State of Arizona House of Representatives Fifty-first Legislature Second Regular Session 2014

# **CHAPTER 135**

# **HOUSE BILL 2239**

#### AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 32-3605, 32-3611, 32-3614.01, 32-3614.02, 32-3619, 32-3620, 32-3631, 32-3632, 32-3635, 32-3667, 32-3668, 32-3669 AND 32-3672, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; AMENDING SECTION 41-619.51, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, AS AMENDED BY LAWS 2013, CHAPTER 128, SECTION 11; REPEALING SECTION 41-619.51, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, AS AMENDED BY LAWS 2013, CHAPTER 129, SECTION 24; AMENDING SECTION 41-1007, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; AMENDING SECTION 41-1758, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, AS AMENDED BY LAWS 2013, CHAPTER 128, SECTION 12 AND CHAPTER 174, SECTION 2; REPEALING SECTION 41-1758, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, AS AMENDED BY LAWS 2013, CHAPTER 129, SECTION 25; AMENDING SECTION 41-1758.01, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, AS AMENDED BY LAWS 2013, CHAPTER 128, SECTION 13 AND CHAPTER 174, SECTION 3; REPEALING SECTION 41-1758.01, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, AS AMENDED BY LAWS 2013, CHAPTER 129, SECTION 26; RELATING TO THE BOARD OF APPRAISAL.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

Section 1. Section 32-3605, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

32-3605. State board of appraisal; duties; powers; immunity

- A. The board shall adopt rules in aid or in furtherance of this chapter.
  - B. The state board of appraisal shall:
- 1. In prescribing standards of professional appraisal practice, adopt standards that at a minimum are equal to the standards prescribed by the appraisal standards board.
- 2. In prescribing criteria for certification, adopt criteria that at a minimum are equal to the minimum criteria for certification adopted by the appraiser qualifications board.
- 3. In prescribing criteria for licensing and registration, adopt criteria that at a minimum are equal to the minimum criteria for licensing and registration adopted by the appraiser qualifications board.
- 4. Further define by rule with respect to state licensed or state certified appraisers appropriate and reasonable educational experience, appraisal experience and equivalent experience that meets the statutory requirement of this chapter.
- 5. Adopt the national examination as approved by the appraiser qualifications board for state certified appraisers.
- 6. Adopt the national examination as approved by the appraiser qualifications board for state licensed appraisers.
- 7. Establish administrative procedures for approving or disapproving applications for registration, licensure and certification and issuing licenses and certificates, including registration certificates.
- 8. Define by rule, with respect to state licensed and certified appraisers, the continuing education requirements for the renewal of licenses or certificates that satisfy the statutory requirements provided in this chapter.
- 9. Periodically review the requirements for the development and communication of appraisals provided in this chapter and adopt rules explaining and interpreting the requirements.
- 10. Define and explain by rule each stage and step associated with the administrative procedures for the disciplinary process pursuant to this chapter, including:
- (a) Prescribing minimum criteria for accepting a complaint against a registered trainee appraiser or a licensed or certified appraiser. THE BOARD MAY NOT CONSIDER A COMPLAINT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION IF THE COMPLAINT EITHER:
- (i) RELATES TO AN APPRAISAL THAT WAS COMPLETED MORE THAN FIVE YEARS BEFORE THE COMPLAINT WAS SUBMITTED TO THE BOARD OR MORE THAN TWO YEARS AFTER FINAL DISPOSITION OF ANY JUDICIAL PROCEEDING IN WHICH THE APPRAISAL WAS AN ISSUE, WHICHEVER PERIOD OF TIME IS GREATER.

