## 19-248E-01

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A bill to be entitled 1 2 An act relating to the Certified Capital Company Act; amending s. 288.99, F.S.; 3 4 redefining the terms "early stage technology business" and "qualified distribution"; 5 6 defining the terms "Program One" and "Program 7 Two"; revising procedures and dates for certification and decertification under Program 8 9 One and Program Two; revising the process for earning premium tax credits; providing a 10 limitation on tax credits under Program Two; 11 12 authorizing the Department of Banking and Finance to levy a fine; providing for 13 distributions under both programs; providing an 14 effective date. 15 16 17 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 18 19 Section 1. Subsections (3) and (4), paragraph (a) of 20 subsection (5), paragraph (a) of subsection (6), paragraphs 21 (a), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), and (h) of subsection (7), 22 paragraph (a) of subsection (8), paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (9), and paragraph (f) of subsection (10) of 23 24 section 288.99, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 25 288.99 Certified Capital Company Act. --(3) DEFINITIONS.--As used in this section, the term: 26 27 "Affiliate of an insurance company" means: (a) 28 1. Any person directly or indirectly beneficially owning, whether through rights, options, convertible 29 30 interests, or otherwise, controlling, or holding power to vote

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10 percent or more of the outstanding voting securities or other ownership interests of the insurance company;

- 2. Any person 10 percent or more of whose outstanding voting securities or other ownership interest is directly or indirectly beneficially owned, whether through rights, options, convertible interests, or otherwise, controlled, or held with power to vote by the insurance company;
- 3. Any person directly or indirectly controlling, controlled by, or under common control with the insurance company;
- A partnership in which the insurance company is a general partner; or
- 5. Any person who is a principal, director, employee, or agent of the insurance company or an immediate family member of the principal, director, employee, or agent.
- "Certified capital" means an investment of cash by a certified investor in a certified capital company which fully funds the purchase price of either or both its equity interest in the certified capital company or a qualified debt instrument issued by the certified capital company.
- "Certified capital company" means a corporation, partnership, or limited liability company which:
- Is certified by the department in accordance with this act.
- 2. Receives investments of certified capital from two or more unaffiliated certified investors.
- Makes qualified investments as its primary activity.
- "Certified investor" means any insurance company subject to premium tax liability pursuant to s. 624.509 that 31 | contributes certified capital.

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- (e) "Department" means the Department of Banking and Finance.
- (f) "Director" means the director of the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development.
- (g) "Early stage technology business" means a
  qualified business that is either:
- 1. Involved, at the time of the certified capital company's initial investment in such business, in activities related to developing initial product or service offerings, such as prototype development or the establishment of initial production or service processes: The term includes a qualified business that is:2. Less than 2 years old and has, together with its affiliates, less than \$3 million in annual revenues for the fiscal year immediately preceding the initial investment by the certified capital company on a consolidated basis, as determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles: The term also includes
  - 3. The Florida Black Business Investment Board: 7
- $\underline{4.}$  Any entity  $\underline{\text{that is majority-owned}}$   $\underline{\text{majority owned}}$  by the Florida Black Business Investment Board: $\underline{i.}$ 7or
- $\underline{5}$ . Any entity in which the Florida Black Business Investment Board holds a majority voting interest on the board of directors.
- (h) "Office" means the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development.
- (i) "Premium tax liability" means any liability incurred by an insurance company under the provisions of s. 624.509.
- (j) "Principal" means an executive officer of a corporation, partner of a partnership, manager of a limited

liability company, or any other person with equivalent executive functions.

- (k) "Qualified business" means a business that meets the following conditions <u>as evidenced by documentation</u> required by department rule:
- 1. The business is headquartered in this state and its principal business operations are located in this state.
- 2. At the time a certified capital company makes an initial investment in a business, the business is a small business concern as defined in 13 C.F.R. s. 121.201, "Size Standards Used to Define Small Business Concerns" of the United States Small Business Administration which is involved in manufacturing, processing or assembling products, conducting research and development, or providing services.
- 3. At the time a certified capital company makes an initial investment in a business, the business certifies in an affidavit that:
- a. The business is unable to obtain conventional financing, which means that the business has failed in an attempt to obtain funding for a loan from a bank or other commercial lender or that the business cannot reasonably be expected to qualify for such financing under the standards of commercial lending;
- b. The business plan for the business projects that the business is reasonably expected to achieve in excess of \$25 million in sales revenue within 5 years after the initial investment, or the business is located in a designated Front Porch community, enterprise zone, urban high crime area, rural job tax credit county, or nationally recognized historic district;

