Florida Senate - 2013 Bill No. CS/SB 1770, 1st Eng.



LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	•	House
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Floor: 1/AD/3R		
04/25/2013 03:17 PM	•	

Senator Simmons moved the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Paragraph (n) of subsection (2) and paragraph (d) of subsection (6) of section 215.555, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

215.555 Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund.-

(2) DEFINITIONS.-As used in this section:

10 (n) "Corporation" means the <u>State Board of Administration</u> 11 <del>Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund</del> Finance Corporation created 12 in paragraph (6)(d).

(6) REVENUE BONDS.-

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14 (d) <u>State Board of Administration</u> <del>Florida Hurricane</del>
 15 <del>Catastrophe Fund</del> Finance Corporation.-

In addition to the findings and declarations in
 subsection (1), the Legislature also finds and declares that:

a. The public benefits corporation created under this paragraph will provide a mechanism necessary for the costeffective and efficient issuance of bonds. This mechanism will eliminate unnecessary costs in the bond issuance process, thereby increasing the amounts available <u>for</u> to pay reimbursement for losses to property sustained as a result of hurricane damage.

b. The purpose of such bonds is to fund reimbursements through the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund to pay for the costs of construction, reconstruction, repair, restoration, and other costs associated with damage to properties of policyholders of covered policies due to the occurrence of a hurricane.

31 c. The efficacy of the financing mechanism will be enhanced 32 by the corporation's ownership of the assessments, by the 33 insulation of the assessments from possible bankruptcy 34 proceedings, and by covenants of the state with the 35 corporation's bondholders.

2.a. <u>The State Board of Administration Finance Corporation</u>
There is created, which is a public benefits corporation and,
which is an instrumentality of the state, to be known as the
Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund Finance Corporation. <u>The</u>
State Board of Administration Finance Corporation is for all
purposes the successor to the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund
Finance Corporation.

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<u>a.b.</u> The corporation shall operate under a five-member
board of directors consisting of the Governor or a designee, the
Chief Financial Officer or a designee, the Attorney General or a
designee, the director of the Division of Bond Finance of the
State Board of Administration, and the <u>Chief Operating Officer</u>
senior employee of the State Board of Administration responsible
for operations of the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund.

<u>b.c.</u> The corporation has all of the powers of corporations
 under chapter 607 and under chapter 617, subject only to the
 <del>provisions of</del> this subsection.

53 <u>c.d.</u> The corporation may issue bonds and engage in such 54 other financial transactions as are necessary to provide 55 sufficient funds to achieve the purposes of this section.

56 <u>d.e.</u> The corporation may invest in any of the investments 57 authorized under s. 215.47.

58 <u>e.f.</u> There <u>is</u> shall be no liability on the part of, and no 59 cause of action shall arise against, any board members or 60 employees of the corporation for any actions taken by them in 61 the performance of their duties under this paragraph.

3.a. In actions under chapter 75 to validate any bonds
issued by the corporation, the notice required by s. 75.06 <u>must</u>
shall be published in two newspapers of general circulation in
the state, and the complaint and order of the court shall be
served only on the State Attorney of the Second Judicial
Circuit.

b. The state hereby covenants with holders of bonds of the corporation that the state will not repeal or abrogate the power of the board to direct the Office of Insurance Regulation to levy the assessments and to collect the proceeds of the revenues

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72 pledged to the payment of such bonds as long as any such bonds 73 remain outstanding unless adequate provision has been made for 74 the payment of such bonds pursuant to the documents authorizing 75 the issuance of the such bonds.

76 c.4. The bonds of the corporation are not a debt of the 77 state or of any political subdivision, and neither the state nor 78 any political subdivision is liable on such bonds. The 79 corporation may not does not have the power to pledge the 80 credit, the revenues, or the taxing power of the state or of any 81 political subdivision. The credit, revenues, or taxing power of 82 the state or of any political subdivision may shall not be 83 deemed to be pledged to the payment of any bonds of the 84 corporation.

85 d.5.a. The property, revenues, and other assets of the 86 corporation; the transactions and operations of the corporation 87 and the income from such transactions and operations; and all 88 bonds issued under this paragraph and interest on such bonds are 89 exempt from taxation by the state and any political subdivision, 90 including the intangibles tax under chapter 199 and the income 91 tax under chapter 220. This exemption does not apply to any tax 92 imposed by chapter 220 on interest, income, or profits on debt 93 obligations owned by corporations other than the State Board of 94 Administration Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund Finance 95 Corporation.

96 <u>e.b.</u> All bonds of the corporation <u>are</u> shall be and
97 constitute legal investments without limitation for all public
98 bodies of this state; for all banks, trust companies, savings
99 banks, savings associations, savings and loan associations, and
100 investment companies; for all administrators, executors,

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101 trustees, and other fiduciaries; for all insurance companies and 102 associations and other persons carrying on an insurance 103 business; and for all other persons who are now or may hereafter 104 be authorized to invest in bonds or other obligations of the 105 state and are shall be and constitute eligible securities to be 106 deposited as collateral for the security of any state, county, municipal, or other public funds. This sub-subparagraph shall be 107 considered as additional and supplemental authority and may 108 109 shall not be limited without specific reference to this sub-110 subparagraph.

111 4.6. The corporation and its corporate existence shall 112 continue until terminated by law; however, no such law shall take effect as long as the corporation has bonds outstanding 113 114 unless adequate provision has been made for the payment of such 115 bonds pursuant to the documents authorizing the issuance of such 116 bonds. Upon termination of the existence of the corporation, all 117 of its rights and properties in excess of its obligations shall pass to and be vested in the state. 118

119 Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 624.155, Florida 120 Statutes, is amended and subsection (10) is added to that 121 section, to read:

122 624.

624.155 Civil remedy.-

(1) Any person may bring a civil action against an insurer, including Citizens Property Insurance Corporation, if when such person is damaged:

(a) By a violation of any of the following provisions bythe insurer:

1. Section 626.9541(1)(i), (o), or (x);

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2. Section 626.9551;

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130	3. Section 626.9705;
100	0. D00010H 010.9700,
131	4. Section 626.9706;
132	5. Section 626.9707; or
133	6. Section 627.7283.
134	(b) By the commission of any of the following acts by the
135	insurer:
136	1. Not attempting in good faith to settle claims $\mathrm{if}$ when,
137	under all the circumstances, it could and should have done so,
138	had it acted fairly and honestly toward its insured and with due
139	regard for her or his interests;
140	2. Making claims payments to insureds or beneficiaries not
141	accompanied by a statement setting forth the coverage under
142	which payments are being made; or
143	3. Except as to liability coverages, failing to promptly
144	settle claims, when the obligation to settle a claim has become
145	reasonably clear, under one portion of the insurance policy
146	coverage in order to influence settlements under other portions
147	of the insurance policy coverage.
148	
149	Notwithstanding the provisions of <u>this subsection</u> <del>the above to</del>
150	the contrary, a person pursuing a remedy under this section need
151	not prove that such act was committed or performed with such
152	frequency as to indicate a general business practice.
153	(10) For the purposes of this section, Citizens Property
154	Insurance Corporation is an agent of the state covered by s.
155	768.28, and any cause of action brought pursuant to this section
156	is considered a tort action against the corporation and the
157	limits of s. 768.28 applicable to tort actions apply.
158	Section 3. Subsection (4) of section 626.752, Florida
I	

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	1				
159	Statutes,	is	amended	to	read

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626.752 Exchange of business.-

(4) The foregoing limitations and restrictions <u>do</u> shall not
be construed and shall not apply to the placing of surplus lines
business under the provisions of part VIII, or to the activities
of Citizens Property Insurance Corporation when placing new and
renewal business with authorized insurers in accordance with s.
627.3518.

## Section 4. Subsection (2) and paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of section 627.062, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 627.062 Rate standards.-

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(2) As to all such classes of insurance:

(a) Insurers or rating organizations shall establish and use rates, rating schedules, or rating manuals that allow the insurer a reasonable rate of return on the classes of insurance written in this state. A copy of rates, rating schedules, rating manuals, premium credits or discount schedules, and surcharge schedules, and changes thereto, must be filed with the office <u>in</u> <u>accordance with under</u> one of the following procedures:

1. If the filing is made at least 90 days before the 178 179 proposed effective date and is not implemented during the 180 office's review of the filing and any proceeding and judicial review, such filing is considered a "file and use" filing. In 181 182 such case, the office shall finalize its review by issuance of a 183 notice of intent to approve or a notice of intent to disapprove 184 within 90 days after receipt of the filing. The notice of intent 185 to approve and the notice of intent to disapprove constitute agency action for purposes of the Administrative Procedure Act. 186 187 Requests for supporting information, requests for mathematical

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or mechanical corrections, or notification to the insurer by the office of its preliminary findings does not toll the 90-day period during any such proceedings and subsequent judicial review. The rate shall be deemed approved if the office does not issue a notice of intent to approve or a notice of intent to disapprove within 90 days after receipt of the filing.

194 2. If the filing is not made in accordance with 195 subparagraph 1., such filing must be made as soon as 196 practicable, but within 30 days after the effective date, and is 197 considered a "use and file" filing. An insurer making a "use and 198 file" filing is potentially subject to an order by the office to 199 return to policyholders those portions of rates found to be 200 excessive to policyholders, as provided in paragraph (i) (h).

3. For all property insurance filings made or submitted after January 25, 2007, but before May 1, 2012, an insurer seeking a rate that is greater than the rate most recently approved by the office shall make a "file and use" filing. For purposes of this subparagraph, motor vehicle collision and comprehensive coverages are not considered property coverages.

(b) Upon receiving a rate filing, the office shall review the filing to determine if a rate is excessive, inadequate, or unfairly discriminatory. In making that determination, the office shall, in accordance with generally accepted and reasonable actuarial techniques, consider the following factors:

212 1. Past and prospective loss experience within and without213 this state.

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2. Past and prospective expenses.

3. The degree of competition among insurers for the riskinsured.

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217 4. Investment income reasonably expected by the insurer, 218 consistent with the insurer's investment practices, from 219 investable premiums anticipated from in the filing, plus any 220 other expected income from currently invested assets 221 representing the amount expected on unearned premium reserves 222 and loss reserves. The commission may adopt rules that use using 223 reasonable techniques of actuarial science and economics to 224 specify the manner in which insurers calculate investment income 225 attributable to classes of insurance written in this state and the manner in which investment income is used to calculate 226 227 insurance rates. Such rules manner must allow contemplate 228 allowances for an underwriting profit factor and full 229 consideration of investment income which produce a reasonable 230 rate of return; however, investment income from invested surplus may not be considered. 231

5. The reasonableness of the judgment reflected in thefiling.

234 6. Dividends, savings, or unabsorbed premium deposits
235 allowed or returned to <u>state</u> <del>Florida</del> policyholders, members, or
236 subscribers.

237

7. The adequacy of loss reserves.

238 8. The cost of reinsurance. The office may not disapprove a 239 rate as excessive solely due solely to the insurer having 240 obtained catastrophic reinsurance to cover the insurer's 241 estimated 250-year probable maximum loss or any lower level of 242 loss, or due solely to an admitted carrier purchasing private 243 reinsurance that would insure against potential deficits within 244 the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund which the most recent estimate made pursuant to s. 215.555(4)(c)2. predicts would be 245

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246	funded through revenue bonds issued under s. 215.555(6).
247	9. Trend factors, including trends in actual losses per
248	insured unit for the insurer making the filing.
249	10. Conflagration and catastrophe hazards, if applicable.
250	11. Projected hurricane losses, if applicable, which must
251	be estimated using a model or method found to be acceptable or
252	reliable by the Florida Commission on Hurricane Loss Projection
253	Methodology, and as further provided in s. 627.0628.
254	12. A reasonable margin for underwriting profit and
255	contingencies.
256	13. The cost of medical services, if applicable.
257	14. Other relevant factors that affect the frequency or
258	severity of claims or expenses.
259	(c) The office shall calculate and publish insurance
260	inflation factors based on noncatastrophe direct loss costs for
261	use in residential property insurance filings. The office shall
262	update the published factors at least annually and make them
263	available on its website. The calculation of insurance inflation
264	factors are not subject to rulemaking under chapter 120.
265	1. An insurer making a residential property insurance rate
266	filing that proposes a change in noncatastrophe base rates by a
267	uniform factor equal to or less than the applicable published
268	insurance inflation factor, may make a rate filing under s.
269	627.0645 which consists of a rate certification in lieu of a
270	full rate filing under paragraph (a). The office shall verify
271	insurer use of the appropriate published inflation factor and,
272	if the inflation factor is used appropriately, the filed rates
273	shall be deemed not excessive.
274	2. An insurer filing under this paragraph may make a

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275 <u>separate filing pursuant to paragraph (l) to adjust its rates</u> 276 <u>for reinsurance rates, reinsurance financing costs and products,</u> 277 <u>and cash buildup factor costs. The insurance inflation factors</u> 278 <u>do not apply to these filings.</u>

279 <u>3. This paragraph does not apply to filings made by</u>
280 Citizens Property Insurance Corporation.

281 <u>(d) (c)</u> In the case of fire insurance rates, consideration 282 must be given to the availability of water supplies and the 283 experience of the fire insurance business during a period of not 284 less than the most recent 5-year or longer period for which such 285 experience is available.

286 (e) (d) If conflagration or catastrophe hazards are 287 considered by an insurer in its rates or rating plan, including 288 surcharges and discounts, the insurer must shall establish a 289 reserve for that portion of the premium allocated to such hazard 290 and maintain the premium in a catastrophe reserve. Removal of 291 such premiums from the reserve for purposes other than paying 292 claims associated with a catastrophe or purchasing reinsurance 293 for catastrophes must be approved by the office. Any ceding 294 commission received by an insurer purchasing reinsurance for 295 catastrophes must be placed in the catastrophe reserve.

296 <u>(f) (e)</u> After consideration of the rate factors provided in 297 paragraphs (b), <del>(c), and</del> (d), <u>and (e)</u> the office may find a rate 298 to be excessive, inadequate, or unfairly discriminatory based 299 upon the following standards:

300 1. Rates shall be deemed excessive if they are likely to 301 produce a profit from Florida business which is unreasonably 302 high in relation to the risk involved in the class of business 303 or if expenses are unreasonably high in relation to services

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304 rendered.

305 2. Rates shall be deemed excessive if, among other things, 306 the rate structure established by a stock insurance company 307 provides for replenishment of surpluses from premiums $_{\tau}$  if the 308 <u>such</u> replenishment is attributable to investment losses.

309 3. Rates shall be deemed inadequate if they are clearly 310 insufficient, together with the investment income attributable 311 to them, they are clearly insufficient to sustain projected 312 losses and expenses in the class of business to which they 313 apply.

4. A rating plan, including discounts, credits, or
surcharges, shall be deemed unfairly discriminatory if it fails
to clearly and equitably reflect consideration of the
policyholder's participation in a risk management program
adopted pursuant to s. 627.0625.

319 5. A rate shall be deemed inadequate as to the premium 320 charged to a risk or group of risks if discounts or credits are 321 allowed which exceed a reasonable reflection of expense savings 322 and reasonably expected loss experience from the risk or group 323 of risks.

6. A rate shall be deemed unfairly discriminatory as to a risk or group of risks if the application of premium discounts, credits, or surcharges among such risks does not bear a reasonable relationship to the expected loss and expense experience among the various risks.

329 (g) (f) In reviewing a rate filing, the office may require 330 the insurer to provide, at the insurer's expense, all 331 information necessary to evaluate the condition of the company 332 and the reasonableness of the filing according to the criteria

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333 enumerated in this section.

334 (h) (g) The office may at any time review a rate, rating schedule, rating manual, or rate change; the pertinent records 335 of the insurer; and market conditions. If the office finds on a 336 337 preliminary basis that a rate may be excessive, inadequate, or 338 unfairly discriminatory, the office shall initiate proceedings 339 to disapprove the rate and shall so notify the insurer. However, 340 the office may not disapprove as excessive any rate for which it 341 has given final approval or which has been deemed approved for 1 342 year after the effective date of the filing unless the office 343 finds that a material misrepresentation or material error was 344 made by the insurer or was contained in the filing. Upon 345 notification being notified, the insurer or rating organization 346 shall, within 60 days, file with the office all information that, in the belief of the insurer or organization, proves the 347 348 reasonableness, adequacy, and fairness of the rate or rate 349 change. The office shall issue a notice of intent to approve or 350 a notice of intent to disapprove pursuant to paragraph (a) 351 within 90 days after receipt of the insurer's initial response. 352 In such instances and in any administrative proceeding relating 353 to the legality of the rate, the insurer or rating organization 354 shall carry the burden of proof of showing, by a preponderance 355 of the evidence, to show that the rate is not excessive, 356 inadequate, or unfairly discriminatory. After the office 357 notifies an insurer that a rate may be excessive, inadequate, or unfairly discriminatory, unless the office withdraws the 358 359 notification, the insurer may not alter the rate except to conform to the office's notice until the earlier of 120 days 360 361 after the date the notification was provided or 180 days after

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362 the date of implementing the rate. The office, Subject to 363 chapter 120, <u>the office</u> may disapprove without the 60-day 364 notification any rate increase filed by an insurer within the 365 prohibited time period or during the time that the legality of 366 the increased rate is being contested.

367 (i) (h) If the office finds that a rate or rate change is excessive, inadequate, or unfairly discriminatory, the office 368 369 shall issue an order of disapproval requiring specifying that a 370 new rate or rate schedule, which responds to the findings of the 371 office, be filed by the insurer. The office shall further order, 372 for any "use and file" filing made in accordance with 373 subparagraph (a)2., that the portion of premiums charged which 374 constitute each policyholder constituting the portion of the 375 rate above that which was actuarially justified be returned to 376 the policyholder in the form of a credit or refund. If the 377 office finds that an insurer's rate or rate change is 378 inadequate, the new rate or rate schedule filed with the office 379 in response to such a finding applies is applicable only to new 380 or renewal business of the insurer written by the insurer on or 381 after the effective date of the responsive filing.

