- 1 HB199
- 2 148959-4
- 3 By Representative Hill
- 4 RFD: Insurance
- 5 First Read: 07-FEB-13

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2	ENROLLED	, An	Act,

Relating to the Insurance Department; to further

provide for the regulation of reinsurance; to add Chapter 5B

to Title 27, Code of Alabama 1975; and to repeal Section

27-5-12, Code of Alabama 1975.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Chapter 5B is added to Title 27, Code of
Alabama 1975, to read as follows:

10 Chapter 5B. Reinsurance.

Section 27-5B-1. Purpose.

The purpose of this chapter is to protect the interest of insureds, claimants, ceding insurers, assuming insurers, and the public generally. The Legislature declares its intent is to ensure adequate regulation of insurers and reinsurers and adequate protection for those to whom they owe obligations. In furtherance of that state interest, the Legislature provides a mandate that upon the insolvency of a non-U.S. insurer or reinsurer that provides security to fund its U.S. obligations in accordance with this chapter, the assets representing the security shall be maintained in the United States and claims shall be filed with and valued by the state insurance commissioner with regulatory oversight, and the assets shall be distributed, in accordance with the insurance laws of the state in which the trust is domiciled

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that are applicable to the liquidation of domestic U.S.

insurance companies. The Legislature declares that the matters

contained in this chapter are fundamental to the business of

insurance in accordance with 15 U.S.C. §§ 1011-1012.

§27-5B-2. Reinsurance permitted.

- (a) An insurer authorized under this title may accept reinsurance only of such risks and retain risk thereon within such limits as it is otherwise authorized to insure.
- (b) An insurer authorized under this title may reinsure all, or any part, of any particular risk with any solvent insurer.

§27-5B-3. Credit allowed a domestic ceding insurer.

ceding insurer as either an asset or a reduction from liability on account of reinsurance ceded only when the reinsurer meets the requirements of Section 27-5B-4, 27-5B-5, 27-5B-6, 27-5B-7, 27-5B-8, or 27-5B-9. Credit shall be allowed under Sections 27-5B-4, 27-5B-5, or 27-B5-6 only as respects cessions of those kinds or classes of business which the assuming insurer is licensed or otherwise permitted to write or assume in its state of domicile or, in the case of a U.S. branch of an alien assuming insurer, in the state through which it is entered and licensed to transact insurance or reinsurance. Credit shall be allowed under Section 27-5B-6 or

1	27-5B-7	only i	f the	applicable	requirements	of	Section
2	27-5B-10	have	heen	satisfied.			

- 3 §27-5B-4. Licensed reinsurer.
- Credit shall be allowed when the reinsurance is ceded to an assuming insurer that is licensed to transact insurance or reinsurance in this state.
- 7 §27-5B-5. Accredited reinsurer.

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Credit shall be allowed when the reinsurance is ceded to an assuming insurer that is accredited by the commissioner as a reinsurer in this state. In order to be eligible for accreditation, a reinsurer must do all of the following:

- (1) File with the commissioner evidence of its submission to this state's jurisdiction.
- (2) Submit to this state's authority to examine its books and records.
- (3) Be licensed to transact insurance or reinsurance in at least one state, or in the case of a U.S. branch of an alien assuming insurer, be entered through and licensed to transact insurance or reinsurance in at least one state.
- (4) File annually with the commissioner a copy of its annual statement filed with the insurance department of its state of domicile and a copy of its most recent audited financial statement.

1	(5) Demonstrate to the satisfaction of the
2	commissioner that it has adequate financial capacity to meet
3	its reinsurance obligations and is otherwise qualified to
4	assume reinsurance from domestic insurers. An assuming insurer
5	is deemed to meet this requirement as of the time of its
6	application if it maintains a surplus as regards policyholders
7	in an amount not less than twenty million dollars
8	(\$20,000,000) and its accreditation has not been denied by the
9	commissioner within 90 days after submission of its
10	application.

§27-5B-6. Reinsurer domiciled in state with substantially similar law.