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- c. The business will maintain its headquarters in this state for the next 10 years and any new manufacturing facility financed by a qualified investment will remain in this state for the next 10 years, or the business is located in a designated Front Porch community, enterprise zone, urban high crime area, rural job tax credit county, or nationally recognized historic district; and
- d. The business has fewer than 200 employees and at least 75 percent of the employees are employed in this state. For purposes of this subsection, the term"qualified business" also includes the Florida Black Business Investment Board, any entity majority owned by the Florida Black Business Investment Board, or any entity in which the Florida Black Business Investment Board holds a majority voting interest on the board of directors.
  - 4. The term does not include:
- <u>a. Any business predominantly engaged in retail sales,</u>
  real estate development, insurance, banking, lending, or oil
  and gas exploration.
- b. Any business predominantly engaged in professional services provided by accountants, lawyers, or physicians.
- c. Any company that has no historical revenues and either has no specific business plan or purpose or has indicated that its business plan is solely to engage in a merger or acquisition with any unidentified company or other entity.
- d. Any company that has a strategic plan to grow through the acquisition of firms with substantially similar business which would result in the planned net loss of Florida-based jobs over a 12-month period after the acquisition as determined by the department.

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- (1) "Qualified debt instrument" means a debt instrument, or a hybrid of a debt instrument, issued by a certified capital company, at par value or a premium, with an original maturity date of at least 5 years after the date of issuance, a repayment schedule which is no faster than a level principal amortization over a 5-year period, and interest, distribution, or payment features which are not related to the profitability of the certified capital company or the performance of the certified capital company's investment portfolio.
- (m) "Qualified distribution" means any distribution or payment  $\underline{by}$  to equity holders of a certified capital company for:
- 1. Reasonable costs and expenses, including professional fees, not exceeding 20 percent of the certified capital raised, of forming and, syndicating the certified capital company, if no such costs are paid to a certified investor;
- 2. Reasonable costs of managing, and operating the certified capital company, not exceeding 5 percent of the certified capital in any 1 year, including an annual management fee in an amount that does not exceed 2.5 percent of the certified capital of the certified capital company;, plus
- 3. Reasonable and necessary fees in accordance with industry custom for professional services, including, but not limited to, legal and accounting services, related to the operation of the certified capital company; or:
- 4.2. Any projected increase in federal or state taxes, including penalties and interest related to state and federal income taxes, of the equity owners of a certified capital

company resulting from the earnings or other tax liability of the certified capital company to the extent that the increase is related to the ownership, management, or operation of a certified capital company.

- (n) 1. "Qualified investment" means the investment of cash by a certified capital company in a qualified business for the purchase of any debt, equity, or hybrid security of any nature and description whatsoever, including a debt instrument or security that which has the characteristics of debt but which provides for conversion into equity or equity participation instruments such as options or warrants.
  - 2. The term does not include:
- a. Any investment made after the effective date of this act the contractual terms of which require the repayment of any portion of the principal in instances, other than default as determined by department rule, within 12 months following the initial investment by the certified capital company unless such investment has a repayment schedule no faster than a level principal amortization of at least 2 years;
- b. Any "follow-on" or "add-on" investment except for the amount by which the new investment is in addition to the amount of the certified capital company's initial investment returned to it other than in the form of interest, dividends, or other types of profit participation or distributions; or
- c. Any investment in a qualified business or affiliate of a qualified business that exceeds 15 percent of certified capital.
- (o) "Program One" means the \$150 million in premium tax credits issued under this act in 1999, the allocation of

such credits under this act, and the regulation of certified capital companies and investments made by them hereunder.

