GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2011

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HOUSE BILL 299 Committee Substitute Favorable 4/27/11

Short Title: Surplus Lines/Premium Tax.-AB (Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 10, 2011

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO CONFORM PROVISIONS OF NORTH CAROLINA SURPLUS LINES INSURANCE LAWS TO THE FEDERAL NONADMITTED AND REINSURANCE REFORM ACT OF 2010, TO STREAMLINE APPLICATIONS FOR COMMERCIAL PURCHASERS, TO PREVENT ANY LOSS OF PREMIUM TAX REVENUE TO THE STATE, AND TO CONFORM THE DEFINITION OF RISK RETENTION GROUP TO FEDERAL LAW.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

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SECTION 1.1. Article 21 of Chapter 58 of the General Statutes is amended by adding the following new sections to read:

"§ 58-21-3. Cooperative or interstate agreements.

- (a) The Commissioner is authorized to enter into a cooperative agreement or interstate agreement or compact to do the following:
 - (1) Establish additional and alternative nationwide uniform eligibility requirements that shall be applicable to nonadmitted insurers domiciled in another state or territory of the United States.
 - (2) Facilitate the collection, allocation, and disbursement of premium taxes attributable to the placement of nonadmitted insurance, provide for uniform methods of allocation and reporting among nonadmitted insurance risk classifications, and share information among states relating to nonadmitted insurance premium taxes.
- (b) The Commissioner is authorized to enter into an interstate compact or interstate agreement for the purpose of carrying out the Nonadmitted and Reinsurance Reform Act of 2010.

"§ 58-21-4. Nonadmitted and Reinsurance Reform Act duties.

- (a) For the purposes of carrying out the provisions of the Nonadmitted and Reinsurance Reform Act of 2010, the Commissioner is authorized to utilize the national insurance producer database of the NAIC, or any other equivalent uniform national database, for the licensure of an individual or an entity as a surplus lines producer and for renewal of such license.
- (b) In order to assist in the performance of the Commissioner's duties, under the Nonadmitted and Reinsurance Reform Act of 2010, the Commissioner may contract with nongovernmental entities, including the NAIC or any affiliates or subsidiaries that the NAIC oversees, to perform any ministerial functions that the Commissioner and the nongovernmental entity may deem to be appropriate, including (i) the collection of fees related to producer licensing and (ii) the collection of the premium tax under G.S. 58-21-85. The NAIC or other entity with whom the Commissioner contracts may charge a reasonable fee to the insurer, insured, or other appropriate person for the functions performed."



SECTION 1.2. The Revenue Laws Study Committee shall, in cooperation with the Commissioner of Insurance, study the potential impact that would result from the State's entrance into a nonadmitted insurance multistate agreement or other compact or interstate agreement for the purpose of carrying out the Nonadmitted and Reinsurance Reform Act of 2010 in order to prevent the State from losing revenue after July 21, 2011, the effective date of the Nonadmitted and Reinsurance Reform Act. The Committee shall determine if entering into a compact or agreement would result in retention of surplus lines tax revenue for the State and, if so, which compact or agreement would result in the most retention of surplus lines tax revenue for the State and the most cost-efficient method of administering the collection and distribution of tax revenues. The Committee shall report its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the 2012 Regular Session of the 2011 General Assembly.

SECTION 2. G.S. 58-21-10 reads as rewritten:

"§ 58-21-10. Definitions.

As used in this Article:

