

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to minority-owned property and
3 casualty insurers; amending s. 624.4072, F.S.;
4 increasing a period of exemption from certain
5 taxes and assessments for certain minority
6 businesses; extending a future repeal; amending
7 s. 215.555, F.S.; revising a definition;
8 providing an effective date.

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

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12 Section 1. Subsections (1) and (4) of section
13 624.4072, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

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

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

23 (a) Taxes imposed under ss. 175.101, 185.08, and
24 624.509;

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

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

9 (4) This section is repealed effective December 31,
10 2010 ~~July 1, 2003~~, and the tax and assessment exemptions
11 authorized by this section shall terminate on such date.

12 Section 2. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section
13 215.555, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

14 215.555 Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund.--

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

16 (c) "Covered policy" means any insurance policy
17 covering residential property in this state, including, but
18 not limited to, any homeowner's, mobile home owner's, farm
19 owner's, condominium association, condominium unit owner's,
20 tenant's, or apartment building policy, or any other policy
21 covering a residential structure or its contents issued by any
22 authorized insurer, including any joint underwriting
23 association or similar entity created pursuant to law. The
24 term "covered policy" includes any collateral protection
25 insurance policy covering personal residences which protects
26 both the borrower's and the lender's financial interests, if
27 such insurance policy can be accurately reported as required
28 in s. 215.555(5). Additionally, covered policies include
29 policies covering the peril of wind removed from the Florida
30 Residential Property and Casualty Joint Underwriting
31 Association, created pursuant to s. 627.351(6), or from the

1 Florida Windstorm Underwriting Association, created pursuant
2 to s. 627.351(2), by an authorized insurer under the terms and
3 conditions of an executed assumption agreement between the
4 authorized insurer and either such association. Each
5 assumption agreement between either association and such
6 authorized insurer must be approved by the Florida Department
7 of Insurance prior to the effective date of the assumption,
8 and the Department of Insurance must provide written
9 notification to the board within 15 working days after such
10 approval. "Covered policy" does not include any policy that
11 excludes wind coverage or hurricane coverage or any
12 reinsurance agreement and does not include any policy
13 otherwise meeting this definition which is issued by a surplus
14 lines insurer or a reinsurer.

15 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
16 law.

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