

LAWS OF ALASKA 2019

Source SCS HB 78(RLS) am S

AN ACT

Relating to insurance; relating to an insurer's corporate governance; relating to insurance holding companies and insurance company holding systems; amending Rule 26, Alaska Rules of Civil Procedure, and Rules 402 and 501, Alaska Rules of Evidence; and providing for an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

THE ACT FOLLOWS ON PAGE 1

AN ACT

1	Relating to insurance; relating to an insurer's corporate governance; relating to insurance
2	holding companies and insurance company holding systems; amending Rule 26, Alaska Rules
3	of Civil Procedure, and Rules 402 and 501, Alaska Rules of Evidence; and providing for an
4	effective date.
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6	* Section 1. AS 21.09 is amended by adding new sections to read:
7	Article 2. Corporate Governance Annual Disclosure.
8	Sec. 21.09.400. Corporate governance annual disclosure scope. (a)
9	AS 21.09.400 - 21.09.460 do not prescribe or impose a corporate governance standard
10	or internal procedure beyond that required under AS 10. Nothing in AS 21.09.400 -
11	21.09.460 limits the director's authority or the rights or obligations of a third party.
12	(b) AS 21.09.400 - 21.09.460 apply to an insurer domiciled in this state.
13	Sec. 21.09.410. Disclosure requirement. (a) An insurer, or an insurance group
14	of which the insurer is a member, shall submit to the director not later than June 1 of

1	each calendar year a corporate governance annual disclosure that contains the
2	information described in AS 21.09.430(b). In the event the director requests an insurer
3	to submit a disclosure under (c) of this section and the insurer is a member of an
4	insurance group, the insurer shall submit the disclosure to the lead state insurance
5	regulator of the insurance group, under the laws of the lead state, in accordance with
6	the procedures set out in the Financial Analysis Handbook adopted by the National
7	Association of Insurance Commissioners.
8	(b) A corporate governance annual disclosure must include a signature of the
9	insurer's or insurance group's chief executive officer or corporate secretary attesting
10	that, to the best of that individual's belief and knowledge,
11	(1) the insurer has implemented the corporate governance practices
12	required under AS 21.09.400 - 21.09.460; and
13	(2) a copy of the corporate governance annual disclosure has been
14	provided to the insurer's board of directors or the appropriate committee of the board.
15	(c) An insurer not required to submit a corporate governance annual disclosure
16	under (a) of this section shall submit a disclosure upon request of the director.
17	(d) For purposes of completing a corporate governance annual disclosure, an
18	insurer or insurance group, depending on the insurer's or insurance group's corporate
19	governance structure, may provide information regarding corporate governance at
20	(1) the ultimate controlling parent level;
21	(2) an intermediate holding company level;
22	(3) the individual legal entity level; or
23	(4) the ultimate controlling parent level, an intermediate holding
24	company level, and the individual legal entity level.
25	(e) An insurer or insurance group
26	(1) is encouraged to make the corporate governance annual disclosure
27	at the level at which
28	(A) the insurer's or insurance group's risk appetite is
29	determined;
30	(B) the earnings, capital, liquidity, operations, and reputation of
31	the insurer are overseen collectively and at which the supervision of those

1	factors are coordinated and exercised; or
2	(C) legal liability for failure of general corporate governance
3	duties would be placed;
4	(2) shall, if determining the level of reporting based on the criteria
5	under this section,
6	(A) indicate which of the three criteria under (1) of this
7	subsection was used to determine the level of reporting; and
8	(B) explain any subsequent change in the level of reporting.
9	(f) A review of the corporate governance annual disclosure and any additional
10	requests for information shall be made through the lead state in accordance with the
11	procedures set out in the Financial Analysis Handbook adopted by the National
12	Association of Insurance Commissioners.
13	(g) An insurer or insurance group providing information substantially similar
14	to the information required under AS 21.09.400 - 21.09.460 in other documents
15	provided to the director, including proxy statements filed in conjunction with Form B
16	requirements under regulations of the division, or other state or federal filings
17	provided to the division, is not required to duplicate that information in the corporate
18	governance annual disclosure; however, the insurer or insurance group shall include in
19	the disclosure a cross reference of the document in which the information is included.
20	Sec. 21.09.420. Regulations and orders. To carry out the provisions of
21	AS 21.09.400 - 21.09.460, the director may
22	(1) adopt regulations, including regulations substantially similar to the
23	regulations under the National Association of Insurance Commissioners' Corporate
24	Governance Annual Disclosure Model Regulation; and
25	(2) issue orders necessary to implement the provisions.
26	Sec. 21.09.430. Contents of corporate governance annual disclosure. (a) An
27	insurer or insurance group may have discretion in responding to a corporate
28	governance annual disclosure inquiry if the insurer's or insurance group's disclosure
29	contains the material necessary for the director to gain an understanding of the
30	insurer's or insurance group's corporate governance structure, policies, and practices.
31	The director may request additional information the director determines necessary for