- (p) "Program Two" means the \$250 million in premium tax credits to be issued under this act on April 1, 2002, the allocation of such credits under this act, and the regulation of certified capital companies and investments made by them hereunder.
- (4) CERTIFICATION; GROUNDS FOR DENIAL OR DECERTIFICATION.--
- (a) To operate as a certified capital company, a corporation, partnership, or limited liability company must be certified by the department pursuant to this act.
- (b) An applicant for certification as a certified capital company must file a verified application with the department on or before December 1, 1998, or November 1, 2001, in the case of applicants for Program Two, in a form which the department may prescribe by rule. The applicant shall submit a nonrefundable application fee of \$7,500 to the department. The applicant shall provide:
- 1. The name of the applicant and the address of its principal office and each office in this state.
- 2. The applicant's form and place of organization and the relevant organizational documents, bylaws, and amendments or restatements of such documents, bylaws, or amendments.
- 3. Evidence from the Department of State that the applicant is registered with the Department of State as required by law, maintains an active status with the Department of State, and has not been dissolved or had its registration revoked, canceled, or withdrawn.
  - 4. The applicant's proposed method of doing business.

- 5. The applicant's financial condition and history, including an audit report on the financial statements prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles showing net worth capital of not less than \$500,000 within 90 days after the date the application is submitted to the department. If the date of the application is more than 90 days after preparation of the applicant's fiscal year-end financial statements, the applicant may file financial statements reviewed by an independent certified public accountant for the period subsequent to the audit report, together with the audited financial statement for the most recent fiscal year. If the applicant has been in business less than 12 months, and has not prepared an audited financial statement, the applicant may file a financial statement reviewed by an independent certified public accountant.
- 6. Copies of any offering materials used or proposed to be used by the applicant in soliciting investments of certified capital from certified investors.
- (c) On December 31, 1998, or December 31, 2001, in the case of applicants for Program Two, the department shall grant or deny certification as a certified capital company. If the department denies certification within the time period specified, the department shall inform the applicant of the grounds for the denial. If the department has not granted or denied certification within the time specified, the application shall be deemed approved. The department shall approve the application if the department finds that:
- 1. The applicant satisfies the requirements of paragraph (b).
- 2. No evidence exists that the applicant has committed any act specified in paragraph (d).

- 3. At least two of the principals have a minimum of 5 years of experience making venture capital investments out of private equity funds, with not less than \$20 million being provided by third-party investors for investment in the early stage of operating businesses. At least one full-time manager or principal of the certified capital company who has such experience must be primarily located in an office of the certified capital company which is based in this state.
- 4. The applicant's proposed method of doing business and raising certified capital as described in its offering materials and other materials submitted to the department conforms with the requirements of this act.
- (d) The department may deny certification or decertify a certified capital company if the grounds for decertification are not removed or corrected within 90 days after the notice of such grounds is received by the certified capital company. The department may deny certification or decertify a certified capital company if the certified capital company fails to maintain a net worth of at least \$500,000, or if the department determines that the applicant, or any principal or director of the certified capital company, has:
  - 1. Violated any provision of this section;
- 2. Made a material misrepresentation or false statement or concealed any essential or material fact from any person during the application process or with respect to information and reports required of certified capital companies under this section;
- 3. Been convicted of, or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to, a crime against the laws of this state or any other state or of the United States or any other country or government, including a fraudulent act in connection with

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the operation of a certified capital company, or in connection with the performance of fiduciary duties in another capacity;

- 4. Been adjudicated liable in a civil action on grounds of fraud, embezzlement, misrepresentation, or deceit; or
- 5.a. Been the subject of any decision, finding, injunction, suspension, prohibition, revocation, denial, judgment, or administrative order by any court of competent jurisdiction, administrative law judge, or any state or federal agency, national securities, commodities, or option exchange, or national securities, commodities, or option association, involving a material violation of any federal or state securities or commodities law or any rule or regulation adopted under such law, or any rule or regulation of any national securities, commodities, or options exchange, or national securities, commodities, or options association; or
- b. Been the subject of any injunction or adverse administrative order by a state or federal agency regulating banking, insurance, finance or small loan companies, real estate, mortgage brokers, or other related or similar industries.
- (e) The certified capital company shall file a copy of its certification with the office by January 31, 1999.
- (e)(f) Any offering material involving the sale of securities of the certified capital company shall include the following statement: "By authorizing the formation of a certified capital company, the State of Florida does not endorse the quality of management or the potential for earnings of such company and is not liable for damages or losses to a certified investor in the company. Use of the 31 | word 'certified' in an offering does not constitute a

recommendation or endorsement of the investment by the State of Florida. Investments in a certified capital company prior to the time such company is certified are not eligible for premium tax credits. If applicable provisions of law are violated, the state may require forfeiture of unused premium tax credits and repayment of used premium tax credits by the certified investor."

