

CHAPTER 521B

CREDIT FOR REINSURANCE

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521B.1 Short title.

This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the “*Credit for Reinsurance Act.*”
91 Acts, ch 26, §14

521B.2 Credit allowed a domestic ceding insurer.

Credit for reinsurance is allowed a domestic ceding insurer as either an asset or a deduction from liability on account of reinsurance ceded only if the reinsurer meets the requirements of subsection 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5. If the reinsurer meets the requirements of subsection 3 or 4, the requirements of subsection 6 must also be met.

1. Credit is allowed if the reinsurance is ceded to an assuming insurer which is licensed to transact the business of reinsurance in this state.

2. Credit is allowed if the reinsurance is ceded to an assuming insurer which is accredited as a reinsurer in this state. An accredited reinsurer is one which satisfies all of the following conditions:

- a. Files with the commissioner evidence of submission to the jurisdiction of this state.
- b. Submits to the authority of this state to examine its books and records.
- c. Is licensed to transact reinsurance in at least one state, or in the case of a United States branch of an alien assuming insurer, is entered through and licensed to transact the business of reinsurance in at least one state.

d. Files annually with the commissioner a copy of its annual statement filed with the insurance department of its state of domicile and a copy of its most recent audited financial statement and does either of the following:

(1) Maintains a surplus with respect to policyholders in an amount which is not less than twenty million dollars and whose accreditation has not been denied by the commissioner within ninety days of its submission to the jurisdiction of this state.

(2) Maintains a surplus with respect to policyholders in an amount less than twenty million dollars and whose accreditation has been approved by the commissioner. Credit shall not be allowed a domestic ceding insurer, if the accreditation of the assuming insurer is revoked by the commissioner after notice and hearing.

To qualify as an accredited reinsurer, an assuming insurer must meet all of the requirements and the standards set forth in this subsection. If the commissioner determines that the assuming insurer has failed to continue to meet any of these requirements or standards, the commissioner may upon written notice and hearing revoke accreditation of the assuming insurer.

This section does not apply to reinsurance ceded and assumed pursuant to pooling arrangements among insurers in the same holding company system.

3. a. Credit is allowed if the reinsurance is ceded to an assuming insurer which is domiciled and licensed in, or in the case of a United States branch of an alien assuming insurer is entered through, a state which employs standards regarding credit for reinsurance substantially similar to those applicable under this section, and the assuming insurer or United States branch of an alien assuming insurer does both of the following:

(1) Maintains a surplus with respect to policyholders in an amount of not less than twenty million dollars.

(2) Submits to the authority of this state to examine its books and records.

b. However, the requirement of paragraph “a”, subparagraph (1), does not apply to

reinsurance ceded and assumed pursuant to a pooling arrangement among insurers in the same holding company system.

4. *a.* Credit is allowed if the reinsurance is ceded to an assuming insurer which maintains a trust fund in a qualified United States financial institution, as defined in section 521B.4, subsection 2, for the payment of the valid claims of its United States policyholders and ceding insurers, their assigns, and successors in interest. The assuming insurer shall report annually to the commissioner information substantially the same as that required to be reported on the national association of insurance commissioners' annual statement form by licensed insurers to enable the commissioner to determine the sufficiency of the trust fund. In the case of a single assuming insurer, the trust shall consist of a trusted account representing the liabilities of the assuming insurer attributable to business written in the United States and, in addition, the assuming insurer shall maintain a trusted surplus of not less than twenty million dollars. In the case of a group including individual unincorporated and incorporated underwriters, the trust shall consist of a trusted account representing the liabilities of the group attributable to business written in the United States and, in addition, the group shall maintain a trusted surplus of which one hundred million dollars shall be held jointly for the benefit of United States ceding insurers of any member of the group. The incorporated members of the group shall not engage in any business other than underwriting as a member of the group and shall be subject to the same level of solvency regulation and control by the group's domiciliary regulator as are the unincorporated members. The group shall make available to the commissioner an annual certification of the solvency of each underwriter by the group's domiciliary regulator and its independent public accountants.

b. In the case of a group of incorporated insurers under common administration which complies with the filing requirements contained in paragraph "a", which is under the supervision of the department of trade and industry of the United Kingdom, which submits to the authority of this state to examine its books and records and bears the expense of the examination, and which has aggregate policyholders' surplus of at least ten billion dollars, the trust shall be in an amount equal to the several liabilities of the group attributable to business written in the United States. The group shall also maintain a joint trustee surplus of which one hundred million dollars shall be held jointly for the benefit of United States ceding insurers of any member of the group, and each member of the group shall make available to the commissioner an annual certification of the member's solvency by the member's domiciliary regulator and its independent public accountant.

c. Such trust shall be established in a form approved by the commissioner. The trust instrument shall provide that contested claims are valid and enforceable upon the final order of any court of competent jurisdiction in the United States. The trust vests legal title to its assets in the trustees of the trust for its United States policyholders and ceding insurers, their assigns, and successors in interest. The trust and the assuming insurer are subject to examination as determined by the commissioner. The trust described in this paragraph must remain in effect for as long as the assuming insurer has outstanding obligations due under the reinsurance agreements subject to the trust.

d. No later than February 28 of each year the trustees of the trust shall report to the commissioner in writing setting forth the balance of the trust and listing the trust's investments at the end of the preceding calendar year and shall certify the date of termination of the trust, if so planned, or certify that the trust shall not expire prior to the following December 31.

