

## [CHAPTER 173]

## AN ACT

To amend the Fire and Casualty Act of the District of Columbia.

April 22, 1944

[S. 1028]

[Public Law 291]

District of Columbia.  
Fire and Casualty Act, amendments.

Penalty in lieu of revocation, etc., of certificate of authority.

Penalty in lieu of suspension, etc., of license.

Filing of bond as prerequisite to issuance of license.

Regulation of agents or brokers.

Placement of risk with unauthorized company.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That section 3, chapter II, of the Fire and Casualty Act of the District of Columbia (Public, Numbered 824, Seventy-sixth Congress; 54 Stat. 1066; title 35, sec. 1306, D. C. Code, 1940), be amended by deleting the period at the end of said section and inserting in lieu thereof a colon, and by adding thereto the following: "*Provided further*, That, in lieu of revoking or suspending the certificate of authority of any company for causes enumerated in this section after hearing as herein provided, the Superintendent may subject such company to a penalty of not more than \$200 when in his judgment he finds that public interest would be best served by the continued operation of the company. The amount of any such penalty shall be paid by the company through the office of the Superintendent to the collector of taxes, District of Columbia."

SEC. 2. That section 36, chapter II, of such Act (54 Stat. 1079, title 35, sec. 1340, D. C. Code, 1940), be amended by deleting the period at the end of the said section and inserting in lieu thereof a colon, and by adding thereto the following: "*Provided*, That, in lieu of revoking or suspending the license of any policy-writing agent, soliciting agent, broker, or salaried company employee for causes enumerated in this section after hearing as herein provided, the Superintendent may subject such person to a penalty of not more than \$200 when in his judgment he finds that public interest would be best served by the continued operation of such person. The amount of any such penalty shall be paid by such person through the office of the Superintendent to the collector of taxes, District of Columbia."

SEC. 3. That section 32, chapter II, of such Act (54 Stat. 1078, title 35, sec. 1336, D. C. Code, 1940), be amended by deleting therefrom the figures "\$5,000" and inserting in lieu thereof "\$1,000", so that the first sentence of the second paragraph of the said section as so amended shall read as follows:

"Resident and nonresident brokers shall, as a prerequisite to the issuance of a license, file with the Superintendent a corporate surety bond in an amount not less than \$1,000 for the benefit of any person who may suffer loss resulting from fraud or dishonesty on the part of said resident or nonresident broker."

SEC. 4. That section 40, chapter II, of such Act (54 Stat. 1080, title 35, sec. 1344, D. C. Code, 1940), be amended by deleting the period at the end of the said section and inserting in lieu thereof a comma, and by adding thereto the following: "or if the agent or broker has placed with any unauthorized company any risk which could be placed with an authorized company except for abnormal provisions of the policy, or if the agent or broker has procured from an unauthorized company any policy which covers a risk of a class generally covered in the District by authorized companies and which authorized companies would cover at a rate not higher than that charged by authorized companies on other District risks of the same class."

Approved April 22, 1944.

[CHAPTER 174]

## AN ACT

To regulate the placing of children in family homes, and for other purposes.

April 22, 1944  
[H. R. 2618]  
[Public Law 292]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the purpose of this Act is to secure for each child under sixteen years of age who is placed in a family home, other than his own or that of a relative within the third degree, such care and guidance as will serve the child's welfare and the best interests of the District of Columbia; and to secure for him custody and care as near as possible to that which should have been given him by his parents.

District of Columbia.  
Placement of children in family homes.

SEC. 2. Any person, firm, corporation, association, or public agency that receives or accepts a child under sixteen years of age and places or offers to place such child for temporary or permanent care in a family home other than that of a relative within the third degree shall be deemed to be maintaining a child-placing agency. No child-placing agency shall be maintained in the District of Columbia without a license issued by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any provisions of section 4 of this Act such a license shall be issued forthwith to any corporation or association chartered by special Act of Congress and having under its charter the purposes or powers of a child-placing agency as herein defined.

Child-placing agency.

License.

Issuance to certain corporations chartered by Congress.

SEC. 3. Within sixty days after the passage of this Act, the Commissioners shall appoint, after consultation with the Board of Public Welfare, a committee of eight persons to formulate and adopt rules and regulations, subject to the approval of the Commissioners, prescribing standards of placement, care, and services to be required of child-placing agencies, pursuant to the intent and purposes of this Act. The committee shall be composed of a member of the Board of Public Welfare who shall act as chairman of said committee, a member of the staff of the Health Department of the District of Columbia, a member of the staff of the Board of Public Welfare of the District of Columbia, and one representative from each of five charitable organizations of the District of Columbia having an organized program for placing children in family homes. Each member of said committee shall serve for a term of one year and until his successor is appointed and qualified. The rules and regulations shall be reviewed by the committee annually and, subject to the approval of the Commissioners, may be amended when deemed necessary.

Appointment of committee to prescribe standards.

Membership.

Terms of office.

Annual review of rules and regulations.

SEC. 4. An application for a license as a child-placing agency shall be made to the Commissioners on forms provided by them and in the manner prescribed. Before such license is issued the Board of Public Welfare shall arrange to have an investigation made of the activities and standards of care of the agency and shall consult with persons having official connection with the agency. If the Board is satisfied as to the good character and intent of the applicant, and that the agency is adequately financed, and that its staff, procedures, and services conform to the established standards of care, said Board shall recommend to the Commissioners that a license be issued.

Application for license.

Investigation and recommendation.

A provisional license may be issued to any agency which is temporarily unable to conform to all the provisions of the established standards of care upon terms and conditions prescribed by the Commissioners upon recommendation of the Board of Public Welfare.

Provisional license.

All licenses shall be issued for one year from the date thereof and may be renewed annually on the application of the agency, except that provisional licenses may be issued for not more than three successive years from the date of the passage of this Act.

Issuance and renewal of licenses.