(f)(g) No insurance company or any affiliate of an insurance company shall, directly or indirectly, own (whether through rights, options, convertible interests, or otherwise) 10 percent or more of the equity interests of or manage or control the direction of investments of a certified capital company or have, through ownership or any agreement or understanding, the right to participate in 10 percent or more of the profits of a certified capital company. This prohibition does not preclude a certified investor, insurance company, or any other party from exercising its legal rights and remedies, which may include interim management of a certified capital company is in default of its obligations under law or its contractual obligations to such certified investor, insurance company, or other party.

(g)(h) On or before December 31 of each year, each certified capital company shall pay to the department an annual, nonrefundable renewal certification fee of \$5,000. If a certified capital company fails to pay its renewal fee by the specified deadline, it must pay a late fee of \$5,000 in addition to the renewal fee on or by January 31 of each year in order to continue its certification in the program. On or before April 30 of each year, each certified capital company shall file audited financial statements with the department.

No renewal fees shall be required within 6 months after the date of initial certification.

 $\underline{\text{(h)}(i)}$  The department shall administer and provide for the enforcement of certification requirements for certified capital companies as provided in this act. The department may adopt any rules necessary to carry out its duties, obligations, and powers related to certification, renewal of certification, or decertification of certified capital companies and may perform any other acts necessary for the proper administration and enforcement of such duties, obligations, and powers.

(i)(j) Decertification of a certified capital company under this subsection does not affect the ability of certified investors in such certified capital company from claiming future premium tax credits earned as a result of an investment in the certified capital company during the period in which it was duly certified.

- (5) INVESTMENTS BY CERTIFIED CAPITAL COMPANIES. --
- (a) To remain certified, a certified capital company must make qualified investments according to the following schedule:
- 1. At least 20 percent of its certified capital must be invested in qualified investments by December 31, 2000, or in the case of certified capital raised under Program Two, by December 31, 2003.
- 2. At least 30 percent of its certified capital must be invested in qualified investments by December 31, 2001, or in the case of certified capital raised under Program Two, by December 31, 2004.
- 3. At least 40 percent of its certified capital must be invested in qualified investments by December 31, 2002, or

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30 31 in the case of certified capital raised under Program Two, by December 31, 2005.

- 4. At least 50 percent of its certified capital must be invested in qualified investments by December 31, 2003, or in the case of certified capital raised under Program Two, by December 31, 2006. At least 50 percent of such qualified investments must be invested in early stage technology businesses.
  - (6) PREMIUM TAX CREDIT; AMOUNT; LIMITATIONS.--
- (a) Any certified investor who makes an investment of certified capital shall earn a vested credit against premium tax liability equal to 100 percent of the certified capital invested by the certified investor. Certified investors shall be entitled to use no more than 10 percentage points of the vested premium tax credit earned under a particular program, including any carryforward credits from such program under this act, per year beginning with premium tax filings for calendar year 2000 for credits earned under Program One and calendar year 2003 for credits earned under Program Two. Any premium tax credits not used by certified investors in any single year may be carried forward and applied against the premium tax liabilities of such investors for subsequent calendar years. The carryforward credit may be applied against subsequent premium tax filings through calendar year <del>2017.</del>
- (7) ANNUAL TAX CREDIT; MAXIMUM AMOUNT; ALLOCATION PROCESS.--
- (a) The total amount of tax credits which may be allocated by the office shall not exceed \$150 million with respect to Program One and \$250 million with respect to Program Two. The total amount of tax credits which may be used

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by certified investors under this act shall not exceed \$15 million annually with respect to credits earned under Program One and \$25 million annually with respect to credits earned under Program Two.

