# 45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2001

## INTRODUCED BY

### Leonard Lee Rawson

SENATE BILL 686

#### AN ACT

RELATING TO BAIL BONDSMAN; PERMITTING LICENSED INSURANCE
AGENTS TO TAKE THE BAIL BONDSMAN EXAMINATION WITHOUT MEETING
THE EDUCATION REQUIREMENT.

#### BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 59A-51-4.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1999, Chapter 296, Section 1) is amended to read:

#### "59A-51-4. 1. EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS. --

A. <u>Unless the education requirement is excused</u>

pursuant to Subsection C of this section, in order to be eligible to take the examination required to be licensed as a bail bondsman, the applicant shall complete not less than thirty clock hours of formal classroom education in subjects pertinent to the duties and responsibilities of a bail bondsman, including ethics and all laws and rules related to .136441.2

the bail bond business. In addition, the applicant shall complete one hundred twenty hours of on-the-job training under the direct supervision of a sponsoring bail bondsman who shall certify in writing that he has taught the applicant the subjects pertinent to the duties and responsibilities of a bail bondsman, including ethics and all laws and rules related to the bail bond business, and that the applicant is prepared to take the examination. The scope of the examination shall be as broad as the bail bond business.

B. Instead of the education requirement in Subsection A of this section, an applicant may become eligible to take the examination required to be licensed as a bail bondsman by apprenticing for a minimum of six months with a sponsoring bail bondsman. The sponsoring bail bondsman shall certify in writing that he has taught the applicant the subjects pertinent to the duties and responsibilities of a bail bondsman, including ethics and all laws and rules related to the bail bond business, and that the applicant is prepared to take the examination. The scope of the examination shall be as broad as the bail bond business.

C. An applicant desiring to be licensed to act as a limited surety agent is eligible to take the examination without meeting the education or apprenticeship requirements of Subsection A or B of this section if the applicant demonstrates that he is employed by an insurance company

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authorized to do business in New Mexico and is licensed as an insurance agent by the insurance division of the public regulation commission pursuant to Section 59A-11-1 NMSA 1978 and fulfills the requirements of Section 59A-51-5 NMSA 1978.

[C] D. In order to be eligible to take the examination required to be licensed as a solicitor, each person shall complete not less than ten clock hours of formal classroom education in subjects pertinent to the duties and responsibilities of a solicitor, including ethics and all laws and rules related to the bail bond business. In addition, the applicant for a solicitor's license shall complete thirty hours of on-the-job training under the direct supervision of a sponsoring bail bondsman who shall certify in writing that he has taught the applicant the subjects pertinent to the duties and responsibilities of a solicitor, including ethics and all laws and rules related to the bail bond business, and that the applicant is prepared to take the examination. The scope of the examination shall be as broad as the bail bond business.

[D.] E. Prior to renewal of a bail bondsman's or solicitor's license, a licensee shall complete annually not less than fifteen clock hours of continuing education in subjects pertinent to the duties and responsibilities of a bail bondsman or solicitor, including ethics and all laws and rules related to the bail bond business. Such continuing education shall not include a written or oral examination.

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[E] A provider approved by the superintendent
to offer prelicensing classroom education for bail bondsmen or
continuing education classes for bail bondsmen and solicitors
shall be required to offer such classes in at least two
geographic areas of the state until such time as the
superintendent determines that sufficient classes are
available statewide.

[F.] <u>G.</u> It is a violation of the New Mexico

Insurance Code for a person to falsely represent to the superintendent that the education requirements of this section have been complied with.

 $[rac{H.}{C}]$   $rac{H.}{C}$  The superintendent shall adopt and promulgate such rules as are necessary for the effective administration of this section."

- 4 -