

By Senator Holzendorf

2-22-02

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to insurance; amending s.  
3           624.4072, F.S.; extending the term of the  
4           exemption from taxes and assessments on  
5           minority-owned property and casualty insurers;  
6           postponing the scheduled repeal of the law;  
7           providing an effective date.

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

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11           Section 1.   Section 624.4072, Florida Statutes, is  
12   amended to read:

13           624.4072   Minority-owned property and casualty  
14   insurers; limited exemption for taxation and assessments.--

15           (1)   A minority business that is at least 51 percent  
16   owned by minority persons, as defined in s. 288.703(3),  
17   initially issued a certificate of authority in this state as  
18   an authorized insurer after May 1, 1998, to write property and  
19   casualty insurance shall be exempt, for a period not to exceed  
20   10 5 years from the date of receiving its certificate of  
21   authority, from the following taxes and assessments:

22           (a)   Taxes imposed under ss. 175.101, 185.08, and  
23   624.509;

24           (b)   Assessments by the Florida Residential Property  
25   and Casualty Joint Underwriting Association or by the Florida  
26   Windstorm Underwriting Association, as provided under s.  
27   627.351, except for emergency assessments collected from  
28   policyholders pursuant to s. 627.351(2)(b)2.d.(III) and  
29   (6)(b)3.d. Any such insurer shall be a member insurer of the  
30   Florida Windstorm Underwriting Association and the Florida  
31   Residential Property and Casualty Joint Underwriting

1 Association. The premiums of such insurer shall be included in  
2 determining, for the Florida Windstorm Underwriting  
3 Association, the aggregate statewide direct written premium  
4 for property insurance and in determining, for the Florida  
5 Residential Property and Casualty Joint Underwriting  
6 Association, the aggregate statewide direct written premium  
7 for the subject lines of business for all member insurers.

8 (2) Subsection (1) applies only to personal lines and  
9 commercial lines residential property insurance policies as  
10 defined in s. 627.4025, and applies only to an insurer that  
11 has employees in this state and has a home office or a  
12 regional office in this state. With respect to any tax year  
13 or assessment year, the exemptions provided by subsection (1)  
14 apply only if during the year an average of at least 10  
15 percent of the insurer's Florida residential property policies  
16 in force covered properties located in enterprise zones  
17 designated pursuant to s. 290.0065.

18 (3) The provision of the definition of "minority  
19 person" in s. 288.703(3) that requires residency in Florida  
20 shall not apply to the term "minority person" as used in this  
21 section or s. 627.3511.

22 (4) This section is repealed effective July 1, 2010  
23 ~~2003~~, and the tax and assessment exemptions authorized by this  
24 section shall terminate on such date.

25 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002.

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28 SENATE SUMMARY

29 Extends, for a period not to exceed 10 years from the  
30 date of receiving its certificate of authority, the  
31 exemption from taxes and assessments on minority-owned  
property and casualty insurers. Postpones the repeal of  
the provision for 7 years.