By Senator Brandes

22-00644A-15 $\qquad$
A bill to be entitled
An act relating to Citizens Property Insurance Corporation; amending s. 215.555, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "covered policy"; amending s. 626.752, F.S.; expanding an exemption from the requirements of that section which applies to the corporation to exempt additional specified activities of the corporation; amending s. 627.351, F.S.; revising requirements relating to quota share primary insurance agreements; requiring the corporation's plan of operation to adopt a program that facilitates the removal of risks in which the corporation offers reinsurance to authorized insurers that are willing to assume risks from the corporation; specifying limitations on the corporation's participation in the assumption of risk in agreements executed under the program; deleting and revising related terms; providing that entering into specified agreements is at the discretion of the insurer; providing that if the corporation is the reinsurer, all forms and endorsements must be approved by the Office of Insurance Regulation; prohibiting the corporation from sharing risk for certain damages; requiring the corporation and each insurer to report additional information to the fund and requiring the State Board of Administration to adopt rules to administer this requirement; revising the procedures for determining whether a risk is eligible for the corporation; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section 215.555, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
215.555 Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund.-
(2) DEFINITIONS.-As used in this section:
(c) "Covered policy" means any insurance policy covering residential property in this state, including, but not limited to, a any homeowner, mobile home owner, farm owner, condominium association, condominium unit owner, tenant, or apartment building policy, or any other policy covering a residential structure or its contents issued by an authorized insurer, including a commercial self-insurance fund holding a certificate of authority issued by the Office of Insurance Regulation under s. 624.462, the Citizens Property Insurance Corporation, and any joint underwriting association or similar entity created under law. The term "covered policy" includes any collateral protection insurance policy covering personal residences which protects both the borrower's and the lender's financial interests, in an amount at least equal to the coverage for the dwelling in place under the lapsed homeowner's policy, if such policy can be accurately reported as required under in subsection (5). Additionally, Covered policies also include policies covering the peril of wind removed from the Florida Residential Property and Casualty Joint Underwxiting Association or from the Citizens Property Insurance Corporation, created under s. 627.351(6), or from the Florida Windstorm Underwiting Association, created under s. $627.351(2)$, by an authorized

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insurer under the terms and conditions of an executed Citizens Property Insurance Corporation assumption or reinsurance agreement between the authorized insurer and the such association or Citizens Property Insurance corporation. Each assumption or reinsurance agreement between the association and such authorized insurer and the or Citizens Property Insurance corporation must be approved by the Office of Insurance Regulation before the effective date of the agreement assumption, and the office ef Insurance Regulation must provide written notification to the board within 15 working days after such approval. The term "covered policy" does not include any policy that excludes wind coverage or hurricane coverage or any reinsurance agreement, other than a Citizens Property Insurance Corporation reinsurance agreement, and does not include any policy otherwise meeting this definition which is issued by a surplus lines insurer or a reinsurer. All commercial residential excess policies and all deductible buy-back policies that, based on sound actuarial principles, require individual ratemaking shall be excluded by rule if the actuarial soundness of the fund is not jeopardized. For this purpose, the term "excess policy" means a policy that provides insurance protection for large commercial property risks and that provides a layer of coverage above a primary layer insured by another insurer.

Section 2. Subsection (4) of section 626.752, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
626.752 Exchange of business.-
(4) The foregoing limitations and restrictions do shall not construed and shall not apply to the placing of surplus lines business under the provisions of part VIII of this chapter or to

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the activities of Citizens Property Insurance Corporation in placing new and renewal business with authorized insurers in accordance with s. 627.3518 or in conjunction with efforts to reduce the size of the corporation pursuant to s. 627.351(6).

