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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to insolvent self-insurance funds; amending s. 631.924, F.S.; increasing a time period for a stay of proceedings involving an insolvent self-insurance fund; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 631.924, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

631.924 Stay of proceedings; reopening of default judgments. -- All proceedings in which the insolvent self-insurance fund is a party or is obligated to defend a party in any court or before any quasi-judicial body or administrative board in this state must be stayed for 12 6 months, or such additional period from the date the insolvency is adjudicated, by a court of competent jurisdiction to allow proper defense by the association of all pending causes of action as to any covered claims. The stay may be extended for a period of time greater than 12 6 months upon proper application to a court of competent jurisdiction. The association, either on its own behalf or on behalf of the insured, may apply to have any judgment, order, decision, verdict, or finding based on the default of the insolvent self-insurance fund or its failure to defend an insured set aside by the same court or administrator that made the judgment, order, decision, verdict, or finding and may defend against the claim on the merits. If the association so requests, the stay of proceedings may be shortened or waived.