1	STATE OF OKLAHOMA
2	1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)
3	SENATE BILL NO. 1010 By: Quinn
4	
5	
6	AS INTRODUCED
7	An Act relating to insurance; amending 36 O.s. 2011,
8	Section 1435.8, which relates to insurance producer licenses; modifying information required for
9	maintaining licensure; amending 36 O.S. 2011, Section 1435.13, which relates to suspension and revocation
10	of license; adding causes for license penalty; eliminating requirement to return license in certain
11	circumstances; amending 36 O.S. 2011, Section 1435.15, as amended by Section 7, Chapter 275, O.S.L.
12	2014 (36 O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 1435.15), which relates to appointment of producer as agent of
13	insurer; modifying timeline of certain filing; amending 36 O.S. 2011, Section 1435.18, which relates
14	to administrative actions or criminal prosecutions against producer; adding persons required to provide
15	certain notice to Insurance Commissioner; providing for suspension of license for violating provision;
16	applying certain provision to certain licenses; amending 36 O.S. 2011, Section 1435.29, as amended by
17	Section 7, Chapter 11, O.S.L. 2012 (36 O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 1435.29), which relates to continuing
18	education; decreasing certain required education hours; amending 36 O.S. 2011, Section 1450, which
19	relates to licensing procedure; requiring administrator to provide notice to Commissioner of
20	certain legal or administrative action; amending 36 O.S. 2011, Section 4055.3, which relates to
21	application procedures; modifying factors Insurance Commissioner shall consider for licensure; amending
22	36 O.S. 2011, Section 6203, which relates to persons not deemed adjusters or required to obtain license;
23	modifying situation in which nonresident insurance adjuster is exempt from licensure; amending 36 O.S.
24	2011, Section 6206, as amended by Section 13, Chapter 44, O.S.L. 2012 (36 O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 6206),
۲ ک	

1	which relates to mailing addresses; modifying
2	information required to be submitted to Insurance Commissioner; amending 36 O.S. 2011, Section 6220, as
3	last amended by Section 10, Chapter 73, O.S.L. 2016 (36 O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 6220), which relates to
4	suspension, revocation, or refusal to renew license; eliminating ground for penalty; adding use of certain
5	materials in licensing exam as ground for penalty; amending 36 O.S. 2011, Section 6754, which relates to service contracts; requiring filing and approval of
6	certain contracts with Commissioner; updating statutory language; updating statutory reference; and
7	providing an effective date.
8	
9	
10	BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:
11	SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 36 O.S. 2011, Section 1435.8, is
12	amended to read as follows:
13	Section 1435.8. A. Unless denied licensure pursuant to Section
14	1435.13 of this title, persons who have met the requirements of
15	Sections 1435.6 and 1435.7 of this title shall be issued an
16	insurance producer license. An insurance producer may receive
17	qualification for a license in one or more of the following lines of
18	authority:
19	1. Life - insurance coverage on human lives including benefits
20	of endowment and annuities, and may include benefits in the event of
21	death or dismemberment by accident and benefits for disability
22	income;
23	
24 47	

2. Accident and health or sickness - insurance coverage for sickness, bodily injury or accidental death and may include benefits for disability income; 3. Property - insurance coverage for the direct or

⁵ consequential loss or damage to property of every kind;

6 4. Casualty - insurance coverage against legal liability,
7 including that for death, injury or disability or damage to real or
8 personal property;

9 5. Variable life and variable annuity products - insurance 10 coverage provided under variable life insurance contracts and 11 variable annuities;

6. Personal lines - property and casualty insurance coverage sold to individuals and families for primarily noncommercial purposes;

15 7. Commercial lines - property and casualty insurance coverage 16 sold to businesses for primarily commercial purposes;

8. Credit - limited line credit insurance;

9. Title insurance - insurance coverage that insures or guarantees the title to real or personal property or any interest therein or encumbrance thereon;

21 10. Aircraft title insurance - insurance coverage that protects 22 an aircraft owner or lender against loss of the aircraft or priority 23 security position in the event of a successful adverse claim on the 24 title to an aircraft; and

Req. No. 944

17

1 11. Any other line of insurance permitted under state laws or 2 regulations.

B. An insurance producer license shall remain in effect unless
 revoked or suspended as long as the fee set forth in Section 1435.23
 of this title is paid and education requirements for resident
 individual producers are met by the due date.

7 C. An individual insurance producer who allows the license to 8 lapse may, within twelve (12) months from the due date of the 9 renewal fee, reinstate the same license without the necessity of 10 passing a written examination unless the license was revoked, 11 suspended, or continuation thereof was refused by the Commissioner. 12 However, a penalty in the amount of double the unpaid renewal fee 13 shall be required for any renewal fee received after the due date. 14 Continuing education requirements must be kept current.

D. A licensed insurance producer who is unable to comply with license renewal procedures due to military service or some other extenuating circumstance, such as a long-term medical disability, may request a waiver of those procedures. The producer may also request a waiver of any examination requirement or any other fine or sanction imposed for failure to comply with renewal procedures.

E. The license shall contain the licensee's name, <u>physical</u> <u>residential address</u>, <u>physical business address</u>, <u>preferred mailing</u> address, personal identification number, and the date of issuance</u>,

24

¹ the lines of authority, the expiration date and any other ² information the Insurance Commissioner deems necessary.

3 F. Licensees shall inform by any means acceptable to the 4 Insurance Commissioner of a change of legal name, address, or e-mail 5 address within thirty (30) days of the change to permit the 6 Insurance Commissioner to give proper notice to licensees. A change 7 in legal name or address submitted more than thirty (30) days after 8 the change must include an administrative fee of Fifty Dollars 9 (\$50.00). Failure to provide acceptable notification of a change of 10 legal name or address to the Insurance Commissioner within forty-11 five (45) days of the date the administrative fee is assessed shall 12 result in penalties pursuant to Section 1435.13 of this title.

13 In order to assist in the performance of the Insurance G. 14 Commissioner's duties, the Insurance Commissioner may contract with 15 nongovernmental entities, including the National Association of 16 Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) or any affiliates or subsidiaries 17 that the NAIC oversees, to perform any ministerial functions, 18 including the collection of fees, related to producer licensing that 19 the Insurance Commissioner and the nongovernmental entity may deem 20 appropriate.

