill.
1176	b. Premiums are incidental to other fees collected, are
1177	maintained in a manner that is readily identifiable, and are
1178	accounted for and remitted to the insurer or supervising entity
1179	within 60 days of receipt. Licensees are not required to
1180	maintain such funds in a segregated account.
1181	c. All funds received by a licensee from an enrolled
1182	customer for the sale of the insurance are considered funds held
1183	in trust by the licensee in a fiduciary capacity for the benefit

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1104	Amendment No.
1184	of the insurer. Licensees may receive compensation for billing
1185	and collection services.
1186	8. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the terms
1187	for the termination or modification of coverage under a policy
1188	of portable electronics insurance are those set forth in the
1189	policy.
1190	9. Notice or correspondence required by the policy, or
1191	otherwise required by law, may be provided by electronic means
1192	if the insurer or licensee maintains proof that the notice or
1193	correspondence was sent. Such notice or correspondence may be
1194	sent on behalf of the insurer or licensee by the general lines
1195	agent appointed by the insurer to supervise the administration
1196	of the program. For purposes of this subparagraph, an enrolled
1197	customer's provision of an electronic mail address to the
1198	insurer or licensee is deemed to be consent to receive notices
1199	and correspondence by electronic means if a conspicuously
1200	located disclosure is provided to the customer indicating the
1201	same.
1202	10. The provisions of this chapter requiring submission of
1203	fingerprints do not apply to licenses issued to qualified
1204	entities under this paragraph.
1205	11. A branch location that sells portable electronics
1206	insurance may, in lieu of obtaining an appointment from an
1207	insurer or warranty association, obtain a single appointment
1208	from the associated lead business location licensee and pay the
1209	prescribed appointment fee under s. 624.501 if the lead business
1210	location has a single appointment from each insurer or warranty
1211	association represented and such appointment applies to the lead
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	Amendment No.
1212	business location and all of its branch locations. Branch
1213	location appointments shall be renewed 24 months from the date
1214	of the lead business location initial appointment date and every
1215	24 months thereafter. Notwithstanding s. 624.501, the renewal
1216	fee applicable to such branch location appointments is \$30 per
1217	appointment.
1218	12. For purposes of this paragraph:
1219	a. "Branch location" means any physical location in this
1220	state at which a licensee offers its products or services for
1221	sale.
1222	b. "Portable electronics" means personal, self-contained,
1223	easily carried by an individual, battery-operated electronic
1224	communication, viewing, listening, recording, gaming, computing
1225	or global positioning devices, including cell or satellite
1226	phones, pagers, personal global positioning satellite units,
1227	portable computers, portable audio listening, video viewing or
1228	recording devices, digital cameras, video camcorders, portable
1229	gaming systems, docking stations, automatic answering devices,
1230	and other similar devices and their accessories, and service
1231	related to the use of such devices.
1232	c. "Portable electronics transaction" means the sale or
1233	lease of portable electronics or a related service, including
1234	portable electronics insurance.
1235	(4) Except as otherwise expressly provided, a person
1236	applying for or holding a limited license <u>is</u> shall be subject to
1237	the same applicable requirements and responsibilities <u>that</u> as
1238	apply to general lines agents in general $_{m{ au}}$ if licensed as to
1239	motor vehicle physical damage and mechanical breakdown
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1240 insurance, credit property insurance, industrial fire insurance 1241 or burglary insurance, motor vehicle rental insurance, credit 1242 insurance, crop hail and multiple-peril crop insurance, in-1243 transit and storage personal property insurance, or portable 1244 electronics insurance communications equipment property 1245 insurance or communications equipment inland marine insurance, 1246 baggage and motor vehicle excess liability insurance, or credit 1247 insurance; or as apply to life agents or health agents in 1248 general, as applicable the case may be, if licensed as to travel 1249 personal accident insurance or credit life or credit disability 1250 insurance.

Amendment No.

1251 Section 17. Section 626.342, Florida Statutes, is amended 1252 to read:

1253 626.342 Furnishing supplies to unlicensed life, health, or 1254 general lines agent prohibited; civil liability.-

(1) An insurer, a managing general agent, an insurance 1255 1256 agency, or an agent, directly or through a any representative, may not furnish to an any agent any blank forms, applications, 1257 1258 stationery, or other supplies to be used in soliciting, 1259 negotiating, or effecting contracts of insurance on its behalf unless such blank forms, applications, stationery, or other 1260 1261 supplies relate to a class of business for with respect to which 1262 the agent is licensed and appointed, whether for that insurer or another insurer. 1263

(2) <u>An</u> Any insurer, general agent, insurance agency, or agent who furnishes any of the supplies specified in subsection (1) to <u>an</u> any agent or prospective agent not appointed to represent the insurer and who accepts from or writes any 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM Page 46 of 86

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Amendment No. 1268 insurance business for such agent or agency is subject to civil 1269 liability to <u>an any</u> insured of such insurer to the same extent 1270 and <u>in the same</u> manner as if such agent or prospective agent had 1271 been appointed or authorized by the insurer or such agent to act 1272 <u>on in</u> its or his or her behalf. The provisions of this 1273 subsection do not apply to insurance risk apportionment plans 1274 under s. 627.351.

1275 (3) This section does not apply to the placing of surplus1276 lines business under the provisions of ss. 626.913-626.937.

1277 Section 18. Subsection (1) of section 626.381, Florida 1278 Statutes, is amended to read:

1279 626.381 Renewal, continuation, reinstatement, or 1280 termination of appointment.-

1281 The appointment of an appointee continues shall (1)continue in force until suspended, revoked, or otherwise 1282 terminated, but is subject to a renewal request filed by the 1283 1284 appointing entity in the appointee's birth month as to natural persons or the month the original appointment was issued license 1285 1286 date as to entities and every 24 months thereafter, accompanied 1287 by payment of the renewal appointment fee and taxes as prescribed in s. 624.501. 1288

1289 Section 19. Section 626.536, Florida Statutes, is amended 1290 to read:

1291 626.536 Reporting of <u>administrative</u> actions. <u>Each agent</u> 1292 and insurance agency shall submit to the department, Within 30 1293 days after the final disposition of <u>an any</u> administrative action 1294 taken against <u>a licensee</u> the agent or insurance agency by a 1295 governmental agency <u>or other regulatory agency</u> in this or any 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM Page 47 of 86

