161206

LEGISLATIVE ACTION Senate House Comm: WD 02/16/2016

The Committee on Banking and Insurance (Margolis) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

3 Delete lines 56 - 70

and insert:

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Section 2. Section 627.716, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

627.716 Prohibited practices related to repair, mitigation, and restoration services; penalties.-

(1) A person or entity may not directly or indirectly offer, deliver, receive, or accept any compensation, inducement, 11 12

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or reward greater than \$25 for the referral of any business for the repair, mitigation, or restoration of property for which property insurance proceeds are payable.

- (2) An entity or person, including a contractor licensed under part I of chapter 489 or a subcontractor to the contractor, that provides emergency remediation or restoration services for an insured under a property insurance policy in this state must:
- (a) Provide an insured with a scope of services and materials to be provided for repairs undertaken pursuant to a property insurance claim before the agreement authorizing such repairs is executed.
- (b) Notify the insured in writing that any assignment accepted by the person or entity is limited to the scope of the work indicated therein; that the insured may have other claims under their homeowner's insurance policy that are not covered by this assignment; and that the insured may wish to contact a public adjuster or attorney to evaluate other claims and coverages. Nothing in this section prohibits the use of postloss, partial assignments in homeowner's insurance claims.
- (3) The department may, in a proceeding initiated pursuant to chapter 120, seek a cease and desist order, and if a cease and desist order is violated, impose an administrative fine of not more than \$10,000 per violation against any person found in the proceeding to have violated this section. Any cease and desist order or administrative fine levied by the department under this subsection may be enforced by the department by appropriate proceedings in the circuit court of the county in which the person resides. The department may recommend to the



appropriate licensing agency or board that disciplinary action be taken against persons licensed by other agencies or boards.

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

Delete lines 6 - 12

and insert:

627.716, F.S.; prohibiting a person or entity from certain actions relating to the referral of certain business related to certain repair, mitigation, and restoration services; specifying requirements for an entity or person that provides certain emergency remediation or restoration services; authorizing the Department of Financial Services to seek a cease and desist order and administrative fines for certain violations; authorizing the department to enforce such penalties in a specified circuit court; authorizing the department to recommend disciplinary action to other licensing agencies or boards; providing an effective date.