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- (ii) IS FILED AGAINST A PERSON WHO IS A MEMBER OR STAFF PERSON OF THE BOARD OR A BOARD-APPOINTED COMMITTEE AND THE PERSON IS A LICENSED OR CERTIFIED APPRAISER AND THE COMPLAINT IS AGAINST THE PERSON'S LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE AND RELATES TO THE PERSON'S PERFORMANCE OF BOARD OR COMMITTEE DUTIES. THIS ITEM DOES NOT APPLY TO A CONTRACT INVESTIGATOR WHO IS UNDER CONTRACT WITH THE BOARD FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF AN APPRAISAL REVIEW AS DEFINED BY THE UNIFORM STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL APPRAISAL PRACTICE. THIS ITEM DOES NOT REMOVE THE REQUIREMENT THAT THE BOARD MEMBER IS SUBJECT TO THE ETHICS RULES SECTION OF THE UNIFORM STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL APPRAISAL PRACTICE.
- (b) Defining the process and procedures used in investigating the allegations of the complaint. The BOARD SHALL CONSOLIDATE COMPLAINTS THAT ARE FILED WITHIN A SIX-MONTH PERIOD OF TIME IF THE COMPLAINTS ARE AGAINST THE SAME APPRAISER, RELATE TO THE SAME APPRAISAL AND PROPERTY AND ARE FILED BY AN ENTITY THAT IS SUBJECT TO THE MANDATORY REPORTING PROVISIONS OF THE DODD-FRANK WALL STREET REFORM AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT (P.L. 111-203; 124 STAT. 1376). COMPLAINTS THAT ARE CONSOLIDATED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBDIVISION MUST BE CONSIDERED AND ADJUDICATED AS ONE COMPLAINT.
- (c) Defining the process and procedures used in hearings on the complaint, including a description of the rights of the board and any person who is alleged to have committed the violation.
- (d) Establishing criteria to be used in determining the appropriate actions for violations.
- 11. Communicate information that is useful to the public and appraisers relating to actions for violations.
- 12. ISSUE DECREES OF censure, FIX PERIODS AND TERMS OF PROBATION AND suspend and revoke licenses and certificates pursuant to the disciplinary proceedings provided for in section 32-3631.
- 13. At least monthly transmit to the appraisal subcommittee a roster listing individuals who have received a state certificate or license in accordance with this chapter.
- 14. Report on the disposition of any matter referred by the appraisal subcommittee or any other federal agency or instrumentality or federally recognized entity reporting any action of a state licensed or state certified appraiser that is contrary to this chapter.
- 15. Make a determination and finding if there exists a scarcity of state certified or state licensed appraisers to perform appraisals in connection with federally related transactions in this state and issue resident temporary licenses and certificates pursuant to section 32-3626.
- 16. Transmit the national registry fee collected pursuant to section 32-3607 to the appraisal subcommittee.
- 17. Establish the fees in accordance with the limits established in section 32-3607.

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- C. Subject to title 41, chapter 4, article 4, the board may employ an executive director and other personnel and designate their duties. The executive director shall serve at the pleasure of the board.
- D. The executive director shall not change or amend actions of the board.
- E. The board may accept and spend federal monies and grants, gifts, contributions and devises from any public or private source to assist in carrying out the purposes of this chapter. These monies do not revert to the state general fund at the end of the fiscal year.
  - F. THE BOARD MAY IMPOSE A CIVIL PENALTY PURSUANT TO SECTION 32-3632. Sec. 2. Section 32-3611, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 32-3611. Registration, licensure and certification process
- A. Applications for original registration, licensure or certification, renewals and examinations shall be made in writing to the executive director on forms approved by the board.
- B. Appropriate fees, as fixed by the board pursuant to section 32-3607, shall accompany all applications for original registration, licensure or certification, renewal and examination.
- C. At the time of filing an application for registration, licensure or certification, each applicant shall sign a pledge to comply with the standards set forth in this chapter and shall state that the applicant understands the types of misconduct for which disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against a registered trainee appraiser or a state licensed or state certified appraiser, as set forth in this chapter.
- D. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the executive director shall require such other proof and request such documents, through the application or otherwise, as the board deems necessary for the interests of the public and to verify the honesty, truthfulness, reputation and competency of the applicant and shall require that the applicant for registration, licensure or certification:
- 1. Be at least eighteen years of age and a citizen of the United States or a qualified alien as defined in 8 United States Code section 1641.
- 2. Not have had a license or certificate denied pursuant to this chapter within one year immediately preceding the application.
- 3. Not have had a license or certificate revoked pursuant to this chapter within  $\frac{\mathsf{two}}{\mathsf{FIVE}}$  years immediately preceding the application.
- 4. State whether or not the applicant has ever been convicted in a court of competent jurisdiction in this or any other state of a felony or of forgery, theft, extortion or conspiracy to defraud or any other crime involving dishonesty or moral turpitude.
- E. Applications for registration, licensure or certification by persons who are charged or under indictment for fraud involving appraisal of real property may be denied pending final disposition of the charge or indictment. On final disposition, the board shall review the proceedings and act on the application.

