- 1 HB57
- 2 155415-2
- 3 By Representative Hill
- 4 RFD: Insurance
- 5 First Read: 14-JAN-14
- 6 PFD: 11/18/2013

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8	SYNOPSIS:	Under existing law, the risk-based capital
9		law for insurers does not apply to fraternal
10		benefit societies or health organizations.
11		Under existing law, for purposes of the
12		Alabama Producer Controlled Property and Casualty
13		Insurer Law, insurer is defined to exclude risk
14		retention groups.
15		Under existing law, a risk retention group
16		chartered and licensed in this state is subject to
17		certain laws relating to its formation and
18		operation.
19		This bill would make Alabama's law
20		substantially similar to the current versions of
21		the Model Risk-Based Capital for Insurers Act, the
22		Model Business Transacted with Producer Controlled
23		Property and Casualty Insurer Law, and the Model
24		Risk-Based Capital for Health Organizations Act,
25		all developed by the National Association of
26		Insurance Commissioners.

This bill would amend the Alabama risk-based capital law so as to include fraternal benefit societies and health organizations, such as health care service plans, health maintenance organizations, and dental service corporations, and would subject fraternal benefit societies to the same risk-based capital requirements applicable to life and health insurers and health organizations to the same risk-based capital requirements

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This bill would amend the Alabama Producer Controlled Property and Casualty Insurer Law so as to change the definition of insurer to include risk retention groups.

applicable to property and casualty insurers.

This bill would amend the Alabama Risk
Retention Act to require risk retention groups
chartered and licensed in this state to file an
annual financial statement with the Department of
Insurance and with the NAIC in a form prescribed by
the NAIC and in an electronic form if required by
the commissioner, and would also require risk
retention groups chartered and licensed in this
state to adopt governance standards relating to the
board of directors, service provider contracts,
written policy, and audit committee, and to adopt a
code of business conduct and ethics for directors,
officers, and employees.

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A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

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Relating to insurance; to revise the Alabama Risk-Based Capital (RBC) for Insurers Act to define insurers to include fraternal benefit societies and health organizations, such as health care service plans, health maintenance organizations, and dental service corporations; to subject health organizations to the same RBC requirements applicable to property and casualty insurers; to revise the Alabama Business Transacted with Producer Controlled Property and Casualty Insurer Law to change the definition of insurer to include risk retention groups; to revise the Alabama Risk Retention Act to require risk retention groups chartered and licensed in this state to file an annual financial statement with the Department of Insurance and with the NAIC in a form prescribed by the NAIC and to require them to adopt governance standards relating to the board of directors, service provider contracts, written policy, and audit committee; to adopt a code of business conduct and ethics for directors, officers, and employees; to amend Sections 27-2B-2; 27-2B-3; 27-2B-4, as amended by Act 2013-194, 2013 Regular Session; 27-2B-7; and 27-2B-10, Code of Alabama 1975; to add Section 27-2B-14.1 to the Code of Alabama 1975; to amend Sections 27-6B-2 and 27-6B-4, Code of Alabama 1975; to amend Section 27-3A-3, Code

- of Alabama 1975; to add Section 27-3A-3.1 to the Code of
 Alabama 1975; and to amend Sections 10A-20-6.16, 22-21-374 and
 22-21A-23, Code of Alabama 1975.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:
- 5 Section 1. The purposes of this act are as follows:
- 6 (1) To revise the Alabama Risk-Based Capital (RBC)
 7 for Insurers Act to be substantially similar to the most
 8 recent versions of the Model Risk-Based Capital for Insurers
 9 Act and the Model Risk-Based Capital for Health Organizations
 10 Act developed by the National Association of Insurance
 - (2) To revise the Alabama Business Transacted with Producer Controlled Property and Casualty Insurer Law to be substantially similar to the most recent version of the Model Business Transacted with Producer Controlled Property and Casualty Insurer Law developed by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.
 - (3) To revise the Alabama Risk Retention Act to be substantially similar to the most recent version of the Model Risk Retention Act developed by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.
 - Section 2. Sections 27-2B-2; 27-2B-3; 27-2B-4, as amended by Act 2013-194, 2013 Regular Session; 27-2B-7; and 27-2B-10, Code of Alabama 1975, are amended to read as follows:
- 26 "\$27-2B-2.

Commissioners.

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1	"As used in this chapter, these terms shall have the
2	following meanings:
3	"(1) ADJUSTED RBC REPORT. An RBC report which has
4	been adjusted by the commissioner in accordance with
5	subsection (e) of Section 27-2B-3.
6	"(2) CORRECTIVE ORDER. An order issued by the
7	commissioner specifying corrective actions which the
8	commissioner has determined are required.
9	"(3) DOMESTIC INSURER. Any insurance company insurer
10	domiciled in this state.
11	"(4) FOREIGN INSURER. Any insurance company insurer
12	which is licensed to do business in this state but not
13	domiciled in this state.
14	"(5) FRATERNAL BENEFIT SOCIETY. Any insurer licensed
15	under Chapter 34.
16	"(6) HEALTH ORGANIZATION. Any health care service
17	plan, health maintenance organization, limited health service
18	organization, dental services corporation, or other managed
19	care organization licensed under this title. This term does
20	not include any life and disability insurer or property and
21	casualty insurer.
22	"(7) INSURER. As defined in Section 27-1-2,
23	including, without limitation, any fraternal benefit society
24	and any health organization.
25	"(5)(8) LIFE OR HEALTH INSURER. Any insurance
26	company insurer licensed to do business in this state and
27	authorized to transact life and/or disability insurance,

including a property and casualty insurer writing only
disability insurance, but shall not include fraternal benefit
societies, health care service corporations, dental service
organizations, health maintenance organizations, dental plan
organizations or mutual aid associations.

