By Senator Brandes

24-00350-21 2021212

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to contingency risk multipliers; amending s. 627.428, F.S.; providing that for certain attorney fees awarded for claims arising under property insurance policies, a strong presumption is created that a lodestar fee is sufficient and reasonable; providing that such presumption may be rebutted only under certain circumstances; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Subsection (4) is added to section 627.428, Florida Statutes, to read:

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627.428 Attorney fees.-

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(4) In an award of attorney fees under this section for a claim arising under a property insurance policy, a strong presumption is created that a lodestar fee is sufficient and reasonable. Such presumption may be rebutted only in a rare and exceptional circumstance with evidence that competent counsel could not be retained in a reasonable manner.

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Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.