THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL No. 763 Session of 1983

INTRODUCED BY STAUFFER, STAPLETON, HOLL AND LINCOLN, MAY 25, 1983

AS AMENDED ON THIRD CONSIDERATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, DECEMBER 7, 1983

AN ACT

| 1 2 3 4 | appre impos | ntic ing | ulations and licensing requirements on auctioneers, e auctioneers, auction houses and auction companies; powers and duties on the State Board of Auctioneer ; and making repeals. |
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- 26 SECTION 34. REESTABLISHMENT OF AGENCY.
- 27 Section 35 33 35. Repeals.
- 28 Section 36 34 36. Effective date.
- 29 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- 30 hereby enacts as follows:

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1 Section 1. Short title.

2 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Auctioneer3 and Auction Licensing Act.

4 Section 2. Definitions.

5 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall 6 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the 7 context clearly indicates otherwise:

8 "Apprentice auctioneer." A person who is licensed under this9 act as an apprentice auctioneer.

10 "Auction" or "sale at auction." The offer to sell property 11 by an auctioneer or apprentice auctioneer to the members of an 12 audience congregated for the purpose of making bids for the 13 purchase of the property in an effort by the auctioneer or 14 apprentice auctioneer to advance the amount of the bids to 15 obtain the highest or most favorable offer.

16 "Auction company." A company which, as part of its business, 17 arranges, manages, sponsors, advertises or carries out auctions. 18 "Auction house." An established place of business, including but not limited to an auction barn, a sale barn and a sale 19 20 pavilion, where two or more auctions are held within any 12-21 month period and where representations are regularly made that 22 property is sold at auction. The term does not include premises where isolated sales are conducted by an auctioneer or 23 24 auctioneer apprentice and which are used primarily for purposes other than auctions or sales at auction. 25

26 "Auctioneer." A person who sells or offers or attempts to 27 sell property at auction. The term includes any person who holds 28 himself out as engaged in the business of selling property at 29 auction.

30 "Board." The State Board of Auctioneer Examiners in the 19830S0763B1584 - 3 - 1 Department of State.

2 "Commissioner." The Commissioner of Professional and 3 Occupational Affairs in the Department of State.

4 "Department." The Department of State.

5 "Licensee." A person licensed under this act including an auctioneer, apprentice auctioneer, holder of a special license 6 7 and, in the case of an auction house or company, the person 8 required to obtain the license.

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9 "Person." An individual, partnership, association or 10 corporation.

11 "Property." Real and personal property. The term includes, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO domestic animals and farm products. 12 13 "Qualified auctioneer." A currently licensed auctioneer. 14 Section 3. Auctioneer and apprentice auctioneer licenses. 15 (a) Requirement for license.--It is unlawful for any person 16 to engage in or carry on the profession of auctioneer, to 17 conduct a sale at auction, to hold himself out as an auctioneer 18 or as an apprentice auctioneer or to offer to conduct sales at 19 auction in this Commonwealth without first obtaining from the 20 board a license as an auctioneer or apprentice auctioneer. Any 21 member, officer or employee of a partnership, association or 22 corporation who attempts to sell at auction or who is actively 23 engaged in the auction profession must have a license as an 24 auctioneer or apprentice auctioneer.

25 (b) Issuance and supervision of licenses.--It is the duty of 26 the board, upon payment of the license fees required and upon 27 compliance with the requirements of this act, to issue a license 28 as an auctioneer or apprentice auctioneer to individuals or as 29 an auctioneer to partnerships, associations and corporations who qualify under and comply with this act. The board shall 30 19830S0763B1584

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supervise and control all licenses issued under this act. 1

(c) Qualifications in general for license.--Licenses shall 2 3 be granted only to persons who have a good reputation for 4 honesty, truthfulness, integrity and competence to transact the 5 business of auctioneer or apprentice auctioneer in a manner as to safeguard the interest of the public and only after 6 7 satisfactory proof of these qualifications has been presented to the board as required by regulation. 8

9 (d) Qualifications for apprentice auctioneer license.--To 10 qualify for an apprentice auctioneer license, a person must be 11 sponsored and employed for compensation by a qualified auctioneer who employs no more than one other apprentice 12 13 auctioneer.

14 (e) Qualifications for auctioneer license.--To qualify for 15 an auctioneer license, a person must have passed the prescribed 16 examination after having:

17 (1) served an apprenticeship as a licensed apprentice 18 auctioneer for a period of not less than two years in the 19 employ of a qualified auctioneer and participated for 20 compensation in no less than 30 auctions; or

21 (2) successfully completed a prescribed course of study 22 in auctioneering of at least 20 credit hours at a school 23 approved by the board.

Qualifications for license reissued after long 24 (f) 25 inactivity. -- Any person to whom an auctioneer or apprentice 26 auctioneer license has been issued and who has been inactive as 27 an auctioneer or apprentice auctioneer for a period of seven years without renewing the license issued to him shall be 28 29 required to submit to and pass an examination conducted APPROVED 30 by the board prior to having a license reissued to him. 19830S0763B1584

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1 (g) Designation of auctioneer-of-record.--If the applicant for a license is a partnership, association or corporation, then 2 3 a member of the partnership or association or an officer of the 4 corporation, who is licensed in this Commonwealth as an 5 auctioneer, must be designated as the auctioneer-of-record. The auctioneer-of-record is principally responsible for the conduct 6 of the auctions of the partnership, association or corporation 7 in accordance with this act. A partnership, association or 8 corporation auctioneer license becomes invalid if the license of 9 10 the auctioneer-of-record is not renewed or is suspended or 11 revoked.

12 (h) Sales exempt from license requirements.--The requirement 13 to obtain a license under this act does not apply to sales at 14 auction in the following circumstances:

15 (1) To a specified single sale per year conducted by the 16 owner of property if the owner is not engaged in the business 17 of selling the property and if the property is owned by the 18 person in an individual capacity.