Section 3. Paragraph (c) of subsection (6) of section 627.351, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
627.351 Insurance risk apportionment plans.-
(6) CITIZENS PROPERTY INSURANCE CORPORATION.-
(c) The corporation's plan of operation:

1. Must provide for adoption of residential property and casualty insurance policy forms and commercial residential and nonresidential property insurance forms, which must be approved by the office before 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 $\mathrm{HO}-3$, $\mathrm{HO}-4$, or $\mathrm{HO}-6$ 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 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

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insurance forms that cover the peril of wind only. Such the forms are applicable only to residential properties located in areas eligible for coverage under the coastal account referred to in sub-subparagraph (b) $2 . a$.
e. Commercial lines nonresidential property insurance forms that cover the peril of wind only. Such the forms are applicable only to nonresidential properties located in areas eligible for coverage under the coastal account referred to in subsubparagraph (b)2.a.
f. The corporation may adopt variations of the policy forms listed in sub-subparagraphs a.-e. which contain more restrictive coverage.
g. Effective January 1, 2013, the corporation shall offer a basic personal lines policy similar to an HO-8 policy with dwelling repair based on common construction materials and methods.
2. Must provide that the corporation adopt a program for the purpose of encouraging and facilitating the removal of risks from the corporation in which the corporation offers reinsurance that may be proportional or nonproportional to and authorized insurers that are willing to assume risks from the corporation pursuant to terms and conditions that are acceptable to the corporation. The corporation's participation in each agreement executed under the program may not exceed assumption of 80 percent of the risk subject to the agreement 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. Such agreement may provide for a decline in

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22-00644A-15 the corporation's participation in the assumption of risk for a period of up to 5 years.
a. As used in this subsection, the term $\div$
(I) "Quota share primary insurance" means an arrangement in which the primaxy hurxicane covexage of an eligible risk is provided in specified pereentages by the corporation and an authorized insurer. The corporation and authorized insurex are each solely responsible for a specified percentage of hurricane eoverage 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 aligible risk, as set forth in the agreement, may not be altered by the inability of the other party to pay its specified percentage of losses. Eligible risks that are provided hurricane coverage through a quota share primary insurance arrangement must be provided policy forms that set forth the obligations of the eorporation and authorized insurer under the arrangement, elearly specify the percentages of quota share primary insurance provided by the corporation and authorized insurer, and eonspicuously and clearly state that the authorized insurer and the corporation may not be held responsible beyond their specified percentage of coverage of hurricane losses.
(II) "eligible risks" means personal lines residential and eommercial lines residential risks that are currently insured by 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.

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b. Entering into an excess-of-loss reinsurance agreement, quota share reinsurance agreement, or quota share primary insurance agreement between the corporation and an authorized insurer is voluntary and at the discretion of the authorized insurer.
b. The coxporation may enter into quota share primaxy insurance agreements with authorized insurexs at corporation eoverage levels of 90 percent and 50 percent.
e. If the corporation determines that additional coverage levels are necessary to maximize participation in quota share primary insurance agreements by authorized insurers, the eoxporation 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 agreement.
c.e. Any excess-of-loss reinsurance agreement, quota share reinsurance agreement, or 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 may shall be authorized only for as to insurance contracts entered into between an authorized insurex and an insured who is already insured by the corporation for wind coverage. If the corporation is the reinsurer, the insurance policy forms and endorsements offered by the

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d. The corporation may not share risk for extra contractual damages at common law or under s. 624.155.
e.f. For all eligible risks covered under quota share primary insurance agreements, the exposure and coverage levels for both the corporation and authorized insurers must shall be reported by the corporation to the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund. For all policies of eligible risks covered under such agreements, the corporation and the authorized insurer must maintain complete and accurate records for the purpose of exposure and loss reimbursement audits as required by fund rules. The corporation and the authorized insurer shall each maintain duplicate copies of policy declaration pages and supporting claims documents.
f. To ensure that exposures are accurately reported to the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund, the corporation and each insurer participating in the reinsurance program shall report its exposure under covered policies to the fund as required under s. 215.555(5)(c). Each report must also specify the percentage of liability applicable to the corporation and the percentage applicable to the insurer with respect to quota share and similar agreements, or the terms of the excess-of-loss agreement in the case of such an agreement. Pursuant to its authority under s. 215.555, the State Board of Administration shall adopt rules to administer this sub-subparagraph.
g. The corporation board shall establish in its plan of

