

HOUSE BILL No. 6080

December 5, 2012, Introduced by Reps. Cavanagh, Santana and Smiley and referred to the Committee on Insurance.

A bill to amend 1956 PA 218, entitled "The insurance code of 1956," by amending sections 134 and 3104 (MCL 500.134 and 500.3104), section 134 as amended by 1990 PA 256 and section 3104 as amended by 2002 PA 662.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 134. (1) Every certificate of authority or license in
2 force immediately prior to January 1, 1957 and existing under any
3 act repealed by this act is valid until its original expiration
4 date, unless earlier terminated in accordance with this act.

5 (2) Any plan of operation adopted by an association or
6 facility, and any premium or assessment levied against an insurer
7 member of that association or facility, is hereby validated
8 retroactively to the date of its original adoption or levy and
9 ~~shall continue~~ **CONTINUES** in force and effect according to the terms

1 of the plan of operation, premium, or assessment until otherwise
2 changed by the commissioner or the board of directors of the
3 association or facility pursuant to this act.

4 (3) An association or facility or the board of directors of
5 the association or facility is not a state agency and the money of
6 an association or facility is not state money. **COMPLIANCE WITH**
7 **SECTION 3104(23) OR (24) BY THE CATASTROPHIC CLAIMS ASSOCIATION**
8 **CREATED UNDER CHAPTER 31 DOES NOT ALTER THE LEGAL STATUS OF THE**
9 **ASSOCIATION UNDER THIS SUBSECTION AND THE ASSOCIATION SHALL NOT**
10 **OTHERWISE BE TREATED AS A STATE AGENCY OR PUBLIC BODY.**

11 (4) ~~A~~ **EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN SECTION 3104, A** record
12 of an association or facility ~~shall be exempted~~ **IS EXEMPT** from
13 disclosure pursuant to section 13 of the freedom of information
14 act, ~~Act No. 442 of the Public Acts of 1976, being section 15.243~~
15 ~~of the Michigan Compiled Laws 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.243.~~

16 (5) Any premium or assessment levied by an association or
17 facility, or any premium or assessment of a similar association or
18 facility formed under a law in force outside this state, is not a
19 burden or special burden for purposes of a calculation under
20 section 476a, and any premium or assessment paid to an association
21 or facility shall not be included in determining the aggregate
22 amount a foreign insurer pays to the commissioner under section
23 476a.

24 (6) As used in this section, "association or facility" means
25 an association of insurers created under this act and any other
26 association or facility formed under this act as a nonprofit
27 organization of insurer members, including, but not limited to, the

1 following:

2 (a) The Michigan worker's compensation placement facility
3 created under chapter 23.

4 (b) The Michigan basic property insurance association created
5 under ~~section~~ **CHAPTER** 29.

6 (c) The catastrophic claims association created under chapter
7 31.

8 (d) The Michigan automobile insurance placement facility
9 created under chapter 33.

10 (e) The Michigan life and health insurance guaranty
11 association created under chapter 77.

12 (f) The property and casualty guaranty association created
13 under chapter 79.

14 (g) The assigned claims facility created under section 3171.

15 Sec. 3104. (1) ~~An~~ **THE CATASTROPHIC CLAIMS ASSOCIATION IS**
16 **CREATED AS AN** unincorporated, nonprofit association. ~~to be known as~~
17 ~~the catastrophic claims association, hereinafter referred to as the~~
18 ~~association, is created.~~ Each insurer engaged in writing insurance
19 coverages that provide the security required by section 3101(1)
20 within this state, as a condition of its authority to transact
21 insurance in this state, shall be a member of the association and
22 ~~shall be~~ **IS** bound by the plan of operation of the association. Each
23 insurer engaged in writing insurance coverages that provide the
24 security required by section 3103(1) within this state, as a
25 condition of its authority to transact insurance in this state,
26 shall be considered a member of the association, but only for
27 purposes of premiums under subsection (7)(d). Except as expressly

1 provided in this section, the association is not subject to any
2 laws of this state with respect to insurers, but in all other
3 respects the association is subject to the laws of this state to
4 the extent that the association would be if it were an insurer
5 organized and subsisting under chapter 50.

6 (2) The association shall provide and each member shall accept
7 indemnification for 100% of the amount of ultimate loss sustained
8 under personal protection insurance coverages in excess of the
9 following amounts in each loss occurrence:

10 (a) For a motor vehicle accident policy issued or renewed
11 before July 1, 2002, \$250,000.00.

12 (b) For a motor vehicle accident policy issued or renewed
13 during the period July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2003, \$300,000.00.

14 (c) For a motor vehicle accident policy issued or renewed
15 during the period July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004, \$325,000.00.