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1000	Amendment No.
1296	other state or jurisdiction relating to the business of
1297	insurance, the sale of securities, or activity involving fraud,
1298	dishonesty, trustworthiness, or breach of a fiduciary duty, <u>the</u>
1299	licensee or insurance agency must submit a copy of the order,
1300	consent to order, or other relevant legal documents <u>to the</u>
1301	<u>department</u> . The department may adopt rules <u>to administer</u>
1302	implementing the provisions of this section.
1303	Section 20. Section 626.551, Florida Statutes, is amended
1304	to read:
1305	626.551 Notice of change of address, name.— <u>A</u> Every
1306	licensee must shall notify the department, in writing, within 30
1307	60 days after a change of name, residence address, principal
1308	business street address, mailing address, contact telephone
1309	numbers, including a business telephone number, or e-mail
1310	address. A <u>licensee</u> licensed agent who has moved his or her
1311	residence from this state shall have his or her license and all
1312	appointments immediately terminated by the department. Failure
1313	to notify the department within the required time period shall
1314	result in a fine not to exceed \$250 for the first offense and $_{m au}$
1315	for subsequent offenses, a fine of at least \$500 or suspension
1316	or revocation of the license pursuant to s. 626.611 <u>, s.</u>
1317	<u>626.6115,</u> or s. 626.621, or s. 626.6215 for a subsequent
1318	offense. The department may adopt rules to administer and
1319	enforce this section.
1320	Section 21. Subsection (14) is added to section 626.621,
1321	Florida Statutes, to read:
1322	626.621 Grounds for discretionary refusal, suspension, or
1323	revocation of agent's, adjuster's, customer representative's,
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Amendment No. 1324 service representative's, or managing general agent's license or 1325 appointment.-The department may, in its discretion, deny an 1326 application for, suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew or continue 1327 the license or appointment of any applicant, agent, adjuster, 1328 customer representative, service representative, or managing 1329 general agent, and it may suspend or revoke the eligibility to 1330 hold a license or appointment of any such person, if it finds 1331 that as to the applicant, licensee, or appointee any one or more of the following applicable grounds exist under circumstances 1332 for which such denial, suspension, revocation, or refusal is not 1333 1334 mandatory under s. 626.611:

1335 <u>(14) Failure to comply with any civil, criminal, or</u> 1336 <u>administrative action taken by the child support enforcement</u> 1337 <u>program under Title IV-D of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C.</u> 1338 <u>ss. 651 et seq., to determine paternity or to establish, modify,</u> 1339 <u>enforce, or collect support.</u>

Section 22. Subsection (4) of section 626.641, FloridaStatutes, is amended to read:

1342

626.641 Duration of suspension or revocation.-

1343 During the period of suspension or revocation of a the (4) license or appointment, and until the license is reinstated or, 1344 1345 if revoked, a new license issued, the former licensee or 1346 appointee may shall not engage in or attempt or profess to 1347 engage in any transaction or business for which a license or appointment is required under this code or directly or 1348 indirectly own, control, or be employed in any manner by an any 1349 1350 insurance agent, or agency, or adjuster, or adjusting firm.

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Amendment No.

Section 23. Subsection (1) of section 626.651, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1353626.651Effect of suspension, revocation upon associated1354licenses and appointments and licensees and appointees.-

(1) Upon suspension, revocation, or refusal to renew or continue any one license of <u>a</u> an <u>licensee</u> agent or customer representative, or upon suspension or revocation of eligibility to hold a license or appointment, the department shall at the same time likewise suspend or revoke all other licenses, appointments, or status of eligibility held by the licensee or appointee under this code.

Section 24. Subsection (4) of section 626.730, Florida
Statutes, is amended to read:

1364

626.730 Purpose of license.-

This section does not prohibit the licensing under a 1365 (4) 1366 licensee holding a limited license for credit insurance or as to 1367 motor vehicle physical damage and mechanical breakdown insurance 1368 or credit property insurance of any person employed by or 1369 associated with a motor vehicle sales or financing agency, a 1370 retail sales establishment, or a consumer loan office, for the purpose of insuring other than a consumer loan office owned by 1371 or affiliated with a financial institution as defined in s. 1372 1373 655.005, with respect to insurance of the interest of such 1374 entity agency in a motor vehicle sold or financed by it or in 1375 personal property if used as collateral for a loan.

1376(5)This section does not apply with respect to the1377interest of a real estate mortgagee in or as to insurance

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1378 covering such interest or in the real estate subject to such 1379 mortgage.

1380 Section 25. Section 626.732, Florida Statutes, is amended 1381 to read:

1382 626.732 Requirement as to knowledge, experience, or 1383 instruction.-

1384 Except as provided in subsection (4) (3), an no (1)1385 applicant for a license as a general lines agent or personal lines agent, except for a chartered property and casualty 1386 underwriter (CPCU), may not other than as to a limited license 1387 1388 as to baggage and motor vehicle excess liability insurance, 1389 credit property insurance, credit insurance, in-transit and 1390 storage personal property insurance, or communications equipment property insurance or communication equipment inland marine 1391 insurance, shall be qualified or licensed unless, within the 4 1392 years immediately preceding the date the application for license 1393 1394 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;

(b) Completed a correspondence course in insurance, 3 hours of which <u>must</u> shall be on the subject matter of ethics, satisfactory to the department and regularly offered by accredited institutions of higher learning in this state, and 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM

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1406 have, except if he or she is applying for a limited license 1407 under s. 626.321, for licensure as a general lines agent, has 1408 had at least 6 months of responsible insurance duties as a 1409 substantially full-time bona fide employee in all lines of property and casualty insurance set forth in the definition of 1410 1411 general lines agent under s. 626.015 or, for licensure as a 1412 personal lines agent, has completed at least 3 months in 1413 responsible insurance duties as a substantially full-time 1414 employee in property and casualty insurance sold to individuals and families for noncommercial purposes; 1415

Amendment No.

1416 For licensure as a general lines agent, Completed at (C) 1417 least 1 year in responsible insurance duties as a substantially 1418 full-time bona fide employee in all lines of property and 1419 casualty insurance, exclusive of aviation and wet marine and transportation insurances but not exclusive of boats of less 1420 than 36 feet in length or aircraft not held out for hire, as set 1421 1422 forth in the definition of a general lines agent under s. 626.015, but without the education requirement described 1423 1424 mentioned in paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) or, for licensure as 1425 a personal lines agent, has completed at least 6 months in 1426 responsible insurance duties as a substantially full-time 1427 employee in property and casualty insurance sold to individuals 1428 and families for noncommercial purposes without the education 1429 requirement in paragraph (a) or paragraph (b);

(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 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM Page 52 of 86

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1434 casualty insurance and 40 hours of classroom courses approved by 1435 the department covering the areas of property, casualty, surety, 1436 health, and marine insurance; or

1437 2. For licensure as a personal lines agent, completed at least 6 months of responsible duties as a licensed and appointed 1438 1439 customer representative or limited customer representative in property and casualty insurance sold to individuals and families 1440 1441 for noncommercial purposes and 20 hours of classroom courses approved by the department which are related to property and 1442 casualty insurance sold to individuals and families for 1443 1444 noncommercial purposes;

(e)1. For licensure as a general lines agent, Completed at least 1 year of responsible insurance duties as a licensed and appointed service representative in either commercial or personal lines of property and casualty insurance and 80 hours of classroom courses approved by the department covering the areas of property, casualty, surety, health, and marine insurance.; or

1452 2. For licensure as a personal lines agent, completed at 1453 least 6 months of responsible insurance duties as a licensed and appointed service representative in property and casualty 1454 insurance sold to individuals and families for noncommercial 1455 1456 purposes and 40 hours of classroom courses approved by the 1457 department related to property and casualty insurance sold to 1458 individuals and families for noncommercial purposes; or 1459 (2) Except as provided under subsection (4), an applicant 1460 for a license as a personal lines agent, except for a chartered 1461 property and casualty underwriter (CPCU), may not be qualified 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM Page 53 of 86

