

HB 545 -- Surety Recovery Agents

Co-Sponsors: Walker, Johnson (47), Page

This bill is known as "TJ's Law." The bill contains provisions regarding the licensing of surety recovery agents or bounty hunters. The bill:

(1) Requires that no person act as a surety recovery agent without first being licensed by the Department of Public Safety;

(2) Requires applicants to complete a 60-hour training course approved by the department regarding the safe apprehension and delivery of bonded individuals;

(3) Prohibits licensure of applicants who have been convicted of armed criminal action; felonies or class A misdemeanors relating to offenses against the person, sexual offenses, and offenses against the family; or robbery, arson, burglary, and related offenses;

(4) Requires that applicants be at least 21 years old, not be a fugitive from justice, not be impaired by drugs or alcohol, and have never been adjudged as being incompetent or insane; and

(5) Gives the department the authority to promulgate rules, set fees, issue temporary licenses, refuse to issue or renew licenses, suspend and revoke licenses, and cause complaints to be filed with the Administrative Hearing Commission.