40-1745A-07

| 1 | A bill to be entitled |
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| 2 | An act relating to the Citizens Property |
| 3 | Insurance Corporation; amending s. 627.351, |
| 4 | F.S.; revising legislative findings to provide |
| 5 | a finding that the lack of affordable property |
| 6 | insurance threatens the public health, safety, |
| 7 | and welfare and threatens the economic health |
| 8 | of the state; authorizing the corporation to |
| 9 | offer multiperil coverage, wind-only coverage, |
| 10 | or both types of coverage in the high-risk |
| 11 | account; providing legislative intent that such |
| 12 | coverage not affect the creditworthiness of or |
| 13 | security for outstanding financing obligations |
| 14 | of the high-risk account, the personal lines |
| 15 | account, or the commercial lines account; |
| 16 | authorizing a policyholder to choose coverage |
| 17 | from the corporation regardless of the |
| 18 | availability of other coverage under certain |
| 19 | circumstances; deleting certain limitations on |
| 20 | eligibility for a policy issued by the |
| 21 | corporation; revising requirements for the |
| 22 | corporation in determining whether an |
| 23 | individual risk is eligible for coverage; |
| 24 | deleting provisions providing that a |
| 25 | policyholder is no longer eligible for coverage |
| 26 | if an authorized insurer offers coverage at an |
| 27 | approved rate; prohibiting issuance of new |
| 28 | certificates of authority to certain insurers; |
| 29 | providing for expiration of existing |
| 30 | certificates of authority of certain insurers; |
| 31 | prohibiting the Office of Insurance Regulation |

1 and the Financial Services Commission from 2 renewing or reissuing existing certificates of authority of certain insurers; requiring rate 3 4 filings of certain insurers to include certain 5 parent company profits information; providing 6 effective dates. 7 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 8 9 10 Section 1. Paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of subsection (6) of section 627.351, Florida Statutes, as amended by 11 12 section 21 of chapter 2007-1, Laws of Florida, is amended to 13 read: 627.351 Insurance risk apportionment plans.--14 (6) CITIZENS PROPERTY INSURANCE CORPORATION. --15 (a)1. The Legislature finds that private insurers are 16 17 unwilling or unable to provide affordable property insurance 18 coverage in this state to the extent sought and needed. The absence of affordable property insurance threatens the public 19 health, safety, and welfare and likewise threatens the 20 21 economic health of the state. The Legislature finds therefore that it is a compelling public interest and public purpose to 22 23 assist in ensuring that property in the state is insured and that it is insured at affordable rates so as to facilitate the 2.4 remediation, reconstruction, and replacement of damaged or 25 destroyed property in order to reduce or avoid the negative 26 27 effects otherwise resulting to the public health, safety, and 2.8 welfare; to the economy of the state; and to the revenues of the state and local governments which are needed to provide 29 for the public welfare. It is necessary, therefore, to provide 30

affordable property insurance to applicants who are in good

faith entitled to procure insurance through the voluntary 2 market but are unable to do so. The Legislature intends by this subsection that affordable property insurance be provided 3 4 and that it continue, as long as necessary, through an entity 5 that is not devoted to private profitmaking pursuits and that 6 is organized to achieve efficiencies and economies, while 7 providing service to policyholder, applicants, and agents which equals or exceeds the quality generally provided in the 8 voluntary market, all toward the achievement of the foregoing 9 10 public purposes. To that end, such entity shall strive to increase the availability of affordable property insurance in 11 12 this state and shall offer the lowest rates possible 13 consistent with sound business practices. Because it is essential for the corporation to have the maximum financial 14 resources to pay claims following a catastrophic hurricane, it 15 is the intent of the Legislature that the income of the 16 17 corporation be exempt from federal income taxation and that interest on the debt obligations issued by the corporation be 18 exempt from federal income taxation. The Legislature finds 19 2.0 that actual and threatened catastrophic losses to property in 21 this state from hurricanes have caused insurers to be 2.2 unwilling or unable to provide property insurance coverage to 23 the extent sought and needed. It is in the public interest and 2.4 a public purpose to assist in assuring that property in the is insured so as to facilitate the remediation, 2.5 26 reconstruction, and replacement of damaged or destroyed 27 property in order to reduce or avoid the negative effects 2.8 otherwise resulting to the public health, safety, and welfare; 29 the economy of the state; and to the revenues of the state local governments needed to provide for the public 30 31 welfare. It is necessary, therefore, to provide property

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insurance to applicants who are in good faith entitled to procure insurance through the voluntary market but are unable to do so. The Legislature intends by this subsection that property insurance be provided and that it continues, as long as necessary, through an entity organized to achieve efficiencies and economies, while providing service to policyholders, applicants, and agents that is no less than the quality generally provided in the voluntary market, all toward the achievement of the foregoing public purposes. Because it is essential for the corporation to have the maximum financial resources to pay claims following a catastrophic hurricane, it is the intent of the Legislature that the income of the corporation be exempt from federal income taxation and that interest on the debt obligations issued by the corporation be exempt from federal income taxation.

The Residential Property and Casualty Joint Underwriting Association originally created by this statute shall be known, as of July 1, 2002, as the Citizens Property Insurance Corporation. The corporation shall provide insurance for residential and commercial property, for applicants who are in good faith entitled, but are unable, to procure insurance through the voluntary market. The corporation shall operate pursuant to a plan of operation approved by order of the Financial Services Commission. The plan is subject to continuous review by the commission. The commission may, by order, withdraw approval of all or part of a plan if the commission determines that conditions have changed since approval was granted and that the purposes of the plan require changes in the plan. The corporation shall continue to operate pursuant to the plan of operation approved by the Office of Insurance Regulation until October 1, 2006. For the purposes

of this subsection, residential coverage includes both
personal lines residential coverage, which consists of the
type of coverage provided by homeowner's, mobile home owner's,
dwelling, tenant's, condominium unit owner's, and similar
policies, and commercial lines residential coverage, which
consists of the type of coverage provided by condominium
association, apartment building, and similar policies.