19 (2) To a sale conducted by or on behalf of a charitable
20 organization if the person conducting the sale receives no
21 compensation therefor.

22 (3) To a sale conducted by or on behalf of a person23 appointed by judicial order or decree.

24 (4) TO A SALE CONDUCTED IN THE SETTLEMENT OF ANY
25 DECEDENT'S ESTATE.

26 (5) TO A SALE CONDUCTED BY OR UNDER THE DIRECTION OF ANY
27 PUBLIC AUTHORITY.

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(6) TO ANY SALE REQUIRED BY LAW TO BE AT AUCTION.
(7) TO A SALE CONDUCTED BY BROKERS OR SALESPERSONS
LICENSED UNDER THE ACT OF FEBRUARY 19, 1980 (P.L.15, NO.9),

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1 KNOWN AS THE REAL ESTATE LICENSING AND REGISTRATION ACT.

(i) Special license to conduct auction. -- An auctioneer 2 3 authorized to engage in auctioneering in another state shall, 4 upon application and payment of the license fee, be issued a 5 special license for each auction conducted by him. Applications must be made 20 days in advance of the sale and must include the 6 name and address of the consignor or owner of all items to be 7 sold. All applications are subject to approval by the board and 8 shall include proof of authority to engage in auctioneering in 9 10 the other state.

11 Section 4. Status of existing licensees.

(a) Apprentice auctioneers.--An individual licensed as an apprentice auctioneer on the effective date of this act shall thereafter possess the same rights and privileges and be subject to the same requirements pertaining to licensure as individuals to whom licenses as an apprentice auctioneer are issued under this act.

(b) Auctioneers.--A person licensed as an auctioneer on the effective date of this act shall thereafter possess the same rights and privileges as persons to whom licenses as an auctioneer are issued under this act.

22 Section 5. Applications for initial and renewal licenses. 23 (a) Application for auctioneer license.--Applications for license as an auctioneer shall be made to the board in writing 24 25 upon forms provided by the board which shall contain such 26 information as to the individual or, if the applicant is a 27 partnership, association or corporation, as to its members or 28 officers as the board requires. If the applicant is an 29 individual, the application shall be signed by that individual. 30 If the applicant is a partnership or an association, the 19830S0763B1584 - 7 -

application shall be signed by a member. If the applicant is a 1 corporation, the application shall be signed by an officer. Each 2 3 application shall be accompanied by two photographs of the 4 individual applicant or of the member or officer of the 5 partnership, association or corporation applicant. An application by a licensed apprentice auctioneer seeking to 6 7 qualify on the basis of an apprenticeship shall contain or be accompanied by satisfactory evidence that the applicant was in 8 9 the employ of a sponsor for at least two years and participated 10 for compensation in not less than 30 auctions on the dates and 11 at the locations provided by the applicant. Upon the filing of an application, the board shall investigate the allegations 12 13 contained in the application and if, upon investigation, it finds the allegations untrue, it may refuse to examine or 14 15 license the applicant or may revoke any license issued to the 16 applicant on the basis of materially untrue allegations 17 contained in the application for a license. The board shall set 18 forth in writing its findings and reasons for its refusal or 19 revocation and furnish a copy to the applicant.

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20 (b) Application for apprentice auctioneer license.--21 Applications for license as an apprentice auctioneer shall be 22 made to the board in writing upon forms provided by the board 23 which shall contain such information as to the applicant as the 24 board requires. For license renewals, the licensee shall set 25 forth the period of time, if any, during which he was engaged in 26 the auction profession, stating the name of his present sponsor 27 and any former sponsor for the period of five years immediately 28 preceding the date of the renewal. If it becomes necessary to 29 change sponsors, the apprentice auctioneer must notify the board 30 by letter upon the termination of the sponsorship and submit a - 8 -19830S0763B1584

1 transfer form, provided by the board, when a new sponsor is
2 obtained. An apprentice auctioneer license is invalid when there
3 is no sponsoring auctioneer and credit does not accrue during
4 that time. A license will be reissued when the apprentice
5 auctioneer submits a transfer form which informs the board that
6 he has secured a new sponsor.

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Examinations.--THE BOARD SHALL CONTRACT WITH A 7 (C) PROFESSIONAL TESTING ORGANIZATION FOR THE PREPARATION AND 8 9 ADMINISTRATION OF THE EXAMINATION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 10 812.1(A) OF THE ACT OF APRIL 9, 1929 (P.L.177, NO.175), KNOWN AS 11 THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF 1929. No person may be issued an 12 auctioneer license unless the person passes an examination 13 approved by the board. The board shall hold examinations at 14 locations, times and dates prescribed by regulation of the 15 board.

(d) Issuance of new license after revocation.--In the event the license of an auctioneer or an apprentice auctioneer is revoked by the board subsequent to the effective date of this act, no new license may be issued to that person until he <u>compiles</u> COMPLIES with all the provisions of this act.

(e) Expiration and renewal of license. --All licenses issued 21 22 by the board shall be for a maximum term of two years and shall expire on the last day of February of each odd year. It is the 23 24 duty of all persons licensed to practice as an auctioneer or 25 apprentice auctioneer or to operate as an auction house or 26 auction company to renew the license biennially with the board 27 and to pay the license fee for each biennial license renewal. 28 Applications for renewals of licenses issued under this act 29 shall be made within 60 days prior to the expiration of the 30 license upon forms and in the manner provided by the board. - 9 -19830S0763B1584

1 Section 6. License, examination and other fees.

2 (a) General rule. The license, examination and other fees
3 to be paid to the board are as follows:

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4 (1) The examination fee for an auctioneer license shall 5 be \$25 and for an apprentice auctioneer license shall be \$10. (2) The fee for the initial license and the renewal of 6 an auctioneer license shall be \$50 for the specified two year 7 8 term of the license. The fee for the initial license and the renewal of an apprentice auctioneer license shall be \$30 for 9 10 the specified two year term of the license. There are no 11 other license fees authorized for the licenses issued at any 12 time during the two year term of the license.

