1983

2013-2014 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

(PREFILED)

January 9, 2013

Introduced by M. of A. TITUS, ROBINSON, WEISENBERG -- read once and referred to the Committee on Insurance

AN ACT to amend the insurance law, in relation to establishing the interstate insurance product regulation compact to regulate certain insurance products and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEM-BLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Legislative findings and intent. An interstate compact is 1 2 an agreement between states that permits states to cooperate on multi-3 state or national issues while retaining state control. There are over two hundred interstate compacts currently in existence and every state 4 5 belongs to at least fourteen such compacts. The interstate insurance 6 product regulation compact is designed to streamline state product regulation systems to allow insurers to more quickly market certain types of 7 8 insurance products nationally and to reduce the number of variations of 9 the same product that a company must produce to meet specific product 10 standards. The compact would cover individual and group products for life insurance, annuities, disability income and long-term care insur-11 The state of New York seeks to join with other states and estab-12 ance. 13 lish the interstate insurance product regulation compact and become a 14 member of the interstate insurance product regulation commission.

15 S 2. The insurance law is amended by adding a new article 88 to read 16 as follows:

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ARTICLE 88 INTERSTATE INSURANCE PRODUCT REGULATION COMPACT

- 19 SECTION 8801. SHORT TITLE. 20
 - 8802. PURPOSE.

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [] is old law to be omitted.

LBD01801-01-3

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55 TOR OR ADMINISTRATOR.	54	STATE INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO COMMISSIONER, SUPERINTENDENT, DIREC-
	55	TOR OR ADMINISTRATOR.

(F) "DOMICILIARY STATE" MEANS THE STATE IN WHICH AN INSURER IS INCOR-1 PORATED OR ORGANIZED OR, IN THE CASE OF AN ALIEN INSURER, ITS STATE OF 2 3 ENTRY. 4 (G) "INSURER" MEANS ANY ENTITY LICENSED BY A STATE TO ISSUE CONTRACTS 5 OF INSURANCE FOR ANY OF THE LINES OF INSURANCE COVERED BY THIS ARTICLE. 6 (H) "MEMBER" MEANS THE PERSON, OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE, CHOSEN BY A 7 COMPACTING STATE FOR SERVICE ON THE COMMISSION. 8 (I) "NON-COMPACTING STATE" MEANS ANY STATE WHICH IS NOT AT THE TIME A 9 COMPACTING STATE. 