Bill No. CS/HB 1089 (2014)

Amendment No. 1

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE	ACTION
ADOPTED	(Y/N)
ADOPTED AS AMENDED	(Y/N)
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION	(Y/N)
FAILED TO ADOPT	(Y/N)
WITHDRAWN	(Y/N)
OTHER	

Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Regulatory Affairs
 Committee
 Representative Raschein offered the following:
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Amendment (with title amendment)

Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert: Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (6) of section 627.351, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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627.351 Insurance risk apportionment plans.-

(6) CITIZENS PROPERTY INSURANCE CORPORATION.-

(a) The public purpose of this subsection is to ensure that there is an orderly market for property insurance for residents and businesses of this state.

The Legislature finds that private insurers are
 unwilling or unable to provide affordable property insurance
 coverage in this state to the extent sought and needed. The
 absence of affordable property insurance threatens the public

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18 health, safety, and welfare and likewise threatens the economic 19 health of the state. The state therefore has a compelling public 20 interest and a public purpose to assist in assuring that property in the state is insured and that it is insured at 21 22 affordable rates so as to facilitate the remediation, 23 reconstruction, and replacement of damaged or destroyed property 24 in order to reduce or avoid the negative effects otherwise 25 resulting to the public health, safety, and welfare, to the 26 economy of the state, and to the revenues of the state and local 27 governments which are needed to provide for the public welfare. It is necessary, therefore, to provide affordable property 28 29 insurance to applicants who are in good faith entitled to 30 procure insurance through the voluntary market but are unable to do so. The Legislature intends, therefore, that affordable 31 32 property insurance be provided and that it continue to be 33 provided, as long as necessary, through Citizens Property 34 Insurance Corporation, a government entity that is an integral 35 part of the state, and that is not a private insurance company. 36 To that end, the corporation shall strive to increase the 37 availability of affordable property insurance in this state, while achieving efficiencies and economies, and while providing 38 service to policyholders, applicants, and agents which is no 39 less than the quality generally provided in the voluntary 40 41 market, for the achievement of the foregoing public purposes. 42 Because it is essential for this government entity to have the 43 maximum financial resources to pay claims following a

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44 catastrophic hurricane, it is the intent of the Legislature that 45 the corporation continue to be an integral part of the state and 46 that the income of the corporation be exempt from federal income 47 taxation and that interest on the debt obligations issued by the 48 corporation be exempt from federal income taxation.

49 The Residential Property and Casualty Joint 2. 50 Underwriting Association originally created by this statute 51 shall be known as the Citizens Property Insurance Corporation. 52 The corporation shall provide insurance for residential and 53 commercial property, for applicants who are entitled, but, in good faith, are unable to procure insurance through the 54 55 voluntary market. The corporation shall operate pursuant to a 56 plan of operation approved by order of the Financial Services 57 Commission. The plan is subject to continuous review by the 58 commission. The commission may, by order, withdraw approval of all or part of a plan if the commission determines that 59 60 conditions have changed since approval was granted and that the 61 purposes of the plan require changes in the plan. For the purposes of this subsection, residential coverage includes both 62 personal lines residential coverage, which consists of the type 63 of coverage provided by homeowner's, mobile home owner's, 64 65 dwelling, tenant's, condominium unit owner's, and similar policies; and commercial lines residential coverage, which 66 67 consists of the type of coverage provided by condominium association, apartment building, and similar policies. 68

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3. With respect to coverage for personal lines residential

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70 structures:

71 Effective January 1, 2014, a structure that has a a. 72 dwelling replacement cost of \$1 million or more, or a single 73 condominium unit that has a combined dwelling and contents 74 replacement cost of \$1 million or more is not eligible for 75 coverage by the corporation. Such dwellings insured by the 76 corporation on December 31, 2013, may continue to be covered by 77 the corporation until the end of the policy term. The office 78 shall approve the method used by the corporation for valuing the 79 dwelling replacement cost for the purposes of this subparagraph. 80 If a policyholder is insured by the corporation before being 81 determined to be ineligible pursuant to this subparagraph and 82 such policyholder files a lawsuit challenging the determination, 83 the policyholder may remain insured by the corporation until the 84 conclusion of the litigation.

b. Effective January 1, 2015, a structure that has a
dwelling replacement cost of \$900,000 or more, or a single
condominium unit that has a combined dwelling and contents
replacement cost of \$900,000 or more, is not eligible for
coverage by the corporation. Such dwellings insured by the
corporation on December 31, 2014, may continue to be covered by
the corporation only until the end of the policy term.

92 c. Effective January 1, 2016, a structure that has a 93 dwelling replacement cost of \$800,000 or more, or a single 94 condominium unit that has a combined dwelling and contents 95 replacement cost of \$800,000 or more, is not eligible for

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96 coverage by the corporation. Such dwellings insured by the 97 corporation on December 31, 2015, may continue to be covered by 98 the corporation until the end of the policy term.

99 d. Effective January 1, 2017, a structure that has a 100 dwelling replacement cost of \$700,000 or more, or a single 101 condominium unit that has a combined dwelling and contents 102 replacement cost of \$700,000 or more, is not eligible for 103 coverage by the corporation. Such dwellings insured by the 104 corporation on December 31, 2016, may continue to be covered by 105 the corporation until the end of the policy term.

107 The requirements of sub-subparagraphs b.-d. do not apply in 108 counties where the office determines there is not a reasonable 109 degree of competition. In such counties a personal lines 110 residential structure that has a dwelling replacement cost of 111 less than \$1 million, or a single condominium unit that has a 112 combined dwelling and contents replacement cost of less than \$1 113 million, is eligible for coverage by the corporation.

It is the intent of the Legislature that policyholders, 114 4. 115 applicants, and agents of the corporation receive service and 116 treatment of the highest possible level but never less than that generally provided in the voluntary market. It is also intended 117 that the corporation be held to service standards no less than 118 119 those applied to insurers in the voluntary market by the office 120 with respect to responsiveness, timeliness, customer courtesy, and overall dealings with policyholders, applicants, or agents 121

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122 of the corporation.

5.a. Effective January 1, 2009, a personal lines 123 124 residential structure that is located in the "wind-borne debris region," as defined in s. 1609.2, International Building Code 125 126 (2006), and that has an insured value on the structure of 127 \$750,000 or more is not eligible for coverage by the corporation 128 unless the structure has opening protections as required under 129 the Florida Building Code for a newly constructed residential 130 structure in that area. A residential structure is deemed to 131 comply with this sub-subparagraph subparagraph if it has 132 shutters or opening protections on all openings and if such 133 opening protections complied with the Florida Building Code at 134 the time they were installed.

135 b. Any major structure as defined in s. 161.54(6)(a) for 136 which a permit is applied on or after July 1, 2015 2014, for new 137 construction or substantial improvement as defined in s. 138 161.54(12) is not eligible for coverage by the corporation if the structure is seaward of the coastal construction control 139 line established pursuant to s. 161.053 or is within the Coastal 140 Barrier Resources System as designated by 16 U.S.C. ss. 3501-141 142 3510.

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 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014.

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 TITLE AMENDMENT

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148	Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert:
149	A bill to be entitled
150	An act relating to Citizens Property Insurance Corporation;
151	amending s. 627.351, F.S.; delaying a restriction on obtaining
152	coverage from Citizens Property Insurance Corporation for major
153	structures under certain conditions; providing an effective
154	date.
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