Second Regular Session Seventy-second General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

ENGROSSED

This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted on Second Reading in the House of Introduction HOUSE BILL 20-1136

LLS NO. 20-0763.01 Jery Payne x2157

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Snyder,

(None),

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

House Committees Business Affairs & Labor **Senate Committees**

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING THE REGULATION OF INVESTMENTS MADE BY DOMESTIC

102 INSURANCE COMPANIES.

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <u>http://leg.colorado.gov</u>.)

Current law regulates the types and amounts of investments a domestic insurer may make, including investments in bonds and other evidences of indebtedness. Section 1 of the bill clarifies the types of indebtedness that may be invested in and allows the domestic insurer to invest in the debts of an issuer that is in default in the payment of interest on the debt.

HOUSE Amended 2nd Reading February 21, 2020 Current law allows a domestic insurer to invest in first-priority mortgage loans in the United States and Canada. In connection with this, **section 2**:

- Authorizes investment in lower-priority loans if the holder of the lower-priority loan holds the first-priority loan;
- ! Repeals the requirement that a mortgage loan be evidenced by a written appraisal;
- ! Repeals the requirement that the mortgaged land have a building, be used for agriculture or pasture, or be income-producing;
- ! Repeals the requirement that improvements to the land be insured against fire loss;
- ! Repeals mortgage loan documentation requirements; and
- ! Authorizes domestic insurers to acquire mortgage loans for land located in other foreign jurisdictions that have a sovereign debt rating of "1" from the securities valuation office of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners if these assets do not exceed 10% of the domestic insurer's investments.

Current law allows a domestic insurer to invest in real estate for income. In connection with this, **section 3** broadens the current definition of "real estate", which covers fee simple ownership and leasehold estates, to include all interests in property, including mineral estates.

Current law allows a domestic insurer to invest in preferred or common stock in businesses within the United States and Canada. In connection with this, **section 4**:

- ! Broadens current law to allow investment in equity interests of businesses other than preferred or common stock;
- ! Repeals the requirement that the business not be in arrears as to dividends for the last 3 years;
- ! Repeals the requirement that any sinking fund for preferred stock must be current;
- ! Repeals the requirement that common stock must be registered on a national securities exchange or regularly traded on a national or regional basis;
- Limits the amount of equity that is not listed on a nationally registered securities exchange or securities market to 5% of the domestic insurer's assets; and
- ! Authorizes a domestic insurer to invest in equity interests in businesses created in other foreign jurisdictions that have a sovereign debt rating of "1" from the securities valuation office of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners if these assets do not exceed 3% of the domestic insurer's investments.

Current law allows a domestic insurer to invest in money market mutual funds. **Section 9** requires the funds to comply with certain federal regulations and requires government-backed funds to meet certain standards of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners. **Sections 5 through 8** make conforming amendments.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:* 2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 10-3-215, **amend** (1) 3 introductory portion, (1)(a), (1)(d), (1)(e), and (2) introductory portion as 4 follows: 5 **10-3-215.** Evidences of indebtedness. (1) A domestic insurance 6 companies COMPANY may invest in lawfully issued interest-bearing 7 bonds, including bonds which EVIDENCES OF INDEBTEDNESS, INCLUDING 8 INTEREST-BEARING BONDS, BONDS THAT provide for imputed interest 9 payable at maturity, revenue bonds, and debentures, and other evidences 10 of indebtedness INSTRUMENTS EVIDENCING INDEBTEDNESS FOR THE

11 PAYMENT OF MONEY:

(a) Of ISSUED BY the United States, or any BY AN agency or
instrumentality thereof OF THE UNITED STATES, or of BY any state,
territory, district, or political subdivision of the United States;

