SLS 12RS-350 ORIGINAL

Regular Session, 2012

SENATE BILL NO. 394

BY SENATOR GARY SMITH

INSURERS. Changes the rehabilitation, liquidation, and conservation provisions. (8/1/12)

1	AN ACT
2	To amend and reenact the heading of R.S. 22:2005 and R.S. 22:2008(B), 2009(E)(3),
3	2028(D)(3), and 2036(A) and to enact R.S. 22:2005.1 and 2043.1, relative to
4	rehabilitation and liquidation of insurers; to comply with the federal Dodd Frank Act;
5	to provide for notice by mail when the receiver allows or disallows a claim; to
6	provide for actions by and against a receiver; and to provide for related matters.
7	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
8	Section 1. The heading of R.S. 22:2005 and R.S. 22:2008(B), 2009(E)(3),
9	2028(D)(3), and 2036(A) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 22:2005.1 and 2043.1
10	are hereby enacted to read as follows:
11	§2005. Grounds for rehabilitation and liquidation
12	* * *
13	§ 2005.1. Compliance with certain federal provisions
14	A. The provisions of this Section apply in accordance with Title II of the
15	federal Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, P.L.
16	111-203 with respect to each insurance company that is a covered financial
17	company, or a subsidiary or affiliate of a covered financial company, as defined

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## under 12 U.S.C. 5381.

2	B. The commissioner of insurance may file a petition for an order of
3	rehabilitation or liquidation pursuant to this Section on any of the following
4	grounds:
5	(1) Upon determination and notification given by the Secretary of the
6	Treasury of the United States in consultation with the President of the United
7	States that the insurance company is a financial company satisfying the
8	requirements of 12 U.S.C. 5383(b), and the board of directors, or any body
9	performing similar functions, of the insurance company acquiesces or consents
10	to the appointment of a receiver pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 5382(a)(1)(A)(i), with
11	such consent to be considered as consent to an order of rehabilitation or
12	liquidation.
13	(2) Upon an order of the United States District Court for the District of
14	Columbia under 12 U.S.C. 5382(a)(1)(A)(iv)(I) granting the petition of the
15	Secretary of the Treasury of the United States concerning the insurance
16	<u>company under 12 U.S.C. 5382(a)(1)(A)(i).</u>
17	(3) A petition by the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States
18	concerning the insurance company is granted by operation of law under 12
19	<u>U.S.C. 5382(a)(1)(A)(v).</u>
20	C. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, after
21	notice to the insurance company, the receivership court may grant an order on
22	the petition of the commissioner for rehabilitation or liquidation within twenty-
23	four hours after the filing of the petition pursuant to this Section.
24	D. If the receivership court does not make a determination on a petition
25	for rehabilitation or liquidation filed by the commissioner pursuant to this
26	Section within twenty-four hours after its filing, then the petition shall be
27	deemed granted by operation of law upon the expiration of the twenty-four
28	hour period. At the time that an order is deemed granted pursuant to this
29	Section, the provisions of this Chapter shall be deemed to be in effect, and the

commissioner or his designee shall be deemed to be affirmed as receiver and

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2	have all of the applicable powers provided by this Code, regardless of whether
3	an order has been entered. The receivership court shall, within ten days, enter
4	an order of rehabilitation or liquidation that does both of the following:
5	(1) Is effective as of the date that it is deemed granted by operation of
6	<u>law.</u>
7	(2) Conforms to provisions for rehabilitation or liquidation contained
8	in this Chapter, as applicable.
9	E. The court may hold a hearing within ten days after granting of such
10	an order of liquidation or rehabilitation pursuant to this Section at which
11	hearing the court may sustain or revoke the order of rehabilitation or
12	liquidation or grant such other relief as the nature of the case and the interest
13	of the insurer's policyholders, creditors, or the public may require.
14	F. Any order of rehabilitation or liquidation granted pursuant to this
15	Section or any part thereof shall not be subject to any stay or injunction
16	pending appeal.
17	G. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to supersede or impair any
18	other power or authority of the commissioner or the court under this Code.
19	H. There shall be no liability on the part of, and no cause of action of
20	any nature shall arise against, the department or its employees, or the
21	commissioner or his designee in his capacity as receiver, rehabilitator,
22	liquidator, or conservator, or otherwise, or a special deputy, or the receiver's
23	assistants or the receiver's contractors for any action taken by them in the
24	performance of their powers and duties pursuant to this Section or their duties
25	under this Chapter.
26	* * *
27	§2008. Order of rehabilitation or liquidation
28	* * *
29	B. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the filing of a suit by the

