

515.20 Guaranty capital.

A mutual company organized under this chapter may establish and maintain guaranty capital of at least fifty thousand dollars made up of multiples of ten thousand dollars, divided into shares of not less than fifty dollars each, to be invested as provided for the investment of insurance capital and funds by section 515.35. Guaranty shareholders shall be members of the corporation, and provision may be made for representation of the shareholders of the guaranty capital on the board of directors of the corporation. The representation shall not exceed one-third of the membership of the board. Guaranty shareholders in a mutual company are subject to the same regulations of law relative to their right to vote as apply to its policyholders. The guaranty capital shall be applied to the payment of the legal obligations of the corporation only when the corporation has exhausted its assets in excess of the unearned premium reserve and other liabilities. If the guaranty capital is thus impaired, the directors may restore the whole, or any part of the capital, by assessment on the corporation's policyholders as provided for in section 515.18. By a legal vote of the policyholders of the corporation at any regular or special meeting of the policyholders of the corporation, the guaranty capital may be fully retired or may be reduced to an amount of not less than fifty thousand dollars, if the net surplus of the corporation together with the remaining guaranty capital is equal to or exceeds the amount of minimum assets required by this chapter for such companies, and if the commissioner of insurance consents to the action. Due notice of the proposed action on the part of the corporation shall be included in the notice given to policyholders and shareholders of any annual or special meeting and notice of the meeting shall also be given in accordance with the corporation's articles of incorporation. A company with guaranty capital, which has ceased to do business, shall not distribute among its shareholders or policyholders any part of its assets, or guaranty capital, until it has fully performed, or legally canceled, all of its policy obligations. Shareholders of the guaranty capital are entitled to interest on the par value of their shares at a rate to be fixed by the board of directors and approved by the commissioner, cumulative, payable semiannually, and payable only out of the surplus earnings of the company. However, the surplus account of the company shall not be reduced by the payment of the interest below the figure maintained at the time the guaranty capital was established. In addition, the interest payment shall not be made unless the surplus assets remaining after the payment of the interest at least equal the amount required by the statutes of Iowa to permit the corporation to continue in business. In the event of the dissolution and liquidation of a corporation having guaranty capital under this section, the shareholders of the capital are entitled, after the payment of all valid obligations of the company, to receive the par value of their respective shares, together with any unpaid interest on their shares, before there may be any distribution of the assets of the corporation among its policyholders. These provisions are in addition to and independent of the provisions contained in section 515.19.

[C35, §8912-f1; C39, §8912.1; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §515.20]

86 Acts, ch 1038, §1; 87 Acts, ch 115, §64