By Senator Boyd

21-01280A-21 20211470

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the Florida Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association; amending s. 631.714, F.S.; defining the term "Moody's Corporate Bond Yield Average"; revising the definition of the term "person"; amending s. 631.717, F.S.; authorizing the association to assume or reissue covered policies of impaired insurers; granting the association the right to appear or intervene before a court or an agency in certain proceedings; authorizing the association to take legal action to recover payment of improper claims; authorizing the association to join an organization of other state guaranty associations for certain purposes; amending s. 631.718, F.S.; revising the calculation of Class A assessments; specifying requirements for repayment of deferred assessments upon removal or rectification of the conditions causing a deferral; deleting a prohibition on certain nonprofit insurance companies being assessed more than a certain amount in a calendar year; amending s. 631.721, F.S.; revising the requirements of the association's plan of operation; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Present subsections (8), (9), and (10) of section 631.714, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (9), (10), and (11), respectively, a new subsection

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(8) is added to that section, and present subsection (9) of that section is amended, to read:

- 631.714 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:
- (8) "Moody's Corporate Bond Yield Average" means the monthly average corporates as published by Moody's Investors Service, Inc., or a similar successor organization.
- (10) (9) "Person" means any individual, corporation, <u>limited</u> <u>liability company</u>, partnership, association, <u>governmental body</u> or entity, or voluntary organization.

Section 2. Subsections (1) and (7) and paragraph (f) of subsection (13) of section 631.717, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph (h) is added to subsection (13) of that section, to read:

- 631.717 Powers and duties of the association.-
- (1) If a domestic insurer is an impaired insurer, the association may, subject to the approval of the impaired insurer and the department:
- (a) Guarantee, assume, reissue, or reinsure, or cause to be guaranteed, assumed, reissued, or reinsured, any or all of the covered policies of the impaired insurer;
- (b) Provide such moneys, pledges, notes, guarantees, or other means as are proper to effectuate paragraph (a) and assure payment of the contractual obligations of the impaired insurer pending action under paragraph (a); and
 - (c) Loan money to the impaired insurer.
- (7) The association <u>has</u> shall have standing to appear before any court in this state which has jurisdiction over an impaired or insolvent insurer to which the association is or may become obligated under this part. Such standing extends shall

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extend to all matters germane to the powers and duties of the association, including, but not limited to, proposals for reinsuring, reissuing, modifying, or guaranteeing the covered policies of the impaired or insolvent insurer and the determination of the covered policies and contractual obligations. The association has the right to appear or intervene before a court or an agency in another state with jurisdiction over an impaired or insolvent insurer for which the association is or may become obligated or with jurisdiction over any person or property against whom the association may have rights through subrogation or otherwise.

- (13) The association may:
- (f) Take such legal action as may be necessary to avoid $\underline{\text{or}}$ recover payment of improper claims.
- (h) Join an organization of other state guaranty associations to further the purposes and administer the powers and duties of the association.

Section 3. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) and subsections (4) and (9) of section 631.718, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

- 631.718 Assessments.-
- (3) (a) The amount of any Class A assessment shall be determined by the board and may be made on a <u>pro rata or non-pro rata basis</u>. If the assessment is made on a pro rata basis, the board may provide that it be credited against future Class B assessments The assessment may not be credited against future insolvency assessments and may not exceed \$250 per member insurer in any one calendar year.
 - (4) The association may abate or defer, in whole or in

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part, the assessment of a member insurer if, in the opinion of the board, payment of the assessment would endanger the ability of the member insurer to fulfill its contractual obligations. In the event an assessment against a member insurer is abated, or deferred in whole or in part, the amount by which such assessment is abated or deferred may be assessed against the other member insurers in a manner consistent with the basis for assessments set forth in this section. Once the conditions that caused a deferral have been removed or rectified, the member insurer shall pay all assessments that were deferred pursuant to a repayment plan approved by the association.

(9) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, no member insurer that is a nonprofit insurance company which issues annuity contracts or group annuity contracts pursuant to s. 121.35, or for the benefit of employees of educational institutions situated in this state may be assessed in any one calendar year an amount greater than the amount which it paid to this state in the previous year as premium tax and corporate tax on the business to which this part applies or 0.1 percent of written premium on such business in this state, whichever is greater.

Section 4. Paragraphs (h) and (i) are added to subsection (3) of section 631.721, Florida Statutes, to read:

631.721 Plan of operation.-

- (3) The plan of operation shall, in addition to requirements enumerated elsewhere in this part:
- (h) Establish a procedure for removing a member insurer director when that member insurer becomes an impaired or insolvent insurer.

20211470__ 21-01280A-21 (i) Require the board of directors to establish policies 117 and procedures for addressing conflicts of interest. 118 119 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.