PCS for HB 1303 ORIGINAL 2016

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to life insurance agents; amending s. 626.785, F.S.; clarifying the qualifications to obtain a license as a life agent; increasing the amount of coverage allowed for certain life insurance policies covering funeral expenses; providing an effective date.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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Section 1. Subsection (1) and subsection (3) of section 626.785, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

626.785 Qualifications for license.-

- (1) The department shall not grant or issue a license as life agent to any individual found by it to be untrustworthy or incompetent. Additionally, each individual must also meet all of the following qualifications: or who does not meet the following qualifications:
 - (a) Must be a natural person of at least 18 years of age.
- (b) Must be a United States citizen or legal alien who possesses work authorization from the United States Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services and a bona fide resident of this state.
- (c) Must not be an employee of the United States
 Department of Veterans Affairs or state service office, as
 referred to in s. 626.788.

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- (d) Must not be a funeral director or direct disposer, or an employee or representative thereof, or have an office in, or in connection with, a funeral establishment, except that a funeral establishment may contract with a life insurance agent to sell a preneed contract as defined in s. 497.005.

 Notwithstanding other provisions of this chapter, such insurance agent may sell limited policies of insurance covering the expense of final disposition or burial of an insured in the amount of \$12,50021,000, plus an annual percentage increase based on the Annual Consumer Price Index compiled by the United States Department of Labor, beginning with the Annual Consumer Price Index announced by the United States Department of Labor for the year 200316.
- (e) Must take and pass any examination for license required under s. 626.221.
- (f) Must be qualified as to knowledge, experience, or instruction in the business of insurance and meet the requirements relative thereto provided in s. 626.7851.
- (3) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter, a funeral director, a direct disposer, or an employee of a funeral establishment that holds a certificate of authority preneed license pursuant to s. 497.452 may obtain an agent's license to sell only policies of life insurance covering the expense of a prearrangement for funeral services or merchandise so as to provide funds at the time the services and merchandise are needed. The face amount of insurance covered by any such

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policy shall not exceed \$12,50021,000, plus an annual percentage increase based on the Annual Consumer Price Index compiled by the United States Department of Labor, beginning with the Annual Consumer Price Index announced by the United States Department of Labor for 200316.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.

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