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- (a) Credit shall be allowed when the reinsurance is ceded to an assuming insurer that is domiciled in, or in the case of a U.S. branch of an alien assuming insurer is entered through, a state that employs standards regarding credit for reinsurance substantially similar to those applicable under this chapter and the assuming insurer or U.S. branch of an alien assuming insurer does both of the following:
- (1) Maintains a surplus as regards policyholders in an amount not less than twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000).
- (2) Submits to the authority of this state to examine its books and records.
- (b) The requirement of subdivision (1) of subsection

 (a) does not apply to reinsurance ceded and assumed pursuant

L	to pooling	arrangements	among	insurers	in	the	same	holding
2	company sys	stem.						

3 §27-5B-7. Reinsurer maintaining a trust fund.

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- (a) Credit shall be allowed when the reinsurance is ceded to an assuming insurer that maintains a trust fund in a qualified U.S. financial institution, as defined in subsection (b) of Section 27-5B-15, for the payment of the valid claims of its U.S. ceding insurers, their assigns and successors in interest. To enable the commissioner to determine the sufficiency of the trust fund, the assuming insurer shall report annually to the commissioner information substantially the same as that required to be reported on the NAIC Annual Statement form by licensed insurers. The assuming insurer shall submit to examination of its books and records by the commissioner and bear the expense of examination.
- (b) (1) Credit for reinsurance shall not be granted under this section unless the form of the trust and any amendments to the trust have been approved by either:
- a. The commissioner of the state where the trust is domiciled.
- b. The commissioner of another state who, pursuant to the terms of the trust instrument, has accepted principal regulatory oversight of the trust.
- (2) The form of the trust and any trust amendments also shall be filed with the commissioner of every state in

which the ceding insurer beneficiaries of the trust are domiciled. The trust instrument shall provide that contested claims shall be valid and enforceable upon the final order of any court of competent jurisdiction in the United States. The trust shall vest legal title to its assets in its trustees for the benefit of the assuming insurer's U.S. ceding insurers, their assigns and successors in interest. The trust and the assuming insurer shall be subject to examination as determined by the commissioner.

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- (3) The trust shall remain in effect for as long as the assuming insurer has outstanding obligations due under the reinsurance agreements subject to the trust. No later than February 28 of each year the trustee of the trust shall report to the commissioner in writing the balance of the trust and listing the trust's investments at the preceding year-end and shall certify the date of termination of the trust, if so planned, or certify that the trust will not expire prior to the following December 31.
- (c) The following requirements apply to the following categories of assuming insurer:
- (1) The trust fund for a single assuming insurer shall consist of funds in trust in an amount not less than the assuming insurer's liabilities attributable to reinsurance ceded by U.S. ceding insurers, and, in addition, the assuming insurer shall maintain a trusteed surplus of not less than

twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000), except as provided in subdivision (2).

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- (2) At any time after the assuming insurer has permanently discontinued underwriting new business secured by the trust for at least three full years, the commissioner with principal regulatory oversight of the trust may authorize a reduction in the required trusteed surplus, but only after a finding, based on an assessment of the risk, that the new required surplus level is adequate for the protection of U.S. ceding insurers, policyholders and claimants in light of reasonably foreseeable adverse loss development. The risk assessment may involve an actuarial review, including an independent analysis of reserves and cash flows, and shall consider all material risk factors, including when applicable the lines of business involved, the stability of the incurred loss estimates and the effect of the surplus requirements on the assuming insurer's liquidity or solvency. The minimum required trusteed surplus may not be reduced to an amount less than 30 percent of the assuming insurer's liabilities attributable to reinsurance ceded by U.S. ceding insurers covered by the trust.
- (3)a. In the case of a group including incorporated and individual unincorporated underwriters:
- 1. For reinsurance ceded under reinsurance agreements with an inception, amendment or renewal date on or

after August 1, 1995, the trust shall consist of a trusteed
account in an amount not less than the respective
underwriter's several liabilities attributable to business
ceded by U.S. domiciled ceding insurers to any underwriter of
the group.

