

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2015

FILED SENATE  
Feb 25, 2015  
S.B. 124  
PRINCIPAL CLERK

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SENATE DRS25048-MNza-1\* (12/03)

Short Title: Modernize Assumed Business Name Statutes. (Public)

Sponsors: Senator Hartsell (Primary Sponsor).

Referred to:

1  
2 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
3 AN ACT TO MODERNIZE THE LAW GOVERNING THE USE OF ASSUMED BUSINESS  
4 NAMES, TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE PURPOSE, AND TO MAKE  
5 RELATED CONFORMING AND TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS, AS  
6 RECOMMENDED BY THE GENERAL STATUTES COMMISSION.

7 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

8  
9 **PART I. ASSUMED BUSINESS NAME ACT**

10 **SECTION 1.** Article 14 of Chapter 66 of the General Statutes is repealed.

11 **SECTION 2.** Chapter 66 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new  
12 Article to read:

13 "Article 14A.

14 "Assumed Business Name Act.

15 **"§ 66-71.1. Short title.**

16 This Article may be cited as the "Assumed Business Name Act."

17 **"§ 66-71.2. Statement of purpose.**

18 The purpose of this Article is to afford the public a means of ascertaining the real names of  
19 persons engaging in business in this State under an assumed business name by requiring those  
20 persons to register the assumed business name as provided in this Article.

21 **"§ 66-71.3. Definitions.**

22 The following definitions apply in this Article:

23 (1) Assumed business name. –

24 a. In the case of an individual, any name other than the real name of the  
25 individual.

26 b. In the case of a partnership other than a limited liability partnership  
27 or limited partnership, any name other than the real names of all the  
28 general partners of the partnership.

29 c. In the case of a limited liability partnership, any name other than the  
30 name registered with the Secretary of State.

31 d. In the case of a limited partnership, any name other than the name  
32 stated in its certificate of limited partnership filed with the Secretary  
33 of State.



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- 1           e.     In the case of a limited liability company, any name other than the  
2                 name stated in its articles of organization filed with the Secretary of  
3                 State.  
4           f.     In the case of a corporation, any name other than the corporate name  
5                 stated in its articles of incorporation filed with the Secretary of State.  
6           g.     In the case of a trust, any name other than the name specified in the  
7                 trust instrument or, if the trust instrument does not specify a name for  
8                 the trust, any name other than the name of the trustee and a  
9                 designation of the trust for which the trustee is acting.  
10          h.     In the case of any other person, any name other than the real name of  
11                 the person.

- 12          (2)    Person. – Includes an individual, partnership, limited partnership, limited  
13                 liability partnership, limited liability company, corporation, association,  
14                 society, organization, joint venture, business trust, trust, governmental entity,  
15                 or any other legal or commercial entity.

16    **"§ 66-71.4. Filing of certificate; exception.**

17          (a)    Before any person engages in business in this State under an assumed business  
18                 name, the person must file an assumed business name certificate in the office of the register of  
19                 deeds of the county in which the person is or will be engaged in business. If the person is or  
20                 will be engaged in business in multiple counties, filing is required in only one of those counties.

21          (b)    A separate assumed business name certificate must be filed for each assumed  
22                 business name under which a person engages in business in this State.

23          (c)    A limited liability partnership, limited partnership, limited liability company, or  
24                 corporation that engages in business under a name that is its real name with the legal entity  
25                 designation required by G.S. 55D-20 omitted is not required to file an assumed business name  
26                 certificate under this Article.

27    **"§ 66-71.5. Contents of certificate.**

28          An assumed business name certificate must include:

- 29               (1)    The assumed business name.  
30               (2)    The real name of the person engaging in business under the assumed  
31                 business name. If the business is a partnership other than a limited liability  
32                 partnership or limited partnership, the assumed business name certificate  
33                 must include the real names of five general partners or of all the general  
34                 partners, whichever is fewer.  
35               (3)    The type of business.  
36               (4)    The street address of the principal place of business.  
37               (5)    Each county where the person uses or will be using the assumed business  
38                 name to engage in business.

39    **"§ 66-71.6. Execution of certificate.**

40          An assumed business name certificate must be executed as follows:

- 41               (1)    In the case of an individual, the certificate must be signed by the individual.  
42               (2)    In the case of a partnership or limited partnership, the certificate must be  
43                 signed by a general partner.  
44               (3)    In the case of a corporation or limited liability company, the certificate must  
45                 be signed in the name of the corporation or limited liability company by an  
46                 individual authorized to act for the corporation or limited liability company.  
47               (4)    In the case of any other person, the certificate must be signed in the name of  
48                 the person by an individual authorized to act for the person.