H. The Commissioner may participate, in whole or in part, with the National Association of Insurance Commissioners, or any affiliates or subsidiaries the National Association of Insurance Commissioners oversees, in a centralized producer license registry

1 where insurance producer licenses and appointments may be centrally 2 or simultaneously effected for all states that require an insurance 3 producer license and participate in such centralized producer 4 license registry. If the Commissioner finds that participation in 5 such a centralized producer license registry is in the public 6 interest, the Commissioner may adopt by rule any uniform standards 7 or procedures as are necessary to participate in the registry. This 8 includes the central collection of all fees for licenses or 9 appointments that are processed through the registry.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 36 O.S. 2011, Section 1435.13, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1435.13. A. The Insurance Commissioner may place on probation, censure, suspend, revoke or refuse to issue or renew a license issued pursuant to the Oklahoma Producer Licensing Act or may levy a civil penalty in accordance with subsection D of this section or any combination of actions, for any one or more of the following causes:

18 1. Providing incorrect, misleading, incomplete or materially 19 untrue information in the license application;

20 2. Violating any insurance laws, or violating any regulation,
 21 subpoena or order of the Insurance Commissioner or of another
 22 state's Insurance Commissioner;

23 3. Obtaining or attempting to obtain a license through
 24 misrepresentation or fraud;

Req. No. 944

_ _

4. Improperly withholding, misappropriating or converting any
 monies or properties received in the course of doing insurance
 business;

⁴ 5. Intentionally misrepresenting the terms of an actual or
 ⁵ proposed insurance contract or application for insurance;

6. Having been convicted of a felony;

7 7. Having admitted or been found to have committed any
8 insurance unfair trade practice or fraud;

9 8. Using fraudulent, coercive, or dishonest practices, or 10 demonstrating incompetence, untrustworthiness or financial 11 irresponsibility in the conduct of business in this state or 12 elsewhere;

¹³ 9. Having an insurance producer license, or its equivalent, ¹⁴ denied, suspended, censured, placed on probation or revoked in any ¹⁵ other state, province, district or territory;

16 10. Forging another's name to an application for insurance or 17 to any document related to an insurance transaction;

18 11. Improperly using notes or any other reference material to 19 complete an examination for an insurance license;

20 12. Knowingly accepting insurance business from an individual 21 who is not licensed;

13. Failing to comply with an administrative or court order imposing a child support obligation; or

24

6

Req. No. 944

1 14. Failing to pay state income tax or comply with any 2 administrative or court order directing payment of state income tax<u>;</u>

³ <u>15. Failing to respond to any inquiry, including but not</u>
⁴ <u>limited to electronic communications, from the Department within</u>
⁵ <u>thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of such inquiry; or</u>

6 <u>16. Any cause for which an original issuance of a license could</u> 7 have been refused.

8 в. In the event that the action by the Insurance Commissioner 9 is to nonrenew or to deny an application for a license, the 10 Insurance Commissioner shall notify the applicant or licensee and 11 advise the applicant or licensee, in writing, of the reason for the 12 denial or nonrenewal of the applicant's or licensee's license. The 13 applicant or licensee may make written demand upon the Insurance 14 Commissioner within thirty (30) days of the date of notification of 15 said the notification by the Insurance Commissioner for a hearing 16 before the Insurance Commissioner or an independent hearing examiner 17 to determine the reasonableness of the Insurance Commissioner's 18 action. The hearing shall be heard within a reasonable time period 19 and shall be held pursuant to the Oklahoma Administrative Procedures 20 Act.

C. The license of a business entity may be suspended, revoked or refused if the Insurance Commissioner finds, after opportunity for hearing, that an individual licensee's violation was known or should have been known by one or more of the partners, officers or

Req. No. 944

¹ managers acting on behalf of the partnership or corporation and the ² violation was neither reported to the Insurance Commissioner nor ³ corrective action taken.

D. In addition to or in lieu of any applicable denial, probation, censure, suspension or revocation of a license, a person may, after opportunity for hearing, be subject to a civil fine of not less than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) nor more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) for each occurrence. Said The penalty may be enforced in the same manner in which civil judgments may be enforced.

11 E. Every licensee licensed pursuant to the provisions of the 12 Oklahoma Producer Licensing Act shall keep at the licensee's place 13 of business the usual and customary records pertaining to 14 transactions authorized by the license. All records as to any 15 particular transactions shall be kept available and open to the 16 inspection of the Commissioner at any time during business hours 17 during the three (3) years immediately following the date of 18 completion of the transaction. The Commissioner may require a 19 financial or market conduct examination during any investigation of 20 a licensee. The cost of such examination shall be apportioned among 21 all of the appointing insurers of the licensee.

F. The Insurance Commissioner shall retain the authority to enforce the provisions of and impose any penalty or remedy authorized by the Oklahoma Producer Licensing Act and Title 36 of

Req. No. 944

¹ the Oklahoma Statutes against any person who is under investigation ² for or charged with a violation of the Oklahoma Producer Licensing ³ Act or Title 36 of the Oklahoma Statutes even if the person's ⁴ license or registration has been surrendered or has lapsed by ⁵ operation of law.

6 G. Files pertaining to investigations or legal matters which 7 contain information concurring a current and ongoing investigation 8 of allegations of violations of the Oklahoma Insurance Code by a 9 licensed agent shall not be available for public inspection without 10 proper judicial authorization; however, a licensee under 11 investigation for alleged violations of the Oklahoma Insurance Code, 12 or against whom an action for alleged violations of the Oklahoma 13 Insurance Code has been commenced, may view evidence and complaints 14 pertaining to the investigation, other than privileged information, 15 at reasonable times at the Commissioner's office. All qualification 16 examination materials, booklets and answers for any license 17 authorized to be issued by the Commissioner under any statute shall 18 not be available for public inspection. The residence address, 19 residence telephone number, birth date, and social security number 20 of a licensee shall not be available for public inspection. A 21 separate business or mailing address provided by the licensee shall 22 be considered a public record. If the residence and business 23 addresses or residence and business telephone numbers are the same,

24

¹ such addresses or telephone numbers shall be considered a public
² record.