10 (J) "OPERATING PROCEDURES" MEAN PROCEDURES PROMULGATED BY THE COMMIS-IMPLEMENTING A RULE, UNIFORM STANDARD OR A PROVISION OF THIS 11 SION 12 COMPACT. (K) "PRODUCT" MEANS THE FORM OF THE CONTRACT, POLICY APPLICATION, 13 14 ENDORSEMENTS, CERTIFICATE FORMS, EVIDENCE OF COVERAGE FORMS AND RELATED 15 FORMS FOR AN INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP ANNUITY, LIFE INSURANCE, DISABILITY INCOME OR LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE PRODUCT, WHICH AN INSURER IS AUTHOR-16 17 IZED TO ISSUE. (L) "RULE" MEANS A STATEMENT OF GENERAL OR PARTICULAR APPLICABILITY 18 19 FUTURE EFFECT PROMULGATED BY THE COMMISSION, INCLUDING A UNIFORM AND STANDARD DEVELOPED PURSUANT TO SECTION EIGHT THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED 20 21 EIGHT OF THIS ARTICLE, DESIGNED TO IMPLEMENT, INTERPRET, OR PRESCRIBE 22 LAW OR POLICY OR DESCRIBING THE ORGANIZATION, PROCEDURE, OR PRACTICE REOUIREMENTS OF THE COMMISSION, WHICH SHALL HAVE THE FORCE AND EFFECT OF 23 24 LAW IN THE COMPACTING STATES. 25 "STATE" MEANS ANY STATE, DISTRICT OR TERRITORY OF THE UNITED (M) 26 STATES OF AMERICA. (N) "THIRD-PARTY FILER" MEANS AN ENTITY THAT SUBMITS A PRODUCT FILING 27 28 TO THE COMMISSION ON BEHALF OF AN INSURER. 29 (0) "UNIFORM STANDARD" MEANS A STANDARD ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION FOR A PRODUCT LINE, PURSUANT TO SECTION EIGHT THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED EIGHT 30 31 THIS ARTICLE AND SHALL INCLUDE ALL OF THE PRODUCT REQUIREMENTS IN OF 32 AGGREGATE; PROVIDED, THAT EACH UNIFORM STANDARD SHALL BE CONSTRUED, WHETHER EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, TO PROHIBIT THE USE OF ANY INCONSISTENT, 33 34 MISLEADING OR AMBIGUOUS PROVISIONS IN A PRODUCT AND THE FORM OF SUCH PRODUCT MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC SHALL NOT BE UNFAIR, INEQUITABLE OR 35 AGAINST PUBLIC POLICY AS DETERMINED BY THE COMMISSION. 36 37 S 8804. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COMMISSION AND VENUE. (A) THE COMPACTING 38 STATES HEREBY CREATE AND ESTABLISH A JOINT PUBLIC AGENCY KNOWN AS THE 39 "INTERSTATE INSURANCE PRODUCT REGULATION COMMISSION". PURSUANT TO 40 SECTION EIGHT THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED EIGHT OF THIS ARTICLE, THE COMMIS-SION SHALL HAVE THE POWER TO DEVELOP UNIFORM STANDARDS FOR PRODUCT 41 LINES, RECEIVE AND PROVIDE PROMPT REVIEW OF PRODUCTS 42 FILED THEREWITH, 43 AND GIVE APPROVAL TO THOSE PRODUCT FILINGS SATISFYING APPLICABLE UNIFORM STANDARDS; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT IT IS NOT INTENDED FOR THE COMMISSION 44 45 TO BE THE EXCLUSIVE ENTITY FOR RECEIPT AND REVIEW OF INSURANCE PRODUCT FILINGS. NOTHING IN THIS SECTION SHALL PROHIBIT ANY INSURER FROM FILING 46 47 ITS PRODUCT IN ANY STATE WHEREIN SUCH INSURER IS LICENSED TO CONDUCT THE 48 BUSINESS OF INSURANCE AND SUCH FILING SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE LAWS OF 49 THE STATE WHERE FILED. 50 (B) THE COMMISSION IS A BODY CORPORATE AND POLITIC, AND AN INSTRUMEN-51 TALITY OF THE COMPACTING STATES. THE COMMISSION IS A NOT-FOR-PROFIT ENTITY, SEPARATE AND DISTINCT 52 (C) 53 FROM THE INDIVIDUAL COMPACTING STATES. 54 (D) THE COMMISSION IS SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR ITS LIABILITIES UNLESS