- 3. For the purposes of this subsection, the term "homestead property" means:
- a. Property that has been granted a homestead exemption under chapter 196;
- b. Property for which the owner has a current, written lease with a renter for a term of at least 7 months and for which the dwelling is insured by the corporation for \$200,000 or less;
- c. An owner-occupied mobile home or manufactured home, as defined in s. 320.01, which is permanently affixed to real property, is owned by a Florida resident, and has been granted a homestead exemption under chapter 196 or, if the owner does not own the real property, the owner certifies that the mobile home or manufactured home is his or her principal place of residence;
 - d. Tenant's coverage;
 - e. Commercial lines residential property; or
- f. Any county, district, or municipal hospital; a hospital licensed by any not-for-profit corporation qualified under s. 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code; or a continuing care retirement community that is certified under chapter 651 and that receives an exemption from ad valorem taxes under chapter 196.

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- 4. For the purposes of this subsection, the term "nonhomestead property" means property that is not homestead property.
- 5. Effective July 1, 2008, a personal lines residential structure that has a dwelling replacement cost of \$1 million or more, or a single condominium unit that has a combined dwelling and content replacement cost of \$1 million or more is not eligible for coverage by the corporation. Such dwellings insured by the corporation on June 30, 2008, may continue to be covered by the corporation until the end of the policy term. However, such dwellings that are insured by the corporation and become ineligible for coverage due to the provisions of this subparagraph may reapply and obtain coverage in the high-risk account and be considered "nonhomestead property" if the property owner provides the corporation with a sworn affidavit from one or more insurance agents, on a form provided by the corporation, stating that the agents have made their best efforts to obtain coverage and that the property has been rejected for coverage by at least one authorized insurer and at least three surplus lines insurers. If such conditions are met, the dwelling may be insured by the corporation for up to 3 years, after which time the dwelling is ineligible for coverage. The office shall approve the method used by the corporation for valuing the dwelling replacement cost for the purposes of this subparagraph. If a policyholder is insured by the corporation prior to being determined to be ineligible pursuant to this subparagraph and such policyholder files a lawsuit challenging the determination, the policyholder may remain insured by the corporation until the conclusion of the litigation.

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- 6. For properties constructed on or after January 1, 2009, the corporation may not insure any property located within 2,500 feet landward of the coastal construction control line created pursuant to s. 161.053 unless the property meets the requirements of the code-plus building standards developed by the Florida Building Commission.
- 7. It is the intent of the Legislature that policyholders, applicants, and agents of the corporation receive service and treatment of the highest possible level but never less than that generally provided in the voluntary market. It also is intended that the corporation be held to service standards no less than those applied to insurers in the voluntary market by the office with respect to responsiveness, timeliness, customer courtesy, and overall dealings with policyholders, applicants, or agents of the corporation.
- (b)1. All insurers authorized to write one or more subject lines of business in this state are subject to assessment by the corporation and, for the purposes of this subsection, are referred to collectively as "assessable insurers." Insurers writing one or more subject lines of business in this state pursuant to part VIII of chapter 626 are not assessable insurers, but insureds who procure one or more subject lines of business in this state pursuant to part VIII of chapter 626 are subject to assessment by the corporation and are referred to collectively as "assessable insureds." An authorized insurer's assessment liability shall begin on the first day of the calendar year following the year in which the insurer was issued a certificate of authority to transact insurance for subject lines of business in this state and shall terminate 1 year after the end of the first calendar

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year during which the insurer no longer holds a certificate of authority to transact insurance for subject lines of business in this state.

- 2.a. All revenues, assets, liabilities, losses, and
 expenses of the corporation shall be divided into three
 separate accounts as follows:
- (I) A personal lines account for personal residential policies issued by the corporation or issued by the Residential Property and Casualty Joint Underwriting Association and renewed by the corporation that provide comprehensive, multiperil coverage on risks that are not located in areas eligible for coverage in the Florida Windstorm Underwriting Association as those areas were defined on January 1, 2002, and for such policies that do not provide coverage for the peril of wind on risks that are located in such areas;
- residential and commercial nonresidential policies issued by the corporation or issued by the Residential Property and Casualty Joint Underwriting Association and renewed by the corporation that provide coverage for basic property perils on risks that are not located in areas eligible for coverage in the Florida Windstorm Underwriting Association as those areas were defined on January 1, 2002, and for such policies that do not provide coverage for the peril of wind on risks that are located in such areas; and
- (III) A high-risk account for personal residential policies and commercial residential and commercial nonresidential property policies issued by the corporation or transferred to the corporation that provide coverage for the peril of wind on risks that are located in areas eligible for

coverage in the Florida Windstorm Underwriting Association as 2 those areas were defined on January 1, 2002. Beginning July 1, 2007, the corporation may offer multiperil coverage, wind-only 3 4 coverage, or both types of coverage in the high-risk account. In issuing multiperil coverage, the corporation may use its 5 6 approved policy forms and rates for personal lines accounts 7 through December 31, 2007. It is the intent of the Legislature 8 that the offer of multiperil coverage in the high-risk account be made and implemented in a manner that does not adversely 9 10 affect the creditworthiness of or security for currently outstanding financing obligations or credit facilities of the 11 high-risk account, the personal lines account, or the 12 13 commercial lines account. Subject to the approval of a business plan by the Financial Services Commission and 14 Legislative Budget Commission as provided in this 15 sub-sub-subparagraph, but no earlier than March 31, 2007, the 16 corporation may offer policies that provide multiperil 18 coverage and the corporation shall continue to offer policies that provide coverage only for the peril of wind for risks 19 located in areas eligible for coverage in the high-risk 20 21 account. In issuing multiperil coverage, the corporation may 22 use its approved policy forms and rates for the personal lines 23 account. An applicant or insured who is eligible to purchase a multiperil policy from the corporation may purchase a 2.4 multiperil policy from an authorized insurer without prejudice 25 to the applicant's or insured's eligibility to prospectively 26 27 purchase a policy that provides coverage only for the peril of 2.8 wind from the corporation. An applicant or insured who is 29 eligible for a corporation policy that provides coverage only for the peril of wind may elect to purchase or retain such 30 policy and also purchase or retain coverage excluding wind

