FIRST REGULAR SESSION HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NOS. 339 & 714

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

0981H.02C

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 537.065, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to contracts limited to specified assets in the settlement of tort claims.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 537.065, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu 2 thereof, to be known as section 537.065, to read as follows:

537.065. 1. Any person having an unliquidated claim for damages against a tort-feasor, on account of personal injuries, bodily injuries, or death, provided that, such tort-feasor's 2 3 insurer or indemnitor has the opportunity to defend the tort-feasor without reservation but refuses to do so, may enter into a contract with such tort-feasor or any insurer [in] on his or her 4 5 behalf or both, whereby, in consideration of the payment of a specified amount, the person asserting the claim agrees that in the event of a judgment against the tort-feasor, neither [he] 6 7 such person nor any other person, firm, or corporation claiming by or through him or her will levy execution, by garnishment or as otherwise provided by law, except against the specific 8 9 assets listed in the contract and except against any insurer which insures the legal liability of the tort-feasor for such damage and which insurer is not excepted from execution, garnishment or 10 11 other legal procedure by such contract. Execution or garnishment proceedings in aid thereof 12 shall lie only as to assets of the tort-feasor specifically mentioned in the contract or the insurer or insurers not excluded in such contract. Such contract, when properly acknowledged by the 13 parties thereto, may be recorded in the office of the recorder of deeds in any county where a 14 judgment may be rendered, or in the county of the residence of the tort-feasor, or in both such 15 16 counties, and if the same is so recorded then such tort-feasor's property, except as to the assets 17 specifically listed in the contract, shall not be subject to any judgment lien as the result of any

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18 judgment rendered against the tort-feasor, arising out of the transaction for which the contract

19 is entered into.

20 **2.** Before a judgment may be entered against any tort-feasor after such tort-feasor 21 has entered into a contract under this section, the insurer or insurers shall be provided 22 with written notice of the execution of the contract and shall have thirty days after receipt 23 of such notice to intervene as a matter of right in any pending lawsuit involving the claim 24 for damages.

25 **3.** The provisions of this section shall apply to any covenant not to execute, any 26 contract to limit recovery to specified assets, or other similar contract, regardless of 27 whether it is referred to as a contract under this section.

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