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Sec. 3. Section 32-3614.01, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

# 32-3614.01. Application for registered trainee appraiser certificates

A. An application for a registered trainee appraiser certificate shall be made on a form prescribed by the board and accompanied by the fees prescribed by section 32-3607. An applicant must complete education requirements as outlined by the appraiser qualifications board. The applicant must submit proof that the applicant has successfully passed the required courses that are specifically oriented to the requirements and responsibilities of supervisory appraisers and trainee appraisers and that comply with the specifications established by the appraiser qualifications board.

B. A criminal background check may be conducted pursuant to section 41-1750. The state board of appraisal may charge the cost of a criminal background check to the applicant.

Sec. 4. Section 32-3614.02, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

32-3614.02. Application for supervisory appraiser designation

A. An application for a supervisory appraiser designation shall be made on a form prescribed by the board. The applicant must submit proof of successful completion of a course that is specifically oriented to the requirements and responsibilities of supervisory appraisers and trainee appraisers and that complies with the specifications established by the appraiser qualifications board.

B. A criminal background check may be conducted pursuant to section 41-1750. The state board of appraisal may charge the cost of a criminal background check to the applicant.

Sec. 5. Section 32-3619, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 32-3619. Renewal of license or certificate: fees

A. Except as otherwise provided in this section and in section 32-4301, to renew a registration certificate as a registered trainee appraiser or a license or certificate as a state licensed or state certified appraiser, the holder of a current, valid license or certificate shall make an application and pay the prescribed fee to the board not earlier than ninety days nor later than thirty days before the expiration date of the license or certificate then held. With the application for renewal, the registered trainee appraiser or the state licensed or state certified appraiser shall present evidence in the form prescribed by the board of having completed the continuing education requirements for renewal specified in section 32-3625. The renewal application shall be mailed to the last known address of record not more than ninety days nor less than sixty days before the renewal date.

B. The board may accept a renewal application after the expiration date and within ninety days of the date of expiration but shall assess a delinquent renewal fee in addition to the renewal fee.

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- C. An appraiser or registered trainee appraiser who fails to seek renewal within the time period specified in subsection A or B of this section must reapply for licensure or certification and meet all of the requirements of this chapter.
- D. An appraiser or registered trainee appraiser shall not engage in, advertise or purport to engage in real estate appraisal activity in this state after a license or certificate has expired and before the renewal of the expired license or certificate EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 41-1092.11.
- E. Notwithstanding section 41-1092.11, a license or certificate expires on its expiration date.
  - Sec. 6. Section 32-3620, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 32-3620. <u>Basis for denial of a license or certificate</u>
- A. The board may deny the INITIAL issuance OR RENEWAL of a license or certificate as a registered trainee appraiser, a supervisory appraiser or a state licensed or state certified appraiser to an applicant who has been convicted of a felony or on any of the grounds prescribed in this chapter.
- B. To assist in determining whether grounds exist to deny the INITIAL issuance OR RENEWAL of a license or certificate to an applicant, the board may SHALL require a criminal background check including the fingerprinting of every applicant for an original license and certificate. The criminal background check may be conducted pursuant to section 41-1750 or in any other manner deemed suitable by the board. The board may charge the cost of each criminal background check to the applicant THE APPLICANT TO OBTAIN A VALID FINGERPRINT CLEARANCE CARD ISSUED PURSUANT TO SECTION 41-1758.03.
- C. A person who is denied the issuance of a license or certificate may request, and if requested shall receive, a hearing in accordance with title 41, chapter 6, article 10.
  - Sec. 7. Section 32-3631, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 32-3631. <u>Disciplinary proceedings</u>
- A. The rights of an applicant or holder under a license or certificate as a registered trainee appraiser or a state licensed or state certified appraiser may be revoked or suspended, or the holder of the license or certificate may otherwise be disciplined, INCLUDING BEING PLACED ON PROBATION AS PRESCRIBED BY RULE, in accordance with this chapter on any of the grounds set forth in this section. The board may investigate the actions of a registered trainee appraiser or a state licensed or state certified appraiser IN THIS STATE OR IN ANY OTHER STATE and may revoke or suspend the rights of a license or certificate holder or otherwise discipline a registered trainee appraiser or a state licensed or state certified appraiser for any of the following acts or omissions:
- 1. Procuring or attempting to procure a license or certificate pursuant to this chapter by knowingly making a false statement, submitting false information, refusing to provide complete information in response to a question in an application for a license or certificate or committing any form of fraud or misrepresentation.

