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SENATE STATE OF MINNESOTA EIGHTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

S.F. No. 650

(SENATE AUTHORS: GOODWIN)

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D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
353	Introduction and first reading Referred to Commerce
421a	Comm report: To pass as amended and re-refer to Judiciary
985a	Comm report: To pass as amended
1021	Second reading
3954	HF substituted on General Orders HF647
	421a 985a 1021

1.1	A bill for an act
1.2	relating to commerce; renaming the division of insurance fraud; regulating
1.3	subpoenas issued by the commissioner; modifying certain continuing education
1.4	requirements; requiring and regulating an annual statement of actuarial opinions
1.5	of reserves and supporting documentation of property and casualty companies;
1.6	modifying risk-based capital requirements for certain insurers; regulating real
1.7	estate appraiser licenses; modifying service requests in connection with Public
1.8	Utility Commission matters; repealing certain unnecessary laws; amending
1.9	Minnesota Statutes 2012, sections 13.712, by adding a subdivision; 45.0135;
1.10	45.027, subdivision 2; 45.307; 45.43; 60A.62, subdivision 1; 82B.08, by adding
1.11	a subdivision; 82B.094; 82B.095, subdivision 2; 82B.10, subdivision 1; 82B.13,
1.12	subdivisions 1, 4, 5, 8, by adding a subdivision; 216.17, subdivisions 2, 4;
1.13	216B.18; 299C.40, subdivision 1; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota
1.14	Statutes, chapter 60A; repealing Minnesota Statutes 2012, sections 82B.095,
1.15	subdivision 1; 115C.09, subdivision 3k; Laws 2000, chapter 488, article 3,
1.16	section 37.

- BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:
- 1.18 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 13.712, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:
- 1.20 <u>Subd. 4.</u> <u>Actuarial data.</u> <u>Actuarial reports and related data of the Department of</u>
 1.21 Commerce are classified under section 60A.1296.
- Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 45.0135, is amended to read:

1.23 **45.0135 DIVISION OF INSURANCE COMMERCE FRAUD PREVENTION**1.24 **BUREAU**.

Subd. 2a. **Authorization.** The commissioner may appoint peace officers, as defined in section 626.84, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), and establish a law enforcement agency, as defined in section 626.84, subdivision 1, paragraph (f), known as the Division of Insurance Commerce Fraud Prevention Bureau, to conduct investigations, and to make arrests under

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sections 629.30 and 629.34. The jurisdiction of the law enforcement agency is limited to 2.1 offenses related to insurance fraud. 2.2 Subd. 2b. **Duties.** The Division of Insurance Commerce Fraud Prevention Bureau 2.3 shall: 2.4 (1) review notices and reports of insurance fraud submitted by authorized insurers, 2.5 their employees, and agents or producers; 2.6 (2) respond to notifications or complaints of suspected insurance fraud generated by 2.7 other law enforcement agencies, state or federal governmental units, or any other person; 2.8 (3) initiate inquiries and conduct investigations when the division bureau has reason 2.9 to believe that insurance fraud has been or is being committed; and 2.10 (4) report incidents of alleged insurance fraud disclosed by its investigations to 2.11 appropriate law enforcement agencies, including, but not limited to, the attorney general, 2.12 county attorneys, or any other appropriate law enforcement or regulatory agency, and shall 2.13 assemble evidence, prepare charges, and otherwise assist any law enforcement authority 2.14 having jurisdiction. 2.15 Subd. 2c. Arrests and investigations. The initial processing of a person arrested 2.16 by the Division of Insurance Commerce Fraud Prevention Bureau for an offense within 2.17 its jurisdiction is the responsibility of the Division of Insurance Fraud Prevention bureau 2.18 unless otherwise directed by the law enforcement agency with primary jurisdiction. 2.19 Subsequent investigation shall be the responsibility of the Division of Insurance Fraud 2.20 Prevention bureau unless otherwise directed by the law enforcement agency with primary 2.21 jurisdiction. At the request of the primary jurisdiction, the Division of Insurance Fraud 2.22 2.23 Prevention bureau may assist in a subsequent investigation being carried out by the primary jurisdiction. 2.24 Subd. 2d. Policy for notice of investigations. The Division of Insurance Commerce 2.25 2.26 Fraud Prevention Bureau must develop a policy for notifying the law enforcement agency with primary jurisdiction when it has initiated investigation of any person within the 2.27 jurisdiction of that agency. 2.28 Subd. 2e. Chief law enforcement officer. The commissioner shall appoint a peace 2.29 2.30