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1400	Amendment No.
1462	or licensed unless, within the 4 years immediately preceding the
1463	date the application for license is filed with the department,
1464	the applicant has:
1465	(a) Taught or successfully completed classroom courses in
1466	insurance, 3 hours of which must be on the subject matter of
1467	ethics, at a school, college, or extension division thereof,
1468	approved by the department. To qualify for licensure, the
1469	applicant must complete a total of 52 hours of classroom courses
1470	in insurance;
1471	(b) Completed a correspondence course in insurance, 3
1472	hours of which must be on the subject matter of ethics,
1473	satisfactory to the department and regularly offered by
1474	accredited institutions of higher learning in this state, and
1475	completed at least 3 months of responsible insurance duties as a
1476	substantially full-time employee in the area of property and
1477	casualty insurance sold to individuals and families for
1478	noncommercial purposes;
1479	(c) Completed at least 6 months of responsible insurance
1480	duties as a substantially full-time employee in the area of
1481	property and casualty insurance sold to individuals and families
1482	for noncommercial purposes, but without the education
1483	requirement described in paragraph (a) or paragraph (b);
1484	(d) Completed at least 6 months of responsible duties as a
1485	licensed and appointed customer representative or limited
1486	customer representative in property and casualty insurance sold
1487	to individuals and families for noncommercial purposes and 20
1488	hours of classroom courses approved by the department which are

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1489	related to property and casualty insurance sold to individuals
1490	and families for noncommercial purposes;
1491	(e) Completed at least 6 months of responsible insurance
1492	duties as a licensed and appointed service representative in
1493	property and casualty insurance sold to individuals and families
1494	for noncommercial purposes and 40 hours of classroom courses
1495	approved by the department related to property and casualty
1496	insurance sold to individuals and families for noncommercial
1497	purposes; or
1498	(f) For licensure as a personal lines agent, Completed at
1499	least 3 years of responsible duties as a licensed and appointed
1500	customer representative in property and casualty insurance sold
1501	to individuals and families for noncommercial purposes.
1502	(3)(2) If Where an applicant's qualifications as required
1503	under subsection (1) or subsection (2)
1504	paragraph (1)(c) are based in part upon the periods of
1505	employment <u>in</u> at responsible insurance duties prescribed
1506	therein, the applicant shall submit with the <u>license</u> application
1507	for license, on a form prescribed by the department, <u>an</u> the
1508	affidavit of his or her employer setting forth the period of
1509	such employment, that the <u>employment</u> same was substantially
1510	full-time, and giving a brief abstract of the nature of the
1511	duties performed by the applicant.
1512	(4) (3) An individual who was or became qualified to sit
1513	for an agent's, customer representative's, or adjuster's
1514	examination at or during the time he or she was employed by the
1515	department or office and who, while so employed, was employed in
1516	responsible insurance duties as a full-time bona fide employee

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1517 <u>may</u> shall be permitted to take an examination if application for 1518 such examination is made within 90 days after the date of 1519 termination of his or her employment with the department or 1520 office.

(5) (4) Classroom and correspondence courses under 1521 1522 subsections (1) and (2) subsection (1) must include instruction 1523 on the subject matter of unauthorized entities engaging in the 1524 business of insurance. The scope of the topic of unauthorized entities must shall include the Florida Nonprofit Multiple-1525 Employer Welfare Arrangement Act and the Employee Retirement 1526 1527 Income Security Act, 29 U.S.C. ss. 1001 et seq., as it relates 1528 to the provision of health insurance by employers and the 1529 regulation thereof.

1530 (6) This section does not apply to an individual holding
 1531 only a limited license for travel insurance, motor vehicle
 1532 rental insurance, credit insurance, in-transit and storage
 1533 personal property insurance, or portable electronics insurance.

1534 Section 26. Section 626.8411, Florida Statutes, is amended 1535 to read:

1536 626.8411 Application of Florida Insurance Code provisions 1537 to title insurance agents or agencies.—

(1) The following provisions of part II, as applicable to
general lines agents or agencies, also apply to title insurance
agents or agencies:

(a) Section 626.734, relating to liability of certainagents.

1543

1544

(b) Section 626.175, relating to temporary licenses.

(b) (c) Section 626.747, relating to branch agencies. 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM

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	Amendment No.
1545	(c) Section 626.749, relating to place of business in
1546	residence.
1547	(d) Section 626.753, relating to sharing of commissions.
1548	(e) Section 626.754, relating to rights of agent following
1549	termination of appointment.
1550	(2) The following provisions of part I do not apply to
1551	title insurance agents or title insurance agencies:
1552	(a) Section 626.112(7), relating to licensing of insurance
1553	agencies.
1554	(b) Section 626.231, relating to eligibility for
1555	examination.
1556	(c) Section 626.572, relating to rebating, when allowed.
1557	(d) Section 626.172, relating to agent in full-time
1558	charge.
1559	Section 27. Section 626.8548, Florida Statutes, is created
1560	to read:
1561	626.8548 "All-lines adjuster" definedAn "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 28. Section 626.855, Florida Statutes, is amended
1572	to read:
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Bill No. HB 725 (2012)

Amendment No. 1573 626.855 "Independent adjuster" defined.-An "independent 1574 adjuster" means a is any person licensed as an all-lines 1575 adjuster who is self-appointed self-employed or appointed and is 1576 associated with or employed by an independent adjusting firm or other independent adjuster, and who undertakes on behalf of an 1577 1578 insurer to ascertain and determine the amount of any claim, 1579 loss, or damage payable under an insurance contract or 1580 undertakes to effect settlement of such claim, loss, or damage. 1581 Section 29. Section 626.856, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 1582 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 1586 adjusters or a wholly owned subsidiary of the insurer, and who 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 30. Section 626.858, Florida Statutes, is 1593 repealed. 1594 Section 31. Section 626.8584, Florida Statutes, is amended 1595 to read: 626.8584 "Nonresident all-lines independent adjuster" 1596 1597 defined.-A "nonresident all-lines independent adjuster" means is 1598 a person who: 1599 (1) Is not a resident of this state;

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Amendment No. 1600 Is a currently licensed as an independent adjuster in (2) 1601 his or her state of residence for all lines of insurance except 1602 life and annuities the type or kinds of insurance for which the 1603 licensee intends to adjust claims in this state or, if a resident of a state that does not license such independent 1604 1605 adjusters, meets the qualifications has passed the department's adjuster examination as prescribed in s. 626.8734(1)(b); and 1606

(3) Is <u>licensed as an all-lines adjuster and self-</u>
appointed or appointed and a self-employed independent adjuster
or associated with or employed by an independent adjusting firm
or other independent adjuster, by an insurer admitted to do
<u>business in this state or a wholly-owned subsidiary of an</u>
<u>insurer admitted to do business in this state, or by other</u>
insurers under the common control or ownership of such insurer.

1614 Section 32. Section 626.863, Florida Statutes, is amended 1615 to read:

1616 626.863 Claims referrals to Licensed independent adjusters
1617 required; insurers' responsibility.-

(1) An insurer <u>may</u> shall not knowingly refer any claim or loss for adjustment in this state to any person purporting to be or acting as an independent adjuster unless the person is currently licensed <u>as an all-lines adjuster</u> and appointed as an l622 independent adjuster under this code.