15 (d) Of the Dominion of ISSUED BY Canada, and BY provinces and 16 OR districts thereof and of CANADA, OR BY counties, districts, townships, 17 municipalities, and OR political subdivisions thereof OF CANADA, or 18 guaranteed or insured as to the payment of principal and interest by the dominion of Canada or by any A province or district thereof OF CANADA; 19 20 (e) Of solvent ISSUED BY institutions created under the laws of the 21 United States, or of any state, territory, or district thereof OF THE UNITED 22 STATES, or of the dominion of Canada or any A province thereof OF 23 CANADA, which institutions are not referenced in paragraph (a), (b), (c),

or (d) of this subsection (1) and which are not in default in the payment
of interest on any of their bonds at the time the investment is made
SUBSECTION (1)(a), (1)(b), (1)(c), OR (1)(d) OF THIS SECTION; but the
aggregate value of all bonds and other evidences of indebtedness of any
one such institution which THAT may be admitted assets under this section
shall MUST not exceed three percent of the domestic insurance company's
admitted assets except as:

8 (I) To those bonds and other evidences of indebtedness of 9 insurance companies admitted to do business in any A state of the United 10 States or in the District of Columbia, for coinsurance or reinsurance 11 purposes, in which case they shall THE BONDS OR OTHER EVIDENCES OF 12 INDEBTEDNESS MUST not exceed the greater of three percent of the 13 domestic insurance company's admitted assets or five percent of the 14 debtor insurance company's admitted assets OR LOANS; or

15 (II) except as May be otherwise authorized under section
16 10-3-802;

17 (2) A domestic insurance companies COMPANY may invest in 18 mortgage-backed securities, including without limitation, collateralized 19 mortgage obligations and other obligations for the payment of money 20 secured by participation certificates or loans secured, directly or 21 indirectly, by real estate mortgages or deeds of trust if: at the time the 22 investment is made, the entity issuing the obligation is not in default in 23 the payment of interest on the obligation and:

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 10-3-216, amend (1)
introductory portion, (1)(f) introductory portion, (1)(i), and (1)(j); repeal
(1)(a)(II), (1)(c), (1)(d), and (1)(e); and add (2) as follows:

27 **10-3-216. Mortgage loans.** (1) A domestic insurance companies

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COMPANY may invest in loans secured by first liens on real property
 ACQUIRE, EITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, OBLIGATIONS SECURED BY
 MORTGAGES ON REAL ESTATE located in the United States or Canada, BUT
 THE COMPANY SHALL NOT ACQUIRE A MORTGAGE LOAN THAT IS NOT
 SECURED BY A FIRST LIEN UNLESS THE COMPANY IS THE HOLDER OF THE
 FIRST LIEN. AUTHORITY TO ACQUIRE A MORTGAGE LOAN IS subject to the
 following: provisions:

8 (a) (II) In all cases, value shall be evidenced by the written 9 appraisal of a qualified real estate appraiser, who may be an employee of 10 the company; except that, in the case of property to be qualified under this 11 section by reason of producing oil, gas, or other minerals, the appraisal 12 must be made by an engineer or geologist qualified in the relevant field, 13 and, in the case of commercial properties of over one hundred thousand 14 dollars in value, the appraiser must be a member of an institute of real 15 estate appraisers, or its equivalent.

16 (c) The land to which the first lien pertains shall be improved with 17 permanent buildings, or be used for agriculture or pasture, or be 18 income-producing land, including, but not limited to, land used for 19 parking lots or for the production of oil, gas, or other minerals; but loans 20 secured by first liens on land not meeting any of the foregoing 21 requirements of this paragraph (c) may be admitted assets of the company 22 under this part 2 in an amount not exceeding in the aggregate five percent 23 of its admitted assets

(d) Any improvements shall be insured against loss or damage by
fire, for the benefit of the lending company, by some reliable fire
insurance company for an amount not less than the unpaid balance of the
obligation or the insurable value of the property, whichever is less.

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1 (e) The company shall hold such documents as are necessary to 2 evidence its ownership of such first liens. If, under the law of the 3 jurisdiction in which the real property is situated, it is necessary to the 4 validity of the lien to record a mortgage or assignment thereof, the 5 company shall record such mortgage or assignment in compliance with 6 such law.

