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February 13, 2023

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
FOR

SENATE BILL NO. 540

By: Montgomery

An Act relating to bail bondsmen; amending 59 O.S. 2021, Section 1308, which relates to bail bondsman application processing; removing requirement for applicants for licensure to appear in person for examination; allowing for licensure prior to certain date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 2021, Section 1308, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1308. A. The applicant for bail bondsman licensure shall be required to ~~appear in person and~~ take an examination prepared by the Insurance Commissioner, testing the applicant's ability and qualifications to be a bail bondsman. Applications are valid for three (3) months after submission. If an applicant has not acted upon the application within that period, a new application and fees shall be submitted for the applicant to be considered for licensure. Bail bondsman licenses issued prior to the effective date of this act, as a result of a successful completion of a remote examination, shall be valid licenses from the time of issuance.

1 B. Each applicant shall become eligible for examination if the  
2 applicant has completed sixteen (16) hours of education as required  
3 by Section 1308.1 of this title prior to the examination.

4 Examinations shall be held at times and places as designated by the  
5 Commissioner.

6 C. The fee for the examination shall be One Hundred Dollars  
7 (\$100.00). Results will be provided after the applicant is  
8 examined.

9 D. The failure of an applicant to pass an examination shall not  
10 preclude the applicant from taking subsequent examinations;  
11 provided, however, that at least thirty (30) days shall intervene  
12 between examinations; and provided further, after a third or  
13 subsequent examination failure, an applicant may not be examined for  
14 at least one (1) year after the last examination failure.

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

19 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS AND COMMERCE  
20 February 13, 2023 - DO PASS AS AMENDED BY CS  
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