LEGISLATIVE ACTION Senate House Comm: RCS 01/26/2022

The Committee on Banking and Insurance (Brandes) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

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Delete lines 153 - 1184

4 and insert:

shall may use a single account for all revenues, assets, liabilities, losses, and expenses of the corporation. Consistent with this subparagraph and prudent investment policies that minimize the cost of carrying debt, the board shall exercise its best efforts to retire existing debt or obtain the approval of necessary parties to amend the terms of existing debt, so as to

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structure the most efficient plan for consolidating the three separate accounts into a single account.

- c. Creditors of the Residential Property and Casualty Joint Underwriting Association and the accounts specified in sub-subsubparagraphs a.(I) and (II) may have a claim against, and recourse to, those accounts and no claim against, or recourse to, the account referred to in sub-sub-subparagraph a. (III). Creditors of the Florida Windstorm Underwriting Association have a claim against, and recourse to, the account referred to in sub-sub-subparagraph a.(III) and no claim against, or recourse to, the accounts referred to in sub-sub-subparagraphs a.(I) and (II).
- d. Revenues, assets, liabilities, losses, and expenses not attributable to particular accounts shall be prorated among the accounts.
- e. The Legislature finds that the revenues of the corporation are revenues that are necessary to meet the requirements set forth in documents authorizing the issuance of bonds under this subsection.
- f. The income of the corporation may not inure to the benefit of any private person.
 - 3. With respect to a deficit in an account:
- a. After accounting for the Citizens policyholder surcharge imposed under sub-subparagraph i., if the remaining projected deficit incurred in the coastal account in a particular calendar year:
- (I) Is not greater than 2 percent of the aggregate statewide direct written premium for the subject lines of business for the prior calendar year, the entire deficit shall

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be recovered through regular assessments of assessable insurers under paragraph (g) and assessable insureds.

(II) Exceeds 2 percent of the aggregate statewide direct written premium for the subject lines of business for the prior calendar year, the corporation shall levy regular assessments on assessable insurers under paragraph (q) and on assessable insureds in an amount equal to the greater of 2 percent of the projected deficit or 2 percent of the aggregate statewide direct written premium for the subject lines of business for the prior calendar year. Any remaining projected deficit shall be recovered through emergency assessments under sub-subparagraph d.

b. Each assessable insurer's share of the amount being assessed under sub-subparagraph a. must be in the proportion that the assessable insurer's direct written premium for the subject lines of business for the year preceding the assessment bears to the aggregate statewide direct written premium for the subject lines of business for that year. The assessment percentage applicable to each assessable insured is the ratio of the amount being assessed under sub-subparagraph a. to the aggregate statewide direct written premium for the subject lines of business for the prior year. Assessments levied by the corporation on assessable insurers under sub-subparagraph a. must be paid as required by the corporation's plan of operation and paragraph (q). Assessments levied by the corporation on assessable insureds under sub-subparagraph a. shall be collected by the surplus lines agent at the time the surplus lines agent collects the surplus lines tax required by s. 626.932, and paid to the Florida Surplus Lines Service Office at the time the

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surplus lines agent pays the surplus lines tax to that office. Upon receipt of regular assessments from surplus lines agents, the Florida Surplus Lines Service Office shall transfer the assessments directly to the corporation as determined by the corporation.

- c. After accounting for the Citizens policyholder surcharge imposed under sub-subparagraph i., the remaining projected deficits in the personal lines account and in the commercial lines account in a particular calendar year shall be recovered through emergency assessments under sub-subparagraph d.
- d. Upon a determination by the board of governors that a projected deficit in an account exceeds the amount that is expected to be recovered through regular assessments under subsubparagraph a., plus the amount that is expected to be recovered through surcharges under sub-subparagraph i., the board, after verification by the office, shall levy emergency assessments for as many years as necessary to cover the deficits, to be collected by assessable insurers and the corporation and collected from assessable insureds upon issuance or renewal of policies for subject lines of business, excluding National Flood Insurance policies. The amount collected in a particular year must be a uniform percentage of that year's direct written premium for subject lines of business and all accounts of the corporation, excluding National Flood Insurance Program policy premiums, as annually determined by the board and verified by the office. The office shall verify the arithmetic calculations involved in the board's determination within 30 days after receipt of the information on which the determination was based. The office shall notify assessable insurers and the

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Florida Surplus Lines Service Office of the date on which assessable insurers shall begin to collect and assessable insureds shall begin to pay such assessment. The date must be at least 90 days after the date the corporation levies emergency assessments pursuant to this sub-subparagraph. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the corporation and each assessable insurer that writes subject lines of business shall collect emergency assessments from its policyholders without such obligation being affected by any credit, limitation, exemption, or deferment. Emergency assessments levied by the corporation on assessable insureds shall be collected by the surplus lines agent at the time the surplus lines agent collects the surplus lines tax required by s. 626.932 and paid to the Florida Surplus Lines Service Office at the time the surplus lines agent pays the surplus lines tax to that office. The emergency assessments collected shall be transferred directly to the corporation on a periodic basis as determined by the corporation and held by the corporation solely in the applicable account. The aggregate amount of emergency assessments levied for an account in any calendar year may be less than but may not exceed the greater of 10 percent of the amount needed to cover the deficit, plus interest, fees, commissions, required reserves, and other costs associated with financing the original deficit, or 10 percent of the aggregate statewide direct written premium for subject lines of business and all accounts of the corporation for the prior year, plus interest, fees, commissions, required reserves, and other costs associated with financing the deficit.