officer employed full time to be the chief law enforcement officer and to be responsible for the management of the <u>Division of Insurance Commerce Fraud Prevention Bureau</u>. The chief law enforcement officer shall possess the necessary police and management experience to manage a law enforcement agency. The chief law enforcement officer may appoint, discipline, and discharge all employees of the <u>Division of Insurance Fraud Prevention bureau</u>. All police managerial and supervisory personnel must be full-time employees of the <u>Division of Insurance Fraud Prevention</u> bureau. Supervisory personnel

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must be on duty and available any time peace officers of the Division of Insurance Fraud Prevention bureau are on duty.

Subd. 2f. **Compliance.** Except as otherwise provided in this section, the Division of Insurance Fraud Prevention Commerce Fraud Bureau shall comply with all statutes and administrative rules relating to the operation and management of a law enforcement agency.

- Subd. 3. **Evidence, documentation, and related materials.** If the <u>division bureau</u> seeks evidence, documentation, and related materials pertinent to an investigation, and the matter is located outside of this state, the <u>division bureau</u> may designate representatives, including officials of the state where the matter is located, to secure the matter or inspect the matter on its behalf.
- Subd. 4. **Confidentiality and immunity.** The provisions of chapter 13, including, but not limited to, section 13.82, apply to the classification, disclosure, and collection of data relating to the <u>Division of Insurance Commerce</u> Fraud <u>Prevention Bureau</u>.
- Subd. 5. Annual report on activities and cost-effectiveness. The Division of Insurance Commerce Fraud Prevention Bureau shall maintain records and information in order to produce an annual report of its activities as may be prescribed by the commissioner of commerce. The commissioner shall report annually to the house of representatives and senate standing committees with jurisdiction over insurance issues as to the activities of the division bureau and the cost-effectiveness of the programs established by the division bureau.
- Subd. 6. **Insurance fraud prevention account.** The insurance fraud prevention account is created in the state treasury. Money received from assessments under subdivision 7 is deposited in the account. Money in this fund is appropriated to the commissioner of commerce for the purposes specified in this section and sections 60A.951 to 60A.956.
- Subd. 7. **Assessment.** Each insurer authorized to sell insurance in the state of Minnesota, including surplus lines carriers, and having Minnesota earned premium the previous calendar year shall remit an assessment to the commissioner for deposit in the insurance fraud prevention account on or before June 1 of each year. The amount of the assessment shall be based on the insurer's total assets and on the insurer's total written Minnesota premium, for the preceding fiscal year, as reported pursuant to section 60A.13. The assessment is calculated to be an amount up to the following:

Total Assets 3.32 Assessment Less than \$100,000,000 \$ 200 3.33 \$100,000,000 to \$1,000,000,000 \$ 750 3.34 Over \$1,000,000,000 \$ 2,000 3.35 Minnesota Written Premium Assessment 3.36 Less than \$10,000,000 \$ 200 3.37