16 (d) For a motor vehicle accident policy issued or renewed
17 during the period July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005, \$350,000.00.

18 (e) For a motor vehicle accident policy issued or renewed
19 during the period July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006, \$375,000.00.

20 (f) For a motor vehicle accident policy issued or renewed
21 during the period July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007, \$400,000.00.

22 (g) For a motor vehicle accident policy issued or renewed
23 during the period July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008, \$420,000.00.

24 (h) For a motor vehicle accident policy issued or renewed
25 during the period July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009, \$440,000.00.

26 (i) For a motor vehicle accident policy issued or renewed
27 during the period July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010, \$460,000.00.

1 (j) For a motor vehicle accident policy issued or renewed
2 during the period July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011, \$480,000.00.

3 (k) For a motor vehicle accident policy issued or renewed
4 during the period July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2013, \$500,000.00.
5 Beginning July 1, 2013, this \$500,000.00 amount shall be increased
6 biennially on July 1 of each odd-numbered year, for policies issued
7 or renewed before July 1 of the following odd-numbered year, by the
8 lesser of 6% or the consumer price index, and rounded to the
9 nearest \$5,000.00. This biennial adjustment shall be calculated by
10 the association by January 1 of the year of its July 1 effective
11 date.

12 (3) An insurer may withdraw from the association only upon
13 ceasing to write insurance that provides the security required by
14 section 3101(1) in this state.

15 (4) An insurer whose membership in the association has been
16 terminated by withdrawal shall continue to be bound by the plan of
17 operation, and upon withdrawal, all unpaid premiums that have been
18 charged to the withdrawing member are payable as of the effective
19 date of the withdrawal.

20 (5) An unsatisfied net liability to the association of an
21 insolvent member shall be assumed by and apportioned among the
22 remaining members of the association as provided in the plan of
23 operation. The association has all rights allowed by law on behalf
24 of the remaining members against the estate or funds of the
25 insolvent member for ~~sums~~ **MONEY** due the association.

26 (6) If a member has been merged or consolidated into another
27 insurer or another insurer has reinsured a member's entire business

1 that provides the security required by section 3101(1) in this
2 state, the member and successors in interest of the member remain
3 liable for the member's obligations.

4 (7) The association shall do all of the following on behalf of
5 the members of the association:

6 (a) Assume 100% of all liability as provided in subsection
7 (2).

8 (b) Establish procedures by which members shall promptly
9 report to the association each claim that, on the basis of the
10 injuries or damages sustained, may reasonably be anticipated to
11 involve the association if the member is ultimately held legally
12 liable for the injuries or damages. Solely for the purpose of
13 reporting claims, the member shall in all instances consider itself
14 legally liable for the injuries or damages. The member shall also
15 advise the association of subsequent developments likely to
16 materially affect the interest of the association in the claim.

17 (c) Maintain relevant loss and expense data relative to all
18 liabilities of the association and require each member to furnish
19 statistics, in connection with liabilities of the association, at
20 the times and in the form and detail as may be required by the plan
21 of operation.

22 (d) In a manner provided for in the plan of operation, **AND**
23 **SUBJECT TO SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (25)**, calculate and charge to
24 members of the association a total premium sufficient to cover the
25 expected losses and expenses of the association that the
26 association will likely incur during the period for which the
27 premium is applicable. The premium shall include an amount to cover

1 incurred but not reported losses for the period and may be adjusted
2 for any excess or deficient premiums from previous periods.
3 Excesses or deficiencies from previous periods may be fully
4 adjusted in a single period or may be adjusted over several periods
5 in a manner provided for in the plan of operation. Each member
6 shall be charged an amount equal to that member's total written car
7 years of insurance providing the security required by section
8 3101(1) or 3103(1), or both, written in this state during the
9 period to which the premium applies, multiplied by the average
10 premium per car. The average premium per car shall be the total
11 premium calculated divided by the total written car years of
12 insurance providing the security required by section 3101(1) or
13 3103(1) written in this state of all members during the period to
14 which the premium applies. A member shall be charged a premium for
15 a historic vehicle that is insured with the member of 20% of the
16 premium charged for a car insured with the member. As used in this
17 subdivision:

18 (i) "Car" includes a motorcycle but does not include a historic
19 vehicle.

20 (ii) "Historic vehicle" means a vehicle that is a registered
21 historic vehicle under section 803a or 803p of the Michigan vehicle
22 code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.803a and 257.803p.

23 (e) Require and accept the payment of premiums from members of
24 the association as provided for in the plan of operation. The
25 association shall do either of the following:

26 (i) Require payment of the premium in full within 45 days after
27 the premium charge.

1 (ii) Require payment of the premiums to be made periodically to
2 cover the actual cash obligations of the association.