382 <u>(j)(i)</u> Except as otherwise specifically provided in this 383 chapter, for property and casualty insurance the office may not 384 directly or indirectly:

1. Prohibit <u>an</u> any insurer, including any residual market plan or joint underwriting association, from paying acquisition costs based on the full amount of premium, as defined in s. 627.403, applicable to any policy, or prohibit <del>any</del> such insurer from including the full amount of acquisition costs in a rate filing; or

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391 2. Impede, abridge, or otherwise compromise an insurer's 392 right to acquire policyholders, advertise, or appoint agents, 393 including the calculation, manner, or amount of such agent 394 commissions, if any.

395 <u>(k)(j)</u> With respect to residential property insurance rate 396 filings, the rate filing must account for mitigation measures 397 undertaken by policyholders to reduce hurricane losses.

398 <u>(1) (k)</u>1. A residential property insurer may make a separate 399 filing limited solely to an adjustment of its rates for 400 reinsurance, the cost of financing products used as a 401 replacement for reinsurance, financing costs incurred in the 402 purchase of reinsurance, and the actual cost paid due to the 403 application of the cash build-up factor pursuant to s. 404 215.555(5)(b) if the insurer:

a. Elects to purchase financing products, such as a
liquidity instrument or line of credit, in which case the cost
included in filing for the liquidity instrument or line of
credit may not result in a premium increase exceeding 3 percent
for any individual policyholder. All costs contained in the
filing may not result in an overall premium increase of more
than 15 percent for any individual policyholder.

b. Includes in the filing a copy of all of its reinsurance, liquidity instrument, or line of credit contracts; proof of the billing or payment for the contracts; and the calculation upon which the proposed rate change is based demonstrating that the costs meet the criteria of this section.

417 2. An insurer that purchases reinsurance or financing
418 products from an affiliated company may make a separate filing
419 only if the costs for such reinsurance or financing products are

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420 charged at or below charges made for comparable coverage by 421 nonaffiliated reinsurers or financial entities making such 422 coverage or financing products available in this state. 423 3. An insurer may make only one filing per 12-month period 424 under this paragraph. 4. An insurer that elects to implement a rate change under 425 426 this paragraph must file its rate filing with the office at 427 least 45 days before the effective date of the rate change. 428 After an insurer submits a complete filing that meets all of the 429 requirements of this paragraph, the office has 45 days after the 430 date of the filing to review the rate filing and determine if 431 the rate is excessive, inadequate, or unfairly discriminatory. 432 433 The provisions of this subsection do not apply to workers' 434 compensation, employer's liability insurance, and motor vehicle 435 insurance. 436 (3) (d)1. The following categories or kinds of insurance and 437 438 types of commercial lines risks are not subject to paragraph 439 (2)(a) or paragraph (2)(g) (2)(f): 440 a. Excess or umbrella. 441 b. Surety and fidelity. 442 c. Boiler and machinery and leakage and fire extinguishing 443 equipment. 444 d. Errors and omissions. 445 e. Directors and officers, employment practices, fiduciary 446 liability, and management liability. 447 f. Intellectual property and patent infringement liability. 448 g. Advertising injury and Internet liability insurance.

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449 h. Property risks rated under a highly protected risks 450 rating plan. 451 i. General liability. j. Nonresidential property, except for collateral 452 453 protection insurance as defined in s. 624.6085. 454 k. Nonresidential multiperil. 455 1. Excess property. 456 m. Burglary and theft. 457 n. Any other commercial lines categories or kinds of 458 insurance or types of commercial lines risks that the office determines should not be subject to paragraph (2)(a) or 459 460 paragraph (2)(g) (2)(f) because of the existence of a 461 competitive market for such insurance, similarity of such 462 insurance to other categories or kinds of insurance not subject 463 to paragraph (2) (a) or paragraph (2) (g)  $\frac{(2)(f)}{(2)(f)}$ , or to improve 464 the general operational efficiency of the office. 465 2. Insurers or rating organizations shall establish and use 466 rates, rating schedules, or rating manuals that to allow the 467 insurer a reasonable rate of return on insurance and risks described in subparagraph 1. which are written in this state. 468

469 3. An insurer must notify the office of any changes to 470 rates for insurance and risks described in subparagraph 1. 471 within 30 days after the effective date of the change. The 472 notice must include the name of the insurer, the type or kind of 473 insurance subject to rate change, total premium written during 474 the immediately preceding year by the insurer for the type or 475 kind of insurance subject to the rate change, and the average statewide percentage change in rates. Underwriting files, 476 477 premiums, losses, and expense statistics relating with regard to

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478 such insurance and risks written by an insurer must be 479 maintained by the insurer and subject to examination by the 480 office. Upon examination, the office, in accordance with 481 generally accepted and reasonable actuarial techniques, shall 482 consider the rate factors in paragraphs (2) (b), (d) (e), and (e) 483 (d) and the standards in paragraph (2) (f) (2) (e) to determine if 484 the rate is excessive, inadequate, or unfairly discriminatory.

485 4. A rating organization must notify the office of any 486 changes to loss cost for insurance and risks described in 487 subparagraph 1. within 30 days after the effective date of the 488 change. The notice must include the name of the rating 489 organization, the type or kind of insurance subject to a loss 490 cost change, loss costs during the immediately preceding year 491 for the type or kind of insurance subject to the loss cost 492 change, and the average statewide percentage change in loss 493 cost. Actuarial data relating with regard to changes to loss 494 cost for risks not subject to paragraph (2)(a) or paragraph 495 (2) (g)  $\frac{(2)(f)}{(2)(f)}$  must be maintained by the rating organization for 496 2 years after the effective date of the change and are subject 497 to examination by the office. The office may require the rating 498 organization to incur the costs associated with an examination. 499 Upon examination, the office, in accordance with generally 500 accepted and reasonable actuarial techniques, shall consider the 501 rate factors in paragraphs (2) (b), (d), and (e)  $\frac{(2)(b)-(d)}{(2)(b)}$  and 502 the standards in paragraph (2)(f)  $\frac{(2)(e)}{(2)(e)}$  to determine if the 503 rate is excessive, inadequate, or unfairly discriminatory. 504 Section 5. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 505 627.0628, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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627.0628 Florida Commission on Hurricane Loss Projection

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507 Methodology; public records exemption; public meetings 508 exemption.-(2) COMMISSION CREATED.-509 510 (b) The commission shall consist of the following 12  $\frac{11}{11}$ 511 members: 512 1. The insurance consumer advocate. 513 2. The senior employee of the State Board of Administration responsible for operations of the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe 514 515 Fund. 516 3. The Executive Director of the Citizens Property 517 Insurance Corporation. 518 4. The Director of the Division of Emergency Management. 519 5. The actuary member of the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe 520 Fund Advisory Council. 521 6. An employee of the office who is an actuary responsible 522 for property insurance rate filings and who is appointed by the 523 director of the office. 524 7. Five members appointed by the Chief Financial Officer, 525 as follows: 526 a. An actuary who is employed full time by a property and 527 casualty insurer that was responsible for at least 1 percent of 528 the aggregate statewide direct written premium for homeowner's 529 insurance in the calendar year preceding the member's 530 appointment to the commission. b. An expert in insurance finance who is a full-time member 531 532 of the faculty of the State University System and who has a 533 background in actuarial science. 534 c. An expert in statistics who is a full-time member of the 535 faculty of the State University System and who has a background

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536 in insurance.

d. An expert in computer system design who is a full-timemember of the faculty of the State University System.

e. An expert in meteorology who is a full-time member of
the faculty of the State University System and who specializes
in hurricanes.

542 <u>8. A licensed professional structural engineer who is a</u>
543 <u>full-time faculty member in the State University System and who</u>
544 <u>has expertise in wind mitigation techniques. This appointment</u>
545 <u>shall be made by the Governor.</u>

546 Section 6. Subsection (1) of section 627.0629, Florida 547 Statutes, is amended to read:

548

627.0629 Residential property insurance; rate filings.-

549 (1) It is the intent of the Legislature that insurers 550 provide savings to consumers who install or implement windstorm 551 damage mitigation techniques, alterations, or solutions to their 552 properties to prevent windstorm losses. A rate filing for 553 residential property insurance must include notice of the 554 mitigation discounts offered by the insurer, which must be 555 actuarially reasonable discounts, credits, or other rate 556 differentials, or appropriate reductions in deductibles, for 557 properties on which fixtures or construction techniques 558 demonstrated to reduce the amount of loss in a windstorm have 559 been installed or implemented. The fixtures or construction 560 techniques must include, but are not limited to, fixtures or 561 construction techniques that enhance roof strength, roof 562 covering performance, roof-to-wall strength, wall-to-floor-tofoundation strength, opening protection, and the impact 563 564 resistance of window, door, and skylight openings strength.

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565	Credits, discounts, or other rate differentials, or appropriate
566	reductions in deductibles, for fixtures and construction
567	techniques that meet the minimum requirements of the Florida
568	Building Code must be included in the rate filing. The office
569	shall determine the discounts, credits, other rate
570	differentials, and appropriate reductions in deductibles that
571	reflect the full actuarial value of such revaluation, which may
572	be used by insurers in rate filings.
573	Section 7. Paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (g), (i), (m), (q),
574	(t), and (z) of subsection (6) of section 627.351, Florida
575	Statutes, are amended, and paragraph (gg) is added to that
576	subsection, to read:
577	627.351 Insurance risk apportionment plans
578	(6) CITIZENS PROPERTY INSURANCE CORPORATION
579	(a) The public purpose of this subsection is to ensure that
580	there is an orderly market for property insurance for residents
581	and businesses of this state.
582	1. The Legislature finds that private insurers are entering
583	the Florida property insurance market unwilling or unable to
584	provide affordable property insurance coverage <u>in many regions</u>
585	of the state. The Legislature further finds that when Citizens
586	Property Insurance Corporation offers rates that are not
587	adequate to cover the average costs that are generated from the
588	claims filed by its policyholders, the deficiency may create a
589	financial burden on all other state policyholders who must
590	purchase their own insurance from private insurers at full
591	actuarial cost and pay an added fee to cover a portion of the
592	cost for claims filed by policyholders of the corporation. The
593	Legislature intends that the corporation not act as a barrier or

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594 competitor to the private insurance market but be available to 595 residents of in this state only if there is no private market 596 coverage available at rates determined reasonable by the Office 597 of Insurance Regulation to the extent sought and needed. The 598 absence of affordable property insurance threatens the public 599 health, safety, and welfare and likewise threatens the economic 600 health of the state. As the corporation has continued its rapid 601 growth and exposure, it increasingly threatens state residents 602 with having to absorb an even greater financial burden than they 603 are currently bearing. The state, therefore, has a compelling 604 public interest and a public purpose to assist in assuring that 605 property in the state is insured and that it is insured at affordable, actuarially sound, noncompetitive rates so as to 606 607 facilitate the remediation, reconstruction, and replacement of 608 damaged or destroyed property without overburdening the 609 policyholders of this state in order to reduce or avoid the negative effects on otherwise resulting to the public health, 610 611 safety, and welfare; on, to the economy of the state; and on, 612 and to the revenues of the state and local governments which are 613 needed to provide for the public welfare. It is necessary, 614 therefore, to make provide affordable, actuarially sound, 615 noncompetitive property insurance available to applicants who are, in good faith, entitled to procure insurance through the 616 617 voluntary market but are unable to do so. The Legislature 618 intends, therefore, that affordable, actuarially sound, noncompetitive property insurance be provided and that it 619 620 continue to be provided, as long as necessary, through Citizens Property Insurance Corporation, a government entity that is an 621 622 integral part of the state  $\tau$  and that is not a private insurance

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623 company, or through referrals to private insurers participating 624 in a clearinghouse established by the corporation. To that end, 625 the corporation shall strive to promote increase the 626 availability of affordable and actuarially sound private 627 property insurance in this state, supplemented by coverage 628 provided by the corporation if appropriate, while achieving efficiencies and economies, and while providing service to 629 630 policyholders, applicants, and agents which is no less than the 631 quality generally provided in the voluntary market, for the 632 achievement of the foregoing public purposes. Because it is 633 essential for this government entity to have the maximum 634 financial resources to pay claims following a catastrophic hurricane, it is further the intent of the Legislature that the 635 636 corporation continue to be an integral part of the state and not 637 a private insurance company, and that the income of the corporation be exempt from federal income taxation, and that 638 639 interest on the debt obligations issued by the corporation be exempt from federal income taxation. 640

641 2. The Residential Property and Casualty Joint Underwriting 642 Association originally created by this statute shall be known as 643 the Citizens Property Insurance Corporation. The corporation 644 shall provide insurance for residential and commercial property 645 insurance, for applicants who are eligible entitled, but, in 646 good faith, are unable to procure insurance through the 647 voluntary market. The corporation shall operate pursuant to a plan of operation approved by order of the Financial Services 648 649 Commission. The plan is subject to continuous review by the commission, and- the commission may, by order, withdraw approval 650 651 of all or part of a plan if the commission determines that

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652 conditions have changed since approval was granted and that the 653 purposes of the plan require changes in the plan. For the 654 purposes of this subsection, residential coverage includes both 655 personal lines residential coverage, which consists of the type 656 of coverage provided by homeowner's, mobile home owner's, 657 dwelling, tenant's, condominium unit owner's, and similar policies; and commercial lines residential coverage, which 658 659 consists of the type of coverage provided by condominium association, apartment building, and similar policies. 660

3. With respect to coverage for personal lines residential
 structures:

663 a. Effective January 1, 2014 2009, a personal lines residential structure that has a dwelling replacement cost of \$1 664 665 \$2 million or more, or a single condominium unit that has a 666 combined dwelling and contents replacement cost of \$1  $\frac{2}{2}$  million 667 or more is not eligible for coverage by the corporation. Such 668 dwellings insured by the corporation on December 31, 2013 2008, 669 may continue to be covered by the corporation until the end of 670 the policy term. However, such dwellings may reapply and obtain 671 coverage if the property owner provides the corporation with a 672 sworn affidavit from one or more insurance agents, on a form provided by the corporation, stating that the agents have made 673 674 their best efforts to obtain coverage and that the property has 675 been rejected for coverage by at least one authorized insurer 676 and at least three surplus lines insurers. If such conditions 677 are met, the dwelling may be insured by the corporation for up 678 to 3 years, after which time the dwelling is incligible for 679 coverage. The office shall approve the method used by the 680 corporation for valuing the dwelling replacement costs under

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681 cost for the purposes of this subparagraph. If a policyholder is 682 insured by the corporation <u>before</u> prior to being determined to 683 be ineligible pursuant to this subparagraph and such 684 policyholder files a lawsuit challenging the determination, the 685 policyholder may remain insured by the corporation until the 686 conclusion of the litigation.

b. Effective January 1, 2015, a structure that has a
dwelling replacement cost of \$900,000 or more, or a single
condominium unit that has a combined dwelling and contents
replacement cost of \$900,000 or more, is not eligible for
coverage by the corporation. Such dwellings insured by the
corporation on December 31, 2014, may continue to be covered by
the corporation until the end of the policy term.

<u>c. Effective January 1, 2016, a structure that has a</u>
 <u>dwelling replacement cost of \$800,000 or more, or a single</u>
 <u>condominium unit that has a combined dwelling and contents</u>
 <u>replacement cost of \$800,000 or more, is not eligible for</u>
 <u>coverage by the corporation. Such dwellings insured by the</u>
 <u>corporation on December 31, 2015, may continue to be covered by</u>
 <u>the corporation until the end of the policy term.</u>

701 d. Effective January 1, 2017, a structure that has a dwelling replacement cost of \$700,000 or more, or a single 702 703 condominium unit that has a combined dwelling and contents 704 replacement cost of \$700,000 or more, is not eligible for 705 coverage by the corporation. Such dwellings insured by the 706 corporation on December 31, 2016, may continue to be covered by 707 the corporation until the end of the policy term. 708 e. Effective January 1, 2018, a structure that has a

709 dwelling replacement cost of \$600,000 or more, or a single

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ĺ	
710	condominium unit that has a combined dwelling and contents
711	replacement cost of \$600,000 or more, is not eligible for
712	coverage by the corporation. Such dwellings insured by the
713	corporation on December 31, 2017, may continue to be covered by
714	the corporation until the end of the policy term.
715	f. Effective January 1, 2019, a structure that has a
716	dwelling replacement cost of \$500,000 or more, or a single
717	condominium unit that has a combined dwelling and contents
718	replacement cost of \$500,000 or more, is not eligible for
719	coverage by the corporation. Such dwellings insured by the
720	corporation on December 31, 2018, may continue to be covered by
721	the corporation until the end of the policy term.
722	
723	The requirements of sub-subparagraphs bf. do not apply in
724	counties where the corporation provides more than 75 percent of
725	the personal lines residential policies providing wind coverage.
726	In such counties the eligibility requirements of sub-
727	subparagraph a. apply.
728	4. It is the intent of the Legislature that policyholders,
729	applicants, and agents of the corporation receive service and
730	treatment of the highest possible level but never less than that
731	generally provided in the voluntary market. It is also intended
732	that the corporation be held to service standards no less than
733	those applied to insurers in the voluntary market by the office
734	with respect to responsiveness, timeliness, customer courtesy,
735	and overall dealings with policyholders, applicants, or agents
736	of the corporation.
737	5. A new structure for which a notice of commencement has
738	been issued on or after July 1, 2014, pursuant to s. 713.135,

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739 which is located seaward of the coastal construction control line created pursuant to s. 161.053, is ineligible for coverage 740 741 through the corporation unless the structure meets the coastal 742 code-plus building code criteria developed and recommended by 743 the Florida Building Commission. Filing a notice of commencement 744 for an addition to an existing structure that was built before 745 July 1, 2014, requires that the addition be built according to 746 the code-plus building criteria but does not require that the 747 existing structure meet the code-plus criteria in order to be 748 eligible for coverage through the corporation. Effective January 749 1, 2009, a personal lines residential structure that is located 750 in the "wind-borne debris region," as defined in s. 1609.2, 751 International Building Code (2006), and that has an insured 752 value on the structure of \$750,000 or more is not eligible for 753 coverage by the corporation unless the structure has opening 754 protections as required under the Florida Building Code for a 755 newly constructed residential structure in that area. A 756 residential structure shall be deemed to comply with this 757 subparagraph if it has shutters or opening protections on all 758 openings and if such opening protections complied with the 759 Florida Building Code at the time they were installed.