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4.1	\$10,000,000 to \$100,000,000 \$ 750				
4.2	Over \$100,000,000 \$ 2,000				
4.3	For purposes of this subdivision, the following entities are not considered to be				
4.4	insurers authorized to sell insurance in the state of Minnesota: risk retention groups; or				
4.5	township mutuals organized under chapter 67A.				
4.6	Subd. 8. Investigations; health-related boards. (a) The Division of Insurance				
4.7	<u>Commerce</u> Fraud <u>Prevention</u> <u>Bureau</u> may consult with the appropriate health-related board				
4.8	when a licensee, licensed under chapter 144E, 147, 148, 148B, or 150A, is suspected				
4.9	of insurance fraud.				
4.10	(b) The division bureau shall, for any conviction involving or related to insurance,				
4.11	send copies of all public data in its possession to the appropriate health-related licensing				
4.12	board.				
4.13	Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 45.027, subdivision 2, is amended to read:				
4.14	Subd. 2. Power to compel production of evidence. For the purpose of any				
4.15	investigation, hearing, proceeding, or inquiry related to the duties and responsibilities				
4.16	entrusted to the commissioner, the commissioner or a designated representative may				
4.17	administer oaths and affirmations, subpoena witnesses, compel their attendance, take				
4.18	evidence, and require the production of books, papers, correspondence, memoranda,				
4.19	agreements, or other documents or records that the commissioner considers relevant				
4.20	or material to the inquiry.				
4.21	A subpoena issued pursuant to this subdivision must state that the person to whom				
4.22	the subpoena is directed may not disclose the fact that the subpoena was issued or the fact				
4.23	that the requested records have been given to law enforcement personnel except:				
4.24	(1) insofar as the disclosure is necessary to find and disclose the records; or				
4.25	(2) pursuant to court order.				
4.26	Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 45.307, is amended to read:				
4.27	45.307 EDUCATION PROVIDER.				
4.28	Subdivision 1. Duty to make records and data available to commissioner. A				
4.29	person applying for approval as an education provider must make available upon request				
4.30	such records and data required by the commissioner to administer the provisions and				
4.31	further the purposes of this chapter.				
4.32	Subd. 2. Responsibility for actions of coordinators and instructors. An				
4 33	education provider is responsible for any actions taken by one or more of its coordinators				

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(b) A company licensed but not domiciled in this state shall provide the actuarial

Subd. 3. Actuarial report and workpapers. (a) An actuarial report and its

underlying workpapers as required by the appropriate NAIC Property and Casualty

Annual Statement Instructions must be prepared to support each actuarial opinion.

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opinion summary upon request.

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(b) If the insurance company fails to provide a supporting actuarial report and/or workpapers at the request of the commissioner or the commissioner determines that the supporting actuarial report or workpapers provided by the insurance company are otherwise unacceptable to the commissioner, the commissioner may engage a qualified actuary at the expense of the company to review the opinion and the basis for the opinion and prepare the supporting actuarial report or workpapers.

Subd. 4. Liability. The appointed actuary shall not be liable for damages to any person, other than the insurance company and the commissioner, for any act, error, omission, decision, or conduct with respect to the actuary's opinion, except in cases of fraud or willful misconduct on the part of the appointed actuary.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective December 31, 2013.

Sec. 7. [60A.1296] CONFIDENTIALITY.

Subdivision 1. Actuarial opinion; public document. The statement of actuarial opinion must be provided with the annual statement in accordance with the appropriate National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) Property and Casualty Annual Statement Instructions and must be treated as a public document.

- Subd. 2. Supporting materials; confidential and privileged. (a) Documents, materials, or other information in the possession or control of the Department of Commerce that are considered an actuarial report, workpapers, or actuarial opinion summary provided in support of the opinion, and any other material provided by the company to the commissioner in connection with the actuarial report, workpapers, or actuarial opinion summary, are confidential data on individuals or protected nonpublic data as defined in section 13.02, shall not be subject to subpoena, and shall not be subject to discovery or admissible in evidence in any private civil action.
 - (b) This provision shall not be construed to limit the commissioner's authority to:
- (1) release the documents to the Actuarial Board for Counseling and Discipline (ABCD) so long as the material is required for the purpose of professional disciplinary proceedings and the ABCD establishes procedures satisfactory to the commissioner for preserving the confidentiality of the documents; or
- (2) use the documents, materials, or other information in furtherance of any regulatory or legal action brought as part of the commissioner's official duties.
- Subd. 3. Protections. Neither the commissioner nor any person who received the documents, materials, or other information while acting under the authority of the commissioner shall be permitted or required to testify in any private civil action concerning any confidential documents, materials, or information subject to subdivision 2.

