

1 **SECTION 4.** Article 33 of Chapter 58 of the General Statutes is amended by
2 adding a new section to read:

3 **"§ 58-33-41. Appointment of adjusters.**

4 (a) No individual who holds a valid insurance adjuster's license issued by the
5 Commissioner shall, investigate or report to the adjuster's principal concerning claims arising
6 under insurance contracts other than life, health, or annuity, or otherwise act as an adjuster for
7 an insurer by which the individual has not been appointed.

8 (b) Any insurer authorized to transact business in this State may appoint as its adjuster
9 any individual who holds a valid adjuster's license issued by the Commissioner. Upon the
10 appointment, the individual shall be authorized to act as an adjuster for the appointing insurer
11 for all kinds of insurance for which the insurer is authorized in this State and for which the
12 appointed adjuster is licensed in this State, unless specifically limited.

13 (c) Within 30 days the insurer shall file in a form prescribed by the Commissioner the
14 names, addresses, and other information required by the Commissioner for its newly appointed
15 adjusters.

16 (d) Every insurer shall remit in a manner prescribed by the Commissioner the
17 appointment fee specified in G.S. 58-33-125 for each appointed adjuster.

18 (e) An appointment shall continue in effect as long as the appointed adjuster is properly
19 licensed and the appointing insurer is authorized to transact business in this State, unless the
20 appointment is cancelled.

21 (f) Before April 1 of each year, every insurer shall remit in a manner prescribed by the
22 Commissioner the renewal appointment fee specified in G.S. 58-33-125."

23 **SECTION 5.** Article 2 of Chapter 58 of the General Statutes is amended by adding
24 a new section to read:

25 **"§ 58-2-250. Electronic filings.**

26 (a) As used in this section:

27 (1) "Commissioner's designee" includes the National Insurance Producer
28 Registry of the NAIC.

29 (2) "License" includes any license, certificate, registration, or permit issued
30 under this Chapter.

31 (3) "Licensee" means any person who holds a license.

32 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Chapter, the Commissioner may adopt
33 rules that require an applicant for a license or a licensee to file documents electronically with
34 the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee. The rules adopted under this section may
35 contain procedures for the electronic payment of any fee required under this Chapter and the
36 electronic filing of documents, including:

37 (1) Any document required as part of an application for a license under this
38 Chapter.

39 (2) Any document required to be filed by an applicant for a license or a licensee
40 to maintain the license in good standing.

41 (3) Any other document required or permitted to be filed.

42 (c) The Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee may charge an administrative
43 fee for electronic filing. Fees charged for the processing of an electronic filing are in addition to
44 any other fee imposed for the filing. Fees charged for an electronic filing are limited to the
45 actual cost of the electronic transaction.

46 (d) This section does not supersede any other provision of law that requires the
47 electronic filing of a document or requires an applicant for a license or a licensee to make any
48 other filing electronically."

49 **SECTION 6.** G.S. 58-33-40(b) reads as rewritten:

50 (b) Any insurer authorized to transact business in this State may appoint as its agent any
51 individual who holds a valid agent's license issued by the Commissioner. Upon the

1 appointment, the individual shall be authorized to act as an agent for the appointing insurer for
2 ~~all~~ the kinds of insurance for which the insurer is authorized in this State and for which the
3 appointed agent is licensed in this State, unless specifically limited. For purposes of
4 determining the number of appointments for an agent, there shall be one appointment for each
5 kind of insurance for which the appointed agent is licensed in this State, unless specifically
6 limited."

7 **SECTION 7.** This act is effective when it becomes law.