H. The Commissioner shall promptly notify all appointing
 insurers, where applicable, and the licensee regarding any censure,
 suspension, revocation or termination of license by the
 Commissioner.

I. Upon suspension, revocation or termination of the license of
a resident or nonresident of this state, the Commissioner shall
notify the Central Office of the National Association of Insurance
Commissioners, or its appropriate nonprofit affiliates and the
Insurance Commissioner of each state for whom the Commissioner has
executed a certificate of licensure status.

J. Any licensee who ceases to maintain residency in this state shall deliver the licensee's insurance license to the Commissioner by personal delivery or by mail with return receipt requested within ten (10) days after terminating residency.

¹⁷ K. The Commissioner may issue a duplicate license for any lost, ¹⁸ stolen or destroyed license issued pursuant to this act the Oklahoma ¹⁹ <u>Producer Licensing Act</u> upon an affidavit of the licensee prescribed ²⁰ by the Commissioner concerning the facts of such loss, theft or ²¹ destruction.

SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 36 O.S. 2011, Section 1435.15, as amended by Section 7, Chapter 275, O.S.L. 2014 (36 O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 1435.15), is amended to read as follows:

Req. No. 944

_ _

Section 1435.15. A. An insurance producer shall not act as an agent of an insurer unless the insurance producer becomes an appointed agent of that insurer. An insurance producer who is not acting as an agent of an insurer is not required to become appointed.

6 To appoint a producer as its agent, the appointing insurer, Β. 7 or an authorized representative of the insurer, shall file, in a 8 format approved by the Insurance Commissioner, a notice of 9 appointment within fifteen (15) days from the date the agency 10 contract is executed or the first insurance application is 11 submitted. For purposes of this section, an "authorized 12 representative of the insurer" means a person or entity licensed by 13 the Commissioner pursuant to the laws of this state who is 14 authorized in writing by the appointing insurer to file appointments 15 for the appointing insurer. An insurer or authorized representative 16 of an insurer may also elect to appoint a producer to all or some 17 insurers within the insurer's holding company system or group by the 18 filing of a single appointment request.

C. Upon receipt of the notice of appointment, the Insurance Commissioner shall verify within a reasonable time not to exceed thirty (30) days that the insurance producer is eligible for appointment. If the insurance producer is determined to be ineligible for appointment, the Commissioner shall notify the

24

¹ insurer and the authorized representative of the insurer within five ² (5) days of its determination.

D. An insurer or authorized representative of an insurer shall pay an appointment fee, in the amount and method of payment set forth in Section 1435.23 of this title, for each insurance producer appointed by the insurer for each insurer for which the insurance producer is appointed.

8 Ε. It shall be unlawful for any insurer to discriminate among 9 or between the insurance producers it has appointed. Any person or 10 company convicted of violating the provisions of this section shall 11 be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by the imposition 12 of a fine of not more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) or 13 imprisonment in the county jail for not less than six (6) months nor 14 more than one (1) year, or be punished by both fine and 15 imprisonment.

SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 36 O.S. 2011, Section 1435.18, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1435.18. A. A Whether an applicant for, a person licensed as or a person seeking a renewal for a producer license, that person shall report to the Insurance Commissioner any administrative action taken against the producer that person in another jurisdiction or by another governmental agency in this state within thirty (30) days of the final disposition of the matter.

24

Req. No. 944

¹ This report shall include a copy of the order, consent to order or ² other relevant legal documents.

3 B. Within thirty (30) days of the initial pretrial hearing 4 date, an applicant for, a person licensed as or a person seeking a 5 renewal for a producer license shall report to the Insurance 6 Commissioner any criminal prosecution of the producer that person 7 taken in any jurisdiction. The report shall include a copy of the 8 initial complaint filed, the order resulting from the hearing and 9 any other relevant legal documents. 10 C. Failure to comply with this statute shall result in 11 immediate suspension of an application for, a license of or renewal 12 of a producer license. 13 D. The provisions of this section shall apply to all licenses 14 under Sections 4055.1 et seq. of this title, the Unauthorized 15 Insurers and Surplus Lines Insurance Act, Section 1100 et seq. of 16 this title, the Oklahoma Producer Licensing Act, Section 1435.1 et

¹⁷ seq. of this title and the Insurance Adjusters Licensing Act,

¹⁸ Section 6201 et seq. of this title.

SECTION 5. AMENDATORY 36 O.S. 2011, Section 1450, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1450. A. No person shall act as or present himself or herself to be an administrator, as defined by the provisions of the Third-party Administrator Act, in this state, unless the person

24

¹ holds a valid license as an administrator which is issued by the ² Insurance Commissioner.

3 в. An administrator shall not be eliqible for a nonresident 4 administrator license under this section if the administrator does 5 not hold a home state certificate of authority or license in a state 6 that has adopted the Third-party Administrator Act or that applies 7 substantially similar provisions as are contained in the Third-party 8 Administrator Act to that administrator. If the Third-party 9 Administrator Act in the administrator's home state does not extend 10 to stop-loss insurance, but if the home state otherwise applies 11 substantially similar provisions as are contained in the Third-party 12 Administrator Act to that administrator, then that omission shall 13 not operate to disqualify the administrator from receiving a 14 nonresident administrator license in this state.

15 1. "Home state" means the United States jurisdiction that has 16 adopted the Third-party Administrator Act or a substantially similar 17 law governing third-party administrators and which has been 18 designated by the administrator as its principal regulator. The 19 administrator may designate either its state of incorporation or its 20 principal place of business within the United States if that 21 jurisdiction has adopted the Third-party Administrator Act or a 22 substantially similar law governing third-party administrators. Ιf 23 neither the administrator's state of incorporation nor its principal 24 place of business within the United States has adopted the Third-_ _

Req. No. 944

party Administrator Act or a substantially similar law governing third-party administrators, then the third-party administrator shall designate a United States jurisdiction in which it does business and which has adopted the Third-party Administrator Act or a substantially similar law governing third-party administrators. For purposes of this definition, "United States jurisdiction" means the District of Columbia or a state or territory of the United States.