(f) The entire obligation secured by a first lien on real estate shall
MORTGAGE LOAN OBLIGATION MUST be owned by the company; except
that the company may own such an THIS TYPE OF obligation in common
with other participants if, at the time of the company's investment, each
participant is:

12 (i) The maximum amount of a loan or loans made, directly or 13 indirectly, to any one obligor which THAT may be an admitted asset of a 14 THE company under this section shall MUST not exceed two percent of 15 such THE company's admitted assets. If, on April 5, 1973, a company has 16 outstanding a loan to any one obligor which, except for the provisions of 17 this paragraph (i) would be admitted assets under this section, or a 18 binding commitment for any such loan, any such loan outstanding on such 19 date shall continue to be admitted assets under this section, and any such 20 loan made on or after April 5, 1973, pursuant to any such binding 21 commitment shall be admitted assets under this section.

(j) The aggregate amount of investments of a company which
THAT may be admitted assets under this section shall MUST not exceed
fifty percent of the company's admitted assets. If a company has
outstanding investments which, in the aggregate, exceed fifty percent of
the company's admitted assets on July 1, 1993, the company shall reduce
the excess amount invested in first liens on real property at the rate of at

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1 least twenty percent of the July 1, 1993, excess each year for five years 2 until the first liens on the real property portfolio do not exceed fifty 3 percent of the company's admitted assets. If a fraternal benefit society has 4 outstanding investments which, in the aggregate, exceed sixty percent of 5 the society's admitted assets on July 1, 1993, the society shall reduce the 6 excess amount invested in first liens on real property at the rate of at least twenty percent of the July 1, 1993, excess each year for five years until 7 8 the first liens on the real property portfolio do not exceed sixty percent of 9 the society's admitted assets. Thereafter, a fraternal benefit society shall, 10 over a five-year period, further reduce its outstanding aggregate 11 investments in first liens on real property to fifty percent of its admitted 12 assets by twenty percent per year, unless an exemption is granted by the 13 commissioner. Such exemption shall be based on an analysis of the 14 financial condition of the fraternal society.

15 (2) (a) A DOMESTIC INSURANCE COMPANY MAY ACQUIRE A MORTGAGE LOAN SECURED BY A MORTGAGE ON REAL ESTATE LOCATED IN 16 17 A FOREIGN JURISDICTION HAVING A SOVEREIGN DEBT RATING OF "1" FROM 18 THE SECURITIES VALUATION OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF 19 INSURANCE COMMISSIONERS IF THE MORTGAGE LOAN OTHERWISE MEETS 20 THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION; EXCEPT THAT 21 THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF FOREIGN MORTGAGE LOANS THAT MAY BE 22 ADMITTED ASSETS UNDER THIS SUBSECTION (2)(a) MUST NOT EXCEED TEN 23 PERCENT OF THE COMPANY'S ADMITTED ASSETS.

(b) This subsection (2) does not apply to a jurisdiction
Described in subsection (1) of this section.

26 SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 10-3-220, amend (2)
27 as follows:

1 10-3-220. Real estate for production of income - definition. 2 (2) (a) "Real estate", as used in this section, means lands held in fee 3 simple or under leasehold estates, and improvements thereon or to be 4 placed thereon, consisting only of store or other business buildings, or of 5 dwellings, apartment houses, tenements, or other housing 6 accommodations REAL PROPERTY; INTERESTS IN REAL PROPERTY, SUCH AS 7 LEASEHOLDS; MINERALS AND OIL AND GAS THAT HAVE NOT BEEN SEVERED 8 FROM THE FEE INTEREST; AND IMPROVEMENTS AND FIXTURES LOCATED ON 9 OR IN REAL PROPERTY.

