HOUSE BILL No. 2346

By Committee on Commerce and Labor

2-1

9 AN ACT concerning real estate brokers and salespersons; relating to li-10 censure; amending K.S.A. 58-3045 and K.S.A. 2006 Supp. 58-3039 and 11 58-3046a and repealing the existing sections.

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

Section 1. K.S.A. 2006 Supp. 58-3039 is hereby amended to read as follows: 58-3039. (a) Any person desiring to act as a broker or salesperson must file a written application for a license with the commission or, if required by the commission, with the testing service designated by the commission. The application shall be in such form and detail as the commission shall prescribe and shall be accompanied by application and license fees prescribed by K.S.A. 58-3063, and amendments thereto.

- (1) Any applicant who qualifies for licensure as a salesperson prior to July 1, 2007, shall submit the application accompanied by evidence of compliance with subsection (a) of K.S.A. 58-3046a, and amendments thereto.
- (2) Any applicant who qualifies for licensure as a broker prior to July 1, 2007, shall submit the application accompanied by evidence of compliance with subsection (b) of K.S.A. 58-3046a, and amendments thereto.
- (3) Any applicant who qualifies for licensure as a salesperson on or after July 1, 2007, shall submit the application accompanied by evidence of compliance with subsection (c) of K.S.A. 58-3046a, and amendments thereto.
- (4) Any applicant who qualifies for licensure as a broker on or after July 1, 2007, shall submit the application accompanied by evidence of compliance with subsection (d) of K.S.A. 58-3046a, and amendments thereto.
- (5) All applicants shall submit the application and license fees as prescribed by K.S.A. 58-3063, and amendments thereto.
- (b) A license to engage in business as a broker or salesperson shall be granted only to a person who is 18 or more years of age and who has a high school diploma or its equivalent.
- (c) In addition to the requirements of subsection (b), except as provided in subsection (d), each applicant for an original license as a broker shall have been:

- (1) Licensed as a salesperson in this state or as a salesperson or broker in another state, and shall have been actively engaged in any of the activities described in subsection (f) of K.S.A. 58-3035, and amendments thereto, for a period of at least two years during the five years immediately preceding the date of the application for a license; or
- (2) if an applicant resides in a county that has a population of 20,000 or less, the commission may, upon a finding that such county suffers from a shortage of brokers and upon compelling evidence of need, waive or alter the requirements of this subsection. The commission shall adopt rules and regulations to establish alternative licensing criteria for such applicants.
- (d) The commission may accept proof of experience in the real estate or a related business or a combination of such experience and education which the commission believes qualifies the applicant to act as a broker as being equivalent to all or part of the experience required by subsection (c).
- (e) Except as provided in K.S.A. 58-3040, and amendments thereto, each applicant for an original license shall be required to pass a written examination covering generally the matters confronting brokers or salespersons, and no license shall be issued on the basis of such an examination either or both sections of which were administered more than four months prior to the date that the applicant's application is filed with the commission. The examination may be given by the commission or any person designated by the commission. Each person taking the examination shall pay the examination fee prescribed pursuant to K.S.A. 58-3063, and amendments thereto, which fee the commission may require to be paid to it or directly to the testing service designated by the commission. The examination for a broker's license shall be different from or in addition to that for a salesperson's license.
- (e) Each applicant for an original license shall be required to pass an examination covering the subject matter which brokers or salespersons generally confront while conducting activities that require a real estate license. The examination shall consist of a general portion that tests the applicant's knowledge of real estate matters that have general application. The state portion of the examination shall test the applicant's knowledge of real estate subject matter applicable to a specific jurisdiction.
- (1) Except as provided in K.S.A. 58-3040, and amendments thereto, each applicant for an original license shall be required to pass the general or national portion of the examination.
- (2) Each applicant for an original license shall be required to pass the Kansas state portion of the examination.
- 42 (3) No license shall be issued on the basis of an examination if either 43 or both portions of the examination were administered more than six

months prior to the date that the applicant's application is filed with the commission. The examination may be given by the commission or any person designated by the commission. Each person taking the examination shall pay the examination fee prescribed pursuant to K.S.A. 58-3063, and amendments thereto, which fee the commission may require to be paid to it or directly to the testing service designated by the commission. The examination for a broker's license shall be different from or in addition to that for a salesperson's license.