49    **"§ 66-71.7. Amendment of certificate.**

50          Any person that has filed an assumed business name certificate must, within 60 days after a  
51                 change in any of the information required in the assumed business name certificate, file a

1 certificate of amendment in the office of the register of deeds of the county in which the  
2 assumed business name certificate was filed. The certificate must be executed in the same  
3 manner as required under G.S. 66-71.6 for the execution of an assumed business name  
4 certificate and must set forth:

- 5 (1) The assumed business name and the real name of the person engaging in  
6 business under the assumed business name as stated in the original, or most  
7 recently amended, assumed business name certificate.
- 8 (2) The book and page number of the original filing.
- 9 (3) The identification number assigned to the assumed business name by the  
10 Secretary of State (SOS ID).
- 11 (4) How the assumed business name certificate is to be amended.

12 **"§ 66-71.8. Withdrawal of assumed business name.**

13 Any person filing an assumed business name certificate as required by this Article may,  
14 upon ceasing to engage in business in this State under the assumed business name, withdraw  
15 the assumed business name by filing a certificate of withdrawal in the office of the register of  
16 deeds of the county in which the assumed business name certificate was filed. The certificate  
17 must be executed in the same manner as required under G.S. 66-71.6 for the execution of an  
18 assumed business name certificate and must set forth:

- 19 (1) The assumed business name being withdrawn.
- 20 (2) The book and page number of the original filing.
- 21 (3) The identification number assigned to the assumed business name by the  
22 Secretary of State (SOS ID).
- 23 (4) The real name of the person engaging in business under the assumed  
24 business name and that person's current address.
- 25 (5) A statement that the person has ceased engaging in business under the  
26 assumed business name.
- 27 (6) The effective date of the withdrawal if it is not to be effective upon the filing  
28 of the certificate of withdrawal.

29 **"§ 66-71.9. Secretary of State to maintain a centralized, statewide database of assumed**  
30 **business name information.**

31 (a) The Secretary of State shall develop, implement, and maintain a searchable online  
32 database of assumed business name information reported under G.S. 66-71.10. The system  
33 must allow information to be entered and retrieved from the system by the registers of deeds  
34 and must be available for searches by the public.

35 (b) The Secretary of State may adopt rules to implement the statewide online database.

36 **"§ 66-71.10. Register of deeds to index certificates; transmission of data to central**  
37 **database.**

38 (a) The register of deeds of each county must index in accordance with Article 2 of  
39 Chapter 161 of the General Statutes every assumed business name with respect to which an  
40 assumed business name certificate, a certificate of amendment, or a certificate of withdrawal  
41 has been filed in that county.

42 (b) Not later than 30 days after the date a certificate under this Article is filed, the  
43 register of deeds must transmit a scanned image of the certificate to the Secretary of State and  
44 enter into the central database maintained by the Secretary of State under G.S. 66-71.9 the  
45 assumed business name, the real name of each person engaging in business under that name,  
46 the type of certificate, the county in which the certificate was filed, and, in the case of a  
47 certificate of amendment or certificate of withdrawal, the identification number assigned to the  
48 assumed business name by the Secretary of State (SOS ID).

49 **"§ 66-71.11. Forms.**

1       (a) The Land Records Management Advisory Committee established under  
2 G.S. 147-54.3 may develop forms for the documents required or permitted to be filed by this  
3 Article, but their use is not mandatory.

4       (b) Any person, including the registers of deeds, may make available the forms  
5 developed under subsection (a) of this section.

6 **"§ 66-71.12. Effect of filing certificate.**

7       (a) An assumed business name certificate filed under this Article is effective upon filing  
8 and remains in effect until withdrawn under G.S. 66-71.8.

9       (b) Compliance with this Article does not confer any exclusive rights to the use of an  
10 assumed business name in this State.

11 **"§ 66-71.13. Copy of certificate prima facie evidence.**

12 A copy of a certificate filed under this Article, duly certified by the register of deeds of the  
13 office in which it was filed, is prima facie evidence of the facts required to be stated in the  
14 certificate.

