

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate House

Comm: RCS 04/06/2009

The Committee on Higher Education (Pruitt) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete lines 18 - 82 and insert:

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Section 1. Subsection (11) is added to section 624.4621, Florida Statutes, to read:

624.4621 Group self-insurance funds.-

(11) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, each application for workers' compensation coverage issued by a group 12

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self-insurance fund established under this section must contain in boldface and in not less than 10-point type, the following statement: "This is a fully assessable policy. If the fund is unable to pay its obligations, policyholders must contribute, on a pro rata earned premium basis, the money necessary to meet any unfilled obligations." If the application is signed by the applicant, the applicant is deemed to have made an informed, knowing acceptance of the assessment liability that exists as a result of participation in the fund.

Section 2. Section 624.4626, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

- 624.4626 Electric cooperative self-insurance funds.-
- (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any two or more electric cooperatives organized pursuant to chapter 425 may operate a self-insurance fund for the purpose of pooling and spreading liabilities of group members in securing the payment of benefits under chapter 440. A self-insurance fund established under this section must:
- (a) Require that every member of the fund be jointly and severally liable for the obligations of the fund;
- (b) Maintain a continuing program of excess insurance coverage and reserve evaluation to protect the financial stability of the fund in an amount and manner determined by a qualified and independent actuary;
- (c) Subscribe to, or be a member of, a rating organization as prescribed in s. 627.231;
- (d) Employ an independent certified public accountant to complete an audit of its fiscal year-end financial statement within 6 months after the end of the fiscal year;



- (e) Have a governing body comprised of a representative from each member of the fund;
- (f) Limit membership in the fund to electric cooperatives operating in this state, their subsidiaries, and the current members of the Florida Rural Electric Self-Insurer's Fund; and
- (g) Provide members of the fund, at renewal, a disclosure statement notifying the members that the fund is not regulated by the Office of insurance Regulation.
- (2) A self-insurance fund meeting the requirements of this section is subject to the assessments set forth in s. 624.4621(7) and is subject to the assessments set forth in ss.440.49(9) and 440.51(1), but is not subject to any other provision of s. 624.4621 and is not required to file any report with the department under s. 440.38(2)(b) which is uniquely required of group self-insurer funds qualified under s.

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And the title is amended as follows:

Delete lines 2 - 11

61 and insert:

> An act relating to self-insurance funds; amending s. 624.4621, F.S.; requiring an application for workers' compensation coverage issued by a group self-insurance fund to notify applicants that policyholders must make additional contributions to the fund if the fund is unable to pay its obligations; creating s. 624.4626, F.S.; authorizing any two or more electric cooperatives to operate a self-insurance fund for certain

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purposes; providing for membership in the fund; requiring that the fund fulfill certain criteria; providing for the applicability of certain assessments and certain provisions of state law to such a fund; amending