"(6) (9) NAIC. The National Association of Insurance Commissioners.

"(7)(10) NEGATIVE TREND. With respect to a life or health insurer or a fraternal benefit society, a negative trend over a period of time, as determined in accordance with the trend test calculation included in the RBC instructions.

"(8)(11) PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURER. Any insurance company insurer licensed to do business in this state and authorized to transact property, marine, casualty and/or surety insurance, but shall not include monoline mortgage guaranty insurers, financial guaranty insurers and title insurers.

"(9) (12) RBC. Risk-based capital.

"(10) (13) RBC INSTRUCTIONS. The RBC report including risk-based capital instructions adopted by the NAIC, as the RBC instructions may be amended by the NAIC from time to time in accordance with the procedures adopted by the NAIC.

"(11)(14) RBC LEVEL. An insurer's company action level RBC, regulatory action level RBC, authorized control level RBC, or mandatory control level RBC where:

"a. "Company action level RBC" means, with respect 1 2 to any insurer, the product of 2.0 and its authorized control level RBC. 3 "b. "Regulatory action level RBC" means the product of 1.5 and its authorized control level RBC.

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- "c. "Authorized control level RBC" means the number determined under the risk-based capital formula in accordance with the RBC instructions.
- "d. "Mandatory control level RBI" means the product 9 10 of .70 and the authorized control level RBC.
 - "(12)(15) RBC PLAN. A comprehensive financial plan containing the elements specified in subsection (b) of Section 27-2B-4. If the commissioner rejects the RBC plan, and it is revised by the insurer, with or without the commissioner's recommendation, the plan shall be called the revised RBC plan.
- "(13)(16) RBC REPORT. The report required in Section 16 17 27 - 2B - 3.
 - " $\frac{(14)}{(17)}$ STATUTORY CAPITAL AND SURPLUS. The combination of capital and surplus. As used in this definition, these terms shall have the following meanings:
 - "a. Capital. At any particular time, the sum of (i) the par value of all shares of the insurer having a par value that have been issued, (ii) the amount of consideration received by the insurer for all shares of the insurer without par value that have been issued, except any part of the consideration therefor as may have been allocated to surplus in a manner permitted by law, and (iii) any amounts not

included in clauses (i) and (ii) of this subdivision as have
been transferred to capital of the insurer, whether upon the
issue of shares as a share dividend or otherwise, minus all
reductions from the sum as have been affected in a manner
permitted by law.

"b. Surplus. The excess of the net admitted assets of an insurer over its capital. As used in this definition, "net admitted assets" means the excess of admitted assets of an insurer over its liabilities.

"(15)(18) TOTAL ADJUSTED CAPITAL. The sum of:

"a. An insurer's statutory capital and surplus.

"b. Other items, if any, as the RBC instructions may provide.

14 "\$27-2B-3.

"(a) Every domestic insurer shall, on or prior to each March 1 (the "filing date"), prepare and submit to the commissioner a report of its RBC levels as of the end of the calendar year just ended, in a form and containing information as is required by the RBC instructions. In addition, every domestic insurer shall file its RBC report with:

- "(1) The NAIC according to the RBC instructions.
- "(2) The insurance commissioner in any state in which the insurer is authorized to do business, if the insurance commissioner has notified the insurer of its request in writing, in which case the insurer shall file its RBC report not later than the later of either of the following:

- "a. Fifteen days from the receipt of notice to file

 its RBC report with that state.
- 3 "b. The filing date.

- "(b) A life and health insurer's <u>and a fraternal</u>

 <u>benefit society's</u> RBC shall be determined in accordance with

 the formula set forth in the RBC instructions. The formula

 shall take into account, and may adjust for the covariance

 between, the following factors determined in each case by

 applying the factors in the manner set forth in the RBC

 instructions:
 - "(1) The risk with respect to the insurer's assets.
 - "(2) The risk of adverse insurance experience with respect to the insurer's liabilities and obligations.
- "(3) The interest rate risk with respect to the insurer's business.
 - "(4) All other business risks and other relevant risks as are set forth in the RBC instructions. Subdivisions (1) to (4), inclusive, shall be determined in each case by applying the factors in the manner set forth in the RBC instructions.
 - "(c) A property and casualty insurer's <u>and a health</u> <u>organization's</u> RBC shall be determined in accordance with the formula set forth in the RBC instructions. The formula shall take into account, and may adjust for the covariance between, the following factors determined in each case by applying the factors in the manner set forth in the RBC instructions:
 - "(1) Asset risk.

1 "(2) Credit risk.

- 2 "(3) Underwriting risk.
- "(4) All other business risks and other relevant risks as are set forth in the RBC instructions. Subdivisions (1) to (4), inclusive, shall be determined by applying the factors in the manner set forth in the RBC instructions.
 - "(d) An excess of capital over the amount produced by the risk-based capital requirements contained in this chapter and the formulas, schedules, and instructions referenced in this chapter is desirable in the business of insurance. Accordingly, insurers should seek to maintain capital above the RBC levels required by this chapter.

