

(a) An "agent" is a person who for compensation in any manner solicits, procures, or negotiates insurance contracts, INCLUDING CONTRACTS FOR NONPROFIT HEALTH SERVICE PLANS, DENTAL PLAN ORGANIZATIONS, AND HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS, or the renewal or continuance of [the insurance] ANY OF THESE contracts on the behalf of [insurers] ORGANIZATIONS ISSUING THE CONTRACTS. The term "agent" shall not include:

(1) Individuals employed and used by agents or insurers for the performance of clerical, stenographic and similar office duties;

(2) Any regular salaried officer or employee of an insurer rendering assistance to or on behalf of a qualified agent, provided that such salaried officer or employee receives no commission or other compensation directly dependent upon the amount of business obtained; OR

(3) Any person who secures and forwards information for the purpose of group insurance coverage or for enrolling individuals under group insurance coverages or issuing certificates thereunder where no commission is paid for such services.

173.

(a) The Commissioner may issue a special restricted certificate, without regard to education or experience or examination requirements, to individuals selling transportation tickets of a common carrier of persons and property, who shall act as agents only as to travel ticket policies of life, accident, or baggage insurance on personal effects. The Commissioner may prescribe and furnish such special forms calling for such information as he deems proper, in connection with application for or renewal of such special certificate.

(b) An agent possessing a valid certificate may solicit applications for and issue policies of personal travel, life, accident or baggage insurance by means of mechanical vending machines supervised by him and located solely in terminal facilities of common carriers. As to each machine to be so used, the Commissioner shall issue to the agent a special vending machine license. The license shall specify the name and address of the insurer and agent, the name of the policy to be sold, the serial number of the machine, and the place where the machine is to be in operation. The license shall be subject to annual renewal, to expiration, suspension or revocation coincidentally with that of the agent; and no license shall be issued, continued, or renewed unless the policy so sold conforms to the requirements of this article applicable to such policies. The annual license fee shall be as provided in § 41. Notice of the existence of a current license shall be displayed on or above