1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to nonadmitted insurance markets; 3 amending s. 626.916, F.S.; removing the price cap on per-policy fees that surplus lines agents may charge 4 5 for certain policies; requiring such fees to be 6 itemized and enumerated in a policy; amending s. 7 626.931, F.S.; deleting the requirement that surplus 8 line agents file an affidavit with the Florida Surplus 9 Lines Service Office; conforming cross-references; 10 amending s. 626.932, F.S.; revising the requirements 11 for surplus lines agents' tax remittance to the 12 Florida Surplus Lines Service Office; amending ss. 626.935 and 629.401, F.S.; conforming provisions to 13 14 changes made by the act; amending s. 627.715, F.S.; revising the expiration date of provisions relating to 15 16 certain surplus lines contracts or endorsements; 17 providing an effective date. 18 19 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 20 21 Section 1. Subsection (4) of section 626.916, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 22 23 626.916 Eligibility for export.-A reasonable per-policy fee, not to exceed \$35, may be 24 25 charged by the filing surplus lines agent for each policy

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certified for export. This per-policy fee must be itemized separately to the customer before purchase and enumerated in the policy.

Section 2. Subsections (3) through (6) of section 626.931, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (1) through (4), respectively, and present subsections (1), (2), and (5) of that section are amended to read:

626.931 Agent affidavit and Insurer reporting requirements.—

- (1) Each surplus lines agent that has transacted business during a calendar quarter shall on or before the 45th day following the calendar quarter file with the Florida Surplus Lines Service Office an affidavit, on forms as prescribed and furnished by the Florida Surplus Lines Service Office, stating that all surplus lines insurance transacted by him or her during such calendar quarter has been submitted to the Florida Surplus Lines Service Office as required.
- (2) The affidavit of the surplus lines agent shall include efforts made to place coverages with authorized insurers and the results thereof.
- $\underline{(3)}$  (5) The department may waive the filing requirements described in subsections (1)  $\underline{(3)}$  and (2)  $\underline{(4)}$ .
- Section 3. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 626.932, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
  - 626.932 Surplus lines tax.-

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(2) (a) The surplus lines agent shall make payable to the department the tax related to each calendar quarter's business as reported to the Florida Surplus Lines Service Office, and remit the tax to the Florida Surplus Lines Service Office at the same time as the fee payment required provided for the filing of the quarterly affidavit, under  $s. 626.9325 \ s. 626.931$ . The Florida Surplus Lines Service Office shall forward to the department the taxes and any interest collected pursuant to paragraph (b), within 10 days after of receipt.

Section 4. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section 626.935, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

626.935 Suspension, revocation, or refusal of surplus lines agent's license.—

- (1) The department shall deny an application for, suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew the appointment of a surplus lines agent and all other licenses and appointments held by the licensee under this code, on any of the following grounds:
- (d) Failure to make and file his or her affidavit or reports when due as required by s. 626.931.

Section 5. Subsection (4) of section 627.715, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

627.715 Flood insurance.—An authorized insurer may issue an insurance policy, contract, or endorsement providing personal lines residential coverage for the peril of flood or excess coverage for the peril of flood on any structure or the contents

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of personal property contained therein, subject to this section. This section does not apply to commercial lines residential or commercial lines nonresidential coverage for the peril of flood. An insurer may issue flood insurance policies, contracts, endorsements, or excess coverage on a standard, preferred, customized, flexible, or supplemental basis.

- (4) A surplus lines agent may export a contract or endorsement providing flood coverage to an eligible surplus lines insurer without making a diligent effort to seek such coverage from three or more authorized insurers under s. 626.916(1)(a). This subsection expires July 1, 2025 2019, or on the date on which the Commissioner of Insurance Regulation determines in writing that there is an adequate admitted market to provide coverage for the peril of flood consistent with this section, whichever date occurs first. If there are fewer than three admitted insurers on the date this subsection expires, the number of declinations necessary to meet the diligent-effort requirement shall be no fewer than the number of authorized insurers providing flood coverage.
- Section 6. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 629.401, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
  - 629.401 Insurance exchange.-

(1) There may be created one or more insurance exchanges, with one or more offices each, subject to such rules as are adopted by the commission. For the purposes of this section, the

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term "exchange" applies to any such insurance exchange proposed or created under this section. The purposes of the exchange are:

- (a) To provide a facility for the underwriting of:
- 1. Reinsurance of all kinds of insurance.

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- 2. Direct insurance of all kinds on risks located entirely outside the United States.
- 3. Surplus lines insurance for risks located in this state eligible for export under s. 626.916 or s. 626.917 and placed through a licensed Florida surplus lines agent subject to compliance with the provisions of ss. 626.921, 626.922, 626.923, 626.924, 626.929, 626.9295, and 626.930, and 626.931. With respect to compliance with s. 626.924, the required legend may refer to any coverage provided for by a security fund established under paragraph (3)(d).
- 4. Surplus lines insurance in any other state subject to the applicable surplus lines laws of such other state for risks located entirely outside of this state.
- Section 7. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.

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