 Additional capital is used and useful in the insurance business and helps to secure an insurer against various risks inherent in or affecting the business of insurance and not accounted for or only partially measured by the risk-based capital requirements contained in this chapter.
 - "(e) If a domestic insurer files an RBC report which in the judgment of the commissioner is inaccurate, then the commissioner shall adjust the RBC report to correct the inaccuracy and shall notify the insurer of the adjustment. The notice shall contain a statement of the reason for the adjustment. An RBC report as so adjusted is referred to as an "adjusted RBC report."
- 25 "\$27-2B-4.
- "(a) Company action level event means any of the
 following events:

- "(1) The filing of an RBC report by an insurer which
 indicates any of the following:
- "a. The insurer's total adjusted capital is greater
 than or equal to its regulatory action level RBC, but less
 than its company action level RBC.

- "b. If a life or health insurer or fraternal benefit society, the insurer has total adjusted capital which is greater than or equal to its company action level RBC but less than the product of its authorized control level RBC and 3.0 and has a negative trend.
 - "c. If a property and casualty insurer or a health organization, the insurer has total adjusted capital which is greater than or equal to its company action level RBC, but less than the product of its authorized control level RBC and 3.0, and triggers the trend test determined in accordance with the trend test calculation included in the property and casualty or health organization RBC instructions.
 - "(2) The notification by the commissioner to the insurer of an adjusted RBC report that indicates an event in subdivision (1) of this subsection, provided the insurer does not challenge the adjusted RBC report under Section 27-2B-8.
 - "(3) If, pursuant to Section 27-2B-8, an insurer challenges an adjusted RBC report that indicates the event in subdivision (1) of this subsection, the notification by the commissioner to the insurer that the commissioner has, after a hearing, rejected the insurer's challenge.

- "(b) In the event of a company action level event,

 the insurer shall prepare and submit to the commissioner an

 RBC plan which shall include all of the following:
- "(1) Identify the conditions which contribute to the
 company action level event.

- "(2) Contain proposals of corrective actions which the insurer intends to take and would be expected to result in the elimination of the company action level event.
- "(3) Provide projections of the insurer's financial results in the current year and at least the four succeeding years, both in the absence of proposed corrective actions and giving effect to the proposed corrective actions, including projections of statutory operating income, net income, capital, or surplus. The projections for both new and renewal business may include separate projections for each major line of business and separately identify each significant income, expense, and benefit component.
- "(4) Identify the key assumptions impacting the insurer's projections and the sensitivity of the projections to the assumptions.
- "(5) Identify the quality of, and problems associated with, the insurer's business, including, but not limited to, its assets, anticipated business growth and associated surplus strain, extraordinary exposure to risk, mix of business, and use of reinsurance, if any, in each case.
 - "(c) The RBC plan shall be submitted as follows:

- 1 "(1) Within 45 days of the company action level
- 2 event.

- "(2) If the insurer challenges an adjusted RBC

 report pursuant to Section 27-2B-8, within 45 days after

 notification to the insurer that the commissioner has, after a

 hearing, rejected the insurer's challenge.
 - "(d) Within 60 days after the submission by an insurer of an RBC plan to the commissioner, the commissioner shall notify the insurer whether the RBC plan shall be implemented or is, in the judgment of the commissioner, unsatisfactory. If the commissioner determines the RBC plan is unsatisfactory, the notification to the insurer shall set forth the reasons for the determination, and may set forth proposed revisions which will render the RBC plan satisfactory, in the judgment of the commissioner. Upon notification from the commissioner, the insurer shall prepare a revised RBC plan, which may incorporate by reference any revisions proposed by the commissioner, and shall submit the revised RBC plan to the commissioner as follows:
 - "(1) Within 45 days after the notification from the commissioner.
 - "(2) If the insurer challenges the notification from the commissioner under Section 27-2B-8, within 45 days after a notification to the insurer that the commissioner has, after a hearing, rejected the insurer's challenge.
 - "(E.) In the event of a notification by the commissioner to an insurer that the insurer's RBC plan or

- revised RBC plan is unsatisfactory, the commissioner may, at the commissioner's discretion, subject to the insurer's right to a hearing under Section 27-2B-8, specify in the notification that the notification constitutes a regulatory
 - "(f) Every domestic insurer that files an RBC plan or revised RBC plan with the commissioner shall file a copy of the RBC plan or revised RBC plan with the insurance commissioner in any state in which the insurer is authorized to do business if:
 - "(1) The state has an RBC provision substantially similar to subsection (a) of Section 27-2B-9.
 - "(2) The insurance commissioner of that state has notified the insurer of its request for the filing in writing, in which case the insurer shall file a copy of the RBC plan or revised RBC plan in that state no later than the later of either of the following:
 - "a. Fifteen days after the receipt of notice to file a copy of its RBC plan or revised RBC plan with the state.
 - "b. The date on which the RBC plan or revised RBC plan is filed under subsections (c) and (d) of this section.
- 22 "\$27-2B-7.

action level event.

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- "(a) "Mandatory control level event" means any of the following events:
- "(1) The filing of an RBC report which indicates
 that the insurer's total adjusted capital is less than its
 mandatory control level RBC.

"(2) Notification by the commissioner to the insurer
of an adjusted RBC report that indicates the event in
subdivision (1), provided the insurer does not challenge the
adjusted RBC report under Section 27-2B-8.

