SENATE BILL NO. 18–COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, LABOR AND ENERGY

(ON BEHALF OF THE DIVISION OF INSURANCE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY)

PREFILED NOVEMBER 16, 2016

Referred to Committee on Commerce, Labor and Energy

SUMMARY—Makes various changes relating to bail bonds. (BDR 57-464)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact. Effect on the State: Yes.

EXPLANATION - Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets {omitted material} is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to businesses related to bail; prohibiting certain conduct by a bail enforcement agent; prohibiting the compensation of an unlicensed person for referring business related to bail to a licensed person; prohibiting the use of forms or documents by a bail agent in certain circumstances; revising provisions relating to the licensing of bail agents, bail enforcement agents, bail solicitors and general agents; revising provisions relating to bonds required to be filed by applicants for certain licenses; authorizing the Commissioner of Insurance to participate in a centralized registry for licensing and appointment of bail agents, bail enforcement agents, bail solicitors and general agents; providing that a surety insurer is liable for the acts of a bail agent, bail enforcement agent or general agent acting on its behalf; revising provisions relating to the money, other valuable consideration or collateral which a surety insurer or bail agent may charge, collect or accept; revising provisions relating to the apprehension and surrender of a defendant; revising provisions relating to bail bonds; providing penalties; and providing other matters properly relating thereto





## Legislative Counsel's Digest:

1 The Nevada Constitution generally provides a right to bail in all but certain 2 criminal cases before conviction. (Nev. Const. Art. 1, § 7) Existing law authorizes the acceptance of a bond or undertaking for bail by one or more sureties. (NRS 178.502) Existing law also prohibits a person from engaging in certain businesses relating to bail without a license. (NRS 697.090)

345678 Existing law requires a bail agent, bail solicitor or general agent to file and maintain a bond against liability relating to bail bond transactions under the person's license. (NRS 697.190) Section 25 of this bill requires that such a bond ğ must inure to the benefit of any person damaged by the licensee or person acting on 10 his or her behalf and revises provisions relating to the cancellation and replacement 11 of a licensing bond.

12 Sections 18-20 of this bill revise provisions relating to the issuance or renewal 13 of a license as a bail agent, bail solicitor or bail enforcement agent, respectively. 14 Section 21 of this bill revises the training that a bail enforcement agent must 15 receive and requires such training to be completed before a person can enter into a 16 contract or begin employment as a bail enforcement agent. Section 24 of this bill 17 revises the information that must be contained in a letter submitted to the 18 Commissioner from a local law enforcement agency by certain licensees for the 19 renewal of a license. Section 26 of this bill revises the circumstances under which a person whose license has lapsed is exempt from retaking the examination that would otherwise be required for the issuance of a license. Section 27 of this bill authorizes the Commissioner to participate with the National Association of Insurance Commissioners in a centralized registry for licensing and appointment of bail agents, bail enforcement agents, bail solicitors and general agents.

20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 Section 9 of this bill prohibits certain conduct by a bail enforcement agent. Section 15 of this bill prohibits an unlicensed person from receiving compensation for referring business to a person licensed to engage in business relating to bail. Section 17 of this bill requires a surety insurer to receive approval from the Commissioner before allowing the use of a form or preprinted agreement and prohibits a bail agent from using a form or document not supplied by the surety insurer that appointed the bail agent. Section 30 of this bill provides that a bail agent appointed by a surety insurer acts as an attorney-in-fact for the surety insurer and the surety insurer is liable for the acts of any bail agent, bail enforcement agent or general agent acting on its behalf. Section 31 of this bill provides for the termination of the appointment of a bail agent by a surety insurer and of a bail 36 37 solicitor by a bail agent and requires that certain information be filed with the Commissioner relating to such a termination. Sections 31 and 45 of this bill make 38 such information confidential. Section 33 of this bill establishes certain 39 requirements for bail agents. Section 39 of this bill prohibits certain acts by 40 licensed persons. Section 41 of this bill revises the other provisions of the Nevada 41 Insurance Code which apply to businesses related to bail. Section 42 of this bill 42 authorizes the Commissioner to take certain administrative actions for violations of 43 law or regulation relating to businesses related to bail. Section 7.5 of this bill 44 authorizes the Commissioner to adopt certain regulations relating to businesses 45 related to bail.

46 Section 34 of this bill revises the money or other valuable consideration which 47 may be charged or collected by a surety insurer or bail agent in connection with any 48 bail transaction. Section 34 also requires a surety insurer or bail agent to refund all 49 money collected and return all collateral held for a bail transaction which is 50 cancelled before a bail bond is accepted by a court or governmental agency. 51 Section 35 of this bill prohibits a licensee from charging for any service except as 52 53 provided in section 34. Section 36 of this bill revises provisions relating to the acceptance and holding of collateral. Sections 37 and 38 of this bill revise





54 provisions relating to the apprehension and surrender of a defendant to the custody 55 of a court or governmental agency.

## THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** Chapter 697 of NRS is hereby amended by adding 2 thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 9, inclusive, of this 3 act. 4 Sec. 2. 1. The purpose of this chapter is to ensure the effective regulation of bail transactions and persons who transact 5 6 in the business of bail. 7 2. The Legislature declares that: (a) Consumers of bail are vulnerable persons who are fighting 8 9 for their rights; and 10 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature to ensure that these persons have access to bail bonds when they are unable to secure 11 12 their own release through bail. Sec. 3. "Bail bond" means a contract between a court or 13 government agency and a surety insurer of a defendant in which 14 the surety insurer guarantees the appearance of the defendant in a 15 criminal proceeding to the court or government agency. 16 transaction" 17 Sec. 4. "Bail means anv undertaking, solicitation, inducement, negotiation or effectuation of a bail bond 18 for which a fee is charged and any matters arising therefrom. 19 Sec. 5. "Collateral" means any property, including, without 20 21 limitation, money, subject to a security interest pursuant to 22 NRS 697.320. 23 Sec. 6. "Defendant" means a person: 24 1. Who is accused of a crime: Who is the principal to a bail bond; and 25 2. Whose appearance is guaranteed by a surety insurer. 26 3. "Surety insurer" means an entity authorized to 27 Sec. 7. transact insurance in this State pursuant to chapter 680A of NRS 28 or authorized to act as a surety by the Commissioner. 29 Sec. 7.5. The Commissioner may, by regulation: 30 1. Establish the qualifications for a person to act as a surety 31 for the purposes of this chapter. 32 2. Provide for the issuance of proof of licensure pursuant to 33 this chapter in a form prescribed by the Commissioner. 34 3. Prohibit practices in the business of bail in addition to 35 those practices prohibited by this chapter. 36 Sec. 8. (Deleted by amendment.) 37





1 Sec. 9. 1. When locating a defendant for the purpose of 2 apprehending and surrendering the defendant, a bail enforcement 3 agent shall not:

4 (a) Enter an inhabited dwelling or business establishment 5 without reasonable, credible and demonstrable evidence that the 6 defendant is immediately present;

7 (b) Enter an inhabited dwelling or business establishment for 8 any purpose other than to locate, apprehend and surrender a 9 defendant for whom a warrant has been issued or a surety has 10 been given notice of a failure to appear pursuant to NRS 178.508;

11 (c) Enter the inhabited dwelling of a third party without the 12 consent of a lawful occupant of the inhabited dwelling present at 13 the time of entry;

(d) Apprehend a defendant at a business establishment without
the consent of the business owner or an agent of the business with
apparent authority to grant such consent;

17 (e) Identify or hold himself or herself out as a peace officer, 18 law enforcement officer or representative of any court or 19 governmental agency;

20 (f) Wear or use any uniform, clothing, badge or insignia that 21 so closely resembles the uniform, clothing, badge or insignia of 22 any city, county, state or federal law enforcement agency that it 23 would suggest to an ordinary person that the bail enforcement 24 agent represents or is employed by a law enforcement agency;

25 (g) Émploy or allow any person who is not licensed as a bail 26 enforcement agent pursuant to the provisions of this chapter to 27 locate, apprehend or surrender the defendant;

(h) Use more force than is reasonable and necessary to carry
 out the apprehension and surrender of the defendant; or

30 *(i) Use a weapon on a person for any purpose other than* 31 *self-defense.* 

32 2. Unless a greater penalty is provided by statute and in 33 addition to any other penalty provided in this chapter, a bail 34 enforcement agent who violates any provision of this section is 35 guilty of:

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(a) For a first violation, a misdemeanor.