- (1) "Admitted insurer" means an insurer licensed to do an insurance business engage in the business of insurance in this State.
- (1a) "Affiliate" means, with respect to an insured, any entity that controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with the insured.
- (1b) "Affiliated group" means any group of entities that are all affiliated.
- (2) "Capital", as used in the financial requirements of G.S. 58-21-20, means funds paid in for stock or other evidence of ownership.
- (2a) "Control" means an entity that has "control" over another entity if either of the following occurs:
 - a. The entity directly or indirectly or acting through one or more other persons owns, controls, or has the power to vote twenty-five percent (25%) or more of any class of voting securities of the other entity.
 - <u>b.</u> The entity controls in any manner the election of a majority of the directors or trustees of the other entity.
- (3) "Eligible surplus lines insurer" means a nonadmitted insurer with which a surplus lines licensee may place surplus lines insurance under G.S. 58-21-20.
- (4) "Export" means to place surplus lines insurance with a nonadmitted insurer.
- "Nonadmitted insurer" means an insurer not licensed to do an insurance business in this State. This definition "Nonadmitted insurer" includes insurance exchanges authorized under the laws of various states. "Nonadmitted insurer" does not include a risk retention group, as defined in G.S. 58-22-10(10).
- (6) "Producing broker" means an agent or broker licensed under Article 33 of this Chapter who deals directly with the party seeking insurance and who may also be a surplus lines licensee.
- (6a) "Reciprocal state" means a state that has enacted provisions substantially similar to the following:
 - <u>a.</u> <u>G.S. 58-21-85, 58-21-95(5), 58-21-75(10), 58-21-35(7b), and 58-28-5(b).</u>
 - b. The allocation schedule and reporting form contained in G.S. 58-21-85.
- (7) "Surplus", as used in the financial requirements of G.S. 58-21-20, means funds over and above liabilities and capital of the company for the protection of policyholders.
- (8) "Surplus lines insurance" means any insurance in this State of risks resident, located, or to be performed in this State, permitted to be placed through a

1 2 3 4 5 (9) 6 7 8 (10)9 10 relation thereto: 11 b. 12 13 c. 14 15 d. 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 incident thereto." 23 24 adding a new section to read: 25 "§ 58-21-11. Home state. 26 27 with respect to an insured, either of the following: 28 (1) 29 30 **(2)** 31 32 33 contract is allocated. 34 (b) 35 36 37 38 **SECTION 4.** G.S. 58-21-15 reads as rewritten: 39 "§ 58-21-15. Placement of surplus lines insurance. 40 41 42 (1) 43 (1a) 44 jurisdiction. 45 (2) 46 47 48 49 50 State; and State.

surplus lines licensee with a nonadmitted insurer eligible to accept such insurance, other than reinsurance, commercial aircraft insurance, wet marine and transportation insurance, insurance independently procured pursuant to G.S. 58-28-5, life and accident or health insurance, and annuities.

- "Surplus lines licensee" means a person licensed under G.S. 58-21-65 to place insurance on risks resident, located, or to be performed in this State with nonadmitted insurers eligible to accept such insurance.
- "Wet marine and transportation insurance" means:
 - Insurance upon vessels, crafts, hulls and of interests therein or with
 - Insurance of marine builder's risks, marine war risks and contracts of marine protection and indemnity insurance;
 - Insurance of freights and disbursements pertaining to a subject of insurance coming within this subsection; and
 - Insurance of personal property and interests therein, in the course of exportation from or importation into any country, or in the course of transportation coastwise or on inland waters including transportation by land, water, or air from point of origin to final destination, in connection with any and all risks or perils of navigation, transit or transportation, and while being prepared for and while awaiting shipment, and during any delays, transshipment, or reshipment

SECTION 3. Article 21 of Chapter 58 of the General Statutes is amended by

- Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, the term "home state" means,
 - The state in which an insured maintains its principal place of business or, in the case of an individual, the individual's principal residence.
 - If one hundred percent (100%) of the insured risk is located out of the state referred to in subdivision (1) of this subsection, the state to which the greatest percentage of the insured's taxable premium for that insurance
- Affiliated Groups. If two or more insureds from an affiliated group are named insureds on a single nonadmitted insurance contract, the term "home state" means the home state, as determined pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, of the member of the affiliated group that has the largest percentage of premium attributed to it under that insurance contract."

Insurance may be procured through a surplus lines licensee from nonadmitted insurers if:Surplus lines may be placed by a surplus lines licensee if all of the following apply:

- Each insurer is an eligible surplus lines insurer; insurer.
- Each insurer is authorized to write the kind of insurance in its domiciliary
- The full amount or kind of insurance cannot be obtained from insurers who are admitted to do business in this State. Such full amount or kind of insurance may be procured from eligible surplus lines insurers, provided that a diligent search is made among the insurers who are admitted to transact and are actually writing the particular kind and class of insurance in this
- All other requirements of this Article are met." (3)

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SECTION 5. Article 21 of Chapter 58 of the General Statutes is amended by adding the following new sections to read:

"§ 58-21-16. Streamlined application for commercial purchasers.