- (c) Each certified capital company must apply to the office for an allocation of premium tax credits for potential certified investors by March 15, 1999, or by March 15, 2002, in the case of credits allocable under Program Two, on a form developed by the office with the cooperation of the Department of Revenue. The form shall be accompanied by an affidavit from each potential certified investor confirming that the potential certified investor has agreed to make an investment of certified capital in a certified capital company up to a specified amount, subject only to the receipt of a premium tax credit allocation pursuant to this subsection. No allocation shall be made to the potential investors of a certified capital company under Program Two unless such certified capital company has filed premium tax allocation claims that would result in an allocation to the potential investors in such certified capital company of not less than \$15 million in the aggregate.
- (d) On or before April 1, 1999, or April 1, 2002, in the case of Program Two, the office shall inform each certified capital company of its share of total premium tax credits available for allocation to each of its potential investors.
- (e) If a certified capital company does not receive certified capital equaling the amount of premium tax credits allocated to a potential certified investor for which the investor filed a premium tax allocation claim within 10 31 | business days after the investor received a notice of

allocation, the certified capital company shall notify the office by overnight common carrier delivery service of the company's failure to receive the capital. That portion of the premium tax credits allocated to the certified capital company shall be forfeited. The department may levy a fine of not more than \$50,000 on any certified investor that does not invest the full amount of certified capital allocated by the department to such investor in accordance with the affidavit filed on its behalf. If the office must make a pro rata allocation under paragraph (f), the office shall reallocate such available credits among the other certified capital companies on the same pro rata basis as the initial allocation.

(f) If the total amount of capital committed by all certified investors to certified capital companies in premium tax allocation claims under Program Two exceeds the aggregate cap on the amount of credits that may be awarded under Program Two, the premium tax credits that may be allowed to any one certified investor under Program Two shall be allocated using the following ratio:

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> A/B = X/\$250,000,000A/B = X/\$150,000,000

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where the letter "A" represents the total amount of certified capital certified investors have agreed to invest in any one certified capital company under Program Two, the letter "B" represents the aggregate amount of certified capital that all certified investors have agreed to invest in all certified capital companies under Program Two, the letter "X" is the 31 | numerator and represents the total amount of premium tax

credits and certified capital that may be allocated to a certified capital company on April 1, 2002 in calendar year 1999, and\$250\$150 million is the denominator and represents the total amount of premium tax credits and certified capital that may be allocated to all certified investors in calendar year 2002 1999. Any such premium tax credits are not first available for utilization until annual filings are made in 2001 for calendar year 2000 in the case of Program One, and until annual filings are made in 2004 for calendar year 2003 in the case of Program Two, and the tax credits may be used at a rate not to exceed 10 percent annually per program.

- (g) The maximum amount of certified capital for which premium tax allocation claims may be filed on behalf of any certified investor and its affiliates by one or more certified capital companies may not exceed \$15 million with respect to Program One and \$25 million with respect to Program Two.
- (h) To the extent that less than \$250\$ million in certified capital is raised in connection with the procedure set forth in paragraphs (c)-(g), the department may adopt rules to allow a subsequent allocation of the remaining premium tax credits authorized under this section.
  - (8) ANNUAL TAX CREDIT; CLAIM PROCESS.--
- (a) On an annual basis, on or before <u>January</u> <del>December</del> 31, each certified capital company shall file with the department and the office, in consultation with the department, on a form prescribed by the office, for each calendar year:
- 1. The total dollar amount the certified capital company received from certified investors, the identity of the certified investors, and the amount received from each

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certified investor during the immediately preceding calendar year.

- 2. The total dollar amount the certified capital company invested and the amount invested in qualified businesses, together with the identity and location of those businesses and the amount invested in each qualified business during the immediately preceding calendar year.
- For informational purposes only, the total number of permanent, full-time jobs either created or retained by the qualified business during the immediately preceding calendar year, the average wage of the jobs created or retained, the industry sectors in which the qualified businesses operate, and any additional capital invested in qualified businesses from sources other than certified capital companies.
- (9) REOUIREMENT FOR 100 PERCENT INVESTMENT; STATE PARTICIPATION. --
- (a) A certified capital company may make qualified distributions at any time. In order to make a distribution to its equity holders, other than a qualified distribution out of funds related to a particular program, a certified capital company must have invested an amount cumulatively equal to 100 percent of its certified capital raised under such program in qualified investments. Payments to debt holders of a certified capital company, however, may be made without restriction with respect to repayments of principal and interest on indebtedness owed to them by a certified capital company, including indebtedness of the certified capital company on which certified investors earned premium tax credits. A debt holder that is also a certified investor or equity holder of a certified capital company may receive payments with respect to 31 such debt without restrictions.