from an authorized insurer without prejudice to the 2 applicant's or insured's eligibility to prospectively purchase a policy that provides multiperil coverage from the 3 corporation. It is the goal of the Legislature that there 4 would be an overall average savings of 10 percent or more for 5 6 a policyholder who currently has a wind-only policy with the 7 corporation, and an ex-wind policy with a voluntary insurer or 8 the corporation, and who then obtains a multiperil policy from the corporation. It is the intent of the Legislature that the 9 offer of multiperil coverage in the high-risk account be made 10 and implemented in a manner that does not adversely affect the 11 12 tax-exempt status of the corporation or creditworthiness of or 13 security for currently outstanding financing obligations or credit facilities of the high-risk account, the personal lines 14 account, or the commercial lines account. By March 1, 2007, 15 the corporation shall prepare and submit for approval by the 16 Financial Services Commission and Legislative Budget 18 Commission a report detailing the corporation's business plan for issuing multiperil coverage in the high-risk account. The 19 business plan shall be approved or disapproved within 30 days 20 21 after receipt, as submitted or modified and resubmitted by the 22 corporation. The business plan must include: the impact of 23 such multiperil coverage on the corporation's financial resources, the impact of such multiperil coverage on the 2.4 25 corporation's tax-exempt status, the manner in which the corporation plans to implement the processing of applications 26 27 and policy forms for new and existing policyholders, the 2.8 impact of such multiperil coverage on the corporation's 29 ability to deliver customer service at the high level required by this subsection, the ability of the corporation to process 30 claims, the ability of the corporation to quote and issue

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policies, the impact of such multiperil coverage on the corporation's agents, the impact of such multiperil coverage on the corporation's existing policyholders, and the impact of such multiperil coverage on rates and premium. The high-risk account must also include quota share primary insurance under subparagraph (c)2. The area eligible for coverage under the high-risk account also includes the area within Port Canaveral, which is bordered on the south by the City of Cape Canaveral, bordered on the west by the Banana River, and bordered on the north by Federal Government property.

b. The three separate accounts must be maintained as long as financing obligations entered into by the Florida Windstorm Underwriting Association or Residential Property and Casualty Joint Underwriting Association are outstanding, in accordance with the terms of the corresponding financing documents. When the financing obligations are no longer outstanding, in accordance with the terms of the corresponding financing documents, the corporation may use a single account for all revenues, assets, liabilities, losses, and expenses of the corporation. Consistent with the requirement of this subparagraph and prudent investment policies that minimize the cost of carrying debt, the board shall exercise its best efforts to retire existing debt or to obtain approval of necessary parties to amend the terms of existing debt, so as to structure the most efficient plan to consolidate the three separate accounts into a single account. By February 1, 2007, the board shall submit a report to the Financial Services Commission, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives which includes an analysis of consolidating the accounts, the actions the board has taken to

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minimize the cost of carrying debt, and its recommendations for executing the most efficient plan.

- c. Creditors of the Residential Property and Casualty Joint Underwriting Association shall have a claim against, and recourse to, the accounts referred to in sub-sub-subparagraphs a.(I) and (II) and shall have no claim against, or recourse to, the account referred to in sub-sub-subparagraph a.(III). Creditors of the Florida Windstorm Underwriting Association shall have a claim against, and recourse to, the account referred to in sub-sub-subparagraph a.(III) and shall have no claim against, or recourse to, the accounts referred to in sub-sub-subparagraphs a.(I) and (II).
- d. Revenues, assets, liabilities, losses, and expenses not attributable to particular accounts shall be prorated among the accounts.
- e. The Legislature finds that the revenues of the corporation are revenues that are necessary to meet the requirements set forth in documents authorizing the issuance of bonds under this subsection.
- f. No part of the income of the corporation may inure to the benefit of any private person.
 - 3. With respect to a deficit in an account:
- a. When the deficit incurred in a particular calendar year is not greater than 10 percent of the aggregate statewide direct written premium for the subject lines of business for the prior calendar year, the entire deficit shall be recovered through regular assessments of assessable insurers under paragraph (p) and assessable insureds.
- b. When the deficit incurred in a particular calendar year exceeds 10 percent of the aggregate statewide direct written premium for the subject lines of business for the

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prior calendar year, the corporation shall levy regular assessments on assessable insurers under paragraph (p) and on assessable insureds in an amount equal to the greater of 10 percent of the deficit or 10 percent of the aggregate statewide direct written premium for the subject lines of business for the prior calendar year. Any remaining deficit shall be recovered through emergency assessments under sub-subparagraph d.

