

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to insurance research; amending s.
3 1004.647, F.S.; renaming the Florida Catastrophic
4 Storm Risk Management Center to the Florida Center for
5 Excellence in Insurance and Risk Management; revising
6 the purpose of the center; revising the duties of the
7 center; providing areas of interest for research;
8 requiring the center to collaborate with the Office of
9 Insurance Regulation to produce an annual report
10 analyzing the property insurance market in this state;
11 requiring that the report be published by a specified
12 date and updated at least biennially; requiring the
13 center to develop a program with the office and the
14 Actuarial Science Program at the Florida State
15 University for a specified purpose; requiring the
16 center to use the public hurricane loss projection
17 model when necessary; requiring the center to conduct
18 research in response to inquiries from the
19 Legislature; authorizing the center to conduct
20 research in response to requests from the office;
21 amending s. 627.06281, F.S.; requiring the office to
22 contract with the center to manage the public
23 hurricane loss projection model; requiring the center
24 to update the model; providing that certain fees
25 charged for access and use of the model do not apply

26 to the Florida Center for Excellence in Insurance and
 27 Risk Management; providing for a type two transfer of
 28 the public hurricane loss projection model from
 29 Florida International University to Florida State
 30 University; amending s. 627.06292, F.S.; making
 31 conforming changes; providing appropriations;
 32 providing an effective date.

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

36 **Section 1. Section 1004.647, Florida Statutes, is amended**
 37 **to read:**

38 1004.647 Florida Center for Excellence in Insurance and
 39 ~~Catastrophic Storm~~ Risk Management ~~Center~~.—The Florida Center
 40 for Excellence in Insurance and Catastrophic Storm Risk
 41 Management ~~Center~~ is created at the Florida State University,
 42 College of Business, Department of Risk Management. The purpose
 43 of the center is to develop, conduct, evaluate, promote, and
 44 disseminate accurate and timely research on issues related to
 45 this state's insurance market and risk management, to assist the
 46 Legislature in developing and evaluating evidence-based policy
 47 options and making recommendations related to insurance and risk
 48 management in this state, to identify emerging issues in the
 49 insurance market, to provide insight regarding accessibility and
 50 affordability of insurance products, eatastrophic storm loss and

51 to assist in identifying and developing education and research
52 grant funding opportunities among higher education institutions
53 in this state and the private sector. ~~The purpose of the~~
54 ~~activities of the center is to support the state's ability to~~
55 ~~prepare for, respond to, and recover from catastrophic storms.~~
56 The center shall do all of the following:

57 (1) Conduct, coordinate, and disseminate research efforts
58 and information that would benefit businesses, consumers, and
59 public policy makers or that are expected to have an immediate
60 impact on policy and practices related to this state's insurance
61 markets or catastrophic event storm preparedness. The center
62 shall cooperate with the Office of Insurance Regulation in
63 conducting research. Areas of research may include:

64 (a) Storm forecasting and loss modeling;

65 (b) This state's insurance-related consumer protections;

66 (c) Insurer claims-handling and adjudication practices in
67 this state in comparison with insurer practices in other states;

68 (d) Cost factors in the reinsurance, catastrophe bond, and
69 insurance-linked securities markets;

70 (e) The resilience of building construction and mitigation
71 techniques;

72 (f) The Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund;

73 (g) The effectiveness of the My Safe Florida Home Program;

74 (h) Risk management strategies, particularly for
75 catastrophic risk; or

76 (i) Health insurance, life insurance, workers'
77 compensation, motor vehicle insurance, or any other type of
78 insurance sold within this state.

79 (2) Collaborate with the Office of Insurance Regulation to
80 create a report analyzing the property insurance market in this
81 state, projecting the outlook for the property insurance market
82 over 1 year, 5 years, 10 years, and 20 years. The report must
83 include recommendations for improving the availability and
84 affordability of property insurance in this state and for
85 facilitating this state's preparedness for and responsiveness to
86 catastrophic events. The center shall work with the Office of
87 Insurance Regulation to produce the report. The office shall
88 cooperate with the center in providing data necessary to
89 complete the report. The center shall publish the initial report
90 on or before January 1, 2026, and update the report at least
91 once every 2 years. ~~Coordinate and disseminate information~~
92 ~~related to catastrophic storm risk management, including, but~~
93 ~~not limited to, research and information that would benefit~~
94 ~~businesses, consumers, and public policy makers. Areas of~~
95 ~~interest may include storm forecasting, loss modeling, building~~
96 ~~construction and mitigation, and risk management strategies.~~
97 ~~Through its efforts, the center shall facilitate Florida's~~
98 ~~preparedness for and responsiveness to catastrophic storms and~~
99 ~~collaborate with other public and private institutions.~~

100 (3) Create and promote studies and opportunities that

101 enhance the educational options available to risk management and
102 insurance students.

103 (4) Develop a program in collaboration with the Office of
104 Insurance Regulation and the Actuarial Science Program of the
105 Department of Mathematics at Florida State University to
106 encourage actuarial science students to practice in the public
107 sector in the fields of risk management and insurance.

108 (5) Publish and disseminate findings.

109 (6)~~(5)~~ Organize and sponsor conferences, symposia, and
110 workshops to educate consumers and policymakers.

111 (7) Use the public hurricane loss projection model under
112 s. 627.06281 when needed to meet the center's obligations under
113 this section.