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(b) Cumulative distributions from a certified capital company out of funds related to a particular program to its certified investors and equity holders under such program, other than qualified distributions, in excess of the certified capital company's original certified capital raised under such program and any additional capital contributions to the certified capital company with respect to such program may be audited by a nationally recognized certified public accounting firm acceptable to the department, at the expense of the certified capital company, if the department directs such audit be conducted. The audit shall determine whether aggregate cumulative distributions from the funds related to a particular program made by the certified capital company to all certified investors and equity holders under such program, other than qualified distributions, have equaled the sum of the certified capital company's original certified capital raised under such program and any additional capital contributions to the certified capital company with respect to such program. If at the time of any such distribution made by the certified capital company, such distribution taken together with all other such distributions from the funds related to such program made by the certified capital company, other than qualified distributions, exceeds in the aggregate the sum of the certified capital company's original certified capital raised under such program and any additional capital contributions to the certified capital company with respect to such program, as determined by the audit, the certified capital company shall pay to the Department of Revenue 10 percent of the portion of such distribution in excess of such amount. Payments to the Department of Revenue by a certified capital company pursuant to this paragraph shall not exceed

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the aggregate amount of tax credits used by all certified investors in such certified capital company for such program.

- (10) DECERTIFICATION. --
- (f) Decertification of a certified capital company for failure to meet all requirements for continued certification under paragraph (5)(a) with respect to the certified capital raised under a particular program may cause the recapture of premium tax credits previously claimed by such company under such program and the forfeiture of future premium tax credits to be claimed by certified investors under such program with respect to such certified capital company, as follows:
- Decertification of a certified capital company within 3 years after its certification date with respect to a particular program shall cause the recapture of all premium tax credits earned under such program and previously claimed by such company and the forfeiture of all future premium tax credits earned under such program which are to be claimed by certified investors with respect to such company.
- 2. When a certified capital company meets all requirements for continued certification under subparagraph (5)(a)1. with respect to certified capital raised under a particular program and subsequently fails to meet the requirements for continued certification under the provisions of subparagraph (5)(a)2. with respect to certified capital raised under such program, those premium tax credits earned under such program which have been or will be taken by certified investors within 3 years after the certification date of the certified capital company with respect to such program shall not be subject to recapture or forfeiture; however, all premium tax credits earned under such program 31 that have been or will be taken by certified investors after

the third anniversary of the certification date of the certified capital company <u>for such program</u> shall be subject to recapture or forfeiture.

- 3. When a certified capital company meets all requirements for continued certification under subparagraphs (5)(a)1. and 2. with respect to a particular program and subsequently fails to meet the requirements for continued certification under the subparagraph (5)(a)3. with respect to such program, those premium tax credits earned under such program which have been or will be taken by certified investors within 4 years after the certification date of the certified capital company with respect to such program shall not be subject to recapture or forfeiture; however, all premium tax credits earned under such program that have been or will be taken by certified investors after the fourth anniversary of the certification date of the certified capital company with respect to such program shall be subject to recapture and forfeiture.
- 4. If a certified capital company has met all requirements for continued certification under paragraph (5)(a) with respect to certified capital raised under a particular program, but such company is subsequently decertified, those premium tax credits earned under such program which have been or will be taken by certified investors within 5 years after the certification date of such company with respect to such program shall not be subject to recapture or forfeiture. Those premium tax credits earned under such program and to be taken subsequent to the 5th year of certification with respect to such program shall be subject to forfeiture only if the certified capital company is

decertified within 5 years after its certification date with respect to such program. If a certified capital company has invested an amount cumulatively equal to 100 percent of its certified capital raised under a particular program in qualified investments, all premium tax credits claimed or to be claimed by its certified investors under such program shall not be subject to recapture or forfeiture. Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001. \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* SENATE SUMMARY Revises procedures and dates for certification and decertification of certified capital companies under defined Program One and Program Two of the Certified Capital Company Act. Revises the process for earning premium tax credits and provides a limitation on credits under Program Two. Authorizes the Department of Banking and Finance to levy a fine on certified investors under specified circumstances.