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operation standards for quota share agreements which ensure that there is no discriminatory application among insurers as to the terms of the agreements, pricing of the agreements, incentive provisions if any, and consideration paid for servicing policies or adjusting claims.
h. The quota share primary insurance agreement between the eorporation 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 undex the agreement by the insurance agent of the authorized insurex producing the busincss, the reporting of information concerning eligible risks, the payment of premium to the corporation, and arrangements for the adjustment and payment of hurricanc claims incurred on cligible 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 is 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 may 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 seek judicial validation of its bonds or other indebtedness under chapter 75. The corporation may issue bonds or incur other

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indebtedness, or have bonds issued on its behalf by a unit of local government pursuant to subparagraph (q)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 may take all actions needed to facilitate tax-free status for such bonds or indebtedness, including formation of trusts or other affiliated entities. The corporation may pledge assessments, projected recoveries from the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund, other reinsurance recoverables, policyholder surcharges 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 action may not 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. Must require that the corporation operate subject to the supervision and approval of a board of governors consisting of nine individuals who are residents of this state and who are from different geographical areas of the state, one of whom is appointed by the Governor and serves solely to advocate on behalf of the consumer. The appointment of a consumer representative by the Governor is in addition to the appointments authorized under sub-subparagraph a.
a. The Governor, the Chief Financial Officer, the President

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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 and be deemed to be within the scope of the exemption provided in s. 112.313(7)(b). 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 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. However, for the first term beginning on or after July 1, 2009, each appointing officer shall appoint one member of the board for a 2-year term and one member for a 3-year term. A 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 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 director appointed on or after July 1, 2006, is subject to confirmation by the Senate. The executive director is responsible for employing other staff as the corporation may require, subject to review and concurrence by the board.
b. The board shall create a Market Accountability Advisory Committee to assist the corporation in developing awareness of its rates and its customer and agent service levels in relationship to the voluntary market insurers writing similar coverage.

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(I) The members of the advisory committee consist of the following 11 persons, one of whom must be elected chair by the members of the committee: four representatives, one appointed by the Florida Association of Insurance Agents, one by the Florida Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors, one by the Professional Insurance Agents of Florida, and one by the Latin American Association of Insurance Agencies; three representatives appointed by the insurers with the three highest voluntary market share of residential property insurance business in the state; one representative from the Office of Insurance Regulation; one consumer appointed by the board who is insured by the corporation at the time of appointment to the committee; one representative appointed by the Florida Association of Realtors; and one representative appointed by the Florida Bankers Association. All members shall be appointed to 3-year terms and may serve for consecutive terms.
(II) The committee shall report to the corporation at each board meeting on insurance market issues that which may include rates and rate competition within the voluntary market; service, including policy issuance, claims processing, and general responsiveness to policyholders, applicants, and agents; and matters relating to depopulation.
5. Must provide a procedure for determining the eligibility of a risk for coverage, as follows:
a. Subject to s. 627.3517, with respect to personal lines residential risks, if the risk is offered new or renewal coverage from an authorized insurer at the insurer's approved rate under a standard policy including wind coverage or, if consistent with the insurer's underwriting rules as filed with

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the office, a new or renewal basic policy including wind coverage, for a new or renewal application to the corporation for coverage, the risk is not eligible for any new or renewal policy issued by the corporation unless the premium for coverage from the authorized insurer is more than 15 percent greater than the premium for comparable coverage from the corporation. Whenever an offer of coverage for a personal lines residential risk is received for a policyholder of the corporation at renewal from an authorized insurer, if the offer is equal to or less than the corporation's renewal premium for comparable coverage, the risk is not eligible for coverage with the corporation. If the risk is not able to obtain such offer, the risk is eligible for 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 is eligible for a basic policy including wind coverage unless rejected under subparagraph 8. However, a policyholder removed from the corporation through an assumption agreement remains eligible for coverage from the corporation until the end of the assumption period. 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 through a mechanism established by the corporation other than a plan established by s. 627.3518, 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

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(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 ef the policy to continue servicing the policy for at least 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.