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Subd. 4. Exceptions. In order to assist in the performance of the commissioner's duties, the commissioner:
 (1) may share documents, materials, or other information, including the confidential and privileged documents, materials, or information subject to subdivision 2 with other

and privileged documents, materials, or information subject to subdivision 2 with other state, federal, and international regulatory agencies; with the NAIC and its affiliates and subsidiaries; and with state, federal, and international law enforcement authorities, provided that the recipient agrees to maintain the confidentiality and privileged status of the document, material, or other information and has the legal authority to maintain confidentiality;

- (2) may receive documents, materials, or information, including otherwise confidential and privileged documents, materials, or information, from NAIC and its affiliates and subsidiaries, and from regulatory and law enforcement officials of other foreign or domestic jurisdictions, and shall maintain as confidential or privileged any document, material, or information received with notice or the understanding that it is confidential or privileged under the laws of the jurisdiction that is the source of the document, material, or information; and
- (3) may enter into agreements governing sharing and use of information consistent with subdivisions 2 to 4.
- Subd. 5. **Nonwaiver.** No waiver of applicable privilege or claim of confidentiality in the documents, materials, or information shall occur as a result of disclosure to the commissioner under this section or as a result of sharing as authorized in subdivision 4.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective December 31, 2013.

- Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 60A.62, subdivision 1, is amended to read: Subdivision 1. **Definition.** "Company action level event" means any of the following events:
 - (1) the filing of a risk-based capital report by an insurer which indicates that:
- (i) the insurer's total adjusted capital is greater than or equal to its regulatory action level risk-based capital but less than its company action level risk-based capital; or
- (ii) if a life and/or health insurer, the insurer has total adjusted capital that is greater than or equal to its company action level risk-based capital but less than the product of its authorized control level risk-based capital and 2.5 3.0 and has a negative trend; or
- (iii) if a property and casualty insurer, the insurer has total adjusted capital which is greater than or equal to its company action level risk-based capital but less than the product of its authorized control level risk-based capital and 3.0 and triggers the trend

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test determ	ined in accordance wi	th the trend tes	st calculation included	d in the property			
and casualt	y risk-based capital in	nstructions;					
(2) th	ne notification by the c	commissioner t	o the insurer of an ad	justed risk-based			
capital repo	ort that indicates an ev	ent in clause (1), provided the insure	er does not challenge			
the adjuste	d risk-based report un	der section 60/	A.66; or				
(3) if	, pursuant to section 6	0A.66, an insu	rer challenges an adju	usted risk-based			
capital repo	capital report that indicates the event in clause (1), the notification by the commissioner to						
the insurer	that the commissioner	has, after a he	aring, rejected the ins	surer's challenge.			
<u>EFF</u>	ECTIVE DATE. This	section is effe	ctive December 31, 2	<u>013.</u>			
Sec. 9.	Minnesota Statutes 20	12, section 82I	3.08, is amended by a	adding a subdivision			
to read:							
Subd	. 2a. Criminal histor	y record chec	k; fingerprints. (a) A	An applicant for a			
license mu	st:						
<u>(1) co</u>	onsent to a criminal hi	story record ch	ieck;				
<u>(2) su</u>	ıbmit a fingerprint care	d in a form acc	eptable to the commis	ssioner; and			
(3) pa	ay the fee required to p	erform crimina	al history record check	ks with the Minnesota			
Bureau of (Criminal Apprehension	n and the Fede	ral Bureau of Investig	gation.			
<u>(b)</u> T	he commissioner may	contract for the	ne collection and tran	smission of			
fingerprints	s required under this c	hapter and ma	y order the fee for co	llecting and			
transmittin	g fingerprints to be pa	yable directly	to the contractor by the	ne applicant. The			
commissio	ner may agree to a reas	sonable fingerp	orinting fee to be charge	ged by the contractor.			
(c) T	he commissioner shall	I submit the ap	plicant's fingerprints,	consent, and			
the require	d fee to the superinten	ident of the Bu	reau of Criminal App	orehension. The			
superintend	dent shall perform a cl	heck of the stat	te criminal history rep	pository and is			
authorized	to exchange the applic	ant's fingerprin	ts with the Federal Bu	ureau of Investigation			
to obtain th	ne national criminal his	story record. T	he superintendent sha	all return the results			
of the state	and national criminal	history record	s checks to the comm	issioner.			
(d) T	his subdivision applies	s to an applicar	t for an initial license	or a renewal license.			
<u>EFF</u>]	ECTIVE DATE. This	s section is effe	ective January 1, 2015	5, and applies to			
persons app	olying for a license pu	rsuant to Minn	esota Statutes, chapter	r 82B, on or after that			
date who w	ere not previously fing	gerprinted in co	mpliance with the term	ns of this subdivision.			