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- 2. Failing to meet the minimum qualifications established by this chapter.
- 3. Paying or offering to pay money or other considerations other than as provided by this chapter to any member or employee of the board to procure a license or certificate under this chapter.
- 4. A conviction, including a conviction based on a plea of guilty, of a crime that is substantially related to the qualifications, functions and duties of a person developing appraisals and communicating appraisals to others, or a conviction for any felony or any crime involving moral turpitude.
- 5. An act or omission involving dishonesty, fraud or misrepresentation with the intent to substantially benefit the license or certificate holder or another person or with the intent to substantially injure another person.
- 6. Violation of any of the standards of the development or communication of appraisals as provided in this chapter.
- 7. Negligence or incompetence by the state licensed or state certified appraiser in developing an appraisal, in preparing an appraisal report or in communicating an appraisal.
- 8. Wilfully disregarding or violating any of the provisions of this chapter OR A BOARD ORDER or the rules of the board for the administration and enforcement of this chapter.
- 9. Accepting an appraisal assignment if the employment itself is contingent on the appraiser reporting a predetermined estimate, analysis or opinion or if the fee to be paid is contingent on the opinion, conclusion or value reached or on the consequences resulting from the appraisal assignment.
- 10. Violating the confidential nature of any records to which the registered trainee appraiser or the state licensed or state certified appraiser gains access through employment or engagement as a registered trainee appraiser or an appraiser.
- $11.\$  Entry of a final civil judgment against the person on grounds of fraud, misrepresentation or deceit in the making of any appraisal.
- B. In a disciplinary proceeding based on a civil judgment, a registered trainee appraiser or state licensed or state certified appraiser shall be afforded an opportunity to present matters in mitigation and extenuation.
- C. The board may issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses and the production of books, records, documents and other evidence necessary and relevant to an investigation or hearing.
- D. The lapsing or suspension of a license or certificate by operation of law or by order or decision of the board or a court of law, or the voluntary surrender of a license or certificate by a license or certificate holder, shall not deprive the board of jurisdiction to do any of the following within twenty-four months after the expiration of the license or certificate pursuant to section 32-3616:
- 1. Proceed with any investigation of or action or disciplinary proceeding against the license or certificate holder.

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2. Render a decision suspending or revoking the license or certificate or denying the renewal or right of renewal of the license or certificate.

Sec. 8. Section 32-3632, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 32-3632. Hearing and judicial review: civil penalties: costs and fees