- "(3) If, pursuant to Section 27-2B-8, the insurer challenges an adjusted RBC report that indicates the event in subdivision (1), notification by the commissioner to the insurer that the commissioner has, after a hearing, rejected the insurer's challenge.
- "(b) In the event of a mandatory control level event:
 - "(1) With respect to a life insurer, health organization, or fraternal benefit society, the commissioner shall take actions as necessary to place the insurer under regulatory control pursuant to Chapter 32. In that event, the mandatory control level event shall be deemed sufficient grounds for the commissioner to take action pursuant to Chapter 32, and the commissioner shall have the rights, powers, and duties with respect to the insurer as are set forth in Chapter 32. Notwithstanding any of the foregoing, the commissioner may forego action for up to 90 days after the mandatory control level event if the commissioner finds there is a reasonable expectation that the mandatory control level event may be eliminated within the 90-day period.
 - "(2) With respect to a property and casualty insurer, the commissioner shall take actions as necessary to place the insurer under regulatory control pursuant to Chapter

1 32. In the case of an insurer which is writing no business and 2 which is running-off its existing business, the commissioner may allow the insurer to continue its run-off under his or her 3 4 supervision. In either event, the mandatory control level event shall be deemed sufficient grounds for the commissioner 5 6 to take action, pursuant to Chapter 32, and the commissioner 7 shall have the rights, powers, and duties with respect to the insurer as are set forth in Chapter 32. Notwithstanding any of 8 the foregoing, the commissioner may forego action for up to 90 9 10 days after the mandatory control level event if the commissioner finds there is a reasonable expectation that the 11 12 mandatory control level event may be eliminated within the 13 90-day period.

"\$27-2B-10.

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- "(a) The provisions of this chapter are supplemental to any other provisions of the laws of this state, and shall not preclude or limit any other powers or duties of the commissioner under other laws, including, but not limited to, Chapter 32, and Section 27-2-33.
- "(b) The commissioner may adopt reasonable rules necessary for the implementation of this chapter.
- "(c) The commissioner may exempt from the application of this chapter any domestic property and casualty insurer that meets all of the following criteria:
 - "(1) Writes direct business only in this state.
- "(2) Writes direct annual premiums of two million dollars (\$2,000,000) or less.

1	"(3) Assumes no reinsurance in excess of five
2	percent of direct premium written.
3	"(d) The commissioner may exempt from the
4	application of this chapter any health organization that meets
5	all of the following criteria:
6	"(1) Writes direct business only in this state.
7	"(2) Assumes no reinsurance in excess of five
8	percent of direct premium written.
9	"(3) Meets either of the following criteria:
10	"a. Writes direct annual premiums for comprehensive
11	medical business of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) or less.
12	"b. Is a limited health services organization that
13	covers less than 1,000 lives."
14	Section 3. Section 27-2B-14.1 is added to the Code
15	of Alabama 1975, to read as follows:
16	\$27-2B-14.1.
17	For RBC reports required to be filed by health
18	organizations and fraternal benefit societies with respect to
19	2015, the following requirements shall apply in lieu of the
20	provisions of Sections 27-2B-4, 27-2B-5, 27-2B-6, and 27-2B-7:
21	(1) In the event of a company action level event
22	with respect to a domestic insurer, the commissioner shall
23	take no regulatory action hereunder.
24	(2) In the event of a regulatory action level event
25	under subdivisions (1) , (2) , or (3) of subsection (a) of
26	Section 27-2B-5, the commissioner shall take the actions
27	required under Section 27-2B-4.

- 1 (3) In the event of a regulatory action level event 2 under subdivisions (4), (5), (6), (7), (8), or (9) of 3 subsection (a) of Section 27-2B-5, or an authorized control 4 level event, the commissioner shall take the actions required 5 under Section 27-2B-5 with respect to the organization or 6 society.
- 7 (4) In the event of a mandatory control level event 8 with respect to an insurer, the commissioner shall take the 9 actions required under Section 27-2B-6.
- Section 4. Sections 27-6B-2 and 27-6B-4 of the Code of Alabama 1975, are amended to read as follows:
- 12 "\$27-6B-2.
- "As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the following meanings, respectively, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:
- "(1) ACCREDITED STATE. A state in which the

 Department of Insurance meets the minimum financial

 qualifications and regulatory standards promulgated and

 established, from time to time, by the National Association of

 Insurance Commissioners.
- "(2) COMMISSIONER. The Commissioner of Insurance.
- "(3) CONTROL or CONTROLLED. The same as defined in subsection (3) of Section 27-29-1.
- "(4) CONTROLLED INSURER. A licensed insurer who iscontrolled, directly or indirectly, by a producer.
- "(5) CONTROLLING PRODUCER. A producer who, directlyor indirectly, controls an insurer.

"(6) LICENSED INSURER or INSURER. Any person, firm,
association, or corporation duly licensed to transact a
property and casualty insurance business in this state. For
the purposes of this chapter, the following are not licensed
insurers:

"a. A risk retention group as defined in the Superfund Amendments Reauthorization Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-499, 100 Stat. 1613 (1986) and the Risk Retention Act (commencing with Section 3901 of Title 15, U.S.C., 1982 and 1986 of Supp. to Title 15, U.S.C.).

"b.a. A residual market pool and a joint underwriting authority or association.

"c.b. A captive insurer other than risk retention groups as defined in 15 U.S.C. Section 3901 et seq. and 42 U.S.C. Section 9671, which, for the purposes of this chapter, is an insurance company are insurers owned by another organization whose exclusive purpose is to insure risks of the parent organization and any affiliated company companies or, in the case of any group groups and association associations, an insurance organization organizations owned by the insured insureds whose only exclusive purpose is to insure risks to any member-organization, member organizations and group member or affiliate of the member members and their affiliates.

"(7) PRODUCER. An insurance broker or brokers or any other person, firm, association, or corporation, when, for any compensation, commission, or other thing of value, the person, firm, association, or corporation acts or aids in any manner

in soliciting, negotiating, or procuring the making of any insurance contract on behalf of another insured person, firm, association, or corporation. The term is not intended to include an exclusive agent or any independent agent acting on behalf of the controlled insurer and any subagent or representative of the agent, who acts in the solicitation of, negotiation for, or procurement or making of an insurance contract, if the agent is not also acting in the capacity of an insurance broker in the transaction in question.

