Florida Senate - 2023 Bill No. CS for CS for CS for HB 799



LEGISLATIVE ACTION

.

Senate Floor: 2/AD/2R 05/01/2023 04:14 PM

Floor: C 05/03/2023 04:21 PM

House

Senator Martin moved the following:

1 Senate Substitute for Amendment (762726) (with title 2 amendment) 3 4 Delete lines 174 - 234 5 and insert: a. January 1, 2024, for a structure that has a dwelling 6 7 replacement cost of property valued at \$600,000 or more. 8 b. January 1, 2025, for a structure that has a dwelling 9 replacement cost of property valued at \$500,000 or more. 10 c. January 1, 2026, for a structure that has a dwelling replacement cost of property valued at \$400,000 or more. 11

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12 d. January 1, 2027, for all other personal lines 13 residential property insured by the corporation. 2. All personal lines residential policyholders whose 14 15 property insured by the corporation is located within the 16 special flood hazard area defined by the Federal Emergency 17 Management Agency must have flood coverage in place: a. At the time of initial policy issuance for all new 18 personal lines residential policies issued by the corporation on 19 20 or after April 1, 2023. 21 b. By the time of the policy renewal for all personal lines 22 residential policies renewing on or after July 1, 2023. 23 3. Policyholders whose policies issued by the corporation 24 do not provide coverage for the peril of wind are not required to purchase flood insurance as a condition for maintaining the 25 26 following their policies issued by with the corporation: 27 a. Policies that do not provide coverage for the peril of 28 wind. 29 b. Policies that provide coverage under a condominium unit 30 owners form. 31 32 The flood insurance required under this paragraph must meet, at 33 a minimum, the coverage available from the National Flood 34 Insurance Program or the requirements of subparagraphs s. 35 627.715(1)(a)1., 2., and 3. 36 (11) In addition to any other method of alternative dispute 37 resolution authorized by state law, the corporation may adopt 38 policy forms that provide for the resolution of disputes 39 regarding its claim determinations, including disputes regarding 40 coverage for, or the scope and value of, a claim, in a

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41	proceeding before the Division of Administrative Hearings. Any
42	such policies are not subject to s. 627.70154. All proceedings
43	in the Division of Administrative Hearings pursuant to such
44	policies are subject to ss. 57.105 and 768.79 as if filed in the
45	courts of this state and are not considered chapter 120
46	administrative proceedings. Rule 1.442, Florida Rules of Civil
47	Procedure, applies to any offer served pursuant to s. 768.79,
48	except that, notwithstanding any provision in Rule 1.442,
49	Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, to the contrary, an offer
50	shall not be served earlier than 10 days after filing the
51	request for hearing with the Division of Administrative Hearings
52	and shall not be served later than 10 days before the date set
53	for the final hearing. The administrative law judge in such
54	proceedings shall award attorney fees and other relief pursuant
55	to ss. 57.105 and 768.79. The corporation may not seek, and the
56	office may not approve, a maximum hourly rate for attorney fees.
57	Section 4. Effective October 1, 2023, section 627.7155,
58	Florida Statutes, is created to read:
59	627.7155 Wind and flood coverage in residential and
60	commercial property insurance policiesFor residential and
61	commercial property insurance policies issued or renewed on or
62	after October 1, 2023:
63	(1) If a residential or commercial property insurer
64	requires that an insured or applicant have coverage for the
65	peril of flood when the insurer issues a policy covering the
66	peril of wind, unless the insurer verifies that the insured or
67	applicant has coverage for the peril of flood at the time the
68	policy was issued or renewed, the insurer may not deny a claim
69	for wind solely because the insured does not have coverage for

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70	the peril of flood, unless flood coverage that was verified at
71	the time of application or renewal, or equivalent coverage, is
72	not in force at the time of the loss.
73	
74	=========== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =================
75	And the title is amended as follows:
76	Delete lines 19 - 25
77	and insert:
78	binding arbitration provisions; specifying applicable
79	requirements, procedures, and restrictions relating to
80	such proceedings; creating s. 627.7155, F.S.;
81	prohibiting a property insurer that requires flood
82	coverage as a condition for wind coverage from denying
83	certain claims except under certain circumstances;

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