- A. The hearing on the charges shall be at a time and place prescribed by the board and shall be in accordance with title 41, chapter 6, article 10.
- B. If the board determines that a state licensed or state certified appraiser is guilty of a IN violation of this chapter, it shall prepare a finding of fact and take disciplinary or remedial action AND MAY IMPOSE A CIVIL PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS PER COMPLAINT FILED WITH THE BOARD PURSUANT TO THIS CHAPTER. ALL CIVIL PENALTIES COLLECTED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE DEPOSITED, PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 35-146 AND 35-147, IN THE STATE GENERAL FUND.
- C. IF A CASE PROCEEDS TO A FORMAL HEARING BEFORE EITHER THE BOARD OR THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS BOTH OF THE FOLLOWING APPLY:
- 1. IF THE BOARD SUSTAINS ITS BURDEN OF PROOF AND PREVAILS ON THE MERITS OF THE CASE, THE BOARD MAY COLLECT FROM THE RESPONDENT APPLICANT, REGISTERED TRAINEE APPRAISER, APPRAISER OR PROPERTY TAX AGENT THE BOARD'S COSTS AND EXPENSES ASSOCIATED WITH THE FORMAL HEARING, INCLUDING REASONABLE ATTORNEY FEES, EXPERT TESTIMONY AND PREPARATION FEES, INVESTIGATIVE COSTS AND EXPENSES AND COSTS INCURRED RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS AND COURT REPORTERS. ALL MONIES COLLECTED PURSUANT TO THIS PARAGRAPH SHALL BE DEPOSITED, PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 35-146 AND 35-147, IN THE BOARD OF APPRAISAL FUND ESTABLISHED BY SECTION 32-3608. NOTWITHSTANDING SECTION 35-143.01, THESE MONIES MAY BE SPENT WITHOUT LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATION.
- 2. IF THE BOARD DOES NOT SUSTAIN ITS BURDEN OF PROOF AND THE RESPONDENT APPLICANT, REGISTERED TRAINEE APPRAISER, APPRAISER OR PROPERTY TAX AGENT PREVAILS ON THE MERITS OF THE CASE, THE RESPONDENT APPLICANT, REGISTERED TRAINEE APPRAISER, APPRAISER OR PROPERTY TAX AGENT MAY COLLECT FROM THE BOARD FEES AND OTHER COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE FORMAL HEARING.
- 6. D. Except as provided in section 41-1092.08, subsection H, any final decision or order of the board may be appealed to the superior court pursuant to title 12, chapter 7, article 6.
  - Sec. 9. Section 32-3635, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 32-3635. <u>Standards of practice; unprofessional conduct</u>
- A. A registered trainee appraiser or a state licensed or state certified appraiser shall comply with the standards of professional appraisal practice adopted by the board.
- B. An appraisal or appraisal report shall not be issued by a real estate appraiser unless it meets the appraisal standards established by this chapter and rules adopted pursuant to this chapter.
- C. An appraisal review report shall clearly indicate the nature of the review process undertaken and shall separate the review function from any other functions.
  - D. All federally related appraisals shall be in writing.

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E. FAILURE TO PAY BOARD-IMPOSED FEES AND EXPENSES AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 32-3632, SUBSECTION C IS UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT AS DEFINED BY UNIFORM STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL APPRAISAL PRACTICE.

Sec. 10. Section 32-3667, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

### 32-3667. Fee: bond

- A. The board shall establish the fee for appraisal management company registration by rule.
- B. The appraisal management company is required to show proof of a surety bond of  $\frac{\text{twenty}}{\text{AT}}$  AT LEAST TWENTY thousand dollars BUT NOT MORE THAN FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS.
- Sec. 11. Section 32-3668, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

#### 32-3668. Owner requirements

- A. An appraisal management company applying for registration may not be owned by a person or have any principal of the company who has had any financial, real estate or mortgage lending industry license or certificate refused, denied, canceled, revoked or voluntarily surrendered in this state or in any other state. This requirement may be waived by appeal and at the discretion of the board.
- B. Each person that owns, is an officer of or has a financial interest in an appraisal management company in this state shall:
  - 1. Be of good moral character.
- 2. Submit to a criminal background check conducted pursuant to section 41-1750. The board may charge the cost of a criminal background check to the applicant. OBTAIN A VALID FINGERPRINT CLEARANCE CARD ISSUED PURSUANT TO SECTION 41-1758.03.
- 3. Certify to the board that the person has never had any financial, real estate or mortgage lending industry license or certificate refused, denied, canceled, revoked or voluntarily surrendered in this state or in any other state. This requirement may be waived by appeal and at the discretion of the board.
- Sec. 12. Section 32-3669, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

## 32-3669. <u>Controlling person</u>

- A. Each appraisal management company applying to the board for registration in this state shall designate one controlling person that will be the main contact for all communication between the board and the appraisal management company.
- B. To serve as a controlling person of an appraisal management company, a person shall:
- 1. Certify to the board that the person has never had any financial, real estate or mortgage lending industry license or certificate issued by this state, or any other state, refused, denied, canceled, revoked or voluntarily surrendered. This requirement may be waived by appeal and at the discretion of the board.