"\$27-6B-4.

- "(a) Unless there is a written contract between the controlling producer and the insurer approved by the board of directors of the insurer and specifying the responsibilities of each party, a controlled insurer shall not accept business from a controlling producer and a controlling producer shall not place business with a controlled insurer. The contract between a controlling producer and a controlled insurer shall, as a minimum, contain all of the following:
- "(1) A provision that, upon written notice to the controlling producer, the controlled insurer may terminate the contract for cause. The controlled insurer shall suspend the authority of the controlling producer to write business during any pending dispute regarding the cause for the termination.
- "(2) A provision requiring the controlling producer to give a detailed accounting to the controlled insurer on any material transaction, including information necessary to

support all commissions, charges, and other fees received by, or owing to, the controlling producer.

- "(3) A provision requiring the controlling producer to send all funds due, under the terms of the contract, to the controlled insurer on at least a monthly basis. The contract shall require the due date to be fixed so that premiums or any installment collected are remitted no later than ninety days after the effective date of any policy placed with the controlled insurer under the contract.
- "(4) A provision requiring all funds collected for the account of the controlled insurer to be held by the controlling producer in a fiduciary capacity, in one or more appropriately identified bank accounts in a bank that is a member of the Federal Reserve System, in accordance with any applicable insurance law. Funds of a controlling producer, not required to be licensed in this state, shall be maintained in compliance with the requirements of the domiciliary jurisdiction of the controlling producer.
- "(5) A provision requiring the controlling producer to maintain separate identifiable records of business written for the controlled insurer.
- "(6) A provision prohibiting the controlling producer from assigning the contract in whole or in part.
- "(7) A provision that the rates and terms of the commissions, charges, and other fees of the controlling producer shall be no greater than those applicable to comparable business placed with the controlled insurer by

1 producers other than controlling producers. For purposes of this subsection subdivision and subsection (d) subdivision 11, examples of "comparable business" includes the same lines of 3 insurance, the same kinds of insurance, the same kinds of risks, similar policy limits, and similar quality of business.

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"(8) A provision that if the contract provides that the controlling producer, on insurance business placed with the insurer, is to be compensated contingent upon the insurer's profits on that business, the compensation shall not be determined and paid until at least five years after the premiums on liability insurance are earned and at least one year after the premiums are earned on any other insurance. In no event may the commissions be paid until the adequacy of the controlled insurer's reserves on remaining claims has been independently verified pursuant to the reporting requirements of subsection (f) (e).

"(9) A provision specifying a limit on the controlling producer's writings in relation to the controlled insurer's surplus and total writing and that the insurer may establish a different limit for each line or sub-line of business written by the controlling producer. The controlled insurer shall notify the controlling producer when the limit is approached and shall not accept business from the controlling producer if the applicable limit is reached. The controlling producer shall not place business with the controlled insurer if it has been notified by the controlled insurer that the limit has been reached.

"(10) A provision that the controlling producer may negotiate but may shall not bind reinsurance on behalf of the controlled insurer on business the controlling producer places with the controlled insurer, except that the controlling producer may bind facultative reinsurance contracts pursuant to obligatory facultative agreements if the contract with the controlled insurer contains underwriting guidelines including, for both reinsurance assumed and ceded, a list of reinsurers with which the automatic agreements are in effect, the coverages, and amounts, or percentages that may be reinsured, and commission schedules.

"(11) The controlled insurer shall provide the controlling producer with its underwriting standards, rules, and procedures, and manuals setting forth the rates to be charged, and the conditions for the acceptance or rejection of risks. The controlling producer shall adhere to the standards, rules, procedures, rates, and conditions. The standards, rules, procedures, rates, and conditions shall be the same as those applicable to comparable business placed with the controlled insurer by a producer other than the controlling producer.

"(b) This section shall apply if, in any calendar year, the aggregate amount of gross written premium on business placed with a controlled insurer by a controlling producer is equal to or greater than five percent of the admitted assets of the controlled insurer, as reported by the

- controlled insurer in the quarterly statement filed as of September 30 of the year immediately preceding.
- "(c) This section shall not apply if:
- 4 "(1) The controlling producer:

- insurer, or only with the controlled insurer and one or more members of the holding company system of the controlled insurer, or only with the parent, affiliate, or subsidiary of the controlled insurer and receives no compensation based upon the amount of premium written in connection with the insurance, and
 - "b. Accepts insurance placements only from non-affiliated subproducers and not directly from insureds, and
 - "(2) The controlled insurer, except for insurance business written through a residual market facility such as the Automobile Assigned Risk Plan, accepts insurance business only from a controlling producer, a producer controlled by the controlled insurer, or a producer that is a subsidiary of the controlled insurer.
 - "(e) Each (d) Every controlled insurer shall have an audit committee of the board of directors composed of independent directors. The audit committee shall annually meet with management, the insurer's independent certified public accountants, and an independent casualty actuary, or other independent loss reserve specialist acceptable to the

commissioner to review the adequacy of the insurer's loss reserves.

