

CHAPTER 70

S.B. No. 80

AN ACT

relating to the adoption of a continuing education requirement for certain insurance agents.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 5b, Article 21.14, Insurance Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 5b. CONTINUING EDUCATION. The State Board of Insurance shall [may] adopt a procedure for certifying and shall [may] certify continuing education programs for agents. Participation in the programs is *mandatory for all agents licensed under this article. The State Board of Insurance shall exempt agents who have been licensed for 15 years or more beginning September 1, 1987; 16 years or more beginning September 1, 1988; 17 years or more beginning September 1, 1989; 18 years or more beginning September 1, 1990; 19 years or more beginning September 1, 1991; and 20 years or more on or after September 1, 1992, and shall have the rulemaking authority to provide for other reasonable exemptions. No agent shall be required to complete more than 15 hours of continuing education per year. An agent licensed under both Articles 21.07-1 and 21.14 may elect to satisfy the continuing education requirements of either article and shall not be required to complete a total of more than 15 hours of continuing education per year [voluntary].*

SECTION 2. Article 21.14, Insurance Code, is amended by adding Section 5c to read as follows:

Sec. 5c. ADVISORY COUNCIL. *An advisory council shall be appointed by the State Board of Insurance to furnish the Board with information and assistance in the conduct of the continuing education program for agents licensed under Articles 21.07-1 and 21.14.*

SECTION 3. Section 3A, Article 21.07-1, Insurance Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 3A. CONTINUING EDUCATION. The State Board of Insurance shall [may] adopt a procedure for certifying and shall [may] certify continuing education programs for agents. Participation in the programs is *mandatory for all agents licensed under this article. The State Board of Insurance shall exempt agents who have been licensed for 15 years or more beginning September 1, 1987; 16 years or more beginning September 1, 1988; 17 years or more beginning September 1, 1989; 18 years or more beginning September 1, 1990; 19 years or more beginning September 1, 1991; and 20 years or more on or after September 1, 1992, and shall have the rulemaking authority to provide for other reasonable exemptions. No agent shall be required to complete more than 15 hours of continuing education per year. An agent licensed under both Articles 21.07-1 and 21.14 may elect to satisfy the continuing education requirements of either article and shall not be required to complete a total of more than 15 hours of continuing education per year [voluntary].*

SECTION 4. Article 21.07-1, Insurance Code, is amended by adding Section 3B to read as follows:

Sec. 3B. ADVISORY COUNCIL. *An advisory council shall be appointed by the State Board of Insurance to furnish the Board with information and assistance in the conduct of the continuing education program for agents licensed under Articles 21.07-1 and 21.14.*

SECTION 5. The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended, and that this Act take effect and be in force from and after its passage, and it is so enacted.

Passed the Senate on March 10, 1987, by the following vote: Yeas 28, Nays 2; and that the Senate concurred in House amendments on April 27, 1987, by a viva-voce vote.

Passed the House, with amendments, on April 23, 1987, by a non-record vote.

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70th LEGISLATURE—REGULAR SESSION

Approved May 7, 1987.

Effective 90 days after date of adjournment.