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- 2. Be of good moral character.
- 3. Submit to a criminal background check conducted pursuant to section 41-1750. The board may charge the cost of a criminal background check to the applicant. OBTAIN A VALID FINGERPRINT CLEARANCE CARD ISSUED PURSUANT TO SECTION 41-1758.03.

Sec. 13. Section 32-3672, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

#### 32-3672. <u>Certification on renewal</u>

- A. Each appraisal management company seeking to be registered in this state shall certify to the board on an annual basis RENEWAL on a form prescribed by the board that the appraisal management company has a system and process in place to verify that a person being added to the appraiser panel of the appraisal management company holds a license or certificate in good standing in this state pursuant to the board.
- B. Each appraisal management company seeking to be registered in this state shall certify to the board on an annual basis RENEWAL that it has a system in place to review the quality of appraisals of all independent appraisers that are performing real property appraisal services for the appraisal management company on a periodic basis to confirm that the real property appraisal services are being conducted in accordance with uniform standards of professional appraisal practice.
- C. Each appraisal management company seeking to be registered shall certify to the board on an annual basis RENEWAL that it maintains a detailed record of each service request that it receives and the name of the independent appraiser that performs the real property appraisal services for the appraisal management company. An appraisal management company shall maintain a detailed record for the same time period that an appraiser is required to maintain an appraisal record for the same real property appraisal activity.
- D. Each appraisal management company seeking to be registered shall certify to the board on an annual basis RENEWAL that it has a system in place to train those who select individual appraisers for real property APPRAISAL services in this state, to ensure that the selectors have appropriate training in placing appraisal assignments.
- Sec. 14. Section 41-619.51, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by Laws 2013, chapter 128, section 11, is amended to read:

41-619.51. Definitions

In this article, unless the context otherwise requires:

- 1. "Agency" means the supreme court, the department of economic security, the department of education, the department of health services, the department of juvenile corrections, the department of emergency and military affairs, the department of transportation, the state real estate department, THE STATE BOARD OF APPRAISAL or the board of examiners of nursing care institution administrators and assisted living facility managers.
  - 2. "Board" means the board of fingerprinting.

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3. "Central registry exception" means notification to the department of economic security or the department of health services, as appropriate, pursuant to section 41-619.57 that the person is not disqualified because of a central registry check conducted pursuant to section 8-804.

4. "Expedited review" means an examination, in accordance with board
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- 4. "Expedited review" means an examination, in accordance with board rule, of the documents an applicant submits by the board or its hearing officer without the applicant being present.
- 5. "Good cause exception" means the issuance of a fingerprint clearance card to an employee pursuant to section 41-619.55.
- 6. "Person" means a person who is required to be fingerprinted pursuant to this article or who is subject to a central registry check and any of the following:

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             (a)
                  Section 8-105.
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                         Section 36-207.
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             \frac{\text{(t)}}{\text{(x)}} Section 36-425.03.
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Section 36-897.01.

Section 41-619.53.

Section 41-1964.

(ee) Section 36-897.03.

(ff) Section 36-3008.

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           <del>(ee)</del> (ii)
                         Section 41-1967.01.
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           (ff)
                  (jj) Section 41-1968.
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           <del>(gg)</del>
                  (kk) Section 41-1969.
4
           (hh)
                  (11) Section 41-2814.
5
           <del>(ii)</del>
                  (mm)
                         Section 46-141, subsection A.
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           (jj) (nn) Section 46-321.
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           Sec. 15. Repeal
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Sec. 15. <u>Repeat</u>

Section 41-619.51, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by Laws 2013, chapter 129, section 24, is repealed.