82B.094 SUPERVISION OF TRAINEE REAL PROPERTY APPRAISERS.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 82B.094, is amended to read:

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(a) A certified residential real property appraiser or a certified general real property 9.1 9.2 appraiser, in good standing, may engage a trainee real property appraiser to assist in the performance of real estate appraisals, provided that the certified residential real property 9.3 appraiser or a certified general real property appraiser: 9.4 (1) has been licensed in good standing as either a certified residential real property 9.5 appraiser or a certified general real property appraiser for a total of at least three years; 9.6 (2) has completed a course that is specifically oriented to the requirements and 9.7 responsibilities of supervisory appraisers and trainee appraisers; 9.8 (3) has not been the subject of any license or certificate suspension or revocation or 9.9 has not been prohibited from supervising activities in this state or any other state within 9.10 the previous two years; 9.11 (2) (4) has no more than three trainee real property appraisers working under 9.12 supervision at any one time; 9.13 (3) (5) actively and personally supervises the trainee real property appraiser, which 9.14 includes ensuring that research of general and specific data has been adequately conducted 9.15 and properly reported, application of appraisal principles and methodologies has been 9.16 properly applied, that the analysis is sound and adequately reported, and that any analyses, 9.17 opinions, or conclusions are adequately developed and reported so that the appraisal 9.18 report is not misleading; 9.19 (4) (6) discusses with the trainee real property appraiser any necessary and 9.20 appropriate changes that are made to a report, involving any trainee appraiser, before it is 9.21 transmitted to the client. Changes not discussed with the trainee real property appraiser 9.22 9.23 that are made by the supervising appraiser must be provided in writing to the trainee real property appraiser upon completion of the appraisal report; 9.24 (5) (7) accompanies the trainee real property appraiser on the inspections of the 9.25 9.26 subject properties and drive-by inspections of the comparable sales on all appraisal assignments for which the trainee will perform work until the trainee appraiser is 9.27 determined to be competent, in accordance with the competency rule of USPAP for the 9.28 property type; 9.29 (6) (8) accepts full responsibility for the appraisal report by signing and certifying 9.30

(6) (8) accepts full responsibility for the appraisal report by signing and certifying that the report complies with USPAP; and

- (7) (9) reviews and signs the trainee real property appraiser's appraisal report or reports or if the trainee appraiser is not signing the report, states in the appraisal the name of the trainee and scope of the trainee's significant contribution to the report.
- (b) The supervising appraiser must review and sign the applicable experience log required to be kept by the trainee real property appraiser.

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(c) The supervising appraiser must notify the commissioner within ten days when the supervision of a trainee real property appraiser has terminated or when the trainee appraiser is no longer under the supervision of the supervising appraiser.