c. Each assessable insurer's share of the amount being assessed under sub-subparagraph a. or sub-subparagraph b. shall be in the proportion that the assessable insurer's direct written premium for the subject lines of business for the year preceding the assessment bears to the aggregate statewide direct written premium for the subject lines of business for that year. The assessment percentage applicable to each assessable insured is the ratio of the amount being assessed under sub-subparagraph a. or sub-subparagraph b. to the aggregate statewide direct written premium for the subject lines of business for the prior year. Assessments levied by the corporation on assessable insurers under sub-subparagraphs a. and b. shall be paid as required by the corporation's plan of operation and paragraph (p). Notwithstanding any other provision of this subsection, the aggregate amount of a regular assessment for a deficit incurred in a particular calendar year shall be reduced by the estimated amount to be received by the corporation from the Citizens policyholder surcharge under subparagraph (c)11. and the amount collected or estimated to be collected from the assessment on Citizens policyholders pursuant to sub-subparagraph i. Assessments levied by the corporation on assessable insureds under sub-subparagraphs a. and b. shall be collected by the surplus

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lines agent at the time the surplus lines agent collects the surplus lines tax required by s. 626.932 and shall be paid to the Florida Surplus Lines Service Office at the time the surplus lines agent pays the surplus lines tax to the Florida Surplus Lines Service Office. Upon receipt of regular assessments from surplus lines agents, the Florida Surplus Lines Service Office shall transfer the assessments directly to the corporation as determined by the corporation.

d. Upon a determination by the board of governors that a deficit in an account exceeds the amount that will be recovered through regular assessments under sub-subparagraph a. or sub-subparagraph b., the board shall levy, after verification by the office, emergency assessments, for as many years as necessary to cover the deficits, to be collected by assessable insurers and the corporation and collected from assessable insureds upon issuance or renewal of policies for subject lines of business, excluding National Flood Insurance policies. The amount of the emergency assessment collected in a particular year shall be a uniform percentage of that year's direct written premium for subject lines of business and all accounts of the corporation, excluding National Flood Insurance Program policy premiums, as annually determined by the board and verified by the office. The office shall verify the arithmetic calculations involved in the board's determination within 30 days after receipt of the information on which the determination was based. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the corporation and each assessable insurer that writes subject lines of business shall collect emergency assessments from its policyholders without such obligation being affected by any credit, limitation, exemption, or deferment. Emergency assessments levied by the

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corporation on assessable insureds shall be collected by the 2 surplus lines agent at the time the surplus lines agent collects the surplus lines tax required by s. 626.932 and 3 shall be paid to the Florida Surplus Lines Service Office at 4 the time the surplus lines agent pays the surplus lines tax to 5 the Florida Surplus Lines Service Office. The emergency 7 assessments so collected shall be transferred directly to the 8 corporation on a periodic basis as determined by the corporation and shall be held by the corporation solely in the 9 applicable account. The aggregate amount of emergency 10 assessments levied for an account under this sub-subparagraph 11 12 in any calendar year may not exceed the greater of 10 percent 13 of the amount needed to cover the original deficit, plus interest, fees, commissions, required reserves, and other 14 costs associated with financing of the original deficit, or 10 15 percent of the aggregate statewide direct written premium for 16 subject lines of business and for all accounts of the 18 corporation for the prior year, plus interest, fees, commissions, required reserves, and other costs associated 19 with financing the original deficit. 20

e. The corporation may pledge the proceeds of assessments, projected recoveries from the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund, other insurance and reinsurance recoverables, policyholder surcharges and other surcharges, and other funds available to the corporation as the source of revenue for and to secure bonds issued under paragraph (p), bonds or other indebtedness issued under subparagraph (c)3., or lines of credit or other financing mechanisms issued or created under this subsection, or to retire any other debt incurred as a result of deficits or events giving rise to deficits, or in any other way that the board determines will

efficiently recover such deficits. The purpose of the lines of 2 credit or other financing mechanisms is to provide additional resources to assist the corporation in covering claims and 3 expenses attributable to a catastrophe. As used in this 4 subsection, the term "assessments" includes regular 5 assessments under sub-subparagraph a., sub-subparagraph b., or 7 subparagraph (p)1. and emergency assessments under 8 sub-subparagraph d. Emergency assessments collected under 9 sub-subparagraph d. are not part of an insurer's rates, are not premium, and are not subject to premium tax, fees, or 10 commissions; however, failure to pay the emergency assessment 11 12 shall be treated as failure to pay premium. The emergency 13 assessments under sub-subparagraph d. shall continue as long as any bonds issued or other indebtedness incurred with 14 respect to a deficit for which the assessment was imposed 15 16 remain outstanding, unless adequate provision has been made for the payment of such bonds or other indebtedness pursuant 18 to the documents governing such bonds or other indebtedness. f. As used in this subsection, the term "subject lines 19 of business" means insurance written by assessable insurers or 20 21 procured by assessable insureds for all property and casualty 22 lines of business in this state, but not including workers' 23 compensation or medical malpractice. As used in the sub-subparagraph, the term "property and casualty lines of 2.4 business" includes all lines of business identified on Form 2, 2.5 Exhibit of Premiums and Losses, in the annual statement 26 27 required of authorized insurers by s. 624.424 and any rule 2.8 adopted under this section, except for those lines identified 29 as accident and health insurance and except for policies written under the National Flood Insurance Program or the 30

Federal Crop Insurance Program. For purposes of this

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sub-subparagraph, the term "workers' compensation" includes both workers' compensation insurance and excess workers' compensation insurance.

- g. The Florida Surplus Lines Service Office shall determine annually the aggregate statewide written premium in subject lines of business procured by assessable insureds and shall report that information to the corporation in a form and at a time the corporation specifies to ensure that the corporation can meet the requirements of this subsection and the corporation's financing obligations.
- h. The Florida Surplus Lines Service Office shall verify the proper application by surplus lines agents of assessment percentages for regular assessments and emergency assessments levied under this subparagraph on assessable insureds and shall assist the corporation in ensuring the accurate, timely collection and payment of assessments by surplus lines agents as required by the corporation.
- i. If a deficit is incurred in any account in 2008 or thereafter, the board of governors shall levy an immediate assessment against the premium of each nonhomestead property policyholder in all accounts of the corporation, as a uniform percentage of the premium of the policy of up to 10 percent of such premium, which funds shall be used to offset the deficit. If this assessment is insufficient to eliminate the deficit, the board of governors shall levy an additional assessment against all policyholders of the corporation, which shall be collected at the time of issuance or renewal of a policy, as a uniform percentage of the premium for the policy of up to 10 percent of such premium, which funds shall be used to further offset the deficit.