15 **"§ 66-71.14. Consequences of signing false certificate or violating Article.**

16       (a) A person signing a certificate under this Article that the person knows is false in any  
17 material respect with intent that the certificate be delivered to the register of deeds for filing is  
18 guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

19       (b) A person failing to file an assumed business name certificate or a certificate of  
20 amendment as required by this Article is liable to any person injured by the failure for the  
21 reasonable expenses, including attorneys' fees, incurred by the person in ascertaining, for a  
22 reasonable purpose, the information required to be stated in the assumed business name  
23 certificate or certificate of amendment. The expenses may be awarded in a civil action.

24 **"§ 66-71.15. Expiration of certificates filed under Article 14; transition provisions.**

25       (a) All certificates of assumed name filed under former Article 14 of this Chapter  
26 expire July 1, 2021, and the provisions of that former Article continue to apply to them until  
27 that date except as provided in this section. On or after that date, any person that (i) is listed as  
28 an owner of the business in a certificate of assumed name filed under that former Article and  
29 (ii) desires to continue engaging in business in this State under the assumed business name after  
30 that date must file an assumed business name certificate under this Article.

31       (b) At least one person listed as an owner of the business in a certificate of assumed  
32 name under former Article 14 of this Chapter must file an assumed business name certificate  
33 before the certificate of assumed name expires under subsection (a) of this section if any of the  
34 following occur:

35               (1) A general partnership would have been required to file a new certificate of  
36 assumed name under former G.S. 66-68(c) due to the withdrawal or addition  
37 of a partner.

38               (2) Any of the information in the certificate of assumed name required under  
39 former G.S. 66-68(a) has changed and the person desires to continue  
40 engaging in business in this State.

41       (c) No person shall file a new certificate of assumed name under former Article 14 of  
42 this Chapter on or after July 1, 2016. Any document or other record filed on or after that date to  
43 register an assumed business name is deemed to be filed under this Article, even if it is  
44 described as a certificate of assumed name rather than an assumed business name certificate or  
45 if it expressly refers to former Article 14 of this Chapter.

46       (d) A person that filed a certificate of assumed name that has not expired may withdraw  
47 the assumed name under the provisions of former G.S. 66-68(f). Any such withdrawal is  
48 deemed to be a withdrawal under former G.S. 66-68(f), even if it is described as a withdrawal  
49 under this Article.

50       (e) No person shall file a certificate of amendment under this Article to a certificate of  
51 assumed name filed under former Article 14 of this Chapter. If any such amendment is

1 nevertheless filed, it is not effective as a certificate of amendment or as an assumed business  
2 name certificate under this Article.

3 (f) The register of deeds shall not transmit a scanned image to the Secretary of State, or  
4 enter any of the information required by G.S. 66-71.10 into the central database maintained by  
5 the Secretary of State, of any withdrawal or transfer of an assumed name or any amendment to  
6 a certificate of assumed name when the certificate of assumed name to which the withdrawal,  
7 transfer, or amendment relates was filed before July 1, 2016.

8 (g) Other than this section, this Article does not apply to a certificate of assumed name  
9 or a withdrawal of an assumed name under former Article 14 of this Chapter."

10  
11 **PART II. RELATED CONFORMING AND TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS TO**  
12 **OTHER SECTIONS OF THE GENERAL STATUTES**

13 **SECTION 3.(a)** G.S. 1-69.1 reads as rewritten:

14 **"§ 1-69.1. Unincorporated associations and partnerships; suit by or against.**

15 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section:

16 (1) All unincorporated associations, organizations or societies, or general or  
17 limited partnerships, foreign or domestic, whether organized for profit or  
18 not, may ~~hereafter~~ sue or be sued under the name by which they are  
19 commonly known and called, or under which they are ~~doing~~ engaging in  
20 business, to the same extent as any other legal entity established by law and  
21 without naming any of the individual members composing it.

22 (2) Any judgments and executions against any such association, organization or  
23 society shall bind its real and personal property in like manner as if it were  
24 incorporated.

25 (3) Any unincorporated association, organization, society, or general partnership  
26 bringing a suit in the name by which it is commonly known and called must  
27 ~~allege the specific location of the recordation required by G.S. 66-68, that it~~  
28 has filed a certificate of assumed name under former Article 14 of Chapter  
29 66 of the General Statutes or an assumed business name certificate under  
30 Article 14A of Chapter 66 of the General Statutes.

31 (b) Unincorporated nonprofit associations are subject to Chapter 59B of the General  
32 Statutes and not this section."

