House

Florida Senate - 2021 Bill No. CS for CS for SB 54



LEGISLATIVE ACTION .

Senate

Floor: WD/2R 04/14/2021 06:52 PM

Senator Burgess moved the following:

Senate Amendment to Amendment (824756) (with title amendment)

Delete lines 1865 - 2165

and insert:

6 required under by s. 324.022 and the death benefit coverage set 7 forth in s. 627.72761.

(2) (a) Insurers writing motor vehicle insurance in this 9 state shall make available, subject to the insurers' usual 10 underwriting restrictions:

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1. Coverage under policies as described in subsection (1)

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12 to an applicant for private passenger motor vehicle insurance 13 coverage who is seeking the coverage in order to reinstate the 14 applicant's driving privileges in this state if the driving 15 privileges were revoked or suspended pursuant to s. 316.646 or 16 s. 324.0221 due to the failure of the applicant to maintain 17 required security.

2. Coverage under policies as described in subsection (1), 18 19 which includes bodily injury also provides liability coverage and property damage liability coverage, for bodily injury, 20 21 death, and property damage arising out of the ownership, 22 maintenance, or use of the motor vehicle in an amount not less 23 than the minimum limits required under described in s. 24 324.021(7) or s. 324.023 and which conforms to the requirements 25 of s. 324.151, to an applicant for private passenger motor 26 vehicle insurance coverage who is seeking the coverage in order 27 to reinstate the applicant's driving privileges in this state 28 after such privileges were revoked or suspended under s. 316.193 29 or s. 322.26(2) for driving under the influence.

30 (b) The policies described in paragraph (a) must shall be issued for at least 6 months and, as to the minimum coverages 31 32 required under this section, may not be canceled by the insured 33 for any reason or by the insurer after 60 days, during which 34 period the insurer is completing the underwriting of the policy. 35 After the insurer has completed underwriting the policy, the 36 insurer shall notify the Department of Highway Safety and Motor 37 Vehicles that the policy is in full force and effect and is not 38 cancelable for the remainder of the policy period. A premium 39 must shall be collected and the coverage is in effect for the 60-day period during which the insurer is completing the 40

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underwriting of the policy, whether or not the person's driver 41 license, motor vehicle tag, and motor vehicle registration are 42 43 in effect. Once the noncancelable provisions of the policy 44 become effective, the bodily injury liability and property 45 damage liability coverages for bodily injury, property damage, 46 and personal injury protection may not be reduced below the minimum limits required under s. 324.021 or s. 324.023 during 47 the policy period. 48

49 (c) This subsection controls to the extent of any conflict 50 with any other section.

(d) An insurer issuing a policy subject to this section may cancel the policy if, during the policy term, the named insured, or any other operator who resides in the same household or customarily operates an automobile insured under the policy, has his or her driver license suspended or revoked.

56 (e) This subsection does not require an insurer to offer a 57 policy of insurance to an applicant if such offer would be inconsistent with the insurer's underwriting guidelines and procedures.

Section 47. Section 627.72761, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

62 627.72761 Required motor vehicle death benefit coverage.-An 63 insurance policy complying with the financial security 64 requirements of s. 324.022 must provide death benefits for the 65 death of the operator of an insured motor vehicle when such 66 death arises out of the ownership, maintenance, or use of a 67 motor vehicle. The insurer may pay death benefits to the 68 executor or administrator of the deceased; to any of the deceased's relatives by blood, legal adoption, or marriage; or 69

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70	to any person appearing to the insurer to be equitably entitled
71	to such benefits. The benefit is not payable if the operator
72	died as a result of causing injury or death to himself or
73	herself intentionally or died because of injuries or death that
74	incurred while committing a felony.
75	Section 48. Effective upon this act becoming a law, section
76	627.7278, Florida Statutes, is created to read:
77	627.7278 Applicability and construction; notice to
78	policyholders
79	(1) As used in this section, the term "minimum security
80	requirements" means security that enables a person to respond in
81	damages for liability on account of crashes arising out of the
82	ownership, maintenance, or use of a motor vehicle, in the
83	amounts required by s. 324.022(1), as amended by this act.
84	(2) Effective January 1, 2022:
85	(a) Motor vehicle insurance policies issued or renewed on
86	or after that date may not include personal injury protection.
87	(b) All persons subject to s. 324.022, s. 324.032, s.
88	627.7415, or s. 627.742 must maintain at least minimum security
89	requirements.
90	(c) Any new or renewal motor vehicle insurance policy
91	delivered or issued for delivery in this state must provide
92	coverage that complies with minimum security requirements and
93	provides the death benefit set forth in s. 627.72761.
94	(d) An existing motor vehicle insurance policy issued
95	before that date which provides personal injury protection and
96	property damage liability coverage that meets the requirements
97	of s. 324.022 on December 31, 2021, but which does not meet
98	minimum security requirements on or after January 1, 2022, is