13 (3) The fee for the initial license and the renewal of a license issued to an auction house or auction company shall be \$50 for the specified two year term of the license. There are no other license fees authorized for licenses issued at any time during the two year term of the license.

18 (4) The fee for a special license to conduct an auction 19 shall be \$100.

20 (5) The fee for the replacement of a lost or mislaid
21 license is \$5.

22 (6) For every copy of paper filed with the commissioner
23 or board in any proceedings before the board, the board may
24 by regulation charge a fee not exceeding 50¢ per page.

25 (b) Method of payment. The payment of fees required under 26 this act may be made to the board by personal check.

(A) SETTING OF FEES.--THE LICENSE AND EXAMINATION FEES AND
ALL OTHER FEES IMPOSED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT SHALL BE
FIXED BY THE BOARD BY REGULATION AND SHALL BE SUBJECT TO REVIEW
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ACT OF JUNE 25, 1982 (P.L.633, NO.181),
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KNOWN AS THE REGULATORY REVIEW ACT. IF THE REVENUES GENERATED BY
 FEES, FINES AND CIVIL PENALTIES IMPOSED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
 PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT ARE NOT SUFFICIENT TO MATCH EXPENDITURES
 OVER A TWO-YEAR PERIOD, THE BOARD SHALL INCREASE THOSE FEES BY
 REGULATION, SUBJECT TO REVIEW IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REGULATORY
 REVIEW ACT, SUCH THAT THE PROJECTED REVENUES WILL MEET OR EXCEED
 PROJECTED EXPENDITURES.

8 (B) CHANGING FEES. -- IF THE BUREAU OF PROFESSIONAL AND 9 OCCUPATIONAL AFFAIRS DETERMINES THAT THE FEES ESTABLISHED BY THE 10 BOARD ARE INADEQUATE TO MEET THE MINIMUM ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS 11 REQUIRED, THEN THE BUREAU, AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE BOARD, SHALL INCREASE THE FEES BY REGULATION, SUBJECT TO REVIEW IN 12 13 ACCORDANCE WITH THE REGULATORY REVIEW ACT, SUCH THAT ADEQUATE 14 REVENUES ARE RAISED TO MEET THE REQUIRED ENFORCEMENT EFFORT. Section 7. Special licensees to furnish bond. 15

16 (a) General rule.--A bond in the penal sum of \$5,000, or in 17 an amount the board by regulation prescribes from time to time, 18 shall accompany every application for a special license. The bond shall be executed by a surety company authorized by the 19 20 laws of this Commonwealth to transact business in this 21 Commonwealth. The bond shall be for the use of the Commonwealth 22 and for any person or persons who may have a cause of action 23 against a licensee arising under this act.

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(b) Conditions of bond.--The conditions of the bond shall be that the licensee will comply with and abide by the provisions of this act and will pay to the Commonwealth, the board or any person or persons any and all money that may come due to the Commonwealth, the board or the person or persons from a licensee under and by virtue of this act.

30 (c) Action on bond.--If any person is aggrieved by the 19830S0763B1584 - 11 -

misconduct of any special licensee and recovers judgment against 1 2 the licensee therefor, the person may on any execution issued 3 under the judgment maintain an action upon the bond of the 4 licensee in any court having jurisdiction of the amount claimed. 5 Section 8. Authority to transact business not transferable. 6 The authority to transact business as an auctioneer, apprentice auctioneer, auction house or auction company under a 7 license issued by the board is restricted to the person named in 8 9 the license and may not be transferred to the benefit of any 10 other person. A partnership, association or corporation licensed 11 under this act is only permitted to transact auction business through a member, officer or employee who is licensed under this 12 13 act.

14 Section 9. Auction house license.

(a) Requirement for license.--Every person, except an individual who is licensed as an auctioneer, shall before operating an auction house obtain a license from the board to operate the auction house. Every partnership, association or corporation must obtain a license even though a member or officer is licensed as an auctioneer.

21 (b) Application for license.--Every person seeking a license 22 to operate an auction house shall file with the board an application in writing upon forms provided by the board which 23 24 shall contain such information as to the individual or, if the 25 applicant is a partnership, association or corporation, as to 26 the members or officers as the board requires. A person must 27 file a separate application for each auction house to be operated. The application shall be accompanied by the license 28 fee and surety bond required by this act. 29

30 (c) Investigation and refusal of license.--Upon the filing 19830S0763B1584 - 12 - of an application, the board shall investigate the allegations
 contained in the application and, if upon investigation it finds
 the allegations untrue, it may refuse to license the applicant
 to operate an auction house.

5 (d) Information from auctioneer.--A licensed auctioneer, who 6 also operates an auction house, shall notify the board in 7 writing of the address of each auction house operated by him and 8 of the trade or business name by which each auction house is 9 known. The auctioneer shall notify the board in writing if the 10 operation of the auction house is sold or discontinued or if the 11 name or location of the auction house is changed.

12 Section 10. Auction company license.

(a) Requirement for license.--Every person, except an individual who is licensed as an auctioneer or an individual who is licensed to operate an auction house, shall before operating an auction company obtain a license from the board to operate the auction company. Every partnership, association or corporation must obtain a license even though a member or officer is licensed as an auctioneer.

20 (b) Application for license.--Every person seeking a license 21 to operate an auction company shall file with the board an 22 application in writing upon forms provided by the board which shall contain such information as to the individual or, if the 23 24 applicant is a partnership, association or corporation, as to 25 the members or officers as the board requires. Each application shall be accompanied by the license fee and surety bond required 26 27 by this act.

(c) Investigation and refusal of license.--Upon the filing of an application, the board shall investigate the allegations contained in the application and, if upon investigation it finds 19830S0763B1584 - 13 - the allegations untrue, it may refuse to license the applicant
 to operate an auction company.