- (a) A surplus lines licensee seeking to procure or place nonadmitted insurance in this State for an exempt commercial purchaser shall not be required to satisfy any requirement under G.S. 58-21-15 to make a due diligence search to determine whether the full amount or type of insurance sought by such exempt commercial purchaser can be obtained from admitted insurers if all of the following apply:
 - (1) The licensee procuring or placing the surplus lines insurance has disclosed to the exempt commercial purchaser that such insurance may or may not be available from the admitted market that may provide greater protection with more regulatory oversight.
 - (2) The exempt commercial purchaser has subsequently requested in writing the licensee to procure or place such insurance from a nonadmitted insurer.
 - (b) As used in this section, the following definitions apply:
 - (1) "Exempt commercial purchaser" means any person purchasing commercial insurance that, at the time of placement, meets all of the following requirements:
 - <u>a.</u> The person employs or retains a qualified risk manager to negotiate insurance coverage.
 - b. The person has paid aggregate nationwide commercial property and casualty insurance premiums in excess of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) in the immediately preceding 12 months.
 - <u>c.</u> The person meets at least one of the following criteria:
 - 1. The person possesses a net worth in excess of twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000), as such amount is adjusted pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.
 - 2. The person generates annual revenues in excess of fifty million dollars (\$50,000,000), as such amount is adjusted pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.
 - 3. The person employs more than 500 full-time or full-time equivalent employees per individual insured or is a member of an affiliated group employing more than 1,000 employees in the aggregate.
 - 4. The person is a not-for-profit organization or public entity generating annual budgeted expenditures of at least thirty million dollars (\$30,000,000), as such amount is adjusted pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.
 - 5. The person is a municipality with a population in excess of 50,000 persons.
 - (2) "Qualified risk manager" means, with respect to a policyholder of commercial insurance, a person who meets all of the following requirements:
 - <u>a.</u> <u>Is an employee of, or third-party consultant retained by, the commercial policyholder.</u>
 - b. Provides skilled services in loss prevention, loss reduction, or risk and insurance coverage analysis, and purchase of insurance.
 - c. Has one of the following:
 - 1. A bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited college or university in risk management, business administration, finance, economics, or any other field determined by the

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1	Commissioner to demonstrate minimum competence in risk
2	management and one of the following:
3	<u>I.</u> <u>Three years of experience in risk financing, claims,</u>
4	administration, loss prevention, risk and insurance
5	analysis, or purchasing commercial lines of insurance.
6	<u>II.</u> One of the following designations:
7	A. <u>Chartered Property and Casualty Underwriter</u>
8	(CPCU) issued by the American Institute for
9	<u>CPCU/Insurance Institute of America.</u>
10	<u>B.</u> <u>Associate in Risk Management (ARM) issued</u>
11	by the American Institute for CPCU/Insurance
12	Institute of America.
13	C. Certified Risk Manager (CRM) issued by the
14	National Alliance for Insurance Education &
15	Research.
16	D. RIMS Fellow (RF) issued by the Global Risk
17	Management Institute.
18	E. A designation, certification, or license
19	determined by the Commissioner to
20 21	demonstrate minimum competency in risk
21	<u>management.</u> 2. Seven years of experience in risk financing, claims
23	2. Seven years of experience in risk financing, claims administration, loss prevention, risk and insurance coverage
24	analysis, or purchasing commercial lines of insurance; and
25	has any one of the designations specified in
26	sub-sub-sub-subdivisions A. through E. of
27	sub-sub-subdivision II. of this sub-subdivision.
28	3. Ten years of experience in risk financing, claims
29	administration, loss prevention, risk and insurance coverage
30	analysis, or purchasing commercial lines of insurance.
31	4. A graduate degree from an accredited college or university in
32	risk management, business administration, finance,
33	economics, or any other field determined by the
34	Commissioner to demonstrate minimum competence in risk
35	management.
36	(c) Effective on the fifth January 1 occurring after the date of the enactment of this
37	section and each fifth January 1 occurring thereafter, the dollar amounts in
38	sub-sub-subdivisions (b)(1)c.1., 2., 3., and 4. of this section shall be adjusted to reflect the
39	percentage change for such five-year period in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban
40	Consumers published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor.
41	"§ 58-21-17. Placement with alien insurers.
42	Nothing in this Article prohibits a surplus lines licensee from placing surplus lines
43	insurance with, or procuring surplus lines insurance from, a nonadmitted insurer domiciled
44	outside the United States that is listed on the Quarterly Listing of Alien Insurers maintained by

SECTION 6. G.S. 58-21-20(a) reads as rewritten:

the International Insurers Department of the NAIC."