(b) For a second violation, a gross misdemeanor.

(c) For a third and each subsequent violation, a category D
felony, and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130.

40 3. As used in this section, "inhabited dwelling" means any 41 structure, building, house, room, apartment, tenement, tent, 42 conveyance, vessel, boat, vehicle, house trailer, travel trailer, 43 motor home or railroad car in which the owner or other lawful 44 occupant resides. The term does not include a business 45 establishment.





**Sec. 10.** NRS 697.020 is hereby amended to read as follows:

2 697.020 As used in this Code, unless the context otherwise 3 requires, the words and terms defined in NRS 697.030 to 697.070, 4 inclusive, and sections 3 to 7, inclusive, of this act have the 5 meanings ascribed to them in those sections. 6

Sec. 11. NRS 697.030 is hereby amended to read as follows:

7 697.030 "Bail" means a deposit made with a court or other 8 governmental agency to secure for <u>continue</u> the release from 9 custody and to guarantee the appearance of the defendant in a 10 criminal proceeding [. The term includes bail bonds, undertakings of bail and any pledge or deposit of the matters described in NRS 11 12 697.320.] in accordance with the conditions and terms of release 13 established by the court or governmental agency.

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**Sec. 12.** NRS 697.040 is hereby amended to read as follows:

15 697.040 "Bail agent" means any individual appointed by an 16 authorized surety insurer by power of attorney to *act on behalf of* 17 the surety insurer in a bail transaction to execute or countersign 18 **undertakings of** a bail **bond** in connection with judicial 19 proceedings [and who receives or is promised money or other things of value therefor.] for money or other valuable consideration 20 21 pursuant to NRS 697.300.

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**Sec. 13.** NRS 697.055 is hereby amended to read as follows:

697.055 "Bail enforcement agent" means a person who [has 23 contracted contracts with or is employed by a surety insurer or bail 24 25 agent las a special agent to lenforce ensure a defendant complies with the terms and conditions established by a court or 26 27 governmental agency of a defendant's release from custody on bail 28 in a criminal proceeding **[]** and to locate **[a defendant]** and **[to]** 29 apprehend a defendant for surrender al for the purpose of 30 *surrendering the* defendant to custody. [, or both, if appropriate.] 31

**Sec. 14.** NRS 697.070 is hereby amended to read as follows:

697.070 1. "General agent" means any individual or person 32 33 appointed by fand a surety insurer to supervise or manage the bail 34 bond business written by bail agents of **such the surety** insurer.

35 A general agent shall not solicit or negotiate undertakings of 2. 36 bail or bail bonds unless licensed as a bail agent by this state. 37

**Sec. 15.** NRS 697.090 is hereby amended to read as follows:

38 697.090 1. A person in this state shall not act in the capacity 39 of a bail agent, bail enforcement agent, for bail solicitor for 40 general agent, or perform any of the functions, duties or powers 41 prescribed for a bail agent, bail enforcement agent, for bail solicitor or general agent under the provisions of this chapter, 42 unless that person is qualified and licensed as provided in this 43 44 chapter. The Commissioner may, after notice and opportunity to be 45 heard, impose an administrative fine for not more than \$1,000





pursuant to NRS 697.370 for each act or violation of the provisions 1 2 of this subsection.

2. [A person, whether or not located in this state, shall not act 3 4 as or hold himself or herself out to be a general agent unless 5 qualified and licensed as such under the provisions of this chapter.

6 **3.** A person who is not licensed pursuant to this chapter shall not request or accept any payment, commission or other 7 8 remuneration for referring business to a person licensed pursuant 9 to this chapter.

3. For the protection of the people of this state, the 10 Commissioner shall not issue or renew, or permit to exist, any 11 license except in compliance with this chapter. The Commissioner 12 13 shall not issue or renew, or permit to exist, a license for any person 14 **[found]** determined by the Commissioner to be untrustworthy or 15 incompetent, or who has not established to the satisfaction of the 16 Commissioner that the person is qualified therefor in accordance 17 with this chapter.

**Sec. 16.** NRS 697.100 is hereby amended to read as follows:

19 697.100 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, no 20 license may be issued: 21

(a) Except in compliance with this chapter.

22 (b) To a bail agent, bail enforcement agent or bail solicitor, 23 unless he or she is a natural person.

24 2. [A corporation] An entity who has been issued a state 25 business license pursuant to chapter 76 of NRS may be licensed as 26 a bail agent for bail enforcement agent if:

27 (a) The <u>[corporation]</u> entity is owned and controlled by <u>[an]</u> a 28 *surety* insurer ; *fauthorized to write surety in this State or a* 29 subsidiary corporation of such an insurer; or

30 (b) Ownership and control of the **corporation** *entity* is retained 31 by one or more licensed *bail* agents.

32 3. [This section does not prohibit two or more licensed bail 33 agents from entering into a partnership for the conduct of their bail business. No person may be a member of such a partnership unless 34 35 the person is licensed pursuant to this chapter in the same capacity as all other members of the partnership. A limited partnership or a 36 37 natural person may not have any proprietary interest, directly or indirectly, in a partnership or the conduct of business thereunder 38 except licensed bail agents as provided in this chapter.] Except for 39 the performance of ministerial acts, a person shall not act on 40 41 behalf of a bail agent in a bail transaction unless the person is 42 licensed as a bail agent.



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1 **Sec. 17.** NRS 697.130 is hereby amended to read as follows: 2 697.130 1. The Commissioner shall prescribe and furnish all 3 forms in connection with licensing and appointments required under 4 this chapter. 5 A surety insurer must, before allowing the use of any form *2*. or preprinted agreement by its appointed bail agents, submit all 6 such forms and preprinted agreements to the Commissioner for 7 approval. 8 9 3. A bail agent shall not use a form or preprinted agreement unless the form or preprinted agreement is supplied by the surety 10 insurer that appointed the bail agent. 11 **Sec. 18.** NRS 697.150 is hereby amended to read as follows: 12 13 697.150 1. Except as otherwise provided in [subsection 2,] 14 subsections 2 and 3, a person [is entitled to] may receive, renew or 15 hold a license as a bail agent if the person: 16 (a) Is a resident of this State and has resided in this State for not 17 less than 1 year immediately preceding the date of the application 18 for the license. 19 (b) Is a natural person not less than 18 years of age. (c) Has been appointed as a bail agent by an authorized surety 20 21 insurer, subject to the issuance of the license. 22 (d) Is competent, trustworthy and financially responsible. 23 (e) Has passed any written examination required under this 24 chapter. 25 (f) Has filed the bond required by NRS 697.190. (g) Has, on or after July 1, 1999, successfully completed a 6-26 hour an 18-hour course of instruction in bail [bonds] transactions 27 28 that is: 29 (1) Offered by a state or national organization of bail agents 30 or another organization that administers training programs for bail 31 agents; and 32 (2) Approved by the Commissioner. 33 2. [A person is not entitled to receive, renew or hold a license as a bail agent if the person has] The Commissioner may deny an 34 35 application for, refuse to renew or revoke a license as a bail agent 36 *if the applicant or licensee:* (a) *Has* been convicted of, or entered a plea of guilty, guilty but 37 mentally ill or nolo contendere to [, forgery, embezzlement, 38 obtaining money under false pretenses, larceny, extortion, conspiracy to defraud or any crime involving moral turpitude. A 39 40 conviction of, or plea of guilty, guilty but mentally ill or nolo 41 contendere by, an applicant or licensee for any crime listed in this 42 43 subsection is a sufficient ground for]: 44 (1) Any crime involving an act of dishonesty, a breach of 45 trust or moral turpitude;