6. For any claim filed under any policy of the corporation, a public adjuster may not charge, agree to, or accept any compensation, payment, commission, fee, or other thing of value greater than 10 percent of the additional amount actually paid over the amount that was originally offered by the corporation for any one claim.

(b)1. All insurers authorized to write one or more subjectlines of business in this state are subject to assessment by the

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768 corporation and, for the purposes of this subsection, are 769 referred to collectively as "assessable insurers." Insurers 770 writing one or more subject lines of business in this state 771 pursuant to part VIII of chapter 626 are not assessable 772 insurers; however, but insureds who procure one or more subject 773 lines of business in this state pursuant to part VIII of chapter 774 626 are subject to assessment by the corporation and are 775 referred to collectively as "assessable insureds." An insurer's 776 assessment liability begins on the first day of the calendar 777 year following the year in which the insurer was issued a 778 certificate of authority to transact insurance for subject lines 779 of business in this state and terminates 1 year after the end of 780 the first calendar year during which the insurer no longer holds 781 a certificate of authority to transact insurance for subject 782 lines of business in this state.

2.a. All revenues, assets, liabilities, losses, and
expenses of the corporation shall be divided into three separate
accounts as follows:

786 (I) A personal lines account for personal residential 787 policies issued by the corporation, or issued by the Residential 788 Property and Casualty Joint Underwriting Association and renewed 789 by the corporation, which provides comprehensive, multiperil 790 coverage on risks that are not located in areas eligible for coverage by the Florida Windstorm Underwriting Association as 791 792 those areas were defined on January 1, 2002, and for policies 793 that do not provide coverage for the peril of wind on risks that 794 are located in such areas;

(II) A commercial lines account for commercial residentialand commercial nonresidential policies issued by the

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797 corporation, or issued by the Residential Property and Casualty Joint Underwriting Association and renewed by the corporation, 798 799 which provides coverage for basic property perils on risks that 800 are not located in areas eligible for coverage by the Florida 801 Windstorm Underwriting Association as those areas were defined 802 on January 1, 2002, and for policies that do not provide 803 coverage for the peril of wind on risks that are located in such 804 areas; and

805 (III) A coastal account for personal residential policies 806 and commercial residential and commercial nonresidential 807 property policies issued by the corporation, or transferred to 808 the corporation, which provides coverage for the peril of wind on risks that are located in areas eligible for coverage by the 809 810 Florida Windstorm Underwriting Association as those areas were defined on January 1, 2002. The corporation may offer policies 811 812 that provide multiperil coverage and the corporation shall continue to offer policies that provide coverage only for the 813 peril of wind for risks located in areas eligible for coverage 814 815 in the coastal account. In issuing multiperil coverage, the 816 corporation may use its approved policy forms and rates for the 817 personal lines account. An applicant or insured who is eligible to purchase a multiperil policy from the corporation may 818 purchase a multiperil policy from an authorized insurer without 819 820 prejudice to the applicant's or insured's eligibility to 821 prospectively purchase a policy that provides coverage only for 822 the peril of wind from the corporation. An applicant or insured 823 who is eligible for a corporation policy that provides coverage only for the peril of wind may elect to purchase or retain such 824 825 policy and also purchase or retain coverage excluding wind from

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826 an authorized insurer without prejudice to the applicant's or 827 insured's eligibility to prospectively purchase a policy that 828 provides multiperil coverage from the corporation. It is the 829 goal of the Legislature that there be an overall average savings of 10 percent or more for a policyholder who currently has a 830 831 wind-only policy with the corporation, and an ex-wind policy 832 with a voluntary insurer or the corporation, and who obtains a 833 multiperil policy from the corporation. It is the intent of the 8.34 Legislature that the offer of multiperil coverage in the coastal 835 account be made and implemented in a manner that does not 836 adversely affect the tax-exempt status of the corporation or 837 creditworthiness of or security for currently outstanding financing obligations or credit facilities of the coastal 838 839 account, the personal lines account, or the commercial lines 840 account. The coastal account must also include quota share 841 primary insurance under subparagraph (c)2. The area eligible for 842 coverage under the coastal account also includes the area within Port Canaveral, which is bordered on the south by the City of 843 844 Cape Canaveral, bordered on the west by the Banana River, and 845 bordered on the north by Federal Government property.

846 b. The three separate accounts must be maintained as long 847 as financing obligations entered into by the Florida Windstorm 848 Underwriting Association or Residential Property and Casualty 849 Joint Underwriting Association are outstanding, in accordance 850 with the terms of the corresponding financing documents. If the 851 financing obligations are no longer outstanding, the corporation 852 may use a single account for all revenues, assets, liabilities, 853 losses, and expenses of the corporation. Consistent with this 854 subparagraph and prudent investment policies that minimize the

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cost of carrying debt, the board shall exercise its best efforts to retire existing debt or obtain the approval of necessary parties to amend the terms of existing debt, <u>in order</u> so as to structure the most efficient plan <u>for consolidating</u> to consolidate the three separate accounts into a single account.

860 c. Creditors of the Residential Property and Casualty Joint 861 Underwriting Association and the accounts specified in sub-sub-862 subparagraphs a.(I) and (II) may have a claim against, and 863 recourse to, those accounts and no claim against, or recourse 864 to, the account referred to in sub-subparagraph a.(III). 865 Creditors of the Florida Windstorm Underwriting Association have 866 a claim against, and recourse to, the account referred to in 867 sub-sub-subparagraph a.(III) and no claim against, or recourse 868 to, the accounts referred to in sub-sub-subparagraphs a.(I) and 869 (II).

d. Revenues, assets, liabilities, losses, and expenses not
attributable to particular accounts shall be prorated among the
accounts.

e. The Legislature finds that the revenues of the
corporation are revenues that are necessary to meet the
requirements set forth in documents authorizing the issuance of
bonds under this subsection.

877 f. The income of the corporation may not inure to the878 benefit of any private person.

879

3. With respect to a deficit in an account:

a. After accounting for the Citizens policyholder surcharge
 imposed under sub-subparagraph i., if the remaining projected
 deficit incurred in the coastal account in a particular calendar
 year:

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(I) Is not greater than 2 percent of the aggregate
statewide direct written premium for the subject lines of
business for the prior calendar year, the entire deficit shall
be recovered through regular assessments of assessable insurers
under paragraph (q) and assessable insureds.

889 (II) Exceeds 2 percent of the aggregate statewide direct 890 written premium for the subject lines of business for the prior 891 calendar year, the corporation shall levy regular assessments on 892 assessable insurers under paragraph (q) and on assessable 893 insureds in an amount equal to the greater of 2 percent of the 894 projected deficit or 2 percent of the aggregate statewide direct 895 written premium for the subject lines of business for the prior 896 calendar year. Any remaining projected deficit shall be 897 recovered through emergency assessments under sub-subparagraph 898 d.

899 b. Each assessable insurer's share of the amount being 900 assessed under sub-subparagraph a. must be in the proportion that the assessable insurer's direct written premium for the 901 902 subject lines of business for the year preceding the assessment 903 bears to the aggregate statewide direct written premium for the 904 subject lines of business for that year. The assessment 905 percentage applicable to each assessable insured is the ratio of 906 the amount being assessed under sub-subparagraph a. to the 907 aggregate statewide direct written premium for the subject lines 908 of business for the prior year. Assessments levied by the 909 corporation on assessable insurers under sub-subparagraph a. 910 must be paid as required by the corporation's plan of operation and paragraph (q). Assessments levied by the corporation on 911 912 assessable insureds under sub-subparagraph a. shall be collected

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913 by the surplus lines agent at the time the surplus lines agent collects the surplus lines tax required by s. 626.932, and paid 914 to the Florida Surplus Lines Service Office at the time the 915 916 surplus lines agent pays the surplus lines tax to that office. 917 Upon receipt of regular assessments from surplus lines agents, 918 the Florida Surplus Lines Service Office shall transfer the 919 assessments directly to the corporation as determined by the 920 corporation.

921 c. After accounting for the Citizens policyholder surcharge 922 imposed under sub-subparagraph i., the remaining projected 923 deficits in the personal lines account and in the commercial 924 lines account in a particular calendar year shall be recovered 925 through emergency assessments under sub-subparagraph d.

926 d. Upon a determination by the executive director, with the 927 concurrence of the board of governors, that a projected deficit 928 in an account exceeds the amount that is expected to be 929 recovered through regular assessments under sub-subparagraph a., 930 plus the amount that is expected to be recovered through 931 policyholder surcharges under sub-subparagraph i., the executive 932 director, with concurrence by the board, after verification by 933 the office, shall levy emergency assessments for as many years 934 as necessary to cover the deficits, to be collected by 935 assessable insurers and the corporation and collected from 936 assessable insureds upon issuance or renewal of policies for 937 subject lines of business, excluding National Flood Insurance 938 policies. The executive director shall notify the Financial 939 Services Commission of the emergency assessments within 5 days 940 after the board's concurrence with the executive director's determination that such assessments are necessary. The amount 941

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942 collected in a particular year must be a uniform percentage of 943 that year's direct written premium for subject lines of business 944 and all accounts of the corporation, excluding National Flood 945 Insurance Program policy premiums, as annually determined by the 946 executive director, with concurrence by the board, and verified 947 by the office. The office shall verify the arithmetic 948 calculations involved in the board's determination within 30 949 days after receipt of the information on which the determination 950 was based. The office shall notify assessable insurers and the 951 Florida Surplus Lines Service Office of the date on which 952 assessable insurers shall begin to collect and assessable 953 insureds shall begin to pay such assessment. The date must be at 954 least may be not less than 90 days after the date the 955 corporation levies emergency assessments pursuant to this sub-956 subparagraph. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the 957 corporation and each assessable insurer that writes subject 958 lines of business shall collect emergency assessments from its 959 policyholders without such obligation being affected by any 960 credit, limitation, exemption, or deferment. Emergency 961 assessments levied by the corporation on assessable insureds 962 shall be collected by the surplus lines agent at the time the 963 surplus lines agent collects the surplus lines tax required by 964 s. 626.932 and paid to the Florida Surplus Lines Service Office 965 at the time the surplus lines agent pays the surplus lines tax 966 to that office. The emergency assessments collected shall be 967 transferred directly to the corporation on a periodic basis as 968 determined by the corporation and held by the corporation solely 969 in the applicable account. The aggregate amount of emergency assessments levied for an account under this sub-subparagraph in 970

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971 any calendar year may be less than but not exceed the greater of 972 10 percent of the amount needed to cover the deficit, plus interest, fees, commissions, required reserves, and other costs 973 974 associated with financing the original deficit, or 10 percent of 975 the aggregate statewide direct written premium for subject lines 976 of business and all accounts of the corporation for the prior year, plus interest, fees, commissions, required reserves, and 977 978 other costs associated with financing the deficit.

979 e. The corporation may pledge the proceeds of assessments, 980 projected recoveries from the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund, other insurance and reinsurance recoverables, policyholder 981 982 surcharges and other surcharges, and other funds available to 983 the corporation as the source of revenue for and to secure bonds 984 issued under paragraph (q), bonds or other indebtedness issued 985 under subparagraph (c)3., or lines of credit or other financing 986 mechanisms issued or created under this subsection, or to retire 987 any other debt incurred as a result of deficits or events giving 988 rise to deficits, or in any other way that the executive 989 director, with the concurrence of the board, determines will 990 efficiently recover such deficits. The purpose of the lines of 991 credit or other financing mechanisms is to provide additional 992 resources to assist the corporation in covering claims and 993 expenses attributable to a catastrophe. As used in this 994 subsection, the term "assessments" includes regular assessments 995 under sub-subparagraph a. or subparagraph (q)1. and emergency 996 assessments under sub-subparagraph d. Emergency assessments 997 collected under sub-subparagraph d. are not part of an insurer's 998 rates, are not premium, and are not subject to premium tax, fees, or commissions; however, failure to pay the emergency 999

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1000 assessment shall be treated as failure to pay premium. The 1001 emergency assessments <del>under sub-subparagraph d.</del> shall continue 1002 as long as any bonds issued or other indebtedness incurred with 1003 respect to a deficit for which the assessment was imposed remain 1004 outstanding, unless adequate provision has been made for the 1005 payment of such bonds or other indebtedness pursuant to the 1006 documents governing such bonds or indebtedness.

1007 f. As used in this subsection for purposes of any deficit 1008 incurred on or after January 25, 2007, the term "subject lines 1009 of business" means insurance written by assessable insurers or 1010 procured by assessable insureds for all property and casualty 1011 lines of business in this state, but not including workers' compensation or medical malpractice. As used in this sub-1012 1013 subparagraph, the term "property and casualty lines of business" includes all lines of business identified on Form 2, Exhibit of 1014 1015 Premiums and Losses, in the annual statement required of authorized insurers under s. 624.424 and any rule adopted under 1016 this section, except for those lines identified as accident and 1017 health insurance and except for policies written under the 1018 1019 National Flood Insurance Program or the Federal Crop Insurance 1020 Program. For purposes of this sub-subparagraph, the term 1021 "workers' compensation" includes both workers' compensation 1022 insurance and excess workers' compensation insurance.

1023 g. The Florida Surplus Lines Service Office shall <u>annually</u> 1024 determine <del>annually</del> the aggregate statewide written premium in 1025 subject lines of business procured by assessable insureds and 1026 report that information to the corporation in a form and at a 1027 time the corporation specifies to ensure that the corporation 1028 can meet the requirements of this subsection and the

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1029 corporation's financing obligations.

h. The Florida Surplus Lines Service Office shall verify the proper application by surplus lines agents of assessment percentages for regular assessments and emergency assessments levied under this subparagraph on assessable insureds and assist the corporation in ensuring the accurate, timely collection and payment of assessments by surplus lines agents as required by the corporation.

1037 i. In 2008 or thereafter, Upon a determination by the board
1038 of governors that an account has a projected deficit, the board
1039 shall levy a Citizens policyholder surcharge against all
1040 policyholders of the corporation.

(I) The surcharge shall be levied as a uniform percentage of the premium for the policy of up to 15 percent of <u>the policy</u> such premium, which funds shall be used to offset the deficit.

(II) The surcharge is payable upon cancellation or termination of the policy, upon renewal of the policy, or upon issuance of a new policy by the corporation within the first 12 months after the date of the levy or the period of time necessary to fully collect the surcharge amount.

(III) The corporation may not levy any regular assessments under paragraph (q) pursuant to sub-subparagraph a. or subsubparagraph b. with respect to a particular year's deficit until the corporation has first levied the full amount of the surcharge authorized by this sub-subparagraph.

(IV) The surcharge is not considered premium and is not subject to commissions, fees, or premium taxes. However, failure to pay the surcharge shall be treated as failure to pay premium. j. If the amount of any assessments or surcharges collected

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1058 from corporation policyholders, assessable insurers or their 1059 policyholders, or assessable insureds exceeds the amount of the 1060 deficits, such excess amounts shall be remitted to and retained by the corporation in a reserve to be used by the corporation, 1061 1062 as determined by the executive director, with the concurrence of 1063 the board of governors, and approved by the office, to pay 1064 claims or reduce any past, present, or future plan-year deficits 1065 or to reduce outstanding debt.

1066

(c) The corporation's plan of operation:

1067 1. Must provide for adoption of residential property and 1068 casualty insurance policy forms and commercial residential and 1069 nonresidential property insurance forms, which must be approved 1070 by the office before use. The corporation shall adopt the 1071 following policy forms:

a. Standard personal lines policy forms that are
comprehensive multiperil policies providing full coverage of a
residential property equivalent to the coverage provided in the
private insurance market under an HO-3, HO-4, or HO-6 policy.

b. Basic personal lines policy forms that are policies similar to an HO-8 policy or a dwelling fire policy that provide coverage meeting the requirements of the secondary mortgage market, but which is more limited than the coverage under a standard policy.

1081 c. Commercial lines residential and nonresidential policy 1082 forms that are generally similar to the basic perils of full 1083 coverage obtainable for commercial residential structures and 1084 commercial nonresidential structures in the admitted voluntary 1085 market.

1086

d. Personal lines and commercial lines residential property

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1087 insurance forms that cover the peril of wind only. <u>Such The</u> 1088 forms are applicable only to residential properties located in 1089 areas eligible for coverage under the coastal account referred 1090 to in sub-subparagraph (b)2.a.

e. Commercial lines nonresidential property insurance forms that cover the peril of wind only. <u>Such</u> The forms are applicable only to nonresidential properties located in areas eligible for coverage under the coastal account referred to in subsubparagraph (b)2.a.

1096 f. The corporation may adopt variations of the policy forms 1097 listed in sub-subparagraphs a.-e. which contain more restrictive 1098 coverage.

1099 g. Effective January 1, 2013, the corporation shall offer a 1100 basic personal lines policy similar to an HO-8 policy with 1101 dwelling repair based on common construction materials and 1102 methods.

1103 2. Must provide that the corporation and an authorized 1104 insurer may enter into a risk-sharing agreement for the purpose 1105 of reducing the corporation's exposure. As used in this 1106 subparagraph, the term "risk-sharing agreement" means an 1107 agreement between the corporation and an authorized insurer for 1108 the corporation to retain part, but not all, of the risk for a 1109 specified group of policies or specified perils within a group 1110 of policies, as part of the terms for removal of policies from 1111 the corporation.