3 (f) Receive and distribute all ~~sums~~**MONEY** required by the
4 operation of the association.

5 (g) Establish procedures for reviewing claims procedures and
6 practices of members of the association. If the claims procedures
7 or practices of a member are considered inadequate to properly
8 service the liabilities of the association, the association may
9 undertake or may contract with another person, including another
10 member, to adjust or assist in the adjustment of claims for the
11 member on claims that create a potential liability to the
12 association and may charge the cost of the adjustment to the
13 member.

14 (8) In addition to other powers granted to it by this section,
15 the association may do all of the following:

16 (a) Sue and be sued in the name of the association. A judgment
17 against the association shall not create any direct liability
18 against the individual members of the association. The association
19 may provide for the indemnification of its members, members of the
20 board of directors of the association, and officers, employees, and
21 other persons lawfully acting on behalf of the association.

22 (b) Reinsure all or any portion of its potential liability
23 with reinsurers licensed to transact insurance in this state or
24 approved by the commissioner.

25 (c) Provide for appropriate housing, equipment, and personnel
26 as may be necessary to assure the efficient operation of the
27 association.

1 (d) Pursuant to the plan of operation, adopt reasonable rules
2 for the administration of the association, enforce those rules, and
3 delegate authority, as the board considers necessary to assure the
4 proper administration and operation of the association consistent
5 with the plan of operation.

6 (e) Contract for goods and services, including independent
7 claims management, actuarial, investment, and legal services, from
8 others within or without this state to assure the efficient
9 operation of the association.

10 (f) Hear and determine complaints of a company or other
11 interested party concerning the operation of the association.

12 (g) Perform other acts not specifically enumerated in this
13 section that are necessary or proper to accomplish the purposes of
14 the association and that are not inconsistent with this section or
15 the plan of operation.

16 (9) A board of directors is created ~~, hereinafter referred to~~
17 ~~as the board, which shall be responsible for the operation of~~ **AND**
18 **SHALL OPERATE** the association consistent with the plan of operation
19 and this section.

20 (10) The plan of operation shall provide for all of the
21 following:

22 (a) The establishment of necessary facilities.

23 (b) The management and operation of the association.

24 (c) Procedures to be utilized in charging premiums, including
25 adjustments from excess or deficient premiums from prior periods.

26 (d) Procedures governing the actual payment of premiums to the
27 association.

1 (e) Reimbursement of each member of the board by the
2 association for actual and necessary expenses incurred on
3 association business.

4 (f) The investment policy of the association.

5 (g) Any other matters required by or necessary to effectively
6 implement this section.

7 (11) Each board shall include members that would contribute a
8 total of not less than 40% of the total premium calculated pursuant
9 to subsection (7) (d). Each director shall be entitled to 1 vote.
10 The initial term of office of a director shall be 2 years.

11 (12) As part of the plan of operation, the board shall adopt
12 rules providing for the composition and term of successor boards to
13 the initial board, consistent with the membership composition
14 requirements in subsections (11) and (13). Terms of the directors
15 shall be staggered so that the terms of all the directors do not
16 expire at the same time and so that a director does not serve a
17 term of more than 4 years.

18 (13) The board shall consist of 5 directors, and the
19 commissioner shall be an ex officio member of the board without
20 vote.

21 (14) Each director shall be appointed by the commissioner and
22 shall serve until that member's successor is selected and
23 qualified. The chairperson of the board shall be elected by the
24 board. A vacancy on the board shall be filled by the commissioner
25 consistent with the plan of operation.

26 (15) ~~After the board is appointed, the~~ **THE** board shall meet as
27 often as the chairperson, the commissioner, or the plan of

1 operation shall ~~require~~, **REQUIRES**, or at the request of any 3
2 members of the board. The chairperson ~~shall retain the right to~~ **MAY**
3 vote on all issues. Four members of the board constitute a quorum.

4 (16) An annual report of the operations of the association in
5 a form and detail as ~~may be determined~~ by the board shall be
6 furnished to each member.