projected recoveries from the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe

e. The corporation may pledge the proceeds of assessments,

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Fund, other insurance and reinsurance recoverables, policyholder surcharges and other surcharges, and other funds available to the corporation as the source of revenue for and to secure bonds issued under paragraph (q), bonds or other indebtedness issued under subparagraph (c)3., or lines of credit or other financing mechanisms issued or created under this subsection, or to retire any other debt incurred as a result of deficits or events giving rise to deficits, or in any other way that the board determines will efficiently recover such deficits. The purpose of the lines of credit or other financing mechanisms is to provide additional resources to assist the corporation in covering claims and expenses attributable to a catastrophe. As used in this subsection, the term "assessments" includes regular assessments under sub-subparagraph a. or subparagraph (q)1. and emergency assessments under sub-subparagraph d. Emergency assessments collected under sub-subparagraph d. are not part of an insurer's rates, are not premium, and are not subject to premium tax, fees, or commissions; however, failure to pay the emergency assessment shall be treated as failure to pay premium. The emergency assessments shall continue as long as any bonds issued or other indebtedness incurred with respect to a deficit for which the assessment was imposed remain outstanding, unless adequate provision has been made for the payment of such bonds or other indebtedness pursuant to the documents governing such bonds or indebtedness.

f. As used in this subsection for purposes of any deficit incurred on or after January 25, 2007, the term "subject lines of business" means insurance written by assessable insurers or procured by assessable insureds for all property and casualty

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lines of business in this state, but not including workers' compensation or medical malpractice. As used in this subsubparagraph, the term "property and casualty lines of business" includes all lines of business identified on Form 2, Exhibit of Premiums and Losses, in the annual statement required of authorized insurers under s. 624.424 and any rule adopted under this section, except for those lines identified as accident and health insurance and except for policies written under the National Flood Insurance Program or the Federal Crop Insurance Program. For purposes of this sub-subparagraph, the term "workers' compensation" includes both workers' compensation insurance and excess workers' compensation insurance.

- q. The Florida Surplus Lines Service Office shall determine annually the aggregate statewide written premium in subject lines of business procured by assessable insureds and report that information to the corporation in a form and at a time the corporation specifies to ensure that the corporation can meet the requirements of this subsection and the corporation's financing obligations.
- h. The Florida Surplus Lines Service Office shall verify the proper application by surplus lines agents of assessment percentages for regular assessments and emergency assessments levied under this subparagraph on assessable insureds and assist the corporation in ensuring the accurate, timely collection and payment of assessments by surplus lines agents as required by the corporation.
- i. Upon determination by the board of governors that an account has a projected deficit, the board shall levy a Citizens policyholder surcharge against all policyholders of the



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- (I) The surcharge must shall be levied as a uniform percentage of the premium for the policy of up to 15 percent of such premium, and must which funds shall be used to offset the deficit, as follows:
- (A) If the total number of policyholders of the corporation is less than 1 million, a surcharge of 15 percent of the premium.
- (B) If the total number of policyholders of the corporation is at least 1 million but less than 1.5 million, a surcharge of 20 percent of the premium.
- (C) If the total number of policyholders of the corporation is at least 1.5 million, a surcharge of 25 percent of the premium.
- (II) The surcharge is payable upon cancellation or termination of the policy, upon renewal of the policy, or upon issuance of a new policy by the corporation within the first 12 months after the date of the levy or the period of time necessary to fully collect the surcharge amount.
- (III) The corporation may not levy any regular assessments under paragraph (q) pursuant to sub-subparagraph a. or subsubparagraph b. with respect to a particular year's deficit until the corporation has first levied the full amount of the surcharge authorized by this sub-subparagraph.
- (IV) The surcharge is not considered premium and is not subject to commissions, fees, or premium taxes. However, failure to pay the surcharge shall be treated as failure to pay premium.
- j. The corporation shall annually collect a surcharge of \$5 upon renewal on all policies listed as a primary residence with



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k. If the amount of any assessments or surcharges collected from corporation policyholders, assessable insurers or their policyholders, or assessable insureds exceeds the amount of the deficits, such excess amounts shall be remitted to and retained by the corporation in a reserve to be used by the corporation, as determined by the board of governors and approved by the office, to pay claims or reduce any past, present, or future plan-year deficits or to reduce outstanding debt.

- (c) The corporation's plan of operation:
- 1. Must provide for adoption of residential property and casualty insurance policy forms and commercial residential and nonresidential property insurance forms, which must be approved by the office before use. The corporation shall adopt the following policy forms:
- a. Standard personal lines policy forms that are comprehensive multiperil policies providing full coverage of a residential property equivalent to the coverage provided in the private insurance market under an HO-3, HO-4, or HO-6 policy.
- b. Basic personal lines policy forms that are policies similar to an HO-8 policy or a dwelling fire policy that provide coverage meeting the requirements of the secondary mortgage market, but which is more limited than the coverage under a standard policy.
- c. Commercial lines residential and nonresidential policy forms that are generally similar to the basic perils of full coverage obtainable for commercial residential structures and commercial nonresidential structures in the admitted voluntary market.

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- d. Personal lines and commercial lines residential property insurance forms that cover the peril of wind only. The forms are applicable only to residential properties located in areas eligible for coverage under the coastal account referred to in sub-subparagraph (b) 2.a.
- e. Commercial lines nonresidential property insurance forms that cover the peril of wind only. The forms are applicable only to nonresidential properties located in areas eligible for coverage under the coastal account referred to in subsubparagraph (b) 2.a.
- f. The corporation may adopt variations of the policy forms listed in sub-subparagraphs a.-e. which contain more restrictive coverage.
- g. Effective January 1, 2013, the corporation shall offer a basic personal lines policy similar to an HO-8 policy with dwelling repair based on common construction materials and methods.
- 2. Must provide that the corporation adopt a program in which the corporation and authorized insurers enter into quota share primary insurance agreements for hurricane coverage, as defined in s. 627.4025(2)(a), for eligible risks, and adopt property insurance forms for eligible risks which cover the peril of wind only.
 - a. As used in this subsection, the term:
- (II) "Primary residence" means a risk that has a dwelling replacement cost of less than \$700,000 or a single condominium unit that has a combined dwelling and contents replacement cost of less than \$700,000 and the insured has represented such dwelling as its permanent home on the insurance application or

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otherwise to the corporation. A policyholder and the policyholder's spouse may not collectively have more than one primary residence insured with the corporation.

