

HB 2581 -- BAIL BOND AGENTS

SPONSOR: Harris

This bill makes changes to the current law regulating bail bond and general bail bond agents. The law currently requires 24 hours of training to become a bail bond or general bail bond agent and this bill would change that requirement to 120 hours of training, including 40 hours of basic training and 80 hours of fugitive recovery instruction. This bill would also increase the biennial continuing education requirement from eight hours to 24 hours.

An applicant for licensure as a bail bond or general bail bond agent may be denied for any misdemeanor conviction if the applicant has had two or more misdemeanor convictions in the past five years. General bail bond agents shall check on a monthly basis to ensure their bail bond agents have not been charged in a criminal case. If it is discovered an arrest was not reported to the department, a fine shall be imposed against the bail bond agent and general bail bond agent.

Every bail bond agent shall be required to have \$10,000 on file with the State of Missouri and every general bail bond agent shall have \$250,000 on file. General bail bond agents will be required to file quarterly financial statements to demonstrate their solvency.

This bill is the same as HB 1092 (2017).