

**Fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 9, 2001**

SENATE BILL NO. 2192
(Senator Grindberg)

AN ACT to create and enact a new subsection to section 26.1-38.1-05 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the powers and duties of a life and health insurance guaranty association; and to amend and reenact subsection 3 of section 26.1-38.1-01 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to equity indexed life and annuity insurance contracts.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Subsection 3 of section 26.1-38.1-01 of the 1999 Supplement to the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

3. This chapter does not provide coverage for:
 - a. Any portion of a policy or contract not guaranteed by the insurer, or under which the risk is borne by the policy owner or contract owner;
 - b. Any policy or contract of reinsurance, unless assumption certificates have been issued pursuant to the reinsurance policy or contract;
 - c. Any portion of a policy or contract to the extent that the rate of interest on which ~~the~~ the portion of the policy or contract is based or to the extent that the rate of interest, crediting of a rate of interest, or similar factor determined by using an index or other external reference stated in the policy or contract which is employed in calculating returns or changes in value:
 - (1) Averaged over the period of four years prior to the date on which the association becomes obligated with respect to such policy or contract, exceeds a rate of interest determined by subtracting two percentage points from Moody's corporate bond yield average averaged for that same four-year period or for such lesser period if the policy or contract was issued less than four years before the association became obligated; and
 - (2) On and after the date on which the association becomes obligated with respect to such policy or contract, exceeds the rate of interest determined by subtracting three percentage points from Moody's corporate bond yield average as most recently available;
 - d. A portion of a policy or contract issued to a plan or program of an employer, association, or other person to provide life, health, or annuity benefits to its employees, members, or others, to the extent that such plan or program is self-funded or uninsured including benefits payable by an employer association or other person under:
 - (1) A multiple employer welfare arrangement as defined in 29 U.S.C. section 1144;
 - (2) A minimum premium group insurance plan;
 - (3) A stop-loss group insurance plan; or
 - (4) An administrative services only contract;
 - e. Any portion of a policy or contract to the extent that it provides for dividends or experience rating credits, voting rights, or payment of any fees or allowances to any

- person, including the policy owner or contract owner, in connection with the service to or administration of such policy or contract;
- f. Any policy or contract issued in this state by a member insurer at a time when it was not licensed or did not have a certificate of authority to issue such policy or contract in this state;
 - g. Any unallocated annuity contract issued to or in connection with a benefit plan protected under the federal pension benefit guaranty corporation regardless of whether the federal pension benefit guaranty corporation has yet become liable to make any payments with respect to the benefit plan;
 - h. Any portion of any unallocated annuity contract which is not issued to, or in connection with, a specific employee, union, or association of natural persons benefit plan or a government lottery;
 - i. A portion of a policy or contract to the extent that the assessments required by section 26.1-38.1-06 with respect to the policy or contract are preempted by federal or state law;
 - j. An obligation that does not arise under the express written terms of the policy or contract issued by the insurer to the contract owner or policy owner, including:
 - (1) Claims based on marketing materials;
 - (2) Claims based on side letters, riders, or other documents that were issued by the insurer without meeting applicable policy form filing or approval requirements;
 - (3) Misrepresentations of or regarding policy benefits;
 - (4) Extracontractual claims; or
 - (5) A claim for penalties or consequential or incidental damages; ~~and~~
 - k. A contractual agreement that establishes the member insurer's obligations to provide a book value accounting guaranty for defined contribution benefit plan participants by reference to a portfolio of assets that is owned by the benefit plan or its trustee, which in each case is not an affiliate of the member insurer; and
 - l. A portion of a policy or contract to the extent it provides for interest or other changes in value to be determined by the use of an index or other external reference stated in the policy or contract, but which has not been credited to the policy or contract, or as to which the policy owner's or contract owner's rights are subject to forfeiture, as of the date the member insurer becomes an impaired or insolvent insurer under this chapter, whichever is earlier. If a policy's or contract's interest or changes in value are credited less frequently than annually, then for purposes of determining the values that have been credited and are not subject to forfeiture under this subdivision, the interest or changes in value determined by using the procedures defined in the policy or contract will be credited as if the contractual date of crediting interest or changing values was the date of impairment or insolvency, whichever is earlier, and is not subject to forfeiture.

SECTION 2. A new subsection to section 26.1-38.1-05 of the 1999 Supplement to the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

Subject to approval of the receivership court, the association, in carrying out association duties in connection with guaranteeing, assuming, or reinsuring policies or contracts under subsections 2 and 3, may issue substitute coverage for a policy or contract that provides a rate of interest, crediting of a rate of interest, or similar factor determined by using an index

or other external reference stated in the policy or contract which is employed in calculating returns or changes in value by issuing an alternative policy or contract if:

- a. Instead of the index or other external reference provided in the replaced policy or contract, the alternative policy or contract provides for a fixed interest rate, payment of dividends with minimum guarantees, or different method for calculating interest or changes in value;
- b. There is no requirement for evidence of insurability, a waiting period, or other exclusion that would not have applied under the replaced policy or contract; and
- c. The alternative policy or contract is substantially similar to the replaced policy or contract in all other material terms.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

This certifies that the within bill originated in the Senate of the Fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2192.

Senate Vote: Yeas 48 Nays 0 Absent 1

House Vote: Yeas 94 Nays 0 Absent 4

Secretary of the Senate

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2001.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2001.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2001,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State