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30 31 the director to have a clear understanding of the insurer's or insurance group's corporate governance policies, reporting or information system, or controls implementing those policies.

(b) An insurer or insurance group shall prepare a corporate governance annual disclosure consistent with regulations adopted by the director under AS 21.09.420. An insurer or insurance group shall maintain documents and supporting information used in preparing the insurer's or insurance group's disclosure and shall make the documents and supporting information available upon examination or request of the director.

Sec. 21.09.440. Confidentiality. Documents, materials, or other information, including a corporate governance annual disclosure, in the possession or control of the division that are obtained by, created by, or disclosed to the director or any person under AS 21.09.400 - 21.09.460 are confidential and subject to the provisions of AS 21.06.060.

Sec. 21.09.450. Agreements with National Association of Insurance Commissioners and third-party consultants. (a) The director may retain, at the insurer's or insurance group's expense and as consistent with this section, third-party consultants, including attorneys, actuaries, accountants, and other experts not otherwise a part of the director's staff, as may be reasonably necessary to assist the director in reviewing the insurer's or insurance group's corporate governance annual disclosure and related information or the insurer's or insurance group's compliance with AS 21.09.400 - 21.09.460.

- (b) A person retained under (a) of this section is under the direction and control of the director and acts in a purely advisory capacity.
- (c) As part of the retention process, a third-party consultant must verify to the director in writing, with notice to the insurer or insurance group, that the consultant is free of a conflict of interest, has internal procedures in place to monitor compliance with a conflict, and will comply with the confidentiality standards and requirements under AS 21.09.400 - 21.09.460.
- A written agreement with the National Association of Insurance Commissioners, a third-party consultant, or both, governing sharing and use of

information provided under AS 21.09.400 - 21.09.460 must contain the following provisions and expressly require the written consent of the insurer or insurance group before making information under AS 21.09.400 - 21.09.460 public:

- (1) a provision stating that the National Association of Insurance Commissioners and third-party consultants are subject to the same confidentiality standards and requirements as the director under AS 21.22.120 and any other relevant law;
- (2) specific procedures and protocols for maintaining the confidentiality and security of information related to corporate governance annual disclosures that is shared with the National Association of Insurance Commissioners or the third-party consultant under AS 21.09.400 21.09.460;
- (3) procedures and protocols that ensure the National Association of Insurance Commissioners shares only with other state regulators from states in which the insurer or insurance group has domiciled insurers; the agreement must provide that the recipient agrees in writing to maintain the confidentiality of the documents, materials, or other information related to corporate governance annual disclosures and has verified in writing the legal authority to maintain confidentiality;
- (4) a provision specifying that ownership of information related to corporate governance annual disclosures that is shared with the National Association of Insurance Commissioners or a third-party consultant remains with the division, and the use of the information by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners or the third-party consultant is subject to the direction of the director;
- (5) a provision that prohibits the National Association of Insurance Commissioners or the third-party consultant from storing the information shared under AS 21.09.400 21.09.460 in a permanent database after the underlying analysis is completed;
- (6) a provision requiring the National Association of Insurance Commissioners or the third-party consultant to provide prompt notice to the director and the insurer or insurance group regarding any subpoena, request for disclosure, or request for production of information related to the insurer's or insurance group's corporate governance annual disclosure;

(7) a requirement that the National Association of Insurance Commissioners or the third-party consultant consent to intervention by an insurer or insurance group in any judicial or administrative action in which the National Association of Insurance Commissioners or the third-party consultant may be required to disclose confidential information about the insurer or insurance group shared with the National Association of Insurance Commissioners or the third-party consultant under AS 21.09.400 - 21.09.460.