5. Credit is allowed if the reinsurance is ceded to an assuming insurer not meeting the requirements of subsection 1, 2, 3, or 4, but only with respect to the insurance of risks located in a jurisdiction where such reinsurance is required by applicable law or regulation of that jurisdiction. For purposes of this subsection, jurisdiction refers to a jurisdiction other than the United States, and any state, district, or territory of the United States. This subsection allows credit to ceding insurers which are mandated by such a jurisdiction to cede reinsurance to state owned or controlled insurance or reinsurance companies or to participate in pools, guaranty funds, or joint underwriting associations.

6. *a.* If the assuming insurer is not licensed or accredited to transact insurance or

reinsurance in this state, the credit permitted by subsection 3 or 4 is not allowed unless the assuming insurer agrees in the reinsurance agreements to both of the following:

(1) That in the event of the failure of the assuming insurer to perform its obligations under the terms of the reinsurance agreement, the assuming insurer, at the request of the ceding insurer, shall submit to the jurisdiction of any court of competent jurisdiction in any state of the United States, shall comply with all requirements necessary to give such court jurisdiction, and shall abide by the final decision of such court or of any appellate court in the event of an appeal.

(2) That the commissioner or an attorney designated in the agreement is the true and lawful attorney of the assuming insurer upon whom may be served any lawful process in any action, suit, or proceeding instituted by or on behalf of the ceding company.

b. This subsection is not intended to conflict with or override the obligation of the parties to a reinsurance agreement to arbitrate their disputes, if such an obligation is created in the agreement.

91 Acts, ch 26, §15; 91 Acts, ch 258, §60; 95 Acts, ch 185, §45

521B.3 Reduction from liability for reinsurance ceded by a domestic insurer to an assuming insurer.

A reduction from liability for the reinsurance ceded by a domestic insurer to an assuming insurer not meeting the requirements of section 521B.2 is allowed in an amount not exceeding the liabilities carried by the ceding insurer and the reduction shall be in the amount of funds held by or on behalf of the ceding insurer, including funds held in trust for the ceding insurer, under a reinsurance contract with the assuming insurer as security for the payment of obligations under the reinsurance contract, if such security is held in the United States subject to withdrawal solely by, and under the exclusive control of, the ceding insurer, or in the case of a trust, held in a qualified United States financial institution, as defined in section 521B.4, subsection 2. This security may be held in the form of any of the following:

1. Cash.

2. Securities listed by the securities valuation office of the national association of insurance commissioners and qualifying as admitted assets.

3. Clean, irrevocable, unconditional letters of credit, issued or confirmed by a qualified United States financial institution, as defined in section 521B.4, subsection 2, no later than December 31 of the year for which filing is being made, and in the possession of the ceding insurer on or before the filing date of its annual statement.

Letters of credit meeting applicable standards of issuer acceptability as of the dates of their issuance or confirmation shall, notwithstanding the subsequent failure of the issuing or confirming institution or subsequent failure to meet applicable standards of issuer acceptability, continue to be acceptable as security until their expiration, extension, renewal, modification, or amendment, whichever first occurs.

4. Any other form of security acceptable to the commissioner.

91 Acts, ch 26, §16

521B.4 Qualified United States financial institutions.

1. For purposes of this chapter, a “*qualified United States financial institution*” means an institution that satisfies all of the following conditions:

a. The financial institution is organized or licensed under the laws of the United States or any state of the United States.

b. The financial institution is regulated, supervised, and examined by federal or state authorities having regulatory authority over banks and trust companies.

c. The financial institution has been determined by either the commissioner, or the securities valuation office of the national association of insurance commissioners, to meet such standards of financial condition and standing as are considered necessary and appropriate to regulate the quality of financial institutions whose letters of credit will be acceptable to the commissioner.

2. A “*qualified United States financial institution*” means, for purposes of those provisions

of this chapter specifying those institutions that are eligible to act as a fiduciary of a trust, an institution that is both of the following:

a. Organized or licensed under the laws of the United States or any state of the United States, and has been granted authority to operate with fiduciary powers.

b. Regulated, supervised, and examined by federal or state authorities having regulatory authority over banks and trust companies.

91 Acts, ch 26, §17

521B.5 Rules.

The commissioner may adopt rules, pursuant to chapter 17A, as necessary or convenient to administer this chapter.

91 Acts, ch 26, §18