State of Arkansas 1 A Bill 2 82nd General Assembly Act 313 of 1999 3 Regular Session, 1999 SENATE BILL 126 4 5 By: Senator Dowd 6 7 For An Act To Be Entitled 8 "AN ACT TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS INSURANCE CODE TO PERMIT 9 FULL UTILIZATION OF THE EXPERTISE OF THE COMMISSIONER 10 TO INVESTIGATE AND DISCOVER FRAUDULENT INSURANCE ACTS 11 12 MORE EFFECTIVELY, HALT FRAUDULENT INSURANCE ACTS AND ASSIST AND RECEIVE ASSISTANCE FROM STATE, LOCAL, AND 13 FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AND REGULATORY AGENCIES IN 14 15 ENFORCING LAWS PROHIBITING FRAUDULENT INSURANCE ACTS; 16 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. " 17 Subtitle 18 "AMENDING THE INSURANCE CODE TO MORE 19 20 EFFECTIVELY HALT FRAUDULENT INSURANCE ACTS. " 21 22 23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS: 24 25 26 Section 1. Arkansas Code 23-66-502 is hereby amended to read as follows: 27 28 "23-66-502. Fraudulent insurance acts, interferences, and participation 29 of convicted felons prohibited. (a) A person shall not commit a fraudulent insurance act. 30 31 (b) A person shall not knowingly or intentionally interfere with the enforcement of the provisions of this subchapter or investigations of 32 suspected or actual violations of this subchapter. 33 (c)(1) A person convicted of a felony involving dishonesty or breach of 34 35 trust shall not participate in the business of insurance unless the person was pardoned, the conviction was expunged, or the person has obtained the written 36

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- 1 consent of the commissioner pursuant to subsection (d) of this section.
- 2 (2) A person in the business of insurance shall not knowingly or intentionally permit a person convicted of a felony involving dishonesty or breach of trust to participate in the business of insurance <u>unless the person</u> was pardoned, the conviction was expunged, or the person has obtained the written consent of the commissioner pursuant to subsection (d) of this section.
 - (d)(1) A person described in subsection (c)(1) of this section may participate in the business of insurance if written consent is obtained from the commissioner who, in his sole discretion, may grant such written consent upon a finding that to do so would not endanger the public health, safety, and welfare.
- 13 (2) Notwithstanding any other provision in this subchapter, a person convicted in this state of a felony involving a fraudulent insurance 14 15 act, dishonesty or breach of trust after having obtained the written consent 16 of the commissioner under this subsection shall have the fine and term of 17 imprisonment for such a class of felony under the Arkansas Criminal Code 18 enhanced to that of the next highest classification and shall be permanently disqualified from participating in the business of insurance in this state. 19 20 If after obtaining the written consent of the commissioner under this subsection, a person is convicted in a foreign jurisdiction of a felony 21 22 involving a fraudulent insurance act, dishonesty or breach of trust such 23 person shall be permanently disqualified from participating in the business of 24 insurance in this state."

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SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

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SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are

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