3 or 4 (3) The unlawful use, sale or possession of a controlled 5 substance; 6 (b) Is determined by the Commissioner to define the definition of applicant or to suspend or revoke the license of the agent.] be 7 8 untrustworthy or incompetent; or (c) Has not established to the satisfaction of the Commissioner 9 10 that he or she is qualified in accordance with the provisions of this 11 chapter. 12 **Sec. 19.** NRS 697.170 is hereby amended to read as follows: 13 697.170 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, a 14 person *fis entitled to may* receive, renew or hold a license as a bail 15 solicitor if the person: 16 (a) Is a natural person not less than 18 years of age. 17 (b) Is a resident of this state and has resided in this state for not 18 less than 3 months immediately preceding the date of the application 19 for the license. 20 (c) Is the bona fide employee of a licensed bail agent as a bail solicitor, or is to be so employed subject to the issuance of the 21 22 license. 23 (d) Has successfully completed a 6-hour course of instruction in 24 bail bonds that is: 25 (1) Offered by a state or national organization of bail agents or another organization that administers training programs for bail 26 27 solicitors: and 28 (2) Is approved by the Commissioner. 29 (e) Has passed any written examination required under this 30 chapter. 31 Except as otherwise provided in NRS 697.188, a person is 2. 32 not entitled to receive, renew or hold] The Commissioner may deny an application for, refuse to renew or revoke a license as a bail 33 solicitor if the [person:] applicant or licensee: 34 (a) Has been convicted of [a], or entered a plea of guilty, guilty 35 36 but mentally ill or nolo contendere to: 37 (1) Any crime involving an act of dishonesty, a breach of 38 trust or moral turpitude; 39 (2) A felony in this state or of any offense committed in another state which would be a felony if committed in this state; or 40 41 **I(b)** Has been convicted of an offense involving moral turpitude 42 or thel 43 (3) The unlawful use, sale or possession of a controlled 44 substance  $\mathbf{H}$ ;

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another state which would be a felony if committed in this State;

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(2) A felony in this State or of any offense committed in

1 (b) Is determined by the Commissioner to be untrustworthy or 2 incompetent; or

(c) Has not established to the satisfaction of the Commissioner 3 4 that he or she is qualified in accordance with the provisions of this 5 chapter.

**Sec. 20.** NRS 697.173 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, a 7 697.173 1. person *fis entitled to may* receive, renew or hold a license as a bail 8 9 enforcement agent if the person: 10

(a) Is a natural person not less than 21 years of age.

(b) Is a citizen of the United States or is lawfully entitled to 11 remain and work in the United States. 12 13

(c) Has:

(1) A high school diploma;

15 (2) A general equivalency diploma or an equivalent 16 document; or

17 (3) An equivalent education as determined bv the 18 Commissioner.

19 (d) Has complied with the requirements of subsection 4 of 20 NRS 697 180

21 (e) Has submitted to the Commissioner the results of an examination conducted by a psychiatrist or psychologist licensed to 22 practice in this state which indicate that the person does not suffer 23 from a psychological condition that would adversely affect the 24 25 ability of the person to carry out his or her duties as a bail 26 enforcement agent.

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(f) Has passed any written examination required by this chapter.

(g) Submits to the Commissioner the results of a test to detect 28 29 the presence of a controlled substance in the system of the person that was administered no earlier than 30 days before the date of the 30 31 application for the license which do not indicate the presence of any 32 controlled substance for which the person does not possess a current 33 and lawful prescription issued in the name of the person. 34

(h) <u>[Successfully completes</u>]

35 (f) Has successfully completed the training required by NRS 697.177. 36

37 2. [A person is not entitled to receive, renew or hold] The 38 Commissioner may deny an application for, refuse to renew or 39 *revoke* a license for as a bail enforcement agent if the for some 40 applicant or licensee:

41 (a) Has been convicted of [a], or entered a plea of guilty, guilty 42 but mentally ill or nolo contendere to:

43 (1) Any crime involving an act of dishonesty, a breach of 44 trust or moral turpitude;





1	(2) A felony in this state or of any offense committed in
2	another state which would be a felony if committed in this state; or
3	[(b) Has been convicted of an offense involving moral turpitude
4	or the]
5	(3) The unlawful use, sale or possession of a controlled
6	substance [];
7	(b) Is determined by the Commissioner to be untrustworthy or
8	incompetent; or
9	(c) Has not established to the satisfaction of the Commissioner
10	that he or she is qualified in accordance with the provisions of this
11	chapter.
12	<b>Sec. 21.</b> NRS 697.177 is hereby amended to read as follows:
13	697.177 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, an
14	applicant for a license as a bail enforcement agent must
15	satisfactorily complete a basic course of training for bail
16	enforcement agents that is approved by the Commissioner.
17	2. The basic course of training must consist of at least 80 hours
18	of training which includes instruction in:
19	(a) The following areas of the law:
20	(1) Constitutional law;
21	(2) Procedures for <i>[arresting] apprehending</i> defendants and
22	surrendering defendants into custody;
23	(3) Civil liability;
24	(4) The civil rights of persons who are detained in custody;
25	(5) The use of force; and
26	(6) The history and principles of bail;
27	(b) Procedures for field operations, including, without
28	limitation:
29	(1) Safety and survival techniques;
30	(2) Searching buildings;
31	(3) Handling persons with mental illness or who are under
32	the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance; and
33	(4) The care and custody of prisoners;
34	(c) The skills required of bail enforcement agents, including,
35	without limitation:
36	(1) Writing reports, completing forms and procedures for
37	exoneration;
38	(2) Methods [of arrest;] for apprehending defendants;
39	(3) Nonlethal weapons;
40	(4) The retention of weapons;
41	(5) Qualifications for the use of firearms; and
42	(6) Defensive tactics;
43	(d) Principles of investigation, including, without limitation:
44	(1) The basic principles of locating defendants who have not
45	complied with the terms and conditions established by a court or
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other governmental agency for their release from custody or the 1 terms and conditions of a contract entered into with a surety [;] 2 3 *insurer*; and

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(2) Ethics; and

5 6 (e) The following subjects: (1) Demeanor in a courtroom;

- 7 8
- (2) First aid used in emergencies; and
- (3) Cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

► An applicant may complete the 80 hours of training required by 9 this subsection by completing 16 hours of training each weekend for 10 11 5 weeks.

12 3. In lieu of completing the basic course of training required by 13 subsection 1, an applicant may submit proof to the Commissioner that the applicant has completed a course of training required by a 14 15 municipal, state or federal law enforcement agency or a branch of 16 the Armed Forces to carry out the duties of a peace officer.

17 An applicant for a license as a bail enforcement agent must 4. 18 complete the training required by this section within 9 months after the date the applicant is employed by a bail agent as a bail 19 enforcement agent. The Commissioner shall issue a temporary 20

license to an applicant who has not completed the training if the 21

applicant is otherwise qualified to be issued a license as a bail 22

23 enforcement agent. The temporary license:

(a) Authorizes the person to whom it is issued to act as a bail 24 25 enforcement agent while employed by a licensed bail agent.

(b) Is valid for 9 months or until the person to whom it is issued 26 27 completes the training required by this section, whichever occurs 28 first.

29 (c) May not be renewed.] before the applicant enters into a 30 contract or begins employment with a surety insurer or with a bail 31 agent.

**Sec. 22.** NRS 697.183 is hereby amended to read as follows:

32 33 697.183 An application for a license as a bail agent must be accompanied by: 34

35 1. Proof of the completion of **a 6-hour** the course of instruction in bail [bonds] transactions required by NRS 697.150 36 37 that is:

(a) Offered by a state or national organization of bail agents or 38 39 another organization that administers training programs for bail agents; and 40 41

(b) Approved by the Commissioner.

A written appointment by an authorized surety insurer as 42 2. agent for bail bonds, subject to the issuance of the license. 43

44 3. A letter from a local law enforcement agency in the applicant's county of residence which indicates that the applicant: 45





1 (a) Has not been convicted of a felony in this state or of any 2 offense committed in another state which would be a felony if 3 committed in this state; and

4 (b) Has not been convicted of an offense involving moral 5 turpitude or the unlawful use, sale or possession of a controlled 6 substance.

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Sec. 23. NRS 697.184 is hereby amended to read as follows:

8 697.184 1. An application for a license as a general agent 9 must be accompanied by:

10 (a) Proof of the completion of a 6-hour course of instruction in 11 bail bonds that is:

12 (1) Offered by a state or national organization of bail agents 13 or another organization that administers training programs for 14 general agents; and

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(2) Approved by the Commissioner.

16 (b) A written appointment by an authorized *surety* insurer as 17 general agent, subject to the issuance of the license.