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) If 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, 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 to continue servicing the policy for at least 1 year and offer to pay the agent the greater of the insurer's or the corporation's

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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 a policy issued by the corporation unless the premium for coverage from the authorized insurer is more than 15 percent greater than the premium for comparable coverage from the corporation. Whenever an offer of coverage for a commercial lines residential risk is received for a policyholder of the corporation at renewal from an authorized insurer, if the offer is equal to or less than the corporation's renewal premium for comparable coverage, the risk is not eligible for coverage with the corporation. If the risk is not able to obtain such offer, the risk is eligible for a policy including wind coverage issued by the corporation. However, a policyholder removed from the corporation through an assumption agreement remains eligible for coverage from the corporation until the end of the assumption period.
(I) If the risk accepts an offer of coverage through the market assistance plan or through a mechanism established by the corporation other than a plan established by s. 627.3518, 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

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(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 ef the policy to continue servicing the policy for at least 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.

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) If 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, 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 to continue servicing the policy for at least 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).
c. For purposes of determining comparable coverage under sub-subparagraphs a. and b., the comparison must be based on those forms and coverages that are reasonably comparable. The corporation may rely on a determination of comparable coverage and premium made by the producing agent who submits the application to the corporation, made in the agent's capacity as the corporation's agent. A comparison may be made solcly of the premium with respect to the main building or structure only on the following basis: the same coverage A or other building limits; the same percentage hurricane deductible that applies on an annual basis or that applies to each hurricane for commercial residential property; the same percentage of ordinance and law coverage, if the same limit is offered by both the corporation and the authorized insurer; the same mitigation credits, to the extent the same types of credits are offered both by the corporation and the authorized insurer; the same method for loss payment, such as replacement cost or actual cash value, if the same method is offered both by the corporation and the authorized insurer in accordance with underwriting rules; and any other form or coverage that is reasonably comparable as determined by the board. If an application is submitted to the corporation for wind-only coverage in the coastal account, the premium for the corporation's wind-only policy plus the premium for the ex-wind policy that is offered by an authorized insurer to the applicant must be compared to the premium for multiperil

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coverage offered by an authorized insurer, subject to the standards for comparison specified in this subparagraph. If the corporation or the applicant requests from the authorized insurer a breakdown of the premium of the offer by types of coverage so that a comparison may be made by the corporation or its agent and the authorized insurer refuses or is unable to provide such information, the corporation may treat the offer as not being an offer of coverage from an authorized insurer at the insurer's approved rate.
6. Must include rules for classifications of risks and rates.
7. 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 must be available to defray deficits in that account as to future years and used for that purpose before assessing assessable insurers and assessable insureds as to any calendar year.
8. Must provide objective criteria and procedures to be uniformly applied to all applicants in determining whether an individual risk is so hazardous as to be uninsurable. In making this determination and in establishing the criteria and procedures, the following must 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 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 do not apply.
9. Must provide that the corporation 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.
10. 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.
11. 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 which does not provide coverage identical to the coverage provided by the corporation. The notice must also specify that acceptance of corporation coverage creates a conclusive presumption that the applicant or policyholder is aware of this potential.
12. 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 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

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continue to have access to coverage from the corporation. If coverage is sought in connection with a real property transfer, the requirements and procedures may not provide 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. Must provide that, with respect to the coastal 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 coastal account may be paid to the corporation on a monthly basis as the assessments are collected by the limited apportionment company from its insureds, but a limited apportionment company must begin collecting the regular assessments not later than 90 days after the regular assessments are levied by the corporation, and the regular assessments must be paid in full within 15 months after being levied by the corporation. A limited apportionment company shall collect from its policyholders any emergency assessment imposed under subsubparagraph (b) 3.d. The plan must 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 (q) 4. However, an emergency assessment to be collected from policyholders under sub-