7 ~~—— (17) Not more than 60 days after the initial organizational~~
8 ~~meeting of the board, the board shall submit to the commissioner~~
9 ~~for approval a proposed plan of operation consistent with the~~
10 ~~objectives and provisions of this section, which shall provide for~~
11 ~~the economical, fair, and nondiscriminatory administration of the~~
12 ~~association and for the prompt and efficient provision of~~
13 ~~indemnity. If a plan is not submitted within this 60 day period,~~
14 ~~then the commissioner, after consultation with the board, shall~~
15 ~~formulate and place into effect a plan consistent with this~~
16 ~~section.~~

17 ~~—— (18) The plan of operation, unless approved sooner in writing,~~
18 ~~shall be considered to meet the requirements of this section if it~~
19 ~~is not disapproved by written order of the commissioner within 30~~
20 ~~days after the date of its submission. Before disapproval of all or~~
21 ~~any part of the proposed plan of operation, the commissioner shall~~
22 ~~notify the board in what respect the plan of operation fails to~~
23 ~~meet the requirements and objectives of this section. If the board~~
24 ~~fails to submit a revised plan of operation that meets the~~
25 ~~requirements and objectives of this section within the 30 day~~
26 ~~period, the commissioner shall enter an order accordingly and shall~~
27 ~~immediately formulate and place into effect a plan consistent with~~

1 ~~the requirements and objectives of this section.~~

2 (17) ~~(19) The proposed plan of operation or ANY~~ amendments to
3 the plan of operation **OF THE ASSOCIATION** are subject to majority
4 approval by the board, ~~ratified AND RATIFICATION~~ by a majority of
5 the membership having a vote, with voting rights being apportioned
6 according to the premiums charged in subsection (7)(d) and are
7 subject to approval by the commissioner.

8 (18) ~~(20) Upon approval by the commissioner and ratification~~
9 ~~by the members of the plan submitted, or upon the promulgation of a~~
10 ~~plan by the commissioner, each AN~~ insurer authorized to write
11 insurance providing the security required by section 3101(1) in
12 this state, as provided in this section, is bound by and shall
13 formally subscribe to and participate in the plan ~~approved OF~~
14 **OPERATION** as a condition of maintaining its authority to transact
15 insurance in this state.

16 (19) ~~(21) The association is subject to all the reporting,~~
17 loss reserve, and investment requirements of the commissioner to
18 the same extent as ~~would a member ARE THE MEMBERS~~ of the
19 association.

20 (20) ~~(22) Premiums charged members by the association shall be~~
21 recognized in the rate-making procedures for insurance rates in the
22 same manner that expenses and premium taxes are recognized.

23 (21) ~~(23) The commissioner or an authorized representative of~~
24 the commissioner may visit the association at any time and examine
25 any and all **OF** the association's affairs.

26 (22) ~~(24) The association does not have liability for losses~~
27 occurring before July 1, 1978.

1 (23) THE BUSINESS THAT THE BOARD MAY PERFORM SHALL BE
2 CONDUCTED AT A MEETING OF THE BOARD AS IF THE BOARD WERE A PUBLIC
3 BODY UNDER THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 TO
4 15.275.

5 (24) A WRITING PREPARED, OWNED, USED, IN THE POSSESSION OF, OR
6 RETAINED BY THE BOARD IN THE PERFORMANCE OF AN OFFICIAL FUNCTION IS
7 SUBJECT TO THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231
8 TO 15.246, AS IF THE BOARD WERE A PUBLIC BODY UNDER THE FREEDOM OF
9 INFORMATION ACT, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231 TO 15.246.

10 (25) IF THE COMMISSIONER OR A COURT DETERMINES THAT THE BOARD
11 HAS FAILED TO COMPLY WITH SUBSECTION (23) OR (24), THE ASSOCIATION
12 SHALL DISTRIBUTE ALL MONEY HELD FROM PREMIUMS PAID UNDER SUBSECTION
13 (7) (D) IN EQUAL SHARES TO THE LICENSED DRIVERS OF THIS STATE.

14 (26) ~~(25)~~—As used in this section:

15 (A) "ASSOCIATION" MEANS THE CATASTROPHIC CLAIMS ASSOCIATION
16 CREATED IN SUBSECTION(1).

17 (B) "BOARD" MEANS THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ASSOCIATION
18 CREATED IN SUBSECTION (9).

19 (C) ~~(a)~~—"Consumer price index" means the percentage of change
20 in the consumer price index for all urban consumers in the United
21 States city average for all items for the 24 months ~~prior to~~**BEFORE**
22 October 1 of the year ~~prior to~~**BEFORE** the July 1 effective date of
23 the biennial adjustment under subsection (2) (k) as reported by the
24 United States department of labor, bureau of labor statistics, and
25 as certified by the commissioner.

26 (D) ~~(b)~~—"Motor vehicle accident policy" means a policy
27 providing the coverages required under section 3101(1).

1 **(E)** ~~(e)~~—"Ultimate loss" means the actual loss amounts that a
2 member is obligated to pay and that are paid or payable by the
3 member, and do not include claim expenses. An ultimate loss is
4 incurred by the association on the date that the loss occurs.

5 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect
6 unless Senate Bill No. ____ or House Bill No. 6081 (request no.
7 06772'12 a) of the 96th Legislature is enacted into law.