

**519A.3 Temporary joint underwriting association.**

1. A temporary joint underwriting association is created, consisting of all insurers authorized to write and engaged in writing on a direct basis within this state liability insurance, including insurers covering such peril in multiple peril policies. Every such insurer shall be a member of the association and shall remain a member as a condition of its authority to continue to write liability insurance in this state.

2. The purpose of the association shall be to provide, for a period not exceeding two years, a market for medical malpractice insurance on a self-supporting basis without subsidy from its members.

3. The association shall not commence underwriting operations for health care providers until the commissioner, after notice and opportunity for hearing, has determined that medical malpractice insurance is not available at a reasonable cost for a specific type of licensed health care provider in the voluntary market. Upon such determination the association shall be authorized to issue policies of medical malpractice insurance for such specific type of health care provider but need not be the exclusive agency through which such insurance may be written on a primary basis in this state.

If the commissioner determines at any time that medical malpractice insurance can be made available in the voluntary market at a reasonable price for any specific type of licensed health care provider, the association shall thereby cease underwriting medical malpractice insurance for that type of licensed health care provider.

4. The association shall, subject to the terms and conditions of sections 519A.2 to 519A.13, have and exercise the following powers on behalf of its members:

a. To issue, or to cause to be issued, policies of insurance to applicants, including incidental coverages and subject to limits as specified in the plan of operation but not to exceed one million dollars for each claimant under one policy and three million dollars for all claimants under one policy in any one year.

b. To underwrite such insurance and to adjust and pay losses with respect thereto, or to appoint service companies to perform those functions.

c. To assume reinsurance from its members.

d. To cede reinsurance.

[C77, 79, 81, §519A.3]