"(a) No surplus lines licensee shall place any coverage with a nonadmitted insurer, unless at the time of placement, such nonadmitted insurer: A surplus lines licensee shall not place coverage with a nonadmitted insurer unless, at the time of placement, the surplus lines licensee has determined that the nonadmitted insurer satisfies the following:

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- (1) Has established satisfactory evidence of good repute and financial integrity; and integrity.
- (2) Qualifies under one of the following subdivisions:
 - a. Has capital and surplus or its equivalent under the laws of its domiciliary jurisdiction, which equals the greater of either:
 - 1. This State's minimum capital and surplus requirements under G.S. 58-7-75, or G.S. 58-7-75.
 - 2. Fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000), (\$15,000,000).

whichever is greater, except that nonadmitted insurers already qualified under this Article must have ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) by December 31, 1991, twelve million five hundred thousand dollars (\$12,500,000) by December 31, 1992, and fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) by December 31, 1993. The requirements of this sub-subdivision may be satisfied by an insurer possessing less than the commitment capital and surplus upon an affirmative finding of acceptability by the Commissioner. The finding shall be based upon such factors as quality of management, capital and surplus of any parent company, company underwriting profit and investment income trends, and the insurer's record and reputation within the industry. In no event shall the Commissioner make an affirmative finding of acceptability when the insurer's capital and surplus is less than four million five hundred thousand dollars (\$4,500,000).

In addition, an alien insurer qualifies under this subdivision if it complies with the capital and surplus requirements of this subdivision and maintains in the United States an irrevocable trust fund in either a national bank or a member of the Federal Reserve System, in an amount not less than five million four hundred thousand dollars (\$5,400,000) for the protection of all of its policyholders in the United States, and the trust fund consists of cash, securities, letters of credit, or of investment of substantially the same character and quality as those which are eligible investments for the capital and statutory reserves of admitted insurers authorized to write like kinds of insurance in this State. The trust fund, which shall be included in any calculation of capital and surplus or its equivalent, shall have an expiration date which at no time shall be less than five years; orThe requirements of this sub-subdivision may be satisfied by an insurer's possessing less than the minimum capital and surplus upon an affirmative finding of acceptability by the Commissioner. The finding shall be based upon such factors as quality of management, capital and surplus of any parent company, company underwriting profit and investment income trends, market availability, and company record and reputation within the industry. In no event shall the Commissioner make an affirmative finding of acceptability when the nonadmitted insurer's capital and surplus is less than four million five hundred thousand dollars (\$4,500,000).

b. In the case of any Lloyd's plans or other similar group of insurers, which consists of unincorporated individual insurers, or a combination of both unincorporated and incorporated insurers, maintains a trust fund in an amount of not less than one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000) as security to the full amount thereof

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for all policyholders and creditors in the United States of each member of the group, and the trust shall likewise comply with the terms and conditions established in subdivision (2)a. of this section for alien insurers; and insurers.

