

SB 251 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
Senate Committee On Business and General Government

Carrier: Sen. Dembrow

Action Date: 03/19/19
Action: Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)
Vote: 5-0-0-0
Yeas: 5 - Dembrow, Girod, Hass, Olsen, Riley
Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact
Revenue: No revenue impact
Prepared By: Tyler Larson, LPRO Analyst
Meeting Dates: 2/12, 3/19

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Updates various statutes in Insurance Code to reflect changes in National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) model provisions related to reserve requirements for domestic insurers that cede insurance to reinsurers and to regulating insurance adjusters and insurance consultants. Grants Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS) rulemaking authority to implement potential future changes by NAIC to reinsurance collateral requirements for alien reinsurers. Operative January 1, 2020. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Role of reinsurance in insurance industry and current standards for international reinsurers
- Value of uniform national standards for insurance adjusters and consultants

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Grants DCBS rulemaking authority to implement potential future changes by NAIC to reinsurance collateral requirements for alien reinsurers. Modifies provisions related to insurance adjusters and insurance consultants.

BACKGROUND:

The Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS) administers and enforces the Insurance Code, the statutes that regulate the business of insurance. Current statute requires DCBS to maintain accreditation from the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC), a standard-setting organization created and governed by the chief insurance regulators from all states, the District of Columbia, and five U.S. territories. The NAIC accreditation program is designed to establish and maintain standards that promote sound insurance company financial solvency regulation.

Reinsurance allows an insurer to transfer risk to another insurer and is an important mechanism for carriers to manage exposure and financial solvency. The NAIC adopted revisions for its reinsurance standards in 2011 that recently became mandatory for NAIC accreditation. SB 251-A revises the Insurance Code to align with these mandatory changes, and allows DCBS to adopt by rule future changes by NAIC to the reinsurance collateral requirements for reinsurers. The measure also makes changes to align with the NAIC licensing standards for insurance adjusters.