33 **SECTION 3.(b)** Effective July 1, 2021, G.S. 1-69.1(a)(3), as amended by this  
34 section, reads as rewritten:

35 "(3) Any unincorporated association, organization, society, or general partnership  
36 bringing a suit in the name by which it is commonly known and called must  
37 allege that it has filed ~~a certificate of assumed name under former Article 14~~  
38 ~~of Chapter 66 of the General Statutes or an assumed business name~~  
39 ~~certificate under Article 14A of Chapter 66 of the General Statutes."~~

40 **SECTION 4.** G.S. 53-208.7(a) reads as rewritten:

41 "(a) Each application for a license under this Article shall be made in writing, under  
42 oath, and in a form prescribed by the Commissioner. For all applicants, each application shall  
43 contain:

44 (1) The exact name of the applicant, the applicant's principal address, any  
45 assumed ~~or trade~~ business name used by the applicant in the conduct of its  
46 business, and the location of the applicant's business records.

47 ...."

48 **SECTION 5.** G.S. 55D-20(d) reads as rewritten:

49 "(d) The use of assumed business names or fictitious names, as provided for in ~~Chapter~~  
50 ~~66, Chapter 66 of the General Statutes,~~ is not affected by this Chapter or by Chapter 55, 55A,  
51 57D, or 59 of the General Statutes."

1           **SECTION 6.** G.S. 58-70-5 reads as rewritten:

2   "**§ 58-70-5. Application to Commissioner for permit.**

3       (a) Any person, firm, corporation or association desiring to secure a permit as provided  
4 by G.S. 58-70-1, shall make application to the Commissioner of Insurance for each location at  
5 which ~~such the~~ person, firm, corporation or association desires to carry on the collection agency  
6 business as ~~hereinafter defined~~. Such defined in this Article. The applicant shall be entitled to a  
7 permit upon submission to the Commissioner of Insurance of the following:

8       ~~(a)~~(1) The name, trade name if any, street address, and telephone number of the  
9 applicant, including any home office address and telephone number, if  
10 ~~different;~~different.

11       ~~(b)~~(2) If the applicant is a corporation,

12       ~~(1)~~a. A certified copy of the board of director's resolution authorizing the  
13 submission of the application;

14       ~~(2)~~b. An authenticated copy of the Articles of Incorporation and all  
15 amendments thereto;

16       ~~(3)~~c. An authenticated copy of the bylaws or other governing instruments;

17       ~~(4)~~d. If the applicant is a foreign corporation, a copy of the certificate of  
18 authority to transact business in this State issued by the North  
19 Carolina Secretary of ~~State~~; State.

20       (3) If the applicant is a partnership, an authenticated copy of the then current  
21 partnership agreement.

22       (4) If an assumed business name is used, certificates showing that the assumed  
23 business name has been filed as required by Article 14A of Chapter 66 of the  
24 General Statutes.

25       (5) A surety bond as required by G.S. 58-70-20. In the case of an alien  
26 corporation, the surety bond requirements shall be double the amount set by  
27 G.S. 58-70-20.

28       (6) A completed statement by each stockholder owning ten percent (10%) or  
29 more of the applicant's outstanding voting stock and each partner, director,  
30 and officer actively engaged in the collection agency business, containing:  
31 the name of the collection agency, the name and address of the individual  
32 completing the form, the positions held by the individual, each conviction of  
33 any criminal offense and any criminal charges pending other than minor  
34 traffic violations of the individual, and the name and address of three people  
35 not related to the individual who can attest to the individual's reputation for  
36 honesty and fair dealings.

37       (7) A statement sworn to by an appropriate corporate officer, partner, or  
38 individual proprietor giving a description of the collection method to be  
39 employed in this State.

40       (8) A statement certifying that there are no unsatisfied judgments against the  
41 applicant.

42       (9) A list of all telephone numbers assigned to or to be used by the applicant in  
43 the operation of the collection agency.

44       (10) The appropriate permit fee as required by G.S. 58-70-35.

45       (11) A balance sheet as of the last day of the month prior to the date of  
46 submission of the application, certified true and correct by a corporate  
47 officer, partner, or proprietor, setting forth the current assets, fixed assets,  
48 current liabilities, and positive net worth of the applicant.

49       (12) The address of the location at which the applicant will make those records of  
50 its collection agency business described in G.S. 58-70-25 available for  
51 inspection by the Commissioner of Insurance.

1           (13) A statement certifying that no officer, individual proprietor, or partner of the  
2 applicant has been convicted of a felony involving moral turpitude or any  
3 violation of any State or federal debt collection law.