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- j. The board of governors shall maintain separate accounting records that consolidate data for nonhomestead properties, including, but not limited to, number of policies, insured values, premiums written, and losses. The board of governors shall annually report to the office and the Legislature a summary of such data.
 - (c) The plan of operation of the corporation:
- 1. Must provide for adoption of residential property and casualty insurance policy forms and commercial residential and nonresidential property insurance forms, which forms must be approved by the office prior to use. The corporation shall adopt the following policy forms:
- a. Standard personal lines policy forms that are comprehensive multiperil policies providing full coverage of a residential property equivalent to the coverage provided in the private insurance market under an HO-3, HO-4, or HO-6 policy.
- b. Basic personal lines policy forms that are policies similar to an HO-8 policy or a dwelling fire policy that provide coverage meeting the requirements of the secondary mortgage market, but which coverage is more limited than the coverage under a standard policy.
- c. Commercial lines residential and nonresidential policy forms that are generally similar to the basic perils of full coverage obtainable for commercial residential structures and commercial nonresidential structures in the admitted voluntary market.
- d. Personal lines and commercial lines residential property insurance forms that cover the peril of wind only. The forms are applicable only to residential properties

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located in areas eligible for coverage under the high-risk account referred to in sub-subparagraph (b)2.a.

- e. Commercial lines nonresidential property insurance forms that cover the peril of wind only. The forms are applicable only to nonresidential properties located in areas eligible for coverage under the high-risk account referred to in sub-subparagraph (b)2.a.
- f. The corporation may adopt variations of the policy forms listed in sub-subparagraphs a.-e. that contain more restrictive coverage.
- 2.a. Must provide that the corporation adopt a program in which the corporation and authorized insurers enter into quota share primary insurance agreements for hurricane coverage, as defined in s. 627.4025(2)(a), for eligible risks, and adopt property insurance forms for eligible risks which cover the peril of wind only. As used in this subsection, the term:
- arrangement in which the primary insurance" means an eligible risk is provided in specified percentages by the corporation and an authorized insurer. The corporation and authorized insurer are each solely responsible for a specified percentage of hurricane coverage of an eligible risk as set forth in a quota share primary insurance agreement between the corporation and an authorized insurer and the insurance contract. The responsibility of the corporation or authorized insurer to pay its specified percentage of hurricane losses of an eligible risk, as set forth in the quota share primary insurance agreement, may not be altered by the inability of the other party to the agreement to pay its specified percentage of hurricane losses. Eligible risks that are

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provided hurricane coverage through a quota share primary insurance arrangement must be provided policy forms that set forth the obligations of the corporation and authorized insurer under the arrangement, clearly specify the percentages of quota share primary insurance provided by the corporation and authorized insurer, and conspicuously and clearly state that neither the authorized insurer nor the corporation may be held responsible beyond its specified percentage of coverage of hurricane losses.

- (II) "Eligible risks" means personal lines residential and commercial lines residential risks that meet the underwriting criteria of the corporation and are located in areas that were eligible for coverage by the Florida Windstorm Underwriting Association on January 1, 2002.
- b. The corporation may enter into quota share primary insurance agreements with authorized insurers at corporation coverage levels of 90 percent and 50 percent.
- c. If the corporation determines that additional coverage levels are necessary to maximize participation in quota share primary insurance agreements by authorized insurers, the corporation may establish additional coverage levels. However, the corporation's quota share primary insurance coverage level may not exceed 90 percent.
- d. Any quota share primary insurance agreement entered into between an authorized insurer and the corporation must provide for a uniform specified percentage of coverage of hurricane losses, by county or territory as set forth by the corporation board, for all eligible risks of the authorized insurer covered under the quota share primary insurance agreement.

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- e. Any quota share primary insurance agreement entered into between an authorized insurer and the corporation is subject to review and approval by the office. However, such agreement shall be authorized only as to insurance contracts entered into between an authorized insurer and an insured who is already insured by the corporation for wind coverage.
- f. For all eligible risks covered under quota share primary insurance agreements, the exposure and coverage levels for both the corporation and authorized insurers shall be reported by the corporation to the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund. For all policies of eligible risks covered under quota share primary insurance agreements, the corporation and the authorized insurer shall maintain complete and accurate records for the purpose of exposure and loss reimbursement audits as required by Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund rules. The corporation and the authorized insurer shall each maintain duplicate copies of policy declaration pages and supporting claims documents.
- g. The corporation board shall establish in its plan of operation standards for quota share agreements which ensure that there is no discriminatory application among insurers as to the terms of quota share agreements, pricing of quota share agreements, incentive provisions if any, and consideration paid for servicing policies or adjusting claims.
- h. The quota share primary insurance agreement between the corporation and an authorized insurer must set forth the specific terms under which coverage is provided, including, but not limited to, the sale and servicing of policies issued under the agreement by the insurance agent of the authorized insurer producing the business, the reporting of information concerning eligible risks, the payment of premium to the

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corporation, and arrangements for the adjustment and payment of hurricane claims incurred on eligible risks by the claims adjuster and personnel of the authorized insurer. Entering into a quota sharing insurance agreement between the corporation and an authorized insurer shall be voluntary and at the discretion of the authorized insurer.