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- (d) The supervising appraiser must maintain a separate work file for each appraisal assignment.
- (e) The supervising appraiser must verify that any trainee real property appraiser that is subject to supervision is properly licensed and in good standing with the commissioner.
 - Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 82B.095, subdivision 2, is amended to read:
- Subd. 2. Components on or after January 1, 2009 Conformance to Appraiser Qualifications Board criteria. (a) On or after January 1, 2009, an applicant for a class of license must document that the applicant has met the education, experience, and examination components in effect after January 1, 2008.
- (b) Qualifications for all levels of licensing must conform to the Real Property Qualification Criteria established by the Appraisal Qualifications Board for implementation effective January 1, 2008 2015.
- Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 82B.10, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

 Subdivision 1. **Generally.** (a) An applicant for a license must pass an examination conducted by the commissioner. The examinations must be of sufficient scope to establish the competency of the applicant to act as a real estate appraiser and must conform with the current National Uniform Exam Content Outlines published by the Appraiser Qualifications Board.
- (b) A passing grade for a real estate appraiser licensing examination must be the cut score defined by the Appraiser Qualifications Board criteria.
- (c) To qualify for a license as a trainee real property appraiser, an applicant must pass a current trainee real property appraiser examination. The examination must test the applicant's knowledge of appraisal terms, principles, theories, and ethics as provided in this chapter.
- (d) To qualify for a license as a licensed real property appraiser, an applicant must pass a current uniform licensed real property appraiser examination approved by the Appraiser Qualifications Board. The examination must test the applicant's knowledge of appraisal terms, principles, theories, and ethics as provided in this chapter.
- (e) To qualify for a license as a certified residential real property appraiser, an applicant must pass a current uniform certified residential real property appraiser examination approved by the Appraiser Qualifications Board. The examination must test

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the applicant's knowledge of appraisal terms, principles, theories, and ethics as provided in this chapter.

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- (f) To qualify for a license as a certified general real property appraiser, an applicant must pass a current uniform certified general real property appraiser examination approved by the Appraiser Qualifications Board. The examination must test the applicant's knowledge of appraisal terms, principles, theories, and ethics as provided in this chapter.
- (g) An applicant must complete the applicable education prerequisites in section 82B.13 and the experience requirements in section 82B.14 before the applicant takes the examination required under this section.
- 11.10 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2015, and applies to an applicant for a license on or after that date.
- 11.12 Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 82B.13, subdivision 1, is amended to read:
 - Subdivision 1. **Trainee real property appraiser or licensed real property appraiser.** (a) As a prerequisite for licensing as a trainee real property appraiser or licensed real property appraiser, an applicant must present evidence satisfactory to the commissioner that the person has successfully completed:
 - (1) at least 90 classroom 75 hours of prelicense courses approved by the commissioner. The courses must consist Fifteen of the 75 hours must include successful completion of general real estate appraisal principles and the 15-hour national USPAP course; and
 - (2) in addition to the required hours under clause (1), a course that is specifically oriented to the requirements and responsibilities of supervisory appraisers and trainee appraisers.
 - (a) After January 1, 2008, a trainee real property appraiser applicant must present evidence satisfactory to the commissioner that the person has successfully completed at least 75 hours of prelicense courses approved by the commissioner.
 - (b) After January 1, 2008, a licensed real property appraiser applicant must present evidence satisfactory to the commissioner that the person has successfully completed at least 150 hours of prelicense courses approved by the commissioner All qualifying education must be completed within the five-year period prior to the date of submission of a trainee real property appraiser license application.
- Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 82B.13, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

