

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate Comm: RCS 02/05/2024 House

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The Committee on Judiciary (Bradley) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Paragraph (c) is added to subsection (2) of section 626.9201, Florida Statutes, to read:

626.9201 Notice of cancellation or nonrenewal.-

(2) An insurer issuing a policy providing coverage for property, casualty, surety, or marine insurance must give the named insured written notice of cancellation or termination other than nonrenewal at least 45 days before the effective date

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12	of the cancellation or termination, including in the written
13	notice the reasons for the cancellation or termination, except
14	that:
15	(c) An insurer may not cancel or nonrenew a personal
16	residential or commercial residential property insurance policy
17	covering a dwelling or residential property located in this
18	state:
19	1. For a period of 90 days after the dwelling or
20	residential property has been repaired, if such property has
21	been damaged as a result of a hurricane or wind loss that is the
22	subject of the declaration of emergency pursuant to s. 252.36
23	and the filing of an order by the Commissioner of Insurance
24	Regulation. Damage under this subsection includes flood damage
25	caused by a hurricane if flood is a covered peril under the
26	personal residential or commercial residential property
27	insurance policy. If flood is not a covered peril under the
28	commercial property insurance policy and the property has been
29	damaged as a result of flood caused by a hurricane, an insurer
30	may not cancel or nonrenew the personal residential or
31	commercial residential property insurance policy until the
32	earlier of when the property has been repaired or 18 months
33	after the date of loss.
34	2. However, an insurer or agent may cancel or nonrenew such
35	a policy before the repair of the dwelling or residential
36	property:
37	a. Upon 10 days' notice for nonpayment of premium; or
38	b. Upon 45 days' notice:
39	(I) For a material misstatement or fraud related to the
40	<pre>claim;</pre>

(II) If the insurer determines that the insured has
unreasonably caused a delay in the repair of the dwelling; or
(III) If the insurer has paid the policy limits for a loss
to the insured dwelling under a personal residential property
insurance policy, or policy limits for a loss to each insured
structure that was damaged under a commercial residential
property insurance policy.
3. If the insurer elects to nonrenew a policy covering a
property that has been damaged, the insurer must provide at
least 90 days' notice to the insured that the insurer intends to
nonrenew the policy 90 days after the dwelling or residential
property has been repaired. This subsection does not prevent the
insurer from canceling or nonrenewing the policy 90 days after
the repairs are complete for the same reasons the insurer would
otherwise have canceled or nonrenewed the policy but for the
limitations of this subsection. The commission may adopt rules,
and the Commissioner of Insurance Regulation may issue orders,
necessary to implement this subsection.
4. For purposes of this subsection:
a. A structure is deemed to be repaired when the following
persons have inspected and certified or attested to the
completion of the repairs:
(I) A home inspector licensed under s. 468.8314;
(II) A building code inspector certified under s. 468.607;
(III) A general, building, or residential contractor
licensed under s. 489.111;
(IV) A professional engineer licensed under s. 471.015; or
(V) A professional architect licensed under s. 481.213.
b. If a policy is extended or renewed to comply with this

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70	subsection or with any other provision of the Commissioner of
71	Insurance Regulation's order, the policy must contain similar
72	policy terms as the policy being extended or renewed. However,
73	this subsection does not impact current law with regard to the
74	rates insurers may charge for policies extended or renewed under
75	this subsection.
76	c. Flood damage that is not communicated to the insurer and
77	the agent of the insurer before the expiration of the policy is
78	presumed nonexistent and may not be construed to alter any terms
79	of a policy, create a separate cause of action, or create any
80	additional duty on the part of the insurer or an agent of an
81	insurer to the insured.
82	5. This subsection does not affect the provisions of s.
83	<u>95.11 or s. 627.70132.</u>
84	6. This paragraph is not intended to revise or modify any
85	provision of an emergency order issued by the office before July
86	<u>1, 2024.</u>
87	Section 2. Paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section
88	627.4133, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
89	627.4133 Notice of cancellation, nonrenewal, or renewal
90	premium
91	(2) With respect to any personal lines or commercial
92	residential property insurance policy, including, but not
93	limited to, any homeowner, mobile home owner, farmowner,
94	condominium association, condominium unit owner, apartment
95	building, or other policy covering a residential structure or
96	its contents:
97	(e)1. An authorized insurer may not cancel or nonrenew a
98	personal residential or commercial residential property

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99 insurance policy covering a dwelling or residential property 100 located in this state:

101 a. For a period of 90 days after the dwelling or 102 residential property has been repaired, if such property has 103 been damaged as a result of a hurricane or wind loss that is the 104 subject of the declaration of emergency pursuant to s. 252.36 105 and the filing of an order by the Commissioner of Insurance 106 Regulation. Damage under this sub-subparagraph includes flood 107 damage caused by a hurricane if flood is a covered peril under 108 the personal residential or commercial residential property 109 insurance policy. If flood is not a covered peril under the 110 personal residential or commercial residential property 111 insurance policy and the property has been damaged as a result 112 of flood caused by a hurricane, an insurer may not cancel or 113 nonrenew the personal residential or commercial residential 114 property insurance policy until the earlier of when the property 115 has been repaired or 18 months after the date of loss.

b. Until the earlier of when the dwelling or residential 117 property has been repaired or 1 year after the insurer issues 118 the final claim payment, if such property was damaged by any 119 covered peril and sub-subparagraph a. does not apply.

120 2. However, an insurer or agent may cancel or nonrenew such 121 a policy before prior to the repair of the dwelling or 122 residential property:

a. Upon 10 days' notice for nonpayment of premium; or b. Upon 45 days' notice:

125 (I) For a material misstatement or fraud related to the 126 claim;

(II) If the insurer determines that the insured has

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128 unreasonably caused a delay in the repair of the dwelling; or 129 (III) If the insurer has paid policy limits <u>for a loss to</u> 130 <u>the insured dwelling under a personal residential policy, or</u> 131 <u>policy limits for a loss to each insured structure that was</u> 132 <u>damaged under a commercial residential policy</u>.

133 3. If the insurer elects to nonrenew a policy covering a 134 property that has been damaged, the insurer must shall provide 135 at least 90 days' notice to the insured that the insurer intends to nonrenew the policy 90 days after the dwelling or residential 136 137 property has been repaired. Nothing in This paragraph does not 138 shall prevent the insurer from canceling or nonrenewing the 139 policy 90 days after the repairs are complete for the same 140 reasons the insurer would otherwise have canceled or nonrenewed 141 the policy but for the limitations of subparagraph 1. The 142 Financial Services Commission may adopt rules, and the 143 Commissioner of Insurance Regulation may issue orders, necessary 144 to implement this paragraph.

4. This paragraph is not intended to revise or modify any provision of an emergency order issued by the office before July <u>1, 2024</u> This paragraph shall also apply to personal residential and commercial residential policies covering property that was damaged as the result of Hurricane Ian or Hurricane Nicole.

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5. For purposes of this paragraph:

a. A structure is deemed to be repaired when the following persons have inspected and certified or attested to the completion of the repairs:
(I) A home inspector licensed under s. 468.8314;

(II) A building code inspector certified under s. 468.607; (III) A general, building, or residential contractor

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157	licensed under s. 489.111;
158	(IV) A professional engineer licensed under s. 471.015; or
159	(V) A professional architect licensed under s. 481.213
160	substantially completed and restored to the extent that it is
161	insurable by another authorized insurer writing policies in this
162	state.
163	b. The term "insurer" means an authorized insurer.
164	c. If a policy is extended or renewed to comply with this
165	paragraph or with any other provision of the Commissioner of
166	Insurance Regulation's order, the policy must contain similar
167	policy terms as the policy being extended or renewed. However,
168	this paragraph does not impact current law with regard to the
169	rates insurers may charge for policies extended or renewed under
170	this paragraph.
171	d. Flood damage that is not communicated to the insurer and
172	the agent of the insurer before the expiration of the policy is
173	presumed nonexistent and may not be construed to alter any terms
174	of a policy, create a separate cause of action, or create any
175	additional duty on the part of the insurer or an agent of an
176	insurer to the insured.
177	6. This paragraph does not affect the provisions of s.
178	<u>95.11 or. s. 627.70132.</u>
179	Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.
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181	=========== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =================================
182	And the title is amended as follows:
183	Delete everything before the enacting clause
184	and insert:
185	A bill to be entitled

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186 An act relating to policy cancellations and 187 nonrenewals by property insurers; amending s. 188 626.9201, F.S.; prohibiting insurers from canceling 189 and nonrenewing, within certain timeframes, policies 190 covering personal residential or commercial 191 residential properties damaged by hurricanes or wind 192 losses; providing exceptions; providing construction; 193 authorizing the Financial Services Commission to adopt 194 rules and the Commissioner of Insurance Regulation to 195 issue orders; requiring that certain policies contain 196 similar terms under certain circumstances; amending s. 197 627.4133, F.S.; prohibiting insurers from canceling 198 and nonrenewing, within certain timeframes, policies 199 covering personal residential or commercial 200 residential properties damaged by hurricanes or wind 201 losses; providing that such prohibition applies to 202 flood damages caused by hurricanes under certain 203 circumstances; revising exceptions; providing 204 construction; requiring that certain policies contain 205 similar terms under certain circumstances; providing 206 an effective date.