

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article 48A - Insurance Code

170.

(b) (1) [In] SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, IN the absence of a contrary ruling by the Commissioner certificates shall be renewed every 2 years subject to the payment of the biennial fee as required in § 41 of this article upon request but without further action on the part of the agent or broker[; and upon]. UPON payment of the prescribed fees prior to the date of renewal, the certificate shall continue in force until renewed by the Commissioner or until such time as the Commissioner has refused for cause to renew that certificate.

(2) AS A CONDITION OF A CERTIFICATE RENEWAL, THE COMMISSIONER SHALL REQUIRE THAT AN AGENT RECEIVE CONTINUING EDUCATION.

(I) THE COMMISSIONER MAY NOT REQUIRE AN AGENT TO RECEIVE MORE THAN 25 16 CLOCK HOURS OF CONTINUING EDUCATION PER LICENSE RENEWAL REGARDLESS OF THE NUMBER OF CERTIFICATES THE AGENT MAY HAVE.

(II) THE CONTINUING EDUCATION SHALL PROMOTE THE EDUCATION LEVEL OF AGENTS IN LINES OR SPECIALITIES APPROPRIATE TO THE CERTIFICATE CATEGORY.

(III) IF CONTINUING EDUCATION IS REQUIRED, THE COMMISSIONER MAY GRANT A WAIVER WHEN:

1. THE AGENT HAS A LIMITED LICENSE; OR
2. THE AGENT IS A RETIREE; OR
3. THE COMMISSIONER DETERMINES THAT OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES WARRANT THE WAIVER.

(3) THE COMMISSIONER SHALL ADOPT SUCH REGULATIONS AS ARE NECESSARY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SUBSECTION. THE COMMISSIONER MAY APPROVE AS CONTINUING EDUCATION, COURSES OFFERED BY AN INSURER OR AN AGENT'S EMPLOYER OR AN AGENT'S ASSOCIATION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect ~~July--17--1986~~ January 1, 1987. It shall remain effective for a period of three years and, at the end of January 1, 1990, and with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved May 13, 1986.

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