

# VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 1997 SESSION

## CHAPTER 513

*An Act to amend and reenact § 38.2-1816 of the Code of Virginia, relating to course study required prior to taking the insurance agents' examination.*

[H 2817]

Approved March 18, 1997

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

**1. That § 38.2-1816 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 38.2-1816. Study course required; exception based upon employment experience.

A. 1. Before registering to take an examination for a license, each applicant shall have completed a ~~forty-five classroom-hour~~ *an insurance study course of forty-five hours of classroom instruction or equivalent distance learning, or any combination thereof*, in accordance with an examination content outline approved by the Commission and shall submit proof of such completion in a form acceptable to the Commission. However, applicants for a health agent license shall complete a ~~twenty-five classroom-hour~~ *an insurance study course of twenty-five hours of classroom instruction or equivalent distance learning, or any combination thereof*, in accordance with an examination content outline approved by the Commission.

2. The term "classroom instruction" as used in this section shall mean actual hours in a classroom environment with an instructor. Instructors shall have the right to consider an applicant to have met the classroom-hour requirement if the applicant was present for no less than ninety-five percent of the required hours. The term "distance learning" as used in this section means instruction delivered under the general supervision of an instructor through a medium other than a classroom setting.

B. An applicant shall register to take an examination for a license and shall attain a passing grade on such examination within one year after meeting the education requirement in subsection A of this section. The Commission, however, may waive this time limit in individual circumstances in accordance with such criteria as may be prescribed.

C. An applicant may apply to the Commission to take the examination for a license without taking the required study course if the applicant submits proof in a form acceptable to the Commission that he has attained equivalent knowledge through employment experience as determined by the Commission. The employment experience shall include no less than one year of full-time experience as an employee of an insurer, an insurance department, an insurance agency, or equivalent employment as determined by the Commission. The employment experience shall have involved the performance of responsible insurance duties in connection with the kind of insurance for which the applicant has applied for a license. The applicant shall register for and attain a passing grade on such examination within one year of completion of the required employment experience.

**2. That the provisions of this act shall become effective on September 1, 1997.**