55 OTHERWISE SPECIFICALLY PROVIDED IN THIS COMPACT, EXCEPT THAT, IN NO 56 EVENT SHALL THE OBLIGATIONS OF THE COMMISSION BE THE DEBT OF THE STATE 1 OF NEW YORK NOR SHALL ANY REVENUES OR PROPERTY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK 2 BE LIABLE THEREFOR.

3 (E) VENUE IN PROPER AND JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS BY OR AGAINST THE COMMIS4 SION SHALL BE BROUGHT SOLELY AND EXCLUSIVELY IN A COURT OF COMPETENT
5 JURISDICTION WHERE THE PRINCIPAL OFFICE OF THE COMMISSION IS LOCATED.
6 S 8805. POWERS OF THE COMMISSION. (A) THE COMMISSION SHALL HAVE THE

7 FOLLOWING POWERS:

8 (1) TO PROMULGATE RULES, PURSUANT TO SECTION EIGHT THOUSAND EIGHT 9 HUNDRED EIGHT OF THIS ARTICLE, WHICH SHALL HAVE THE FORCE AND EFFECT OF 10 LAW AND SHALL BE BINDING IN THE COMPACTING STATES TO THE EXTENT AND IN 11 THE MANNER PROVIDED IN THIS ARTICLE;

12 (2) TO EXERCISE ITS RULE MAKING AUTHORITY AND ESTABLISH REASONABLE UNIFORM STANDARDS FOR PRODUCTS COVERED UNDER THE COMPACT, AND ADVERTISE-13 14 MENT RELATED THERETO, WHICH SHALL HAVE THE FORCE AND EFFECT OF LAW AND 15 SHALL BE BINDING IN THE COMPACTING STATES, BUT ONLY FOR SUCH PRODUCTS 16 FILED WITH THE COMMISSION; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT A COMPACTING STATE SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO OPT OUT OF SUCH UNIFORM STANDARD PURSUANT TO 17 SECTION EIGHT THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED EIGHT OF THIS ARTICLE TO THE EXTENT 18 19 AND IN THE MANNER PROVIDED IN THIS ARTICLE, AND PROVIDED FURTHER THAT ANY UNIFORM STANDARD ESTABLISHED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR LONG-TERM CARE 20 21 INSURANCE PRODUCTS MAY PROVIDE THE SAME OR GREATER PROTECTIONS FOR 22 CONSUMERS AS, BUT SHALL NOT PROVIDE LESS THAN, THOSE PROTECTIONS SET FORTH IN THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF INSURANCE COMMISSIONERS' (HEREIN-23 AFTER REFERRED TO AS THE "NAIC") LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE MODEL ACT AND 24 25 LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE MODEL REGULATION, RESPECTIVELY, ADOPTED AS OF 2001. THE COMMISSION SHALL CONSIDER WHETHER ANY SUBSEQUENT AMENDMENTS TO 26 27 THE NAIC LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE MODEL ACT OR LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE 28 MODEL REGULATION ADOPTED BY THE NAIC REQUIRE AMENDING OF THE UNIFORM STANDARDS ESTABLISHED BY THE COMMISSION FOR LONG-TERM 29 INSURANCE 30 PRODUCTS;

(3) TO RECEIVE AND REVIEW IN AN EXPEDITIOUS MANNER PRODUCTS FILED WITH
THE COMMISSION, INCLUDING RATE FILINGS FOR DISABILITY INCOME AND
LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE PRODUCTS, AND GIVE APPROVAL OF THOSE PRODUCTS
AND RATE FILINGS THAT SATISFY THE APPLICABLE UNIFORM STANDARD, WHERE
SUCH APPROVAL SHALL HAVE THE FORCE AND EFFECT OF LAW AND BE BINDING ON
THE COMPACTING STATES TO THE EXTENT AND IN THE MANNER PROVIDED IN THE
COMPACT;

38 (4) TO RECEIVE AND REVIEW IN AN EXPEDITIOUS MANNER ADVERTISEMENT RELATING TO LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE PRODUCTS FOR WHICH UNIFORM STAND-39 40 ARDS HAVE BEEN ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION, AND GIVE APPROVAL OF SUCH ADVERTISEMENT THAT SATISFIES THE APPLICABLE UNIFORM STANDARD. FOR ANY 41 PRODUCT COVERED UNDER THIS ARTICLE, OTHER THAN LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE 42 PRODUCTS, THE COMMISSION SHALL HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO REQUIRE AN INSURER 43 TO SUBMIT ALL OR ANY PART OF ITS ADVERTISEMENT WITH RESPECT TO 44 THAT 45 PRODUCT FOR REVIEW OR APPROVAL PRIOR TO USE IF THE COMMISSION DETERMINES THAT THE NATURE OF THE PRODUCT IS SUCH THAT AN ADVERTISEMENT OF THE 46 47 PRODUCT COULD HAVE THE CAPACITY OR TENDENCY TO MISLEAD THE PUBLIC. THE 48 ACTIONS OF THE COMMISSION AS PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION SHALL HAVE THE 49 FORCE AND EFFECT OF LAW AND SHALL BE BINDING IN THE COMPACTING STATES TO 50 THE EXTENT AND IN THE MANNER PROVIDED IN THE COMPACT;

51 (5) TO EXERCISE ITS RULE MAKING AUTHORITY AND DESIGNATE PRODUCTS AND 52 ADVERTISEMENT THAT MAY BE SUBJECT TO A SELF-CERTIFICATION PROCESS WITH-53 OUT THE NEED FOR PRIOR APPROVAL BY THE COMMISSION;

54 (6) TO PROMULGATE OPERATING PROCEDURES, PURSUANT TO SECTION EIGHT 55 THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED EIGHT OF THIS ARTICLE, WHICH SHALL BE BINDING IN COMPACT;