(III) (I) "Quota share primary insurance" means an arrangement in which the primary hurricane coverage of an eligible risk is provided in specified percentages by the corporation and an authorized insurer. The corporation and authorized insurer are each solely responsible for a specified percentage of hurricane coverage of an eligible risk as set forth in a quota share primary insurance agreement between the corporation and an authorized insurer and the insurance contract. The responsibility of the corporation or authorized insurer to pay its specified percentage of hurricane losses of an eligible risk, as set forth in the agreement, may not be altered by the inability of the other party to pay its specified percentage of losses. Eligible risks that are provided hurricane coverage through a quota share primary insurance arrangement must be provided policy forms that set forth the obligations of the corporation and authorized insurer under the arrangement, clearly specify the percentages of quota share primary insurance provided by the corporation and authorized insurer, and conspicuously and clearly state that the authorized insurer and the corporation may not be held responsible beyond their specified percentage of coverage of hurricane losses.

(I) (II) "Eligible risks" means personal lines residential and commercial lines residential risks that meet the underwriting criteria of the corporation and are located in areas that were eliqible for coverage by the Florida Windstorm Underwriting Association on January 1, 2002.

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- b. The corporation may enter into quota share primary insurance agreements with authorized insurers at corporation coverage levels of 90 percent and 50 percent.
- c. If the corporation determines that additional coverage levels are necessary to maximize participation in quota share primary insurance agreements by authorized insurers, the corporation may establish additional coverage levels. However, the corporation's quota share primary insurance coverage level may not exceed 90 percent.
- d. Any quota share primary insurance agreement entered into between an authorized insurer and the corporation must provide for a uniform specified percentage of coverage of hurricane losses, by county or territory as set forth by the corporation board, for all eligible risks of the authorized insurer covered under the agreement.
- e. Any quota share primary insurance agreement entered into between an authorized insurer and the corporation is subject to review and approval by the office. However, such agreement shall be authorized only as to insurance contracts entered into between an authorized insurer and an insured who is already insured by the corporation for wind coverage.
- f. For all eliqible risks covered under quota share primary insurance agreements, the exposure and coverage levels for both the corporation and authorized insurers shall be reported by the corporation to the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund. For all policies of eligible risks covered under such agreements, the corporation and the authorized insurer must maintain complete and accurate records for the purpose of exposure and loss reimbursement audits as required by fund rules. The corporation

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and the authorized insurer shall each maintain duplicate copies of policy declaration pages and supporting claims documents.

- g. The corporation board shall establish in its plan of operation standards for quota share agreements which ensure that there is no discriminatory application among insurers as to the terms of the agreements, pricing of the agreements, incentive provisions if any, and consideration paid for servicing policies or adjusting claims.
- h. The quota share primary insurance agreement between the corporation and an authorized insurer must set forth the specific terms under which coverage is provided, including, but not limited to, the sale and servicing of policies issued under the agreement by the insurance agent of the authorized insurer producing the business, the reporting of information concerning eligible risks, the payment of premium to the corporation, and arrangements for the adjustment and payment of hurricane claims incurred on eligible risks by the claims adjuster and personnel of the authorized insurer. Entering into a quota sharing insurance agreement between the corporation and an authorized insurer is voluntary and at the discretion of the authorized insurer.
- 3. May provide that the corporation may employ or otherwise contract with individuals or other entities to provide administrative or professional services that may be appropriate to effectuate the plan. The corporation may borrow funds by issuing bonds or by incurring other indebtedness, and shall have other powers reasonably necessary to effectuate the requirements of this subsection, including, without limitation, the power to issue bonds and incur other indebtedness in order to refinance

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outstanding bonds or other indebtedness. The corporation may seek judicial validation of its bonds or other indebtedness under chapter 75. The corporation may issue bonds or incur other indebtedness, or have bonds issued on its behalf by a unit of local government pursuant to subparagraph (q)2. in the absence of a hurricane or other weather-related event, upon a determination by the corporation, subject to approval by the office, that such action would enable it to efficiently meet the financial obligations of the corporation and that such financings are reasonably necessary to effectuate the requirements of this subsection. The corporation may take all actions needed to facilitate tax-free status for such bonds or indebtedness, including formation of trusts or other affiliated entities. The corporation may pledge assessments, projected recoveries from the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund, other reinsurance recoverables, policyholder surcharges and other surcharges, and other funds available to the corporation as security for bonds or other indebtedness. In recognition of s. 10, Art. I of the State Constitution, prohibiting the impairment of obligations of contracts, it is the intent of the Legislature that no action be taken whose purpose is to impair any bond indenture or financing agreement or any revenue source committed by contract to such bond or other indebtedness.

4. Must require that the corporation operate subject to the supervision and approval of a board of governors consisting of nine individuals who are residents of this state and who are from different geographical areas of this the state, one of whom is appointed by the Governor and serves solely to advocate on behalf of the consumer. The appointment of a consumer

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representative by the Governor is deemed to be within the scope of the exemption provided in s. 112.313(7)(b) and is in addition to the appointments authorized under sub-subparagraph a.