1623 (2) Before referring any claim or loss, the insurer shall
1624 ascertain from the department whether the proposed independent
1625 adjuster is currently licensed <u>as an all-lines adjuster</u> and
1626 appointed as <u>an independent adjuster</u> such. Having once
1627 ascertained that a particular person is so licensed and
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Amendment No. 1628 appointed, the insurer may assume that he or she will continue 1629 to be so licensed and appointed until the insurer has knowledge, or receives information from the department, to the contrary. 1630 1631 This section does not apply to catastrophe or (3) 1632 emergency adjusters as provided for in this part. 1633 Section 33. Section 626.864, Florida Statutes, is amended 1634 to read: 626.864 Adjuster license types.-1635 1636 A qualified individual may be licensed and appointed (1) 1637 as either: 1638 (a) A public adjuster; or 1639 An all-lines independent adjuster; or (b) 1640 (c) A company employee adjuster. 1641 The same individual may shall not be concurrently (2)1642 licensed appointed as a public adjuster and an all-lines 1643 adjuster to more than one of the adjuster types referred to in 1644 subsection (1). 1645 (3) An all-lines adjuster may be appointed as an independent adjuster or company employee adjuster, but not both 1646 1647 concurrently. Section 34. Paragraph (e) is added to subsection (1) of 1648 1649 section 626.865, Florida Statutes, to read: 1650 626.865 Public adjuster's qualifications, bond.-1651 (1)The department shall issue a license to an applicant 1652 for a public adjuster's license upon determining that the 1653 applicant has paid the applicable fees specified in s. 624.501 1654 and possesses the following qualifications: 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM Page 60 of 86

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1655	(e) Is licensed as a public adjuster apprentice under s.
1656	626.8651 and complies with the requirements of that license
1657	throughout the licensure period.
1658	Section 35. Section 626.866, Florida Statutes, is amended
1659	to read:
1660	626.866 <u>All-lines adjuster</u> Independent adjuster's
1661	qualifications.—The department shall issue a license to an
1662	applicant for an all-lines adjuster independent adjuster's
1663	license to an applicant upon determining that the applicable
1664	license fee specified in s. 624.501 has been paid and that the
1665	applicant possesses the following qualifications:
1666	(1) Is a natural person at least 18 years of age.
1667	(2) Is a United States citizen or legal alien who
1668	possesses work authorization from the United States Bureau of
1669	Citizenship and Immigration Services and a bona fide resident of
1670	this state.
1671	(3) Is trustworthy and has such business reputation as
1672	would reasonably assure that the applicant will conduct his or
1673	her business as insurance adjuster fairly and in good faith and
1674	without detriment to the public.
1675	(4) Has had sufficient experience, training, or
1676	instruction concerning the adjusting of damage or loss under
1677	insurance contracts, other than life and annuity contracts, is
1678	sufficiently informed as to the terms and the effects of the
1679	provisions of such types of contracts, and possesses adequate
1680	knowledge of the insurance laws of this state relating to such
1681	contracts as to enable and qualify him or her to engage in the
1682	business of insurance adjuster fairly and without injury to the
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1683 public or any member thereof with whom he or she may have 1684 relations as an insurance adjuster and to adjust all claims in 1685 accordance with the policy or contract and the insurance laws of 1686 this state.

1687 (5) Has passed any required written examination or has met
 1688 one of the exemptions prescribed under s. 626.221.

1689Section 36.Section 626.867, Florida Statutes, is1690repealed.

1691 Section 37. Section 626.869, Florida Statutes, is amended 1692 to read:

626.869 License, adjusters; continuing education.-

(1) <u>Having An applicant for a license as an all-lines</u> adjuster <u>qualifies the licensee to adjust</u> may <u>qualify and his or</u> her license when issued may cover adjusting in any one of the following classes of insurance:

1698 (a) all lines of insurance except life and annuities.

1699 (b) Motor vehicle physical damage insurance.

1700 (c) Property and casualty insurance.

1701 (d) Workers' compensation insurance.

1702 (e) Health insurance.

1704 No examination on workers' compensation insurance or health 1705 insurance shall be required for public adjusters.

(2) All individuals who on October 1, 1990, hold an adjuster's license and appointment limited to fire and allied lines, including marine or casualty or boiler and machinery, may remain licensed and appointed under the limited license and may renew their appointment, but <u>a</u> no license or appointment <u>that</u> 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM Page 62 of 86

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1711 which has been terminated, not renewed, suspended, or revoked 1712 <u>may not shall</u> be reinstated, and no new or additional licenses 1713 or appointments may not shall be issued.

1714 All individuals who on October 1, 2012, hold an (3)1715 adjuster's license and appointment limited to motor vehicle 1716 physical damage and mechanical breakdown, property and casualty, workers' compensation, or health insurance may remain licensed 1717 and appointed under such limited license and may renew their 1718 1719 appointment, but a license that has been terminated, suspended, or revoked may not be reinstated, and new or additional licenses 1720 1721 may not be issued. The applicant's application for license shall 1722 specify which of the foregoing classes of business the 1723 application for license is to cover.

1724 (4) (a) An Any individual holding a license as a public 1725 adjuster or an all-lines a company employee adjuster must 1726 complete all continuing education requirements as specified in 1727 s. 626.2815. or independent adjuster for 24 consecutive months 1728 or longer must, beginning in his or her birth month and every 2 1729 years thereafter, have completed 24 hours of courses, 2 hours of 1730 which relate to ethics, in subjects designed to inform the licensee regarding the current insurance laws of this state, so 1731 1732 as to enable him or her to engage in business as an insurance 1733 adjuster fairly and without injury to the public and to adjust 1734 all claims in accordance with the policy or contract and the laws of this state. 1735

1736 (b) Any individual holding a license as a public adjuster 1737 for 24 consecutive months or longer, beginning in his or her 1738 birth month and every 2 years thereafter, must have completed 24 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM Page 63 of 86

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Amendment No. 1739 hours of courses, 2 hours of which relate to ethics, in subjects 1740 designed to inform the licensee regarding the current laws of 1741 this state pertaining to all lines of insurance other than life 1742 and annuities, the current laws of this state pertaining to the 1743 duties and responsibilities of public adjusters as set forth in 1744 this part, and the current rules of the department applicable to 1745 public adjusters and standard or representative policy forms 1746 used by insurers, other than forms for life insurance and 1747 annuities, so as to enable him or her to engage in business as 1748 an adjuster fairly and without injury to the public and to 1749 adjust all claims in accordance with the policy or contract and 1750 laws of this state. In order to receive credit for continuing 1751 education courses, public adjusters must take courses that are 1752 specifically designed for public adjusters and approved by the 1753 department, provided, however, no continuing education course 1754 shall be required for public adjusters for workers' compensation insurance or health insurance. 1755

1756 (c) The department shall adopt rules necessary to 1757 implement and administer the continuing education requirements of this subsection. For good cause shown, the department may 1759 grant an extension of time during which the requirements imposed 1760 by this section may be completed, but such extension of time may 1761 not exceed 1 year.