Sec. 21.09.460. Penalties. Each day an insurer or insurance group fails, without just cause, to file the corporate governance annual disclosure in the time required under AS 21.09.410(a), the insurer or insurance group shall pay \$1,000, not to exceed \$365,000. The director may reduce the penalty under this section if the insurer or insurance group demonstrates to the director that the imposition of the penalty is a financial hardship to the insurer or insurance group.

* Sec. 2. AS 21.22.085(a) is amended to read:

- (a) Transactions involving a domestic insurer and a person in its insurance holding company system, including amendments or modifications of affiliate agreements previously filed under AS 21.22.080 that are subject to a materiality standard in (1) (7) of this subsection, may not be entered into unless the insurer has notified the director in writing of the insurer's intention to enter into the transaction at least 30 days before the transaction, or a shorter period if allowed by the director, and the director has not disapproved the transaction within the required notice period. The notice of amendments or modifications must include the reasons for the change and the financial effect on the domestic insurer. A domestic insurer shall provide to the director notice, within 30 days after a termination of a previously filed agreement, for determination of the type of filing required, if any. The requirements in this section apply to the following transactions:
- (1) a sale, purchase, exchange, loan or extension of credit, or investment, provided the transaction is equal to or exceeds
 - (A) with respect to insurers other than life insurers, the lesser of three percent of the insurer's admitted assets or 25 percent of surplus that pertains to policyholders, as of December 31 of the **previous** calendar year [IN

1	WHICH THE TRANSACTION TOOK PLACE]; or
2	(B) with respect to life insurers, three percent of the insurer's
3	admitted assets as of December 31 of the previous calendar year [IN WHICH
4	THE TRANSACTION TOOK PLACE];
5	(2) a loan or extension of credit to a person who is not an affiliate
6	where the insurer makes loans or extensions of credit with the agreement of
7	understanding that the proceeds of the transaction, in whole or in substantial part, are
8	to be used to make a loan or extension of credit to, purchase an asset of, or make an
9	investment in an affiliate of the insurer making the loan or extension of credit
10	provided the transaction is equal to or exceeds
11	(A) with respect to insurers other than life insurers, the lesser o
12	three percent of the insurer's admitted assets or 25 percent of surplus that
13	pertains to policyholder surplus, as of December 31 of the previous calendar
14	year [IN WHICH THE TRANSACTION TOOK PLACE]; or
15	(B) with respect to life insurers, three percent of the insurer's
16	admitted assets as of December 31 of the previous calendar year [IN WHICH
17	THE TRANSACTION TOOK PLACE];
18	(3) a reinsurance agreement or modification, including
19	(A) a reinsurance pooling agreement;
20	(B) an agreement in which the reinsurance premium or change
21	in the insurer's liabilities, or the projected reinsurance premium or a change in
22	the insurer's liabilities in any of the three years after entering into the
23	agreement or modification, equals or exceeds five percent of surplus that
24	pertains to policyholders as of December 31 of the previous calendar year [IN
25	WHICH THE TRANSACTION TOOK PLACE], including an agreement that
26	may require as consideration the transfer of assets from an insurer to a
27	nonaffiliate if an agreement or understanding exists between the insurer and
28	nonaffiliate that a portion of the assets will be transferred to one or more
29	affiliates of the insurer;
30	(4) a management agreement, service contract, tax allocation
31	agreement guarantee or cost-sharing arrangement:

