

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 2581

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE HARRIS.

6601H.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

## AN ACT

To repeal section 374.710, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to bail bond agents, with a penalty provision.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Section 374.710, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 374.710, to read as follows:

374.710. 1. Except as otherwise provided in sections 374.695 to 374.775, no person or other entity shall practice as a bail bond agent or general bail bond agent, as defined in section 374.700, in Missouri unless and until the department has issued to him or her a license, to be renewed every two years as hereinafter provided, to practice as a bail bond agent or general bail bond agent.

2. An applicant for a bail bond and general bail bond agent license shall submit with the application proof that he or she has received ~~[twenty-four]~~ **one hundred twenty** hours of **training, with forty of such hours consisting of** initial basic training in areas of instruction in subjects determined by the director deemed appropriate to professionals in the bail bond profession **and eighty of such hours consisting of fugitive recovery instruction**. Bail bond agents and general bail bond agents who are licensed at the date which this act becomes law shall be exempt from such ~~[twenty-four]~~ **one hundred twenty** hours of ~~[initial basic]~~ training **under this subsection**.

3. In addition to the ~~[twenty-four]~~ **forty** hours of initial basic training **and eighty hours of fugitive recovery instruction** to become a bail bond agent or general bail bond agent, there shall be ~~[eight]~~ **twenty-four** hours of biennial continuing education for all bail bond agents and general bail bond agents to maintain their state license. The director shall determine said

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

18 appropriate areas of instruction for said biennial continuing education. The director shall  
19 determine which institutions, organizations, associations, and individuals shall be eligible to  
20 provide the [~~initial-basie~~] training and the biennial continuing education instruction. The  
21 department may allow state institutions, organizations, associations, or individuals to provide  
22 courses for the [~~initial-basie~~] training and the biennial continuing education training. The cost  
23 shall not exceed two hundred dollars for the [~~initial-basie~~] training and one hundred fifty dollars  
24 for biennial continuing education.

25 4. Upon completion of said [~~basie~~] training **under subsection 2 of this section** or  
26 biennial continuing education and the licensee meeting the other requirements as provided under  
27 sections 374.695 to 374.789, the director shall issue a two-year license for the bail bond agent  
28 or general bail bond agent for a fee not to exceed one hundred fifty dollars.

29 5. **Any misdemeanor conviction may be considered as a reason for denial of a bail**  
30 **bond or general bail bond agent license if the applicant has had two or more misdemeanor**  
31 **convictions in the past five years.**

32 6. **On a monthly basis, general bail bond agents shall check to ensure their bail**  
33 **bond agents have not been charged in a criminal case. If it is discovered an arrest was not**  
34 **reported to the department, a fine shall be imposed against the bail bond agent and general**  
35 **bail bond agent.**

36 7. (1) **Every bail bond agent shall have ten thousand dollars on file with the state**  
37 **of Missouri, and every general bail bond agent shall have two hundred fifty thousand**  
38 **dollars on file.**

39 (2) **General bail bond agents shall file quarterly financial statements to demonstrate**  
40 **their solvency.**

41 8. Nothing in sections 374.695 to 374.775 shall be construed to prohibit any person from  
42 posting or otherwise providing a bail bond in connection with any legal proceeding, provided  
43 that such person receives no fee, remuneration or consideration therefor.

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