- a. The Governor, the Chief Financial Officer, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall each appoint two members of the board. At least one of the two members appointed by each appointing officer must have demonstrated expertise in insurance and be deemed to be within the scope of the exemption provided in s. 112.313(7)(b). The Chief Financial Officer shall designate one of the appointees as chair. All board members serve at the pleasure of the appointing officer. All members of the board are subject to removal at will by the officers who appointed them. All board members, including the chair, must be appointed to serve for 3-year terms beginning annually on a date designated by the plan. However, for the first term beginning on or after July 1, 2009, each appointing officer shall appoint one member of the board for a 2-year term and one member for a 3-year term. A board vacancy shall be filled for the unexpired term by the appointing officer. The Chief Financial Officer shall appoint a technical advisory group to provide information and advice to the board in connection with the board's duties under this subsection. The executive director and senior managers of the corporation shall be engaged by the board and serve at the pleasure of the board. Any executive director appointed on or after July 1, 2006, is subject to confirmation by the Senate. The executive director is responsible for employing other staff as the corporation may require, subject to review and concurrence by the board.
 - b. The board shall create a Market Accountability Advisory

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Committee to assist the corporation in developing awareness of its rates and its customer and agent service levels in relationship to the voluntary market insurers writing similar coverage.

- (I) The members of the advisory committee consist of the following 11 persons, one of whom must be elected chair by the members of the committee: four representatives, one appointed by the Florida Association of Insurance Agents, one by the Florida Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors, one by the Professional Insurance Agents of Florida, and one by the Latin American Association of Insurance Agencies; three representatives appointed by the insurers with the three highest voluntary market share of residential property insurance business in this the state; one representative from the Office of Insurance Regulation; one consumer appointed by the board who is insured by the corporation at the time of appointment to the committee; one representative appointed by the Florida Association of Realtors; and one representative appointed by the Florida Bankers Association. All members shall be appointed to 3-year terms and may serve for consecutive terms.
- (II) The committee shall report to the corporation at each board meeting on insurance market issues that which may include rates and rate competition with the voluntary market; service, including policy issuance, claims processing, and general responsiveness to policyholders, applicants, and agents; and matters relating to depopulation.
- 5. Must provide a procedure for determining the eligibility of a risk for coverage, as follows:
 - a. Subject to s. 627.3517, with respect to personal lines

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residential risks, if the risk is offered coverage from an authorized insurer at the insurer's approved rate under a standard policy including wind coverage or, if consistent with the insurer's underwriting rules as filed with the office, a basic policy including wind coverage, for a new application to the corporation for coverage, the risk is not eligible for any policy issued by the corporation unless the premium for coverage from the authorized insurer is more than 20 percent greater than the premium for comparable coverage from the corporation. Whenever an offer of coverage for a personal lines residential risk is received for a policyholder of the corporation at renewal from an authorized insurer, if the offer is equal to or less than the corporation's renewal premium for comparable coverage, the risk is not eligible for coverage with the corporation unless the premium for coverage from the authorized insurer is more than 20 percent greater than the renewal premium for comparable coverage from the corporation. If the risk is not able to obtain such offer, the risk is eligible for a standard policy including wind coverage or a basic policy including wind coverage issued by the corporation; however, if the risk could not be insured under a standard policy including wind coverage regardless of market conditions, the risk is eliqible for a basic policy including wind coverage unless rejected under subparagraph 8. However, a policyholder removed from the corporation through an assumption agreement remains eligible for coverage from the corporation until the end of the assumption period. The corporation shall determine the type of policy to be provided on the basis of objective standards specified in the underwriting manual and based on generally accepted underwriting



practices.

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- (I) If the risk accepts an offer of coverage through the market assistance plan or through a mechanism established by the corporation other than a plan established by s. 627.3518, before a policy is issued to the risk by the corporation or during the first 30 days of coverage by the corporation, and the producing agent who submitted the application to the plan or to the corporation is not currently appointed by the insurer, the insurer shall:
- (A) Pay to the producing agent of record of the policy for the first year, an amount that is the greater of the insurer's usual and customary commission for the type of policy written or a fee equal to the usual and customary commission of the corporation; or
- (B) Offer to allow the producing agent of record of the policy to continue servicing the policy for at least 1 year and offer to pay the agent the greater of the insurer's or the corporation's usual and customary commission for the type of policy written.

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If the producing agent is unwilling or unable to accept appointment, the new insurer shall pay the agent in accordance with sub-sub-sub-subparagraph (A).

- (II) If the corporation enters into a contractual agreement for a take-out plan, the producing agent of record of the corporation policy is entitled to retain any unearned commission on the policy, and the insurer shall:
- (A) Pay to the producing agent of record, for the first year, an amount that is the greater of the insurer's usual and

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customary commission for the type of policy written or a fee equal to the usual and customary commission of the corporation;

(B) Offer to allow the producing agent of record to continue servicing the policy for at least 1 year and offer to pay the agent the greater of the insurer's or the corporation's usual and customary commission for the type of policy written.

If the producing agent is unwilling or unable to accept appointment, the new insurer shall pay the agent in accordance with sub-sub-subparagraph (A).

b. With respect to commercial lines residential risks, for a new application to the corporation for coverage, if the risk is offered coverage under a policy including wind coverage from an authorized insurer at its approved rate, the risk is not eligible for a policy issued by the corporation unless the premium for coverage from the authorized insurer is more than 15 percent greater than the premium for comparable coverage from the corporation. Whenever an offer of coverage for a commercial lines residential risk is received for a policyholder of the corporation at renewal from an authorized insurer, if the offer is equal to or less than the corporation's renewal premium for comparable coverage, the risk is not eligible for coverage with the corporation. If the risk is not able to obtain any such offer, the risk is eligible for a policy including wind coverage issued by the corporation. However, a policyholder removed from the corporation through an assumption agreement remains eligible for coverage from the corporation until the end of the assumption period.

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- (I) If the risk accepts an offer of coverage through the market assistance plan or through a mechanism established by the corporation other than a plan established by s. 627.3518, before a policy is issued to the risk by the corporation or during the first 30 days of coverage by the corporation, and the producing agent who submitted the application to the plan or the corporation is not currently appointed by the insurer, the insurer shall:
- (A) Pay to the producing agent of record of the policy, for the first year, an amount that is the greater of the insurer's usual and customary commission for the type of policy written or a fee equal to the usual and customary commission of the corporation; or
- (B) Offer to allow the producing agent of record of the policy to continue servicing the policy for at least 1 year and offer to pay the agent the greater of the insurer's or the corporation's usual and customary commission for the type of policy written.