- c. In the case of an "insurance exchange" created by the laws of individual states, maintain capital and surplus, or the substantial equivalent thereof, of not less than seventy-five million dollars (\$75,000,000) in the aggregate. For insurance exchanges which maintain funds in an amount of not less than fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) for the protection of all insurance exchange policyholders, each individual syndicate shall maintain minimum capital and surplus, or the substantial equivalent thereof, of not less than five million dollars (\$5,000,000). If the insurance exchange does not maintain funds in an amount of not less than fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) for the protection of all insurance exchange policyholders, each individual syndicate shall meet the minimum capital and surplus requirements of subdivision (2)a. of this section.
- d. In the case of a group of incorporated insurers under common administration, which has continuously transacted an insurance business outside the United States for at least three years immediately before this time, and which submits to this State's authority to examine its books and records and bears the expense of the examination, and maintains an aggregate policyholders' surplus of not less than ten billion dollars (\$10,000,000,000), and maintains in trust a surplus of not less than one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000) for the benefit of United States surplus lines policyholders of any member of the group, and each insurer maintains capital and surplus of not less than twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000) per company.
- (3) Has caused to be provided to the Commissioner a copy of its current annual statement certified by such insurer; such statement to be provided no more than two months, and for alien insurers six months, after the close of the period reported upon and that is either:
 - a. Filed with and approved by the regulatory authority in the domicile of the nonadmitted insurer; or
 - b. Certified by an accounting or auditing firm licensed in the jurisdiction of the insurer's domicile; or
 - c. In the case of an insurance exchange, the statement may be an aggregate combined statement of all underwriting syndicates operating during the period reported."

SECTION 7. G.S. 58-21-35(a) reads as rewritten:

"§ 58-21-35. Duty to file and retain reports.

- (a) Within 30 days after the placing of any surplus lines insurance, the surplus lines licensee shall file with the Commissioner a report in a format prescribed by the Commissioner regarding the insurance and including the following information:
 - (1) The name of the insured.
 - (2) The identity of the insurer or insurers.
 - (3) A description of the subject and location of the risk.
 - (4) The amount of premium charged for the insurance.
 - (5) The amount of premium tax for the insurance.
 - (6) The policy period.

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1	(7) The 1	policy n	umber.		
2	(7a) An acknowledged statement that the surplus lines licensee has complied with				
3	G.S. 58-21-15.G.S. 58-21-15 or G.S. 58-21-16, whichever is applicable.				
4			address, telephone number, facsimile telephone number, and		
5	* /		ail address of the licensee, as applicable.		
6			levant information the Commissioner may reasonably require.		
7	(b) The licensee shall complete and retain a copy of the report in paper or electronic				
8	form as required by the Commissioner. The report required by this section and the quarterly				
9	report required by G.S. 58-21-80 shall be completed on a standardized form or forms				
10	prescribed by the Commissioner and are not public records under G.S. 132-1 or				
11	G.S. 58-2-100."				
12		3. G.S.	58-21-65(a) reads as rewritten:		
13	"(a) No For insureds whose home state is this State, no agent or broker licensed by the				
14	Commissioner shall procure any contract of surplus lines insurance with any nonadmitted				
15			a current surplus lines insurance license issued by the		
16	Commissioner."		a continu confine mice mediane mense issued by the		
17). G.S. :	58-22-10(10) reads as rewritten:		
18			ion group" means any corporation or other limited liability		
19	• /	ciation:	g		
20	a.		se primary activity consists of assuming and spreading all or any		
21			on of the liability exposure of its group members;		
22	b.		is organized for the primary purpose of conducting the activity		
23			ibed under sub-subdivision a. of this subdivision;		
24	c.	That			
25		(i)	Is chartered and licensed as a liability insurance company and		
26		(-)	authorized to engage in the business of insurance under the		
27			laws of any state; or		
28		(ii)	Before January 1, 1985, was chartered or licensed and		
29		` /	authorized to engage in the business of insurance under the		
30			laws of Bermuda or the Cayman Islands and, before that date,		
31			had certified to the insurance regulator of at least one state		
32			that it satisfied the capitalization requirements of such state;		
33			except that any such group shall be considered to be a risk		
34			retention group only if it has been engaged in business		
35			continuously since that date and only for the purpose of		
36			continuing to provide insurance to cover product liability or		
37			completed operations liability, as such terms were defined in		
38			the Product Liability Risk Retention Act of 1981 before the		
39			effective date of the Risk Retention Act of 1986;		
40	d.	That	does not exclude any person from membership in the group		
41			y to provide for members of such a group a competitive		
42		•	ntage over such person;		
43	e.	That	•		
44		(i)	Has as its members only persons who have an ownership		
45			interest in the group and that has as its owners only persons		
46			who are members who are provided insurance by the risk		
47			retention group; or		
48		(ii)	Has as its sole member and sole owner an organization that is		
49			owned by persons who are provided insurance by the risk		
50			retention group;		