HOUSE BILL No. 3006

By Committee on Federal and State Affairs

2-27

AN ACT concerning regulation and licensure of detective business; prohibiting certain acts and providing penalties for violations; amending K.S.A. 75-7b19 and K.S.A. 2001 Supp. 75-7b01, 75-7b04, 75-7b07, 75-7b10 and 75-7b13 and repealing the existing sections.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. K.S.A. 2001 Supp. 75-7b01 is hereby amended to read as follows: 75-7b01. As used in this act:

- (a) "Detective business" means the furnishing of, making of or agreeing to make any investigation for the purpose of obtaining information with reference to: $\frac{1}{2}$
- (1) Crime or wrongs done or threatened against the United States or any state or territory of the United States, or any political subdivision thereof when furnished or made by persons other than law enforcement officers;
- (2) the identity, habits, conduct, business, occupation, honesty, integrity, credibility, knowledge, trustworthiness, efficiency, loyalty, activity, movement, whereabouts, affiliations, associations, transactions, acts, reputation or character of any person;
 - (3) the location, disposition or recovery of lost or stolen property;
- (4) the cause or responsibility for fires, libels, losses, frauds, accidents or damage or injury to persons or to property; or
- (5) securing evidence to be used before any court, board, officer or investigating committee.
- (b) "Private detective" means any person who, for any consideration whatsoever, engages in detective business.
- (c) "Private detective intern" means any person performing investigative work as an intern under the direction and control of a licensed private detective agency.
- (e) (d) "Private detective agency" means a person who regularly employs any other person, other than an organization, to engage in detective business.
- $\frac{\text{(d)}}{\text{(e)}}$ "Private patrol operator" means a person who, for any consideration whatsoever, agrees to furnish or furnishes a watchman, guard,

 patrolman or other person to protect persons or property or to prevent the theft, unlawful taking, loss, embezzlement, misappropriation or concealment of any goods, wares, merchandise, money, bonds, stocks, notes, documents, papers or property of any kind, or performs the service of such watchman, guard, patrolman or other person for any such purposes.

- (e) (f) "Law enforcement officer" means a law enforcement officer as defined by K.S.A. 21-3110, and amendments thereto.
- (f) (g) "Organization" means a corporation, trust, estate, partnership, cooperative or association.
 - $\frac{g}{g}(h)$ "Person" means an individual or organization.
- $\frac{h}{i}$ "Firearm permit" means a permit for the limited authority to carry a firearm concealed on or about the person by one licensed as a private detective.
 - $\frac{(i)}{(j)}$ "Firearm" means:
- (1) A pistol or revolver which is designed to be fired by the use of a single hand and which is designed to fire or capable of firing fixed cartridge ammunition; or
- (2) any other weapon which will or is designed to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive and which is designed to be fired by the use of a single hand.
- $\frac{\text{(j)}}{\text{(k)}}$ "Client" means any person who engages the services of a private detective.
- $\frac{\langle \mathbf{k} \rangle}{\langle l \rangle}$ "Dishonesty or fraud" means, in addition to other acts not specifically enumerated herein:
- (1) Knowingly making a false statement relating to evidence or information obtained in the course of employment, or knowingly publishing a slander or a libel in the course of business;
- (2) using illegal means in the collection or attempted collection of a debt or obligation;
 - (3) manufacturing or producing any false evidence; and
- (4) acceptance of employment adverse to a client or former client relating to a matter with respect to which the licensee has obtained confidential information by reason of or in the course of the licensee's employment by such client or former client.
- (m) "Advertisement" means any solicitation or printed material such as letterhead, business cards or brochures; banners or signage; telephone directories; or any electronic media such as Internet web sites.
- Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2001 Supp. 75-7b04 is hereby amended to read as follows: 75-7b04. (a) Every person desiring to be licensed in Kansas as a private detective or private detective agency shall make application therefor to the attorney general. An application for a license under this act shall be on a form prescribed by the attorney general and accompanied

by the required application fee. An application shall be verified and shall

include:

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- (1) The full name and business address of the applicant;
- 2) the name under which the applicant intends to do business;
- (3) a statement as to the general nature of the business in which the applicant intends to engage;
- (4) a statement as to the classification or classifications under which the applicant desires to be qualified;
- (5) if the applicant is an organization, the full name and residence address of each of its partners, officers, directors or associates;
- (6) two photographs of the applicant taken within 30 days before the date of application, of a type prescribed by the attorney general, and two classifiable sets of the applicant's fingerprints one of which shall be submitted to the federal bureau of investigation for a fingerprint check for any criminal history of the applicant;
 - (7) a statement of the applicant's employment history; and
- (8) such other information, evidence, statements or documents as may be required by the attorney general.
- (b) The application shall be accompanied by a certificate of reference signed by five or more reputable persons who have known the applicant for a period of at least 5 *five* years. The certificate of reference shall be verified and acknowledged by such persons before an officer authorized to take oaths and acknowledgment of deeds.