(d) A nonresident public adjuster must complete the continuing education requirements provided by this section; provided, a nonresident public adjuster may meet the requirements of this section if the continuing education requirements of the nonresident public adjuster's home state are 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM

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1767 determined to be substantially comparable to the requirements of 1768 this state's continuing education requirements and if the 1769 resident's state recognizes reciprocity with this state's 1770 continuing education requirements. A nonresident public adjuster 1771 whose home state does not have such continuing education 1772 requirements for adjusters, and who is not licensed as a 1773 nonresident adjuster in a state that has continuing education 1774 requirements and reciprocates with this state, must meet the 1775 continuing education requirements of this section. 1776 The regulation of continuing education for licensees, (5) 1777 course providers, instructors, school officials, and monitor 1778 groups shall be as provided for in s. 626.2816. 1779 Section 38. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section 626.8697, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 1780 626.8697 Grounds for refusal, suspension, or revocation of 1781 1782 adjusting firm license.-The department may, in its discretion, deny, suspend, 1783 (2)revoke, or refuse to continue the license of any adjusting firm 1784 1785 if it finds that any of the following applicable grounds exist 1786 with respect to the firm or any owner, partner, manager, director, officer, or other person who is otherwise involved in 1787 1788 the operation of the firm: 1789 (c) Violation of an any order or rule of the department, 1790 office, or commission. 1791 Section 39. Subsections (1) and (5) of section 626.872, 1792 Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 1793 626.872 Temporary license.-

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(1) The department may, in its discretion, issue a temporary license as an <u>all-lines</u> independent adjuster or as a company employee adjuster, subject to the following conditions:

Amendment No.

(a) The applicant must be an employee of an adjuster
currently licensed by the department, an employee of an
authorized insurer, or an employee of an established adjusting
firm or corporation who which is supervised by a currently
licensed all-lines independent adjuster.

1802 (b) The application must be accompanied by a certificate 1803 of employment and a report as to the applicant's integrity and 1804 moral character on a form prescribed by the department and 1805 executed by the employer.

1806 (b) (c) The applicant must be a natural person of at least 1807 18 years of age, must be a bona fide resident of this state, 1808 must be trustworthy, and must have <u>a such</u> business reputation 1809 <u>that as would reasonably ensure assure</u> that the applicant will 1810 conduct his or her business as an adjuster fairly and in good 1811 faith and without detriment to the public.

1812 (c) (d) The applicant's employer is responsible for the 1813 adjustment acts of <u>the temporary</u> any licensee <u>under this</u> 1814 <u>section</u>.

1815(d) (e)The applicable license fee specified must be paid1816before issuance of the temporary license.

1817 (e) (f) The temporary license is shall be effective for a period of 1 year, but is subject to earlier termination at the request of the employer, or if the licensee fails to take an examination as an <u>all-lines</u> independent adjuster or company employee adjuster within 6 months after issuance of the 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM Page 66 of 86

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1822 temporary license, or if the temporary license is suspended or 1823 revoked by the department. 1824 (5) The department may shall not issue a temporary license 1825 as an all-lines independent adjuster or as a company employee adjuster to an any individual who has ever held such a license 1826 1827 in this state. Section 40. Section 626.873, Florida Statutes, is 1828 1829 repealed. Section 41. Section 626.8734, Florida Statutes, is amended 1830 1831 to read: 1832 626.8734 Nonresident all-lines adjuster license 1833 independent adjuster's qualifications.-1834 (1)The department shall, upon application therefor, issue a license to an applicant for a nonresident all-lines adjuster 1835 independent adjuster's license upon determining that the 1836 applicant has paid the applicable license fees required under s. 1837 624.501 and: 1838 1839 Is a natural person at least 18 years of age. (a) 1840 Has passed to the satisfaction of the department a (b) 1841 written Florida all-lines adjuster independent adjuster's examination of the scope prescribed in s. 626.241(6); however, 1842 1843 the requirement for the examination does not apply to any of the 1844 following: 1845 1. An applicant who is licensed as an all-lines a resident independent adjuster in his or her home state if of residence 1846 when that state has entered into requires the passing of a 1847 written examination in order to obtain the license and a 1848

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1849 reciprocal agreement with the appropriate official of that state 1850 has been entered into by the department; or

Amendment No.

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

1857 Is licensed as an all-lines adjuster and is self-(C) appointed or appointed and employed by an independent adjusting 1858 1859 firm or other independent adjuster, or is an employee of an 1860 insurer admitted to do business in this state, a wholly-owned 1861 subsidiary of an insurer admitted to do business in this state, 1862 or other insurers under the common control or ownership of such insurer self-employed or associated with or employed by an 1863 1864 independent adjusting firm or other independent adjuster. 1865 Applicants licensed as nonresident all-lines independent adjusters under this section must be appointed as an independent 1866 1867 adjuster or company employee adjuster such in accordance with 1868 the provisions of ss. 626.112 and 626.451. Appointment fees as 1869 in the amount specified in s. 624.501 must be paid to the 1870 department in advance. The appointment of a nonresident 1871 independent adjuster continues shall continue in force until 1872 suspended, revoked, or otherwise terminated, but is subject to 1873 biennial renewal or continuation by the licensee in accordance 1874 with procedures prescribed in s. 626.381 for licensees in 1875 general.

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(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.

Amendment No.

1880 (e) Has had sufficient experience, training, or 1881 instruction concerning the adjusting of damages or losses under insurance contracts, other than life and annuity contracts; is 1882 1883 sufficiently informed as to the terms and effects of the provisions of those types of insurance contracts; and possesses 1884 adequate knowledge of the laws of this state relating to such 1885 1886 contracts as to enable and qualify him or her to engage in the 1887 business of insurance adjuster fairly and without injury to the 1888 public or any member thereof with whom he or she may have 1889 business as an all-lines independent adjuster.

1890 (2) The applicant <u>must shall</u> furnish the following with1891 his 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.

1895 (b) If currently licensed as an all-lines a resident independent adjuster in the applicant's home state of residence, 1896 1897 a certificate or letter of authorization from the licensing 1898 authority of the applicant's home state of residence, stating 1899 that the applicant holds a current license to act as an all-1900 lines independent adjuster. The Such certificate or letter of authorization must be signed by the insurance commissioner, or 1901 1902 his or her deputy or the appropriate licensing official, and must disclose whether the adjuster has ever had a any license or 1903 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM

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1904	Amendment No. eligibility to hold any license declined, denied, suspended,
1905	revoked, or placed on probation or whether an administrative
1906	fine or penalty has been levied against the adjuster and, if so,
1907	the reason for the action. Such certificate or letter is not
1908	required if the nonresident applicant's licensing status can be
1909	verified through the Producer Database maintained by the
1910	National Association of Insurance Commissioners, its affiliates,
1911	or subsidiaries.