3 Information from auctioneer or auction house.--A (d) 4 licensed auctioneer or an individual licensed to operate an 5 auction house, who also operates an auction company, shall notify the board in writing that he is operating an auction 6 company and shall specify the trade or business name and the 7 address of the principal place of business of each auction 8 9 company which he operates. The individual who is licensed as an 10 auctioneer or to operate as an auction house shall notify the 11 board in writing if the operation of the auction company is sold 12 or discontinued or if the name or location of the auction 13 company is changed.

14 Section 11. Nonresident licensees.

(a) General rule.--A nonresident of this Commonwealth may be licensed as an auctioneer or apprentice auctioneer or to operate an auction house or auction company upon complying with all the provisions and conditions of this act required of residents of this Commonwealth.

(b) Waiver of certain requirements.--The board may waive the requirement for serving an apprenticeship or completing a course of study in auctioneering if the nonresident was:

(1) licensed by another state for at least two years; or
(2) established in the business of auctioneering for at
least two years and, in the case of states that do not
require a license, the board reviews the application to
determine the qualifications of the applicant.

28 (c) Limitation on type of property sold.--The nonresident 29 auctioneer or apprentice auctioneer is only permitted to sell at 30 auction in this Commonwealth whatever property the laws of his 19830S0763B1584 - 14 - state permit nonresident auctioneers and apprentice auctioneers
 to sell at auction.

3 (d) Ineligibility to sponsor apprentices.--A nonresident
4 auctioneer is not a qualified auctioneer for the purpose of
5 sponsoring or employing an apprentice auctioneer.

6 Section 12. Reciprocity with other states.

7 General rule. -- A nonresident of this Commonwealth who (a) applies for a license as an auctioneer or apprentice auctioneer 8 may be granted a license for which he applies if he is licensed 9 10 as an auctioneer or apprentice auctioneer by the proper 11 authority of the state of his domicile upon the payment by the applicant of the proper license fee and the filing with the 12 13 board of a properly certified copy of the license issued to the 14 applicant by the state of his domicile subject to the following limitations: 15

16 (1) The auctioneer licensing laws of the nonresident 17 state must extend to licensed auctioneers and apprentice 18 auctioneers of this Commonwealth the same rights and 19 privileges and the same authority to conduct auction sales in 20 that state as this act extends to nonresidents of this 21 Commonwealth without the necessity of the licensed 22 auctioneers and apprentice auctioneers of this Commonwealth 23 to obtain additional or further licenses or authority from any political subdivision of that state to conduct an auction 24 25 sale.

26 (2) The nonresident auctioneer or apprentice auctioneer
27 is only permitted to sell at auction in this Commonwealth
28 whatever property the laws of his state permit nonresident
29 auctioneers and apprentice auctioneers to sell at auction.
30 (b) Bond.--The bond required by this act shall accompany the
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1 application.

(c) Change of nonresident status.--The movement from another state or jurisdiction to domicile in this Commonwealth eliminates the possibility of reciprocal licensing set forth in this section and the individual must qualify for a license under terms of this act which are applicable to residents of this Commonwealth.

8 Section 13. Licensee to furnish bond.

9 (a) General rule. -- An auctioneer, apprentice auctioneer, 10 auction company or auction house license shall not be granted or 11 issued to any individual, partnership, association or corporation until the applicant has filed with the board an 12 13 approved bond payable to the Commonwealth in the amount of 14 \$5,000 or in an amount as the board by regulation prescribes. 15 The bond shall be executed by a surety company authorized by the 16 laws of this Commonwealth to transact business in this 17 Commonwealth. The bond shall be for the use of the Commonwealth 18 and for any person or persons who may have a cause of action 19 against a licensee under this act.

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(b) Conditions of bond.--The condition of the bond shall be that the licensee will comply with and abide by the provisions of this act and will pay to the Commonwealth, the board or any person or persons any and all money that may come due the Commonwealth, the board or the person or persons from a licensee under and by virtue of this act.

(c) Action on bond.--If any person is aggrieved by the misconduct of any licensee and recovers judgment against the licensee therefor, the person may on any execution issued under the judgment maintain an action upon the bond of the licensee in any court having jurisdiction of the amount claimed.

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1 Section 14. No other license required.

No political subdivision of this Commonwealth shall have the 2 3 power or authority to levy or collect any license tax or fee 4 which is either a regulatory or a revenue measure upon or from 5 any auctioneer or apprentice auctioneer licensed under this act nor to require any auctioneer or apprentice auctioneer to be 6 licensed by the political subdivision in order to carry on the 7 business of auctioneer or to conduct a sale at auction. 8 Section 15. List of licensees. 9

10 The board shall maintain a current list of the individuals, 11 partnerships, associations and corporations licensed by the 12 board. The list shall be open to public inspection during the 13 business hours of the department. Copies of the list are to be 14 available to the public at cost.

15 Section 16. Records of sales.

16 (a) General rule.--Every auctioneer, whether acting in his 17 own behalf or as the officer, agent or representative of 18 another, after the receipt or acceptance by him of any property 19 for sale at auction, shall maintain a written record which shall 20 contain the following information:

(1) The name and address of the person who employed him to conduct the sale at auction and of the owner, the owner's authorized agent or consignor of the property to be sold at auction.

(2) A copy of the written contract authorizing the sale
at auction containing the terms and conditions of the
auctioneer's employment or a copy of the receiving invoice.

(3) A written record of the sale at auction.
(b) Inspection of records.--The records referred to in
subsection (a) shall be open at all reasonable times for
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inspection by the board or any person who is authorized in
 writing for that purpose by the board and who exhibits the
 written authorization to the auctioneer before making an
 inspection. This subsection applies only if a complaint against
 the auctioneer has been filed with the board and the identity of
 the complainant is disclosed to the auctioneer.

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7 (c) Retention of records.--The written records shall be kept 8 on file in the office of the auctioneer for a period of at least 9 two years and, if the auctioneer is notified of a complaint 10 against him, the records shall be maintained by the auctioneer 11 until the complaint is finally resolved.