- (f) The commission, prior to granting an original license, shall require proof that the applicant has a good reputation for honesty, trustworthiness, integrity and competence to transact the business of a broker or salesperson in such manner as to safeguard the public interest.
- (g) An application for an original license as a salesperson or associated broker shall be accompanied by the recommendation of the supervising broker or branch broker with whom the salesperson or associated broker is to be associated, or by whom the salesperson or associated broker is to be employed, certifying that the applicant is honest, trustworthy and of good reputation.
- (f) (h) (1) Each applicant for an original salesperson's license who meets the requirements of this act *prior to July 1, 2007*, shall be issued a temporary salesperson's license which shall expire six months after the last calendar day of the month in which the license was issued, on the last calendar day of that month.
- (2) No later than 10 days prior to the expiration date of a temporary salesperson's license, the salesperson shall file an application on a form provided by the commission. The application shall be accompanied by the license fee prescribed by K.S.A. 58-3063, and amendments thereto, and evidence of compliance with the requirements of subsection (f)(1) of K.S.A. 58-3046a, and amendments thereto. The commission shall issue a salesperson's license to a person who complies with the provisions of this paragraph. The issuance date of the salesperson's license shall be the day following the expiration date of the temporary license. The expiration date of the license shall be determined in accordance with a schedule established by rules and regulations of the commission.
- (3) Failure to comply with the provisions of paragraph (2) shall automatically cancel the temporary license on its expiration date.
- (4) A person whose temporary salesperson's license was canceled pursuant to paragraph (3) may apply for a salesperson's license if such application, the license fee prescribed by K.S.A. 58-3063, and amendments thereto, plus a late fee of \$50 and evidence of attendance of 30 hours of instruction received after issuance of the temporary license pursuant to subsection (f)(1) of K.S.A. 58-3046a, and amendments thereto, are received by the commission within three months after the expiration

date of the temporary license. The commission shall issue a salesperson's license to a person who complies with the provisions of this paragraph. The expiration date of the license shall be determined in accordance with a schedule established by rules and regulations of the commission.

- (g) The commission, prior to granting an original license, shall require proof that the applicant has a good reputation for honesty, trustworthiness, integrity and competence to transact the business of broker or salesperson in such manner as to safeguard the public interest.
- (h) An application for an original license as a salesperson shall be accompanied by the recommendation of the broker with whom the salesperson is to be associated, or by whom the salesperson is to be employed, certifying that the applicant is honest, trustworthy and of good reputation.
- (i) Each applicant for an original salesperson's license who meets the requirements of this act on and after July 1, 2007, shall be issued a salesperson's license. The expiration date of the license shall be determined in accordance with a schedule established by rules and regulations of the commission.
- Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2006 Supp. 58-3046a is hereby amended to read as follows: 58-3046a. (a) Except as provided in K.S.A. 58-3040, and amendments thereto, any person who applies for an original license in this state as a salesperson shall submit evidence, satisfactory to the commission, of attendance of a principles of real estate course, of not less than 30 hours of instruction, approved by the commission and received within the 12 months immediately preceding the filing of application for salesperson's license. The commission may require the evidence to be furnished to the commission with the original application for license or it may require the applicant to furnish the evidence to the testing service designated by the commission as a prerequisite to taking the examination required by K.S.A. 58-3039 and amendments thereto. If the evidence is furnished to the testing service, the instruction shall have been received within 12 months immediately preceding the date of the examination.
- (b) Except as provided in K.S.A. 58-3040, and amendments thereto, any person who applies for an original license in this state as a broker shall submit evidence, satisfactory to the commission, of attendance of 24 hours of instruction, approved by the commission and received within the 12 months immediately preceding the filing of application for broker's license. Such hours shall be in addition to any hours of instruction used to meet the requirements of subsection (c), (d), (e) or (f). The commission may require the evidence to be furnished to the commission with the original application for license, or it may require the applicant to furnish the evidence to the testing service designated by the commission as a prerequisite to taking the examination provided in K.S.A. 58-3039, and

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amendments thereto. If the evidence is furnished to the testing service, the instruction shall have been received within 12 months immediately preceding the date of the examination.