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- 2. For reinsurance ceded under reinsurance agreements with an inception date on or before July 31, 1995, and not amended or renewed after that date, notwithstanding the other provisions of this chapter, the trust shall consist of a trusteed account in an amount not less than the respective underwriter's several insurance and reinsurance liabilities attributable to business written in the United States.
 - 3. In addition to these trusts, the group shall maintain in trust a trusteed surplus of which one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000) shall be held jointly for the benefit of the U.S. domiciled ceding insurers of any member of the group for all years of account.
 - b. The incorporated members of the group shall not be engaged in any business other than underwriting as a member of the group and shall be subject to the same level of regulation and solvency control by the group's domiciliary regulator as are the unincorporated members.
 - c. Within 90 days after its financial statements are due to be filed with the group's domiciliary regulator, the

1	group shall provide to the commissioner an annual
2	certification by the group's domiciliary regulator of the
3	solvency of each underwriter member; or if a certification is
4	unavailable, financial statements, prepared by independent
5	public accountants, of each underwriter member of the group.

- (4) In the case of a group of incorporated underwriters under common administration, the group shall do all of the following:
- a. Have continuously transacted an insurance business outside the United States for at least three (3) years immediately prior to making application for accreditation.
- b. Maintain aggregate policyholders' surplus of at least ten billion dollars (\$10,000,000,000).
 - c. Maintain a trust fund in an amount not less than the group's several liabilities attributable to business ceded by U.S. domiciled ceding insurers to any member of the group pursuant to reinsurance contracts issued in the name of the group.
- d. In addition, maintain a joint trusteed surplus of which one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000) shall be held jointly for the benefit of U.S. domiciled ceding insurers of any member of the group as additional security for these liabilities.

1	e. Within 90 days after its financial statements are
2	due to be filed with the group's domiciliary regulator, make
3	available to the commissioner an annual certification of each
4	underwriter member's solvency by the member's domiciliary
5	regulator and financial statements of each underwriter member
6	of the group prepared by its independent public accountant.

\$27-5B-8. Certified reinsurer.

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- (a) Credit shall be allowed when the reinsurance is ceded to an assuming insurer that is certified by the commissioner as a reinsurer in this state and secures its obligations in accordance with the requirements of this section. In order to be eligible for certification, the assuming insurer shall meet all of the following requirements:
- (1) The assuming insurer must be domiciled and licensed to transact insurance or reinsurance in a qualified jurisdiction, as determined by the commissioner pursuant to subsection (c).
- (2) The assuming insurer must maintain minimum capital and surplus, or its equivalent, in an amount to be determined by the commissioner pursuant to regulation.
- (3) The assuming insurer must maintain financial strength ratings from two or more rating agencies deemed acceptable by the commissioner pursuant to regulation.
- (4) The assuming insurer must agree to submit to the jurisdiction of this state, appoint the commissioner as its

agent for service of process in this state, and agree to provide security for 100 percent of the assuming insurer's liabilities attributable to reinsurance ceded by U.S. ceding insurers if it resists enforcement of a final U.S. judgment.

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- (5) The assuming insurer must agree to meet applicable information filing requirements as determined by the commissioner, both with respect to an initial application for certification and on an ongoing basis.
- (6) The assuming insurer must satisfy any other requirements for certification deemed relevant by the commissioner.
- (b) An association including incorporated and individual unincorporated underwriters may be a certified reinsurer. In order to be eligible for certification, in addition to satisfying requirements of subsection (a):
- (1) The association shall satisfy its minimum capital and surplus requirements through the capital and surplus equivalents (net of liabilities) of the association and its members, which shall include a joint central fund that may be applied to any unsatisfied obligation of the association or any of its members, in an amount determined by the commissioner to provide adequate protection.
- (2) The incorporated members of the association shall not be engaged in any business other than underwriting as a member of the association and shall be subject to the

same level of regulation and solvency control by the
association's domiciliary regulator as are the unincorporated
members.

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- (3) Within 90 days after its financial statements are due to be filed with the association's domiciliary regulator, the association shall provide to the commissioner an annual certification by the association's domiciliary regulator of the solvency of each underwriter member; or if a certification is unavailable, financial statements, prepared by independent public accountants, of each underwriter member of the association.
- (c) (1) The commissioner shall create and publish a list of qualified jurisdictions, under which an assuming insurer licensed and domiciled in such jurisdiction is eligible to be considered for certification by the commissioner as a certified reinsurer.
- (2) In order to determine whether the domiciliary jurisdiction of a non-U.S. assuming insurer is eligible to be recognized as a qualified jurisdiction, the commissioner shall evaluate the appropriateness and effectiveness of the reinsurance supervisory system of the jurisdiction, both initially and on an ongoing basis, and consider the rights, benefits and the extent of reciprocal recognition afforded by the non-U.S. jurisdiction to reinsurers licensed and domiciled in the U.S. A qualified jurisdiction must agree to share

information and cooperate with the commissioner with respect
to all certified reinsurers domiciled within the jurisdiction.

