Senate Bill 530

By: Senators Kemp of the 3rd, Meyer von Bremen of the 12th and Harp of the 16th

AS PASSED

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

To amend Part 2 of Article 2 of Chapter 6 of Title 17 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to professional bondsmen, so as to require continuing education as a condition of a professional bondsman or bail recovery agent conducting business in a county; to provide for the approval of continuing education programs; to provide a maximum fee for continuing education; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Part 2 of Article 2 of Chapter 6 of Title 17 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to professional bondsmen, is amended by adding after Code Section 17-6-50, relating to persons deemed professional bondsmen, a new Code section to be designated as Code Section 17-6-50.1, to read as follows:

"17-6-50.1.

(a) The Georgia Association of Professional Bondsmen shall approve continuing education programs offered by professional associations, educational institutions, government agencies, and others as deemed appropriate for professional bondsmen to attend.

(b) The fee for continuing education programs for professional bondsmen shall not exceed $125.00 annually.

(c) Professional bondsmen shall be required to obtain eight hours of continuing education annually.

(d) On or before January 31 of each year, each professional bondsmen shall submit a certificate of completion of eight hours of approved continuing education to the individual or department which is responsible for issuing bail bonds for each jurisdiction in which he or she is doing business."

SECTION 2.

Said part is further amended by adding after Code Section 17-6-56, relating to bail recovery agents, requirements and registration, a new Code section to be designated as Code Section 17-6-56.1, to read as follows:

"17-6-56.1.

(a) The Georgia Association of Professional Bondsmen shall approve continuing education programs offered by professional associations, educational institutions, government agencies, and others as deemed appropriate for bail recovery agents to attend.

(b) The fee for continuing education programs for bail recovery agents shall not exceed $125.00 annually.

(c) Bail recovery agents shall be required to obtain eight hours of continuing education annually.

(d) On or before January 31 of each year, each bail recovery agent shall submit a certificate of completion of eight hours of approved continuing education to the individual or department which is responsible for issuing bail bonds for each jurisdiction in which he or she is doing business."

SECTION 3.

This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2002.

SECTION 4.

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