If the producing agent is unwilling or unable to accept appointment, the new insurer shall pay the agent in accordance with sub-sub-sub-subparagraph (A).

- (II) If the corporation enters into a contractual agreement for a take-out plan, the producing agent of record of the corporation policy is entitled to retain any unearned commission on the policy, and the insurer shall:
- (A) Pay to the producing agent of record, for the first year, an amount that is the greater of the insurer's usual and customary commission for the type of policy written or a fee

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equal to the usual and customary commission of the corporation; or

(B) Offer to allow the producing agent of record to continue servicing the policy for at least 1 year and offer to pay the agent the greater of the insurer's or the corporation's usual and customary commission for the type of policy written.

If the producing agent is unwilling or unable to accept appointment, the new insurer shall pay the agent in accordance with sub-sub-sub-subparagraph (A).

c. For purposes of determining comparable coverage under sub-subparagraphs a. and b., the comparison must be based on those forms and coverages that are reasonably comparable. The corporation may rely on a determination of comparable coverage and premium made by the producing agent who submits the application to the corporation, made in the agent's capacity as the corporation's agent. A comparison may be made solely of the premium with respect to the main building or structure only on the following basis: the same coverage A or other building limits; the same percentage hurricane deductible that applies on an annual basis or that applies to each hurricane for commercial residential property; the same percentage of ordinance and law coverage, if the same limit is offered by both the corporation and the authorized insurer; the same mitigation credits, to the extent the same types of credits are offered both by the corporation and the authorized insurer; the same method for loss payment, such as replacement cost or actual cash value, if the same method is offered both by the corporation and the authorized insurer in accordance with underwriting rules; and

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any other form or coverage that is reasonably comparable as determined by the board. If an application is submitted to the corporation for wind-only coverage in the coastal account, the premium for the corporation's wind-only policy plus the premium for the ex-wind policy that is offered by an authorized insurer to the applicant must be compared to the premium for multiperil coverage offered by an authorized insurer, subject to the standards for comparison specified in this subparagraph. If the corporation or the applicant requests from the authorized insurer a breakdown of the premium of the offer by types of coverage so that a comparison may be made by the corporation or its agent and the authorized insurer refuses or is unable to provide such information, the corporation may treat the offer as not being an offer of coverage from an authorized insurer at the insurer's approved rate.

- 6. Must include rules for classifications of risks and rates.
- 7. Must provide that if premium and investment income for an account attributable to a particular calendar year are in excess of projected losses and expenses for the account attributable to that year, such excess shall be held in surplus in the account. Such surplus must be available to defray deficits in that account as to future years and used for that purpose before assessing assessable insurers and assessable insureds as to any calendar year.
- 8. Must provide objective criteria and procedures to be uniformly applied to all applicants in determining whether an individual risk is so hazardous as to be uninsurable. In making this determination and in establishing the criteria and

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procedures, the following must be considered:

- a. Whether the likelihood of a loss for the individual risk is substantially higher than for other risks of the same class; and
- b. Whether the uncertainty associated with the individual risk is such that an appropriate premium cannot be determined.

The acceptance or rejection of a risk by the corporation must shall be construed as the private placement of insurance, and the provisions of chapter 120 does do not apply.

- 9. Must provide that the corporation make its best efforts to procure catastrophe reinsurance at reasonable rates, to cover its projected 100-year probable maximum loss as determined by the board of governors. If catastrophe reinsurance is not available at reasonable rates, the corporation need not purchase it, but the corporation shall include the costs of reinsurance to cover its projected 100-year probable maximum loss in its rate calculations even if it does not purchase catastrophe reinsurance.
- 10. The policies issued by the corporation must provide that if the corporation or the market assistance plan obtains an offer from an authorized insurer to cover the risk at its approved rates, the risk is no longer eligible for renewal through the corporation, except as otherwise provided in this subsection.
- 11. Corporation policies and applications must include a notice that the corporation policy could, under this section, be replaced with a policy issued by an authorized insurer which does not provide coverage identical to the coverage provided by

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the corporation. The notice must also specify that acceptance of corporation coverage creates a conclusive presumption that the applicant or policyholder is aware of this potential.

12. May establish, subject to approval by the office, different eligibility requirements and operational procedures for any line or type of coverage for any specified county or area if the board determines that such changes are justified due to the voluntary market being sufficiently stable and competitive in such area or for such line or type of coverage and that consumers who, in good faith, are unable to obtain insurance through the voluntary market through ordinary methods continue to have access to coverage from the corporation. If coverage is sought in connection with a real property transfer, the requirements and procedures may not provide an effective date of coverage later than the date of the closing of the transfer as established by the transferor, the transferee, and, if applicable, the lender.

13. Must provide that, with respect to the coastal account, any assessable insurer with a surplus as to policyholders of \$25 million or less writing 25 percent or more of its total countrywide property insurance premiums in this state may petition the office, within the first 90 days of each calendar year, to qualify as a limited apportionment company. A regular assessment levied by the corporation on a limited apportionment company for a deficit incurred by the corporation for the coastal account may be paid to the corporation on a monthly basis as the assessments are collected by the limited apportionment company from its insureds, but a limited apportionment company must begin collecting the regular

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assessments not later than 90 days after the regular assessments are levied by the corporation, and the regular assessments must be paid in full within 15 months after being levied by the corporation. A limited apportionment company shall collect from its policyholders any emergency assessment imposed under subsubparagraph (b)3.d. The plan must provide that, if the office determines that any regular assessment will result in an impairment of the surplus of a limited apportionment company, the office may direct that all or part of such assessment be deferred as provided in subparagraph (q)4. However, an emergency assessment to be collected from policyholders under subsubparagraph (b) 3.d. may not be limited or deferred.