- (5) a material transaction specified by regulation that the director determines may adversely affect the interests of the insurer's policyholders;
- (6) a guarantee if made by a domestic insurer, except that a guarantee that is quantifiable as to amount is not subject to the notice requirements of this subsection unless it exceeds the lesser of one-half of one percent of the insurer's admitted assets or 10 percent of surplus that pertains to policyholders as of December 31 of the **previous** calendar year [IN WHICH THE TRANSACTION TOOK PLACE]; a guarantee that is not quantifiable as to amount is subject to the notice requirements of this subsection; and
- (7) a direct or an indirect acquisition or investment in a person that controls an insurer or in an affiliate of the insurer in an amount that, together with the person's present holdings in the investment, exceeds two and one-half percent of surplus that pertains to policyholders; direct or indirect acquisitions or investments in subsidiaries authorized under this title or regulations adopted by the director or in nonsubsidiary insurance affiliates that are subject to the provisions of this chapter are exempt from this requirement.
- * Sec. 3. AS 21.22 is amended by adding a new section to read:
 - Sec. 21.22.117. Group-wide supervision of internationally active insurance groups. (a) The director may act as the group-wide supervisor for an internationally active insurance group in accordance with this section. However, the director may acknowledge another regulatory official as the group-wide supervisor if the internationally active insurance group
 - (1) does not have substantial insurance operations in the United States;
 - (2) has substantial insurance operations in the United States but not in this state; or
 - (3) has substantial insurance operations in the United States and this state, but the director has determined under (b) or (f) of this section that the other regulatory official is the appropriate group-wide supervisor; an insurance holding company system that does not otherwise qualify as an internationally active insurance group may request that the director make a determination or acknowledgment of a group-wide supervisor under this section.

In cooperation with other state, federal, and international regulatory 1 2 agencies, the director shall identify a single group-wide supervisor for an 3 internationally active insurance group. The director may determine that the director is 4 the appropriate group-wide supervisor for an internationally active insurance group 5 that conducts substantial insurance operations concentrated in this state. However, the 6 director may acknowledge that a regulatory official from another jurisdiction is the 7 appropriate group-wide supervisor for the internationally active insurance group. The 8 director shall consider the following factors when making a determination or 9 acknowledgment under this subsection: 10 (1) the place of domicile of the insurers within the internationally 11 active insurance group that hold the largest share of the group's written premiums, 12 assets, or liabilities; 13 (2) the place of domicile of the top-tiered insurer or insurers in the 14 insurance holding company system of the internationally active insurance group; 15 (3) the location of the executive offices or largest operational offices of 16 the internationally active insurance group; 17 (4) whether another regulatory official is acting or is seeking to act as 18 the group-wide supervisor under a regulatory system that the director determines to be 19 (A) substantially similar to the system of regulation provided 20 under the laws of this state; or 21 (B) otherwise sufficient in terms of providing for group-wide 22 supervision, enterprise risk analysis, and cooperation with other regulatory 23 officials; and 24 (5) whether another regulatory official acting or seeking to act as the 25 group-wide supervisor provides the director with reasonably reciprocal recognition 26 and cooperation; a regulatory official identified under this section as the group-wide 27 supervisor may determine that it is appropriate to acknowledge another supervisor to 28 serve as the group-wide supervisor; the regulatory official shall consider the factors 29 listed in this subsection when making an acknowledgment under this subsection and 30 shall make the acknowledgment in cooperation with, and subject to, the

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acknowledgment of other regulatory officials involved with supervision of members

- (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, when another regulatory official is acting as the group-wide supervisor of an internationally active insurance group, the director shall acknowledge that regulatory official as the group-wide supervisor. However, the director shall make a determination or acknowledgment of the appropriate group-wide supervisor for the internationally active insurance group under (b) of this section in the event of a material change in the internationally active insurance group that results in
- (1) the internationally active insurance group's insurers domiciled in this state holding the largest share of the group's premiums, assets, or liabilities; or
- (2) this state being the place of domicile of the top-tiered insurer or insurers in the insurance holding company system of the internationally active insurance group.
- (d) Under AS 21.22.110, the director may collect from an insurer registered under AS 21.22.060 the information necessary to determine whether the director may act as the group-wide supervisor of an internationally active insurance group or if the director may acknowledge another regulatory official to act as the group-wide supervisor. Before issuing a determination that an internationally active insurance group is subject to group-wide supervision, the director shall notify the insurer registered under AS 21.22.060 and the ultimate controlling person within the internationally active insurance group. Upon notification, the internationally active insurance group has a minimum of 30 days to provide the director with additional information pertinent to the pending determination. The director may publish on the division's Internet website the identity of internationally active insurance groups that the director has determined are subject to group-wide supervision by the director.
- (e) If the director is the group-wide supervisor for an internationally active insurance group, the director may
- (1) assess the enterprise risks in the internationally active insurance group to ensure
 - (A) the material financial condition and liquidity risks to