"(f)(e) The controlled insurer shall report the
following:

- "(1) In addition to any other required loss reserve certification, the controlled insurer shall annually, on April 1 of each year, file with the commissioner an opinion of an independent casualty actuary (or other independent loss reserve specialist acceptable to the commissioner) reporting loss ratios for each line of business written and attesting to the adequacy of loss reserves established for losses incurred and outstanding as of year-end (including incurred but not reported) on business placed by the producer.
- "(2) At least annually, the controlled insurer shall report to the commissioner, the amount of the commissions to be paid to the producer, the percentage the amount represents of the net premiums written, and comparable amounts and percentage paid to noncontrolling producers for placements of the same kinds of insurance."

Section 5. Section 27-31A-3 of the Code of Alabama 1975, is amended to read as follows:

"\$27-31A-3.

"(a) (1) A risk retention group shall, pursuant to Title 27, be chartered and licensed to write only liability insurance pursuant to this chapter and, except as provided elsewhere in this chapter, shall comply with all of the laws, rules, regulations, and requirements applicable to the

insurers chartered and licensed in this state and with Section 2 27-31A-4, to the extent the requirements are not a limitation on laws, rules, regulations, or requirements of this state.

"(2) Notwithstanding any other provision to the contrary, all risk retention groups chartered in this state shall file with the department and the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) an annual statement in a form prescribed by the NAIC and, if required by the commissioner, in electronic format. The statement shall be completed in accordance with its instructions and the NAIC Accounting Practices and Procedures Manual.

"(b) Before it may offer insurance in any state, each risk retention group shall also submit for approval to the Commissioner of Insurance a plan of operation or feasibility study. The risk retention group shall submit an appropriate revision in the event of any subsequent material change in any item of the plan of operation or feasibility study within 10 days of the change. The group shall not offer any additional kinds of liability insurance, in this state or in any other state, until a revision of the plan or study is approved by the commissioner.

"(c) At the time of filing its application for charter, the risk retention group shall provide to the commissioner in summary form the following information: the identity of the initial members of the group, the identity of those individuals who organized the group or who will provide administrative services, or otherwise influence or control the

1 activities of the group, the amount and nature of initial

2 capitalization, the coverages to be afforded, and the states

3 in which the group intends to operate. Upon receipt of this

4 information, the commissioner shall forward the information to

the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.

Notification to the National Association of Insurance

Commissioners is in addition to and shall not be sufficient to

satisfy the requirements of Section 27-31A-4 or any other

sections of this chapter."

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Section 6. Section 27-31A-3.1 is added to the Code of Alabama 1975, to read as follows:

\$27-31A-3.1.

- (a) Within a year of the effective date of this act, existing risk retention groups shall be in compliance with the governance standards set forth in this section. New risk retention groups shall be in compliance with these standards at the time of licensure.
- (b) The board of directors or board, as used in this section, means the governing body of the risk retention group elected by the shareholders or members to establish policy, elect or appoint officers and committees, and make other governing decisions. Director, as used in this section, means a natural person designated in the articles of the risk retention group, or designated, elected, or appointed by any other manner, name, or title to act as a member of the board of directors.

(c) (1) The board of directors of the risk retention group shall have a majority of independent directors. risk retention group is a reciprocal, then the attorney-in-fact would be required to adhere to the same standards regarding independence of operation and governance as imposed on the risk retention group's board of directors/subscribers advisory committee under these standards; and, to the extent permissible under state law, service providers of a reciprocal risk retention group should contract with the risk retention group and not the attorney-in-fact.

- (2) No director qualifies as independent unless the board of directors affirmatively determines that the director has no material relationship with the risk retention group.

 Each risk retention group shall disclose these determinations to its domestic regulator, at least annually. For this purpose, any person that is a direct or indirect owner of or subscriber in the risk retention group (or is an officer, director, and/or employee of such an owner and insured, unless some other position of such officer, director, and/or employee constitutes a material relationship), as contemplated by Section 3901(a)(4)(E)(ii) of the Liability Risk Retention Act, is considered to be independent.
- (d) Material relationship of a person with the risk retention group includes, but is not limited to, the following:

(1) The receipt in any one 12-month period of compensation or payment of any other item of value by such person, a member of such person's immediate family, or any business with which such person is affiliated from the risk retention group or a consultant or service provider to the risk retention group is greater than or equal to five percent of the risk retention group's gross written premium for such 12-month period or two percent of its surplus, whichever is greater, as measured at the end of any fiscal quarter falling in such a 12-month period. Such person or immediate family member of such person is not independent until one year after his or her compensation from the risk retention group falls below the threshold.

- (2) A relationship with an auditor as follows: A director or an immediate family member of a director who is affiliated with or employed in a professional capacity by a present or former internal or external auditor of the risk retention group is not independent until one year after the end of the affiliation, employment, or auditing relationship.
- (3) A relationship with a related entity as follows:

 A director or immediate family member of a director who is

 employed as an executive officer of another company where any

 of the risk retention group's present executives serve on that

 other company's board of directors is not independent until

 one year after the end of such service or the employment

 relationship.

(e) (1) The term of any material service provider contract with the risk retention group shall not exceed five years. Any such contract, or its renewal, shall require the approval of the majority of the risk retention group's independent directors. The risk retention group's board of directors shall have the right to terminate any service provider, audit, or actuarial contracts at any time for cause after providing adequate notice as defined in the contract. The service provider contract is deemed material if the amount to be paid for such contract is greater than or equal to five percent of the risk retention group's annual gross written premium or two percent of its surplus, whichever is greater.