3. May provide that the corporation may employ or otherwise contract with individuals or other entities to provide administrative or professional services that may be appropriate to effectuate the plan. The corporation shall have the power to borrow funds, by issuing bonds or by incurring other indebtedness, and shall have other powers reasonably necessary to effectuate the requirements of this subsection, including, without limitation, the power to issue bonds and incur other indebtedness in order to refinance outstanding bonds or other indebtedness. The corporation may, but is not required to, seek judicial validation of its bonds or other indebtedness under chapter 75. The corporation may issue bonds or incur other indebtedness, or have bonds issued on its behalf by a unit of local government pursuant to subparagraph (g)2., in the absence of a hurricane or other weather-related event, upon a determination by the corporation, subject to approval by the office, that such action would enable it to efficiently meet the financial obligations of the corporation and that such financings are reasonably necessary to effectuate the requirements of this subsection. The corporation is authorized to take all actions needed to facilitate tax-free status for any such bonds or indebtedness, including formation of trusts or other affiliated entities. The corporation shall have the authority to pledge assessments, projected recoveries from the Florida Hurricane

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Catastrophe Fund, other reinsurance recoverables, market
equalization and other surcharges, and other funds available
to the corporation as security for bonds or other
indebtedness. In recognition of s. 10, Art. I of the State
Constitution, prohibiting the impairment of obligations of
contracts, it is the intent of the Legislature that no action
be taken whose purpose is to impair any bond indenture or
financing agreement or any revenue source committed by
contract to such bond or other indebtedness.

4.a. Must require that the corporation operate subject to the supervision and approval of a board of governors consisting of eight individuals who are residents of this state, from different geographical areas of this state. The Governor, the Chief Financial Officer, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall each appoint two members of the board. At least one of the two members appointed by each appointing officer must have demonstrated expertise in insurance. The Chief Financial Officer shall designate one of the appointees as chair. All board members serve at the pleasure of the appointing officer. All members of the board of governors are subject to removal at will by the officers who appointed them. All board members, including the chair, must be appointed to serve for 3-year terms beginning annually on a date designated by the plan. Any board vacancy shall be filled for the unexpired term by the appointing officer. The Chief Financial Officer shall appoint a technical advisory group to provide information and advice to the board of governors in connection with the board's duties under this subsection. The executive director and senior managers of the corporation shall be engaged by the board and serve at the pleasure of the board. Any executive

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to depopulation.

director appointed on or after July 1, 2006, is subject to 2 confirmation by the Senate. The executive director is responsible for employing other staff as the corporation may 3 require, subject to review and concurrence by the board. 4 5 b. The board shall create a Market Accountability 6 Advisory Committee to assist the corporation in developing 7 awareness of its rates and its customer and agent service 8 levels in relationship to the voluntary market insurers writing similar coverage. The members of the advisory 9 committee shall consist of the following 11 persons, one of 10 whom must be elected chair by the members of the committee: 11 12 four representatives, one appointed by the Florida Association 13 of Insurance Agents, one by the Florida Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors, one by the Professional 14 Insurance Agents of Florida, and one by the Latin American 15 16 Association of Insurance Agencies; three representatives 17 appointed by the insurers with the three highest voluntary 18 market share of residential property insurance business in the state; one representative from the Office of Insurance 19 Regulation; one consumer appointed by the board who is insured 20 21 by the corporation at the time of appointment to the 22 committee; one representative appointed by the Florida 23 Association of Realtors; and one representative appointed by the Florida Bankers Association. All members must serve for 2.4 3-year terms and may serve for consecutive terms. The 25 26 committee shall report to the corporation at each board

meeting on insurance market issues which may include rates and

rate competition with the voluntary market; service, including policy issuance, claims processing, and general responsiveness

to policyholders, applicants, and agents; and matters relating

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- 5. Must provide <u>procedures</u> a <u>procedure for determining</u> the eliqibility of a risk for coverage, as follows:
- a. Applicants are not ineligible for coverage based on the availability of coverage from the private insurance market or the surplus lines market. An applicant or policyholder may choose to be insured by the corporation even if the applicant or policyholder has another offer of coverage if the risk otherwise meets the underwriting quidelines of the corporation. Subject to the provisions of s. 627.3517, with respect to personal lines residential risks, if the risk is offered coverage from an authorized insurer at the insurer's approved rate under either a standard policy including wind coverage or, if consistent with the insurer's underwriting rules as filed with the office, a basic policy including wind coverage, for a new application to the corporation for coverage, the risk is not eligible for any policy issued by the corporation unless the premium for coverage from the authorized insurer is more than 25 percent greater than the premium for comparable coverage from the corporation. If the risk is not able to obtain any such offer, the risk is eligible for either a standard policy including wind coverage or a basic policy including wind coverage issued by the corporation; however, if the risk could not be insured under a standard policy including wind coverage regardless of market conditions, the risk shall be eligible for a basic policy including wind coverage unless rejected under subparagraph 8. However, with regard to a policyholder of the corporation, the policyholder remains eliqible for coverage from the corporation regardless of any offer of coverage from an authorized insurer or surplus lines insurer. The corporation shall determine the type of policy to be provided on the basis

of objective standards specified in the underwriting manual and based on generally accepted underwriting practices.

- (I) If the risk accepts an offer of coverage through the market assistance plan or an offer of coverage through a mechanism established by the corporation before a policy is issued to the risk by the corporation or during the first 30 days of coverage by the corporation, and the producing agent who submitted the application to the plan or to the corporation is not currently appointed by the insurer, the insurer shall:
- (A) Pay to the producing agent of record of the policy, for the first year, an amount that is the greater of the insurer's usual and customary commission for the type of policy written or a fee equal to the usual and customary commission of the corporation; or
- (B) Offer to allow the producing agent of record of the policy to continue servicing the policy for a period of not less than 1 year and offer to pay the agent the greater of the insurer's or the corporation's usual and customary commission for the type of policy written.