8 2. "Nonresident administrator" means a person who is applying 9 for licensure or is licensed in any state other than the 10 administrator's home state.

11 In the case of a partnership which has been licensed, each С. 12 general partner shall be named in the license and shall qualify 13 therefore as though an individual licensee. The Commissioner shall 14 charge a full additional license fee and a separate license shall be 15 issued for each individual so named in such a license. The 16 partnership shall notify the Commissioner within fifteen (15) days 17 if any individual licensed on its behalf has been terminated, or is 18 no longer associated with or employed by the partnership. Any 19 entity or partnership licensed as administrators under the Third-20 party Administrators Act shall provide National Association of 21 Insurance Commissioner Biographical Affidavits as required for 22 domestic insurers pursuant to the insurance laws of this state.

D. An application for an administrator's license shall be in a form prescribed by the Commissioner and shall be accompanied by a

¹ fee of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00). This fee shall not be ² refundable if the application is denied or refused for any reason by ³ either the applicant or the Commissioner.

4 The administrator's license shall continue in force no Ε. 5 longer than twelve (12) months from the original month of issuance. 6 Upon filing a renewal form prescribed by the Commissioner, 7 accompanied by a fee of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), the license 8 may be renewed annually for a one-year term. Late application for 9 renewal of a license shall require a fee of double the amount of the 10 original license fee. The administrator shall submit, together with 11 the application for renewal, a list of the names and addresses of 12 the persons with whom the administrator has contracted in accordance 13 with Section 1443 of this title. The Commissioner shall hold this 14 information confidential except as provided in Section 1443 of this 15 title.

16 The administrator's license shall be issued or renewed F. 1. 17 by the Commissioner unless, after notice and opportunity for 18 hearing, the Commissioner determines that the administrator is not 19 competent, trustworthy, or financially responsible, or has had any 20 insurance license denied for cause by any state, has been convicted 21 or has pleaded quilty or nolo contendere to any felony or to a 22 misdemeanor involving moral turpitude or dishonesty.

23 <u>2. The administrator shall report to the Insurance Commissioner</u> 24 any administrative or criminal action taken against the

Req. No. 944

_ _

administrator in another jurisdiction or by another governmental agency in this state within thirty (30) calendar days of the final disposition of the matter. This report shall include a copy of the order, consent to order, copy of any payment required as a result of the administrative or criminal action, or other relevant legal documents.

7 G. After notice and opportunity for hearing, and upon 8 determining that the administrator has violated any of the 9 provisions of the Oklahoma Insurance Code or upon finding reasons 10 for which the issuance or nonrenewal of such license could have been 11 denied, the Commissioner may either suspend or revoke an 12 administrator's license or assess a civil penalty of not more than 13 Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) for each occurrence. The payment 14 of the penalty may be enforced in the same manner as civil judgments 15 may be enforced.

H. Any person who is acting as or presenting himself or herself to be an administrator without a valid license shall be subject, upon conviction, to a fine of not less than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) nor more than Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) for each occurrence. This fine shall be in addition to any other penalties which may be imposed for violations of the Oklahoma Insurance Code or other laws of this state.

I. Except as provided for in subsections F and G of this
section, any person convicted of violating any provisions of the

Req. No. 944

¹ Third-party Administrator Act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and ² shall be subject to a fine of not more than One Thousand Dollars ³ (\$1,000.00).

SECTION 5. AMENDATORY 36 O.S. 2011, Section 1435.29, as
amended by Section 7, Chapter 11, O.S.L. 2012 (36 O.S. Supp. 2018,
Section 1435.29), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1435.29. A. 1. Each insurance producer, with the exception of title producers and aircraft title producers or any other producer exempt by rule, shall, biennially, complete not less than twenty-one (21) clock hours of continuing insurance education.
Such education may include a written or oral examination.

12 2. Each customer service representative shall, biennially, 13 complete not less than ten (10) clock hours of continuing insurance 14 education.

¹⁵ 3. Licensees, with the exception of title producers and ¹⁶ aircraft title producers or any other producer exempt by rule, shall ¹⁷ complete, in addition to the foregoing, three (3) clock hours of ¹⁸ ethics course work in this same period.

19 4. Each title producer and aircraft title producer shall, 20 biennially, complete not less than sixteen (16) clock hours of 21 continuing insurance education, two (2) hours of which shall be 22 ethics course work, which shall cover the line for which the 23 producer is licensed. Such education may include a written or oral 24 examination.

Req. No. 944

1 Β. 1. The Insurance Commissioner shall approve courses and 2 providers of continuing education. The Insurance Department may use 3 one or more of the following to review and provide a nonbinding 4 recommendation to the Insurance Commissioner on approval or 5 disapproval of courses and providers of continuing education: 6 employees of the Insurance Commissioner, a. 7 b. a continuing education advisory committee, or 8 с. an independent service whose normal business 9 activities include the review and approval of 10 continuing education courses and providers. The 11 Commissioner may negotiate agreements with such 12 independent service to review documents and other 13 materials submitted for approval of courses and 14 providers and provide the Commissioner with its 15 nonbinding recommendation. The Commissioner may 16 require such independent service to collect the fee 17 charged by the independent service for reviewing 18 materials provided for review directly from the course 19 providers.

The Insurance Commissioner has sole authority to approve courses and providers of continuing education. If the Insurance Commissioner uses one of the entities listed above to provide a nonbinding recommendation, the Commissioner shall adopt or decline to adopt the recommendation within thirty (30) days of receipt of

¹ the recommendation. In the event the Insurance Commissioner takes ² no action within said thirty-day period, the recommendation made to ³ the Commissioner will be deemed to have been adopted by the ⁴ Commissioner.

The Insurance Commissioner may certify providers and courses offered for license examination study. The Insurance Department shall use employees of the Insurance Commissioner to review and certify license examination study program providers and courses.

9 2. Each insurance company shall be allowed to provide
10 continuing education to insurance producers and customer service
11 representatives as required by this section; provided that such
12 continuing education meets the general standards for education
13 otherwise established by the Insurance Commissioner.

