

the violation and for an order requiring the reinstatement of the employee. Damages recoverable shall not exceed lost wages for six weeks. If he prevails, the employee shall be allowed a reasonable attorney's fee fixed by the court.

Sec. 21. **REPEALER.** *Minnesota Statutes 1976, Sections 3.081; 192.24; 357.26; 488A.07; 546.09; 593.03; 593.04; 593.05; 593.06; 593.07; 593.09; 593.10; 593.11; 593.12; 593.13; 593.14; 593.20; 628.42; 628.43; 628.44; 628.45; 628.46; 628.47; 628.49; 628.50; 628.51; 628.52; 628.53; 631.33; Laws 1959, Chapter 219; and Extra Session Laws 1959, Chapter 19, Section 2, are repealed.*

Approved May 26, 1977.

CHAPTER 287—H.F.No.972

[Coded]

An act relating to fire and casualty loss insurance companies; regulating termination of agency contracts; requiring certain notice before termination; prescribing civil penalties.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. **[60A.171] INSURANCE; CANCELLATION OF AGENCY CONTRACTS BY FIRE AND CASUALTY LOSS INSURANCE COMPANIES.** Subdivision 1. After an agency contractual relationship has been in effect for a period of three years an insurance company writing fire or casualty loss insurance in this state may not terminate the agency contractual relationship with any appointed agent unless the company gives the agent notice in writing of the termination at least three months in advance.

Subd. 2. The company shall at the request of the agent renew any insurance contract written by the agent for the company for not more than one year for fire or casualty loss insurance during a period of nine months after the effective date of the termination, but in the event any risk does not meet current underwriting standards of the company, the company may decline its renewal, provided that the company shall give the agent not less than 60 days notice of its intention not to renew the contract of insurance.

Subd. 3. No new business or increases in liability on renewal or in force business shall be written by the agent for the company after notice of termination without the written approval of the company, or a limited contract.

Subd. 4. Nothing contained in this section prohibits the earlier termination of an amendment or addendum subsequent to the inception date of the original agency agreement provided that the subsequent amendment or addendum provides for termination on shorter notice and the agent agrees in writing to the earlier termination.

Subd. 5. During the term of the contract the company shall not refuse to renew such business from the agent as would be in accordance with the company's current

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underwriting standards.

Subd. 6. The provisions of this section do not apply to the termination of an agent's contract for insolvency, abandonment, gross and willful misconduct, or failure to pay over to the company money due to the company after his receipt of a written demand therefor, or after revocation of the agent's license by the commissioner of insurance; nor to the termination of agents who write insurance business exclusively for one company or agents in the direct employ of the company.

Subd. 7. All future and presently existing agency contractual relationships between an agent and a company writing fire or casualty loss insurance in this state are subject to the provisions of this section.

Subd. 8. If it is found, after notice and an opportunity to be heard as determined by the commissioner of insurance, that an insurance company has violated this section, the insurance company shall be subject to a civil action by the agent for actual damages suffered because of the premature termination of the contract by the company.

Sec. 2. This act is effective the day following its final enactment.

Approved May 26, 1977.

CHAPTER 288—H.F.No.1017

[Coded]

An act relating to consumer protection; regulating invention development services; prescribing contract terms and disclosures to customers; defining terms; requiring invention developers to file a bond; providing penalties.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. **[325A.01] CONSUMER PROTECTION; INVENTION DEVELOPMENT SERVICES; DEFINITIONS.** Subdivision 1. As used in sections 1 to 10, the following terms shall have the meanings given:

Subd. 2. "Contract for invention development services" includes a contract by which an invention developer undertakes to develop or promote an invention for a customer.

Subd. 3. "Customer" means any natural person who is solicited by, inquires about, seeks the services of or enters into a contract with an invention developer for invention development services.

Subd. 4. "Invention" includes a process, machine, manufacture, composition of matter, improvement upon the foregoing, or a concept.

Changes or additions indicated by underline deletions by ~~strikeout~~