10 (b) "REAL ESTATE" DOES NOT INCLUDE MINERAL ESTATES THAT
11 HAVE BEEN SEVERED FROM THE FEE INTEREST.

SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 10-3-226, amend (1),
(3) introductory portion, and (3)(d); repeal (3)(a) and (3)(b); and add
(3)(f), (4), and (5) as follows:

15 **10-3-226.** Equity interests - definition. (1) A domestic insurance 16 companies COMPANY may invest in preferred and common stocks issued 17 by any solvent corporation EQUITY INTERESTS IN BUSINESS ENTITIES 18 created under the laws of the United States, or of any A state of the United 19 States OR the District of Columbia, or of Canada or any province thereof 20 OF CANADA, but the aggregate value of all such stocks which EQUITY 21 INTERESTS THAT may be admitted assets under this section shall MUST not 22 exceed ten percent of the company's admitted assets. For the purpose of 23 such THIS limitation on aggregate value, a company may if it so elects, determine the value of all its stocks which EQUITY INTERESTS THAT may 24 25 be admitted assets under this section on the basis of the aggregate initial 26 cost of the stocks EQUITY INTERESTS in lieu of determining the value of 27 all of such stocks THE EQUITY INTERESTS as provided in section 10-3-214.

1 (3) All Investments authorized by subsections (1) and (2) of this 2 section are subject to the following restrictions and limitations at the time 3 of investment:

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(a) The corporation issuing such preferred stock shall meet the 5 following qualifications:

6 (I) If the class of preferred stock is cumulative preferred, the 7 corporation must not be in arrears as to its dividends, or, if the class of 8 preferred stock is noncumulative preferred, the corporation must have 9 paid full dividends on that class of preferred stock in each of the last three 10 years, or, if that class of noncumulative preferred stock has been 11 outstanding less than three years, the commissioner of insurance must 12 have approved the purchase thereof.

13 (II) If there is a sinking fund for that class of preferred stock, the 14 corporation's sinking fund payments shall be on a current basis.

15 (III) (Deleted by amendment, L. 81, p. 529, § 5, effective July 1, 16 1981.)

17 (b) The corporation issuing such common stock shall meet the 18 following qualifications:

19 (I) The corporation shall have had net earnings available for 20 dividends on its outstanding common stock in each of the three fiscal 21 years next preceding the date of acquisition.

22 (II) The stock shall be registered on a national securities exchange 23 or regularly traded on a national or regional basis.

24 (III) (Deleted by amendment, L. 81, p. 529, § 5, effective July 1, 25 1981.)

26 (d) (I) Investments in common stock in any one corporation, at the 27 time of investment, shall MUST not exceed two percent of the admitted

2 an insurance company shall not purchase more than five percent of the 3 outstanding shares of common stock of any one corporation. 4 (II) THIS SUBSECTION (3)(d) DOES NOT APPLY TO INVESTMENTS IN 5 MUTUAL FUNDS, COMMINGLED FUNDS, OR OPEN-END OR 6 EXCHANGE-TRADED INDEX FUNDS. 7 (f) INVESTMENTS IN EQUITY INTERESTS THAT ARE NOT LISTED ON 8 A NATIONALLY REGISTERED SECURITIES EXCHANGE OR A SECURITIES 9 MARKET REGULATED UNDER THE "SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934", 10 15 U.S.C. SEC. 78a ET SEQ., AS AMENDED, MUST NOT EXCEED FIVE 11 PERCENT OF THE ADMITTED ASSETS OF THE INVESTING COMPANY. (4) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, "EQUITY INTEREST" MEANS: 12 13 (a) COMMON STOCK; 14 (b) **PREFERRED STOCK**; 15 (c) A TRUST CERTIFICATE; 16 (d) EQUITY INVESTMENTS IN AN INVESTMENT COMPANY OTHER 17 THAN A QUALIFIED MONEY MARKET FUND, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 18 10-3-242(1); 19 INVESTMENTS IN A COMMON TRUST FUND OF A BANK (e) 20 REGULATED BY A FEDERAL OR STATE AGENCY; 21 (f) AN OWNERSHIP INTEREST IN A MINERAL ESTATE THAT HAS BEEN 22 SEVERED FROM THE FEE INTEREST; 23 (g) INSTRUMENTS THAT ARE OR MUST BE, AT THE OPTION OF THE 24 ISSUER, CONVERTIBLE TO EQUITY; 25 (h) PARTNERSHIP INTERESTS; OR 26 (i) MEMBERSHIP INTERESTS IN LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANIES. 27 (5) (a) A DOMESTIC INSURANCE COMPANY MAY INVEST IN EQUITY