1112a. Entering into a risk-sharing agreement is voluntary and1113at the discretion of the corporation and the authorized insurer.1114To avoid unnecessary expense, the executive director, with1115concurrence of the board of governors, may limit the

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1116 <u>corporation's participation in risk-sharing agreements to those</u> 1117 <u>participants capable and willing to assume a minimum of 25</u> 1118 <u>percent of the exposure on at least 100,000 policies and may</u> 1119 <u>specify other limitations. A risk-sharing agreement in which the</u> 1120 <u>corporation retains part of the risk may not exceed 5 years.</u>

1121 b. The risk-sharing agreement may cover policies in any 1122 account and may cover any perils. The corporation may act as a reinsurer or a cedent under a risk sharing agreement or an 1123 1124 excess of loss agreement. If the corporation is the reinsurer, 1125 the insurance policy forms and endorsements must be approved by 1126 the office, cover all perils that are the subject of the risk-1127 sharing agreement, and cover at least the same limits as the 1128 corporation policies being replaced.

1129 <u>c. The terms of each risk-sharing agreement must ensure</u> 1130 <u>that the consideration received by the corporation is</u> 1131 <u>commensurate with the risk retained by the corporation and the</u> 1132 <u>risk assumed by the authorized insurer. The corporation may not</u> 1133 share risk for bad faith.

1134 d. The risk-sharing agreement must specify the proportion 1135 of exposure that the authorized insurer reports to the Florida 1136 Hurricane Catastrophe Fund and the exposure retained by the 1137 corporation. Each shall pay premium and receive reimbursements 1138 from the fund for the exposure that they retain or assume as provided in the risk-sharing agreement. The risk retained or 1139 1140 assumed is eligible for coverage by the fund and is not 1141 considered reinsurance for purposes of coverage by the fund. 1142 However, the authorized insurer and the corporation may report 1143 participation in the risk sharing agreement on their financial 1144 statements as reinsurance if appropriate according to the

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1145	characteristics of the agreement based on statutory accounting
1146	rules and instructions.
1147	e. Notwithstanding any other provision of law:
1148	(I) Policies offered coverage by the corporation or an
1149	authorized insurer through a risk-sharing agreement are not
1150	eligible for coverage by the corporation outside of the
1151	agreement; and
1152	(II) A risk-sharing agreement between the corporation and
1153	an authorized insurer is not subject to the requirements of a
1154	take-out or keep-out program under ss. 627.3517 and this
1155	subsection, except that the agreement must be filed by the
1156	authorized insurer with the office for review and approval
1157	before the execution of the agreement by the insurer.
1158	f. To ensure that exposures are accurately reported to the
1159	Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund, the corporation and each
1160	insurer participating in a risk-sharing agreement under this
1161	subparagraph must report its exposure under covered policies to
1162	the fund as required under s. 215.555(5)(c), including the
1163	requirement that, by September 1 of each year, each insurer
1164	notify the board of its insured values under covered policies as
1165	of June 30 of that year. Each report must also specify the
1166	percentage of liability applicable to the corporation and the
1167	percentage applicable to the insurer. Pursuant to its authority
1168	under s. 215.555, the State Board of Administration shall adopt
1169	rules to administer this sub-subparagraph.
1170	2. Must provide that the corporation adopt a program in
1171	which the corporation and authorized insurers enter into quota
1172	share primary insurance agreements for hurricane coverage, as
1173	defined in s. 627.4025(2)(a), for eligible risks, and adopt

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1174	property insurance forms for eligible risks which cover the
1175	peril of wind only.
1176	a. As used in this subsection, the term:
1177	(I) "Quota share primary insurance" means an arrangement in
1178	which the primary hurricane coverage of an eligible risk is
1179	provided in specified percentages by the corporation and an
1180	authorized insurer. The corporation and authorized insurer are
1181	each solely responsible for a specified percentage of hurricane
1182	coverage of an eligible risk as set forth in a quota share
1183	primary insurance agreement between the corporation and an
1184	authorized insurer and the insurance contract. The
1185	responsibility of the corporation or authorized insurer to pay
1186	its specified percentage of hurricane losses of an eligible
1187	risk, as set forth in the agreement, may not be altered by the
1188	inability of the other party to pay its specified percentage of
1189	losses. Eligible risks that are provided hurricane coverage
1190	through a quota share primary insurance arrangement must be
1191	provided policy forms that set forth the obligations of the
1192	corporation and authorized insurer under the arrangement,
1193	clearly specify the percentages of quota share primary insurance
1194	provided by the corporation and authorized insurer, and
1195	conspicuously and clearly state that the authorized insurer and
1196	the corporation may not be held responsible beyond their
1197	specified percentage of coverage of hurricane losses.
1198	(II) "Eligible risks" means personal lines residential and
1199	commercial lines residential risks that meet the underwriting
1200	criteria of the corporation and are located in areas that were
1201	eligible for coverage by the Florida Windstorm Underwriting
1202	Association on January 1, 2002.
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1203



b. The corporation may enter into quota share primary

1204 insurance agreements with authorized insurers at corporation 1205 coverage levels of 90 percent and 50 percent. 1206 c. If the corporation determines that additional coverage levels are necessary to maximize participation in quota share 1207 1208 primary insurance agreements by authorized insurers, the corporation may establish additional coverage levels. However, 1209 1210 the corporation's quota share primary insurance coverage level 1211 may not exceed 90 percent. 1212 d. Any quota share primary insurance agreement entered into 1213 between an authorized insurer and the corporation must provide for a uniform specified percentage of coverage of hurricane 1214 1215 losses, by county or territory as set forth by the corporation 1216 board, for all eligible risks of the authorized insurer covered 1217 under the agreement. e. Any quota share primary insurance agreement entered into 1218 1219 between an authorized insurer and the corporation is subject to review and approval by the office. However, such agreement shall 1220 1221 be authorized only as to insurance contracts entered into 1222 between an authorized insurer and an insured who is already 1223 insured by the corporation for wind coverage. 1224 f. For all eligible risks covered under quota share primary 1225 insurance agreements, the exposure and coverage levels for both the corporation and authorized insurers shall be reported by the 1226 1227 corporation to the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund. For all 1228 policies of eligible risks covered under such agreements, the 1229 corporation and the authorized insurer must maintain complete 1230 and accurate records for the purpose of exposure and loss 1231 reimbursement audits as required by fund rules. The corporation

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1232 and the authorized insurer shall each maintain duplicate copies 1233 of policy declaration pages and supporting claims documents. g. The corporation board shall establish in its plan of 1234 operation standards for quota share agreements which ensure that 1235 there is no discriminatory application among insurers as to the 1236 1237 terms of the agreements, pricing of the agreements, incentive provisions if any, and consideration paid for servicing policies 1238 1239 or adjusting claims. 1240 h. The quota share primary insurance agreement between the 1241 corporation and an authorized insurer must set forth the 1242 specific terms under which coverage is provided, including, but 1243 not limited to, the sale and servicing of policies issued under 1244 the agreement by the insurance agent of the authorized insurer 1245 producing the business, the reporting of information concerning 1246 eligible risks, the payment of premium to the corporation, and 1247 arrangements for the adjustment and payment of hurricane claims 1248 incurred on eligible risks by the claims adjuster and personnel 1249 of the authorized insurer. Entering into a quota sharing 1250 insurance agreement between the corporation and an authorized insurer is voluntary and at the discretion of the authorized 1251 1252 insurer. 1253 3.a. May provide that the corporation may employ or

1254 otherwise contract with individuals or other entities to provide 1255 administrative or professional services that may be appropriate 1256 to effectuate the plan. The corporation may borrow funds by 1257 issuing bonds or by incurring other indebtedness, and shall have 1258 other powers reasonably necessary to effectuate the requirements 1259 of this subsection, including, without limitation, the power to 1260 issue bonds and incur other indebtedness in order to refinance

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1261 outstanding bonds or other indebtedness. The corporation may seek judicial validation of its bonds or other indebtedness 1262 1263 under chapter 75. The corporation may issue bonds or incur other 1264 indebtedness, or have bonds issued on its behalf by a unit of 1265 local government pursuant to subparagraph (q)2. in the absence 1266 of a hurricane or other weather-related event, upon a 1267 determination by the corporation, subject to approval by the 1268 office, that such action would enable it to efficiently meet the 1269 financial obligations of the corporation and that such 1270 financings are reasonably necessary to effectuate the 1271 requirements of this subsection. The corporation may take all 1272 actions needed to facilitate tax-free status for such bonds or 1273 indebtedness, including formation of trusts or other affiliated 1274 entities. The corporation may pledge assessments, projected 1275 recoveries from the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund, other 1276 reinsurance recoverables, Citizens policyholder surcharges and 1277 other surcharges, and other funds available to the corporation 1278 as security for bonds or other indebtedness. In recognition of 1279 s. 10, Art. I of the State Constitution, prohibiting the 1280 impairment of obligations of contracts, it is the intent of the 1281 Legislature that no action not be taken whose purpose is to 1282 impair any bond indenture or financing agreement or any revenue 1283 source committed by contract to such bond or other indebtedness.

b. <u>May provide that the corporation employ or otherwise</u> contract with individuals or other entities to provide administrative or professional services that may be appropriate to effectuate the plan. To ensure that the corporation is operating in an efficient and economic manner while providing quality service to policyholders, applicants, and agents, the

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1290 board shall commission an independent third-party consultant 1291 having expertise in insurance company management or insurance company management consulting to prepare a report and make 1292 1293 recommendations on the relative costs and benefits of 1294 outsourcing various policy issuance and service functions to 1295 private servicing carriers or entities performing similar 1296 functions in the private market for a fee $_{\overline{\tau}}$  rather than 1297 performing such functions in-house. In making such 1298 recommendations, the consultant shall consider how other 1299 residual markets, both in this state and around the country, 1300 outsource appropriate functions or use servicing carriers to 1301 better match expenses with revenues that fluctuate based on a 1302 widely varying policy count. The report must be completed by 1303 July 1, 2012. Upon receiving the report, the executive director, 1304 with the concurrence of the board, shall develop a plan to 1305 implement the report and submit the plan for review, 1306 modification, and approval to the Financial Services Commission. 1307 Upon the commission's approval of the plan, the board shall 1308 begin implementing the plan by January 1, 2013.

1309 4. Must require that the corporation operate subject to the 1310 supervision and approval of a board of governors consisting of 1311 nine eight individuals who are residents of this state and who 1312 are  $_{ au}$  from different geographical areas of the this state, one of 1313 whom is appointed by the Governor and serves solely to advocate 1314 on behalf of the consumer. The appointment of a consumer 1315 representative by the Governor is in addition to the 1316 appointments authorized under sub-subparagraph a.

1317 a. The Governor, the Chief Financial Officer, the President1318 of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives

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1319 shall each appoint two members of the board. All board members, 1320 except those appointed by the speaker, must be confirmed by the 1321 Senate during the legislative session following their 1322 appointment. At least one of the two members appointed by each 1323 appointing officer must have demonstrated expertise in insurance 1324 and must be is deemed to be within the scope of the exemption 1325 provided under in s. 112.313(7)(b). The Chief Financial Officer 1326 shall designate one of the appointees as chair for the purpose 1327 of presiding over the orderly conduct of meetings. An appointee 1328 serves as chair for no more than one term. All board members 1329 serve at the pleasure of the appointing officer. All members of 1330 the board are subject to removal at will by the officers who 1331 appointed them. All board members, including the chair, shall 1332 must be appointed to serve for 3-year terms beginning annually 1333 on a date designated by the plan. However, for the first term beginning on or after July 1, 2009, each appointing officer 1334 1335 shall appoint one member of the board for a 2-year term and one member for a 3-year term. A board vacancy shall be filled for 1336 1337 the unexpired term by the appointing officer. The Chief 1338 Financial Officer shall appoint a technical advisory group to 1339 provide information and advice to the executive director and the board in connection with the corporation's board's duties under 1340 1341 this subsection. The executive director shall be appointed by 1342 and serve at the pleasure of the Governor and the Chief 1343 Financial Officer. and Senior managers of the corporation shall 1344 be appointed by the executive director, with the concurrence of 1345 engaged by the board, and serve at the pleasure of the executive director board. Appointment of the Any executive director 1346 appointed on or after July 1, 2006, is subject to confirmation 1347

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by the Senate <u>upon original appointment and upon the election or</u> reelection of the Governor and Chief Financial Officer if <u>retained</u>. The executive director is responsible for employing other staff <del>as</del> the corporation may require, subject to review and concurrence by the board.

b. The board shall create a Market Accountability Advisory
Committee to assist the corporation in developing awareness of
its rates and its customer and agent service levels in
relationship to the voluntary market insurers writing similar
coverage.

1358 (I) The members of the advisory committee consist of the 1359 following 11 persons, one of whom must be elected chair by the 1360 members of the committee: four representatives, one appointed by 1361 the Florida Association of Insurance Agents, one by the Florida 1362 Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors, one by the 1363 Professional Insurance Agents of Florida, and one by the Latin American Association of Insurance Agencies; three 1364 1365 representatives appointed by the insurers with the three highest 1366 voluntary market share of residential property insurance 1367 business in the state; one representative from the Office of 1368 Insurance Regulation; one consumer appointed by the board who is 1369 insured by the corporation at the time of appointment to the 1370 committee; one representative appointed by the Florida 1371 Association of Realtors; and one representative appointed by the 1372 Florida Bankers Association. All members shall be appointed to 1373 3-year terms, serve at the pleasure of the board of governors, 1374 and may serve for consecutive terms.

1375 (II) The committee shall report to the corporation at each 1376 board meeting on insurance market issues <u>that</u> which may include

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1377 rates and rate competition within with the voluntary market; 1378 service, including policy issuance, claims processing, and 1379 general responsiveness to policyholders, applicants, and agents; 1380 and matters relating to depopulation.

1381 5. Must provide a procedure for determining the eligibility 1382 of a risk for coverage by the corporation which applies to both 1383 <u>new and renewal policies</u>, as follows:

1384 a. Subject to s. 627.3517, with respect to personal lines 1385 residential risks, if the risk is offered coverage from an 1386 authorized insurer at the insurer's approved rate under a 1387 standard policy including wind coverage or, if consistent with 1388 the insurer's underwriting rules as filed with the office, a basic policy including wind coverage, for a new application to 1389 1390 the corporation for coverage, the risk is not eligible for any policy issued by the corporation unless the premium for coverage 1391 from the authorized insurer is more than 15 percent greater than 1392 1393 the premium for comparable coverage from the corporation. For renewal policies, the risk is not eligible for a policy issued 1394 1395 by the corporation unless the premium for coverage from an 1396 authorized insurer is more than 5 percent higher than the 1397 premium for comparable coverage from the corporation. If the risk is not able to obtain such offer, the risk is eligible for 1398 1399 a standard policy including wind coverage or a basic policy 1400 including wind coverage issued by the corporation; however, if 1401 the risk could not be insured under a standard policy including 1402 wind coverage regardless of market conditions, the risk is 1403 eligible for a basic policy including wind coverage unless rejected under subparagraph 8. However, a policyholder of the 1404 1405 corporation or a policyholder removed from the corporation

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1406 through an assumption agreement until the end of the assumption 1407 period remains eligible for coverage from the corporation 1408 regardless of any offer of coverage from an authorized insurer 1409 or surplus lines insurer. The corporation shall determine the 1410 type of policy to be provided on the basis of objective 1411 standards specified in the underwriting manual and based on 1412 generally accepted underwriting practices. 1413 (I) If the risk accepts an offer of coverage through the 1414 market assistance plan or through a mechanism established by the 1415 corporation before a policy is issued to the risk by the 1416 corporation or during the first 30 days of coverage by the 1417 corporation, and the producing agent who submitted the 1418 application to the plan or to the corporation is not currently 1419 appointed by the insurer, the insurer shall: 1420 (A) Pay to the producing agent of record of the policy for 1421 the first year, an amount that is the greater of the insurer's usual and customary commission for the type of policy written or 1422 1423 a fee equal to the usual and customary commission of the 1424 corporation; or (B) Offer to allow the producing agent of record of the 1425 1426 policy to continue servicing the policy for at least 1 year and 1427 offer to pay the agent the greater of the insurer's or the 1428 corporation's usual and customary commission for the type of 1429 policy written. 1430

1431 If the producing agent is unwilling or unable to accept 1432 appointment, the new insurer shall pay the agent in accordance 1433 with sub-sub-subparagraph (A).

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(II) If the corporation enters into a contractual agreement

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1435 for a take-out plan, the producing agent of record of the 1436 corporation policy is entitled to retain any unearned commission 1437 on the policy, and the insurer shall:

(A) Pay to the producing agent of record, for the first year, an amount that is the greater of the insurer's usual and customary commission for the type of policy written or a fee equal to the usual and customary commission of the corporation; or

(B) Offer to allow the producing agent of record to continue servicing the policy for at least 1 year and offer to pay the agent the greater of the insurer's or the corporation's usual and customary commission for the type of policy written.

1448 If the producing agent is unwilling or unable to accept 1449 appointment, the new insurer shall pay the agent in accordance 1450 with sub-sub-subparagraph (A).

1451 b. With respect to commercial lines residential risks, for a new application to the corporation for coverage, if the risk 1452 1453 is offered coverage under a policy including wind coverage from 1454 an authorized insurer at its approved rate, the risk is not 1455 eligible for a policy issued by the corporation unless the 1456 premium for coverage from the authorized insurer is more than 15 1457 percent greater than the premium for comparable coverage from 1458 the corporation. If the risk is not able to obtain any such 1459 offer, the risk is eligible for a policy including wind coverage 1460 issued by the corporation. However, a policyholder of the 1461 corporation or a policyholder removed from the corporation through an assumption agreement until the end of the assumption 1462 period remains eligible for coverage from the corporation 1463

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## 1464 regardless of an offer of coverage from an authorized insurer or 1465 surplus lines insurer.

