

SHORT TITLE: Insurance; exempting certain insurance agents from continuing education requirement. Emergency.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 46th Legislature (1998)

SENATE BILL NO. 1157

By: Hendrick

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to insurance; amending 36 O.S. 1991, Section 1425.1, as last amended by Section 70, Chapter 418, O.S.L. 1997, and as renumbered by Section 127, Chapter 418, O.S.L. 1997 (36 O.S. Supp. 1997, Section 1426A), which relates to continuing education for insurance agents; exempting insurance agents over age sixty-five from certain continuing education requirements; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 36 O.S. 1991, Section 1425.1, as last amended by Section 70, Chapter 418, O.S.L. 1997, and as renumbered by Section 127, Chapter 418, O.S.L. 1997 (36 O.S. Supp. 1997, Section 1426A), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1426A. A. 1. Each insurance agent shall, biennially, complete not less than fourteen (14) clock hours of continuing insurance education which shall cover subjects in the lines for which the agent is licensed. Such education may include a written or oral examination. Licensed insurance agents over sixty-five (65) years of age shall be exempt from the requirements of this section.

2. Each customer service representative shall, biennially, complete not less than ten (10) clock hours of continuing insurance education which shall cover subjects in the lines for which the

licensee is authorized to conduct insurance-related business on behalf of the appointing agent, broker, or agency.

3. Licensees shall complete, in addition to the foregoing, two (2) clock hours of ethics course work in this same period.

B. 1. The Insurance Commissioner shall approve courses and providers of continuing education.

2. Each insurance company shall be allowed to provide continuing education to insurance agents and customer service representatives as required by this section; provided that such continuing education meets the general standards for education otherwise established by the Insurance Commission.

3. An agent who, during the time period prior to renewal, successfully completes any one of the following courses or programs of instruction and equivalent classroom hours approved by the Insurance Commissioner shall be deemed to have met the biennial requirement for continuing education:

- a. any part of a life course curriculum totaling fifty (50) classroom hours, or a health course totaling twenty-six (26) classroom hours offered by the Life Underwriter Training Council,
- b. any part of the American College of Life Underwriters (CLU) diploma curriculum totaling thirty (30) classroom hours,
- c. any part of the Accredited Advisor in Insurance (AAI) program totaling twenty-five (25) classroom hours offered by the Insurance Institute of America,
- d. any part of the Chartered Property and Casualty Underwriter (CPCU) professional designation program totaling thirty (30) classroom hours offered by the American Institute of Property and Liability Underwriters, or

e. any part of the Certified Insurance Counselor Program totaling twenty (20) classroom hours.

C. Each provider of continuing education shall, after approval by the Commissioner, submit an annual fee of Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) payable to the Insurance Commissioner which shall be deposited in the State Insurance Commissioner Revolving Fund, created in subsection G of Section 1425 of this title, for the purposes of fulfilling and accomplishing the conditions and purposes of the Insurance Agents Licensing Act. Provided, public funded educational institutions shall be exempt from this subsection.

D. Failure of an insurance agent or customer service representative to comply with the requirements of this act may, after notice and opportunity for hearing, result in censure, suspension, nonrenewal of license or a civil penalty of up to Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) or by both such penalty and civil penalty. Said civil penalty may be enforced in the same manner in which civil judgments may be enforced. Any civil penalties collected under this act shall be deposited in the State Insurance Commissioner Revolving Fund.

E. Limited insurance representatives and nonresident agents who have successfully completed an equivalent or greater requirement as set out in subparagraph b of paragraph 2 of subsection A of Section 1424 of this title shall be exempt from the provisions of this section.

F. The Commissioner shall adopt and promulgate such rules as are necessary for effective administration of this act.

SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