Amondmont No

1912 If the applicant's home state of residence does not (C) require licensure as an all-lines independent adjuster and the 1913 1914 applicant has been licensed as a resident insurance adjuster, 1915 agent, broker, or other insurance representative in his or her 1916 home state of residence or any other state within the past 3 1917 years, a certificate or letter of authorization from the 1918 licensing authority stating that the applicant holds or has held 1919 a license to act as an insurance adjuster, agent, or other insurance representative. The certificate or letter of 1920 authorization must be signed by the insurance commissioner, or 1921 1922 his or her deputy or the appropriate licensing official, and 1923 must disclose whether the adjuster, agent, or other insurance 1924 representative has ever had a any license or eligibility to hold 1925 any license declined, denied, suspended, revoked, or placed on 1926 probation or whether an administrative fine or penalty has been 1927 levied against the adjuster and, if so, the reason for the 1928 action. Such certificate or letter is not required if the 1929 nonresident applicant's licensing status can be verified through 1930 the Producer Database maintained by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners, its affiliates, or subsidiaries. 1931 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM

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1932 The usual and customary records pertaining to (3) 1933 transactions under the license of a nonresident all-lines 1934 independent adjuster must be retained for at least 3 years after 1935 completion of the adjustment and must be made available in this 1936 state to the department upon request. The failure of a nonresident all-lines independent adjuster to properly maintain 1937 records and make them available to the department upon request 1938 1939 constitutes grounds for the immediate suspension of the license 1940 issued under this section.

Amendment No.

1941 (4) After licensure as a nonresident independent adjuster, 1942 As a condition of doing business in this state as a nonresident 1943 independent adjuster, the appointee must licensee must annually 1944 on or before January 1, on a form prescribed by the department, 1945 submit an affidavit to the department certifying that the licensee is familiar with and understands the insurance laws and 1946 1947 administrative rules of this state and the provisions of the 1948 contracts negotiated or to be negotiated. Compliance with this 1949 filing requirement is a condition precedent to the issuance, 1950 continuation, reinstatement, or renewal of a nonresident 1951 independent adjuster's appointment.

1952Section 42.Section 626.8736, Florida Statutes, is amended1953to read:

1954 626.8736 Nonresident independent or public adjusters; 1955 service of process.-

(1) Each licensed nonresident independent or public
adjuster or all-lines adjuster appointed as an independent
adjuster shall appoint the Chief Financial Officer and his or
her successors in office as his or her attorney to receive
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1960 service of legal process issued against <u>such</u> the nonresident 1961 <u>independent or public</u> adjuster in this state, upon causes of 1962 action arising within this state out of transactions under his 1963 license and appointment. Service upon the Chief Financial 1964 Officer as attorney <u>constitutes</u> shall constitute effective legal 1965 service upon the nonresident independent or public adjuster.

Amendment No.

1966 (2) The appointment of the Chief Financial Officer for 1967 service of process <u>is shall be</u> irrevocable for as long as there 1968 could be any cause of action against the nonresident independent 1969 or public adjuster <u>or all-lines adjuster appointed as an</u> 1970 <u>independent adjuster</u> arising out of his or her insurance 1971 transactions in this state.

1972 (3) Duplicate copies of legal process against the
1973 nonresident independent or public adjuster or all-lines adjuster
1974 <u>appointed as an independent adjuster</u> shall be served upon the
1975 Chief Financial Officer by a person competent to serve a
1976 summons.

(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 alllines adjuster appointed as an independent adjuster at his or
her last address of record with the department.

1983 (5) The Chief Financial Officer shall keep a record of the
1984 day and hour of service upon him or her of all legal process
1985 received under this section.
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626.874 Catastrophe or emergency adjusters.-

1989 In the event of a catastrophe or emergency, the (1)1990 department may issue a license, for the purposes and under the 1991 conditions which it shall fix and for the period of emergency as 1992 it shall determine, to persons who are residents or nonresidents 1993 of this state, who are at least 18 years of age, who are United 1994 States citizens or legal aliens who possess work authorization 1995 from the United States Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration 1996 Services, and who are not licensed adjusters under this part but who have been designated and certified to it as qualified to act 1997 1998 as adjusters by all-lines independent resident adjusters, or by 1999 an authorized insurer, or by a licensed general lines agent to 2000 adjust claims, losses, or damages under policies or contracts of insurance issued by such insurers. The fee for the license is 2001 shall be as provided in s. 624.501(12)(c). 2002

2003 Section 44. Subsection (1) of section 626.875, Florida 2004 Statutes, is amended to read:

2005

1988

626.875 Office and records.-

(1) <u>Each appointed</u> Every licensed independent adjuster and
every licensed public adjuster <u>must</u> shall have and maintain in
this state a place of business <u>in this state which is</u> accessible
to the public and keep therein the usual and customary records
pertaining to transactions under the license. This provision
<u>does shall</u> not be deemed to prohibit maintenance of such an
office in the home of the licensee.

2013 Section 45. Section 626.876, Florida Statutes, is amended 2014 to read:

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2027

2015 626.876 Exclusive employment; public adjusters, 2016 independent 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 No individual licensed as an all-lines adjuster</u> and
appointed as an independent adjuster <u>may not shall</u> be so
employed during the same period by more than one independent
adjuster or independent adjuster firm or corporation.

2025 Section 46. Subsections (5), (6), and (7) of section 2026 626.927, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

626.927 Licensing of surplus lines agent.-

2028 (5) The applicant must file and thereafter maintain the 2029 bond as required under s. 626.928.

2030 <u>(5) (6)</u> Examinations as to surplus lines, as required under 2031 subsections (1) and (2), <u>are shall be</u> subject to the provisions 2032 of part I as applicable to applicants for licenses in general. 2033 No such examination shall be required as to persons who held a 2034 Florida surplus lines agent's license as of January 1, 1959, 2035 except when examinations subsequent to issuance of an initial 2036 license are provided for in general under part I.

2037 <u>(6) (7)</u> <u>An</u> Any individual who has been licensed by the 2038 department as a surplus lines agent as provided in this section 2039 may be subsequently appointed without additional written 2040 examination if his or her application for appointment is filed 2041 with the department within 48 months <u>after next following</u> the 2042 date of cancellation or expiration of the prior appointment. The 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM

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2043	Amendment No. department may , in its discretion, require an any individual to
2044	take and successfully pass an examination as for original
2045	issuance of license as a condition precedent to the
2046	reinstatement or continuation of the licensee's current license
2047	or reinstatement or continuation of the licensee's appointment.
2048	Section 47. Section 626.928, Florida Statutes, is
2049	repealed.
2050	Section 48. Section 626.933, Florida Statutes, is amended
2051	to read:
2052	626.933 Collection of tax and service fee.—If the tax or
2053	service fee payable by a surplus lines agent under the this
2054	Surplus Lines Law is not so paid within the time prescribed, it
2055	the same shall be recoverable in a suit brought by the
2056	department against the surplus lines agent and the surety or
2057	sureties on the bond filed by the surplus lines agent under s.
2058	626.928. The department may authorize the Florida Surplus Lines
2059	Service Office to file suit on its behalf. All costs and
2060	expenses incurred in a suit brought by the office which are not
2061	recoverable from the agent or surety shall be borne by the
2062	office.
2063	Section 49. Subsection (1) of section 626.935, Florida
2064	Statutes, is amended to read:
2065	626.935 Suspension, revocation, or refusal of surplus
2066	lines agent's license
2067	(1) The department shall deny an application for, suspend,
2068	revoke, or refuse to renew the appointment of a surplus lines
2069	agent and all other licenses and appointments held by the
2070	licensee under this code, <u>on</u> upon any of the following grounds:
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Amendment No. 2071 (a) Removal of t

2071 (a) Removal of the licensee's office from the licensee's2072 state 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.