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Subd. 1a. Licensed real property appraiser. As a prerequisite for licensing as a 12.1 licensed real property appraiser, an applicant must present evidence satisfactory to the 12.2 commissioner that the person has successfully completed: 12.3 (1) at least 150 hours of prelicense courses approved by the commissioner. The 12.4 courses must consist of 75 hours of general real estate appraisal principles and the 15-hour 12.5 national USPAP course; and 12.6 (2) an associate degree or higher from an accredited college or university. In lieu of 12.7 the required degree, the applicant may present satisfactory documentation of successful 12.8 completion of 30 semester credit hours of instruction from an accredited college or 12.9 university. 12.10 12.11 Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 82B.13, subdivision 4, is amended to read: Subd. 4. Certified residential real property appraiser. As a prerequisite for 12.12 licensing as a certified residential real property appraiser, an applicant must present 12.13 12.14 evidence satisfactory to the commissioner that the person has successfully completed: (1) at least 120 classroom 200 hours of prelicense courses approved by the 12.15 commissioner, with particular emphasis on the appraisal of one to four unit residential 12.16 properties. Fifteen of the 120 200 hours must include successful completion of the 12.17 15-hour national USPAP course:; and 12.18 After January 1, 2008, A certified residential real property appraiser applicant 12.19 must present evidence satisfactory to the commissioner that the person has successfully 12.20 completed: 12.21 12.22 (1) 200 hours of prelicense courses approved by the commissioner; and (2) an associate a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited college or 12.23 university. In lieu of the required degree the applicant may present satisfactory 12.24 12.25 documentation of completion of 21 semester credit hours from an accredited college or university covering the following subject matter courses: English composition; principles 12.26 of economics (micro or macro); finance; algebra, geometry, or higher mathematics; 12.27 statistics; computer science; and business or real estate law. If an applicant has completed 12.28 education requirements before January 1, 2008, no college degree is required. 12.29 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2015, and applies to an 12.30

applicant for a license on or after that date.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 82B.13, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

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Subd. 5. Certified general real property appraiser. As a prerequisite for licensing as a certified general real property appraiser, an applicant must present evidence satisfactory to the commissioner that the person has successfully completed: (1) at least 180 classroom 300 hours of prelicense courses approved by the commissioner, with particular emphasis on the appraisal of nonresidential properties. Fifteen of the 180 300 hours must include successful completion of the 15-hour national USPAP course:; and After January 1, 2008, A certified general real property appraiser applicant must present evidence satisfactory to the commissioner that the person has successfully completed: (1) 300 hours of prelicense courses approved by the commissioner; and (2) a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited college or university. In lieu of the required degree the applicant may present satisfactory documentation of completion of 30 semester credit hours from an accredited college or university covering the following subject matters courses: English composition; micro economics; macro economics; finance; algebra, geometry, or higher mathematics; statistics; computer science; business or real estate law; and two elective courses in accounting, geography, ag-economics, business management, or real estate. If an applicant has complete education requirements before January 1, 2008, no college degree is required. **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2015, and applies to an applicant for a license on or after that date. Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 82B.13, subdivision 8, is amended to read: Subd. 8. Appraiser prelicense education. (a) Credit toward the qualifying education requirements of this section may also be obtained via the completion of a degree in real estate from an accredited degree-granting college or university approved by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, or a regional or national accreditation agency recognized by the United States Secretary of Education, provided that the college or university has had its curriculum reviewed and approved by the Appraiser Qualifications Board. (b) Notwithstanding section 45.22, a college or university real estate course may be approved retroactively by the commissioner for appraiser prelicense education credit if: (1) the course was offered by a college or university physically located in Minnesota;

(2) the college or university was an approved education provider at the time the

Sec. 17.

course was offered; and

(3) the commissioner's approval is made to the same extent in terms of courses and hours and with the same time limits as those specified by the Appraiser Qualifications Board.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 216.17, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