- (2) For purposes of this standard, service providers shall include captive managers, auditors, accountants, actuaries, investment advisors, lawyers, managing general underwriters, or other party responsible for underwriting, determination of rates, collection of premium, adjusting and settling claims, and/or the preparation of financial statements. Any reference to lawyers in the prior sentences does not include defense counsel retained by the risk retention group to defend claims, unless the amount of fees paid to such lawyers are material as referenced in subsection (d).
- (3) No service provider contract meeting the definition of material relationship contained in subsection(d) shall be entered into unless the risk retention group has notified the commissioner in writing of its intention to enter

into such transaction at least 30 days prior thereto and the commissioner has not disapproved it within such period.

- (f) The risk retention group's board of directors shall adopt a written policy in the plan of operation as approved by the board that requires the board to do all of the following:
- 7 (1) Assure that all owner/insureds of the risk 8 retention group receive evidence of ownership interest.
 - (2) Develop a set of governance standards applicable to the risk retention group.
 - (3) Oversee the evaluation of the risk retention group's management including, but not limited to, the performance of the captive manager, managing general underwriter, or other party or parties responsible for underwriting, determination of rates, collection of premium, adjusting or settling claims, or the preparation of financial statements.
 - (4) Review and approve the amount to be paid for all material service providers.
 - (5) Review and approve, at least annually, all of the following:
 - a. Risk retention group's goals and objectives relevant to the compensation of officers and service providers.
- 25 b. The officers' and service providers' performance 26 in light of those goals and objectives.

c. The continued engagement of the officers and material service providers.

- (g) The risk retention group shall have an audit committee composed of at least three independent board members as defined in Section 27-31A-2. A non-independent board member may participate in the activities of the audit committee, if invited by the members, but cannot be a member of the committee.
 - (h) The audit committee shall have a written charter that defines the committee's purpose, which, at a minimum, must be to do all of the following:
 - (1) Assist in board oversight of the integrity of the financial statements, the compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, and the qualifications, independence, and performance of the independent auditor and actuary.
 - (2) Discuss the annual audited financial statements and quarterly financial statements with management.
 - (3) Discuss the annual audited financial statements with its independent auditor and, if advisable, discuss the quarterly financial statements with its independent auditor.
 - (4) Discuss policies with respect to risk assessment and risk management.
 - (5) Meet separately and periodically, either directly or through a designated representative of the committee, with management and independent auditors.
 - (6) Review with the independent auditor any audit problems or difficulties and management's response.

1 (7) Set clear hiring policies of the risk retention 2 group as to the hiring of employees or former employees of the 3 independent auditor.

- (8) Require the external auditor to rotate the lead or coordinating audit partner having primary responsibility for the risk retention group's audit as well as the audit partner responsible for reviewing that audit so that neither individual performs audit services for more than five consecutive fiscal years.
 - (9) Report regularly to the board of directors.
- (i) The domestic regulator may waive the requirement to establish an audit committee composed of independent board members if the risk retention group is able to demonstrate to the domestic regulator that it is impracticable to do so and the risk retention group's board of directors itself is otherwise able to accomplish the purposes of an audit committee, as described in subsection (h).
- (j) The board of directors shall adopt and disclose governance standards, where disclose means making such information available through electronic (e.g., posting such information on the risk retention group's website) or other means, and providing such information to members/insureds upon request, which shall include all of the following:
- (1) A process by which the directors are elected by the owner/insureds.
 - (2) Director qualification standards.
 - (3) Director responsibilities.

- 1 (4) Director access to management and, as necessary 2 and appropriate, independent advisors. (5) Director compensation. 3 4 (6) Director orientation and continuing education. (7) The policies and procedures that are followed 5 6 for management succession. 7 (8) The policies and procedures that are followed for annual performance evaluation of the board. 8 (k) The board of directors shall adopt and disclose 9 10 a code of business conduct and ethics for directors, officers, and employees and promptly disclose to the board of directors 11 12 any waivers of the code for directors or executive officers, 13 which should include all of the following topics: (1) Conflicts of interest. 14 15 (2) Matters covered under the corporate opportunities doctrine under the state of domicile. 16 17 (3) Confidentiality. (4) Fair dealing. 18 (5) Protection and proper use of risk retention 19 20 group assets. 21 (6) Compliance with all applicable laws, rules, and 22 regulations. 23 (7) Requiring the reporting of any illegal or 24 unethical behavior which affects the operation of the risk
 - executive officer of the risk retention group shall promptly

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retention group.

(1) The captive manager, president, or chief

notify the domestic regulator in writing if either of them
becomes aware of any material non-compliance with any of these
governance standards.

Section 7. Sections 10A-20-6.16, and 27-21A-23, and Section 22-21-374, Code of Alabama 1975, are amended to read as follows:

"\$10A-20-6.16.

- "(a) No statute of this state applying to insurance companies shall be applicable to any corporation organized under this article and amendments thereto or to any contract made by the corporation unless expressly mentioned in this article and made applicable; except as follows the corporation shall be subject to all of the following:
- "(1) The corporation shall be subject to the provisions regarding annual premium tax to be paid by insurers on insurance premiums.
- "(2) The corporation shall be subject to the provisions of Chapter 55, of Title 27, regarding the prohibition of unfair discriminatory acts by insurers on the basis of an applicant's or insured's abuse status.
- "(3) The corporation shall be subject to the provisions regarding Medicare Supplement Minimum Standards set forth in Article 2 of Chapter 19 of Title 27, and Long-Term Care Insurance Policy Minimum Standards set forth in Article 3 of Chapter 19 of Title 27.

- "(4) The corporation shall be subject to Section 2 27-1-17, requiring insurers and health plans to pay health 3 care providers in a timely manner.
- "(5) The corporation shall be subject to the

 provisions of Chapter 56 of Title 27, regarding the Access to

 Eye Care Act.