A jurisdiction may not be recognized as a qualified
jurisdiction if the commissioner has determined that the
jurisdiction does not adequately and promptly enforce final
U.S. judgments and arbitration awards. Additional factors may
be considered in the discretion of the commissioner.

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- (3) A list of qualified jurisdictions shall be published through the National Associations of Insurance Commissioners committee process. The commissioner shall consider this list in determining qualified jurisdictions. If the commissioner approves a jurisdiction as qualified that does not appear on the list of qualified jurisdictions, the commissioner shall provide thoroughly documented justification in accordance with criteria to be developed under regulations.
- (4) U.S. jurisdictions that meet the requirement for accreditation under the National Associations of Insurance Commissioners financial standards and accreditation program shall be recognized as qualified jurisdictions.
- (5) If a certified reinsurer's domiciliary jurisdiction ceases to be a qualified jurisdiction, the commissioner has the discretion to suspend the reinsurer's certification indefinitely, in lieu of revocation.
- (d) The commissioner shall assign a rating to each certified reinsurer, giving due consideration to the financial

strength ratings that have been assigned by rating agencies
deemed acceptable by the commissioner pursuant to regulation.

The commissioner shall publish a list of all certified
reinsurers and their ratings.

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- (e) (1) A certified reinsurer shall secure obligations assumed from U.S. ceding insurers under this subsection at a level consistent with its rating, as specified in regulations promulgated by the commissioner.
- (2) In order for a domestic ceding insurer to qualify for full financial statement credit for reinsurance ceded to a certified reinsurer, the certified reinsurer shall maintain security in a form acceptable to the commissioner and consistent with the provisions of Section 27-5B-14, or in a multibeneficiary trust in accordance with Section 27-5B-7, except as otherwise provided in this section.
- (3) If a certified reinsurer maintains a trust to fully secure its obligations subject to Section 27-5B-7, and chooses to secure its obligations incurred as a certified reinsurer in the form of a multibeneficiary trust, the certified reinsurer shall maintain separate trust accounts for its obligations incurred under reinsurance agreements issued or renewed as a certified reinsurer with reduced security as permitted by this section or comparable laws of other U.S. jurisdictions and for its obligations subject to Section 27-5B-7. It shall be a condition to the grant of certification

under Section 27-5B-8 that the certified reinsurer shall have bound itself, by the language of the trust and agreement with the commissioner with principal regulatory oversight of each such trust account, to fund, upon termination of any such trust account, out of the remaining surplus of such trust any deficiency of any other such trust account.

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- (4) The minimum trusteed surplus requirements provided in Section 27-5B-7 are not applicable with respect to a multibeneficiary trust maintained by a certified reinsurer for the purpose of securing obligations incurred under this section, except that such trust shall maintain a minimum trusteed surplus of ten million dollars (\$10,000,000).
- (5) With respect to obligations incurred by a certified reinsurer under this section, if the security is insufficient, the commissioner shall reduce the allowable credit by an amount proportionate to the deficiency, and has the discretion to impose further reductions in allowable credit upon finding that there is a material risk that the certified reinsurer's obligations will not be paid in full when due.
- (6)a. For purposes of this section, a certified reinsurer whose certification has been terminated for any reason shall be treated as a certified reinsurer required to secure 100 percent of its obligations.