12 Section 17. Contracts for conduct of sale.

13 (a) General rule.--Prior to conducting an auction sale, an 14 auctioneer shall enter into a written contract in duplicate with 15 the owner or consignor of the property to be sold, containing 16 the terms and conditions upon which the licensee agrees to conduct the auction sale. The contracts shall be kept on file in 17 18 the office of the auctioneer and shall be open to inspection as provided in this act. It is unlawful for a person to advertise 19 20 an auction or sale at auction without including in the advertisement or notice of sale the name and license number of 21 22 the auctioneer, auction house or auction company conducting the 23 sale.

(b) Penalty.--A person who violates subsection (a) commits a
summary offense and shall, upon conviction, be sentenced to pay
a fine not less than \$50.

27 Section 18. Display of licenses.

(a) General rule.--Every individual, partnership,
 association or corporation licensed as an auctioneer under this
 act shall prominently display the license certificate in their
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office and the current renewal card or any facsimile thereof
 shall be shown on demand of any person at all sales at auction
 conducted by any licensee.

4 (b) Apprentice auctioneers.--All auctioneers shall 5 prominently display in their office the license certificate of any apprentice auctioneer employed by them and the current 6 renewal card or any facsimile thereof of any apprentice 7 auctioneer employed by them shall be available on demand at any 8 9 sale in which an apprentice is employed. A license issued to an 10 apprentice auctioneer shall designate his sponsor by name. 11 Prompt notice in writing within ten days shall be given to the board by the apprentice auctioneer of any change of sponsor and 12 13 of the name of the new sponsor into whose service the apprentice auctioneer is about to enter or has entered. A new license shall 14 15 be issued without charge by the board to the apprentice 16 auctioneer for the unexpired term of the original license. The 17 new sponsor shall be a qualified auctioneer. The change of 18 sponsor or employment by any licensed apprentice auctioneer 19 without notice to the board shall automatically cancel the 20 license issued to him. It is the duty of the sponsor named in 21 the license to notify the board within ten days of any change in 22 status of an apprentice licensed under him. It is unlawful for an apprentice auctioneer to pay compensation to an auctioneer 23 24 for the sole purpose of listing the apprentice as an employee. Suspension or revocation of license for violation. -- The 25 (C) 26 violation of this section by any licensee is sufficient cause 27 for the suspension or revocation of his license at the discretion of the board after a hearing in accordance with this 28 29 act.

30 Section 19. Confidentiality of information.

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1 (a) General rule. Neither the board nor the commissioner or a representative, clerk or other employee of the board shall, 2 3 directly or indirectly, willfully exhibit, publish, divulge or 4 make known to any person or persons any record, report, statement, letter or any other matter, fact or thing contained 5 among the papers, documents or records of the board, or 6 ascertain from any of them or from any investigation or 7 8 proceedings made or held by or before the board or any of its 9 members or the commissioner or secretary or a representative, 10 except: 11 (1) In the manner expressly authorized by this act. 12 (2) In accordance with the laws of this Commonwealth 13 dealing with the public's right to access to Commonwealth 14 records. 15 (3) When the production of any information in a proceeding in any court is duly required by subpoena issued 16 17 by special order of the court or other regular process. 18 (b) Final rulings or decisions. This section does not apply 19 to any final ruling or decision of the board, with the record 20 relative thereto and upon which the ruling or decision was 21 founded, made and entered after investigation and hearing. The 22 records shall, immediately upon the entry of any final ruling or 23 decision, become public records of the board subject to 24 inspection by any person interested. 25 (c) Penalty. A person who violates this section commits a 26 misdemeanor of the third degree and shall, upon conviction, be 27 sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding \$1,000. 28 Section 20 19. Revocation or suspension of license for violation 29 by employee. 30 A violation of this act by an apprentice auctioneer or other - 20 -19830S0763B1584

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employee of a licensed auctioneer shall not be grounds for the 1 revocation or suspension of the license of the sponsor of the 2 3 apprentice auctioneer or employee unless it appears at the 4 hearing that the sponsor had knowledge of the violation. A 5 course of dealing shown to have been consistently followed by an apprentice auctioneer or employee constitutes prima facie 6 evidence of knowledge upon the part of the sponsor. 7 Section 21 20. Investigations and enforcement actions. 8 (a) General rule.--The board may, upon its own motion, and 9 10 shall, promptly upon the verified complaint in writing of any 11 person setting forth specifically the wrongful act or acts complained of, investigate any action or business transaction of 12 13 any person licensed by the board and may temporarily suspend or permanently revoke licenses issued by the board or impose a 14 15 civil penalty not exceeding \$500 \$1,000 at any time when, after 16 due proceedings provided in this act, it finds the holder 17 LICENSEE to have been guilty in the performance or attempt to <-----18 perform any of the acts prohibited to others than licensees 19 under this act as follows:

(1) Knowingly making any substantial misrepresentation.
(2) Knowingly making any false promise of a character
likely to influence, persuade or induce.

(3) A continued or flagrant course of misrepresentation
 or making false promises through agents OR APPRENTICE
 AUCTIONEERS.

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26 (4) Within five years prior to the issuance of the
27 license then in force, conviction in a court of competent
28 jurisdiction in this or any other state OR IN FEDERAL COURT
29 of forgery, embezzlement, obtaining money under false
30 pretenses, extortion, conspiracy to defraud or other like
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offense or offenses.

2 (5) Any failure to account for or to pay over moneys
3 belonging to others which have come into his or its
4 possession arising out of a sales transaction within a
5 reasonable time.

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(6) Any misleading or untruthful advertising.

7 (7) Any act or conduct in connection with a sales
8 transaction which demonstrates incompetency, bad faith or
9 dishonesty.

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(8) Knowingly using false bidders, cappers or puffers.

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(9) Violating any of the provisions of this act.

12

(10) Violating any regulation of the board.

13 (11) Having his license to engage in the auction 14 profession revoked or suspended or having other disciplinary 15 action taken or his application for licensure refused, 16 revoked or suspended by the proper licensing authority of 17 another state.