2077 (c) Closure of the licensee's office for a period of more
2078 than 30 consecutive days.

2079 (d) Failure to make and file his or her affidavit or2080 reports 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.

2083 (f) Failure to maintain the bond as required by s. 2084 626.928.

2085 <u>(f) (g)</u> Suspension, revocation, or refusal to renew or 2086 continue the license or appointment as a general lines agent, 2087 service representative, or managing general agent.

2088 <u>(g)</u>(h) Lack of qualifications as for an original surplus 2089 lines agent's license.

2090

(h) (i) Violation of this Surplus Lines Law.

2091 <u>(i)(j)</u> For any other applicable cause for which the 2092 license of a general lines agent could be suspended, revoked, or 2093 refused under s. 626.611 or s. 626.621.

2094 Section 50. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 2095 627.952, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

2096

627.952 Risk retention and purchasing group agents.-

(1) Any person offering, soliciting, selling, purchasing, administering, or otherwise servicing insurance contracts, 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM

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Amendment No. 2099 certificates, or agreements for any purchasing group or risk 2100 retention group to any resident of this state, either directly 2101 or indirectly, by the use of mail, advertising, or other means 2102 of communication, shall obtain a license and appointment to act 2103 as a resident general lines agent, if a resident of this state, 2104 or a nonresident general lines agent if not a resident. Any such 2105 person shall be subject to all requirements of the Florida 2106 Insurance Code.

Any person required to be licensed and appointed under 2107 (b) by this subsection, in order to place business through Florida 2108 2109 eligible surplus lines carriers, must shall, if a resident of 2110 this state, be licensed and appointed as a surplus lines agent. 2111 Any such person, If not a resident of this state, such person must shall be licensed and appointed as a surplus lines agent in 2112 her or his state of residence and shall file and thereafter 2113 maintain a fidelity bond in favor of the people of the State of 2114 2115 Florida executed by a surety company admitted in this state and payable to the State of Florida; provided, however, any 2116 2117 activities carried out by such nonresident is pursuant to this 2118 part shall be limited to the provision of insurance for purchasing groups. The bond must shall be continuous in form and 2119 2120 maintained in the amount of not less than \$50,000, aggregate 2121 liability set out in s. 626.928. The bond must shall remain in 2122 force and effect until the surety is released from liability by 2123 the department or until the bond is canceled by the surety. The surety may cancel the bond and be released from further 2124 liability thereunder upon 30 days' prior written notice to the 2125 2126 department. The cancellation does shall not affect any liability 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM Page 77 of 86

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2127 incurred or accrued thereunder before the termination of the 30-2128 day period. Upon receipt of a notice of cancellation, the 2129 department shall immediately notify the agent.

2130 Section 51. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 635.051, 2131 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

2132 635.051 Licensing and appointment of mortgage guaranty 2133 insurance agents.-

2134 Effective October 1, 2012, a person may not transact (1)2135 mortgage guaranty insurance unless licensed and appointed as a 2136 credit insurance agent in accordance with the applicable 2137 provisions of the insurance code. Mortgage guaranty licenses held by persons on October 1, 2012, shall be transferred to a 2138 2139 credit insurance agent license. Persons who wish to obtain a new 2140 license identification card that reflects this change must submit the \$5 fee as prescribed in s. 624.501(15). Agents of 2141 mortgage guaranty insurers shall be licensed and appointed and 2142 2143 shall be subject to the same qualifications and requirements 2144 applicable to general lines agents under the laws of this state, 2145 except that:

2146 (a) Particular preliminary specialized education or training is not required of an applicant for such an agent's 2147 2148 license, and continuing education is not required for renewal of 2149 the agent's appointment if, as part of the application for license and appointment, the insurer guarantees that the 2150 2151 applicant will receive the necessary training to enable him or 2152 her properly to hold himself or herself out to the public as a 2153 mortgage guaranty insurance agent and if the department, in its 2154 discretion, accepts such guaranty; 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM

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2155	(b) The agent's license and appointment shall be a limited
2156	license, limited to the handling of mortgage guaranty insurance
2157	only; and
2158	(c) An examination may be required of an applicant for
2159	such a license if the insurer fails to provide the guaranty
2160	described in paragraph (a).
2161	(2) Any general lines agent licensed under chapter 626 is
2162	qualified to represent a mortgage guaranty insurer without
2163	additional <u>licensure</u> examination.
2164	Section 52. Subsection (1) of section 648.34, Florida
2165	Statutes, is amended to read:
2166	648.34 Bail bond agents; qualifications
2167	(1) An application for licensure as a bail bond agent must
2168	be submitted on forms prescribed by the department. $\underline{\text{The}}$
2169	application must include the applicant's full name, date of
2170	birth, social security number, residence, business, and mailing
2171	addresses, contact telephone numbers, including a business
2172	telephone number, and e-mail address.
2173	Section 53. Subsection (2) of section 648.38, Florida
2174	Statutes, is amended to read:
2175	648.38 Licensure examination for bail bond agents; time;
2176	place; fees; scope
2177	(2) The department or a person designated by the
2178	department shall <u>provide</u> mail written notice of the time and
2179	place of the examination to each applicant for licensure
2180	required to take an examination who will be eligible to take the
2181	examination as of the examination date. The notice shall be $\underline{e-}$
2182	mailed so mailed, postage prepaid, and addressed to the
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2183 applicant at <u>the e-mail his or her</u> address shown on his or her 2184 application for licensure or at such other address as requested 2185 by the applicant in writing filed with the department prior to 2186 the mailing of the notice. Notice shall be deemed given when so 2187 mailed.

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2188 Section 54. Section 648.385, Florida Statutes, is amended 2189 to read:

2190 648.385 Continuing education required; application; 2191 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 lecturing at any approved seminar and attending the entire course or seminar shall qualify for the same number of classroom hours as would be granted to a person taking and successfully completing such course, seminar, or program. Credit shall be limited to the number of hours actually taught unless a person attends the entire course or seminar.

2209 (c) For good cause shown, the department may grant an 2210 extension of time during which the requirements imposed by this 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM Page 80 of 86

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2211 section may be completed, but such extension of time may not 2212 exceed 1 year.

2213 (3) (a) Any bail-related course developed or sponsored by 2214 any authorized insurer or recognized bail bond agents' 2215 association, or any independent study program of instruction, subject to approval by the department, qualifies for the 2216 2217 equivalency of the number of classroom hours assigned to such 2218 course by the department. However, unless otherwise provided in 2219 this section, continuing education credit may not be credited 2220 toward meeting the requirements of this section unless the 2221 course is provided by classroom instruction or results in a 2222 monitored examination.

2223 (b) Each person or entity sponsoring a course for 2224 continuing education credit must furnish, within 30 days after 2225 completion of the course, in a form satisfactory to the 2226 department or its designee, a written and certified roster 2227 showing the name and license number of all persons successfully 2228 completing such course and requesting credit, accompanied by the 2229 required fee. The department shall refuse to issue, continue, or 2230 renew the appointment of any bail bond agent who has not had the 2231 continuing education requirements certified unless the agent has 2232 been granted an extension by the department.