4           (14) If the collection agency's office or records, as described in G.S. 58-70-25,  
5 are located outside of North Carolina, a statement sworn to by an appropriate  
6 corporate officer, partner, or individual proprietor consenting to and  
7 authorizing the reimbursement, to the Commissioner by the collection  
8 agency, of expenses incurred by the Commissioner in conducting routine  
9 examinations, audits, and in investigating written complaints against the  
10 collection agency or its employees. All reimbursements shall be paid to the  
11 Commissioner no more than 30 days after the date of billing. In the case of  
12 an alien corporation, the sworn statement must provide that the corporation  
13 will make available to the Commissioner for his inspection, in North  
14 Carolina, those records described in G.S. 58-70-25, at the expense of the  
15 corporation.

16           (15) If the applicant is a foreign corporation, a statement authorizing the  
17 Commissioner to be its agent for service of process, which shall be  
18 administered pursuant to the provisions of G.S. 58-16-30.

19           (b1) In addition to the information required by ~~subsection (b)~~ subdivision (a)(2) of this  
20 section, if the applicant is an alien corporation, the corporation must be owned or majority  
21 controlled ultimately by a parent entity incorporated or organized under the laws of the United  
22 States or any jurisdiction within the United States, and the alien corporation may only service  
23 accounts held by an affiliate or subsidiary of the same parent entity. For purposes of this  
24 subsection, "control" is defined by G.S. 58-19-5(2). Should the alien corporation be sold to an  
25 entity unrelated to the parent entity, notice shall be provided to the Department of the pending  
26 sale 30 days in advance of the sale. Provision of Form 8-K, properly filed with the Securities  
27 and Exchange Commission, shall be deemed compliance with the notice requirement of this  
28 subsection. In the event of a sale, the new parent entity shall provide evidence to the  
29 Department within 30 days of the sale of its and the alien corporation's compliance with the  
30 requirements of this section. In the event that the new parent entity does not provide the  
31 evidence within 30 days after the sale, the alien corporation's permit shall be automatically  
32 suspended until the Department is provided the evidence of compliance which is satisfactory to  
33 the ~~Commissioner~~; Commissioner.

34           ~~(e) If the applicant is a partnership, an authenticated copy of the then current~~  
35 ~~partnership agreement;~~

36           ~~(d) If the trade name is used, certificates showing that the trade name has been filed as~~  
37 ~~required by G.S. 66-68;~~

38           ~~(e) A surety bond as required by G.S. 58-70-20. In the case of an alien corporation, the~~  
39 ~~surety bond requirements shall be double the amount set by G.S. 58-70-20;~~

40           ~~(f) A completed statement by each stockholder owning ten percent (10%) or more of~~  
41 ~~the applicant's outstanding voting stock and each partner, director, and officer actively engaged~~  
42 ~~in the collection agency business, containing: the name of the collection agency, the name and~~  
43 ~~address of the individual completing the form, the positions held by the individual, each~~  
44 ~~conviction of any criminal offense and any criminal charges pending other than minor traffic~~  
45 ~~violations of the individual, and the name and address of three people not related to the~~  
46 ~~individual who can attest to the individual's reputation for honesty and fair dealings;~~

47           ~~(g) A statement sworn to by an appropriate corporate officer, partner, or individual~~  
48 ~~proprietor giving a description of the collection method to be employed in North Carolina;~~

49           ~~(h) A statement certifying that there are no unsatisfied judgments against the applicant;~~

50           ~~(i) A list of all telephone numbers assigned to, or to be used by the applicant in the~~  
51 ~~operation of the collection agency;~~

1       (j)     The appropriate permit fee as required by G.S. 58-70-35;

2       (k)     A balance sheet as of the last day of the month prior to the date of submission of the  
3 application, certified true and correct by a corporate officer, partner, or proprietor, setting forth  
4 the current assets, fixed assets, current liabilities and positive net worth of the applicant;

5       (l)     The address of the location at which the applicant will make those records of its  
6 collection agency business described in G.S. 58-70-25 available for inspection by the  
7 Commissioner of Insurance.

8       (m)     A statement certifying that no officer, individual proprietor or partner of the  
9 applicant has been convicted of a felony involving moral turpitude, or any violation of any  
10 State or federal debt collection law.

