ACTION
(Y/N)

Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Regulatory Affairs Committee

Representative Santiago offered the following:

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Amendment (with title amendment)

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Between lines 1021 and 1022, insert:

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Section 26. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 626.99296, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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626.99296 Transfers of structured settlement payment rights.-

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CONDITIONS TO TRANSFERS OF STRUCTURED SETTLEMENT PAYMENT RIGHTS AND STRUCTURED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS .-

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A direct or indirect transfer of structured settlement payment rights is not effective and a structured settlement obligor or annuity issuer is not required to make a payment directly or indirectly to a transferee of structured settlement payment rights unless the transfer is authorized in advance in a

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final order by a court of competent jurisdiction <u>in the county</u> <u>in which the payee resides</u>, which is based on the written express findings by the court that:

- 1. The transfer complies with this section and does not contravene other applicable law;
- 2. At least 10 days before the date on which the payee first incurred an obligation with respect to the transfer, the transferee provided to the payee a disclosure statement in bold type, no smaller than 14 points in size, which specifies:
- a. The amounts and due dates of the structured settlement payments to be transferred;
 - b. The aggregate amount of the payments;
- c. The discounted present value of the payments, together with the discount rate used in determining the discounted present value;
- d. The gross amount payable to the payee in exchange for the payments;
- e. An itemized listing of all brokers' commissions, service charges, application fees, processing fees, closing costs, filing fees, referral fees, administrative fees, legal fees, and notary fees and other commissions, fees, costs, expenses, and charges payable by the payee or deductible from the gross amount otherwise payable to the payee;
- f. The net amount payable to the payee after deducting all commissions, fees, costs, expenses, and charges described in sub-subparagraph e.;

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- g. The quotient, expressed as a percentage, obtained by dividing the net payment amount by the discounted present value of the payments, which must be disclosed in the following statement: "The net amount that you will receive from us in exchange for your future structured settlement payments represent percent of the estimated current value of the payments based upon the discounted value using the applicable federal rate";
- h. The effective annual interest rate, which must be disclosed in the following statement: "Based on the net amount that you will receive from us and the amounts and timing of the structured settlement payments that you are turning over to us, you will, in effect, be paying interest to us at a rate of percent per year"; and
- i. The amount of any penalty and the aggregate amount of any liquidated damages, including penalties, payable by the payee in the event of a breach of the transfer agreement by the payee;
- 3. The payee has established that the transfer is in the best interests of the payee, taking into account the welfare and support of the payee's dependents;
- 4. The payee has received, or waived his or her right to receive, independent professional advice regarding the legal, tax, and financial implications of the transfer;
- 5. The transferee has given written notice of the transferee's name, address, and taxpayer identification number

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to the annuity issuer and the structured settlement obligor and has filed a copy of the notice with the court;

- 6. The transfer agreement provides that if the payee is domiciled in this state, any disputes between the parties will be governed in accordance with the laws of this state and that the domicile state of the payee is the proper venue to bring any cause of action arising out of a breach of the agreement; and
- 7. The court has determined that the net amount payable to the payee is fair, just, and reasonable under the circumstances then existing.

TITLE AMENDMENT

Remove line 88 and insert: changes made by the act; amending s. 626.99296, F.S.; specifying a court in the county where the payee resides must authorize a transfer of structured settlement payment rights in order for the transfer to be effective; amending s. 627.062, F.S.;