By the Council for Competitive Commerce and Representative Lee

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to minority-owned property and casualty insurers; amending s. 624.4072, F.S.; increasing a period of exemption from certain taxes and assessments for certain minority businesses; extending a future repeal; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsections (1) and (4) of section 624.4072, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

624.4072 Minority-owned property and casualty insurers; limited exemption for taxation and assessments.--

- (1) A minority business that is at least 51 percent owned by minority persons, as defined in s. 288.703(3), initially issued a certificate of authority in this state as an authorized insurer after May 1, 1998, to write property and casualty insurance shall be exempt, for a period not to exceed  $\underline{10}$  5 years from the date of receiving its certificate of authority, from the following taxes and assessments:
- (a) Taxes imposed under ss. 175.101, 185.08, and 624.509;
- (b) Assessments by the Florida Residential Property and Casualty Joint Underwriting Association or by the Florida Windstorm Underwriting Association, as provided under s. 627.351, except for emergency assessments collected from policyholders pursuant to s. 627.351(2)(b)2.d.(III) and (6)(b)3.d. Any such insurer shall be a member insurer of the Florida Windstorm Underwriting Association and the Florida Residential Property and Casualty Joint Underwriting

Association. The premiums of such insurer shall be included in determining, for the Florida Windstorm Underwriting Association, the aggregate statewide direct written premium for property insurance and in determining, for the Florida Residential Property and Casualty Joint Underwriting Association, the aggregate statewide direct written premium for the subject lines of business for all member insurers. (4) This section is repealed effective December 31, 2010 <del>July 1, 2003</del>, and the tax and assessment exemptions authorized by this section shall terminate on such date. Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.