- (c) Any person who applies for an original license in this state as a salesperson on or after July 1, 2007, shall submit evidence, satisfactory to the commission, of attendance of a Kansas real estate practice course, of not less than 30 hours of instruction, approved by the commission and received within the six months immediately preceding the filing of the application for licensure.
- (d) Any person who applies for an original license in this state as a broker on or after July 1, 2007, who is a nonresident of Kansas or who is a resident of Kansas applying for licensure pursuant to subsection (e) of K.S.A. 58-3040, and amendments thereto, shall submit evidence, satisfactory to the commission, of attendance of a Kansas real estate course, of not less than four hours of instruction and received within the six months immediately preceding the filing of the application for licensure. Such course shall be approved by the commission and shall be specific to Kansas law with primary emphasis on issues that arise under the brokerage relationships in real estate transactions act, K.S.A. 58-30,101 et seq., and amendments thereto, and rules or regulations adopted thereunder.
- (e) Except as provided in subsections (d), (e) and (f), (e) At or prior to each renewal date established by the commission, any person who is licensed in this state as a broker or as a salesperson shall submit evidence, satisfactory to the commission, of attendance of not less than 12 hours of additional instruction approved by the commission and received during the renewal period.
- (d) Any person who obtained an original license in this state as a salesperson after July 1, 1988, and before July 1, 1991, shall submit evidence, satisfactory to the commission, of attendance of courses of instruction approved by the commission at or prior to each renewal date established by the commission as follows:
- At or prior to the first license renewal, 50 hours of instruction received after the date of licensure. Such evidence shall not be required until the second license renewal if the original license expires less than six months after issuance.
- (2) At or prior to each license renewal thereafter, 12 hours of addi-36 37 tional instruction received during the renewal period.
- Any salesperson who obtains a broker's license in this state prior to 38 39 completing the 50 hours of instruction required by this subsection shall 40 submit the same evidence to renew the broker's license that would have
- been required to renew the salesperson's license. 41
- 42 (e) Any person who obtains an original license in this state as a salesperson on or after July 1, 1991 and before October 1, 1997, shall submit

evidence, satisfactory to the commission, of attendance of courses of instruction approved by the commission at or prior to each renewal date
established by the commission as follows:

- (1)—At or prior to the first license renewal, 30 hours of instruction received after the date of licensure. Such evidence shall not be required until the second license renewal if the original license expires less than six months after issuance.
- (2) At or prior to each license renewal thereafter, 12 hours of additional instruction received during the renewal period.
- Any salesperson who obtains a broker's license in this state prior to completing the 30 hours of instruction required by this subsection shall submit the same evidence to renew the broker's license that would have been required to renew the salesperson's license.
- (f) Any person who obtains a temporary license in this state as a salesperson on and after October 1, 1997 prior to July 1, 2007, shall submit evidence, satisfactory to the commission, of attendance of courses of instruction approved by the commission as follows:
- (1) No later than ten days prior to the expiration date of the temporary license, 30 hours of instruction received after the date of licensure.
- (2) At or prior to the first renewal of a license issued pursuant to subsection (f)(2) or (4) of K.S.A. 58-3039, and amendments thereto, 12 hours of additional instruction received during the renewal period. Such evidence shall not be required until the second license renewal if the license expires less than six months after issuance.
- (3) At or prior to each license renewal thereafter, 12 hours of additional instruction received during the renewal period.
- (g) Any person who qualifies for original licensure as a salesperson pursuant to K.S.A. 58-3039, and amendments thereto, on or after July 1, 2007, shall not be required to comply with subsection (d) until the second license renewal period if the license expires less than six months after it is issued.
- $\frac{\text{(g)}}{\text{(h)}}$ Except for courses reviewed pursuant to subsection $\frac{\text{(j)}}{\text{(j)}}(k)$, on and after January 1, 1994, courses of instruction required by this section shall be courses approved by the commission and offered by:
- (1) An institution which is accredited by the north central association of colleges and secondary schools accrediting agency;
- (2) an area vocational or vocational-technical school as defined by K.S.A. 72-4412, and amendments thereto;
- (3) a private or out-of-state postsecondary educational institution which has been issued a certificate of approval pursuant to the Kansas private and out-of-state postsecondary educational institution act;
- (4) any agency of the state of Kansas; or
- 43 (5) a similar institution, approved by the commission, in another state.