- 14. Must provide that the corporation appoint as its licensed agents only those agents who throughout such appointments also hold an appointment as defined in s. 626.015 by an insurer who is authorized to write and is actually writing or renewing personal lines residential property coverage, commercial residential property coverage, or commercial nonresidential property coverage within this the state.
- 15. Must provide a premium payment plan option to its policyholders which, at a minimum, allows for quarterly and semiannual payment of premiums. A monthly payment plan may, but is not required to, be offered.
- 16. Must limit coverage on mobile homes or manufactured homes built before 1994 to actual cash value of the dwelling rather than replacement costs of the dwelling.
- 17. Must provide coverage for manufactured or mobile home dwellings. Such coverage must also include the following attached structures:

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- a. Screened enclosures that are aluminum framed or screened enclosures that are not covered by the same or substantially the same materials as those of the primary dwelling;
- b. Carports that are aluminum or carports that are not covered by the same or substantially the same materials as those of the primary dwelling; and
- c. Patios that have a roof covering that is constructed of materials that are not the same or substantially the same materials as those of the primary dwelling.

The corporation shall make available a policy for mobile homes or manufactured homes for a minimum insured value of at least \$3,000.

- 18. May provide such limits of coverage as the board determines, consistent with the requirements of this subsection.
- 19. May require commercial property to meet specified hurricane mitigation construction features as a condition of eligibility for coverage.
- 20. Must provide that new or renewal policies issued by the corporation on or after January 1, 2012, which cover sinkhole loss do not include coverage for any loss to appurtenant structures, driveways, sidewalks, decks, or patios that are directly or indirectly caused by sinkhole activity. The corporation shall exclude such coverage using a notice of coverage change, which may be included with the policy renewal, and not by issuance of a notice of nonrenewal of the excluded coverage upon renewal of the current policy.
- 21. As of January 1, 2012, must require that the agent obtain from an applicant for coverage from the corporation an



acknowledgment signed by the applicant, which includes, at a minimum, the following statement:

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF POTENTIAL SURCHARGE AND ASSESSMENT LIABILITY:

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- 1. AS A POLICYHOLDER OF CITIZENS PROPERTY INSURANCE CORPORATION, I UNDERSTAND THAT IF THE CORPORATION SUSTAINS A DEFICIT AS A RESULT OF HURRICANE LOSSES OR FOR ANY OTHER REASON, MY POLICY COULD BE SUBJECT TO SURCHARGES, WHICH WILL BE DUE AND PAYABLE UPON RENEWAL, CANCELLATION, OR TERMINATION OF THE POLICY, AND THAT THE SURCHARGES COULD BE AS HIGH AS 45 PERCENT OF MY PREMIUM, OR A DIFFERENT AMOUNT AS IMPOSED BY THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE.
- 2. I UNDERSTAND THAT I CAN AVOID THE CITIZENS POLICYHOLDER SURCHARGE, WHICH COULD BE AS HIGH AS 45 PERCENT OF MY PREMIUM, BY OBTAINING COVERAGE FROM A PRIVATE MARKET INSURER AND THAT TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR COVERAGE BY CITIZENS, I MUST FIRST TRY TO OBTAIN PRIVATE MARKET COVERAGE BEFORE APPLYING FOR OR RENEWING COVERAGE WITH CITIZENS. I UNDERSTAND THAT PRIVATE MARKET INSURANCE RATES ARE REGULATED AND APPROVED BY THE STATE.
- 3. I UNDERSTAND THAT I MAY BE SUBJECT TO EMERGENCY ASSESSMENTS TO THE SAME EXTENT AS POLICYHOLDERS OF OTHER INSURANCE COMPANIES, OR A DIFFERENT AMOUNT AS IMPOSED BY THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE.
- 4. I ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT CITIZENS PROPERTY INSURANCE CORPORATION IS NOT SUPPORTED BY THE FULL FAITH AND CREDIT OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA.

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- a. The corporation shall maintain, in electronic format or otherwise, a copy of the applicant's signed acknowledgment and provide a copy of the statement to the policyholder as part of the first renewal after the effective date of this subparagraph.
- b. The signed acknowledgment form creates a conclusive presumption that the policyholder understood and accepted his or her potential surcharge and assessment liability as a policyholder of the corporation.
- 22. The corporation shall pay a producing agent of record a reasonable commission not to exceed the average of commissions paid in the preceding year by the 20 admitted insurers writing the greatest market share of property insurance in this state.
- (n) 1. Rates for coverage provided by the corporation must be actuarially sound and subject to s. 627.062, except as otherwise provided in this paragraph. The corporation shall file its recommended rates with the office at least annually. The corporation shall provide any additional information regarding the rates which the office requires. The office shall consider the recommendations of the board and issue a final order establishing the rates for the corporation within 45 days after the recommended rates are filed. The corporation may not pursue an administrative challenge or judicial review of the final order of the office.
- 2. In addition to the rates otherwise determined pursuant to this paragraph, the corporation shall impose and collect an amount equal to the premium tax provided in s. 624.509 to augment the financial resources of the corporation.
- 3. If After the public hurricane loss-projection model under s. 627.06281 is has been found to be accurate and reliable

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by the Florida Commission on Hurricane Loss Projection Methodology, it must the model shall be considered when establishing the windstorm portion of the corporation's rates. The corporation may use the public model results in combination with the results of private models to calculate rates for the windstorm portion of the corporation's rates. This subparagraph does not require or allow the corporation to adopt rates lower than the rates otherwise required or allowed by this paragraph.