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- If the producing agent is unwilling or unable to accept appointment, the new insurer shall pay the agent in accordance with sub-sub-sub-subparagraph (A).
- (II) When the corporation enters into a contractual agreement for a take-out plan, the producing agent of record of the corporation policy is entitled to retain any unearned commission on the policy, and the insurer shall:
- (A) Pay to the producing agent of record of the corporation policy, for the first year, an amount that is the greater of the insurer's usual and customary commission for

the type of policy written or a fee equal to the usual and customary commission of the corporation; or

(B) Offer to allow the producing agent of record of the corporation policy to continue servicing the policy for a period of not less than 1 year and offer to pay the agent the greater of the insurer's or the corporation's usual and customary commission for the type of policy written.

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If the producing agent is unwilling or unable to accept appointment, the new insurer shall pay the agent in accordance with sub-sub-sub-subparagraph (A).

b. With respect to commercial lines residential risks, for a new application to the corporation for coverage, if the risk is offered coverage under a policy including wind coverage from an authorized insurer at its approved rate, the risk is not eligible for any policy issued by the corporation unless the premium for coverage from the authorized insurer is more than 25 percent greater than the premium for comparable coverage from the corporation. If the risk is not able to obtain any such offer, the risk is eligible for a policy including wind coverage issued by the corporation. However, with regard to a policyholder of the corporation, the policyholder remains eligible for coverage from the corporation regardless of any offer of coverage from an authorized insurer or surplus lines insurer.

 $\underline{b.(I)}$ If the risk accepts an offer of coverage through the market assistance plan or an offer of coverage through a mechanism established by the corporation before a policy is issued to the risk by the corporation or during the first 30 days of coverage by the corporation, and the producing agent

who submitted the application to the plan or the corporation is not currently appointed by the insurer, the insurer shall:

(I)(A) Pay to the producing agent of record of the policy, for the first year, an amount that is the greater of the insurer's usual and customary commission for the type of policy written or a fee equal to the usual and customary commission of the corporation; or

(II)(B) Offer to allow the producing agent of record of the policy to continue servicing the policy for a period of not less than 1 year and offer to pay the agent the greater of the insurer's or the corporation's usual and customary commission for the type of policy written.

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If the producing agent is unwilling or unable to accept appointment, the new insurer shall pay the agent in accordance with $\underline{\text{sub-sub-subparagraph}}$ (I) $\underline{\text{sub-sub-subparagraph}}$ (A).

 $\underline{\text{c.(II)}}$ When the corporation enters into a contractual agreement for a take-out plan, the producing agent of record of the corporation policy is entitled to retain any unearned commission on the policy, and the insurer shall:

(I)(A) Pay to the producing agent of record of the corporation policy, for the first year, an amount that is the greater of the insurer's usual and customary commission for the type of policy written or a fee equal to the usual and customary commission of the corporation; or

(II)(B) Offer to allow the producing agent of record of the corporation policy to continue servicing the policy for a period of not less than 1 year and offer to pay the agent the greater of the insurer's or the corporation's usual and customary commission for the type of policy written.

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If the producing agent is unwilling or unable to accept appointment, the new insurer shall pay the agent in accordance with $\underline{\text{sub-sub-subparagraph (I)}}$ sub-sub-subparagraph (A).

- 6. Must provide by July 1, 2007, that an application for coverage for a new policy is subject to a waiting period of 10 days before coverage is effective, during which time the corporation shall make such application available for review by general lines agents and authorized property and casualty insurers. The board shall approve an exception that allows for coverage to be effective before the end of the 10-day waiting period, for coverage issued in conjunction with a real estate closing. The board may approve such other exceptions as the board determines are necessary to prevent lapses in coverage.
- 7. Must include rules for classifications of risks and rates therefor.
- 8. Must provide that if premium and investment income for an account attributable to a particular calendar year are in excess of projected losses and expenses for the account attributable to that year, such excess shall be held in surplus in the account. Such surplus shall be available to defray deficits in that account as to future years and shall be used for that purpose prior to assessing assessable insurers and assessable insureds as to any calendar year.
- 9. Must provide objective criteria and procedures to be uniformly applied for all applicants in determining whether an individual risk is eliqible for coverage so hazardous as to be uninsurable. In making this determination and in establishing the criteria and procedures, the following shall be considered:

- a. Whether the likelihood of a loss for the individual risk is substantially higher than for other risks of the same class; and
- b. Whether the applicant has taken such actions as are reasonably necessary, as specified by the corporation, to reduce the risk of loss uncertainty associated with the individual risk is such that an appropriate premium cannot be determined.

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The acceptance or rejection of a risk by the corporation shall be construed as the private placement of insurance, and the provisions of chapter 120 shall not apply.

- 10. Must provide that the corporation shall make its best efforts to procure catastrophe reinsurance at reasonable rates, to cover its projected 100-year probable maximum loss as determined by the board of governors.
- assessments under sub-subparagraph (b)3.a. or sub-subparagraph (b)3.b., in the personal lines account, the commercial lines residential account, or the high-risk account, the corporation shall levy upon corporation policyholders in its next rate filing, or by a separate rate filing solely for this purpose, a Citizens policyholder surcharge arising from a regular assessment in such account in a percentage equal to the total amount of such regular assessments divided by the aggregate statewide direct written premium for subject lines of business for the prior calendar year. For purposes of calculating the Citizens policyholder surcharge to be levied under this subparagraph, the total amount of the regular assessment to which this surcharge is related shall be determined as set forth in subparagraph (b)3., without deducting the estimated

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Citizens policyholder surcharge. Citizens policyholder surcharges under this subparagraph are not considered premium and are not subject to commissions, fees, or premium taxes; however, failure to pay a market equalization surcharge shall be treated as failure to pay premium.