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Subd. 2. Service of notice, order, or other document from commission. Service of all notices, orders, and other documents by the commission may be made by mail, personal delivery, or electronic service upon any person or firm, or upon the president, general manager, or other proper executive officer of any corporation interested. If any party has appeared by attorney, such service must be made upon the attorney. Notwithstanding section 14.62, orders and decisions may be served by mail, by personal delivery, or by electronic service. The commission may provide electronic service to any person who has provided an electronic address to the commission for service purposes. For purposes of this section, the term "person" includes a natural person or an organization, whether for profit or not for profit. Regulated utilities and state agencies must provide an electronic address for electronic service purposes and must accept electronic service as official service.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 216.17, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Service by a party, participant, or other interested person.** When an applicable statute or commission rule requires service of a filing or other document by a party, participant, or other interested person upon persons on a service list maintained by the commission, service may be made by personal delivery, mail, or electronic service, except that electronic service may only be made upon persons on the official service list who have previously agreed in writing to accept electronic service at an electronic address provided to the commission for electronic service purposes. This section does not apply to the extent another provision of this chapter or chapter 216A requires a specific method of service.

Regulated utilities and state agencies must provide an electronic address to the commission for electronic service purposes and agree to accept electronic service as official service.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 216B.18, is amended to read:

216B.18 SERVICE OF NOTICE.

Service of notice of all hearings, investigations, and proceedings pending before the commission and of complaints, reports, orders, and other documents must be made personally, by electronic service as provided in section 216.17, or by mail as the commission may direct. Regulated utilities and state agencies must provide an electronic

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section 82B.095, subdivision 1, is repealed.

APPENDIX

Repealed Minnesota Statutes: S0650-2

82B.095 APPRAISER QUALIFICATION COMPONENTS.

Subdivision 1. **Components before January 1, 2009.** The three components required for a real property appraiser license are education, experience, and examination. Applicants for a class of license must document that they have met at least the component criteria that were in effect at the time they completed that component, provided that at a minimum, the January 1, 2003, criteria has been met.

115C.09 REIMBURSEMENT.

- Subd. 3k. **PVC piping at residential locations.** (a) This subdivision is to assist homeowners who have installed PVC fill piping as part of the heating oil system at their residences. Replacement of the PVC piping with metal piping is intended to avoid the catastrophic release of heating oil, as well as the ensuing cleanup costs, that can occur at residences where the PVC piping fails.
 - (b) As used in this subdivision:
- (1) "residential locations" means a storage tank and appurtenances for heating oil that are used to heat a single-family residence; and
- (2) "qualified person" means someone who is registered as a contractor under section 115C.11 and, as part of the person's trade or business, installs or repairs nonpressure piping, heating systems, air conditioning systems, or storage tank systems.
- (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter or any rules adopted under this chapter, the board shall reimburse a qualified person 90 percent of the cost for replacing PVC fill piping with metal piping at residential locations between May 1, 2008, and September 1, 2011, provided that the board determines the costs were incurred and reasonable. The reimbursement may not exceed \$250 per residential location. The maximum expenditure from the fund may not exceed \$1,500,000.
- (d) A heating oil vendor is not a responsible person for a heating oil spill inside a residential location if the spill was caused solely by the failure of a tank or appurtenance to a tank owned by the homeowner.

APPENDIX

Repealed Minnesota Session Laws: S0650-2

Laws 2000, chapter 488, article 3, section 37

Sec. 37. AGRICULTURAL STORAGE TANK REMOVAL; REIMBURSEMENT.

Subdivision 1. **Definition.** As used in this section, "agricultural storage tank" means an underground petroleum storage tank with a capacity of more than 1,100 gallons that has been registered with the pollution control agency by January 1, 2000, and is located on a farm where the contents of the tank are used by the tank owner or operator predominantly for farming purposes and are not commercially distributed.

Subd. 2. **Reimbursement.** Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 115C.09, subdivision 1, paragraph (b), clause (1), and pursuant to the remaining provisions of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 115C, the petroleum tank release compensation board shall reimburse an owner or operator of an agricultural storage tank for 90 percent of the total reimbursable cost of removal project costs incurred for the tank prior to January 1, 2001, including, but not limited to, tank removal, closure in place, backfill, resurfacing, and utility restoration costs, regardless of whether a release has occurred at the site. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 115C.09, subdivision 3, the board may not reimburse an eligible applicant under this section for more than \$7,500 of costs per tank.