Each person signing the certificate of reference shall subscribe and affirm as true, under the penalties of perjury, that:

- (1) The person has known the applicant personally for a period of at least five years prior to the filing of the application. The attorney general may lessen such period if the applicant has been discharged honorably from the military service of the United States within the six-year period immediately preceding the date the application is submitted;
- (2) the person has read such application and believes each of the statements made therein to be true;
- (3) the applicant is honest, of good character and competent and not related or connected by blood or marriage to such person.
- (c) Before an application for a license may be granted, the applicant or, if the applicant is an organization, all of the officers, directors, partners or associates shall:
 - (1) Be at least 21 years of age;
 - (2) be a citizen of the United States;
 - (3) be a law-abiding citizen of good moral character; and
- (4) not have been discharged from military service with a dishonorable discharge or a general discharge due to disciplinary actions;
- (5) have satisfactorily completed at: (A) At least two years of post secondary education or technical schooling through an accredited college

or university; or (B) at least two years of equivalent military education and training, as determined in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the attorney general;

- (6) except as provided by subsection (d) subsections (d) and (e), have at least three years of lawfully gained verifiable full-time experience or training within the five-year period immediately preceding the date of application: (A) In the lawful practice of private investigative business on the applicant's own account; (B) in the lawful practice of private investigative business as an investigative intern employee of the holder of a private detective agency license; (C) in practice as an investigator for a law firm, government agency or private corporation, or in another capacity which the attorney general determines to provide the requisite investigative experience; or (D) as a sworn officer with a federal, state, county or city law enforcement agency, with qualifications in an investigatory capacity; or
- (7) comply with such other qualifications as the attorney general adopts by rules and regulations.
- (d) If an applicant has obtained an associate degree from an accredited college or university, such applicant shall receive credit for one of the three years' experience required under subsection (c)(6). If an applicant has obtained a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university, such applicant shall receive credit for two of the three years' experience required under subsection (c)(6).
- (e) Instead of the experience required pursuant to subsection (c)(6), an applicant shall receive one year's credit for each year of equivalent military experience, as determined in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the attorney general, within the five-year period immediately preceding the date of application.
- (e) (f) In accordance with the summary proceedings provisions of the Kansas administrative procedure act, the attorney general may deny a license if the applicant has:
- (1) Committed any act which, if committed by a licensee, would be grounds for the suspension or revocation of a license under this act;
 - (2) committed any act constituting dishonesty or fraud;
- (3) a bad moral character or a bad reputation for truth, honesty, and integrity;
- (4) been convicted of a felony or, within 10 years immediately prior to the date of application, been convicted of any crime involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, vehicular homicide, assault, battery, assault of a law enforcement officer, misdemeanor battery against a law enforcement officer, criminal restraint, sexual battery, endangering a child, intimidation of a witness or victim or illegally using, carrying, or possessing a dangerous weapon;

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- (5) been refused a license under this act or had a license suspended or revoked in this state or in any other jurisdiction or had a license censured, limited or conditioned two or more times in this state or in any other jurisdiction;
- (6) been an officer, director, partner or associate of any person who has been refused a license under this act or whose license has been suspended or revoked in this state or in any other jurisdiction or had a license censured, limited or conditioned two or more times in this state or in any other jurisdiction;
- (7) while unlicensed, committed or aided and abetted the commission of any act for which a license is required by this act; or
 - (8) knowingly made any false statement in the application.
- (e) (f) (g) The attorney general may charge a fee for initial application forms and materials in an amount fixed by the attorney general pursuant to K.S.A. 2001 Supp. 75-7b22, and amendments thereto. Such fee shall be credited against the application fee of any person who subsequently submits an application.
- (h) The requirements of subsections (c)(5) and (c)(6) shall not apply to:
- (1) Any individual who, on June 30, 2002, held a valid license issued under this act and has held a valid license continuously since that date; or
- (2) any individual who, on June 30, 2002, was an officer, director, partner or associate of an organization which, on June 30, 2002, held a valid license issued under this act, if such individual has continuously held a position of officer, director, partner or associate of such organization since that date.
- Sec. 3. K.S.A. 2001 Supp. 75-7b07 is hereby amended to read as follows: 75-7b07. (a) Any license issued under this act shall expire on December 31 of the year of its issuance. On and after January 1, 1999, any license issued under this act shall expire on December 31 of the year following the year when issued and may be renewed every two years thereafter. Renewal of any such license shall be made in the manner prescribed for obtaining an original license, including payment of the appropriate fee required by K.S.A. 75-7b05, and amendments thereto, except that:
- (1) The signing of the application by five or more citizens as required by K.S.A. 75-7b04, and amendments thereto, shall not be required if such application for renewal is verified and acknowledged by the applicant before an officer authorized to administer oaths;
- (2) the application for renewal shall provide the information required of original applicants if the information shown on the original application or any renewal thereof on file with the attorney general is no longer

accurate;