(I) If the risk accepts an offer of coverage through the market assistance plan or through a mechanism established by the corporation before a policy is issued to the risk by the corporation or during the first 30 days of coverage by the corporation, and the producing agent who submitted the application to the plan or the corporation is not currently appointed by the insurer, the insurer shall:

(A) Pay to the producing agent of record of the policy, for the first year, an amount that is the greater of the insurer's usual and customary commission for the type of policy written or a fee equal to the usual and customary commission of the corporation; or

(B) Offer to allow the producing agent of record of the policy to continue servicing the policy for at least 1 year and offer to pay the agent the greater of the insurer's or the corporation's usual and customary commission for the type of policy written.

1484 If the producing agent is unwilling or unable to accept 1485 appointment, the new insurer shall pay the agent in accordance 1486 with sub-sub-subparagraph (A).

(II) If the corporation enters into a contractual agreement for a take-out plan, the producing agent of record of the corporation policy is entitled to retain any unearned commission on the policy, and the insurer shall:

(A) Pay to the producing agent of record, for the firstyear, an amount that is the greater of the insurer's usual and

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1493 customary commission for the type of policy written or a fee 1494 equal to the usual and customary commission of the corporation; 1495 or

(B) Offer to allow the producing agent of record to continue servicing the policy for at least 1 year and offer to pay the agent the greater of the insurer's or the corporation's usual and customary commission for the type of policy written.

1501 If the producing agent is unwilling or unable to accept 1502 appointment, the new insurer shall pay the agent in accordance 1503 with sub-sub-subparagraph (A).

1504 c. For purposes of determining comparable coverage under 1505 sub-subparagraphs a. and b., the comparison must be based on 1506 those forms and coverages that are reasonably comparable. The corporation may rely on a determination of comparable coverage 1507 1508 and premium made by the producing agent who submits the 1509 application to the corporation, made in the agent's capacity as 1510 the corporation's agent. A comparison may be made solely of the 1511 premium with respect to the main building or structure only on 1512 the following basis: the same coverage A or other building 1513 limits; the same percentage hurricane deductible that applies on 1514 an annual basis or that applies to each hurricane for commercial 1515 residential property; the same percentage of ordinance and law 1516 coverage, if the same limit is offered by both the corporation 1517 and the authorized insurer; the same mitigation credits, to the 1518 extent the same types of credits are offered both by the 1519 corporation and the authorized insurer; the same method for loss 1520 payment, such as replacement cost or actual cash value, if the 1521 same method is offered both by the corporation and the

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1522 authorized insurer in accordance with underwriting rules; and 1523 any other form or coverage that is reasonably comparable as 1524 determined by the board. If an application is submitted to the 1525 corporation for wind-only coverage in the coastal account, the 1526 premium for the corporation's wind-only policy plus the premium 1527 for the ex-wind policy that is offered by an authorized insurer 1528 to the applicant must be compared to the premium for multiperil 1529 coverage offered by an authorized insurer, subject to the 1530 standards for comparison specified in this subparagraph. If the 1531 corporation or the applicant requests from the authorized 1532 insurer a breakdown of the premium of the offer by types of 1533 coverage so that a comparison may be made by the corporation or 1534 its agent and the authorized insurer refuses or is unable to 1535 provide such information, the corporation may treat the offer as 1536 not being an offer of coverage from an authorized insurer at the 1537 insurer's approved rate.

1538 6. Must include rules for classifications of risks and1539 rates.

1540 7. Must provide that if premium and investment income for 1541 an account attributable to a particular calendar year are in 1542 excess of projected losses and expenses for the account 1543 attributable to that year, such excess must shall be held in 1544 surplus in the account. Such surplus must be available to defray 1545 deficits in that account as to future years and used for that 1546 purpose before assessing assessable insurers and assessable 1547 insureds as to any calendar year.

1548 8. Must provide objective criteria and procedures <u>that are</u> 1549 to be uniformly applied to all applicants in determining whether 1550 an individual risk is so hazardous as to be uninsurable. In

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1551 making this determination and in establishing the criteria and 1552 procedures, the following must be considered:

a. Whether the likelihood of a loss for the individual risk
is substantially higher than for other risks of the same class;
and

b. Whether the uncertainty associated with the individual risk is such that an appropriate premium cannot be determined. 1558

1559 The acceptance or rejection of a risk by the corporation shall 1560 be construed as the private placement of insurance, and the 1561 provisions of chapter 120 do not apply.

9. Must provide that the corporation make its best efforts to procure catastrophe reinsurance at reasonable rates, to cover its projected 100-year probable maximum loss as determined by the board of governors.

1566 10. <u>Must provide that</u> the policies issued by the 1567 corporation must provide that if the corporation or the market 1568 assistance plan obtains an offer from an authorized insurer to 1569 cover the risk at its approved rates, the risk is no longer 1570 eligible for renewal through the corporation, except as 1571 otherwise provided in this subsection.

1572 11. Must provide that corporation policies and applications 1573 must include a notice that the corporation policy could, under 1574 this section, be replaced with a policy issued by an authorized 1575 insurer which does not provide coverage identical to the 1576 coverage provided by the corporation. The notice must also 1577 specify that acceptance of corporation coverage creates a 1578 conclusive presumption that the applicant or policyholder is 1579 aware of this potential.

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1580 12. May establish, subject to approval by the office, 1581 different eligibility requirements and operational procedures 1582 for any line or type of coverage for any specified county or 1583 area if the board determines that such changes are justified due 1584 to the voluntary market being sufficiently stable and 1585 competitive in such area or for such line or type of coverage 1586 and that consumers who, in good faith, are unable to obtain 1587 insurance through the voluntary market through ordinary methods 1588 continue to have access to coverage from the corporation. If 1589 coverage is sought in connection with a real property transfer, 1590 the requirements and procedures may not provide an effective 1591 date of coverage later than the date of the closing of the 1592 transfer as established by the transferor, the transferee, and, 1593 if applicable, the lender.

1594 13. Must provide that, with respect to the coastal account, 1595 any assessable insurer that has with a surplus as to 1596 policyholders of \$25 million or less writing 25 percent or more 1597 of its total countrywide property insurance premiums in this 1598 state may petition the office, within the first 90 days of each 1599 calendar year, petition the office to qualify as a limited 1600 apportionment company. A regular assessment levied by the 1601 corporation on a limited apportionment company for a deficit 1602 incurred by the corporation for the coastal account may be paid 1603 to the corporation on a monthly basis as the assessments are 1604 collected by the limited apportionment company from its 1605 insureds. The, but a limited apportionment company must begin 1606 collecting the regular assessments within not later than 90 days after the regular assessments are levied by the corporation, and 1607 1608 the regular assessments must be paid in full within 15 months

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1609 after being levied by the corporation. A limited apportionment 1610 company shall collect from its policyholders any emergency 1611 assessment imposed under sub-subparagraph (b)3.d. The plan must 1612 provide that, if the office determines that any regular 1613 assessment will result in an impairment of the surplus of a 1614 limited apportionment company, the office may direct that all or 1615 part of such assessment be deferred as provided in subparagraph 1616 (q)4. However, an emergency assessment to be collected from 1617 policyholders under sub-subparagraph (b)3.d. may not be limited 1618 or deferred.

1619 14. Must provide that the corporation appoint as its 1620 licensed agents only those agents who at the time of initial 1621 appointment also hold an appointment as defined in s. 626.015(3) 1622 with an insurer who at the time of the agent's initial 1623 appointment by the corporation is authorized to write and is 1624 actually writing personal lines residential property coverage, 1625 commercial residential property coverage, or commercial 1626 nonresidential property coverage within the state. As a condition of continued appointment, agents of the corporation 1627 1628 must maintain appropriate documentation specified by the 1629 corporation which warrants and certifies that alternative 1630 coverage was annually sought for each risk placed by that agent 1631 with the corporation in accordance with s. 627.3518. After 1632 January 1, 2014, if an agent places a policy with the 1633 corporation which was ineligible for coverage based on 1634 eligibility standards at the time of placement, agent 1635 commissions may not be paid on that policy.

1636 15. Must provide a premium payment plan option to its 1637 policyholders which, at a minimum, allows for quarterly and

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1638	semiannual payment of premiums. A monthly payment plan may, but
1639	is not required to, be offered.
1640	16. <u>Must make available a policy for mobile homes or</u>
1641	manufactured homes with a minimum insured value of at least
1642	<u>\$3,000.</u> Must limit Coverage on mobile homes or manufactured
1643	homes built before 1994 <u>is limited</u> to actual cash value of the
1644	dwelling rather than replacement costs of the dwelling. <u>Such</u>
1645	coverage must also include the following attached structures:
1646	a. Screened enclosures that are aluminum framed or that are
1647	not covered by the same or substantially the same materials as
1648	those of the primary dwelling;
1649	b. Carports that are aluminum or that are not covered by
1650	the same or substantially the same materials as those of the
1651	primary dwelling; and
1652	c. Patios that have a roof covering constructed of
1653	materials that are not the same or substantially the same
1654	materials as those of the primary dwelling.
1655	17. May provide such limits of coverage as the board
1656	determines, consistent with the requirements of this subsection.
1657	18. May require commercial property to meet specified
1658	hurricane mitigation construction features as a condition of
1659	eligibility for coverage.
1660	19. Must provide that new or renewal policies issued by the
1661	corporation on or after January 1, 2012, which cover sinkhole
1662	loss do not include coverage for any loss to appurtenant
1663	structures, driveways, sidewalks, decks, or patios that are
1664	directly or indirectly caused by sinkhole activity. The
1665	corporation shall exclude such coverage using a notice of
1666	coverage change, which may be included with the policy renewal,

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1667 and not by issuance of a notice of nonrenewal of the excluded 1668 coverage upon renewal of the current policy.

1669 20. <u>Must</u>, as of <u>July</u> <del>January</del> 1, <u>2014</u> <del>2012</del>, must require 1670 that the agent obtain from an applicant for coverage from the 1671 corporation an acknowledgment signed by the applicant, which 1672 includes, at a minimum, the following statement:

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF POTENTIAL SURCHARGEAND ASSESSMENT LIABILITY:

1676 1. AS A POLICYHOLDER OF CITIZENS PROPERTY INSURANCE 1677 CORPORATION, I UNDERSTAND THAT IF THE CORPORATION SUSTAINS A 1678 DEFICIT AS A RESULT OF HURRICANE LOSSES OR FOR ANY OTHER REASON, 1679 MY POLICY COULD BE SUBJECT TO SURCHARGES, WHICH WILL BE DUE AND 1680 PAYABLE UPON RENEWAL, CANCELLATION, OR TERMINATION OF THE POLICY, AND THAT THE SURCHARGES COULD BE AS HIGH AS 45 PERCENT 1681 1682 OF MY PREMIUM, OR A DIFFERENT AMOUNT AS IMPOSED BY THE FLORIDA 1683 LEGISLATURE.

16842. I UNDERSTAND THAT I CAN AVOID THE CITIZENS POLICYHOLDER1685SURCHARGE, WHICH COULD BE AS HIGH AS 45 PERCENT OF MY PREMIUM,1686BY OBTAINING COVERAGE FROM A PRIVATE MARKET INSURER AND THAT TO1687BE ELIGIBLE FOR COVERAGE BY CITIZENS I MUST FIRST TRY TO OBTAIN1688PRIVATE MARKET COVERAGE BEFORE APPLYING FOR OR RENEWING COVERAGE1689WITH CITIZENS. I UNDERSTAND THAT PRIVATE MARKET INSURANCE RATES1690ARE REGULATED AND APPROVED BY THE STATE.

1691 <u>3.2.</u> I ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT I MAY BE SUBJECT TO EMERGENCY 1692 ASSESSMENTS TO THE SAME EXTENT AS POLICYHOLDERS OF OTHER 1693 INSURANCE COMPANIES, OR A DIFFERENT AMOUNT AS IMPOSED BY THE 1694 FLORIDA LEGISLATURE.

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4.3. I ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT CITIZENS PROPERTY INSURANCE

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1696 CORPORATION IS NOT SUPPORTED BY THE FULL FAITH AND CREDIT OF THE 1697 STATE OF FLORIDA.

a. The corporation shall maintain, in electronic format or otherwise, a copy of the applicant's signed acknowledgment and provide a copy of the statement to the policyholder as part of <u>his or her the first</u> renewal after the effective date of this subparagraph.

b. The signed acknowledgment form creates a conclusive presumption that the policyholder understood and accepted his or her potential surcharge and assessment liability as a policyholder of the corporation.

1707 (g) The executive director, with the concurrence of the 1708 board, shall determine whether it is more cost-effective and in 1709 the best interests of the corporation to use legal services 1710 provided by in-house attorneys employed by the corporation 1711 rather than contracting with outside counsel. In making such determination, the board shall document its findings and shall 1712 1713 consider: the expertise needed; whether time commitments exceed 1714 in-house staff resources; whether local representation is 1715 needed; the travel, lodging and other costs associated with in-1716 house representation; and such other factors that the board 1717 determines are relevant.

(i)1. The Office of the Internal Auditor is established within the corporation to provide a central point for coordination of and responsibility for activities that promote accountability, integrity, and efficiency to the policyholders and to the taxpayers of this state. The internal auditor shall be appointed by the board of governors, shall report to and be under the general supervision of the board of governors, and is

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1725 not subject to supervision by <u>an</u> any employee of the 1726 corporation. Administrative staff and support shall be provided 1727 by the corporation. The internal auditor shall be appointed 1728 without regard to political affiliation. It is the duty and 1729 responsibility of the internal auditor to:

a. Provide direction for, supervise, conduct, and
coordinate audits, investigations, and management reviews
relating to the programs and operations of the corporation.

b. Conduct, supervise, or coordinate other activities carried out or financed by the corporation for the purpose of promoting efficiency in the administration of, or preventing and detecting fraud, abuse, and mismanagement in, its programs and operations.

1738 c. Submit final audit reports, reviews, or investigative 1739 reports to the board of governors, the executive director, the 1740 members of the Financial Services Commission, and the President 1741 of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

d. Keep the <u>executive director and the</u> board of governors informed concerning fraud, abuses, and internal control deficiencies relating to programs and operations administered or financed by the corporation, recommend corrective action, and report on the progress made in implementing corrective action.

<u>e. Cooperate and coordinate activities with the</u> <u>corporation's inspector general.</u>

e. Report expeditiously to the Department of Law Enforcement or other law enforcement agencies, as appropriate, whenever the internal auditor has reasonable grounds to believe there has been a violation of criminal law.

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2. On or before February 15, the internal auditor shall

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1754 prepare an annual report evaluating the effectiveness of the 1755 internal controls of the corporation and providing 1756 recommendations for corrective action, if necessary, and 1757 summarizing the audits, reviews, and investigations conducted by 1758 the office during the preceding fiscal year. The final report 1759 shall be furnished to the board of governors and the executive 1760 director, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House 1761 of Representatives, and the Financial Services Commission.

1762 (m)1. The Auditor General shall conduct an operational 1763 audit of the corporation annually every 3 years to evaluate 1764 management's performance in administering laws, policies, and 1765 procedures governing the operations of the corporation in an 1766 efficient and effective manner. The scope of the review must 1767 shall include, but is not limited to, evaluating claims handling, customer service, take-out programs and bonuses; 1768 1769 financing arrangements made to address a 100-year probable 1770 maximum loss; personnel costs and administration; underwriting, 1771 including processes designed to ensure compliance with policy eligibility requirements of law; - procurement of goods and 1772 1773 services; r internal controls; r and the internal audit function; 1774 and related internal controls. A copy of the report shall be 1775 provided to the corporation's board, the President of the 1776 Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, each member 1777 of the Financial Services Commission, and the Office of 1778 Insurance Regulation. The initial audit must be completed by February 1<del>, 2009</del>. 1779

1780 <u>2. The executive director, with the concurrence of the</u>
 1781 <u>board, shall contract with an independent auditing firm to</u>
 1782 <u>conduct a performance audit of the corporation every 2 years.</u>

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1783 The objectives of the audit include, but are not limited to, an 1784 evaluation, within the context of insurance industry best 1785 practices, of the corporation's strategic planning processes, 1786 the functionality of the corporation's organizational structure, 1787 the compensation levels of senior management, and the overall 1788 management and operations of the corporation. A copy of the 1789 audit report shall be provided to the corporation's board, the 1790 President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of 1791 Representatives, each member of the Financial Services Commission, the Office of Insurance Regulation, and the Auditor 1792 1793 General. The initial audit must be completed by June 1, 2014.

1794 (q)1. The corporation shall certify to the office its needs 1795 for annual assessments as to a particular calendar year, and for 1796 any interim assessments that it deems to be necessary to sustain 1797 operations as to a particular year pending the receipt of annual 1798 assessments. Upon verification, the office shall approve such 1799 certification, and the corporation shall levy such annual or 1800 interim assessments. Such assessments shall be prorated as 1801 provided in paragraph (b). The corporation shall take all 1802 reasonable and prudent steps necessary to collect the amount of 1803 assessments due from each assessable insurer, including, if 1804 prudent, filing suit to collect the assessments, and the office 1805 may provide such assistance to the corporation it deems 1806 appropriate. If the corporation is unable to collect an 1807 assessment from any assessable insurer, the uncollected 1808 assessments shall be levied as an additional assessment against 1809 the assessable insurers and any assessable insurer required to pay an additional assessment as a result of such failure to pay 1810 1811 shall have a cause of action against the such nonpaying

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1812 assessable insurer. Assessments <u>must</u> shall be included as an appropriate factor in the making of rates. The failure of a surplus lines agent to collect and remit any regular or emergency assessment levied by the corporation is <del>considered to</del> be a violation of s. 626.936 and subjects the surplus lines agent to the penalties provided in that section.