114 (8) Conduct research responsive to joint or individual
115 inquiries from the President of the Senate and the Speaker of
116 the House of Representatives regarding insurance or risk
117 management. The center may also conduct research responsive to
118 requests made by the Office of Insurance Regulation.

119 **Section 2. Section 627.06281, Florida Statutes, is amended**
120 **to read:**

121 627.06281 Public hurricane loss projection model;
122 reporting of data by insurers.—

123 (1) The Office of Insurance Regulation shall contract with
124 the Florida Center for Excellence in Insurance and Risk
125 Management to manage the public hurricane loss projection model

126 | developed under this section. The center shall cooperate with
127 | other entities and universities, including Florida International
128 | University, to develop and maintain the public model. The center
129 | shall constantly evaluate and update the public model so that it
130 | will have the same functionalities as other models approved by
131 | the Florida Commission on Hurricane Loss Projection Methodology.
132 | The center may use the public model, including all assumptions
133 | and factors and all detailed loss results, for the purpose of
134 | meeting its obligations under s. 1004.647. Within 30 days after
135 | a written request for loss data and associated exposure data by
136 | the office or the center ~~Florida International University center~~
137 | ~~established to study mitigation~~, residential property insurers
138 | and licensed rating and advisory organizations that compile
139 | residential property insurance loss data shall provide loss data
140 | and associated exposure data for residential property insurance
141 | policies to the office or the ~~Florida International University~~
142 | ~~center established to study mitigation~~, as directed by the
143 | office, for the purposes of developing, maintaining, and
144 | updating the ~~a~~ public model ~~for hurricane loss projections~~. The
145 | loss data and associated exposure data provided must ~~shall~~ be in
146 | writing.

147 | (2) The public model must be submitted to the Florida
148 | Commission on Hurricane Loss Projection Methodology for review
149 | under s. 627.0628 ~~by March 1, 2007~~. The office may continue to
150 | use the public model for its review of rate filings pursuant to

151 ss. 627.062 and 627.351 until such time as the Florida
152 Commission on Hurricane Loss Projection Methodology determines
153 that the public model is not accurate or reliable pursuant to
154 the same process and standards as the commission uses for the
155 review of other hurricane loss projection models.

156 (3) (a) A residential property insurer may have access to
157 and use the public ~~hurricane loss projection~~ model, including
158 all assumptions and factors and all detailed loss results, for
159 the purpose of calculating rate indications in a rate filing and
160 for analytical purposes, including any analysis or evaluation of
161 the public model required under actuarial standards of practice.

162 (b) The fees charged for private sector access and use of
163 the public model ~~must~~ shall be the reasonable costs associated
164 with the operation and maintenance of the public model by the
165 office. Such fees do not apply to access and use of the public
166 model by the office or the Florida Center for Excellence in
167 Insurance and Risk Management.

168 **Section 3.** All powers, duties, functions, records,
169 offices, personnel, associated administrative support positions,
170 property, pending issues, existing contracts, administrative
171 authority, administrative rules, and unexpended balances of
172 appropriations, allocations, and any other funds relating to the
173 public hurricane loss projection model are transferred by a type
174 two transfer, as defined in s. 20.06(2), Florida Statutes, from
175 Florida International University to Florida State University.

176 **Section 4. Subsection (3) of section 627.06292, Florida**
 177 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

178 627.06292 Reports of hurricane loss data and associated
 179 exposure data; public records exemption.—

180 (3) Each year, on October 1, the Florida State
 181 ~~International~~ University center that develops, maintains, and
 182 updates the public model for hurricane loss projections shall
 183 publish a report summarizing loss data and associated exposure
 184 data collected from residential property insurers and licensed
 185 rating and advisory organizations. The Florida State
 186 ~~International~~ University center shall submit the report
 187 annually, on or before October 1, to the Governor, the President
 188 of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

189 (a) Such report must include a summary of the data
 190 supplied by residential property insurers and licensed rating
 191 and advisory organizations from September 1 of the prior year to
 192 August 31 of the current year, and must include the following
 193 information:

- 194 1. The total amount of insurance written by county.
- 195 2. The number of property insurance policies by county.
- 196 3. The number of property insurance policies by county and
 197 by construction type.
- 198 4. The number of property insurance policies by county and
 199 by decade of construction.
- 200 5. The number of property insurance policies by county and

201 by deductible amount.

202 6. The number of property insurance policies by county and
 203 by wind mitigation features when the information is supplied by
 204 the residential property insurer or licensed rating and advisory
 205 organization.

206 7. The total amount of hurricane losses by county and by
 207 decade of construction.

208 8. The total amount of hurricane losses by county and by
 209 deductible amount.

210 9. The total amount of hurricane losses by county and by
 211 wind mitigation features when the information is supplied by the
 212 residential property insurer or licensed rating and advisory
 213 organization.

214 (b) Separate compilations of the data obtained shall be
 215 presented in order to use the public model for calculating rate
 216 indications and to update, validate, or calibrate the public
 217 model. Additional detail and a description of the operation and
 218 maintenance of the public model may be included in the report.

219 (c) The report may not contain any information that
 220 identifies a specific insurer or policyholder.

221 **Section 5.** For the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the sum of \$5
 222 million in recurring funds and the sum of \$1.5 million in
 223 nonrecurring funds is appropriated from the General Revenue Fund
 224 to the Florida State University for the purpose of establishing
 225 and maintaining the Center for Excellence in Insurance and Risk

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226 | Management.

227 | **Section 6.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.