

344E.

(1) The Commissioner may issue a certificate to any person who has paid a biennial fee and who has complied with the requirements of this subtitle authorizing that person to act as an insurance agent on behalf of any society which is authorized to do business in this State.

(2) Before any insurance agent's certificate of qualification may be issued there shall be on file in the office of the Commissioner a written application by the agent in such form or forms and supplements thereto, and containing such information, as the Commissioner may require.

(3) The Commissioner shall require an applicant to pass a written examination which shall include questions relative only to fraternal insurance, the types of certificates, policies or contracts in general proposed to be solicited under the certificate, and the laws of this State which relate to the activities of a fraternal insurance agent. The applicant shall pay to the Commissioner a fee of \$15 for each such examination. No such examination shall be required as to any fraternal insurance agent who is duly licensed or qualified as such in this State immediately prior to July 1, 1985.

(4) The Commissioner may refuse to issue or renew any insurance agent's certificate of qualification if in his judgment the person is not trustworthy and competent to act as such agent, or has given cause for revocation or suspension of such certificate of qualification, or has failed to comply with any prerequisites for the issuance or renewal, as the case may be, of such certificate of qualification.

(5) Every certificate issued under this subtitle and every renewal thereof shall expire on June 30 of every odd-numbered year following the date of issue, unless prior thereto the certificate is revoked or suspended by the Commissioner or the authority of an agent to act is terminated.

(6) If the application for a renewal shall have been filed with the Commissioner on or before June 30 of an odd-numbered year, such applicant named in such existing certificate, may continue to act as insurance agent under such existing certificate, unless same shall be revoked or suspended, until the issuance by the Commissioner of the renewal certificate.

(7) AS A CONDITION OF A CERTIFICATE RENEWAL, THE COMMISSIONER SHALL REQUIRE THAT AN INSURANCE AGENT RECEIVE CONTINUING EDUCATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF § 170(B)(2) OF THIS ARTICLE AND ANY REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSIONER UNDER § 170(B)(2) OF THIS ARTICLE.

Chapter 516 of the Acts of 1986