1	b. As used in this section, the term "terminated"
2	refers to revocation, suspension, voluntary surrender and
3	inactive status

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- c. If the commissioner continues to assign a higher rating as permitted by other provisions of this chapter, this requirement does not apply to a certified reinsurer in inactive status or to a reinsurer whose certification has been suspended.
- (f) If an applicant for certification has been certified as a reinsurer in an NAIC accredited jurisdiction, the commissioner has the discretion to defer to that jurisdiction's certification, and has the discretion to defer to the rating assigned by that jurisdiction, and such assuming insurer shall be considered to be a certified reinsurer in this state.
- business in this state may request to maintain its certification in inactive status in order to continue to qualify for a reduction in security for its in-force business. An inactive certified reinsurer shall continue to comply with all applicable requirements of this section, and the commissioner shall assign a rating that takes into account, if relevant, the reasons why the reinsurer is not assuming new business.
 - §27-5B-9. Credit for reinsurance required by law.

1	Credit shall be allowed when the reinsurance is
2	ceded to an assuming insurer not meeting the requirements of
3	Section 27-5B-4, 27-5B-5, 27-5B-6, 27-5B-7, or 27-5B-8, but
4	only as to the insurance of risks located in jurisdictions
5	where the reinsurance is required by applicable law or
6	regulation of that jurisdiction.

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§27-5B-10. Reinsurer not licensed, accredited or certified - additional requirements.

- (a) If the assuming insurer is not licensed, accredited or certified to transact insurance or reinsurance in this state, the credit permitted by Sections 27-5B-6 and 27-5B-7 shall not be allowed unless the assuming insurer agrees in the reinsurance agreements:
- (1) That in the event of the failure of the assuming insurer to perform its obligations under the terms of the reinsurance agreement, the assuming insurer, at the request of the ceding insurer, shall submit to the jurisdiction of any court of competent jurisdiction in any state of the United States, will comply with all requirements necessary to give the court jurisdiction, and will abide by the final decision of the court or of any appellate court in the event of an appeal.
- (2) To designate the commissioner or a designated attorney as its true and lawful attorney upon whom may be

L	served	any	law	ıful	pı	cocess	in	any	action,	suit	or	proceeding
2	institu	ited	by	or	on	behalf	of	the	e ceding	insu	rer.	

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- (b) This section is not intended to conflict with or override the obligation of the parties to a reinsurance agreement to arbitrate their disputes, if this obligation is created in the agreement.
- §27-5B-11. Reinsurer not licensed or accredited or subject to substantially similar laws additional requirements.

If the assuming insurer does not meet the requirements of Section 27-5B-4, 27-5B-5 or 27-5B-6, the credit permitted by Section 27-5B-7 or 27-5B-8 shall not be allowed unless the assuming insurer agrees in the trust agreements to the following conditions:

(1) Notwithstanding any other provisions in the trust instrument, if the trust fund is inadequate because it contains an amount less than the amount required by subsection (c) of Section 27-5B-7, or if the grantor of the trust has been declared insolvent or placed into receivership, rehabilitation, liquidation or similar proceedings under the laws of its state or country of domicile, the trustee shall comply with an order of the commissioner with regulatory oversight over the trust or with an order of a court of competent jurisdiction directing the trustee to transfer to

L	the	commissi	oner	with	regulatory	oversight	all	of	the	assets
2	of t	the trust	func	d.						

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- (2) The assets shall be distributed by and claims shall be filed with and valued by the commissioner with regulatory oversight in accordance with the laws of the state in which the trust is domiciled that are applicable to the liquidation of domestic insurance companies.
- (3) If the commissioner with regulatory oversight determines that the assets of the trust fund or any part thereof are not necessary to satisfy the claims of the U.S. ceding insurers of the grantor of the trust, the assets or part thereof shall be returned by the commissioner with regulatory oversight to the trustee for distribution in accordance with the trust agreement.
- (4) The grantor shall waive any right otherwise available to it under U.S. law that is inconsistent with this provision.

Section 27-5B-12. Accredited or certified reinsurer ceasing to meet requirements.

- (a) If an accredited or certified reinsurer ceases to meet the requirements for accreditation or certification, the commissioner may suspend or revoke the reinsurer's accreditation or certification.
- (b) The commissioner must give the reinsurer notice and opportunity for hearing. The suspension or revocation may

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not take effect until after the commissioner's order on hearing, unless any of the following occurs:

(1) The reinsurer waives its right to hearing.