- "(6) The corporation shall be subject to the regulations Rules promulgated by the Commissioner of Insurance pursuant to Sections 27-7-43 and 27-7-44.
 - "(7) The corporation shall be subject to the provisions of Chapter 54 of Title 27.
 - "(8) The corporation shall be subject to the provisions of Chapter 57 of Title 27, requiring coverage to be offered for the payment of colorectal cancer examinations for covered persons who are 50 years of age or older, or for covered persons who are less than 50 years of age and at high risk for colorectal cancer according to current American Cancer Society colorectal cancer screening guidelines.
 - "(9) The corporation shall be subject to Chapter 58 of Title 27, requiring that policies and contracts including coverage for prostate cancer early detection be offered, together with identification of associated costs.
- "(10) The corporation shall be subject to Chapter 59 of Title 27, requiring that policies and contracts including coverage for chiropractic be offered, together with identification of associated costs.

1	"(11) The corporation shall be subject to Chapter
2	54A of Title 27, requiring that policies and contracts to
3	offer coverage for certain treatment for Autism Spectrum
4	Disorder under certain conditions.
5	"(12) The corporation shall be subject to Chapter
6	12A of Title 27.
7	"(13) Chapter 2B of Title 27.
8	"(b) The provisions in subsection (a) that require
9	specific types of coverage to be offered or provided shall not
10	apply when the corporation is administering a self-funded
11	benefit plan or similar plan, fund, or program that it does
12	not insure.
13	" §22-21-374
14	"(a) A dental service corporation will pay the
15	prescribed fees and taxes required of a disability insurer.
16	"(b) The following provisions of the insurance laws
17	of this state apply to dental service corporations authorized
18	by this article, to the extent that they are not inconsistent
19	with the provisions herein:
20	"(1) Title 27, Chapters 1 and 2, Administration and
21	General Provisions;
22	"(2) Title 27, Chapter 2B, Risk-Based Capital for
23	Insurers.
24	" $\frac{(2)}{(3)}$ Title 27, Chapter 4, Fees and Taxes $\frac{1}{2}$.
25	" $\frac{(3)}{(4)}$ Title 27, Chapter 6, Administration of
26	Deposits ;

- "(4)(5) Title 27, Chapter 12, Unfair Trade
 Practices;
- "(5)(6) Title 27, Chapter 32, Insurer Insolvency;
 Rehabilitation and Liquidation.
 - "(c) The commissioner may by rule modify or waive any requirements referred to in subsection (b) for dental service corporations if that is necessary to avoid unreasonable hardship, expense, or inconvenience and if the interests of subscribers continue to be adequately protected.

10 "\$27-21A-23.

- "(a) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, provisions of the insurance law and provisions of health care service plan laws shall not be applicable to any health maintenance organization granted a certificate of authority under this chapter. This provision shall not apply to an insurer or health care service plan licensed and regulated pursuant to the insurance law or the health care service plan laws of this state except with respect to its health maintenance organization activities authorized and regulated pursuant to this chapter.
- "(b) Solicitation of enrollees by a health maintenance organization granted a certificate of authority shall not be construed to violate any provision of law relating to solicitation or advertising by health professionals.
- "(c) Any health maintenance organization authorized under this chapter shall not be deemed to be practicing

- medicine and shall be exempt from the provisions of Section 34-24-310, et seq., relating to the practice of medicine.
 - "(d) No person participating in the arrangements of a health maintenance organization other than the actual provider of health care services or supplies directly to enrollees and their families shall be liable for negligence, misfeasance, nonfeasance, or malpractice in connection with the furnishing of such services and supplies.
 - "(e) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed in any way to repeal or conflict with any provision of the certificate of need law.
 - "(f) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection

 (a), a health maintenance organization shall be subject to <u>all</u>

 of the following:
 - "<u>(1)</u> Section 27-1-17.

- "(2)(g) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a), a health maintenance organization shall be subject to the provisions of Chapter 56 of this title, regarding the Access to Eye Care Act.
- "(3) (h) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a), a health maintenance organization shall be subject to the provisions of Chapter 54 of this title.
- "(4)(i) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection
 (a), a health maintenance organization shall be subject to the
 provisions of Chapter 57 of this title, requiring coverage to
 be offered for the payment of colorectal cancer examinations
 for covered persons who are 50 years of age or older, or for

1	covered persons who are less than 50 years of age and at high
2	risk for colorectal cancer according to current American
3	Cancer Society colorectal cancer screening guidelines.
4	"(5)(j) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection
5	(a), a health maintenance organization shall be subject to
6	Chapter 58 of Title 27, requiring that policies and contracts
7	including coverage for prostate cancer early detection be
8	offered, together with identification of associated costs.
9	"(6)(k) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection
10	(a), a health maintenance organization shall be subject to
11	Chapter 59 of this title, requiring that policies and
12	contracts including coverage for chiropractic be offered,
13	together with identification of associated costs.
14	"(7)(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection
15	(a), a health maintenance organization shall be subject to
16	regulations Rules promulgated by the Commissioner of Insurance
17	pursuant to Sections 27-7-43 and 27-7-44.
18	"(8)(m) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection
19	(a), a health maintenance organization shall be subject to
20	Chapter 12A.
21	"(9)(n) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection
22	(a), a health maintenance organization shall be subject to
23	Chapter 54A, of this title requiring policies and contracts to
24	offer coverage for certain treatment for Autism Spectrum
25	Disorder under certain conditions.
26	"(10) Chapter 2B, regarding risk-based capital."

Section 8. This act shall become effective on the first day of January next following its passage and approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.