18 (c) A letter from a local law enforcement agency in the 19 applicant's county of residence which indicates that the applicant:

20 (1) Has not been convicted of a felony in this state or of any 21 offense committed in another state which would be a felony if 22 committed in this state; and

(2) Has not been convicted of an offense involving moral
 turpitude or the unlawful use, sale or possession of a controlled
 substance.

26 (d) A copy of the contract or agreement that authorizes the 27 general agent to act as general agent for the *surety* insurer.

(e) Any other information the Commissioner may require.

29 2. If the applicant for a license as a general agent is a firm or 30 corporation, the application must include the names of the members, 31 officers and directors and designate each natural person who is to 32 exercise the authority granted by the license. Each person so 33 designated must furnish information about himself or herself as 34 though the application were for an individual license.

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**Sec. 24.** NRS 697.188 is hereby amended to read as follows:

36 697.188 A person who is licensed as a general agent, bail agent or bail solicitor on October 1, 1997, <u>[is entitled to]</u> may renew his or her license after that date if the person is otherwise qualified to be issued such a license and submits to the Commissioner a letter from a local law enforcement agency in his or her county of residence which indicates that the person:

Has not, on or after October 1, 1997, been convicted of a
felony in this state or of any offense committed in another state
which would be a felony if committed in this state; [and]





1 2. Has not, on or after October 1, 1997, been convicted of an 2 offense involving moral turpitude or the unlawful use, sale or 3 possession of a controlled substance **[]**; and

4 5 3. Has complied with the requirements of this chapter.

Sec. 25. NRS 697.190 is hereby amended to read as follows:

6 697.190 1. Each applicant for a license as a bail agent, bail 7 solicitor or general agent must file with the application, and 8 thereafter maintain in force while so licensed, a bond in favor of the 9 people of the State of Nevada executed by an authorized surety 10 insurer. The bond may be continuous in form with total aggregate 11 liability limited to payment as follows:

 (a) Bail agent
 \$25,000

 (b) Bail solicitor
 10,000

 (c) General agent
 50,000

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2. The bond must [be conditioned upon full accounting and payment] inure to the benefit of any person [entitled thereto of money, property] damaged by any act, omission or [other matters coming into the licensee's possession through bail bond transactions under the license.] conduct of the bail agent, bail solicitor or general agent, any employee thereof or any independent contractor or assignee acting on behalf thereof.

3. The bond must remain in force until released by the Commissioner, or cancelled by the surety. Without prejudice to any liability previously incurred under the bond, the surety may cancel the bond upon 30 days' advance written notice to the licensee and the Commissioner. *Upon receipt of such a notice, the Commissioner shall:* 

(a) Suspend the license of the bail agent, bail solicitor or
general agent for whom the bond was filed without a hearing if
the licensee fails to provide a replacement bond which meets all
requirements of this section for the cancelled bond before the date
of cancellation of the cancelled bond. Such a suspension is
effective on the date of cancellation of the cancelled bond.

34 (b) Revoke the license of a bail agent, bail solicitor or general 35 agent for whom the bond was filed unless the licensee furnishes 36 an equivalent bond or a substitute form of security which is 37 acceptable to the Commissioner within 30 days after the 38 cancellation to replace the cancelled bond.

39  $\rightarrow$  A cancellation pursuant to this section does not affect any 40 liability incurred or accrued on the bond before the cancellation.

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Sec. 26. NRS 697.205 is hereby amended to read as follows:

42 697.205 A bail agent, bail enforcement agent or bail solicitor 43 whose license lapses is exempt from retaking the examination 44 otherwise required under NRS 697.200 if he or she applies and is 45 [relicensed] :





1 1. *Relicensed* within 6 months after the date of lapse  $\square$ ; and Otherwise qualified for the issuance of the license 2 2. 3 pursuant to this chapter. 4

**Sec. 27.** NRS 697.210 is hereby amended to read as follows:

5 697.210 1. If the Commissioner finds that the application is 6 complete, that the applicant has passed all required examinations and is otherwise qualified for the license applied for, the 7 Commissioner [shall promptly] may issue the license. [Otherwise,] 8 If the Commissioner [shall refuse] refuses to issue the license [and] 9 , the Commissioner shall promptly notify the applicant and the 10 appointing *surety* insurer, if the application is for a bail agent's or 11 12 general agent's license, or the employer, if the application is for a 13 *bail enforcement agent's or* bail solicitor's license, of such refusal, 14 stating the grounds for the refusal.

15 All *licensing* fees required to be paid pursuant to this 2. 16 chapter shall be deemed earned when paid and may not be refunded.

17 The Commissioner may participate with the National 3. 18 Association of Insurance Commissioners, or a subsidiary thereof, in a centralized registry in which the licensing and appointment of 19 bail agents, bail enforcement agents, bail solicitors and general 20 21 agents may be processed for all states that require licensing and participate in the registry. If the Commissioner finds that 22 participation is in the public interest, the Commissioner may adopt 23 by regulation any requirements for participation, including, 24 without limitation, any centralized collection of fees for licensing 25 and appointment through the use of the registry. 26 27

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Sec. 28. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 29. NRS 697.230 is hereby amended to read as follows:

29 697.230 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 697.177, 30 each *Each* license issued to a general agent, bail agent, bail 31 enforcement agent or bail solicitor under this chapter continues in force for 3 years unless it is suspended, revoked or otherwise 32 terminated. A license may be renewed if the licensee is qualified as 33 provided in this chapter upon payment of all applicable fees for 34 35 renewal to the Commissioner on or before the last day of the month in which the license is renewable. All applicable fees must be 36 37 accompanied by:

38 (a) Proof that the licensee has completed a 3-hour program of 39 continuing education that is:

40 (1) Offered by the authorized surety insurer from whom the 41 licensee received written appointment, if any, a state or national organization of bail agents or another organization that administers 42 43 training programs for general agents, bail agents, bail enforcement 44 agents or bail solicitors; and 45

(2) Approved by the Commissioner;





1 (b) If the licensee is a natural person, the statement required 2 pursuant to NRS 697.181; and

3 (c) A written request for renewal of the license. The request 4 must be made and signed:

5 (1) By the licensee in the case of the renewal of a license as a 6 general agent, bail enforcement agent or bail agent.

7 (2) By the bail solicitor and the bail agent who employs the 8 solicitor in the case of the renewal of a license as a bail solicitor.

9 [Any] Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, any 2. license that is not renewed on or before the last day specified for its 10 renewal expires at midnight on that day. The Commissioner may 11 accept a request for renewal received by the Commissioner within 12 13 30 days after the date of expiration if the request is accompanied by 14 a fee for renewal of 150 percent of all applicable fees otherwise 15 required, except for any fee required pursuant to NRS 680C.110, 16 and, if the person requesting renewal is a natural person, the 17 statement required pursuant to NRS 697.181.

18 3. A licensee who is unable to renew his or her license 19 because of military service, extended disability or any other 20 extenuating circumstance specified by the Commissioner may 21 request a waiver of the provisions of subsection 2 and of any 22 administrative fine imposed because of his or her failure to renew 23 the license.

24 4. A bail agent's license continues in force **[while]** as provided 25 *in subsection 1 if [there is in effect]* an appointment of [him or her] the licensee as a bail agent of one or more authorized surety 26 insurers *H* is in effect. Upon termination of all the bail agent's 27 appointments and the bail agent's failure to replace any appointment 28 29 within 30 days thereafter, the bail agent's license expires and the 30 bail agent shall promptly deliver his or her license to the 31 Commissioner.

32 [4.] 5. The Commissioner shall terminate the license of a 33 general agent for a particular *surety* insurer upon a written request 34 by the *surety* insurer.

35 [5. This section does not apply to temporary licenses issued
 36 under NRS 683A.311 or 697.177.]

**Sec. 30.** NRS 697.240 is hereby amended to read as follows:

38 697.240 1. Each *surety* insurer appointing a bail agent shall 39 file with the Commissioner a written appointment and pay the 40 applicable fee for the appointment.

41 2. Each appointment remains in effect until the bail agent's 42 license is revoked or otherwise terminated, <u>{or there is}</u> an earlier 43 termination of the appointment <u>{.}</u> occurs or, if the written 44 appointment provides a date for its expiration, the written 45 appointment expires.