2233 Section 55. Section 648.421, Florida Statutes, is amended 2234 to read:

2235 648.421 Notice of change of address or telephone number.2236 Each licensee under this chapter shall notify in writing the
2237 department, insurer, managing general agent, and the clerk of
2238 each court in which the licensee is registered within 10 working
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Amendment No. 2239 days after a change in the licensee's principal business address 2240 or telephone number. The licensee shall also notify the 2241 department within 10 working days after a change of the name, 2242 address, or telephone number of each agency or firm for which he 2243 or she writes bonds and any change in the licensee's name, home 2244 address, e-mail address, or telephone number. Section 56. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this 2245 2246 act, this act shall take effect October 1, 2012. 2247 2248 2249 2250 2251 TITLE AMENDMENT 2252 Remove the entire title and insert: 2253 A bill to be entitled 2254 An act relating to insurance agents and adjusters; amending s. 2255 624.501, F.S.; deleting the title insurer administrative 2256 surcharge for a licensed title insurance agency; amending s. 2257 624.505, F.S.; deleting a requirement that an insurer pay an 2258 agent tax for each county in which an agent represents the 2259 insurer and has a place of business; amending s. 626.015, F.S.; 2260 revising the definitions of "adjuster" and "home state"; 2261 amending s. 626.0428, F.S.; revising provisions relating to who 2262 may bind insurance coverage; amending s. 626.171, F.S.; 2263 providing that an applicant is responsible for the information 2264 in an application even if completed by a third party; requiring 2265 an application to include a statement about the method used to 2266 meet certain requirements; amending s. 626.191, F.S.; revising 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM Page 82 of 86

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2267 provisions relating to when an applicant may apply for a license 2268 after an initial application is denied by the Department of 2269 Financial Services; amending s. 626.221, F.S.; revising 2270 provisions relating to license examinations; conforming 2271 provisions relating to all-lines adjusters; deleting an 2272 exemption from examination for certain adjusters; amending s. 2273 626.231, F.S.; providing for submitting an application for 2274 examination on a designee's website; amending s. 626.241, F.S.; 2275 revising the scope of the examination for an all-lines adjuster; amending s. 626.251, F.S.; providing for e-mailing notices of 2276 2277 examinations; amending s. 626.281, F.S.; specifying how many 2278 times an applicant may take an examination during a year; 2279 amending s. 626.2815, F.S.; revising provisions relating to 2280 continuing education requirements; providing that persons on active military duty may seek a waiver; providing for an update 2281 course and the contents of such course; deleting requirements 2282 2283 relating specifically to certain types of insurance; providing education requirements for bail bond agents and public 2284 2285 adjusters; eliminating the continuing education advisory board; 2286 amending s. 626.292, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made 2287 by the act relating to all-lines adjusters; amending s. 626.311, 2288 F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act relating 2289 to limited licenses; amending s. 626.321, F.S.; revising 2290 provisions relating to limited licenses; prohibiting the future 2291 issuance of new limited licenses for motor vehicle physical 2292 damage and mechanical breakdown insurance; combining limited 2293 licenses relating to credit insurance; specifying events covered 2294 by crop hail and multiple-peril crop insurance; revising in-418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM Page 83 of 86

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2295 transit and storage personal property insurance to create a 2296 limited license for portable electronics insurance; amending s. 2297 626.342, F.S.; clarifying that the prohibition relating to the 2298 furnishing of supplies to unlicensed agents applies to all 2299 unlicensed agents; amending s. 626.381, F.S.; revising 2300 provisions relating to the reporting of administrative actions; 2301 amending s. 626.536, F.S.; clarifying requirements for reporting 2302 administrative actions taken against a licensee; amending s. 2303 626.551, F.S.; shortening the time within which a licensee must 2304 report to the department a change in certain information; 2305 authorizing the Department of Financial Services to adopt rules 2306 relating to notification of a change of address; amending s. 2307 626.621, F.S.; adding failure to comply with child support requirements as grounds for action against a license; amending 2308 s. 626.641, F.S.; clarifying provisions relating to the 2309 suspension or revocation of a license or appointment; amending 2310 2311 s. 626.651, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the suspension or revocation of licenses; amending ss. 626.730 and 626.732, 2312 2313 F.S.; revising provisions relating to the purpose of the general 2314 lines and personal lines license and certain requirements related to general lines and personal lines agents; conforming 2315 2316 provisions to changes made by the act relating to limited 2317 licenses; amending s. 626.8411, F.S.; revising requirements and 2318 exemptions relating to title insurance agents or agencies; 2319 creating s. 626.8548, F.S.; defining the term "all-lines adjuster"; amending s. 626.855, F.S.; revising the definition of 2320 "independent adjuster"; amending s. 626.856, F.S.; revising the 2321 definition of "company employee adjuster"; repealing s. 626.858, 2322 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM

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Amendment No. 2323 F.S., relating to defining "nonresident company employee 2324 adjuster"; amending s. 626.8584, F.S.; revising the definition 2325 of "nonresident all-lines adjuster"; amending s. 626.863, F.S.; 2326 conforming provisions to changes made by the act relating to all-lines adjusters; amending s. 626.864, F.S.; revising 2327 2328 provisions relating to adjuster license types; amending s. 626.865, F.S.; requiring an applicant for public adjuster to be 2329 2330 licensed as a public adjuster apprentice; amending s. 626.866, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act relating 2331 2332 to all-lines adjusters; repealing s. 626.867, F.S., relating to 2333 qualifications for company employee adjusters; amending s. 626.869, F.S.; revising provisions relating to an all-lines 2334 2335 adjuster license; ceasing the issuance of certain adjuster 2336 licenses; revising continuing education requirements; amending s. 626.8697, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the violation 2337 of rules resulting in the suspension or revocation of an 2338 adjuster's license; amending s. 626.872, F.S.; conforming 2339 provisions to changes made by the act relating to all-lines 2340 2341 adjusters; repealing s. 626.873, F.S., relating to licensure for 2342 nonresident company employee adjusters; amending s. 626.8734, F.S.; amending provisions relating to nonresident all-lines 2343 2344 adjusters; providing for verifying an applicant's status through 2345 the National Association of Insurance Commissioners' Producer Database; amending ss. 626.8736, 626.874, 626.875, and 626.876, 2346 2347 F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act relating to all-lines adjusters; amending s. 626.927, F.S.; deleting a 2348 requirement that a licensed surplus lines agent maintain a bond; 2349 repealing s. 626.928, F.S., relating to a surplus lines agent's 2350 418273 - h0725-strike.docx Published On: 1/10/2012 6:50:06 PM

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Amendment No. 2351 bond; amending ss. 626.933, 626.935, and 627.952, F.S.; 2352 conforming cross-references; amending s. 635.051, F.S.; 2353 requiring persons transacting mortgage guaranty insurance to be 2354 licensed and appointed as a credit insurance agent; amending s. 2355 648.38, F.S.; revising the notice of examination requirements 2356 for bail bond agents; amending s. 648.34, F.S.; requiring application information for bail bond agents; amending s. 2357 2358 648.385, F.S.; revising continuing education courses for bail 2359 bond agents, to conform to changes made by the act; amending s. 648.421, F.S., requiring notification by bail bond agents; 2360 2361 providing effective dates.