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99 deemed to meet minimum security requirements until such policy is renewed, nonrenewed, or canceled on or after January 1, 2022. 100 101 Sections 627.730-627.7405, 400.9905, 400.991, 456.057, 456.072, 102 627.7263, 627.727, 627.748, 626.9541(1)(i), and 817.234, Florida 103 Statutes 2020, remain in full force and effect for motor vehicle 104 accidents covered under a policy issued under the Florida Motor 105 Vehicle No-Fault Law before January 1, 2022, until the policy is 106 renewed, nonrenewed, or canceled on or after January 1, 2022. (3) Each insurer shall allow each insured who has a new or 107 108 renewal policy providing personal injury protection which 109 becomes effective before January 1, 2022, and whose policy does 110 not meet minimum security requirements on or after January 1, 111 2022, to change coverages so as to eliminate personal injury 112 protection and obtain coverage providing minimum security 113 requirements and the death benefit set forth in s. 627.72761, 114 which shall be effective on or after January 1, 2022. The 115 insurer is not required to provide coverage complying with 116 minimum security requirements and the death benefit set forth in 117 s. 627.72761, in such policies if the insured does not pay the 118 required premium, if any, by January 1, 2022, or such later date 119 as the insurer may allow. The insurer also shall offer each 120 insured medical payments coverage pursuant to s. 627.7265. Any 121 reduction in the premium must be refunded by the insurer. The 122 insurer may not impose on the insured an additional fee or 123 charge that applies solely to a change in coverage; however, the 124 insurer may charge an additional required premium that is 125 actuarially indicated. 126 (4) By September 1, 2021, each motor vehicle insurer shall 127 provide notice of this section to each motor vehicle

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128	policyholder who is subject to this section. The notice is
129	subject to approval by the office and must clearly inform the
130	policyholder that:
131	(a) The Florida Motor Vehicle No-Fault Law is repealed
132	effective January 1, 2022, and that on or after that date, the
133	insured is no longer required to maintain personal injury
134	protection insurance coverage, that personal injury protection
135	coverage is no longer available for purchase in this state, and
136	that all new or renewal policies issued on or after that date
137	will not contain that coverage.
138	(b) Effective January 1, 2022, a person subject to the
139	financial responsibility requirements of s. 324.022 must:
140	1. Maintain minimum security requirements that enable the
141	person to respond to damages for liability on account of
142	accidents arising out of the use of a motor vehicle in the
143	following amounts:
144	a. Twenty-five thousand dollars for bodily injury to, or
145	the death of, one person in any one crash and, subject to such
146	limits for one person, in the amount of \$50,000 for bodily
147	injury to, or the death of, two or more persons in any one
148	crash; and
149	b. Ten thousand dollars for damage to, or destruction of,
150	the property of others in any one crash.
151	2. Purchase a death benefit pursuant to s. 627.72761
152	providing at least \$5,000 in coverage upon the death of the
153	operator of a motor vehicle.
154	(c) Bodily injury liability coverage protects the insured,
155	up to the coverage limits, against loss if the insured is
156	legally responsible for the death of or bodily injury to others