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1 3. [No insurer may appoint a bail agent whose contingent 2 liability exceeds an amount equal to 10 times his or her reserve 3 account unless the appointment is first approved by the 4 Commissioner] A bail agent appointed by a surety insurer acts as 5 an attorney-in-fact for the surety insurer for a bail transaction.

6 4. A surety insurer is liable for the acts of any appointed bail 7 agent, bail enforcement agent and general agent acting on its 8 behalf.

Sec. 31. NRS 697.250 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10 697.250 1. [An] A surety insurer may terminate [an] its appointment of a bail agent at any time. The surety insurer shall 11 promptly give written notice of *the* termination and the effective 12 13 date thereof to the Commissioner, on forms furnished by the Commissioner, and to the bail agent if reasonably possible. The 14 15 Commissioner may require of the *surety* insurer reasonable proof 16 that the *surety* insurer has also given such a notice to the *bail* agent 17 if reasonably possible.

18 2. Accompanying each notice of termination given to the 19 Commissioner, the *surety* insurer shall file with the Commissioner a statement of the cause, if any, for the termination. Any information 20 21 or documents so disclosed to the Commissioner [shall be deemed an 22 absolutely privileged communication,] are confidential, and the 23 information or documents are not admissible as evidence in any action or proceedings unless their use as evidence is permitted by 24 25 the *surety* insurer in writing.

3. A bail agent terminating the [appointment and license as such] employment of a bail solicitor shall give notice of the termination in the manner prescribed by subsections 1 and 2. Any information or documents disclosed to the Commissioner [shall be deemed an absolutely privileged communication, unless the privilege] are confidential, unless confidentiality is waived in writing by the bail agent.

4. No agreement between [an] a surety insurer and a bail agent for between an employing bail agent and a licensed bail solicitor affects the Commissioner's] affects the expiration of the bail agent's license based on the termination of all of the [appointment or license if the termination is requested by the insurer or the employing bail agent, as the case may be.] appointments of the bail agent.

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Sec. 32. (Deleted by amendment.)

**Sec. 33.** NRS 697.280 is hereby amended to read as follows:

42 697.280 1. Every bail agent shall have and maintain in this 43 state a place of business accessible to the public, wherein the 44 licensee [principally] conducts transactions under his or her license. 45 The address of the [principal] place of business of the licensee must

The address of the *[principal]* place of business of the licensee must





1 appear upon the application for a license and upon the license, when 2 issued, and the licensee shall promptly notify the Commissioner of any change in that address. This subsection does not prohibit a 3 4 licensee from conducting business in his or her residence in this 5 state

The licenses of the licensee, and [those of] all others 6 2 employed by the licensee, [and] the fees charged for services rendered and a statement of consumer rights must be 7 8 conspicuously displayed in the [principal] place of business of the 9 10 licensee in a part or area customarily open to the public. The licensee shall provide a copy of the statement of consumer rights 11 to each principal and indemnitor. The Commissioner shall adopt 12 13 regulations which establish the statement of consumer rights 14 required to be displayed and provided to each principal and 15 indemnitor by this subsection.

16 3. In addition to providing copies of all approved agreements 17 and forms pursuant to NRS 697.130, a bail agent shall provide to 18 a defendant and any other party to a bail transaction, in writing, 19 the name and contact information of the surety insurer issuing the 20 bail bond in the transaction.

21 4. The bail agent shall keep at his or her **[principal]** place of 22 business the records required under NRS 697.290.

23 5. Only one fictitious name may be established under a bail 24 agent's license. The fictitious name must be registered with and 25 approved by the Division. 26

**Sec. 34.** NRS 697.300 is hereby amended to read as follows:

27 697.300 1. A surety insurer or bail agent shall not, in any 28 bail transaction or in connection therewith, directly or indirectly, 29 charge or **[collect]** accept money or other valuable consideration 30 **[from any person]** except for the following purposes:

31 (a) To pay the <del>premium at the rates established by the insurer,</del> in accordance with chapter 686B of NRS, or to pay the charges for 32 33 the bail bond filed in connection with the transaction at the rates filed in accordance with the provisions of this Code. The rates must 34 35 bel one-time charge of 15 percent of the amount of the bail bond or \$50, whichever is greater H, for a bail bond executed and 36 37 accepted by a court or governmental agency. 38

(b) **To provide collateral**.

39 (c) To reimburse himself or herself for for actual expenses 40 incurred in **[connection with]** the **bail** transaction. Such expenses are 41 limited to:

42

(1) Guard fees.

43 (2) Notary public fees, recording fees, expenses incurred for 44 necessary long distance telephone calls and charges for telegrams.





(3) Travel expenses incurred more than 25 miles from the 1 2 *bail* agent's *[principal]* place of business. Such expenses: 3 (I) May be billed at the rate provided for state officers and 4 employees generally; and 5 (II) May not be charged in areas where bail agents 6 advertise a local telephone number. (4) Expenses incurred to verify underwriting information. 7 (5) [Any] Court fees associated with the filing of the bail 8 9 bond. 10 (c) For other actual expenditure necessary to the transaction which is not usually and customarily incurred in connection with 11 bail transactions. 12 13 - (d) To reimburse himself or herself, or have a right of action against the principal or any indemnitor, for actual expenses incurred 14 15 in good faith, by reason of breach by the defendant of any of the 16 terms of any of the terms of the written agreement under which and pursuant to which the undertaking of bail or bail bond was written. 17 If there is no written agreement, or an incomplete writing, the surety 18 may, at law, enforce its equitable rights against the principal and his 19 or her indemnitors, in exoneration. Such reimbursement or right of 20 action must not exceed the principal sum of the bond or 21 undertaking, plus any reasonable expenses that may be verified by 22 23 receipt in a total amount of not more than the principal sum of the bond or undertaking, incurred in good faith by the surety, its agents, 24 25 licensees and employees by reason of the principal's breach. 26 2. This section does not prevent the full and unlimited right of a bail agent to execute undertaking of bail on behalf of a nonresident 27 agent of the surety he or she represents. The licensed resident bail 28 29 agent is entitled to a minimum countersignature fee of \$5, with a maximum countersignature fee of \$100, plus expenses incurred in 30 31 accordance with paragraphs (c) and (d) of subsection 1. Such 32 countersignature fees may be charged in addition to the premium of the undertaking.] expenses authorized by the Commissioner by 33 34 regulation. 35 2. At any time before a bail bond is accepted by a court or 36 governmental agency, the bail transaction may be cancelled by 37 any party to the bail transaction.  $\hat{s}$ . If a defendant is not released from custody, including, 38 without limitation, as a result of a hold imposed by a court or 39 governmental agency, a bail transaction involving the defendant is 40 deemed to be cancelled. 41 4. If a bail transaction is cancelled or a defendant is located, 42 43 apprehended or surrendered in violation of section 9 of this act, 44 the surety insurer or bail agent must refund all money and return 45 all collateral held pursuant to NRS 697.320 in full by the end of





the 10th business day after the cancellation. The surety insurer or
 bail agent shall pay interest on any money or collateral not
 returned within the period set forth in this subsection.
 Sec. 35. NRS 697.310 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 697.310 Except to the extent permitted by [paragraphs (c) and

6 (d) of subsection 1 and subsection 2 of NRS 697.300, a licensee
7 shall not [make any] charge for [the] any services. [of the licensee
8 in a bail transaction in addition to the premium or the charge for a
9 bail bond at the rates filed in accordance with the provisions of this
10 Code.]

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Sec. 36. NRS 697.320 is hereby amended to read as follows:

12 697.320 1. A bail agent may accept *property as* collateral 13 solely as security [in connection with] for a bail [transaction] bond 14 if the *property offered as* collateral [security] is reasonable in 15 relation to the face amount of the *bail* bond. The bail agent shall not 16 transfer the collateral to any person other than a bail agent licensed pursuant to this chapter or a surety insurer holding a valid certificate 17 18 of authority issued by the Commissioner. The collateral must not be 19 transported or otherwise removed from this state. Any person who 20 receives the collateral:

(a) Shall be deemed to hold the collateral] The collateral must
 be:

(a) Described with specificity in a written receipt signed by the
 surety insurer or bail agent and the depositor at the time the
 collateral is accepted;

(b) Held in a fiduciary capacity [to the same extent as a bail
 agent; and

28 (b) Shall retain, return];

(c) Held, returned and otherwise [possess the collateral]
 possessed in accordance with the provisions of this chapter [.]; and
 (d) Insured by the surety insurer or bail agent who has

physical possession of the collateral, at the expense of the surety
 insurer or bail agent, to the benefit of the principal or indemnitor.

