AN ACT to amend 218.04 (1) (b) and 218.04 (4) (a) of the statutes; relating to: the location of operations of a collection agency and persons employed by a collection agency.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 218.04 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

218.04 (1) (b) “Collector” or “solicitor” means any person employed by a collection agency to collect or receive payment or to solicit the receiving or collecting of payment for others of any account, bill or other indebtedness outside of the office or the person’s home.

SECTION 2. 218.04 (4) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

218.04 (4) (a) Except as provided in par. (am), upon the filing of such application and the payment of such fee, the division shall make an investigation, and if the division finds that the character and general fitness and the financial responsibility of the applicant, and the members thereof if the applicant is a partnership, limited liability company or association, and the officers and directors thereof if the applicant is a corporation, warrant the belief that the business will be operated in compliance with this section the division shall thereupon issue a license to said applicant. Such license is not assignable and shall permit operation under it only at or from the location specified in the license, except that an employee of a licensed collection agency may work from the employee’s home if the employee complies with all of the same requirements under this section and the division’s rules that would apply if the employee were working within the licensed office and except that a licensed collector or solicitor may work outside the licensed office of a collection agency. A nonresident of this state may, upon complying with all other provisions of this section, secure a collection agency license provided the nonresident maintains an active office in this state.