11       (n)     If the collection agency's office or records, as described in G.S. 58-70-25, are  
12 located outside of North Carolina, a statement sworn to by an appropriate corporate officer,  
13 partner, or individual proprietor consenting to and authorizing the reimbursement, to the  
14 Commissioner by the collection agency, of expenses incurred by the Commissioner in  
15 conducting routine examinations, audits, and in investigating written complaints against the  
16 collection agency or its employees. All reimbursements shall be paid to the Commissioner no  
17 more than 30 days after the date of billing. In the case of an alien corporation, the sworn  
18 statement must provide that the corporation will make available to the Commissioner for his  
19 inspection, in North Carolina, those records described in G.S. 58-70-25, at the expense of the  
20 corporation;

21       (o)     If the applicant is a foreign corporation, a statement authorizing the Commissioner  
22 to be its agent for service of process, which shall be administered pursuant to the provisions of  
23 G.S. 58-16-30.

24       (p)     In the case of an alien corporation, when the corporation is in violation of this  
25 Article, the parent entity must agree to cure the violation by the alien corporation.

26       (q)     For purposes of this Article, the following definitions apply:

27           (1)     "Alien corporation" means a company incorporated or organized under the  
28 laws of any jurisdiction outside of the United States.

29           (2)     "Foreign corporation" means a company incorporated or organized under the  
30 laws of the United States or of any jurisdiction within the United States other  
31 than this State.

32       (r)     If the applicant is a subsidiary in a holding company system and if the applicant's  
33 ultimate parent regularly files financial information with the U.S. Securities and Exchange  
34 Commission, in lieu of complying with ~~subsection (k)~~ subdivision (a)(11) of this section, the  
35 applicant may file the ultimate parent company's balance sheet as of the most recent fiscal  
36 year-end, as certified by the ultimate parent's independent auditors, and accompanied by a  
37 guarantee of the applicant's performance from the ultimate parent company for the benefit of  
38 the Department, limited to those portions of this Article that are applicable to the applicant.

39       (s)     After a permit is issued by the Commissioner, the permittee's ultimate parent, as  
40 specified in subsection (r) of this section, shall remain responsible for the guarantee of  
41 performance as provided in subsection (r) of this section notwithstanding any change in the  
42 corporate structure of the ultimate parent company. If the permittee is acquired by any other  
43 person that has control over the permittee, the controlling person shall provide its own  
44 guarantee of performance as provided in subsection (r) of this section for the permittee to retain  
45 its permit. If the permittee does not have an ultimate parent company, it shall file its own  
46 balance sheet as specified in ~~subsection (k)~~ subdivision (a)(11) of this section."

47       **SECTION 7.** G.S. 59-84.1 reads as rewritten:

48       **"§ 59-84.1. Partnership to comply with "assumed name" statute; Assumed Business Name**  
49       **Act; income taxation.**



1 (a) Every partnership other than a limited partnership shall comply with, and be subject  
2 to, the provisions of ~~Articles 14~~ Articles 14A and 15 of Chapter 66 of the General Statutes in  
3 all cases in which the ~~same~~ Articles are applicable.

4 ...."

5 **SECTION 8.** G.S. 62-115 reads as rewritten:

6 "**§ 62-115. Issuance of partnership franchises.**

7 No franchise shall be issued under this Article to two or more persons until ~~such~~ the persons  
8 have executed a partnership agreement, filed a copy of ~~said~~ the agreement with the  
9 Commission, and indicated to the Commission, in writing, that they have complied with ~~Article~~  
10 14 Article 14A of Chapter 66 of the General Statutes relating to ~~doing~~ engaging in business  
11 under an assumed business name."

12 **SECTION 9.** G.S. 66-262 reads as rewritten:

13 "**§ 66-262. Filing information.**

14 (a) Each filing submitted to the Secretary shall contain all of the following information:

15 (1) The name or names, including any assumed business names, under which  
16 the telephonic seller is doing or intends to do business in this State.

17 ...."

18  
19 **PART III. APPROPRIATION**

20 **SECTION 10.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of  
21 Secretary of State the sum of two hundred fourteen thousand five hundred thirty-five dollars  
22 (\$214,535) for the 2015-2016 fiscal year to develop and implement the database required by  
23 G.S. 66-71.9, as enacted by this act.

24  
25 **PART IV. EFFECTIVE DATE AND APPLICABILITY PROVISIONS**

26 **SECTION 11.** Section 10 of this act becomes effective July 1, 2015. The  
27 remainder of this act becomes effective July 1, 2016. This act does not affect a civil action or  
28 proceeding commenced or a right accrued before July 1, 2016.