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157 in a motor vehicle accident. (d) Effective January 1, 2022, each policyholder of motor 158 vehicle liability insurance purchased as proof of financial 159 160 responsibility must be offered medical payments coverage 161 benefits that comply with s. 627.7265. The insurer must offer 162 medical payments coverage at limits of \$5,000 and \$10,000 163 without a deductible. The insurer may also offer medical 164 payments coverage at other limits greater than \$5,000 and may 165 offer coverage with a deductible of up to \$500. Medical payments 166 coverage pays covered medical expenses incurred due to bodily 167 injury, sickness, or disease arising out of the ownership, 168 maintenance, or use of the motor vehicle, up to the limits of 169 such coverage, for injuries sustained in a motor vehicle crash by the named insured, resident relatives, any person operating 170 171 the insured motor vehicle, passengers in the insured motor 172 vehicle, and persons who are struck by the insured motor vehicle and suffer bodily injury while not an occupant of a self-173 174 propelled motor vehicle as provided in s. 627.7265. Medical 175 payments coverage also provides a death benefit of at least 176 \$5,000. 177 (e) The policyholder may obtain uninsured and underinsured 178 motorist coverage that provides benefits, up to the limits of 179 such coverage, to a policyholder or other insured entitled to 180 recover damages for bodily injury, sickness, disease, or death 181 resulting from a motor vehicle accident with an uninsured or 182 underinsured owner or operator of a motor vehicle. 183 (f) If the policyholder's new or renewal motor vehicle 184 insurance policy is effective before January 1, 2022, and 185 contains personal injury protection and property damage

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186	liability coverage as required by state law before January 1,
187	2022, but does not meet minimum security requirements on or
188	after January 1, 2022, the policy is deemed to meet minimum
189	security requirements until it is renewed, nonrenewed, or
190	canceled on or after January 1, 2022.
191	(g) A policyholder whose new or renewal policy becomes
192	effective before January 1, 2022, but does not meet minimum
193	security requirements on or after January 1, 2022, may change
194	coverages under the policy so as to eliminate personal injury
195	protection and to obtain coverage providing minimum security
196	requirements, including bodily injury liability coverage, which
197	are effective on or after January 1, 2022.
198	(h) If the policyholder has any questions, he or she should
199	contact the person named at the telephone number provided in the
200	notice.
201	Section 49. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section
202	627.728, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
203	627.728 Cancellations; nonrenewals
204	(1) As used in this section, the term:
205	(a) "Policy" means the bodily injury and property damage
206	liability, personal injury protection, medical payments,
207	comprehensive, collision, and uninsured motorist coverage
208	portions of a policy of motor vehicle insurance delivered or
209	issued for delivery in this state:
210	1. Insuring a natural person as named insured or one or
211	more related individuals who are residents resident of the same
212	household; and
213	2. Insuring only a motor vehicle of the private passenger
214	type or station wagon type which is not used as a public or

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215	livery conveyance for passengers or rented to others; or
216	insuring any other four-wheel motor vehicle having a load
217	capacity of 1,500 pounds or less which is not used in the
218	occupation, profession, or business of the insured other than
219	farming; other than any policy issued under an automobile
220	insurance assigned risk plan or covering garage, automobile
221	sales agency, repair shop, service station, or public parking
222	place operation hazards.
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224	The term "policy" does not include a binder as defined in s.
225	627.420 unless the duration of the binder period exceeds 60
226	days.
227	Section 50. Subsection (1), paragraph (a) of subsection
228	(5), and subsections (6) and (7) of section 627.7295, Florida
229	Statutes, are amended to read:
230	627.7295 Motor vehicle insurance contracts
231	(1) As used in this section, the term:
232	(a) "Policy" means a motor vehicle insurance policy that
233	provides bodily injury liability personal injury protection
234	coverage and $_{ au}$ property damage liability coverage, or both.
235	(b) "Binder" means a binder that provides motor vehicle
236	bodily injury liability coverage personal injury protection and
237	property damage liability coverage.
238	(5)(a) A licensed general lines agent may charge a per-
239	policy fee <u>of up to</u> not to exceed \$10 to cover the
240	administrative costs of the agent associated with selling the
241	motor vehicle insurance policy if the policy covers only <u>bodily</u>
242	injury liability coverage personal injury protection coverage as
243	provided by s. 627.736 and property damage liability coverage as
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244 provided by s. 627.7275 and if no other insurance is sold or 245 issued in conjunction with or collateral to the policy. The fee 246 is not considered part of the premium.

(6) If a motor vehicle owner's driver license, license plate, and registration have previously been suspended pursuant to s. 316.646 or s. 627.733, an insurer may cancel a new policy only as provided in s. 627.7275.