An insurance producer who, during the time period prior to
 renewal, participates in a professional designation program,
 approved by the Insurance Commissioner, shall be deemed to have met
 the biennial requirement for continuing education.

18 The curriculum for the program shall total a minimum of twenty-19 four (24) eight (8) hours within a twenty-four-month period per 20 year. Each approved professional designation program included in 21 this section shall be reviewed for quality and compliance every 22 three (3) years in accordance with standardized criteria promulgated 23 by rule. Continuation of approved status is contingent upon the 24 findings of the review. The list of professional designation _ _

Req. No. 944

¹ programs approved under this paragraph shall be made available to ² producers and providers annually.

3 4. The Insurance Department may promulgate rules providing that 4 courses or programs offered by professional associations shall 5 qualify for presumptive continuing education credit approval. The 6 rules shall include standardized criteria for reviewing the 7 professional associations' mission, membership, and other relevant 8 information, and shall provide a procedure for the Department to 9 disallow all or part of a presumptively approved course. 10 Professional association courses approved in accordance with this 11 paragraph shall be reviewed every three (3) years to determine 12 whether they continue to qualify for continuing education credit.

13 5. Subject to approval by the Commissioner, the active 14 membership of the licensed producer or broker in local, regional, 15 state, or national professional insurance organizations or 16 associations may be approved for up to one (1) annual hour of 17 instruction. The hour shall be credited upon timely filing with the 18 Commissioner, or designee of the Commissioner, and appropriate 19 written evidence acceptable to the Commissioner of such active 20 membership in the organization or association.

6. The active service of a licensed producer as a member of a continuing education advisory committee, as described in paragraph 1 of this subsection, shall be deemed to qualify for continuing education credit on an hour-for-hour basis.

C. 1. Annual fees and course submission fees shall be set forth as a rule by the Commissioner. The fees are payable to the Insurance Commissioner. Provided, public-funded educational institutions, federal agencies, nonprofit organizations, not-forprofit organizations, and Oklahoma state agencies shall be exempt from this subsection.

7 2. The Commissioner may assess a civil penalty, after notice 8 and opportunity for hearing, against a continuing education provider 9 who fails to comply with the requirements of the Oklahoma Producer 10 Licensing Act, of not less than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) nor 11 more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), for each occurrence. The 12 civil penalty may be enforced in the same manner in which civil 13 judgments may be enforced.

D. Failure of an insurance producer or customer service representative to comply with the requirements of the Oklahoma Producer Licensing 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.

E. Limited lines producers and nonresident agents who have successfully completed an equivalent or greater requirement shall be exempt from the provisions of this section.

24

F. Members of the Legislature shall be exempt from this section.

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

5 SECTION 6. AMENDATORY 36 O.S. 2011, Section 1450, is 6 amended to read as follows:

7 Section 1450. A. No person shall act as or present himself or 8 herself to be an administrator, as defined by the provisions of the 9 Third-party Administrator Act, in this state, unless the person 10 holds a valid license as an administrator which is issued by the 11 Insurance Commissioner.

12 An administrator shall not be eligible for a nonresident В. 13 administrator license under this section if the administrator does 14 not hold a home state certificate of authority or license in a state 15 that has adopted the Third-party Administrator Act or that applies 16 substantially similar provisions as are contained in the Third-party 17 Administrator Act to that administrator. If the Third-party 18 Administrator Act in the administrator's home state does not extend 19 to stop-loss insurance, but if the home state otherwise applies 20 substantially similar provisions as are contained in the Third-party 21 Administrator Act to that administrator, then that omission shall 22 not operate to disqualify the administrator from receiving a 23 nonresident administrator license in this state.

24

3

4

1 1. "Home state" means the United States jurisdiction that has 2 adopted the Third-party Administrator Act or a substantially similar 3 law governing third-party administrators and which has been 4 designated by the administrator as its principal regulator. The 5 administrator may designate either its state of incorporation or its 6 principal place of business within the United States if that 7 jurisdiction has adopted the Third-party Administrator Act or a 8 substantially similar law governing third-party administrators. If 9 neither the administrator's state of incorporation nor its principal 10 place of business within the United States has adopted the Third-11 party Administrator Act or a substantially similar law governing 12 third-party administrators, then the third-party administrator shall 13 designate a United States jurisdiction in which it does business and 14 which has adopted the Third-party Administrator Act or a 15 substantially similar law governing third-party administrators. For 16 purposes of this definition, "United States jurisdiction" means the 17 District of Columbia or a state or territory of the United States.

18 2. "Nonresident administrator" means a person who is applying 19 for licensure or is licensed in any state other than the 20 administrator's home state.

C. In the case of a partnership which has been licensed, each general partner shall be named in the license and shall qualify therefore as though an individual licensee. The Commissioner shall charge a full additional license fee and a separate license shall be

Req. No. 944

1 issued for each individual so named in such a license. The 2 partnership shall notify the Commissioner within fifteen (15) days 3 if any individual licensed on its behalf has been terminated, or is 4 no longer associated with or employed by the partnership. Any 5 entity or partnership licensed as administrators under the Third-6 party Administrators Act shall provide National Association of 7 Insurance Commissioner Biographical Affidavits as required for 8 domestic insurers pursuant to the insurance laws of this state.

D. An application for an administrator's license shall be in a
 form prescribed by the Commissioner and shall be accompanied by a
 fee of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00). This fee shall not be
 refundable if the application is denied or refused for any reason by
 either the applicant or the Commissioner.

14 Ε. The administrator's license shall continue in force no 15 longer than twelve (12) months from the original month of issuance. 16 Upon filing a renewal form prescribed by the Commissioner, 17 accompanied by a fee of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), the license 18 may be renewed annually for a one-year term. Late application for 19 renewal of a license shall require a fee of double the amount of the 20 original license fee. The administrator shall submit, together with 21 the application for renewal, a list of the names and addresses of 22 the persons with whom the administrator has contracted in accordance 23 with Section 1443 of this title. The Commissioner shall hold this

24

1 information confidential except as provided in Section 1443 of this
2 title.