1	members of the internationally active insurance group that are engaged in the
2	business of insurance are identified by management; and
3	(B) reasonable and effective mitigation measures are in place;
4	(2) request from a member of an internationally active insurance group
5	subject to the director's supervision information necessary and appropriate to assess
6	enterprise risk, including information about the members of the internationally active
7	insurance group regarding
8	(A) governance, risk assessment, and management;
9	(B) capital adequacy; and
10	(C) material intercompany transactions;
11	(3) coordinate and, through the authority of the regulatory officials of
12	the jurisdictions where members of the internationally active insurance group are
13	domiciled, compel development and implementation of reasonable measures designed
14	to ensure that the internationally active insurance group is able to timely recognize and
15	mitigate enterprise risks to members of the internationally active insurance group that
16	are engaged in the business of insurance;
17	(4) communicate with other state, federal, and international regulatory
18	agencies for members in the internationally active insurance group and share relevant
19	information subject to the confidentiality provisions under AS 21.22.120, through
20	supervisory colleges under AS 21.22.115 or otherwise;
21	(5) enter into agreements with, or obtain documentation from, an
22	insurer registered under AS 21.22.060, a member of the internationally active
23	insurance group, or a state, federal, or international regulatory agency for members of
24	the internationally active insurance group, providing the basis for, or otherwise
25	clarifying, the director's role as group-wide supervisor, including provisions for
26	resolving disputes with other regulatory officials; the agreements or documentation
27	may not serve as evidence in a proceeding against an insurer or person in an insurance
28	holding company system not domiciled or incorporated in this state or doing business
29	in this state or otherwise subject to jurisdiction in this state; and
30	(6) perform other group-wide supervision activities, consistent with the
31	authorities and purposes set out in this subsection.

- (f) If the director acknowledges that another regulatory official from a jurisdiction that is not accredited by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners is the group-wide supervisor, the director may reasonably cooperate, through supervisory colleges or otherwise, with group-wide supervision undertaken by the group-wide supervisor under the following conditions:
- (1) the director's cooperation is in compliance with the laws of this state; and
- (2) the regulatory official acknowledged as the group-wide supervisor recognizes and cooperates with the director's activities as a group-wide supervisor for other internationally active insurance groups, where applicable; if recognition and cooperation is not reasonably reciprocal, the director may refuse recognition and cooperation.
- (g) The director may enter into agreements with, or obtain documentation from, an insurer registered under AS 21.22.060, an affiliate of the insurer, or other state, federal, and international regulatory agencies for members of the internationally active insurance group, that provide the basis for, or otherwise clarify, a regulatory official's role as group-wide supervisor.
- (h) A registered insurer subject to this section is liable for and shall pay the reasonable expenses of the director's participation in the administration of this section, including the engagement of attorneys, actuaries, and other professionals, and all reasonable travel expenses.
- * **Sec. 4.** AS 21.22.120(a) is amended to read:
 - (a) All information, documents, holding company analyses, insurer profile summaries, and copies of the information and documents obtained by or disclosed to the director or any other person in the course of an examination or investigation made under AS 21.22.110 and all information reported under AS 21.22.020(b), 21.22.060, [AND] 21.22.085 21.22.105, and 21.22.117 and all preacquisition notification information received under AS 21.22.065 shall be given confidential treatment under AS 21.06.060. However, if the director, after giving the insurer and its affiliates who would be affected by publication of the information notice and opportunity to be heard, determines that the interests of policyholders, shareholders, or the public will be