18 (12) FAILING TO ESTABLISH OR MAINTAIN AN ESCROW ACCOUNT.
19 (13) FOR ANY LICENSED AUCTIONEER OR APPRENTICE
20 AUCTIONEER TO BID AND BUY FOR HIMSELF AT ANY AUCTION HE IS
21 CONDUCTING.

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(14) FOR ANY LICENSED AUCTIONEER OR APPRENTICE
AUCTIONEER TO PAY ANY COMPENSATION IN MONEY OR OTHER VALUABLE
THING TO ANY PERSON OTHER THAN A LICENSED AUCTIONEER OR
APPRENTICE AUCTIONEER FOR THE RENDERING OF ANY SERVICE OR THE
DOING OF ANY OF THE ACTS BY THIS ACT FORBIDDEN TO BE RENDERED
OR PERFORMED BY OTHER THAN LICENSEES.

(b) Notice of charges.--Before refusing, suspending or revoking any license, the board shall, in writing, notify the applicant or licensee of the charges against him, accompanying 19830S0763B1584 - 22 - 1 the notice with a copy of the complaint filed, if any, and the 2 board shall accord the applicant or licensee ample opportunity 3 to be heard in person or by counsel.

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4 (c) Escrow account. Every auctioneer shall immediately
5 SECTION 21. ESCROW ACCOUNT.

6 EVERY AUCTIONEER SHALL IMMEDIATELY deposit moneys, received 7 from the sale of property, belonging to others, in a separate 8 custodial or trust fund account maintained by the auctioneer 9 until the transaction involved is terminated, at which time the 10 auctioneer shall account for the full amount received.

11 Section 22 21 22. Hearing on charges.

12 (a) General rule.--If the applicant or licensee desires, the 13 board shall grant a hearing upon the charges to be held on not 14 less than ten days' prior written notice to the applicant or 15 licensee. At the hearing, the applicant or licensee may examine, either in person or by counsel, any and all persons complaining 16 against him and as well all other witnesses whose testimony is 17 18 relied upon to substantiate the charges made. He shall also be 19 entitled to present any evidence, oral and written, as he sees 20 fit and as may be pertinent to the inquiry. The hearings may be 21 held by the board, or any member thereof, or by any other person 22 authorized by the board for that purpose in any particular case, 23 and they shall be held in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, or at any 24 other place as the board may direct. At the hearings, all 25 witnesses shall be sworn by the authorized representative before 26 whom the hearing is held and stenographic notes of the 27 proceedings shall be taken and filed as part of the record in the case. THE SAID HEARINGS MAY BE HELD BY THE BOARD OR ANY 28 29 MEMBER THEREOF OR BY ANY OTHER PERSON DULY AUTHORIZED BY THE 30 BOARD FOR SUCH PURPOSE IN ANY PARTICULAR CASE.

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1 (b) Report of hearing officer.--If the hearing is held by a 2 member of the board or by a person authorized by the board, a 3 written report of the hearing shall be made to the board. 4 (c) Action on report of hearing officer.--The board may 5 adopt the findings in the report or may, with or without additional testimony, either return the report for any further 6 7 consideration the board deems necessary or make additional or other findings of fact on the basis of all the legally probative 8 evidence in the record and enter its findings of fact and 9 10 conclusions of law and order in accordance with the requirements 11 for the issuance of an adjudication under Title 2 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes (relating to administrative 12 13 law and procedure).

14 Section 23 22 23. Administration and enforcement.

15 The board shall administer and enforce this act.

16 Section 24 23 24. Injunctive relief.

17 The board may authorize its agents to make application to the 18 appropriate court for an order enjoining the acts or practices 19 which constitute or will constitute a violation of this act. 20 Section 25 24 25. Records of courts to be evidence before board.

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21 In proceedings before the board and in all proceedings upon 22 appeal from any of its decisions, the record, or a duly 23 certified or exemplified copy, in any proceedings at law or in equity in any court of competent jurisdiction in this or any 24 25 other state in which the applicant or licensee charged or under 26 investigation was a party shall be admissible where the issue of 27 fact involved in the proceedings are pertinent to the inquiry 28 before the board. The verdict of the jury or judgment of the 29 court in any action at law or the decree of the court in any 30 proceeding in equity shall be prima facie as to the facts at 19830S0763B1584 - 24 -

issue in the proceedings and necessarily adjudicated therein. 1 The verdict of the jury in any criminal prosecution in a court 2 of record in this or any other state in which the applicant or 3 4 licensee charged was the defendant shall be conclusive as to the 5 facts charged and at issue in the prosecution. Section 26 25 26. Revocation or suspension of license. 6 7 (a) Revocation or suspension of license for committing crime.--Where, during the term of any license issued by the 8 9 board, the licensee is convicted in a court of competent 10 jurisdiction in this or any other state of forgery,

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embezzlement, obtaining money under false pretenses, extortion, criminal conspiracy to defraud or other like offense and a duly certified or exemplified copy of the record in the proceeding is filed with the board, the board may SHALL revoke or suspend the license issued to the licensee.

16 Suspension of license pending trial of crime. -- In the (b) 17 event any licensee is indicted in this or any other state of 18 forgery, embezzlement, obtaining money under false pretenses, extortion, criminal conspiracy to defraud or other offense or 19 offenses and a certified copy of the indictment is filed with 20 21 the board or other proper evidence is given to it, the board 22 may, in its discretion, suspend the license issued to the licensee pending trial of the charges. 23

(c) Revocation of license of entity for violation by member 24 25 or officer.--In the event of the revocation or suspension of the 26 license issued to any member of a partnership or to any officer of an association or corporation, the license issued to the 27 partnership, association or corporation shall be revoked by the 28 29 board unless, within a time fixed by the board, the connection 30 of the member of the partnership is severed and his interest in 19830S0763B1584 - 25 -

Pending an investigation or proceeding before the board 6 affecting any licensee and pending final decision upon any 7 8 appeal taken by a licensee from the ruling of the board, no new 9 license may be issued to a licensee or to a partnership of which 10 he is a member or employee or to an association or corporation 11 of which he is an officer or employee except for the period of 12 the investigation or proceeding and subject to the action of the 13 board.

