

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate House

Floor: WD 03/08/2012 08:45 AM

Senator Fasano moved the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Between lines 2002 and 2003 insert:

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Section 17. Subsection (2) of section 627.7073, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

627.7073 Sinkhole reports.-

(2) An insurer that has paid a claim for a sinkhole loss shall file a copy of the report and certification, prepared pursuant to subsection (1), including the legal description of the real property and the name of the property owner, the neutral evaluator's report, if any, which indicates that sinkhole activity caused the damage claimed, a copy of the

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certification indicating that stabilization has been completed, if applicable, and the amount of the payment, with the county clerk of court, who shall record the report and certification. The insurer shall bear the cost of filing and recording one or more reports and certifications. If an insurer fails to file a copy of the report within 30 days after payment of a sinkhole claim, a \$25 penalty shall be assessed for each day beyond the 30th day that the insurer is determined to be in noncompliance with this section until the insurer is in compliance, which shall be payable to the clerk of the court. There shall be no cause of action or liability against an insurer for compliance with this section.

- (a) The recording of the report and certification does not:
- 1. Constitute a lien, encumbrance, or restriction on the title to the real property or constitute a defect in the title to the real property;
- 2. Create any cause of action or liability against any grantor of the real property for breach of any warranty of good title or warranty against encumbrances; or
- 3. Create any cause of action or liability against any title insurer that insures the title to the real property.
- (b) As a precondition to accepting payment for a sinkhole loss, the policyholder must file a copy of any sinkhole report regarding the insured property which was prepared on behalf or at the request of the policyholder. The policyholder shall bear the cost of filing and recording the sinkhole report. The recording of the report does not:
- 1. Constitute a lien, encumbrance, or restriction on the title to the real property or constitute a defect in the title



to the real property;

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- 2. Create any cause of action or liability against any grantor of the real property for breach of any warranty of good title or warranty against encumbrances; or
- 3. Create any cause of action or liability against a title insurer that insures the title to the real property.
- (c) The seller of real property upon which a sinkhole claim has been made by the seller and paid by the insurer must disclose to the buyer of such property, before the closing, that a claim has been paid and whether or not the full amount of the proceeds was used to repair the sinkhole damage.

======== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ========= And the title is amended as follows:

Between lines 72 and 73 insert:

> amending s. 627.7073, F.S.; providing a penalty for noncompliance with certain sinkhole reporting requirements; deleting a provision limiting an insurer's liability for noncompliance;