355342

	LEGISLATIVE ACTION	
Senate		House
Comm: OO		
03/04/2019		
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The Committee on Banking and Insurance (Thurston) recommended the following:

## Senate Substitute for Amendment (923034) (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Section 627.7152, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

627.7152 Assignment of residential homeowner's property insurance post-loss benefits.—

(1) An agreement to assign post-loss benefits of a

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residential homeowner's property insurance policy is not valid unless the agreement:

- (a) Is in writing;
- (b) Is limited to claims for work performed or work to be performed by the assignee to protect or repair property from damage, including, but not limited to, work to stabilize, protect, repair, or improve such property;
- (c) Allows the insured to rescind the assignment within 3 days after the execution of the assignment without a penalty or fee;
- (d) Contains the following notice in 14-point bold type to the consumer:

"WARNING: IF YOU HAVE RESIDENTIAL HOMEOWNERS PROPERTY INSURANCE, YOU MAY BE AGREEING TO GIVE UP CERTAIN RIGHTS YOU HAVE UNDER YOUR INSURANCE POLICY TO A THIRD PARTY. PLEASE READ AND UNDERSTAND THIS DOCUMENT BEFORE SIGNING IT. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF PAYMENT FOR WORK ALREADY PERFORMED BY A SERVICE PROVIDER TO PREVENT ADDITIONAL DAMAGE FROM OCCURRING TO THE PROPERTY RESULTING FROM EMERGENCY OR URGENT CIRCUMSTANCES, YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO RESIND THIS AGREEMENT WITHOUT PENTALTY WITHIN 3 BUSINESS DAYS AFTER THE DATE THIS AGREEMENT IS EXECUTED. IF THE ASSIGNMENT IS RESCINDED, YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE TO PAY FOR THE WORK DONE UP TO THE DATE OF THE RESCISSION AND YOU ARE NOT OTHERWISE RESPONSIBLE TO PAY FOR THE WORK COVERED BY THE ASSIGNMENT. IF WORK IS BEING PERFOMED AS A RESULT OF DAMAGES CAUSED BY AN EVENT FOR WHICH THE GOVERNOR HAS



DECLARED A STATE OF EMERGENCY AND IS WITHIN 1 YEAR AFTER SUCH DECLARATION, THE 3 BUSINESS DAY PERIOD TO RESIND THIS AGREEMENT IS EXTENDED TO 5 BUSINESS DAYS. THIS AGREEMENT DOES NOT CHANGE YOUR DUTIES UNDER YOUR PROPERTY INSURANCE POLICY, SUCH AS PROMPTLY NOTIFYING YOUR INSURANCE COMPANY OF A LOSS AND MITIGATING YOUR PROPERTY FROM FURTHER DAMAGE.

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- (2) (a) The assignee shall provide a copy of the assignment agreement to the insurer within 5 days after execution of the agreement, or within 48 hours after beginning nonemergency work, whichever is earlier, if the insurer has a facsimile number and email address on its website designated for the delivery of such documents. This assignment agreement must be accompanied by a written estimate of the work to be done, with unit prices indicated where appropriate, and the basis for calculating lump sum fees if unit prices are inappropriate. The estimate must be timely updated if conditions require a change in scope. The failure to comply with this requirement constitutes a defense to any payment obligation under the policy or the assignment, if the insurer can establish prejudice resulting from the failure.
- (3) Notwithstanding any other law, the acceptance by a person of any assignment agreement constitutes a waiver by the assignee or transferee, and any subcontractor of the assignee or transferee, of any and all claims against all named insureds for payment arising from the specified loss, except that all named insureds remain responsible for the payment of any deductible amount provided for by the terms of the insurance policy and for the cost of any betterment ordered by all named insureds. This



waiver remains in effect notwithstanding any subsequent determination that the assignment agreement is invalid or notwithstanding the rescission of the assignment agreement by all named insureds, except that the assignee is entitled to payment for the reasonable cost of any contracted work performed before the assignor rescinded the assignment agreement.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.

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------ T I T L E A M E N D M E N T -------And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause and insert:

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to assignment of residential homeowners property insurance post-loss benefits; creating s. 627.7152, F.S.; providing that an agreement to assign post-loss benefits of a residential homeowner's property insurance policy is not valid unless specified conditions are met; requiring the assignee to provide a copy of the assignment agreement and a specified written estimate to the insurer within a specified timeframe; requiring the estimate to be timely updated if conditions require a change in scope; providing construction relating to failure to comply with such requirement; providing that a person's acceptance of an assignment agreement constitutes a waiver by the assignee or transferee, or any subcontractor of the assignee or



98	transferee, of certain claims against named insureds,
99	except under specified circumstances; providing
100	construction relating to such waiver; providing an
101	effective date.