251 (7) A policy of private passenger motor vehicle insurance 252 or a binder for such a policy may be initially issued in this 253 state only if, before the effective date of such binder or 254 policy, the insurer or agent has collected from the insured an 255 amount equal to at least 1 month's premium. An insurer, agent, 256 or premium finance company may not, directly or indirectly, take 257 any action that results resulting in the insured paying having 258 paid from the insured's own funds an amount less than the 1 259 month's premium required by this subsection. This subsection 260 applies without regard to whether the premium is financed by a 261 premium finance company or is paid pursuant to a periodic payment plan of an insurer or an insurance agent. 262

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(a) This subsection does not apply:

<u>1.</u> If an insured or member of the insured's family is renewing or replacing a policy or a binder for such policy written by the same insurer or a member of the same insurer group. This subsection does not apply

<u>2.</u> To an insurer that issues private passenger motor vehicle coverage primarily to active duty or former military personnel or their dependents. This subsection does not apply

271 <u>3.</u> If all policy payments are paid pursuant to a payroll 272 deduction plan, an automatic electronic funds transfer payment

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273 plan from the policyholder, or a recurring credit card or debit 274 card agreement with the insurer.

275 (b) This subsection and subsection (4) do not apply if: 276 1. All policy payments to an insurer are paid pursuant to 277 an automatic electronic funds transfer payment plan from an 278 agent, a managing general agent, or a premium finance company 279 and if the policy includes, at a minimum, bodily injury liability coverage and personal injury protection pursuant to 280 ss. 627.730-627.7405; motor vehicle property damage liability 2.81 282 coverage pursuant to s. 627.7275; or and bodily injury liability 283 in at least the amount of \$10,000 because of bodily injury to, 284 or death of, one person in any one accident and in the amount of 285 \$20,000 because of bodily injury to, or death of, two or more 286 persons in any one accident. This subsection and subsection (4) 287 do not apply if

288 <u>2.</u> An insured has had a policy in effect for at least 6 289 months, the insured's agent is terminated by the insurer that 290 issued the policy, and the insured obtains coverage on the 291 policy's renewal date with a new company through the terminated 292 agent.

293 Section 51. Section 627.7415, Florida Statutes, is amended 294 to read:

295 627.7415 Commercial motor vehicles; additional liability 296 insurance coverage.—<u>Beginning January 1, 2022,</u> commercial motor 297 vehicles, as defined in s. 207.002 or s. 320.01, operated upon 298 the roads and highways of this state <u>must shall</u> be insured with 299 the following minimum levels of combined bodily liability 300 insurance and property damage liability insurance in addition to 301 any other insurance requirements:

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302 (1) Sixty Fifty thousand dollars per occurrence for a 303 commercial motor vehicle with a gross vehicle weight of 26,000 pounds or more, but less than 35,000 pounds. 304 305 (2) One hundred twenty thousand dollars per occurrence for 306 a commercial motor vehicle with a gross vehicle weight of 35,000 307 pounds or more, but less than 44,000 pounds. 308 (3) Three hundred thousand dollars per occurrence for a 309 commercial motor vehicle with a gross vehicle weight of 44,000 310 pounds or more. 311 (4) All commercial motor vehicles subject to regulations of 312 the United States Department of Transportation, 49 C.F.R. part 313 387, subpart A, and as may be hereinafter amended, shall be 314 insured in an amount equivalent to the minimum levels of 315 financial responsibility as set forth in such regulations. 316 317 A violation of this section is a noncriminal traffic infraction, 318 punishable as a nonmoving violation as provided in chapter 318. 319 Section 52. Section 627.747, Florida Statutes, is created 320 to read: 321 627.747 Named driver exclusion.-322 (1) A private passenger motor vehicle policy may exclude an 323 identified individual from the following coverages while the 324 identified individual is operating a motor vehicle, provided 325 that the identified individual is specifically excluded by name 326 on the declarations page or by endorsement and the policyholder 327 consents in writing to the exclusion: 328 (a) Property damage liability coverage. 329 (b) Bodily injury liability coverage. 330 (c) Death benefit coverage under s. 627.72761.

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332	========== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ================
333	And the title is amended as follows:
334	Delete line 2860
335	and insert:
336	act; creating s. 627.72761, F.S.; requiring that motor
337	vehicle insurance policies in compliance with certain
338	requirements provide death benefits; providing to whom
339	death benefits may be paid; specifying when the
340	benefit is not payable; creating s. 627.7278, F.S.;
341	defining the term