1	commissioner of hisurance seeking an order of conservation of renaomitation share
2	suspend the running of prescription and peremption as to all claims in favor of the
3	subject insurer during the pendency of such proceeding. The filing of a suit by the
4	commissioner of insurance seeking an order of liquidation shall interrupt the running
5	of prescription <b>and peremption</b> as to such claims from the date of the filing of such
6	proceeding for a period of two years, if an order of liquidation is granted.
7	* * *
8	§2009. Duties of commissioner of insurance as rehabilitator; termination
9	* * *
10	E. The rehabilitator, in addition to other powers, shall have the following
11	powers:
12	(1) * * *
13	(3) To use assets of the estate of an insurer under a liquidation or
14	<u>rehabilitation</u> order to transfer policy obligations to a solvent assuming insurer.
15	* * *
16	§2028. Proof and allowance of claims
17	* * *
18	D.(1) * * *
19	(3) When the receiver allows or disallows a claim in a lesser amount than
20	claimed, he shall notify the person making the claim by petition in the receivership
21	proceedings letter addressed to the last known address of the claimant, allowing
22	ten days after receipt of said notice in which to file objections to the action of the
23	receiver. The objections shall be filed with the receiver and in the receivership
24	<b>court and</b> shall be heard in the receivership proceedings in a summary manner.
25	* * *
26	§2036. Provisions for conservation of assets of domestic company
27	A. Upon the filing by the commissioner of insurance of a verified petition
28	alleging that with respect to a domestic company, a condition exists that would
29	justify a court order for proceedings under R.S. 22:2006 this Chapter, and that the

interests of creditors, policyholders, or the public will probably be endangered by delay, then the court of Nineteenth Judicial District Court for the parish Parish of East Baton Rouge or the court of the parish in which such company has or last had its principal office, shall issue forthwith without a hearing its order directing the commissioner of insurance to take possession and control of the property, business, books, records, and accounts of the company and of the premises occupied by it for the transaction of its business, or such part of each as the petition shall specify, and enjoining the company and its officers, directors, agents, servants, and employees from disposition of its property and from transaction of its business except with the concurrence of the commissioner of insurance until the further order of the court.

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## §2043.1. Actions by and against the receiver

A. No prior wrongful or negligent actions of any present or former officer, manager, director, trustee, owner, employee, or agent of the insurer may be asserted as a defense to a claim by the receiver under a theory of estoppel, comparative fault, intervening cause, proximate cause, reliance, mitigation of damages, or otherwise; provided however that the affirmative defense of fraud in the inducement may be asserted against the receiver in a claim based on a contract, and a principal under a surety bond or a surety undertaking shall be entitled to credit against any reimbursement obligation to the receiver for the value of any property pledged to secure the reimbursement obligation to the extent that the receiver has possession or control of the property or the insurer or its agents misappropriated or commingled such property. Evidence of fraud in the inducement shall be admissible only if it is contained in the records of the insurer.

B. No action or inaction by the insurance regulatory authorities may be asserted as a defense to a claim by the receiver.

C. There shall be no liability on the part of, and no cause of action of any nature shall arise against, the department or its employees, or the commissioner

or his designee in his capacity as receiver, liquidator, rehabilitator or conservator, or otherwise, or any special deputy, the receiver's assistants or contractors, or the attorney general's office for any action taken by them in performance of their powers and duties under this Code.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Laura Gail Sullivan.

## **DIGEST**

<u>Proposed law</u> provides for compliance with <u>present federal law</u>. Provides that the commissioner of insurance may place in rehabilitation or liquidation an insurance company pursuant to the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

Effective August 1, 2012.

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(Amends R.S. 22:2005(heading), 2008(B), 2009(E)(3), 2028(D)(3), and 2036(A); adds R.S. 22:2005.1 and 2043.1)