1	served by the publication of the information, the director may publish all or part of the
2	information in the manner the director considers appropriate.
3	* Sec. 5. AS 21.22.120 is amended by adding new subsections to read:
4	(c) The director or a person who receives documents, materials, or other
5	information while acting under the authority of the director or with whom documents,
6	materials, or other information are shared under this chapter may not be permitted or
7	required to testify in any private civil action concerning confidential documents,
8	materials, or information subject to (a) of this section.
9	(d) The sharing of information by the director under this chapter does not
10	constitute a delegation of regulatory authority or rulemaking. The director is solely
11	responsible for the administration, execution, and enforcement of this chapter.
12	(e) A waiver of an applicable privilege or claim of confidentiality in the
13	documents, materials, or information under (a) of this section may not be given as a
14	result of disclosure to the director under this section or as a result of sharing as
15	authorized under (b) of this section.
16	(f) Documents, materials, or other information in the possession or control of
17	the National Association of Insurance Commissioners under this chapter
18	(1) are confidential by law;
19	(2) are not subject to
20	(A) AS 40.25.110 - 40.25.220;
21	(B) subpoena; or
22	(C) discovery or admissible in evidence in any private action.
23	* Sec. 6. AS 21.22.200 is amended by adding new paragraphs to read:
24	(17) "group-wide supervisor" means the regulatory official authorized
25	to engage in conducting and coordinating group-wide supervision activities who is
26	determined or acknowledged by the director under AS 21.22.117 to have sufficient
27	significant contacts with the internationally active insurance group;
28	(18) "internationally active insurance group" means an insurance
29	holding company system that includes an insurer registered under AS 21.22.060 and
30	that meets the following criteria:
31	(A) insurers that are part of the insurance holding company

l	system write premiums in at least three countries;
2	(B) the percentage of gross premiums written outside the
3	United States is at least 10 percent of the insurance holding company system's total
4	gross written premiums; and
5	(C) based on a three-year rolling average, the total assets of the
6	insurance holding company system are at least \$50,000,000,000 or the total gross
7	written premiums of the insurance holding company system are at least
8	\$10,000,000,000.
9	* Sec. 7. AS 21.97 is amended by adding a new section to read:
10	Sec. 21.97.030. Material incorporated by reference. The director may adopt
11	a regulation that incorporates by reference the Financial Analysis Handbook published
12	by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners. Under AS 44.62.245(a)(2),
13	in adopting or amending a regulation that incorporates the Financial Analysis
14	Handbook published by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners, the
15	director may incorporate future amended versions of the Financial Analysis Handbook
16	published by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.
17	* Sec. 8. The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
18	read:
19	INDIRECT COURT RULE AMENDMENT. The provisions of secs. 3 and 5 of this
20	Act have the effect of changing the following court rules in the manner specified:
21	(1) Rule 26, Alaska Rules of Civil Procedure, by prohibiting discovery of
22	evidence in the possession or control of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners
23	relating to insurance holding companies and insurance holding company systems;
24	(2) Rules 402 and 501, Alaska Rules of Evidence, by
25	(A) creating a new privilege relating to insurance holding companies
26	and insurance holding company systems that would prevent a person from being
27	permitted or compelled to testify about confidential documents, materials, or
28	information in a private civil action; and
29	(B) precluding admissibility of evidence
30	(i) in a private action, of documents, materials, or other
31	information in the possession or control of the National Association of

1	Insurance Commissioners relating to insurance holding companies and
2	insurance holding company systems; and
3	(ii) in a proceeding against certain insurers or persons in an
4	insurance holding company system, of agreements or documentation relating
5	to insurance holding companies and insurance holding company systems.
6	* Sec. 9. The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
7	read:
8	CONDITIONAL EFFECT. AS 21.22.117(e)(5), enacted by sec. 3 of this Act, and
9	AS 21.22.120(c) and (f), enacted by sec. 5 of this Act, take effect only if secs. 3 and 5 of this
10	Act receive the two-thirds majority vote of each house required by art. IV, sec. 15,
11	Constitution of the State of Alaska.
12	* Sec. 10. This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).