Section 28 27 28. Issuance of new license after revocation.
(A) GENERAL RULE.--After the revocation of any license, no
new license may be issued to the same licensee within a period
of at least one year from the date of the revocation nor, except
in the sole discretion of the board and subject to the
conditions of this act, at any time thereafter.

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20 (B) CRIMINAL CONDUCT. -- NO LICENSE SHALL BE ISSUED BY THE 21 BOARD TO ANY PERSON KNOWN BY IT TO HAVE BEEN WITHIN FIVE YEARS 22 CONVICTED OF FORGERY, EMBEZZLEMENT, OBTAINING MONEY UNDER FALSE 23 PRETENSES, EXTORTION, CRIMINAL CONSPIRACY TO DEFRAUD OR OTHER 24 LIKE OFFENSE, OR TO ANY COPARTNERSHIP OF WHICH ANY PERSON IS A 25 MEMBER OR TO ANY ASSOCIATION OR CORPORATION OF WHICH ANY PERSON 26 IS AN OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE OR IN WHICH AS A STOCKHOLDER ANY 27 PERSON HAS OR EXERCISES A CONTROLLING INTEREST EITHER DIRECTLY 28 OR INDIRECTLY.

29 Section 29 28 29. Penalties.

30 (A) CRIMINAL PENALTIES.--Any individual, partnership, 19830S0763B1584 - 26 - 1 association or corporation who engages in or carries on the 2 profession or acts in the capacity of an auctioneer, apprentice 3 auctioneer, auction house or auction company in this 4 Commonwealth without a current license or who employs any person 5 without a current license as an apprentice auctioneer:

6 (1) For a first offense, commits a summary offense and 7 shall, upon conviction, be sentenced to pay a fine not 8 exceeding \$500 or to imprisonment not exceeding three months, 9 or both.

10 (2) For a second or subsequent offense, commits a 11 misdemeanor of the third degree and shall, upon conviction, 12 be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than \$2,000 but not 13 more than \$5,000 or to imprisonment for not less than one 14 year but not more than two years, or both.

15 (B) CIVIL PENALTY.--IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER CIVIL REMEDY OR <----16 CRIMINAL PENALTY PROVIDED FOR IN THIS ACT, THE BOARD, BY A VOTE <----17 OF THE MAJORITY OF THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF THE AUTHORIZED 18 MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD AS PROVIDED BY LAW, OR BY A VOTE OF THE 19 MAJORITY OF THE DULY QUALIFIED AND CONFIRMED MEMBERSHIP OR A 20 MINIMUM OF FOUR MEMBERS, WHICHEVER IS GREATER, MAY LEVY A CIVIL 21 PENALTY OF UP TO \$1,000 ON ANY PERSON WHO ENGAGES IN THE 22 PRACTICE OF AUCTIONEERING WITHOUT BEING PROPERLY LICENSED TO DO 23 SO UNDER THIS ACT. THE BOARD SHALL LEVY THIS PENALTY ONLY AFTER 24 AFFORDING THE ACCUSED PARTY THE OPPORTUNITY FOR A HEARING, AS 25 PROVIDED IN TITLE 2 OF THE PENNSYLVANIA CONSOLIDATED STATUTES 26 (RELATING TO ADMINISTRATIVE LAW AND PROCEDURE).

27 Section 30. Witnesses and documentary evidence.

28 (a) General rule. The board and each of its authorized
29 representatives and any special representative appointed by it
30 to hold a hearing in any particular case may require the

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attendance of witnesses and the production of books and papers. 1 (b) Service of process. In any hearing, the process issued 2 3 by the board shall extend to all parts of this Commonwealth and 4 the process may be served either in the manner that subpoenas in 5 the court of common pleas are served or by any person designated by the board for that purpose. The person serving the process 6 7 shall receive such compensation as may be allowed by the board not to exceed the fee prescribed by law for similar services in 8 the court of common pleas and the fees shall be paid in the same 9 10 manner as provided in this act for the fees of witnesses 11 subpoenaed at the instance of the board. 12 (c) Enforcement of subpoenas. Where, in any proceeding 13 before the board, any witness fails or refuses to attend upon 14 subpoena issued by the board or any of its representatives or, 15 appearing, refuses to testify or produce any books and papers the production of which is required by the subpoena, the 16 17 attendance of the witness, the giving of testimony and the 18 production of the books and papers required shall be enforced by 19 any court. 20 Section 31 29 30. Actions by unlicensed persons prohibited. 21 No action or proceeding may be instituted and no recovery may 22 be had in any court of this Commonwealth by any individual, partnership, association or corporation for compensation for any 23 act done or services rendered the doing or rendering of which is 24 25 prohibited under this act to other than persons licensed by the 26 board unless the individual, partnership, association or corporation was licensed at the time of doing the act or 27 28 rendering of service. Section 32 30 31. State Board of Auctioneer Examiners. 29 30 (a) Representation.--The State Board of Auctioneer Examiners

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shall consist of the Commissioner of Professional and 1 2 Occupational Affairs, ex officio, two members THE DIRECTOR OF <-----3 THE BUREAU OF CONSUMER PROTECTION IN THE OFFICE OF ATTORNEY 4 GENERAL, OR HIS DESIGNEE, TWO MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR 5 WITH THE ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE SENATE who shall be persons representing the public at large, and five members APPOINTED BY 6 <-----7 THE GOVERNOR WITH THE ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE SENATE who shall be licensed auctioneers, have served as licensed auctioneers for 8 9 ten years or more and have conducted at least 50 auctions each 10 year.