1818 2. The governing body of any unit of local government, any 1819 residents of which are insured by the corporation, may issue 1820 bonds as defined in s. 125.013 or s. 166.101 from time to time 1821 to fund an assistance program, in conjunction with the 1822 corporation, for the purpose of defraying deficits of the 1823 corporation. In order to avoid needless and indiscriminate 1824 proliferation, duplication, and fragmentation of such assistance 1825 programs, the any unit of local government, any residents of 1826 which are insured by the corporation, may provide for the 1827 payment of losses, regardless of whether or not the losses 1828 occurred within or outside of the territorial jurisdiction of 1829 the local government. Revenue bonds under this subparagraph may 1830 not be issued until validated pursuant to chapter 75, unless a 1831 state of emergency is declared by executive order or 1832 proclamation of the Governor pursuant to s. 252.36 which makes 1833 making such findings as are necessary to determine that it is in 1834 the best interests of, and necessary for, the protection of the 1835 public health, safety, and general welfare of residents of this 1836 state and declaring it an essential public purpose to permit certain municipalities or counties to issue such bonds as will 1837 1838 permit relief to claimants and policyholders of the corporation. 1839 Any such unit of local government may enter into such contracts with the corporation and with any other entity created pursuant 1840

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1841 to this subsection as are necessary to carry out this paragraph. Any bonds issued are under this subparagraph shall be payable 1842 1843 from and secured by moneys received by the corporation from 1844 emergency assessments under sub-subparagraph (b)3.d., and 1845 assigned and pledged to or on behalf of the unit of local government for the benefit of the holders of such bonds. The 1846 1847 funds, credit, property, and taxing power of the state or of the unit of local government may shall not be pledged for the 1848 1849 payment of such bonds.

1850 3.a. The corporation shall adopt one or more programs
1851 subject to approval by the office for the reduction of both new
1852 and renewal writings by in the corporation. The corporation may
1853 consider any prudent and not unfairly discriminatory approach to
1854 reducing corporation writings.

1855 a. The corporation may adopt a credit against assessment 1856 liability or other liability which provides an incentive for 1857 insurers to take and keep risks out of the corporation by 1858 maintaining or increasing voluntary writings in counties or 1859 areas in which corporation risks are highly concentrated, and a 1860 program to provide a formula under which an insurer voluntarily 1861 taking risks out of the corporation by maintaining or increasing 1862 voluntary writings is relieved, wholly or partially, from 1863 assessments under sub-subparagraph (b)3.a.

<u>b.</u> Beginning January 1, 2008, Any program the corporation adopts for the payment of bonuses to an insurer for each risk the insurer removes from the corporation <u>must</u> shall comply with s. 627.3511(2) and may not exceed the amount referenced in s. 627.3511(2) for each risk removed. The corporation may consider any prudent and not unfairly discriminatory approach to reducing

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1870 corporation writings, and may adopt a credit against assessment 1871 liability or other liability that provides an incentive for 1872 insurers to take risks out of the corporation and to keep risks 1873 out of the corporation by maintaining or increasing voluntary writings in counties or areas in which corporation risks are 1874 1875 highly concentrated and a program to provide a formula under which an insurer voluntarily taking risks out of the corporation 1876 by maintaining or increasing voluntary writings will be relieved 1877 1878 wholly or partially from assessments under sub-subparagraph (b) 3.a. However, Any "take-out bonus" or payment to an insurer 1879 1880 must be conditioned on the property being insured for at least 5 1881 years by the insurer, unless canceled or nonrenewed by the policyholder. If the policy is canceled or nonrenewed by the 1882 1883 policyholder before the end of the 5-year period, the amount of the take-out bonus must be prorated for the time period the 1884 1885 policy was insured. If When the corporation enters into a contractual agreement for a take-out plan, the producing agent 1886 of record of the corporation policy is entitled to retain any 1887 1888 unearned commission on such policy, and the insurer shall 1889 either:

(I) Pay to the producing agent of record of the policy, for the first year, an amount which is the greater of the insurer's usual and customary commission for the type of policy written or a policy fee equal to the usual and customary commission of the corporation; or

(II) Offer to allow the producing agent of record of the policy to continue servicing the policy for <u>at least</u> a period of not less than 1 year and offer to pay the agent the insurer's usual and customary commission for the type of policy written.

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1899 If the producing agent is unwilling or unable to accept 1900 appointment by the new insurer, the new insurer shall pay the 1901 agent in accordance with sub-subparagraph (I).

1902 c.b. Any credit or exemption from regular assessments 1903 adopted under this subparagraph shall last up to no longer than 1904 the 3 years after following the cancellation or expiration of 1905 the policy by the corporation. With the approval of the office, 1906 the board may extend such credits for an additional year if the 1907 insurer guarantees an additional year of renewability for all 1908 policies removed from the corporation, or for 2 additional years 1909 if the insurer guarantees 2 additional years of renewability for 1910 all policies so removed.

1911 <u>d.c. A</u> There shall be no credit, limitation, exemption, or 1912 deferment from emergency assessments to be collected from 1913 policyholders pursuant to sub-subparagraph (b)3.d. <u>is</u> 1914 prohibited.

1915 4. The corporation plan shall provide for the deferment, in 1916 whole or in part, of the assessment of an assessable insurer, 1917 other than an emergency assessment collected from policyholders 1918 pursuant to sub-subparagraph (b)3.d., if the office finds that 1919 payment of the assessment would endanger or impair the solvency 1920 of the insurer. If In the event an assessment against an assessable insurer is deferred in whole or in part, the amount 1921 1922 by which such assessment is deferred may be assessed against the 1923 other assessable insurers in a manner consistent with the basis 1924 for assessments set forth in paragraph (b).

1925 5. Effective July 1, 2007, In order to evaluate the costs 1926 and benefits of approved take-out plans, if the corporation pays 1927 a bonus or other payment to an insurer for an approved take-out



1928 plan, it shall maintain a record of the address or such other 1929 identifying information on the property or risk removed in order 1930 to track if and when the property or risk is later insured by 1931 the corporation.

1932 6. Any policy taken out, assumed, or removed from the 1933 corporation is, as of the effective date of the take-out, 1934 assumption, or removal, direct insurance issued by the insurer 1935 and not by the corporation, even if the corporation continues to 1936 service the policies. This subparagraph applies to policies of 1937 the corporation and not policies taken out, assumed, or removed 1938 from any other entity.

1939 6. The corporation may adopt one or more programs to 1940 encourage authorized insurers to remove policies from the 1941 corporation through a loan from the corporation to an insurer 1942 secured by a surplus note that contains such necessary and 1943 reasonable provisions as the corporation requires. Such surplus 1944 note is subject to the review and approval of the office 1945 pursuant to s. 628.401. The corporation may include, but is not limited to, provisions regarding the maximum size of a loan to 1946 1947 an insurer, capital matching requirements, the relationship 1948 between the aggregate number of policies or amount of loss 1949 exposure removed from the association and the amount of a loan, 1950 retention requirements related to policies removed from the 1951 corporation, and limitations on the number of insurers receiving 1952 loans from the corporation under any one management group in 1953 whatever form or arrangement. If a loan secured by a surplus 1954 note is provided to a new mutual insurance company, the 1955 corporation may require the board of the new mutual insurer to 1956 have a majority of independent board members, may restrict the

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1957 ability of the new mutual insurer to convert to a stock insurer 1958 while the mutual insurer owes any principal or interest under the surplus note to the corporation, establish a capital match 1959 1960 requirement of up to \$1 of private capital for each \$4 of the 1961 corporation's loan to a new mutual insurer, and limit the 1962 eligibility of a new mutual insurer for a waiver of the ceding 1963 commission traditionally associated with take-out programs from 1964 the corporation to those new mutual insurers that agree 1965 contractually to maintain an expense ratio below 20 per cent of 1966 written premium. For this purpose, the term "expense ratio" 1967 means the sum of agent commissions and other acquisition 1968 expenses; general and administrative expenses; and premium 1969 taxes, licenses, and fees, divided by the gross written premium.

1970 (t) For the purposes of s. 199.183(1), the corporation is 1971 shall be considered a political subdivision of the state and is 1972 shall be exempt from the corporate income tax. The premiums, 1973 assessments, investment income, and other revenue of the 1974 corporation are funds received for providing property insurance 1975 coverage as required by this subsection, paying claims for state 1976 residents Florida citizens insured by the corporation, securing 1977 and repaying debt obligations issued by the corporation, and conducting all other activities of the corporation, and are 1978 1979 shall not be considered taxes, fees, licenses, or charges for 1980 services imposed by the Legislature on individuals, businesses, 1981 or agencies outside state government. Bonds and other debt 1982 obligations issued by or on behalf of the corporation are not to 1983 be considered "state bonds" within the meaning of s. 215.58(8). 1984 The corporation is not subject to the procurement provisions of 1985 chapter 287, and Policies and decisions of the corporation

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1986 relating to incurring debt, levying of assessments and the sale, issuance, continuation, terms and claims under corporation 1987 1988 policies, and all services relating thereto, are not subject to 1989 the provisions of chapter 120. The corporation is not required 1990 to obtain or to hold a certificate of authority issued by the 1991 office, nor is it required to participate as a member insurer of 1992 the Florida Insurance Guaranty Association. However, the 1993 corporation is required to pay, in the same manner as an 1994 authorized insurer, assessments levied by the Florida Insurance 1995 Guaranty Association. It is the intent of the Legislature that 1996 the tax exemptions provided in this paragraph will augment the 1997 financial resources of the corporation to better enable the 1998 corporation to fulfill its public purposes. Any debt obligations 1999 issued by the corporation, their transfer, and the income 2000 therefrom, including any profit made on the sale thereof, is 2001 shall at all times be free from taxation of every kind by the 2002 state and any political subdivision or local unit or other 2003 instrumentality thereof; however, this exemption does not apply 2004 to any tax imposed by chapter 220 on interest, income, or 2005 profits on debt obligations owned by corporations other than the 2006 corporation.

2007 (z) In enacting the provisions of this section, the 2008 Legislature recognizes that both the Florida Windstorm 2009 Underwriting Association and the Residential Property and 2010 Casualty Joint Underwriting Association have entered into 2011 financing arrangements that obligate each entity to service its 2012 debts and maintain the capacity to repay funds secured under 2013 these financing arrangements. It is the intent of the 2014 Legislature that nothing in this section not be construed to

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2015 compromise, diminish, or interfere with the rights of creditors 2016 under such financing arrangements. It is further the intent of 2017 the Legislature to preserve the obligations of the Florida 2018 Windstorm Underwriting Association and Residential Property and 2019 Casualty Joint Underwriting Association with regard to 2020 outstanding financing arrangements, with such obligations 2021 passing entirely and unchanged to the corporation and, 2022 specifically, to the applicable account of the corporation. So 2023 long as any bonds, notes, indebtedness, or other financing 2024 obligations of the Florida Windstorm Underwriting Association or 2025 the Residential Property and Casualty Joint Underwriting Association are outstanding, under the terms of the financing 2026 2027 documents pertaining to them, the executive director of the 2028 corporation, with the concurrence of the governing board, of the 2029 corporation shall have and shall exercise the authority to levy, 2030 charge, collect, and receive all premiums, assessments, 2031 surcharges, charges, revenues, and receipts that the 2032 associations had authority to levy, charge, collect, or receive 2033 under the provisions of subsection (2) and this subsection, 2034 respectively, as they existed on January 1, 2002, to provide 2035 moneys, without exercise of the authority provided by this subsection, in at least the amounts, and by the times, as would 2036 2037 be provided under those former provisions of subsection (2) or 2038 this subsection, respectively, so that the value, amount, and 2039 collectability of any assets, revenues, or revenue source 2040 pledged or committed to, or any lien thereon securing such 2041 outstanding bonds, notes, indebtedness, or other financing obligations is will not be diminished, impaired, or adversely 2042 2043 affected by the amendments made by this section act and to

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2044 permit compliance with all provisions of financing documents 2045 pertaining to such bonds, notes, indebtedness, or other 2046 financing obligations, or the security or credit enhancement for 2047 them, and any reference in this subsection to bonds, notes, 2048 indebtedness, financing obligations, or similar obligations, of 2049 the corporation must shall include like instruments or contracts 2050 of the Florida Windstorm Underwriting Association and the 2051 Residential Property and Casualty Joint Underwriting Association 2052 to the extent not inconsistent with the provisions of the 2053 financing documents pertaining to them.

2054 (gg) The Office of Inspector General is established within 2055 the corporation to provide a central point for coordination of 2056 and responsibility for activities that promote accountability, 2057 integrity, and efficiency. The office shall be headed by an 2058 inspector general, which is a senior management position that 2059 involves planning, coordinating, and performing activities 2060 assigned to and assumed by the inspector general for the 2061 corporation.

2062 <u>1. The inspector general shall be appointed by the</u>
2063 <u>Financial Services Commission and may be removed from office</u>
2064 <u>only by the commission. The inspector general shall be appointed</u>
2065 <u>without regard to political affiliation.</u>

a. At a minimum, the inspector general must possess a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university and 8 years of professional experience related to the duties of an inspector general as described in this paragraph, of which 5 years must have been at a supervisory level.

2071 <u>b. Until June 30, 2014, the inspector general shall be</u> 2072 <u>under the general supervision of the Financial Services</u>

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2073	Commission and not subject to the supervision of any employee of
2074	the corporation. Beginning July 1, 2014, the inspector general
2075	shall report to, and be under the supervision of, the chair of
2076	the board of governors. The executive director or corporation
2077	staff may not prevent or prohibit the inspector general from
2078	initiating, carrying out, or completing any review, evaluation,
2079	or investigation.
2080	2. The inspector general shall initiate, direct,
2081	coordinate, participate in, and perform studies, reviews,
2082	evaluations, and investigations designed to assess management
2083	practices; compliance with laws, rules, and policies; and
2084	program effectiveness and efficiency. This includes:
2085	a. Conducting internal examinations; investigating
2086	allegations of fraud, waste, abuse, malfeasance, mismanagement,
2087	employee misconduct, or violations of corporation policies; and
2088	conducting any other investigations as directed by the Financial
2089	Services Commission or as independently determined.
2090	b. Evaluating and recommending actions regarding security,
2091	the ethical behavior of personnel and vendors, and compliance
2092	with rules, laws, policies, and personnel matters; and rendering
2093	ethics opinions.
2094	c. Overseeing or participating in personnel and
2095	administrative policy compliance and management, operational
2096	reviews, and conducting and selecting human resources-related
2097	advice and consultation.
2098	d. In conjunction with the ethics and compliance officer,
2099	evaluating the application of a corporation code of ethics,
2100	providing input on the design and content of ethics-related
2101	policy training courses, educating employees on the code and on

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2102	appropriate conduct, and checking for compliance.
2103	e. Participating in policy development and review. This
2104	includes working collaboratively with the ethics and compliance
2105	officer in the creation, modification, and maintenance of
2106	personnel and administrative services policies and in the
2107	identification of policy enhancements; and researching policy-
2108	related issues.
2109	f. Participating in the activities of the senior management
2110	team and evaluating the management's compliance with recommended
2111	solutions.
2112	g. Cooperating and coordinating activities with the chief
2113	of internal audit, but not conducting internal audits.
2114	h. Maintaining records of investigations and discipline in
2115	accordance with established policies.
2116	i. Supervising and directing the tasks and assignments of
2117	the staff assigned to assist with the inspector general's
2118	projects. This includes regular review and feedback regarding
2119	work in progress and upon completion and providing input
2120	regarding relevant training and staff development activities as
2121	warranted.
2122	j. Directing, planning, preparing, and presenting interim
2123	and final reports and oral briefings to the Financial Services
2124	Commission and the executive director which communicate the
2125	results of studies, reviews, and investigations.
2126	k. Reporting expeditiously to the Department of Law
2127	Enforcement or other law enforcement agencies, as appropriate,
2128	whenever the inspector general has reasonable grounds to believe
2129	there has been a violation of criminal law.
2130	1. Providing the executive director and board chairman with

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2131	independent and objective assessments of programs and
2132	activities.
2133	m. Complying with the General Principles and Standards for
2134	Offices of Inspector General as published and revised by the
2135	Association of Inspectors General.
2136	3. At least annually, the inspector general shall provide a
2137	report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the
2138	House of Representatives regarding the corporation's
2139	clearinghouse and the extent to which policies are being
2140	returned to the voluntary market. This report must include an
2141	analysis regarding the effectiveness of the clearinghouse in
2142	encouraging voluntary market participation in depopulation.
2143	Section 8. Effective October 1, 2013, paragraph (e) of
2144	subsection (6) of section 627.351, Florida Statutes, is amended
2145	to read
2146	627.351 Insurance risk apportionment plans
2147	(6) CITIZENS PROPERTY INSURANCE CORPORATION
2148	(e) The corporation is subject to s. 287.057 for the
2149	purchase of commodities and contractual services except as
2150	otherwise provided in this paragraph. Services provided by
2151	tradepersons or technical experts to assist a licensed adjuster
2152	in the evaluation of individual claims are not subject to the
2153	procurement requirements of this section. Additionally, the
2154	procurement of financial services providers and underwriters
2155	must be made pursuant to s. 627.3513 Purchases that equal or
2156	exceed \$2,500, but are less than \$25,000, shall be made by
2157	receipt of written quotes, written record of telephone quotes,
2158	or informal bids, whenever practical. The procurement of goods
2159	or services valued at or over \$25,000 shall be subject to
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2160	competitive solicitation, except in situations where the goods
2161	or services are provided by a sole source or are deemed an
2162	emergency purchase; the services are exempted from competitive
2163	solicitation requirements under s. 287.057(3)(f); or the
2164	procurement of services is subject to s. 627.3513. Justification
2165	for the sole-sourcing or emergency procurement must be
2166	<del>documented.</del> Contracts for goods or services valued at or <u>more</u>
2167	than over \$100,000 are subject to approval by the board.
2168	1. The corporation is an agency for the purposes of s.
2169	287.057, except for subsection (22) of that section for which
2170	the corporation is an eligible user.
2171	a. The authority of the Department of Management Services
2172	and the Chief Financial Officer under s. 287.057 extends to the
2173	corporation as if the corporation were an agency.
2174	b. The executive director of the corporation is the agency
2175	head under s. 287.057, except for resolution of bid protests for
2176	which the board would serve as the agency head.
2177	2. The corporation must provide notice of a decision or
2178	intended decision concerning a solicitation, contract award, or
2179	exceptional purchase by electronic posting. Such notice must
2180	contain the following statement: "Failure to file a protest
2181	within the time prescribed in this section constitutes a waiver
2182	of proceedings."
2183	a. A person adversely affected by the corporation's
2184	decision or intended decision to award a contract pursuant to s.
2185	287.057(1) or s. 287.057(3)(c) who elects to challenge the
2186	decision must file a written notice of protest with the
2187	executive director of the corporation within 72 hours after the
2188	corporation posts a notice of its decision or intended decision.

