

LEGISLATIVE BILL 345

Approved by the Governor February 28, 2018

Introduced by Murante, 49; Thibodeau, 6; Craighead, 6; at the request of the Governor.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the Abstracters Act; to amend sections 76-542 and 76-546, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to eliminate an experience requirement for registered abstracters and temporary certificates of registration; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. Section 76-542, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

76-542 Any individual desiring to become a registered abstracter shall file an application for registration with the board. Such applicant shall have reached the age of majority, ~~and shall not have been convicted of a felony, and shall have at least one year of verified land title-related experience satisfactory to the board.~~ Each applicant for registration shall take the written examination prescribed by section 76-543.

Such application shall be in a form prepared by the board and shall contain the applicant's social security number and such information as may be necessary to assist the board in determining the qualification of the applicant for registration. Each such application shall be accompanied by (1) an application fee of not less than twenty-five dollars or more than one hundred dollars and (2) an examination fee of not less than twenty-five dollars or more than one hundred dollars. The board shall establish such fees based on the administrative costs of the board.

Upon receipt of such application the board shall notify the applicant by mail whether the application has been accepted. If the application has not been accepted, the examination fee shall be returned to the applicant. If the application has been accepted, the applicant shall be notified of the time and place of the next scheduled examination.

The board shall adopt and promulgate rules and regulations necessary to ~~establish the experience standards and~~ administer the examination required for registered abstracters.

Sec. 2. Section 76-546, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

76-546 The board may, upon application to it by (1) any individual succeeding to the ownership of any abstract business by any means other than by purchase or (2) any individual who, by reason of the incapacity of any registered abstracter owner of any abstract business, is required to assume the operation of such business, grant to such individual, without examination, a temporary certificate of registration. The application shall include the applicant's social security number. ~~Such temporary certificate shall be issued only after the applicant provides proof of land title-related experience sufficient to meet the standards established by the board.~~ The fee for such temporary certificate of registration shall be not less than twenty-five or more than one hundred dollars. The board shall establish such fee based on the administrative costs of the board. Such certificate shall expire six months after its date or upon the expiration of sixty days after the next regularly scheduled examination which could be taken by the applicant under the rules and regulations of the board, whichever period is the longer. The board shall notify such applicant by mail of the time and place of such examination.

Sec. 3. Original sections 76-542 and 76-546, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, are repealed.