11 TERMS.--EACH MEMBER OF THE BOARD ON THE EFFECTIVE DATE (B) <----12 OF THIS ACT SHALL CONTINUE IN OFFICE UNTIL HIS TERM EXPIRES, OR 13 UNTIL HIS SUCCESSOR HAS BEEN APPOINTED AND QUALIFIED, BUT NO 14 LONGER THAN SIX MONTHS BEYOND THE EXPIRATION OF HIS TERM. 15 THEREAFTER THE TERM OF OFFICE OF EACH OF SAID MEMBERS SHALL BE 16 THREE YEARS FROM HIS APPOINTMENT, OR UNTIL HIS SUCCESSOR HAS 17 BEEN APPOINTED AND QUALIFIED, BUT NO LONGER THAN SIX MONTHS 18 BEYOND THE THREE-YEAR PERIOD. IN THE EVENT THAT ANY OF SAID 19 MEMBERS SHALL DIE OR RESIGN DURING HIS TERM OF OFFICE, HIS 20 SUCCESSOR SHALL BE APPOINTED IN THE SAME WAY AND WITH THE SAME 21 OUALIFICATIONS AS ABOVE SET FORTH AND SHALL HOLD OFFICE FOR THE 22 UNEXPIRED TERM.

23 (b) (C) Quorum.--Four FIVE members of the board shall <-</p>
24 constitute a quorum.

25 (c) (D) Chairman AND SECRETARY.--The board shall select a <--</p>
26 chairman AND SECRETARY from among its members and shall elect a <--</p>
27 secretary who need not be a member of the board.

28 (d) (E) Per diem.--The members of the board, other than the <---</p>
29 Commissioner of Professional and Occupational Affairs AND THE <---</p>
30 DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF CONSUMER PROTECTION IN THE OFFICE OF
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ATTORNEY GENERAL, OR HIS DESIGNEE, shall receive \$35 \$60 per 1 2 diem, when actually engaged in the transaction of official 3 business, and the secretary shall receive such reasonable 4 compensation as shall be determined by the board, with the 5 approval of the Secretary of the Commonwealth. MEMBERS SHALL RECEIVE, IN ADDITION, THE AMOUNT OF ACTUAL TRAVEL, HOTEL AND 6 OTHER NECESSARY EXPENSES INCURRED IN PERFORMING THEIR DUTIES FOR 7 8 THE BOARD.

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9 (e) (F) Sunset.--The board is subject to evaluation, review <--10 and termination within the time and in the manner provided in 11 the act of December 22, 1981 (P.L.508, No.142), known as the 12 Sunset Act.

13 (f) (G) Attendance. -- A member of the board who fails to <----14 attend three consecutive meetings shall be subject to removal. <----15 FORFEIT HIS SEAT UNLESS THE COMMISSIONER OF PROFESSIONAL AND <----16 OCCUPATIONAL AFFAIRS, UPON WRITTEN REQUEST FROM THE MEMBER, FINDS THAT THE MEMBER SHOULD BE EXCUSED FROM A MEETING BECAUSE 17 18 OF ILLNESS OR THE DEATH OF AN IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBER. 19 (q) (H) Excuse from attendance. - A board member shall be <--

20 excused from meetings due to illness or death of an immediate 21 family member.

22 (I) REPORTS.--

23 (1)THE BOARD SHALL SUBMIT ANNUALLY A REPORT TO THE 24 PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF 25 REPRESENTATIVES AND TO THE CONSUMER PROTECTION AND 26 PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE A DESCRIPTION 27 OF THE TYPES OF COMPLAINTS RECEIVED, STATUS OF CASES, BOARD 28 ACTION WHICH HAS BEEN TAKEN AND LENGTH OF TIME FROM THE 29 INITIAL COMPLAINT TO FINAL BOARD RESOLUTION. 30 (2) THE BOARD SHALL ALSO SUBMIT ANNUALLY TO THE HOUSE OF

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1 REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE APPROPRIATION COMMITTEES, 15 DAYS AFTER THE GOVERNOR HAS SUBMITTED HIS BUDGET TO THE 2 3 GENERAL ASSEMBLY, A COPY OF THE BUDGET REQUEST FOR THE 4 UPCOMING FISCAL YEAR WHICH THE BOARD PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED TO 5 THE COMMISSIONER. Section 33 31 32. Rules and regulations. 6 <----7 The board may adopt rules and regulations necessary for the proper administration and enforcement of this act. 8 Section 34 32 33. Disposition of fees and fines. 9 <----10 All fees paid to the board and all fines collected for 11 violations of this act shall be paid into the State Treasury for the use of the board to aid in the administration and 12 13 enforcement of this act. 14 SECTION 33 34. REESTABLISHMENT OF AGENCY. <-15 THIS ACT, WITH RESPECT TO THE STATE BOARD OF AUCTIONEER 16 EXAMINERS, SHALL CONSTITUTE THE LEGISLATION REQUIRED TO REESTABLISH AN AGENCY UNDER THE ACT OF DECEMBER 22, 1981 17 18 (P.L.508, NO.142), KNOWN AS THE SUNSET ACT. 19 Section 35 34 35. Repeals. <-20 (a) Absolute repeals. -- The following acts and parts of acts 21 are repealed: 22 Section 476 of the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as the Administrative Code of 1929. 23 Act of September 29, 1961 (P.L.1745, No.708), known as The 24 25 Auctioneers' License Act. 26 (b) Inconsistent repeals. -- The following acts or parts of <----27 acts are ACT OR PART OF AN ACT IS repealed insofar as they are <-----28 IT IS inconsistent with this act: <-----29 Section 812.1 of the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), <-----30 known as The Administrative Code of 1929.

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Act of July 1, 1978 (P.L.700, No.124), known as the Bureau of
 Professional and Occupational Affairs Fee Act.

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3 (c) General repeal.--All other acts or parts of acts are
4 repealed insofar as they are inconsistent with this act.
5 Section 36 35 36. Effective date.

6 This act shall take effect in 60 days JANUARY 1, 1984.