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- (2) The commissioner's order is based on regulatory action by the reinsurer's domiciliary jurisdiction or the voluntary surrender or termination of the reinsurer's eligibility to transact insurance or reinsurance business in its domiciliary jurisdiction or in the primary certifying state of the reinsurer under subsection (f) of Section 27-5B-8.
- (3) The commissioner finds that an emergency requires immediate action and a court of competent jurisdiction has not stayed the commissioner's action.
- (c) While a reinsurer's accreditation or certification is suspended, no reinsurance contract issued or renewed after the effective date of the suspension qualifies for credit except to the extent that the reinsurer's obligations under the contract are secured in accordance with Section 27-5B-14. If a reinsurer's accreditation or certification is revoked, no credit for reinsurance may be granted after the effective date of the revocation except to the extent that the reinsurer's obligations under the contract are secured in accordance with subsection (e) of Section 27-5B-8 or Section 27-5B-14.

25 §27-5B-13. Concentration Risk.

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(a) A ceding insurer shall take steps to manage its
reinsurance recoverables proportionate to its own book of
business. A domestic ceding insurer shall notify the
commissioner within 30 days after reinsurance recoverables
from any single assuming insurer, or group of affiliated
assuming insurers, exceeds 50 percent of the domestic ceding
insurer's last reported surplus to policyholders, or after it
is determined that reinsurance recoverables from any single
assuming insurer, or group of affiliated assuming insurers, is
likely to exceed this limit. The notification shall
demonstrate that the exposure is safely managed by the
domestic ceding insurer.

- (b) A ceding insurer shall take steps to diversify its reinsurance program. A domestic ceding insurer shall notify the commissioner within 30 days after ceding to any single assuming insurer, or group of affiliated assuming insurers, more than 20 percent of the ceding insurer's gross written premium in the prior calendar year, or after it has determined that the reinsurance ceded to any single assuming insurer, or group of affiliated assuming insurers, is likely to exceed this limit. The notification shall demonstrate that the exposure is safely managed by the domestic ceding insurer.
- §27-5B-14. Asset or Reduction from Liability for Reinsurance Ceded by a Domestic Insurer to an Assuming Insurer

1 not Meeting the Requirements of Sections 27-5B-3 through 27-5B-13.

An asset or a reduction from liability for the reinsurance ceded by a domestic insurer to an assuming insurer not meeting the requirements of Section 27-5B-3, 27-5B-4, 27-5B-5, 27-5B-6, 27-5B-7, 27-5B-8, 27-5B-9, 27-5B-10, 27-5B-11, 27-5B-12 or 27-5B-13 shall be allowed in an amount not exceeding the liabilities carried by the ceding insurer. The reduction shall be in the amount of funds held by or on behalf of the ceding insurer, including funds held in trust for the ceding insurer, under a reinsurance contract with the assuming insurer as security for the payment of obligations thereunder, if the security is held in the United States subject to withdrawal solely by, and under the exclusive control of, the ceding insurer; or, in the case of a trust, held in a qualified U.S. financial institution, as defined in subsection (b) of Section 27-5B-15. This security may be in the form of any of the following:

(1) Cash.

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- (2) Securities listed by the Securities Valuation
 Office of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners,
 including those deemed exempt from filing as defined by the
 Purposes and Procedures Manual of the Securities Valuation
 Office, and qualifying as admitted assets.
- (3) Clean, irrevocable, unconditional letters of credit, issued or confirmed by a qualified U.S. financial

1	institution, as defined in subsection (a) of Section 27-5B-15,
2	effective no later than December 31 of the year for which the
3	filing is being made, and in the possession of, or in trust
4	for, the ceding insurer on or before the filing date of its
5	annual statement.

- (4) Letters of credit meeting applicable standards of issuer acceptability as of the dates of their issuance (or confirmation) shall, notwithstanding the issuing (or confirming) institution's subsequent failure to meet applicable standards of issuer acceptability, continue to be acceptable as security until their expiration, extension, renewal, modification or amendment, whichever first occurs.
- (5) Any other form of security acceptable to the commissioner.
- Section 27-5B-15. Qualified U.S. Financial Institutions.