F. <u>1.</u> The administrator's license shall be issued or renewed by the Commissioner unless, after notice and opportunity for hearing, the Commissioner determines that the administrator is not competent, trustworthy, or financially responsible, or has had any insurance license denied for cause by any state, has been convicted or has pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to any felony or to a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude or dishonesty.

10 2. The administrator shall report to the Insurance Commissioner 11 any administrative or criminal action taken against the 12 administrator in another jurisdiction or by another governmental 13 agency in this state within thirty (30) calendar days of the final 14 disposition of the matter. This report shall include a copy of the 15 order, consent to order, copy of any payment required as a result of 16 the administrative or criminal action, or other relevant legal 17 documents.

G. After notice and opportunity for hearing, and upon determining that the administrator has violated any of the provisions of the Oklahoma Insurance Code or upon finding reasons for which the issuance or nonrenewal of such license could have been denied, the Commissioner may either suspend or revoke an administrator's license or assess a civil penalty of not more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) for each occurrence. The payment

Req. No. 944

1 of the penalty may be enforced in the same manner as civil judgments
2 may be enforced.

H. Any person who is acting as or presenting himself or herself to be an administrator without a valid license shall be subject, upon conviction, to a fine of not less than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) nor more than Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) for each occurrence. This fine shall be in addition to any other penalties which may be imposed for violations of the Oklahoma Insurance Code or other laws of this state.

I. Except as provided for in subsections F and G of this section, any person convicted of violating any provisions of the Third-party Administrator Act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be subject to a fine of not more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00).

SECTION 7. AMENDATORY 36 O.S. 2011, Section 4055.3, is amended to read as follows:

Section 4055.3. A. 1. A person shall not operate as a viatical settlement provider or viatical settlement broker without first obtaining a license from the Insurance Commissioner of the state of residence of the viator.

2. a. A life insurance producer who has been duly licensed
as a resident insurance producer with a life line of
authority in this state or his or her home state for
at least one (1) year and is licensed as a nonresident

Req. No. 944

1 producer in this state shall be deemed to meet the 2 licensing requirements of this section and shall be 3 permitted to operate as a viatical settlement broker. 4 b. Not later than thirty (30) days from the first day of 5 operating as a viatical settlement broker, the life 6 insurance producer shall notify the Commissioner that 7 he or she is acting as a viatical settlement broker on 8 a form prescribed by the Commissioner, and shall pay 9 any applicable fee to be determined by the 10 Commissioner. Notification shall include an 11 acknowledgement by the life insurance producer that he 12 or she will operate as a viatical settlement broker in 13 accordance with the Viatical Settlements Act of 2008. 14 The insurer that issued the policy being viaticated с. 15 shall not be responsible for any act or omission of a 16 viatical settlement broker or viatical settlement 17 provider arising out of or in connection with the 18 viatical settlement transaction, unless the insurer 19 receives compensation for the placement of a viatical 20 settlement contract from the viatical settlement 21 provider or viatical settlement broker in connection 22 with the viatical settlement contract. 23 A person licensed as an attorney, certified public 3.

²⁴ accountant or financial planner accredited by a nationally

Req. No. 944

_ _

¹ recognized accreditation agency, who is retained to represent the ² viator, whose compensation is not paid directly or indirectly by the ³ viatical settlement provider, may negotiate viatical settlement ⁴ contracts on behalf of the viator without having to obtain a license ⁵ as a viatical settlement broker.

B. Application for a viatical settlement provider or a viatical
settlement broker license shall be made to the Commissioner by the
applicant on a form prescribed by the Commissioner. The application
shall be accompanied by a fee of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00).

10 C. Licenses may be renewed from year to year on the anniversary 11 date upon payment of the annual renewal fees of Five Hundred Dollars 12 (\$500.00). Failure to pay the fees by the renewal date results in 13 expiration of the license.

14 The applicant shall provide information on forms required by D. 15 the Commissioner. The Commissioner shall have authority, at any 16 time, to require the applicant to fully disclose the identity of all 17 stockholders, partners, officers, members and employees, and the 18 Commissioner may, in the exercise of the Commissioner's discretion, 19 refuse to issue a license in the name of a legal entity if not 20 satisfied that any officer, employee, stockholder, partner or member 21 thereof who may materially influence the applicant's conduct meets 22 the standards of the Viatical Settlements Act of 2008.

E. A license issued to a legal entity authorizes all partners, officers, members and designated employees to act as viatical

settlement providers, viatical settlement brokers as applicable, under the license, and all those persons shall be named in the application and any supplements to the application.

F. Upon the filing of an application and the payment of the license fee, the Commissioner shall make an investigation of each applicant and issue a license if the Commissioner finds that the applicant:

8 1. If a viatical settlement provider, has provided a detailed 9 plan of operation;

10 2. Is competent and trustworthy and intends to act in good 11 faith in the capacity involved by the license applied for;

12 3. Has a good business reputation and has had experience, 13 training or education so as to be qualified in the business for 14 which the license is applied for;

15 4. If a viatical settlement provider, has demonstrated а. 16 evidence of financial responsibility in a format 17 prescribed by the Commissioner, through a surety bond 18 executed and issued by an insurer authorized to issue 19 surety bonds in this state, a policy of errors and 20 omissions insurance, or a deposit of cash, 21 certificates of deposit or securities or any 22 combination thereof in an the amount not to exceed of 23 Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), or

24

1 If a viatical settlement broker, has demonstrated b. 2 evidence of financial responsibility in a format 3 prescribed by the Commissioner, through a surety bond 4 executed and issued by an insurer authorized to issue 5 surety bonds in this state, a policy of errors and 6 omissions insurance, or a deposit of cash, 7 certificates of deposit or securities or any 8 combination thereof in an the amount not to exceed of 9 Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), or

10 c. The Commissioner may ask for evidence of financial 11 responsibility at any time the Commissioner deems 12 necessary;

13 5. If a legal entity, provides a certificate of good standing 14 from the state of its domicile; and

15 6. If a viatical settlement provider or viatical settlement
16 broker, has provided an antifraud plan that meets the requirements
17 of subsection G of Section 13 of Enrolled Senate Bill No. 1980 of
18 the 2nd Session of the 51st Oklahoma Legislature.