assets of the investing insurance company, and, at the time of investment,

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1 INTERESTS IN BUSINESS ENTITIES CREATED UNDER THE LAWS OF A FOREIGN 2 JURISDICTION HAVING A SOVEREIGN DEBT RATING OF "1" FROM THE 3 SECURITIES VALUATION OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF 4 INSURANCE COMMISSIONERS IF THE EQUITY INTERESTS OTHERWISE MEET 5 THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTIONS (1) TO (3) OF THIS SECTION; EXCEPT 6 THAT THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF THE FOREIGN EQUITY INTERESTS THAT 7 MAY BE ADMITTED ASSETS UNDER THIS SUBSECTION (5)(a) MUST NOT 8 EXCEED THREE PERCENT OF THE COMPANY'S ADMITTED ASSETS.

9 (b) This subsection (5) does not apply to a jurisdiction
10 Described in subsection (1) of this section.

SECTION 5. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 10-3-230, amend (1)
 introductory portion and (1)(d) as follows:

13 10-3-230. Additional investments. (1) A domestic insurance 14 companies COMPANY may invest in any additional investments, except 15 items specifically defined as nonadmitted assets in this title (except article 16 15) TITLE 10, OTHER THAN ARTICLE 15 OF THIS TITLE 10, and article 14 of 17 title 24, C.R.S., without regard to any limitation, condition, restriction, or 18 exclusion set forth in sections 10-3-215 to 10-3-229 and 10-3-242, and 19 regardless of whether the same or a similar type of investment has been 20 included in or omitted from any such section THESE SECTIONS, subject to 21 the following: provisions:

(d) In no event shall The admitted asset value of investments in
MORTGAGE loans secured by first liens on real property MUST NOT exceed
the value limitations as set forth in section 10-3-216 (1)(i), and (1)(j), AND
(2).

26 SECTION 6. In Colorado Revised Statutes, amend 10-3-236 as
27 follows:

10-3-236. Assets acquired through merger, consolidation, or
reinsurance. Any investments acquired after May 31, 1969, through
merger, consolidation, or reinsurance that are not admitted assets under
this title (except article 15) TITLE 10, OTHER THAN ARTICLE 15 OF THIS
TITLE 10, and article 14 of title 24 C.R.S., shall not be ARE NOT deemed
admitted assets by reason of their acquisition through merger,
consolidation, or reinsurance.

8 SECTION 7. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 10-3-237, amend (1)
9 as follows:

10 10-3-237. Assets acquired under prior law. 11 (1) Notwithstanding any condition, restriction, or exclusion set forth in 12 sections 10-3-215 to 10-3-229, any asset held by a DOMESTIC INSURANCE 13 company on May 31, 1969, which THAT met the requirements of the law 14 in effect immediately prior to such THAT date for an investment of the 15 company's reserves, paid-up capital stock, and other liabilities shall be IS 16 an admitted asset of the company, but, if any such asset is in a category 17 for which a limitation expressed in terms of a percentage of admitted 18 assets is prescribed in section 10-3-216 (1)(c), 10-3-218, 10-3-220, 19 10-3-225, or 10-3-226, such THE asset shall be taken into account in 20 determining whether any additional investment in such THAT category 21 made after May 31, 1969, may be an admitted asset under the section 22 prescribing such THE limitation.