2. [The collateral security must be received by the bail agent in his or her fiduciary capacity, and before any forfeiture of bail] Any collateral in connection with a bail transaction for which the bail agent does not take possession is governed by chapter 104 of NRS and any other applicable laws.

39 **3.** Any collateral specified in subsection 1 must be kept 40 separate and apart from any other funds or assets of the [licensee.] 41 surety insurer or bail agent. Any security interest in collateral 42 [received must be returned to the person who deposited it with the 43 bail agent or any assignee other than the bail agent] terminates as 44 soon as the obligation, the satisfaction of which was secured by the 45 collateral, is discharged [and all fees owed to the bail agent have





been paid. The bail agent or any surety insurer having custody of the 1 2 collateral shall, immediately after the bail agent or surety insurer receives a request for return of the collateral from the person who 3 4 deposited the collateral, determine whether the bail agent or surety 5 insurer has received notice that the obligation is discharged. If the 6 or the bail transaction is cancelled pursuant to NRS 697.300. Any 7 collateral fis deposited to secure the obligation of a bond, it must be returned *[immediately]* within 10 days after the obligation is 8 9 *discharged or* after receipt of *the a written* request for return of the collateral, land notice of the entry of any order by an authorized 10 11 official by virtue of which liability under the bond is terminated or 12 upon payment of all fees owed to the bail agent, whichever is flater. 13 A certified copy of the minute order from the court wherein the bail 14 or undertaking was ordered exonerated shall be deemed prima facie 15 evidence of exoneration or termination of liability.] 16 [3. If a bail agent receives as collateral in a bail transaction, whether on the bail agent's or another person's behalf, any 17 18 document conveying title to real property, the bail agent shall not 19 accept the document unless it indicates on its face that it is executed 20 as part of a security transaction. If the document is recorded, the bail 21 agent or any surety insurer having possession of the document shall, 22 immediately after the bail agent or surety insurer receives a request for return of the collateral from the person who executed the 23 24 document: 25 (a) Determine whether the bail agent or surety insurer has 26 received notice that the obligation for which the document was 27 accepted is discharged; and 28 (b) If the obligation has been discharged, reconvey the real 29 property by delivering a deed or other document of conveyance to 30 the person or to the heirs of the person, legal representative or 31 successor in interest. The deed or other document of conveyance 32 must be prepared in such a manner that it may be recorded.] *earlier*. 33 4. If a judgment of default on an order of forfeiture is entered 34 by a court against the surety insurer pursuant to NRS 178.514, and payment of the forfeited bond is collected by the court or 35 governmental agency, the surety insurer or bail agent may 36 reimburse itself from the collateral received in a bail transaction 37 for the amount forfeited to the court or governmental agency. If 38 the famount value of fany the collateral freceived in a bail 39 transaction] exceeds the amount of [any bail forfeited by the 40 41 defendant for whom the collateral was accepted, the bail agent or any surety insurer having custody of the collateral shall. 42 immediately after the bail is forfeited,] the judgment, the surety 43 44 *insurer or bail agent shall, within 10 days,* return to the person who 45 deposited the collateral the amount by which the collateral exceeds





the amount of the bail forfeited. [Any collateral returned to a person 1 2 pursuant to this subsection is subject to a claim for fees, if any,

3 owed to the bail agent returning the collateral.

5. If a bail agent accepts *physical possession of* collateral, the 4 5 bail agent shall *immediately* give a written receipt for the collateral. 6 The receipt must include in detail a full account of the collateral 7 received [], including, without limitation, the reasonable value and physical location of the collateral. 8 9

**Sec. 37.** NRS 697.325 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10 697.325 1. A surety insurer or bail agent may, at any time before the surety insurer is discharged from its obligation to the 11 court or governmental agency, authorize the defendant to be 12 13 apprehended and surrendered to the custody of the court or 14 governmental agency by a bail enforcement agent pursuant to section 9 of this act. Before authorizing the defendant to be 15 16 apprehended, the surety insurer or bail agent must provide to the 17 bail enforcement agent:

(a) Written authorization to apprehend and surrender the 18 19 defendant indicating the reason for his or her apprehension and 20 surrender: and

21

(b) A copy of the bail bond.

2. A surety insurer or bail agent may not employ or contract 22 with a bail enforcement agent for any purpose other than to 23 apprehend and surrender the defendant to a court or 24 25 governmental agency.

3. A bail enforcement agent may not apprehend a defendant 26 27 for any purpose other than to surrender the defendant to a court 28 or governmental agency pursuant to this chapter.

After apprehending a defendant in this state, a **bail agent or** 29 4. 30 bail enforcement agent shall, immediately or without undue delay, 31 notify in person or by telephone the local law enforcement agency 32 of the jurisdiction in which the defendant was apprehended of:

(a) The identity of the defendant;

(b) The identity of the bail [agent or bail] enforcement agent [;] 34 and the surety insurer and bail agent authorizing the surrender of 35 36 the defendant: and

37 (c) Where the **bail agent or** bail enforcement agent is taking the 38 defendant to surrender the defendant into custody.

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12. Before forcibly entering an inhabited dwelling]

5. After apprehending a defendant in this state, a **bail agent** 40 or bail enforcement agent shall [notify the local law enforcement 41 agency of the jurisdiction in which the dwelling is located. 42

3. A bail agent or bail enforcement agent who violates the 43 44 provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor.





4. As used in this section, "inhabited dwelling" means any 1 structure, building, house, room, apartment, tenement, tent, 2 conveyance, vessel, boat, vehicle, house trailer, travel trailer, motor 3 home or railroad car in which the owner or other lawful occupant 4 resides.], without undue delay, transport the defendant to the 5 nearest jail or facility of a law enforcement agency or arrange for 6 7 the transport of the defendant by the appropriate law enforcement 8 agency.

9 6. A copy of all documents provided to a law enforcement agency or other governmental agency must be filed by the bail 10 enforcement agent with the Commissioner of Insurance within 10 11 days after the surrender, together with a statement concerning the 12 13 surrender which includes, without limitation, the information required on Form M-8C, available from the Commissioner of 14 15 Insurance.

16 7. A bail enforcement agent who apprehends a defendant in 17 this State or any other jurisdiction acts on behalf of the surety 18 insurer and bail agent and is not acting for or on behalf of this 19 State or any of its political subdivisions. 20

**Sec. 38.** NRS 697.330 is hereby amended to read as follows:

21 697.330 [If a bail agent or bail solicitor, without good cause, 22 surrenders a defendant to custody before the time specified in the undertaking of bail or the bail bond for the appearance of 23 the defendant, or before any other occasion where the presence of 24 25 the defendant in court is lawfully required, the premium is 26 returnable in full.

27 1. If a defendant is apprehended or surrendered to a court without written authorization or good cause, the bail transaction is 28 29 deemed to be cancelled and the premium and any associated 30 collateral must be returned in full.

31 2. A surety insurer or bail agent on whose authorization a 32 bail enforcement agent apprehends and surrenders a defendant is liable for any act or omission of the bail enforcement agent in 33 34 apprehending and surrendering the defendant. 35

**Sec. 39.** NRS 697.340 is hereby amended to read as follows:

36 697.340 1. A bail agent, general agent or bail solicitor shall 37 not:

(a) Suggest or advise the employment of or name for 38 39 employment any particular attorney to represent his or her principal.

(b) Solicit business in or about any place where prisoners are 40 41 confined or in or about any court.

42 (c) Pay a fee or rebate or give or promise anything of value to 43 any person in order to secure a settlement, compromise, remission 44 or reduction of the amount of any undertaking or bail bond.





(d) Pay a fee or rebate or give anything of value to an attorney in 1 2 bail bond matters, except for legal services not related to a 3 *defendant and* actually rendered.

4 (e) Pay a fee or rebate or give or promise anything of value to 5 the principal or anyone in his or her behalf.

6 (f) Participate *[in the capacity of] as* an attorney at a trial or hearing of a [person on] defendant whose bail bond [the] is 7 executed by a bail agent [, general agent or bail solicitor is surety,] 8 or on behalf of a surety insurer with whom the bail agent, general 9 agent or bail solicitor is associated, except for the purposes of 10 surrendering the defendant, making motions to set aside orders of 11 12 bail forfeitures and motions to exonerate bails and protecting his or 13 her financial interest in **[such]** a bond.