G. The Commissioner shall not issue a license to a nonresident applicant, unless a written designation of an agent for service of process is filed and maintained with the Commissioner, or the applicant has filed with the Commissioner the applicant's written irrevocable consent that any action against the applicant may be

24

1 commenced against the applicant by service of process on the 2 Commissioner.

H. A viatical settlement provider, viatical settlement broker
or viatical settlement investment agent shall provide to the
Commissioner new or revised information about officers, ten percent
(10%) or more stockholders, partners, directors, members or
designated employees within thirty (30) days of the change.

8 I. An individual licensed as a viatical settlement broker shall 9 complete on a biennial basis eight (8) hours of training related to 10 viatical settlements and viatical settlement transactions, as 11 required by the Commissioner; provided, however, that a life 12 insurance producer who is operating as a viatical settlement broker 13 pursuant to paragraph 2 of subsection A of this section shall not be 14 subject to the requirements of this subsection. Any person failing 15 to meet the requirements of this subsection shall be subject to the 16 penalties imposed by the Commissioner.

SECTION 8. AMENDATORY 36 O.S. 2011, Section 6203, is amended to read as follows:

Section 6203. The definition of an insurance adjuster shall not be deemed to include, and a license as an insurance adjuster shall not be required of, the following:

A licensed agent or general agent of an insurer who
 processes undisputed or uncontested losses for said the insurers
 solely pursuant to the provisions of policies issued by the agent,

_ _

1 or his agency, if the agent or general agent receives no extra
2 compensation for such services;

A person engaged in investigating, adjusting, negotiating,
 or processing claims arising pursuant to the provisions of life
 insurance, annuity, or accident and health insurance contracts;

A nonresident who occasionally is in this state to adjust a single loss or losses arising pursuant to the provisions of a policy of marine insurance;

9 4. A salaried employee of a licensed insurer whose primary 10 duties are not adjusting, investigating, or supervising insurance 11 claims;

12 5. A licensed attorney in the State of Oklahoma who adjusts 13 insurance losses from time to time, incidental to the practice of 14 law, and who does not advertise or represent that he is an adjuster;

A person employed solely for the purpose of furnishing
 technical assistance to a licensed adjuster, including but not
 limited to photographers, appraisers, estimators, private
 detectives, engineers, handwriting experts, and attorneys-at-law;

19 7. A person who performs clerical duties for a licensed insurer 20 or organization that handles claims and who does not negotiate 21 disputed or contested claims for the insurer or organization that 22 handles claims;

8. A nonresident insurance adjuster who is actively licensed in another state and who is in this state no more than once a year for

¹ the purpose of adjusting a single loss or losses arising out of an ² occurrence common to all such losses, or who is acting as a ³ temporary substitute for a licensed adjuster; or

4 9. An individual who collects claim information from, or 5 furnishes claim information to, insured customers or claimants, and 6 who conducts data entry including entering data into an automated 7 claims adjudication system, provided that the individual is an 8 employee of a licensed independent adjuster or an affiliate where no 9 more than twenty-five persons are under the supervision of one 10 licensed independent adjuster or licensed agent. A licensed agent 11 acting as a supervisor pursuant to this paragraph is not required to 12 be licensed as an adjuster.

SECTION 9. AMENDATORY 36 O.S. 2011, Section 6206, as amended by Section 13, Chapter 44, O.S.L. 2012 (36 O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 6206), is amended to read as follows:

Section 6206. A. The Insurance Commissioner shall license as an adjuster only an individual who has fully complied with the provisions of the Insurance Adjusters Licensing Act, including the furnishing of evidence satisfactory to the Commissioner that the applicant:

1. Is at least eighteen (18) years of age;

22 2. Is a bona fide resident of this state or is a resident of a 23 state or country which permits adjusters who are residents of this 24 state to act as adjusters in such other state or country;

Req. No. 944

21

I 3. If a nonresident of the United States, has complied with all federal laws pertaining to employment and the transaction of business in the United States;

4. Is a trustworthy person;

4

5 5. Has had experience or special education or training of 6 sufficient duration and extent with reference to the handling of 7 loss claims pursuant to insurance contracts to make the applicant 8 competent to fulfill the responsibilities of an adjuster;

9 6. Has successfully passed an examination as required by the 10 Commissioner within two (2) years prior to date of application, or 11 has been exempted from examination, in accordance with the 12 provisions of Section 6208 of this title; and

13 7. If the application is for a public adjuster's license, the 14 applicant has filed the bond required by Section 6214 of this title.

15 Β. Residence addresses and telephone listings, birth dates, and 16 social security numbers for insurance adjusters and public adjusters 17 on file with the Insurance Department are exempt from disclosure as 18 public records. A separate business or mailing address as provided 19 by the adjuster shall be considered a public record and upon request 20 shall be disclosed. If an adjuster's residence and business address 21 or residence and business telephone number are the same, such 22 address or telephone number shall be considered a public record.

C. The mailing address shall appear on all licenses of the licensee, and the licensee shall promptly notify the Insurance

Req. No. 944

1 Commissioner within thirty (30) days of any change in legal name or 2 preferred mailing address, physical business address, e-mail 3 address, or residence physical residential address of the licensee. 4 A change in legal name or address thirty (30) days after the change 5 must include an administrative fee of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00). 6 Failure to provide acceptable notification of a change of legal name 7 or address to the Insurance Commissioner within forty-five (45) days 8 of the date the administrative fee is assessed will result in 9 penalties pursuant to Section 6220 of this title. 10 SECTION 10. 36 O.S. 2011, Section 6220, as AMENDATORY 11 last amended by Section 10, Chapter 73, O.S.L. 2016 (36 O.S. Supp. 12 2018, Section 6220), is amended to read as follows: 13 Section 6220. A. The Commissioner may censure, suspend, 14 revoke, or refuse to issue or renew a license after hearing for any 15 of the following causes: 16 1. Material misrepresentation or fraud in obtaining an 17 adjuster's license; 18 2. Any cause for which original issuance of a license could 19 have been refused; 20 3. Misappropriation, conversion to the personal use of the 21 licensee, or illegal withholding of monies required to be held by 22 the licensee in a fiduciary capacity; 23 Material misrepresentation of the terms and effect of any 4. 24 insurance contract, with intent to deceive, or engaging in, or _ _