12. The policies issued by the corporation must provide that, if the corporation or the market assistance plan obtains an offer from an authorized insurer to cover the risk at its approved rates, the risk is no longer eligible for renewal through the corporation, except as otherwise provided in this subsection.

13. Corporation policies and applications must include a notice that the corporation policy could, under this section, be replaced with a policy issued by an authorized insurer that does not provide coverage identical to the coverage provided by the corporation. The notice shall also specify that acceptance of corporation coverage creates a conclusive presumption that the applicant or policyholder is aware of this potential.

12.14. May establish, subject to approval by the office, different eligibility requirements and operational procedures for any line or type of coverage for any specified county or area if the board determines that such changes to the eligibility requirements and operational procedures are justified due to the voluntary market being sufficiently stable and competitive in such area or for such line or type of coverage and that consumers who, in good faith, are unable to obtain insurance through the voluntary market through ordinary methods would continue to have access to coverage from the corporation. When coverage is sought in connection with a real property transfer, such requirements and

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procedures shall not provide for an effective date of coverage later than the date of the closing of the transfer as established by the transferor, the transferee, and, if applicable, the lender.

13.15. Must provide that, with respect to the high-risk account, any assessable insurer with a surplus as to policyholders of \$25 million or less writing 25 percent or more of its total countrywide property insurance premiums in this state may petition the office, within the first 90 days of each calendar year, to qualify as a limited apportionment company. A regular assessment levied by the corporation on a limited apportionment company for a deficit incurred by the corporation for the high-risk account in 2006 or thereafter may be paid to the corporation on a monthly basis as the assessments are collected by the limited apportionment company from its insureds pursuant to s. 627.3512, but the regular assessment must be paid in full within 12 months after being levied by the corporation. A limited apportionment company shall collect from its policyholders any emergency assessment imposed under sub-subparagraph (b)3.d. The plan shall provide that, if the office determines that any regular assessment will result in an impairment of the surplus of a limited apportionment company, the office may direct that all or part of such assessment be deferred as provided in subparagraph (g)4. However, there shall be no limitation or deferment of an emergency assessment to be collected from policyholders under sub-subparagraph (b)3.d.

14.16. Must provide that the corporation appoint as its licensed agents only those agents who also hold an appointment as defined in s. 626.015(3) with an insurer who at the time of the agent's initial appointment by the corporation

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is authorized to write and is actually writing personal lines residential property coverage, commercial residential property coverage, or commercial nonresidential property coverage within the state.

15.17. Must provide, by July 1, 2007, a premium payment plan option to its policyholders which allows for quarterly and semiannual payment of premiums.

16.18. Must provide, effective June 1, 2007, that the corporation contract with each insurer providing the non-wind coverage for risks insured by the corporation in the high-risk account, requiring that the insurer provide claims adjusting services for the wind coverage provided by the corporation for such risks. An insurer is required to enter into this contract as a condition of providing non-wind coverage for a risk that is insured by the corporation in the high-risk account unless the board finds, after a hearing, that the insurer is not capable of providing adjusting services at an acceptable level of quality to corporation policyholders. The terms and conditions of such contracts must be substantially the same as the contracts that the corporation executed with insurers under the "adjust-your-own" program in 2006, except as may be mutually agreed to by the parties and except for such changes that the board determines are necessary to ensure that claims are adjusted appropriately. The corporation shall provide a process for neutral arbitration of any dispute between the corporation and the insurer regarding the terms of the contract. The corporation shall review and monitor the performance of insurers under these contracts.

17.19. Must limit coverage on mobile homes or manufactured homes built prior to 1994 to actual cash value of the dwelling rather than replacement costs of the dwelling.

| 1 | 18.20. May provide such limits of coverage as the |
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| 2 | board determines, consistent with the requirements of this |
| 3 | subsection. |
| 4 | 19.21. May require commercial property to meet |
| 5 | specified hurricane mitigation construction features as a |
| 6 | condition of eligibility for coverage. |
| 7 | Section 2. Effective January 1, 2008, and |
| 8 | notwithstanding any other provision of law: |
| 9 | (1) A new certificate of authority for the transaction |
| 10 | of residential property insurance may not be issued to any |
| 11 | insurer domiciled in this state that is a wholly owned |
| 12 | subsidiary of an insurer authorized to do business in any |
| 13 | other state. |
| 14 | (2)(a) The existing certificate of authority for the |
| 15 | transaction of residential property insurance held by any |
| 16 | insurer domiciled in this state that is a wholly owned |
| 17 | subsidiary of an insurer authorized to do business in any |
| 18 | other state shall expire at the end of its period of |
| 19 | validation and may not be renewed or reissued by the Office of |
| 20 | Insurance Regulation or the Financial Services Commission. |
| 21 | (b) The rate filings of any insurer domiciled in this |
| 22 | state that is a wholly owned subsidiary of an insurer |
| 23 | authorized to do business in any other state shall include |
| 24 | information relating to the profits of the parent company of |
| 25 | the insurer domiciled in this state. |
| 26 | Section 3. Except as otherwise expressly provided in |
| 27 | this act, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law. |
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********** SENATE SUMMARY Authorizes the Citizens Property Insurance Corporation to offer multiperil coverage, wind-only coverage, or both types of coverage in the high-risk account. Authorizes a policyholder to choose coverage from the corporation regardless of the availability of other coverage under certain circumstances. Deletes certain limitations on eligibility for a policy issued by the corporation.
Revises requirements for the corporation in determining whether an individual risk is eligible for coverage. Deletes provisions providing that a policyholder is no longer eligible for coverage if an authorized insurer offers coverage at an approved rate. (See bill for details.)