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- (3) a new photograph shall be submitted with the application for renewal only if the photograph on file with the attorney general has been on file more than two years; and
- (4) the application for renewal shall be accompanied by proof, satisfactory to the attorney general, that the applicant has complied with the continuing education requirement of subsection (b); and
- (5) additional information may be required by rules and regulations adopted by the attorney general.
- (b) The attorney general shall adopt rules and regulations requiring applicants for renewal of a license under this act to satisfactorily complete courses of continuing education approved by the attorney general. Professional associations of private detectives, private detective agencies or private patrol operators shall submit to the attorney general recommendations, and such documentation as required by the attorney general, of courses of continuing education recommended for approval by the attorney general.
 - (c) A license issued under this act shall not be assignable.
- Sec. 4. K.S.A. 2001 Supp. 75-7b10 is hereby amended to read as follows: 75-7b10. An advertisement by a licensee soliciting or advertising business shall not contain any false, misleading or deceptive information. Any such advertisement by a licensee shall contain the number of the licensee's Kansas license within the advertisement. A licensee shall not advertise or conduct business from any location other than that shown on the records of the attorney general as the licensee's principal place of business unless the licensee has received a branch office certificate for such location after compliance with the provisions of this act and such additional requirements necessary for the protection of the public as the attorney general may prescribe by rules and regulations. A licensee shall notify the attorney general in writing within 10 days after closing or changing the location of a branch office.
- Sec. 5. K.S.A. 2001 Supp. 75-7b13 is hereby amended to read as follows: 75-7b13. (a) The attorney general may censure, limit, condition, suspend or revoke a license issued under this act if, after notice and opportunity for hearing in accordance with the provisions of the Kansas administrative procedure act, the attorney general determines that the licensee or, if the licensee is an organization, any of its officers, directors, partners or associates has:
- (1) Made any false statement or given any false information in connection with an application for a license or a renewal or reinstatement thereof;
 - (2) violated any provisions of this act;
 - (3) violated any rules and regulations of the attorney general adopted

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pursuant to the authority contained in this act;

- (4) been convicted of a felony, vehicular homicide, assault, battery, assault of a law enforcement officer, misdemeanor battery against a law enforcement officer, criminal restraint, sexual battery, endangering a child, intimidation of a witness or victim or any crime involving moral turpitude or illegally using, carrying, or possessing a dangerous weapon subsequent to the issuance of the license;
- (5) impersonated, or permitted or aided and abetted an employee to impersonate, a law enforcement officer or employee of the United States of America, or of any state or political subdivision thereof;
- (6) committed or permitted any employee to commit any act, while the license was expired, which would be cause for the suspension or revocation of a license, or grounds for the denial of an application for a license;
- (7) willfully failed or refused to render to a client services or a report as agreed between the parties, and for which compensation has been paid or tendered in accordance with the agreement of the parties;
- (8) committed assault, battery or kidnapping or used force or violence on any person without proper justification;
- (9) knowingly violated or advised, encouraged or assisted the violation of, any court order or injunction in the course of business as a licensee;
 - (10) acted as a runner or capper for any attorney;
- (11) used any letterhead, advertisement or other printed matter, or in any manner whatever represented that such person is an instrumentality of the federal government, a state or any political subdivision thereof;
- (12) used false, misleading or deceptive information in any advertisement, solicitation or contract for business;
- (13) has committed any act in the course of the licensee's business constituting dishonesty or fraud;
- (14) falsely advertised as a private detective or private detective agency within the state of Kansas;
- (15) failed to obtain continuing education as required by rules and regulations of the attorney general;
 - (16) misused a firearm permit badge; or
- $\frac{(15)}{(17)}$ committed any act which is a ground for denial of an application for a license under this act.
- (b) The record of conviction, or a certified copy thereof, shall be conclusive evidence of such conviction as that term is used in this section or in K.S.A. 75-7b04, and amendments thereto, and a plea or verdict of guilty or a conviction following a plea of *nolo contendere* is deemed to be a conviction within the meaning thereof.
 - (c) Upon final disposition of the proceedings for a violation relating

to the misuse of a firearm permit badge, the attorney general may bring an action for violation of K.S.A. 21-3824 or $\frac{\text{K.S.A.}}{\text{K.S.A.}}$ 21-3825, and amendments thereto.

Sec. 6. K.S.A. 75-7b19 is hereby amended to read as follows: 75-7b19. Any person who knowingly falsifies It shall be a severity level 6, nonperson felony for a person to: (1) Violate the provisions of subsection (a) of K.S.A. 75-7b02, and amendments thereto; or (2) knowingly falsify the fingerprints or photographs required to be submitted under this act shall be guilty of a class E felony; and any person who violates any of the other provisions of this act shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor. It shall be a class A misdemeanor to violate any other provision of this act.

Sec. 7. K.S.A. 75-7b19 and K.S.A. 2001 Supp. 75-7b01, 75-7b04, 75-7b07, 75-7b10 and 75-7b13 are hereby repealed.

Sec. 8. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.