Sec. 16. Section 41-1007, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

# 41-1007. Award of costs and fees against a department in administrative hearings; exceptions; definitions

- A. Except as provided in SECTION 32-3632 AND section 42-2064, subsection G, a hearing officer or administrative law judge shall award fees and other costs to any prevailing party in a contested case or an appealable agency action brought pursuant to any state administrative hearing authority. For purposes of this subsection, a person is considered to be a prevailing party only if both:
  - 1. The agency's position was not substantially justified.
- 2. The person prevails as to the most significant issue or set of issues unless the reason that the person prevailed is due to an intervening change in the law.
- B. Reimbursement under this section may be denied if during the course of the proceeding the party unduly and unreasonably protracted the final resolution of the matter.
- C. A party that seeks an award of fees or other costs shall apply to the hearing officer or administrative law judge, within thirty days after the final decision or order, providing:
  - 1. Evidence of the party's eligibility for the award.
  - 2. The amount sought.
  - 3. An itemized statement from the attorneys and experts stating:
  - (a) The actual time spent representing the party.
  - (b) The rate at which the fees were computed.
- D. The award of reasonable attorney fees pursuant to subsection A of this section need not equal or relate to the attorney fees actually paid or contracted, but an award may not exceed the amount paid or agreed to be paid.
- E. A decision of a hearing officer or administrative law judge under this section is subject to judicial review. If fees and other costs were denied by the hearing officer or administrative law judge because the party was not the prevailing party but the party prevails on appeal, the court may award fees and other costs for the proceedings before the hearing officer or administrative law judge if the court finds that fees and other costs should have been awarded under subsection A of this section.
- F. The department shall pay the fees and costs awarded pursuant to this section from any monies appropriated to the department and available for

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that purpose, or from other operating costs of the department. If the department fails or refuses to pay the award within thirty days after the demand, and if no further review or appeals of the award are pending, the person may file a claim for the award with the department of administration which shall pay the claim within thirty days in the same manner as an uninsured property loss under chapter 3.1, article 1 of this title, except that the department shall be responsible for the total amount awarded and shall pay it from operating monies. If the department had appropriated monies available for paying the award at the time it failed or refused to pay, the legislature shall reduce the department's operating appropriation for the following fiscal year by the amount of the award and appropriate that amount to the department of administration as reimbursement for the loss.

- G. This section does not apply to:
- 1. Any grievance and appeal procedure pursuant to title 36, chapter 29.
- 2. Any appeal procedure pursuant to chapter 4, article 6 of this title.
- 3. Any administrative appeal filed by an inmate in an Arizona state prison.
  - H. As used in FOR THE PURPOSES OF this section:
- 1. "Department" includes a state agency, department, board or commission, and the universities.
- 2. "Party" includes an individual, partnership, corporation, association and public or private organization.
- Sec. 17. Section 41-1758, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by Laws 2013, chapter 128, section 12 and chapter 174, section 2, is amended to read: 41-1758. <u>Definitions</u>

In this article, unless the context otherwise requires:

- 1. "Agency" means the supreme court, the department of economic security, the department of education, the department of health services, the department of juvenile corrections, the department of emergency and military affairs, the department of transportation, the state real estate department, THE STATE BOARD OF APPRAISAL, the board of fingerprinting or the board of examiners of nursing care institution administrators and assisted living facility managers.
- 2. "Division" means the fingerprinting division in the department of public safety.
- 3. "Electronic or internet-based fingerprinting services" means a secure system for digitizing applicant fingerprints and transmitting the applicant data and fingerprints of a person or entity submitting fingerprints to the department of public safety for any authorized purpose under this title. For the purposes of this paragraph, "secure system" means a system that complies with the information technology security policy approved by the department of public safety.
- 4. "Good cause exception" means the issuance of a fingerprint clearance card to an employee pursuant to section 41-619.55.