23 SECTION 8. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 10-3-240, amend (1)
24 as follows:

10-3-240. Approval of investments. (1) Except for investments
 made pursuant to UNDER sections 10-3-802 and 10-7-402, no A domestic
 insurance company may SHALL NOT, directly or indirectly, invest more

than two percent of the company's admitted assets in stocks, bonds,
 debentures, notes, or other securities of its affiliates, as defined in section
 10-3-801, without the prior approval of the commissioner. This section
 shall apply only to investments made on or after July 1, 1975.

5 SECTION 9. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 10-3-242, amend (1)
6 as follows:

7 **10-3-242.** Qualified money market funds - definition. (1) For 8 the purposes of this section, "QUALIFIED money market fund" means an 9 open-end, diversified management type of A mutual fund THAT COMPLIES 10 WITH 17 CFR 270.2a-7, AS AMENDED, AND THAT IS registered under the 11 federal "Investment Company Act of 1940", 15 U.S.C. SEC. 80a-1 et seq., 12 as amended. objectives of which include the maintenance of a stable net 13 asset value of a specified dollar amount per share and the shareholders of 14 which may withdraw the value of their shares by check, telephone, or 15 mail. A domestic insurance companies COMPANY may invest in the shares 16 of any one or more QUALIFIED money market funds subject to the 17 following limitations:

(a) (I) A domestic insurance companies COMPANY may invest in
QUALIFIED money market funds that, at the time the investment is made,
are either: listed or meet the eligibility conditions for listing on the U.S.
direct obligations exempt list, U.S. direct obligations/full faith and credit
exempt list, or class 1 list, in the

(A) QUALIFIED MONEY MARKET FUNDS THAT INVEST ONLY IN
OBLIGATIONS ISSUED, GUARANTEED, OR INSURED BY THE FEDERAL
GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OR IN COLLATERALIZED
REPURCHASE AGREEMENTS COMPOSED OF THESE OBLIGATIONS, AND THAT
QUALIFY FOR INVESTMENT WITHOUT A RESERVE UNDER THE purposes and

procedures manual of the securities valuation office of the National
 Association of Insurance Commissioners; OR

3 (B) QUALIFIED MONEY MARKET FUNDS THAT QUALIFY FOR
4 INVESTMENT USING THE BOND CLASS ONE RESERVE FACTOR UNDER THE
5 PURPOSES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL OF THE SECURITIES VALUATION
6 OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF INSURANCE COMMISSIONERS.

(II) Investments in the shares of any one QUALIFIED money market
fund qualifying under this paragraph (a) shall SUBSECTION (1)(a) MUST
not exceed ten percent of the domestic insurance company's total admitted
assets.

(b) Investments in shares of any one QUALIFIED money market
fund not qualified under paragraph (a) of this subsection (1) shall
SUBSECTION (1)(a) OF THIS SECTION MUST not exceed five percent of the
domestic insurance company's total admitted assets. The aggregate value
of all shares that may be admitted assets under this paragraph (b) shall
SUBSECTION (1)(b) MUST not exceed ten percent of the domestic insurance
company's total admitted assets.

(c) At the time of an investment in a QUALIFIED money market
fund under this section, the aggregate value of a domestic insurer's
INSURANCE COMPANY'S investment in such money market THE fund shall
MUST not exceed five percent of the shares of such money market THE
fund.

SECTION 10. Act subject to petition - effective date applicability. (1) This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following
the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the
general assembly (August 5, 2020, if adjournment sine die is on May 6,
2020); except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1

(3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an item, section,
 or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part
 will not take effect unless approved by the people at the general election
 to be held in November 2020 and, in such case, will take effect on the
 date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.

6 (2) (a) This act applies to investments made on or after the 7 applicable effective date of this act; and

8 (b) On or after January 1, 2021, this act applies to all investments
9 of an insurer.