- 4. The corporation must make a recommended actuarially sound rate filing for each personal and commercial line of business it writes.
- 5. Notwithstanding the board's recommended rates and the office's final order regarding the corporation's filed rates under subparagraph 1., the corporation shall annually implement a rate increase that which, except for sinkhole coverage, does not exceed the following for any single policy issued by the corporation, excluding coverage changes and surcharges:
 - a. Eleven percent for 2022.
 - b. Twelve percent for 2023.
 - c. Thirteen percent for 2024.
 - d. Fourteen percent for 2025.
 - e. Fifteen percent for 2026 and all subsequent years.
- 6. The corporation may also implement an increase to reflect the effect on the corporation of the cash buildup factor pursuant to s. 215.555(5)(b).
- 7. The corporation's implementation of rates as prescribed in subparagraph 5. must shall cease for any line of business written by the corporation upon the corporation's implementation of actuarially sound rates. Thereafter, the corporation shall

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annually make a recommended actuarially sound rate filing for each commercial and personal line of business the corporation writes.

(q)1. The corporation shall certify to the office its needs for annual assessments as to a particular calendar year, and for any interim assessments that it deems to be necessary to sustain operations as to a particular year pending the receipt of annual assessments. Upon verification, the office shall approve such certification, and the corporation shall levy such annual or interim assessments. Such assessments shall be prorated as provided in paragraph (b). The corporation shall take all reasonable and prudent steps necessary to collect the amount of assessments due from each assessable insurer, including, if prudent, filing suit to collect the assessments, and the office may provide such assistance to the corporation it deems appropriate. If the corporation is unable to collect an assessment from any assessable insurer, the uncollected assessments shall be levied as an additional assessment against the assessable insurers and any assessable insurer required to pay an additional assessment as a result of such failure to pay shall have a cause of action against such nonpaying assessable insurer. Assessments shall be included as an appropriate factor in the making of rates. The failure of a surplus lines agent to collect and remit any regular or emergency assessment levied by the corporation is considered to be a violation of s. 626.936 and subjects the surplus lines agent to the penalties provided in that section.

2. The governing body of any unit of local government, any residents of which are insured by the corporation, may issue

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bonds as defined in s. 125.013 or s. 166.101 from time to time to fund an assistance program, in conjunction with the corporation, for the purpose of defraying deficits of the corporation. In order to avoid needless and indiscriminate proliferation, duplication, and fragmentation of such assistance programs, any unit of local government, any residents of which are insured by the corporation, may provide for the payment of losses, regardless of whether or not the losses occurred within or outside of the territorial jurisdiction of the local government. Revenue bonds under this subparagraph may not be issued until validated pursuant to chapter 75, unless a state of emergency is declared by executive order or proclamation of the Governor pursuant to s. 252.36 making such findings as are necessary to determine that it is in the best interests of, and necessary for, the protection of the public health, safety, and general welfare of residents of this state and declaring it an essential public purpose to permit certain municipalities or counties to issue such bonds as will permit relief to claimants and policyholders of the corporation. Any such unit of local government may enter into such contracts with the corporation and with any other entity created pursuant to this subsection as are necessary to carry out this paragraph. Any bonds issued under this subparagraph shall be payable from and secured by moneys received by the corporation from emergency assessments under sub-subparagraph (b) 3.d., and assigned and pledged to or on behalf of the unit of local government for the benefit of the holders of such bonds. The funds, credit, property, and taxing power of the state or of the unit of local government may shall not be pledged for the payment of such bonds.

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3.a. The corporation shall adopt one or more programs subject to approval by the office for the reduction of both new and renewal writings in the corporation. Beginning January 1, 2008, any program the corporation adopts for the payment of bonuses to an insurer for each risk the insurer removes from the corporation shall comply with s. 627.3511(2) and may not exceed the amount referenced in s. 627.3511(2) for each risk removed. The corporation may consider any prudent and not unfairly discriminatory approach to reducing corporation writings, and may adopt a credit against assessment liability or other liability that provides an incentive for insurers to take risks out of the corporation and to keep risks out of the corporation by maintaining or increasing voluntary writings in counties or areas in which corporation risks are highly concentrated and a program to provide a formula under which an insurer voluntarily taking risks out of the corporation by maintaining or increasing voluntary writings will be relieved wholly or partially from assessments under sub-subparagraph (b) 3.a. However, any "takeout bonus" or payment to an insurer must be conditioned on the property being insured for at least 5 years by the insurer, unless canceled or nonrenewed by the policyholder. If the policy is canceled or nonrenewed by the policyholder before the end of the 5-year period, the amount of the take-out bonus must be prorated for the time period the policy was insured. When the corporation enters into a contractual agreement for a take-out plan, the producing agent of record of the corporation policy is entitled to retain any unearned commission on such policy, and the insurer shall either:

(I) Pay to the producing agent of record of the policy, for

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the first year, an amount which is the greater of the insurer's usual and customary commission for the type of policy written or a policy fee equal to the usual and customary commission of the corporation; or

- (II) Offer to allow the producing agent of record of the policy to continue servicing the policy for a period of not less than 1 year and offer to pay the agent the insurer's usual and customary commission for the type of policy written. If the producing agent is unwilling or unable to accept appointment by the new insurer, the new insurer shall pay the agent in accordance with sub-sub-subparagraph (I).
- b. Any credit or exemption from regular assessments adopted under this subparagraph shall last no longer than the 3 years following the cancellation or expiration of the policy by the corporation. With the approval of the office, the board may extend such credits for an additional year if the insurer quarantees an additional year of renewability for all policies removed from the corporation, or for 2 additional years if the insurer quarantees 2 additional years of renewability for all policies so removed.
- c. There shall be no credit, limitation, exemption, or deferment from emergency assessments to be collected from policyholders pursuant to sub-subparagraph (b)3.d.
- d. Notwithstanding any other law, for purposes of a depopulation, take-out, or keep-out program adopted by the corporation, including an initial or renewal offer of coverage made to a policyholder removed from the corporation pursuant to such program, an eligible surplus lines insurer may participate in the program in the same manner and on the same terms as an

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authorized insurer, except as provided under this subsubparagraph.