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2189 For a protest of the terms, conditions, and specifications contained in a solicitation, including any provisions governing 2190 2191 the methods for ranking bids, proposals, replies, awarding 2192 contracts, reserving rights of further negotiation, or modifying 2193 or amending any contract, the notice of protest must be filed in 2194 writing within 72 hours after the posting of the solicitation. 2195 Saturdays, Sundays, and state holidays are excluded in the 2196 computation of the 72-hour time period.

2197 b. A formal written protest must be filed within 10 days 2198 after the date the notice of protest is filed. The formal 2199 written protest must state with particularity the facts and law 2200 upon which the protest is based. Upon receipt of a formal 2201 written protest that has been timely filed, the corporation must 2202 stop the solicitation or contract award process until the 2203 subject of the protest is resolved by final board action unless 2204 the executive director sets forth in writing particular facts 2205 and circumstances that require the continuance of the 2206 solicitation or contract award process without delay in order to 2207 avoid an immediate and serious danger to the public health, 2208 safety, or welfare. The corporation must provide an opportunity 2209 to resolve the protest by mutual agreement between the parties 2210 within 7 business days after receipt of the formal written 2211 protest. If the subject of a protest is not resolved by mutual 2212 agreement within 7 business days, the corporation's board must 2213 place the protest on the agenda and resolve it at its next regularly scheduled meeting. The protest must be heard by the 2214 2215 board at a publicly noticed meeting in accordance with 2216 procedures established by the board. 2217 c. In a protest of an invitation-to-bid or request-for-

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2218 proposals procurement, submissions made after the bid or proposal opening which amend or supplement the bid or proposal 2219 may not be considered. In protesting an invitation-to-negotiate 2220 2221 procurement, submissions made after the corporation announces 2222 its intent to award a contract, reject all replies, or withdraw 2223 the solicitation that amends or supplements the reply may not be 2224 considered. Unless otherwise provided by law, the burden of 2225 proof rests with the party protesting the corporation's action. 2226 In a competitive-procurement protest, other than a rejection of 2227 all bids, proposals, or replies, the corporation's board must 2228 conduct a de novo proceeding to determine whether the 2229 corporation's proposed action is contrary to the corporation's 2230 governing statutes, the corporation's rules or policies, or the 2231 solicitation specifications. The standard of proof for the 2232 proceeding is whether the corporation's action was clearly 2233 erroneous, contrary to competition, arbitrary, or capricious. In 2234 any bid-protest proceeding contesting an intended corporation 2235 action to reject all bids, proposals, or replies, the standard 2236 of review by the board is whether the corporation's intended 2237 action is illegal, arbitrary, dishonest, or fraudulent. 2238 d. Failure to file a notice of protest or failure to file a formal written protest constitutes a waiver of proceedings. 2239 2240 3. Contract actions and decisions by the board under this 2241 paragraph are final. Any further legal remedy must be made in 2242 the Circuit Court of Leon County. 2243 Section 9. The purchase of commodities and contractual 2244 services by Citizens Property Insurance Corporation commenced 2245 before October 1, 2013, is governed by the law in effect on September 30, 2013. 2246

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2247 Section 10. Effective January 1, 2014, paragraph (n) of 2248 subsection (6) of section 627.351, Florida Statutes, is amended 2249 to read:

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627.351 Insurance risk apportionment plans.-

(6) CITIZENS PROPERTY INSURANCE CORPORATION.-

2252 (n)1. Rates for coverage provided by the corporation must 2253 be actuarially sound and subject to s. 627.062, Except as 2254 otherwise provided in this paragraph, rates for coverage 2255 provided by the corporation must be actuarially sound and not 2256 competitive with approved rates charged in the admitted 2257 voluntary market in order for the corporation to function as a 2258 residual market mechanism that provides insurance only if 2259 insurance cannot be procured in the voluntary market.

a. In establishing actuarially sound rates the corporation shall include an appropriate catastrophe risk load factor that reflects the actual catastrophic risk exposure retained by the corporation.

2264 b. The corporation shall file its recommended rates with 2265 the office at least annually. The corporation shall provide any 2266 additional information regarding the rates which the office 2267 requires. The office shall consider the recommendations of the 2268 board and issue a final order establishing the rates for the 2269 corporation within 45 days after the recommended rates are 2270 filed. The corporation may not pursue an administrative 2271 challenge or judicial review of the final order of the office.

2272 <u>c. In territories located in a county where the corporation</u> 2273 <u>provides more than 75 percent of personal lines residential</u> 2274 <u>policies providing wind coverage, subparagraph 3. applies to all</u> 2275 <u>new personal lines residential policies written by the</u>

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2276 corporation in such territories.

2277 2. In addition to the rates otherwise determined pursuant 2278 to this paragraph, the corporation shall impose and collect an 2279 amount equal to the premium tax provided in s. 624.509 to 2280 augment the financial resources of the corporation.

3. After the public hurricane loss-projection model under s. 627.06281 has been found to be accurate and reliable by the Florida Commission on Hurricane Loss Projection Methodology, the model shall serve as the minimum benchmark for determining the windstorm portion of the corporation's rates. This subparagraph does not require or allow the corporation to adopt rates lower than the rates otherwise required or allowed by this paragraph.

2288 4. The rate filings for the corporation which were approved 2289 by the office and took effect January 1, 2007, are rescinded, 2290 except for those rates that were lowered. As soon as possible, 2291 the corporation shall begin using the lower rates that were in 2292 effect on December 31, 2006, and provide refunds to 2293 policyholders who paid higher rates as a result of that rate 2294 filing. The rates in effect on December 31, 2006, remain in effect for the 2007 and 2008 calendar years except for any rate 2295 2296 change that results in a lower rate. The next rate change that 2297 may increase rates shall take effect pursuant to a new rate 2298 filing recommended by the corporation and established by the 2299 office, subject to this paragraph.

5. Beginning on July 15, 2009, and annually thereafter, the corporation must make a recommended actuarially sound rate filing for each personal and commercial line of business it writes, to be effective no earlier than January 1, 2010.
3.6. Beginning on or after January 1, 2010, and

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2305	notwithstanding the board's recommended rates and the office's
2306	final order regarding the corporation's filed rates under
2307	subparagraph 1., The corporation shall annually implement a rate
2308	increase <u>that</u> <del>which</del> , except for sinkhole coverage, does not
2309	exceed 10 percent for any single policy issued by the
2310	corporation, excluding coverage changes and surcharges <u>, for</u>
2311	residential policyholders who:
2312	a. Were initially insured by the corporation before January
2313	1, 2014, and who have been continuously insured by the
2314	corporation since that date; or
2315	b. Were previously insured with the corporation on or
2316	before December 31, 2013, were continuously insured with the
2317	corporation until being depopulated by a private insurer on or
2318	after January 1, 2014, and who, through no fault of their own,
2319	were nonrenewed by the private insurer within 18 months after
2320	being removed from the corporation and, after submitting an
2321	application to the clearinghouse pursuant to the rating
2322	requirements of 627.3518(5)(a), are eligible for coverage with
2323	the corporation.
2324	4.7. The corporation may also implement an increase to
2325	reflect the effect on the corporation of the cash buildup factor
2326	pursuant to s. 215.555(5)(b).
2327	5.8. The corporation's implementation of rates as
2328	prescribed in subparagraph 3. 6. shall cease for any line of
2329	business written by the corporation upon the corporation's

implementation of actuarially sound rates. Thereafter, the corporation shall annually make a recommended actuarially sound rate filing <u>implementing such rates</u> for each commercial and personal line of business the corporation writes.

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2334	6. The corporation shall annually certify to the office
2335	that its rates comply with the requirements of this paragraph.
2336	If any adjustment in the rates or rating factors of the
2337	corporation is necessary to ensure such compliance, the
2338	corporation shall make and implement such adjustments and file
2339	its revised rates and rating factors with the office. If the
2340	office thereafter determines that the revised rates and rating
2341	factors fail to comply with this paragraph, it shall notify the
2342	corporation and require the corporation to amend its rates or
2343	rating factors in conjunction with its next rate filing. The
2344	office must notify the corporation by electronic means of any
2345	rate filing it approves for any insurer among the insurers
2346	referred to in this paragraph.
2347	7. By January 1, 2014, the board shall provide
2348	recommendations to the Legislature on how to provide relief to a
2349	policyholder whose premium reflects the full rate required under
2350	subparagraph 1. and who demonstrates a financial need at the
2351	time of application or renewal, including the impact of any
2352	phase-in pursuant to s. 627.0629 of required rates under
2353	subparagraph 1.
2354	Section 11. Section 627.3518, Florida Statutes, is created
2355	to read:
2356	627.3518 Citizens Property Insurance Corporation
2357	clearinghouse.—The Legislature recognizes that Citizens Property
2358	Insurance Corporation has authority to establish a clearinghouse
2359	as a separate organizational unit within the corporation for the
2360	purpose of determining the eligibility of new and renewal risks,
2361	excluding commercial residential, seeking coverage through the
2362	corporation and facilitating the identification and diversion of
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2363	ineligible applicants and current policyholders from the
2364	corporation into the voluntary insurance market. The purpose of
2365	this section is to augment that authority by providing a
2366	framework for the corporation to implement such program by
2367	January 1, 2014.
2368	(1) As used in this section, the term:
2369	(a) "Clearinghouse" means the clearinghouse diversion
2370	program created under this section.
2371	(b) "Corporation" means Citizens Property Insurance
2372	Corporation.
2373	(c) "Exclusive agent" means a licensed insurance agent who
2374	has agreed, by contract, to act exclusively for one company or
2375	group of affiliated insurance companies and is disallowed by the
2376	provisions of that contract to directly write for any other
2377	unaffiliated insurer absent express consent from the company or
2378	group of affiliated insurance companies.
2379	(d) "Independent agent" means a licensed insurance agent
2380	not described in paragraph (c).
2381	(2) In order to confirm eligibility with the corporation
2382	and to enhance the access of new applicants for coverage and
2383	existing policyholders of the corporation to offers of coverage
2384	from authorized and eligible insurers, the corporation shall
2385	establish a clearinghouse for personal residential risks in
2386	order to facilitate the diversion of ineligible applicants and
2387	existing policyholders from the corporation into the voluntary
2388	insurance market. The corporation shall also develop appropriate
2389	procedures for facilitating the diversion of ineligible
2390	applicants and existing policyholders for commercial residential
2391	coverage into the private insurance market, and shall report

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2392	such procedures to the President of the Senate and the Speaker
2393	of the House of Representatives by July 1, 2015.
2394	(3) The clearinghouse has the same rights and
2395	responsibilities in carrying out its duties as a licensed
2396	general lines agent, but is not required to employ or engage a
2397	licensed general lines agent or to maintain an insurance agency
2398	license in order to solicit and place insurance coverage. In
2390	
	establishing the clearinghouse, the corporation may:
2400	(a) Require all new applications and all policies due for
2401	renewal to be submitted to the clearinghouse in order to
2402	facilitate obtaining an offer of coverage from an authorized
2403	insurer before binding or renewing coverage by the corporation.
2404	(b) Employ or otherwise contract with individuals or other
2405	entities to provide administrative or professional services in
2406	order to carry out the plan within the corporation in accordance
2407	with the applicable purchasing requirements under s. 627.351.
2408	(c) Enter into a contract with an authorized or eligible
2409	insurer participating in the clearinghouse and accept an
2410	appointment by such insurer.
2411	(d) Provide funds to operate the clearinghouse. Insurers
2412	and agents participating in the clearinghouse are not required
2413	to pay a fee to offset or partially offset the cost of the
2414	clearinghouse, or use the clearinghouse for the renewal of
2415	policies initially written through the clearinghouse.
2416	(e) Develop an enhanced application for obtaining
2417	information that will assist private insurers in determining
2418	whether to make an offer of coverage through the clearinghouse.
2419	(f) Before approving new applications for coverage by the
2420	corporation, require that every application be subject to a

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2421 period of 2 business days during which an insurer participating 2422 in the program may select the application for coverage. The 2423 insurer may issue a binder on any policy selected for coverage 2424 for at least 30 days but not more than 60 days. 2425 (4) An authorized or eligible insurer may participate in 2426 the clearinghouse; however, participation is not mandatory. An insurer that makes an offer of coverage to a new applicant or 2427 2428 renews a policy for a policyholder through the clearinghouse: 2429 (a) Is not required to individually appoint an agent whose 2430 customer is underwritten and bound through the clearinghouse. Notwithstanding s. 626.112, an insurer is not required to 2431 2432 appoint an agent on a policy underwritten through the 2433 clearinghouse if that policy remains with the insurer. An 2434 insurer may appoint an agent whose customer is initially 2435 underwritten and bound through the clearinghouse. If an insurer 2436 accepts a policy from an agent who is not appointed pursuant to 2437 this paragraph and thereafter accepts a policy from such agent, 2438 the provisions of s. 626.112 requiring appointment apply to the 2439 agent. 2440 (b) Must enter into a limited agency agreement with each 2441 agent who is not appointed in accordance with paragraph (a) and 2442 whose customer is underwritten and bound through the 2443 clearinghouse. 2444 (c) Must enter into its standard agency agreement with each 2445 agent whose customer is underwritten and bound through the 2446 clearinghouse if that agent has been appointed by the insurer 2447 pursuant to s. 626.112. 2448 (d) Must comply with s. 627.4133(2). (e) Must allow authorized or eligible insurers 2449

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2450	participating in the clearinghouse to participate through their
2451	single, designated managing general agent or broker; however,
2452	the provisions of paragraph (6)(a) regarding ownership, control,
2453	and use of the expirations apply.
2454	(f) Must pay the producing agent a commission equal to that
2455	paid by the corporation or the usual and customary commission
2456	paid by the insurer for that line of business, whichever is
2457	greater.
2458	(5)(a) Notwithstanding s. 627.3517, an applicant for new
2459	coverage is not eligible for coverage from the corporation if
2460	the applicant is offered coverage from an authorized insurer
2461	through the clearinghouse at a premium that is at or below the
2462	eligibility threshold established under s. 627.351(6)(c)5.a.
2463	(b) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, if a
2464	renewing policyholder of the corporation is offered coverage
2465	from an authorized insurer for a personal lines risk at a
2466	premium that is no more than 5 percent above the corporation's
2467	renewal premium for comparable coverage, the risk is not
2468	eligible for coverage with the corporation.
2469	(c) Notwithstanding s. 626.916(1), if an applicant for new
2470	or renewal coverage from the corporation does not receive an
2471	offer of coverage from an authorized insurer, the applicant may
2472	choose to accept an offer of coverage from an eligible insurer
2473	or its broker under ss. 626.913-626.937. Such offer of coverage
2474	from an eligible insurer does not make the risk ineligible for
2475	coverage with the corporation.
2476	(d) An applicant for new or renewal coverage from the
2477	corporation may choose to accept any offer of coverage received
2478	through the clearinghouse from an authorized insurer.