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- (a) For purposes of subdivision (3) of Section

 27-5B-14, a "qualified U.S. financial institution" means an

 institution that meets all of the following:
 - (1) Is organized or (in the case of a U.S. office of a foreign banking organization) licensed, under the laws of the United States or any state thereof.
- (2) Is regulated, supervised and examined by U.S.

 federal or state authorities having regulatory authority over
 banks and trust companies.

1	(3) Has been determined by either the commissioner			
2	or the Securities Valuation Office of the National Association			
3	of Insurance Commissioners to meet such standards of financial			
4	condition and standing as are considered necessary and			
5	appropriate to regulate the quality of financial institutions			
6	whose letters of credit will be acceptable to the			
7	commissioner.			

- (b) A "qualified U.S. financial institution" means, for purposes of those provisions of this law specifying those institutions that are eligible to act as a fiduciary of a trust, an institution that meets both of the following:
- (1) Is organized, or, in the case of a U.S. branch or agency office of a foreign banking organization, licensed, under the laws of the United States or any state thereof and has been granted authority to operate with fiduciary powers.
- (2) Is regulated, supervised and examined by federal or state authorities having regulatory authority over banks and trust companies.

§27-5B-16. Insolvency clause.

Except as provided in Section 27-5B-17, no credit shall be allowed, as an admitted asset or deduction from liability, to any ceding insurer for reinsurance placed with a reinsurer qualified under this chapter, unless the reinsurance contract provides, in substance, that in the event of the insolvency of the ceding insurer, the reinsurance shall be

payable under a contract reinsured by the assuming insurer on the basis of reported claims allowed by the liquidation court, without diminution because of the insolvency of the ceding insurer. The payments shall be made directly to the ceding insurer or to its domiciliary liquidator except in either of the following instances:

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- (1) Where the contract or other written agreement specifically provides another payee of the reinsurance in the event of the insolvency of the ceding insurer.
- (2) Where the assuming insurer, with the consent of the direct insured, has assumed the policy obligations of the ceding insurer as direct obligations of the assuming insurer to the payees under the policies and in substitution for the obligations of the ceding insurer to the payees.

§27-5B-17. Guaranty association election.

Notwithstanding Section 27-5B-16, in the event that a life and health insurance guaranty association has made the election to succeed to the rights and obligations of the insolvent insurer under the contract of reinsurance, the reinsurer's liability to pay covered reinsured claims shall continue under the contract of reinsurance subject to the payment to the reinsurer of the reinsurance premiums for the coverage. Payment for the reinsured claims shall only be made by the reinsurer pursuant to the direction of the guaranty association or its designated successor. Any payment made at

the direction of the guaranty association or its designated successor by the reinsurer shall discharge the reinsurer of all further liability to any other party for the claim payment.

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§27-5B-18. Notice by domiciliary liquidator.

The reinsurance agreement may provide that the domiciliary liquidator of an insolvent ceding insurer shall give written notice to the assuming insurer of the pendency of a claim against the ceding insurer on the contract within a reasonable time after the claim is filed in the liquidation proceeding. During the pendency of the claim, any assuming insurer may investigate the claim and interpose, at its own expense, in the proceeding where the claim is to be adjudicated any defenses which it deems available to the ceding insurer, or its liquidator. The expense may be filed as a claim against the insolvent ceding insurer to the extent of a proportionate share of the benefit which may accrue to the ceding insurer solely as a result of the defense undertaken by the assuming insurer. Where two or more assuming insurers are involved in the same claim and a majority in interest elect to interpose a defense to the claim, the expense shall be apportioned in accordance with the terms of the reinsurance agreement as though the expense had been incurred by the ceding insurer.

\$27-5B-19. Rules.

1	The commissioner may adopt rules implementing the
2	provisions of this chapter.
3	Section 2. Section 27-5-12, Code of Alabama 1975, is
4	repealed.
5	Section 3. This act shall become effective on the
6	first day of January following its passage and approval by the
7	Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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4		Speaker of the House of Representati	_ves			
5						
6		President and Presiding Officer of the	e Senate			
7		House of Representatives				
8 9		I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and was passed by the House 18-APR-13, as amended.				
10 11 12 13		Jeff Woodard Clerk				
14						
15						
16	Senate	02-MAY-13	Passed			