14 (g) Allow an attorney or paralegal to advertise his or her 15 services through the bail agent, general agent or bail solicitor or 16 through his or her place of business.

17 (h) Pay any referral fee or commission to a person not licensed 18 pursuant to this chapter.

19 (i) Use any form or preprinted agreement that has not been approved for use by the Commissioner pursuant to NRS 697.130. 20

21 (j) Except as authorized by this chapter, use any form or document, including, without limitation, an agreement, power of 22 attorney, authorization, waiver or promissory note, that gives a 23 24 bail agent, bail enforcement agent, bail solicitor or general agent authority over a person's finances, real property, personal 25 property or other assets, or that otherwise creates a conflict of 26 27 interest with the licensee's fiduciary obligation to the defendant or 28 indemnitor of the bail transaction.

29 (k) Initiate contact with, or otherwise solicit business from, 30 any relative or friend of a person who is in jail or by using an 31 arrest list.

32 (1) Seek or accept a charge for renewal of a bail bond that has 33 already been executed.

(m) Finance or charge a fee or interest for the one-time 34 charge of 15 percent of the amount of the bail bond or \$50, 35 36 whichever is greater, pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 697.300. 37

38 The following persons may not be bail agents, bail 2. 39 enforcement agents, for bail solicitors or general agents and shall not, directly or indirectly, receive any benefits from the execution of 40 41 any bail bond: 42

- (a) Jailers;
- (b) Police officers;
- 44 (c) Justices of the peace;
- 45 (d) Municipal judges;



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(e) Sheriffs, deputy sheriffs and constables;

2 (f) Any person having the power to arrest or having anything to 3 do with the control of federal, state, county or municipal prisoners; 4 and

5 (g) Trustees or prisoners incarcerated in any jail, prison or any 6 other place used for the incarceration of persons.

Only a bail agent appointed by a surety insurer may sign a 7 3. bail bond on behalf of the surety insurer. A bail bond may be 8 9 signed only at the time the bail bond is executed. A bail agent shall not sign for countersign in blank any bail bond, or figive assign the 10 power of attorney issued by the surety insurer to  $\frac{1}{1}$  the bail agent, 11 or otherwise authorize [] anyone to [countersign] sign the name of 12 13 the bail agent to *bail* bonds. Junless the person so authorized is a licensed agent directly employed by the agent giving the power of 14 15 attornev.

16 4. A bail agent, bail enforcement agent, bail solicitor or general 17 agent shall not advertise or hold himself or herself out to be a surety 18 [insurance company.] insurer.

19 5. A bail agent, bail solicitor or general agent shall not participate in the apprehension or surrender of a defendant other 20 21 than to execute any required forms and documents related to the apprehension and surrender of the defendant. 22

23 6. A bail agent must execute the bail bond with the court or 24 governmental agency within 3 business days after a bail 25 transaction is executed with the indemnitor.

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**Sec. 40.** NRS 697.350 is hereby amended to read as follows:

27 697.350 A bail agent shall justify the suretyship of the bail agent by attaching a copy of the power of attorney issued to the bail 28 29 agent by the surety insurer to each *bail* bond. 30

Sec. 41. NRS 697.360 is hereby amended to read as follows:

31 697.360 Licensed bail agents, bail solicitors and bail enforcement agents, and general agents are also subject to the 32 following provisions of this Code, to the extent reasonably 33 34 applicable:

- 35 1. Chapter 679A of NRS.
- 36 2. Chapter 679B of NRS.
- 37 3. NRŠ 683A.261.
- 38 4. NRS 683A.301.
- 39 5. INRS 683A.311.
- 6. NRS 683A.331. 40
- <del>[7]</del> 6. 41 NRS 683A.341.
- 42 <del>[8.]</del> 7. NRS 683A.361.
- <mark>[9.] 8.</mark> NRS 683A.400. 43
- 44 **[10.]** 9. NRS 683A.451.
- 45 **111 10.** NRS 683A.461.



- 1 <del>[12.]</del> 11. NRS 683A.480.
- 2 <del>[13.]</del> 12. NRS 683A.500.
- 3 <del>[14.]</del> **13.** NRS 683A.520.
- 4 <del>[15.]</del> 14. NRS 686A.010 to 686A.310, inclusive.
- 5 15. NRS 686A.330 to 686A.520, inclusive.
- 6 **Sec. 42.** NRS 697.370 is hereby amended to read as follows:

7 697.370 1. The Commissioner may take administrative action for a violation of any provision of this chapter and any 8 adopted pursuant thereto, including, 9 regulations without 10 limitation, placing a licensee on probation, suspending or 11 revoking a license, imposing an administrative fine of not more 12 than \$10,000 for each violation and ordering restitution for any 13 money or property improperly received, obtained or held as a 14 result of such a violation.

15 2. The Commissioner may inform the appropriate district 16 attorney of any violation of any provision of this chapter.

17 **12.** In addition to any other penalty provided in this chapter 18 any person violating any provision of this chapter is guilty of a 19 misdemeanor.

20 A person aggrieved by any act of the Commissioner may 4. 21 request a hearing pursuant to NRS 679B.310.

22 Sec. 42.5. Chapter 178 of NRS is hereby amended by adding 23 thereto a new section to read as follows:

24 A bail agent shall not act as an attorney-in-fact for a surety 25 insurer, as defined in section 7 of this act, on an undertaking unless the bail agent has registered in the office of the sheriff and 26 27 with the clerk of the district court in which the bail agent resides, 28 and the bail agent may register in the same manner in any other 29 county. Any bail agent shall file a certified copy of the 30 appointment of the bail agent by power of attorney from each 31 surety insurer, as defined in section 7 of this act, which the bail 32 agent represents as bail agent with each of such officers. The bail 33 agent shall register and file a certified copy of renewed power of attorney annually on July 1. The clerk of the district court and the 34 sheriff shall not permit the registration of a bail agent unless the 35 36 bail agent is licensed by the Commissioner. 37

**Sec. 43.** NRS 178.504 is hereby amended to read as follows:

38 178.504 1. Every surety, except a corporate surety which is 39 approved insurer, surety insurer as [provided by law,] defined in 40 *section 7 of this act*, shall justify by affidavit and may be required to 41 describe in the affidavit:

42 (a) The property by which the surety proposes to justify and the 43 encumbrances thereon;

44 (b) The number and amount of other bonds and undertakings for 45 bail entered into by the surety and remaining undischarged; and





1 (c) All other liabilities.

2 2. No *bail* bond shall be approved unless the surety thereon 3 appears to be qualified.

A [corporate] surety [that is authorized to transact insurance 4 3. 5 in this State pursuant to chapter 680A of NRS] insurer, as defined 6 *in section 7 of this act*, is a sufficient surety for all courts and shall 7 be deemed to be qualified for purposes of this section.

8

**Sec. 44.** NRS 178.526 is hereby amended to read as follows:

9 178.526 1. For the purpose of surrendering a defendant, a 10 surety *insurer or bail agent*, at any time before the surety *insurer* is finally discharged, and at any place within this State, may, by + 11

12 (a) Written written authorization for the arrest apprehension

- 13 of the defendant *indicating the reason for apprehension* attached to
- 14 a copy of the <u>undertaking; or</u>

15 (b) A written authority endorsed on a certified copy of the 16 undertaking.

17 → *bail bond*, cause the defendant to be *arrested apprehended* by

a **[bail agent or]** bail enforcement agent who is licensed pursuant to 18 19 chapter 697 of NRS.

A bail [agent or bail] enforcement agent who [arrests] 20 2. 21 *apprehends* a defendant in this State or any other jurisdiction is not 22 acting for or on behalf of this State or any of its political 23 subdivisions.