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2479 (e) Section 627.351(6)(c)5.a.(I) and b.(I) does not apply 2480 to an offer of coverage from an authorized insurer obtained 2481 through the clearinghouse. 2482 (f) The 45-day notice of nonrenewal required under s. 2483 627.4133(2)(b)4.b. applies when a policy is nonrenewed by the 2484 corporation because the risk has received an offer of coverage 2485 pursuant to this section which renders the risk ineligible for 2486 coverage by the corporation. 2487 (6) An independent agent who submits a new application for 2488 coverage or who is the agent of record on a renewal policy submitted to the clearinghouse: 2489 2490 (a) Is granted and must maintain ownership and the 2491 exclusive use of expirations, records, or other written or 2492 electronic information directly related to such application or 2493 renewal written through the corporation or through an insurer 2494 participating in the clearinghouse, notwithstanding s. 2495 627.351(6)(c)5.a.(I)(B) and (II)(B). Such ownership is granted 2496 for as long as the insured remains with the agency or until sold 2497 or surrendered in writing by the agent. A contract with the 2498 corporation or required by the corporation may not amend, 2499 modify, interfere with, or limit such rights of ownership. Such 2500 expirations, records, or other written or electronic information 2501 may be used to review an application or issue a policy or for 2502 any other purpose necessary for placing business through the 2503 clearinghouse. 2504 (b) Is not required to be appointed by an insurer 2505 participating in the clearinghouse for policies written solely 2506 through the clearinghouse, notwithstanding s. 626.112. 2507 (c) May accept an appointment from an insurer participating

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2508	in the clearinghouse.
2509	(d) May enter into a standard or limited agency agreement
2510	with the insurer, at the insurer's option.
2511	
2512	An applicant ineligible for coverage under subsection (5)
2513	remains ineligible if the applicant's independent agent is
2514	unwilling or unable to enter into a standard or limited agency
2515	agreement with an insurer participating in the clearinghouse.
2516	(7) An exclusive agent who submits a new application for
2517	coverage or who is the agent of record on a renewal policy
2518	submitted to the clearinghouse:
2519	(a) Must maintain ownership and the exclusive use of
2520	expirations, records, or other written or electronic information
2521	directly related to such application or renewal written through
2522	the corporation or through an insurer participating in the
2523	clearinghouse, notwithstanding s. 627.351(6)(c)5.a.(I)(B) and
2524	(II)(B). A contract with the corporation or required by the
2525	corporation may not amend, modify, interfere with, or limit such
2526	rights of ownership. Such expirations, records, or other written
2527	or electronic information may be used to review an application
2528	or issue a policy or for any other purpose necessary for placing
2529	business through the clearinghouse.
2530	(b) Is not required to be appointed by an insurer
2531	participating in the clearinghouse for policies written solely
2532	through the clearinghouse, notwithstanding s. 626.112.
2533	(c) Must only facilitate the placement of an offer of
2534	coverage from an insurer whose limited servicing agreement is
2535	approved by that exclusive agent's exclusive insurer.
2536	(d) May enter into a limited servicing agreement with the

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2537	insurer making an offer of coverage, and may do so only after
2538	the exclusive agent's insurer has approved the terms of the
2539	agreement. The exclusive agent's insurer must approve a limited
2540	service agreement for the clearinghouse if the insurer has
2541	approved a service agreement with the agent for other purposes.
2542	
2543	An applicant is ineligible for coverage under subsection (5) if
2544	the applicant's exclusive agent is unwilling or unable to enter
2545	into a standard or limited agency agreement with a participating
2546	insurer making an offer of coverage to that applicant.
2547	(8) Submission of an application to the clearinghouse for
2548	coverage by the corporation does not constitute the binding of
2549	coverage, and the failure of the clearinghouse to obtain an
2550	offer of coverage by an insurer is not considered acceptance of
2551	coverage of the risk by the corporation.
2552	(9) The clearinghouse may not include commercial
2553	nonresidential policies.
2554	Section 12. Section 627.3519, Florida Statutes, is amended
2555	to read:
2556	627.3519 Annual report of aggregate net probable maximum
2557	losses, financing options, and potential assessments.—By $rac{ ext{By}}{ ext{NO}}$
2558	<del>later than</del> February 1 of each year, the <u>Florida Hurricane</u>
2559	Catastrophe Fund and Citizens Property Insurance Corporation
2560	Financial Services Commission shall <u>each</u> provide <del>to the</del>
2561	Legislature a report of their the aggregate net probable maximum
2562	losses, financing options, and potential assessments to the
2563	Legislature and the Financial Services Commission <del>of the Florida</del>
2564	Hurricane Catastrophe Fund and Citizens Property Insurance
2565	Corporation. Each The report must include the respective 50-
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2566 year, 100-year, and 250-year probable maximum losses of the fund 2567 and the corporation; analysis of all reasonable financing 2568 strategies for each such probable maximum loss, including the 2569 amount and term of debt instruments and risk transfer products; 2570 specification of the percentage assessments that would be needed 2571 to support each of the financing strategies; and calculations of 2572 the aggregate assessment burden on Florida property and casualty 2573 policyholders for each of the probable maximum losses. The 2574 commission shall require the fund and the corporation to provide 2575 the commission with such data and analysis as the commission 2576 considers necessary to prepare the report.

2577 Section 13. <u>Temporary keepout program.-Citizens Property</u> 2578 <u>Insurance Corporation shall implement a temporary keepout</u> 2579 <u>program beginning July 1, 2013, and ending on the date the</u> 2580 <u>clearinghouse program established under s. 627.3518, Florida</u> 2581 <u>Statutes, is operational.</u>

(1) Subject to procedures adopted by the corporation, the program shall provide an opportunity for new applicants for personal residential multiperil coverage with the corporation to be offered coverage with authorized insurers through the market assistance plan established under s. 627.3515, Florida Statutes.

(2) The program is subject to all of the following:

(a) The corporation may not accept a new personal residential multiperil application for coverage within 72 hours after submission of the risk to the market assistance plan under subsection (1).

(b) Section 627.3517, Florida Statutes, relating to consumer choice of agent does not apply to applications for coverage accepted by authorized insurers under the program.

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2595	(c) Insurers issuing policies under this section are
2596	subject to s. 627.3518(3), Florida Statutes, relating to agent
2597	appointment, and are not subject to s. 627.351(6)(c)5.a.(I),
2598	Florida Statutes, relating to agent payment.
2599	(d) Notwithstanding s. 626.916(1), Florida Statutes, if an
2600	applicant for new or renewal coverage from the corporation does
2601	not receive an offer of coverage from an eligible insurer, the
2602	applicant may accept an offer from a designated broker of an
2603	insurer eligible under ss. 626.913-626.937, Florida Statutes.
2604	(e) An exclusive agent must only facilitate the placement
2605	of an offer of coverage from an insurer whose limited servicing
2606	agreement is approved by that exclusive agent's exclusive
2607	insurer.
2608	
2609	An applicant is ineligible for coverage if the applicant's agent
2610	is unwilling or unable to enter into a standard or limited
2611	agency agreement with a participating insurer making an offer of
2612	coverage to that applicant.
2613	(3) This section expires on January 1, 2014, or when the
2614	clearinghouse program established under s. 627.3518, Florida
2615	Statutes, becomes operational, whichever occurs first.
2616	Section 14. Section 627.352, Florida Statutes, is created
2617	to read:
2618	627.352 Catastrophe Risk Capital Access Facility
2619	(1) LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND INTENTThe Legislature finds
2620	and declares that:
2621	(a) A growing and competitive private sector market for
2622	residential property insurance is in the public interest.
2623	(b) The global market for catastrophe risk has expanded

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2624	dramatically, resulting in the availability of billions of
2625	dollars in additional risk capital for insurers and new and
2626	innovative alternative risk-transfer mechanisms.
2627	(c) Having access to additional risk capital and risk-
2628	transfer mechanisms provides an opportunity for property
2629	insurers in this state to expand their capacity to write
2630	additional business and diversify their catastrophe risk, which
2631	will serve the public interest of fostering private sector
2632	market growth.
2633	(d) Despite an expansion in the amount of available global
2634	risk capital, state property insurers in general, and smaller
2635	state property insurers in particular, face challenges accessing
2636	global markets if the relatively small amount of risk finance
2637	required by any one company is not economically viable in the
2638	larger global market.
2639	(e) It is the intent of the Legislature to establish a
2640	self-regulating mechanism to facilitate the access of property
2641	insurers generally, and smaller property insurers in particular,
2642	to global risk capital markets and risk-transfer mechanisms for
2643	property risks in this state.
2644	(2) FACILITY CREATEDA nonprofit association, to be known
2645	as the Catastrophe Risk Capital Access Facility, is hereby
2646	created.
2647	(a) The facility must operate pursuant to a plan of
2648	operation adopted by the governing board, except that the
2649	initial plan of operation shall be recommended by the initial
2650	governing board and adopted by the office after consultation
2651	with potential participating insurers and other interested
2652	parties.

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2653	(b) The facility is not intended to be, and may not
2654	function as, an insurer, reinsurer, or other risk-bearing
2655	entity, and is not a state agency, board, or commission.
2656	(3) MEMBERSHIPAn insurer holding a certificate of
2657	authority to transact property insurance in this state is
2658	eligible to become a member of the facility. To become a member,
2659	an insurer must file a declaration of intent with the office by
2660	September 30, 2013.
2661	(4) INITIAL GOVERNING BOARD.—
2662	(a) Each insurer that timely files a declaration under
2663	subsection (3) is a member of the initial governing board of the
2664	facility and has a vote proportional to its share of direct
2665	premium for property insurance written in this state as of
2666	December 31, 2012. At a minimum, three insurers must file a
2667	declaration of intent to constitute an initial governing board
2668	and activate the facility.
2669	(b) The initial governing board must hold its first meeting
2670	at a time and place specified by the office. At the first
2671	meeting, the initial governing board must elect one of its
2672	members to serve as chair.
2673	(c) The initial governing board must submit a recommended
2674	plan of operation to the office by December 1, 2013. The initial
2675	governing board may retain staff or professionals to assist in
2676	the preparation of the proposed plan of operation.
2677	(d) The initial governing board must provide the presiding
2678	officers and minority party leaders of the Legislature with
2679	recommendations and draft legislation addressing the facility's
2680	need, if any, for exemptions from public records and open
2681	meetings laws by December 31, 2013.
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2682 (e) The functions of the initial governing board terminate 2683 upon the election of a governing board as provided in the plan 2684 of operation. 2685 (5) GOVERNING BOARD.-Beginning on the effective date of the 2686 plan of operation, the facility shall operate under a seven-2687 member governing board composed of representatives of member 2688 insurers, appointed as specified in the plan of operation. 2689 (6) PLAN OF OPERATION. - The plan of operation: 2690 (a) Must specify the following functions of the facility: 2691 1. Aggregating the demand of members for risk finance for 2692 state property risks from global capital markets. 2693 2. Designing and executing risk-transfer tools such as 2694 insurance-linked securities and other appropriate instruments 2695 for state property risks for members; using special purpose 2696 vehicles or onshore or offshore protected cells, as appropriate, 2697 to increase members' access to risk capital for state property risks; and making use of any other financial instruments or 2698 2699 reinsurance or pooling arrangements that may develop in the 2700 market. 2701 3. Identifying and coordinating appropriate risk-transfer 2702 products and opportunities for state property risks, initially 2703 targeting layers of coverage below, alongside, and above the 2704 coverage provided by the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund. 2705 4. Establishing and maintaining regular and ongoing contact 2706 with global risk capital market participants, institutions, and 2707 investors in order to identify opportunities that satisfy and 2708 coordinate with insurer demand for additional risk capital for 2709 state property risks. 2710 (b) Must provide that in conducting its affairs, the

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2711	facility may not:
2712	1. Take a position in, or provide financial support for,
2713	any risk-transfer transaction.
2714	2. Be a guarantor of premium or make any other financial
2715	guarantees to a member.
2716	3. Enter into any contract on the part of the state or
2717	create any state contractual obligations.
2718	4. Impose or levy any taxes, assessments, or similar
2719	charges.
2720	(c) Must provide for funding the expenses of the facility,
2721	including an initial charge that applies to all members and
2722	subsequent charges to members on a pro rata basis.
2723	(d) Must provide additional annual enrollment periods for
2724	eligible insurers to become members of the facility.
2725	(e) Must provide for the election and terms of the
2726	governing board.
2727	(f) May provide for the appointment or retention of staff
2728	and professionals as the governing board deems appropriate.
2729	(g) Must require the facility to submit a biennial report
2730	and annual independent audits to the members of the Financial
2731	Services Commission and the presiding officers of the
2732	Legislature by December 31 of each even-numbered year beginning
2733	<u>in 2014.</u>
2734	(7) IMMUNITY FROM LIABILITYNo liability on the part of,
2735	and no cause of action of any nature, may arise against the
2736	facility or its agents or employees, the governing board, or the
2737	department or office or their representatives for any action
2738	taken by them in the performance of their powers and duties
2739	under this section.

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2740 Section 15. Subsection (1) of section 627.410, Florida 2741 Statutes, is amended to read:

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627.410 Filing, approval of forms.-

2743 (1) A No basic insurance policy or annuity contract form, 2744 or application form where written application is required and is 2745 to be made a part of the policy or contract, or group 2746 certificates issued under a master contract delivered in this 2747 state, or printed rider or endorsement form or form of renewal 2748 certificate, may not shall be delivered or issued for delivery 2749 in this state, unless the form has been filed with the office by 2750 or on in behalf of the insurer that which proposes to use such 2751 form and has been approved by the office. This provision does 2752 not apply to surety bonds or to policies, riders, endorsements, 2753 or forms of unique character that which are designed for and 2754 used with relation to insurance on upon a particular subject, 2755 (other than as to health insurance), or that which relate to the 2756 manner of distributing distribution of benefits or to the 2757 reservation of rights and benefits under life or health 2758 insurance policies and are used at the request of the individual 2759 policyholder, contract holder, or certificateholder. For As to 2760 group insurance policies effectuated and delivered outside this 2761 state but covering persons resident in this state, the group 2762 certificates to be delivered or issued for delivery in this 2763 state shall be filed with the office for information purposes 2764 only.

2765 Section 16. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 2766 627.706, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

2767 627.706 Sinkhole insurance; catastrophic ground cover 2768 collapse; definitions.-

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2769 (1) 2770 (b) The insurer shall make available, for an appropriate 2771 additional premium, coverage for sinkhole losses on any 2772 structure, including the contents of personal property contained 2773 therein, in an amount equal to the full amount of coverage on 2774 the structure. The insurer may also offer less coverage equal to 2775 25 or 50 percent of the amount of coverage on the structure, 2776 with an appropriate reduction in the additional premium to the 2777 extent provided in the form to which the coverage attaches. The 2778 insurer may require an inspection of the property before 2779 issuance of sinkhole loss coverage. A policy for residential 2780 property insurance may include a deductible amount applicable to 2781 sinkhole losses equal to 1 percent, 2 percent, 5 percent, or 10 2782 percent of the policy dwelling limits, with appropriate premium discounts offered with each deductible amount. 2783 2784 Section 17. Except as otherwise expressly provided in the 2785 act, this act shall take effect July 1, 2013. 2786 2787 2788 And the title is amended as follows: 2789 Delete everything before the enacting clause 2790 and insert: 2791 A bill to be entitled 2792 An act relating to property insurance; amending s. 2793 215.555, F.S.; changing the name of the Florida 2794 Hurricane Catastrophe Fund Finance Corporation to the 2795 State Board of Administration Finance Corporation; 2796 amending s. 624.155, F.S.; providing that Citizens 2797 Property Insurance Corporation is an insurer subject

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2798 to civil actions as an agent of the state covered by 2799 sovereign immunity; amending s. 626.752, F.S., 2800 relating to the exchange of business between an agent 2801 and insurer; providing an exemption from the 2802 requirements of that section to the corporation or 2803 certain private entities under certain circumstances; 2804 amending s. 627.062, F.S.; requiring the Office of 2805 Insurance Regulation to calculate and publish 2806 insurance inflation factors for use in residential 2807 property insurance filings; prohibiting the office 2808 from disapproving a rate as excessive due to the 2809 insurer's purchase of reinsurance for certain 2810 purposes; deleting obsolete provisions; conforming 2811 cross-references; amending s. 627.0628, F.S.; adding a 2812 member to the Florida Commission on Hurricane Loss 2813 Projection Methodology; amending s. 627.0629, F.S.; 2814 requiring insurers to provide notice of mitigation 2815 discounts in a residential property insurance rate 2816 filing; amending s. 627.351, F.S.; revising 2817 legislative intent with respect to the corporation; 2818 reducing the value of residential structures that can 2819 be covered by the corporation; revising the 2820 corporation's eligibility criteria for structures located seaward of the coastal construction control 2821 2822 line; requiring the corporation's board of governors 2823 to concur with certain decisions by the executive 2824 director; providing for risk-sharing agreements 2825 between the corporation and other insurers and 2826 specifying the requirements and limitations of such

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2827 agreements; revising provisions relating to the 2828 appointment of the board of governors and the 2829 executive director; providing that renewal policies 2830 are not eligible for continued coverage by the 2831 corporation unless the premium for comparable coverage 2832 from an authorized insurer exceeds a certain 2833 percentage; deleting provisions allowing a 2834 policyholder removed from the corporation to remain 2835 eligible for coverage regardless of an offer of 2836 coverage from an authorized insurer; revising 2837 corporation criteria for appointing agents; requiring 2838 the corporation to provide coverage for mobile homes 2839 or manufactured homes and related structures; 2840 requiring disclosure of potential corporation 2841 surcharges and policyholder obligations to try and 2842 obtain private market coverage; revising provisions 2843 relating to the Auditor General's review of the 2844 corporation; requiring the board to contract with an 2845 independent auditing firm to conduct performance 2846 audits; authorizing the corporation to adopt programs 2847 that encourage insurers to remove policies from the 2848 corporation through a loan secured by a surplus note; 2849 deleting a provision exempting the corporation from 2850 state procurement requirements; requiring the 2851 corporation to have an inspector general; providing 2852 for appointment; providing duties; requiring an annual 2853 report to the Legislature; revising provisions 2854 relating to purchases by the corporation; providing 2855 that the corporation is subject to state agency

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2856 purchasing requirements; requiring the corporation to 2857 provide notice of purchasing decisions; providing 2858 procedures for protesting such decisions; providing 2859 applicability; revising the corporation's rate 2860 standards; requiring that corporation rates be 2861 competitive with approved rates charged in the 2862 admitted market, actuarially sound, and include a 2863 catastrophe risk factor; requiring the corporation to 2864 annually certify its rates; requiring the board of 2865 directors to provide recommendations to the 2866 Legislature on ways of providing rate relief to those 2867 who demonstrate a financial need; deleting obsolete 2868 provisions; creating s. 627.3518, F.S.; establishing a 2869 clearinghouse within the corporation for identifying 2870 and diverting insurance coverage to private insurers; 2871 providing definitions; providing requirements and 2872 duties of the corporation, insurers, and agents; 2873 amending s. 627.3519, F.S.; revising requirements 2874 relating to the preparation of the annual reports 2875 relating to the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund and 2876 Citizens Property Insurance Corporation; establishing 2877 a temporary keepout program that allows authorized 2878 insurers to provide coverage to applicants for 2879 coverage through the corporation through the market 2880 assistance program until the clearinghouse is 2881 operational; providing program components; providing 2882 for expiration; creating s. 627.352, F.S.; creating 2883 the Catastrophe Risk Capital Access Facility to 2884 facilitate insurer access to global risk capital

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2885 markets and risk-transfer mechanisms; providing 2886 legislative findings and intent; providing that the 2887 facility may not operate as an insurer, reinsurer, or 2888 other risk-bearing entity, and is not a state agency, 2889 board, or commission; providing for membership; 2890 providing for an initial governing board which must 2891 submit a proposed plan of operation to the Office of 2892 Insurance Regulation and recommendations relating to 2893 public records and open meetings to the Legislature by 2894 a certain date; providing for termination of the 2895 initial board; providing for a permanent board; 2896 specifying provisions that must be addressed by the 2897 plan of operation; providing immunity from liability 2898 for the board; amending s. 627.410, F.S.; conforming 2899 provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 2900 627.706, F.S.; authorizing an insurer to offer a 2901 reduced amount of sinkhole coverage with an appropriate reduction in premium; providing effective 2902 2903 dates.