

**LOUISIANA OFFICE OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
NON-DEPOSITORY DIVISION
2014 Legislation Summary**

OFI BILL:

Act 125 (SB 362) is effective May 16, 2014 and requires all check cashers to transition to the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System beginning January 1, 2015.

The Act requires that the application for a license be made under oath and on a form prescribed by the commissioner and that any person required to be licensed under present law shall, prior to application for licensure, be duly registered with the secretary of state and be in possession of a certificate of authority to transact business in this state.

The Act establishes a new licensing system and provides that the provisions of prior law shall expire and no longer have any effect after such licensing system is available for use.

Beginning January 1, 2015, and thereafter, a licensee may submit through the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry his renewal application on or before December 31st of each year in a manner and form prescribed by the commissioner. The Act also provides that the renewal application shall be accompanied by a renewal fee of \$250 plus an additional fee of \$50 for each currency exchange location in this state, not to exceed \$3,000, payable on or before December 31st of each year.

The renewal application submitted through the Nationwide Licensing System and Registry after December 31st and before March first of the following year shall be charged a late fee of \$100 dollars and if the renewal application is submitted timely on or before December 31st, the license shall remain in force and effect until the renewal application is either approved or denied by the commissioner.

The Act precludes the commissioner from implementing any administrative or enforcement actions authorized by law for violations of certain provisions of law or for any material misrepresentation that may have occurred prior to the renewal date of a license. However, the Act provides that if the commissioner has not received the renewal fee and late fee before March first, the license to engage in currency exchange shall lapse without hearing or notification, and the license shall not be reinstated. Persons whose license has lapsed may apply for a new license.

The Act became effective upon signature of the governor or May 16, 2014. However, the requirements to utilize the online licensing system begin on January 1, 2015.