- (I) The policy count of the corporation must be more than 700,000 within the 30 days before the time a takeout offer is made by a surplus lines insurer.
- (II) To qualify for participation, the surplus lines insurer must first obtain approval from the office for its depopulation, take-out, or keep-out plan and then comply with all of the corporation's requirements for the plan applicable to admitted insurers and with all statutory provisions applicable to the removal of policies from the corporation.
- (III) In considering a surplus lines insurer's request for approval for its plan, the office shall determine whether the surplus lines insurer meets the following requirements:
- (A) Maintains a surplus of \$50 million on a company or pooled basis;
- (B) Has a superior, excellent, exceptional, or equally comparable financial strength rating by a rating agency acceptable to the office;
- (C) Maintains reserves, surplus, reinsurance, and reinsurance equivalents sufficient to cover the insurer's 100year probable maximum hurricane loss at least twice in a single hurricane season and submits such reinsurance to the office to review for purposes of the take-out;
- (D) Provides prominent notice to the policyholder before the assumption of the policy that surplus lines policies are not provided coverage by the Florida Insurance Guaranty Association and provides an outline of any substantial differences in coverage between the existing policy and the policy being



968 offered to the insured; and (E) Provides policy coverage similar to that provided by 969 970 the corporation. 971 (IV) To obtain approval for a plan, the surplus lines 972 insurer must file the following with the office: 973 (A) Information requested by the office to demonstrate compliance with s. 624.404(3), including biographical 974 975 affidavits, fingerprints processed pursuant to s. 624.34, and 976 the results of criminal history records checks for officers and 977 directors of the insurer and its parent or holding company; 978 (B) A service-of-process consent and agreement form 979 executed by the insurer; 980 (C) Proof that the insurer has been an eligible or 981 authorized insurer for at least 3 years; 982 (D) A duly authenticated copy of the insurer's current 983 audited financial statement, in English, which, in the case of 984 statements originally made in the currencies of other countries, 985 expresses all monetary values in United States dollars, at an 986 exchange rate then current and shown in the statement, and 987 including any additional information relative to the insurer as 988 the office may request; 989 (E) A complete certified copy of the latest official 990 financial statement required by the insurer's domiciliary state, 991 if different from the statement required by sub-sub-sub-992 subparagraph (D); and 993 (F) If applicable, a copy of the United States trust 994 account agreement. 995 996 This sub-sub-subparagraph does not subject any surplus lines



997 insurer to requirements in addition to part VIII of chapter 626. Surplus lines brokers making an offer of coverage under this 998 999 sub-subparagraph are not required to comply with s. 1000 626.916(1)(a), (b), (c), or (e). 1001 (V) Within 10 days after the date of assumption, the 1002 surplus lines insurer assuming policies from the corporation shall remit to the Bureau of Collateral Management within the 1003 1004 Department of Financial Services a special deposit equal to the unearned premium net of unearned commissions on the assumed 1005 1006 block of business. The surplus lines insurer shall submit to the office, along with the special deposit, an accounting of the 1007 1008 policies assumed and the amount of unearned premium for such 1009 policies and a sworn affidavit attesting to the accuracy of the 1010 accounting by an officer of the surplus lines insurer. 1011 Thereafter, the surplus lines insurer shall make a filing within 1012 10 days after the end of each calendar quarter attesting to the unearned premium in force for the previous quarter on policies 1013 1014 assumed from the corporation and shall submit additional funds 1015 with that filing if the special deposit is insufficient to cover 1016 the unearned premium on assumed policies, or shall receive a 1017 return of funds within 60 days if the special deposit exceeds 1018 the amount of unearned premium required for assumed policies. 1019 The special deposit is an asset of the surplus lines insurer which is held by the department for the benefit of state 1020 1021 policyholders of the surplus lines insurer in the event of the 1022 insolvency of the surplus lines insurer. If an order of 1023 liquidation is entered in any state against the surplus lines 1024 insurer, the department may use the special deposit for payment of unearned premium or policy claims, return all or part of the 1025



1026 deposit to the domiciliary receiver, or use the funds in 1027 accordance with any action authorized under part I of chapter 1028 631 or in compliance with any order of a court having 1029 jurisdiction over the insolvency. 1030 (VI) In advance of a surplus lines insurer assuming a 1031 policy, surplus lines brokers representing a surplus lines 1032 insurer on a take-out program shall obtain confirmation, in 1033 written or e-mail form, from each producing agent stating that 1034 the agent is willing to participate in the take-out program with 1035 the surplus lines insurer engaging in the take-out program. The 1036 take-out program is also subject to s. 627.3517. If a 1037 policyholder is selected for removal from the corporation by a 1038 surplus lines insurer and an authorized insurer, the corporation 1039 must give priority to the offer of coverage from the authorized 1040 insurer. 1041 (VII) (A) A risk that has a dwelling replacement cost of 1042 \$700,000 or more or a single condominium unit that has a 1043 combined dwelling and contents replacement cost of \$700,000 or 1044 more is not eligible for coverage by the corporation if it is 1045 offered comparable coverage from a qualified surplus lines 1046 insurer at a premium no greater than the 1047 1048 ======= T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ========= 1049 And the title is amended as follows: 1050 Delete lines 4 - 7 and insert: 1051 1052 applicability; amending s. 627.351, F.S.; requiring, 1053 rather than authorizing, the corporation to use a single account under certain circumstances; revising 1054



1055	the method for determining the amounts of potential
1056	surcharges to be levied against policyholders under
1057	certain circumstances; requiring the corporation to
1058	annually collect a specified surcharge upon renewal on
1059	certain policies; defining the term "primary