 $\stackrel{\text{(h)}}{}(i)$ The commission shall adopt rules and regulations to: (1) Prescribe minimum curricula and standards for all courses offered to fulfill education requirements of this act, (2) designate a course of study to fulfill any specific requirement, which may include requiring that licensees pass a test as prescribed by the commission for any course designated by the commission in rules and regulations as a mandatory core requirement, (3) prescribe minimum qualifications for instructors of approved courses and (4) establish standards and procedures for approval of courses and instructors, monitoring courses, advertising, registration and maintenance of records of courses, and withdrawal of approval of courses and instructors.

- $\frac{\langle i \rangle}{\langle j \rangle}$ The commission may approve nontraditional distance education courses consisting solely or primarily of home study, videotaped or computer-assisted instruction instruction provided online or in other computer-assisted formats, or by correspondence, audiotape, videotape or other media. For the purpose purposes of this section, attendance of one hour of instruction shall mean 50 minutes of classroom instruction or the equivalent thereof in nontraditional distance education study as determined by the commission.
- $\frac{\langle \mathbf{j} \rangle}{\langle k \rangle}$ Courses of instruction required by this section shall be courses approved by the commission either before or after their completion. The commission may give credit toward the 12 hours of additional instruction required by subsection $\frac{\langle \mathbf{e} \rangle, \langle \mathbf{d} \rangle}{\langle \mathbf{e} \rangle}$ (e) or (f) to any licensee who submits an application for course review obtained from the commission and pays the fee prescribed by K.S.A. 58-3063, and amendments thereto, if, in the judgment of the commission, the course meets the objectives of continuing education.
- $\frac{\langle \mathbf{k} \rangle}{\langle l \rangle}$ (l) The commission shall publish annually a list of educational institutions and entities and the courses offered by them in this state which are approved by the commission.
- (1) (m) No license shall be issued or renewed unless the applicable requirements set forth in this section are met within the time prescribed.
- Sec. 3. K.S.A. 58-3045 is hereby amended to read as follows: 58-3045. (a) Except for a temporary salesperson's license issued pursuant to subsection (f) (h) of K.S.A. 58-3039, and amendments thereto, each license issued or renewed by the commission shall expire on a date determined in accordance with a schedule established by rules and regulations of the commission, which date shall be not more than two years from the date of issuance or renewal. Except as otherwise provided by this act, applicants for issuance or renewal of a license must satisfy all applicable requirements prior to issuance or renewal of the license.
- (b) (1) Except for a temporary salesperson's license issued pursuant to subsection (+) (h) of K.S.A. 58-3039, and amendments thereto, each

license shall be renewable upon the filing of a renewal application on or before the renewal date, which is the last calendar day of the month preceding the license expiration date. Such application shall be made on a form provided by the commission and accompanied by (A) the renewal fee prescribed by K.S.A. 58-3063, and amendments thereto, and (B) evidence of compliance with the requirements of K.S.A. 58-3046a and amendments thereto or the licensee's license with the licensee's request that the license be deactivated on the renewal date pursuant to K.S.A. 58-3049, and amendments thereto.

- (2) Failure to comply with paragraph (1) on or before the renewal date will automatically cancel the license on the license expiration date unless the license is renewed pursuant to subsection (c) prior to the expiration date.
- (c) The commission may reinstate and renew the license of a licensee who has failed to comply with the requirements of subsection (b)(1) if within six months following the date of the expiration of the license, the licensee submits to the commission an application for late renewal. Such application shall be made on a form provided by the commission and shall be signed by the licensee. Except for late renewal of a license on deactivated status pursuant to K.S.A. 58-3049, and amendments thereto, such application also shall be signed by the licensee's supervising broker or branch broker, if applicable. Such application shall be accompanied by (1) evidence of compliance with K.S.A. 58-3046a, and amendments thereto, or a written request that such license be renewed on deactivated status pursuant to K.S.A. 58-3049, and amendments thereto, and (2) payment of the renewal fee prescribed by K.S.A. 58-3063, and amendments thereto, plus a late fee of \$50.
- (d) An application for renewal filed in compliance with the requirements of subsection (b) shall entitle the applicant to continue operating under the applicant's existing license after its specified expiration date, unless such license has been suspended or revoked and has not been reinstated or unless such license is restricted, until such time as the commission determines whether the application fulfills such requirements.
- Sec. 4. K.S.A. 58-3045 and K.S.A. 2006 Supp. 58-3039 and 58-3046a are hereby repealed.
- Sec. 5. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.