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subparagraph (b) 3.d. may not be limited or deferred.
14. 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 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. Must provide a premium payment plan option to its policyholders which, at a minimum, allows for quarterly and semiannual payment of premiums. A monthly payment plan may, but is not required to, be offered.
16. Must limit coverage on mobile homes or manufactured homes built before 1994 to actual cash value of the dwelling rather than replacement costs of the dwelling.
17. Must provide coverage for manufactured or mobile home dwellings. Such coverage must also include the following attached structures:
a. Screened enclosures that are aluminum framed or screened enclosures that are not covered by the same or substantially the same materials as those of the primary dwelling;
b. Carports that are aluminum or carports that are not covered by the same or substantially the same materials as those of the primary dwelling; and
c. Patios that have a roof covering that is constructed of materials that are not the same or substantially the same materials as those of the primary dwelling.

The corporation shall make available a policy for mobile homes
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18. May provide such limits of coverage as the board determines, consistent with the requirements of this subsection.
19. May require commercial property to meet specified hurricane mitigation construction features as a condition of eligibility for coverage.
20. Must provide that new or renewal policies issued by the corporation on or after January 1, 2012, which cover sinkhole loss do not include coverage for any loss to appurtenant structures, driveways, sidewalks, decks, or patios that are directly or indirectly caused by sinkhole activity. The corporation shall exclude such coverage using a notice of coverage change, which may be included with the policy renewal, and not by issuance of a notice of nonrenewal of the excluded coverage upon renewal of the current policy.
21. As of January 1, 2012, must require that the agent obtain from an applicant for coverage from the corporation an acknowledgment signed by the applicant, which includes, at a minimum, the following statement:

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF POTENTIAL SURCHARGE AND ASSESSMENT LIABILITY:

1. AS A POLICYHOLDER OF CITIZENS PROPERTY INSURANCE CORPORATION, I UNDERSTAND THAT IF THE CORPORATION SUSTAINS A DEFICIT AS A RESULT OF HURRICANE LOSSES OR FOR ANY OTHER REASON, MY POLICY COULD BE SUBJECT TO SURCHARGES, WHICH WILL BE DUE AND PAYABLE UPON RENEWAL, CANCELLATION, OR TERMINATION OF THE

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POLICY, AND THAT THE SURCHARGES COULD BE AS HIGH AS 45 PERCENT OF MY PREMIUM, OR A DIFFERENT AMOUNT AS IMPOSED BY THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE.
2. I UNDERSTAND THAT I CAN AVOID THE CITIZENS POLICYHOLDER SURCHARGE, WHICH COULD BE AS HIGH AS 45 PERCENT OF MY PREMIUM, BY OBTAINING COVERAGE FROM A PRIVATE MARKET INSURER AND THAT TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR COVERAGE BY CITIZENS, I MUST FIRST TRY TO OBTAIN PRIVATE MARKET COVERAGE BEFORE APPLYING FOR OR RENEWING COVERAGE WITH CITIZENS. I UNDERSTAND THAT PRIVATE MARKET INSURANCE RATES ARE REGULATED AND APPROVED BY THE STATE.
3. I UNDERSTAND THAT I MAY BE SUBJECT TO EMERGENCY ASSESSMENTS TO THE SAME EXTENT AS POLICYHOLDERS OF OTHER INSURANCE COMPANIES, OR A DIFFERENT AMOUNT AS IMPOSED BY THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE.
4. I ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT CITIZENS PROPERTY INSURANCE CORPORATION IS NOT SUPPORTED BY THE FULL FAITH AND CREDIT OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA.
a. The corporation shall maintain, in electronic format or otherwise, a copy of the applicant's signed acknowledgment and provide a copy of the statement to the policyholder as part of the first renewal after the effective date of this subparagraph.
b. The signed acknowledgment form creates a conclusive presumption that the policyholder understood and accepted his or her potential surcharge and assessment liability as a policyholder of the corporation.

Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.

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