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1
                "Person" means a person who is required to be fingerprinted
 2
     pursuant to any of the following:
 3
            (a) Section 8-105.
            (b) Section 8-322.
 4
 5
            (c) Section 8-509.
 6
            (d) Section 8-802.
 7
            (e) Section 15-183.
 8
            (f) Section 15-503.
 9
            (g) Section 15-512.
            (h) Section 15-534.
10
11
            (i) Section 15-782.02.
12
            (j) Section 15-1330.
13
            (k) Section 15-1881.
14
            (1) Section 17-215.
15
            (m) Section 26-103.
16
            (n) SECTION 28-3413.
17
            (n) (o) Section 32-2108.01.
            (o) (p) Section 32-2123.
18
19
            \frac{(p)}{(q)} (q) Section 32-2371.
20
            (q) (r) Section 32-2372.
21
            (s) SECTION 32-3620.
22
            (t) SECTION 32-3668.
23
            (u) SECTION 32-3669.
24
            \frac{(r)}{(r)} (v) Section 36-207.
25
            (s) (w) Section 36-411.
            (t) (x) Section 36-425.03.
26
27
            (u) (y) Section 36-446.04.
28
            (v) (z) Section 36-594.01.
29
            \frac{\text{(w)}}{\text{(aa)}} Section 36-594.02.
30
            <del>(x)</del> (bb)
                        Section 36-882.
31
            <del>(y)</del> (cc)
                        Section 36-883.02.
32
            <del>(z)</del> (dd)
                        Section 36-897.01.
33
            <del>(aa)</del> (ee)
                        Section 36-897.03.
            (bb) (ff) Section 36-3008.
34
35
            <del>(cc)</del>
                  (gg) Section 41-619.52.
            (dd) (hh) Section 41-619.53.
36
37
                        Section 41-1964.
            <del>(ee)</del>
                  (ii)
38
            <del>(ff)</del> (jj)
                        Section 41-1967.01.
39
                  (kk) Section 41-1968.
            <del>(gg)</del>
40
            (hh)
                  (11) Section 41-1969.
41
            <del>(ii)</del>
                  ( mm )
                         Section 41-2814.
42
            <del>(jj)</del>
                  (nn)
                         Section 46-141, subsection A.
43
            (kk)
                  (00)
                         Section 46-321.
            6. "Vulnerable adult" has the same meaning prescribed in section
44
45
     13-3623.
            Sec. 18. Repeal
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Section 41-1758, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by Laws 2013, chapter 129, section 25, is repealed.

Sec. 19. Section 41-1758.01, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by Laws 2013, chapter 128, section 13 and chapter 174, section 3, is amended to read:

### 41-1758.01. Fingerprinting division: powers and duties

- A. The fingerprinting division is established in the department of public safety and shall:
- 1. Conduct fingerprint background checks for persons and applicants who are seeking licenses from state agencies, employment with licensees, contract providers and state agencies or employment or educational opportunities with agencies that require fingerprint background checks pursuant to sections 8-105, 8-322, 8-509, 8-802, 15-183, 15-503, 15-512, 15-534, 15-782.02, 15-1330, 15-1881, 17-215, 26-103, 28-3413, 32-2108.01, 32-2123, 32-2371, 32-2372, 32-3620, 32-3668, 32-3669, 36-207, 36-411, 36-425.03, 36-446.04, 36-594.01, 36-594.02, 36-882, 36-883.02, 36-897.01, 36-897.03, 36-3008, 41-619.52, 41-619.53, 41-1964, 41-1967.01, 41-1968, 41-1969 and 41-2814, section 46-141, subsection A and section 46-321.
- 2. Issue fingerprint clearance cards. On issuance, a fingerprint clearance card becomes the personal property of the cardholder and the cardholder shall retain possession of the fingerprint clearance card.
- 3. On submission of an application for a fingerprint clearance card, collect the fees established by the board of fingerprinting pursuant to section 41-619.53 and deposit, pursuant to sections 35-146 and 35-147, the monies collected in the board of fingerprinting fund.
- 4. Inform in writing each person who submits fingerprints for a fingerprint background check of the person's right to petition the board of fingerprinting for a good cause exception pursuant to sections 41-1758.03 and 41-1758.07.
  - 5. Administer and enforce this article.
- B. The fingerprinting division may contract for electronic or internet-based fingerprinting services through an entity or entities for the acquisition and transmission of applicant fingerprint and data submissions to the department, including identity verified fingerprints pursuant to section 15-106. The entity or entities contracted by the department of public safety may charge the applicant a fee for services provided pursuant to this article. The entity or entities contracted by the department of public safety shall comply with:
- 1. All information privacy and security measures and submission standards established by the department of public safety.
- 2. The information technology security policy approved by the department of public safety.

Sec. 20. Repeal

Section 41-1758.01, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by Laws 2013, chapter 129, section 26, is repealed.

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APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR APRIL 22, 2014.

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE APRIL 23, 2014.

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