Req. No. 944

¹ attempting to engage in, any fraudulent transaction with respect to ² a claim or loss that the licensee or the trainee is adjusting and, ³ in the case of a public adjuster, misrepresentation of the services ⁴ offered or the fees or commission to be charged;

5 5. Conviction of or pleading guilty or nolo contendere to a 6 felony pursuant to the laws of this state, any other state, the 7 United States, or any foreign country;

8 6. If in the conduct of business affairs, the licensee or
9 trainee has shown himself to be, and is so deemed by the
10 Commissioner, incompetent, untrustworthy or a source of injury to
11 the public;

12 7. Refusal to comply with any lawful order of the Commissioner;
13 8. Violation of any provision of the Insurance Adjusters
14 Licensing Act;

9. Adjusting losses or negotiating claim settlements arising
 pursuant to provisions of insurance contracts on behalf of an
 insurer or insured without proper licensing from the Commissioner
 and authority from the licensed insurer or the insured party;

19 10. Failing to respond to any inquiry (including electronic 20 communications) from the Department within thirty (30) calendar days 21 of receipt of such inquiry;

22 11. Forging another's name to any document;

23 12. Obtaining or attempting to obtain a license through 24 misrepresentation or fraud Improperly using notes or any other

Req. No. 944

_ _

1 reference material to complete an examination for an insurance
2 license;

³ 13. Having admitted or been found to have committed any ⁴ insurance unfair trade practice or insurance fraud;

⁵ 14. Having an insurance adjuster license or its equivalent ⁶ denied, suspended, censured, placed on probation or revoked in any ⁷ other state, province, district or territory;

8 15. Failing to inform the Department, by any means acceptable 9 to the Department, of a change of address, change of legal name or 10 change of information submitted on the application within thirty 11 (30) days of the change; or

12 16. Providing services as a public adjuster, company adjuster
 13 or independent adjuster on the same claim.

B. In addition to or in lieu of any applicable denial, suspension, or revocation of a license, any person violating the provisions of the Insurance Adjusters Licensing Act may be subject to a civil fine of not more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) for each violation. This fine may be enforced in the same manner in which civil judgment may be enforced.

C. If the license of an adjuster is suspended, revoked, or not renewed, the licensee shall surrender said the license to the Commissioner.

D. The Commissioner shall not reinstate a license to any person whose license has been suspended, revoked, or refused renewal until

Req. No. 944

¹ the Commissioner determines that the cause or causes for the ² suspension, revocation, or nonrenewal of said <u>the</u> license no longer ³ exist.

E. The Department shall retain the authority to enforce the
provisions of and impose any penalty or remedy authorized by this
title against any person who is under investigation for or charged
with a violation even if the person's license or registration has
been surrendered or has lapsed by operation of law.

⁹ F. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, association,
¹⁰ company or corporation to act as an adjuster without first obtaining
¹¹ a license pursuant to the Insurance Adjusters Licensing Act. Any
¹² person convicted of violating the provisions of this subsection
¹³ shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished as set forth
¹⁴ in Section 10 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

SECTION 11. AMENDATORY 36 O.S. 2011, Section 6754, is amended to read as follows:

Section 6754. A. Service contracts marketed, sold, offered for sale, issued, made, proposed to be made, or administered in this state shall be written, printed, or typed in clear, understandable language that is easy to read, and shall disclose the requirements set forth in this section, as applicable. <u>Service contracts shall</u> <u>be filed with, and approved by, the Insurance Commissioner.</u>

B. Service contracts insured under an insurance policy pursuant to paragraph 3 of subsection C of Section 4 <u>6753</u> of this act <u>title</u>

¹ shall contain a statement in substantially the following form: ² "Obligations of the provider under this service contract are insured ³ under a service contract reimbursement insurance policy." The ⁴ service contract shall also state the name and address of the ⁵ insurer.

6 C. Service contracts not insured under an insurance policy 7 pursuant to paragraph 3 of subsection C of Section 4 <u>6753</u> of this 8 act <u>title</u> shall contain a statement in substantially the following 9 form: "Obligations of the provider under this service contract are 10 backed by the full faith and credit of the provider."

11 D. Service contracts shall state the name and address of the 12 provider, and shall identify any administrator if different from the 13 provider, the service contract seller, and the service contract 14 holder to the extent that the name of the service contract holder 15 has been furnished by the service contract holder. The identities 16 of such parties are not required to be preprinted on the service 17 contract and may be added to the service contract at the time of 18 sale.

E. Service contracts shall state the total purchase price and the terms under which service contract is sold. The purchase price is not required to be preprinted on the service contract and may be negotiated at the time of sale with the service contract holder.

F. Service contracts shall state the existence of any trade
 service fee, if applicable.

Req. No. 944

_ _

1 Service contracts shall specify the merchandise and services G. 2 to be provided and any limitations, exceptions, or exclusions.

3 Η. Service contracts shall state any restrictions governing the transferability of the service contract, if applicable.

5 I. Service contracts shall state the terms, restrictions or 6 conditions governing cancellation of the service contract.

7 J. Service contracts shall set forth all of the obligations and 8 duties of the service contract holder, such as the duty to protect 9 against any further damage and any requirement to follow the owner's 10 manual.

11 Κ. Service contracts shall state whether or not the service 12 contract provides for or excludes consequential damages or 13 preexisting conditions, if applicable. Service contracts may, but 14 are not required to, cover damage resulting from rust, corrosion or 15 damage caused by a noncovered part or system.

16 If prior approval of repair work is required, a service L. 17 contract shall state the procedure for obtaining prior approval and 18 for making a claim, including a toll-free telephone number for claim 19 service and a procedure for obtaining emergency repairs performed 20 outside of normal business hours.

21 SECTION 12. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019. 22 23 57-1-944 СВ 4/1/2019 8:16:22 AM 24

Req. No. 944

_ _

4