## GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2011

## SESSION LAW 2011-320 SENATE BILL 63

## AN ACT TO CLARIFY THAT REGULAR EMPLOYEES OF DULY LICENSED DEBT COLLECTION AGENCIES ARE NOT REQUIRED TO OBTAIN A COLLECTION AGENCY PERMIT.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 58-70-1 reads as rewritten:

## "§ 58-70-1. Permit from Commissioner of Insurance; penalty for violation; exception.

No person, firm, corporation, or association shall conduct or operate a collection agency or do a collection agency business, as the same is hereinafter defined in this Article, until he or it shall have secured a permit therefor as provided in this Article. Any person, firm, corporation or association conducting or operating a collection agency or doing a collection agency business without the permit shall be guilty of a Class I felony. Any officer or agent of any person, firm, corporation or association, who shall personally and knowingly participate in any violation of the remaining provisions of this Part shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. Provided, however, that nothing in this section shall be construed to require a regular employee of a duly licensed collection agency in this State-licensed pursuant to this Article to procure a collection agency permit."

SECTION 2. This act is effective when it becomes law.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 18<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2011.

s/ Philip E. Berger President Pro Tempore of the Senate

s/ Thom Tillis Speaker of the House of Representatives

s/ Beverly E. Perdue Governor

Approved 11:07 a.m. this 27<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2011

