

House Bill 1257

By: Representatives Knox of the 24<sup>th</sup>, Maxwell of the 17<sup>th</sup>, Meadows of the 5<sup>th</sup>, and Watson of the 91<sup>st</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Title 33 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to insurance, so as to  
2 exempt certain change of address filings by agents, subagents, counselors, and adjusters from  
3 a fee; to provide for certain qualifications for a counselor’s license; to provide for the  
4 maintenance by the Commissioner of Insurance of the address of the place of business of  
5 agents, subagents, counselors, and adjusters; to provide for related matters; to repeal  
6 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 SECTION 1.

9 Title 33 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to insurance, is amended by  
10 striking subparagraph (AA) of paragraph (6) of Code Section 33-8-1, relating to fees and  
11 charges generally, and inserting in lieu thereof a new subparagraph (AA) to read as follows:

12 "(AA) Amendment of filings ..... 25.00  
13 Provided, however, that the Commissioner, in his or her discretion, may  
14 exempt from such fee change of address filings done off line by agents,  
15 subagents, counselors, and adjusters.  
16 (AA.1) Change of address filings done on line by agents, subagents,  
17 counselors, and adjusters ..... No charge"

18 SECTION 2.

19 Said title is further amended by striking paragraph (6) of subsection (a) of Code Section  
20 33-23-5, relating to qualifications and requirements for license, and inserting in lieu thereof  
21 a new paragraph (6) to read as follows:

22 "(6) If applying for a license as counselor, the applicant must show that he or she has ~~had~~  
23 five years’ sufficient experience as determined by the Commissioner and must have  
24 gained that experience acting as either an agent, subagent, or adjuster or in some other

1 phase of the insurance business or has sufficient teaching or educational qualifications  
 2 or experience which, in the opinion of the Commissioner, has qualified the applicant to  
 3 act as such counselor; and the applicant shall pass such examination as shall be required  
 4 by the Commissioner unless the applicant is exempted by the Commissioner, in his or her  
 5 discretion, based on the applicant's experience and qualifications;.

6 **SECTION 3.**

7 Said title is further amended by striking Code Section 33-23-25, relating to place of business,  
 8 and inserting a new Code Section 33-23-25 to read as follows:

9 "33-23-25.

10 Every licensed agent, subagent, counselor, and adjuster shall have and maintain in this state  
 11 or, if a nonresident licensee, in the state of domicile, a place of business accessible to the  
 12 public. The place of business shall be that wherein the licensee principally conducts  
 13 transactions pursuant to the license. The address of the place of business shall ~~appear on~~  
 14 ~~all licenses of the resident licensee~~ be maintained by the Commissioner. All resident and  
 15 nonresident licensees shall promptly notify the Commissioner in writing within 30 days of  
 16 any change in the business address."

17 **SECTION 4.**

18 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.