

2000 PUBLIC AND LOCAL ACTS

[No. 35]

(HB 4620)

AN ACT to amend 1956 PA 218, entitled "An act to revise, consolidate, and classify the laws relating to the insurance and surety business; to regulate the incorporation or formation of domestic insurance and surety companies and associations and the admission of foreign and alien companies and associations; to provide their rights, powers, and immunities and to prescribe the conditions on which companies and associations organized, existing, or authorized under this act may exercise their powers; to provide the rights, powers, and immunities and to prescribe the conditions on which other persons, firms, corporations, associations, risk retention groups, and purchasing groups engaged in an insurance or surety business may exercise their powers; to provide for the imposition of a privilege fee on domestic insurance companies and associations and the state accident fund; to provide for the imposition of a tax on the business of foreign and alien companies and associations; to provide for the imposition of a tax on risk retention groups and purchasing groups; to provide for the imposition of a tax on the business of surplus line agents; to provide for the imposition of regulatory fees on certain insurers; to modify tort liability arising out of certain accidents; to provide for limited actions with respect to that modified tort liability and to prescribe certain procedures for maintaining those actions; to require security for losses arising out of certain accidents; to provide for the continued availability and affordability of automobile insurance and homeowners insurance in this state and to facilitate the purchase of that insurance by all residents of this state at fair and reasonable rates; to provide for certain reporting with respect to insurance and with respect to certain claims against uninsured or self-insured persons; to prescribe duties for certain state departments and officers with respect to that reporting; to provide for certain assessments; to establish and continue certain state insurance funds; to modify and clarify the status, rights, powers, duties, and operations of the nonprofit malpractice insurance fund; to provide for the departmental supervision and regulation of the insurance and surety business within this state; to provide for regulation over worker's compensation self-insurers; to provide for the conservation, rehabilitation, or liquidation of unsound or insolvent insurers; to provide for the protection of policyholders, claimants, and creditors of unsound or insolvent insurers; to provide for associations of insurers to protect policyholders and claimants in the event of insurer insolvencies; to prescribe educational requirements for insurance agents and solicitors; to provide for the regulation of multiple employer welfare arrangements; to create an automobile theft prevention authority to reduce the number of automobile thefts in this state; to prescribe the powers and duties of the automobile theft prevention authority; to provide certain powers and duties upon certain officials, departments, and authorities of this state; to repeal acts and parts of acts; and to provide penalties for the violation of this act," by amending section 1224 (MCL 500.1224), as amended by 1981 PA 1.

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

500.1224 Adjuster; application for license; forms; examination; investigations and interrogatories; decision; issuance of license; qualifications; additional restrictions; licenses to certain persons prohibited. [M.S.A. 24.11224]

Sec. 1224. (1) An application for a license to act as an adjuster shall be made to the commissioner on forms prescribed by the commissioner.

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(2) Within a reasonable time after receipt of a properly completed application form, the commissioner may subject the applicant to a written examination, and may conduct investigations and propound interrogatories concerning the applicant's qualifications, residence, business affiliations, and any other matter that the commissioner considers necessary or advisable to determine compliance with this chapter, or for the protection of the public. The commissioner shall make a decision on the application within 60 days after receipt of a properly completed application form.

(3) After examination, investigation, and interrogatories, the commissioner shall issue a license to an applicant if the commissioner determines that the applicant possesses reasonable understanding of the provisions, terms, and conditions of the insurance with which the applicant will deal, possesses reasonable understanding of the insurance laws of this state, intends in good faith to act as an adjuster, possesses a good business reputation, and possesses good moral character to act as an adjuster. Persons currently licensed and new licenses issued are subject to any additional restrictions under which a resident of this state would be licensed in the jurisdiction in which the applicant resides. Any such restriction shall be imposed by the commissioner upon the date set for payment of the license fee. The commissioner shall not issue a new license or accept an annual license fee continuing a current license to either of the following:

(a) A person residing in a state that denies a comparable license to a resident of this state solely because of residency.

(b) A person who is employed either directly or indirectly by an adjuster that is a resident of a state, or by an adjuster's business that has a majority of shareholders, members, officers, directors, or owners that are residents of a state, that denies a comparable license to a resident of this state solely because of residency. An affidavit from an applicant establishing compliance with this subdivision may be relied on by the commissioner to show compliance with this subdivision.

(4) The commissioner shall not issue a license to act as an adjuster to a person who is employed by, owns stock in, is an officer or director of, or in any other manner is connected with, a fire repair contractor.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

Approved March 15, 2000.

Filed with Secretary of State March 17, 2000.