Sec. 45. NRS 239.010 is hereby amended to read as follows:

24 25 239.010 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section and NRS 1.4683, 1.4687, 1A.110, 41.071, 49.095, 62D.420, 62D.440, 26 62E.516, 62E.620, 62H.025, 62H.030, 62H.170, 62H.220, 62H.320, 27 75A.100, 75A.150, 76.160, 78.152, 80.113, 81.850, 82.183, 86.246, 28 86.54615, 87.515, 87.5413, 87A.200, 87A.580, 87A.640, 88.3355, 29 30 88.5927, 88.6067, 88A.345, 88A.7345, 89.045, 89.251, 90.730, 31 91.160, 116.757, 116A.270, 116B.880, 118B.026, 119.260, 32 119.265, 119.267, 119.280, 119A.280, 119A.653, 119B.370, 33 119B.382, 120A.690, 125.130, 125B.140, 126.141, 126.161, 126.163, 126.730, 127.007, 127.057, 127.130, 127.140, 127.2817, 34 35 130.312, 130.712, 136.050, 159.044, 172.075, 172.245, 176.015, 176.0625, 176.09129, 176.156, 176A.630, 178.39801, 178.4715, 36 178.5691, 179.495, 179A.070, 179A.165, 179A.450, 179D.160, 37 200.3771, 200.3772, 200.5095, 200.604, 202.3662, 205.4651, 38 209.392, 209.3925, 209.419, 209.521, 211A.140, 213.010, 213.040, 39 213.095, 213.131, 217.105, 217.110, 217.464, 217.475, 218A.350, 40 218E.625, 218F.150, 218G.130, 218G.240, 218G.350, 228.270, 41 228.450, 228.495, 228.570, 231.069, 231.1473, 233.190, 237.300, 42 239.0105, 239.0113, 239B.030, 239B.040, 239B.050, 239C.140, 43 44 239C.210, 239C.230, 239C.250, 239C.270, 240.007, 241.020, 45 241.030, 241.039, 242.105, 244.264, 244.335, 250.087, 250.130,





250.140, 250.150, 268.095, 268.490, 268.910, 271A.105, 281.195, 1 281A.350, 281A.440, 281A.550, 284.4068, 286.110, 287.0438, 2 289.025, 289.080, 289.387, 289.830, 293.5002, 293.503, 293.558, 3 293B.135, 293D.510, 331.110, 332.061, 332.351, 333.333, 333.335, 4 338.070, 338.1379, 338.16925, 338.1725, 338.1727, 348.420, 5 349.597, 349.775, 353.205, 353A.049, 353A.085, 353A.100, 353C.240, 360.240, 360.247, 360.255, 360.755, 361.044, 361.610, 6 7 365.138, 366.160, 368A.180, 372A.080, 378.290, 378.300, 379.008, 8 385A.830, 385B.100, 387.626, 387.631, 388.1455, 388.259, 9 388.501, 388.503, 388.513, 388.750, 391.035, 392.029, 392.147, 10 392.264, 392.271, 392.850, 394.167, 394.1698, 394.447, 394.460, 11 394.465, 396.3295, 396.405, 396.525, 396.535, 398.403, 408.3885, 12 13 408.3886, 408.3888, 408.5484, 412.153, 416.070, 422.2749, 14 422.305, 422A.342, 422A.350, 425.400, 427A.1236, 427A.872, 15 432.205, 432B.175, 432B.280, 432B.290, 432B.407, 432B.430, 16 432B.560, 433.534, 433A.360, 439.840, 439B.420, 440.170, 441A.195, 441A.220, 441A.230, 442.330, 442.395, 445A.665, 17 445B.570, 449.209, 449.245, 449.720, 450.140, 453.164, 453.720, 18 453A.610, 453A.700, 458.055, 458.280, 459.050, 459.3866, 19 20 459.555, 459.7056, 459.846, 463.120, 463.15993, 463.240, 463.3403, 463.3407, 463.790, 467.1005, 480.365, 481.063, 482.170, 21 22 482.5536, 483.340, 483.363, 483.575, 483.659, 483.800, 484E.070, 485.316, 503.452, 522.040, 534A.031, 561.285, 571.160, 584.583, 23 584.655, 587.877, 598.0964, 598.098, 598A.110, 599B.090, 24 25 603.070, 603A.210, 604A.710, 612.265, 616B.012, 616B.015, 616B.315, 616B.350, 618.341, 618.425, 622.310, 623.131, 26 623A.137, 624.110, 624.265, 624.327, 625.425, 625A.185, 628.418, 27 628B.230, 628B.760, 629.047, 629.069, 630.133, 630.30665, 28 630.336, 630A.555, 631.368, 632.121, 632.125, 632.405, 633.283, 29 30 633.301, 633.524, 634.055, 634.214, 634A.185, 635.158, 636.107, 637.085, 637B.288, 638.087, 638.089, 639.2485, 639.570, 640.075, 31 32 640A.220, 640B.730, 640C.400, 640C.745, 640C.760, 640D.190, 640E.340, 641.090, 641A.191, 641B.170, 641C.760, 642.524, 33 643.189, 644.446, 645.180, 645.625, 645A.050, 645A.082, 34 645B.060, 645B.092, 645C.220, 645C.225, 645D.130, 645D.135, 35 645E.300, 645E.375, 645G.510, 645H.320, 645H.330, 647.0945, 36 647.0947, 648.033, 648.197, 649.065, 649.067, 652.228, 654.110, 37 656.105, 661.115, 665.130, 665.133, 669.275, 669.285, 669A.310, 38 671.170, 673.430, 675.380, 676A.340, 676A.370, 39 677.243. 679B.122, 679B.152, 679B.159, 679B.190, 679B.285, 679B.690, 40 41 680A.270, 681A.440, 681B.260, 681B.410, 681B.540, 683A.0873, 685A.077, 686A.289, 686B.170, 686C.306, 687A.110, 687A.115, 42 687C.010, 688C.230, 688C.480, 688C.490, 692A.117, 692C.190, 43 44 692C.3536, 692C.3538, 692C.354, 692C.420, 693A.480, 693A.615, 45 696B.550, 697.250, 703.196, 704B.320, 704B.325, 706.1725,





706A.230, 710.159, 711.600, sections 35, 38 and 41 of chapter 478, 1 Statutes of Nevada 2011 and section 2 of chapter 391, Statutes of 2 3 Nevada 2013 and unless otherwise declared by law to be 4 confidential, all public books and public records of a governmental 5 entity must be open at all times during office hours to inspection by 6 any person, and may be fully copied or an abstract or memorandum 7 may be prepared from those public books and public records. Any 8 such copies, abstracts or memoranda may be used to supply the 9 general public with copies, abstracts or memoranda of the records or 10 may be used in any other way to the advantage of the governmental entity or of the general public. This section does not supersede or in 11 12 any manner affect the federal laws governing copyrights or enlarge, 13 diminish or affect in any other manner the rights of a person in any 14 written book or record which is copyrighted pursuant to federal law.

15 2. A governmental entity may not reject a book or record 16 which is copyrighted solely because it is copyrighted.

17 A governmental entity that has legal custody or control of a 3. 18 public book or record shall not deny a request made pursuant to 19 subsection 1 to inspect or copy or receive a copy of a public book or 20 record on the basis that the requested public book or record contains 21 information that is confidential if the governmental entity can 22 redact, delete, conceal or separate the confidential information from 23 the information included in the public book or record that is not 24 otherwise confidential.

4. A person may request a copy of a public record in any
medium in which the public record is readily available. An officer,
employee or agent of a governmental entity who has legal custody
or control of a public record:

(a) Shall not refuse to provide a copy of that public record in a
readily available medium because the officer, employee or agent has
already prepared or would prefer to provide the copy in a different
medium.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 239.030, shall, upon
request, prepare the copy of the public record and shall not require
the person who has requested the copy to prepare the copy himself
or herself.

37 Sec. 45.5. NRS 697.270 is hereby repealed.

38 Sec. 46. This act becomes effective:

Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any
 regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative
 tasks necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and

42 2. On January 1, 2018, for all other purposes.





## **TEXT OF REPEALED SECTION**

**697.270** Registration of bail agents. A bail agent shall not act as an attorney-in-fact for an insurer on an undertaking unless the bail agent has registered in the office of the sheriff and with the clerk of the district court in which the agent resides, and the bail agent may register in the same manner in any other county. Any bail agent shall file a certified copy of the appointment of the bail agent represents as agent with each of such officers. The bail agent shall register and file a certified copy of renewed power of attorney annually on July 1. The clerk of the district court and the sheriff shall not permit the registration of a bail agent unless the agent is licensed by the Commissioner.

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