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H.694

Introduced by Representatives Botzow of Pownal, Kimbell of Woodstock, and
Marcotte of Coventry

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Insurance; captive insurance companies

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to make various
amendments to Vermont law regarding captive insurance companies.

An act relating to captive insurance companies

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

* * * Licensing Authority * * *

Sec. 1. 8 V.S.A. § 6002(a) is amended to read:

(a) Any captive insurance company, when permitted by its articles of
association, charter, or other organizational document, may apply to the
Commissioner for a license to do any and all insurance comprised in
subdivisions 3301(a)(1), (2), (3)(A)-(C), (E)-~~(R)~~(Q), and (4)-(9) of this title
and may grant annuity contracts as defined in section 3717 of this title;
provided, however, that:

* * *

1 accounting method for reporting. Any change in a captive insurance
2 company's accounting method shall require prior approval. Except as
3 otherwise provided, each risk retention group shall file its report in the form
4 required by subsection 3561(a) of this title, and each risk retention group shall
5 comply with the requirements set forth in section 3569 of this title. The
6 Commissioner shall by rule propose the forms in which pure captive insurance
7 companies, association captive insurance companies, sponsored captive
8 insurance companies, and industrial insured captive insurance companies shall
9 report. Subdivision 6002(c)(3) of this title shall apply to each report filed
10 pursuant to this section, except that such subdivision shall not apply to reports
11 filed by risk retention groups.

12 (c) Any pure captive insurance company, association captive insurance
13 company, sponsored captive insurance company, or industrial insured captive
14 insurance company may make written application for filing the required report
15 on a fiscal year-end. If an alternative reporting date is granted:

16 (1) the annual report is due 75 days after the fiscal year-end; and

17 (2) in order to provide sufficient detail to support the premium tax

18 return, the pure captive insurance company, association captive insurance

19 company, sponsored captive insurance company, or industrial insured captive

20 insurance company shall file prior to March 15 of each year for each calendar

21 year-end, pages 1, 2, 3, and 5 of the "Vermont Captive Insurance Company

1 Annual Report – Short Form” verified by oath of two of its executive officers.

2 * * * Tax on Premiums Collected * * *

3 Sec. 3. 8 V.S.A. § 6014 is amended to read:

4 § 6014. TAX ON PREMIUMS COLLECTED

5 (a) Each captive insurance company shall pay to the Commissioner of
6 Taxes, ~~in the month of February~~ on or before March 15 of each year, a tax at
7 the rate of 38-hundredths of one percent on the first 20 million dollars and
8 285-thousandths of one percent on the next 20 million dollars and 19-
9 hundredths of one percent on the next 20 million dollars and 72-thousandths of
10 one percent on each dollar thereafter on the direct premiums collected or
11 contracted for on policies or contracts of insurance written by the captive
12 insurance company during the year ending December 31 next preceding, after
13 deducting from the direct premiums subject to the tax the amounts paid to
14 policyholders as return premiums which shall include dividends on unabsorbed
15 premiums or premium deposits returned or credited to policyholders; provided,
16 however, that no tax shall be due or payable as to considerations received for
17 annuity contracts.

18 (b) Each captive insurance company shall pay to the Commissioner of
19 Taxes ~~in the month of February~~ on or before March 15 of each year a tax at the
20 rate of 214-thousandths of one percent on the first 20 million dollars of
21 assumed reinsurance premium, and 143-thousandths of one percent on the next
22 20 million dollars and 48-thousandths of one percent on the next 20 million

1 dollars and 24-thousandths of one percent ~~of~~ on each dollar thereafter.

2 However, no reinsurance tax applies to premiums for risks or portions of risks
3 ~~which~~ that are subject to taxation on a direct basis pursuant to subsection (a) of
4 this section. No reinsurance premium tax shall be payable in connection with
5 the receipt of assets in exchange for the assumption of loss reserves and other
6 liabilities of another insurer under common ownership and control if such
7 transaction is part of a plan to discontinue the operations of such other insurer,
8 and if the intent of the parties to such transaction is to renew or maintain such
9 business with the captive insurance company. No reinsurance premium tax
10 shall be payable in connection with the receipt of assets in exchange for the
11 assumption of loss reserves and other liabilities of a captive insurance
12 company's parent or affiliates if the intent of such exchange is to renew or
13 maintain such business with the captive insurance company.

14 (c)(1) The annual minimum aggregate tax to be paid by a captive insurance
15 company calculated under subsections (a) and (b) of this section shall be
16 \$7,500.00. The annual maximum aggregate tax to be paid by a captive
17 insurance company calculated under subsections (a) and (b) of this section
18 shall be \$200,000.00.

19 (2) The annual minimum aggregate tax to be paid by a sponsored
20 captive insurance company shall be \$7,500.00 and shall apply to the sponsored
21 captive insurance company as a whole and not to each protected cell; such

1 cells shall not be subject to the minimum tax.

2 (3) The annual maximum tax to be paid by a protected cell shall be as
3 calculated under subdivision (1) of this subsection. The annual maximum tax
4 to be remitted by a sponsored captive insurance company shall be the
5 aggregate of the tax liabilities of each protected cell.

6 (d) A captive insurance company failing to make returns as required by
7 32 V.S.A. chapter 211 or failing to pay within the time required all taxes
8 assessed by this section, shall be subject to the provisions of 32 V.S.A.
9 ~~§§ 5868, 5869, 5873, and 5875~~ § 3202.

10 * * *

11 * * * Branch Captive Insurance Companies * * *

12 Sec. 4. 8 V.S.A. § 6041 is amended to read:

13 § 6041. ESTABLISHMENT OF A BRANCH CAPTIVE INSURANCE
14 COMPANY

15 (a) A branch captive insurance company may be established in this State in
16 accordance with the provisions of this chapter. In addition to the general
17 provisions of this chapter, the provisions of this subchapter shall apply to
18 branch captive insurance companies.

19 (b) No branch captive insurance company shall do any insurance business
20 in this State unless it:

21 (1) maintains the principal place of business for its branch operations in

1 this State; and

2 (2) ~~it~~ appoints a principal representative in this State who is a resident of
3 this State; and

4 (3) designates the Commissioner as its agent of such branch captive
5 insurance company upon whom any process, notice, or demand may be served.

6 (c) As used in this ~~subsection~~ section, principal representative shall mean a
7 person designated as such by the branch captive insurance company as its
8 principal representative on such forms and with such information as required
9 by the Commissioner.

10 (d) The provisions of subsection 6006(f) of this title shall not apply to
11 branch ~~captives~~ captive insurance companies formed in this State.

12 Sec. 5. REPEAL

13 8 V.S.A. § 6044 (concerning alien captive insurance companies and the
14 licensing and maintenance of branch operations) is repealed.

15 * * * Risk Retention Groups; Governance Standards * * *

16 Sec. 6. 8 V.S.A. § 6052(g)(2) is amended to read:

17 (2) The board shall have a majority of independent directors. The board
18 of directors shall determine whether a director is independent; review such
19 determinations annually; and maintain a record of the determinations, which
20 shall be provided to the Commissioner ~~promptly, upon request~~ annually. If the
21 Commissioner disagrees with the board's determination regarding

1 independence, the board, within six months, shall take such actions as are
2 necessary in order to obtain written confirmation from the Commissioner that
3 the board meets the independence requirements set forth in subdivision (1)(C)
4 of this subsection.

5 * * * Effective Date * * *

6 Sec. 7. EFFECTIVE DATE

7 This act shall take effect on passage.