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THE COMPACTING STATES TO THE EXTENT AND IN THE MANNER PROVIDED IN (7) TO BRING AND PROSECUTE LEGAL PROCEEDINGS OR ACTIONS IN ITS NAME AS THE COMMISSION; PROVIDED, THAT THE STANDING OF ANY STATE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT TO SUE OR BE SUED UNDER APPLICABLE LAW SHALL NOT BE AFFECTED; (8) TO ISSUE SUBPOENAS REQUIRING THE ATTENDANCE AND TESTIMONY OF WITNESSES AND THE PRODUCTION OF EVIDENCE; (9) TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN OFFICES; (10) TO PURCHASE AND MAINTAIN INSURANCE AND BONDS; (11) TO BORROW, ACCEPT OR CONTRACT FOR SERVICES OF PERSONNEL, INCLUD-ING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, EMPLOYEES OF A COMPACTING STATE; (12) TO HIRE EMPLOYEES, PROFESSIONALS OR SPECIALISTS, AND ELECT APPOINT OFFICERS, AND TO FIX THEIR COMPENSATION, DEFINE THEIR DUTIES AND THEM APPROPRIATE AUTHORITY TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSES OF THE COMPACT, AND DETERMINE THEIR QUALIFICATIONS; AND TO ESTABLISH THE COMMISSION'S PERSONNEL POLICIES AND PROGRAMS RELATING TO, AMONG OTHER THINGS, CONFLICTS OF INTEREST, RATES OF COMPENSATION AND QUALIFICATIONS OF PERSONNEL;

19 (13)TO ACCEPT ANY AND ALL APPROPRIATE DONATIONS AND GRANTS OF MONEY, 20 EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES, MATERIALS AND SERVICES, AND TO RECEIVE, UTILIZE AND 21 DISPOSE OF THE SAME; PROVIDED THAT AT ALL TIMES THE COMMISSION SHALL 22 STRIVE TO AVOID ANY APPEARANCE OF IMPROPRIETY;

23 (14) TO LEASE, PURCHASE, ACCEPT APPROPRIATE GIFTS OR DONATIONS OF, OR OTHERWISE TO OWN, HOLD, IMPROVE OR USE, ANY PROPERTY, REAL, PERSONAL OR 24 25 PROVIDED THAT AT ALL TIMES THE COMMISSION SHALL STRIVE TO AVOID MIXED; 26 ANY APPEARANCE OF IMPROPRIETY;

27 (15) TO SELL, CONVEY, MORTGAGE, PLEDGE, LEASE, EXCHANGE, OR ABANDON 28 OTHERWISE DISPOSE OF ANY PROPERTY, REAL, PERSONAL OR MIXED;

29 (16) TO REMIT FILING FEES TO COMPACTING STATES AS MAY BE SET FORTH IN THE BY-LAWS, RULES OR OPERATING PROCEDURES; 30

31 (17) TO ENFORCE COMPLIANCE BY COMPACTING STATES WITH RULES, UNIFORM 32 STANDARDS, OPERATING PROCEDURES AND BY-LAWS; 33

(18) TO PROVIDE FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION AMONG COMPACTING STATES;

34 (19) TO ADVISE COMPACTING STATES ON ISSUES RELATING TO INSURERS DOMI-35 CILED OR DOING BUSINESS IN NON-COMPACTING JURISDICTIONS, CONSISTENT WITH THE PURPOSES OF THE COMPACT; 36

37 (20) TO PROVIDE ADVICE AND TRAINING TO THOSE PERSONNEL IN STATE INSUR-38 ANCE DEPARTMENTS RESPONSIBLE FOR PRODUCT REVIEW, AND TO BE A RESOURCE 39 FOR STATE INSURANCE DEPARTMENTS; 40

(21) TO ESTABLISH A BUDGET AND MAKE EXPENDITURES;

(22) TO BORROW MONEY;

(23) TO APPOINT COMMITTEES, INCLUDING ADVISORY COMMITTEES COMPRISING 42 43 MEMBERS, STATE INSURANCE REGULATORS, STATE LEGISLATORS OR THEIR REPRE-44 SENTATIVES, INSURANCE INDUSTRY AND CONSUMER REPRESENTATIVES, AND SUCH 45 OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS AS MAY BE DESIGNATED IN THE BY-LAWS;

46 (24) TO PROVIDE AND RECEIVE INFORMATION FROM, AND TO COOPERATE WITH 47 LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES;

48 (25) TO ADOPT AND USE A CORPORATE SEAL; AND

49 (26) TO PERFORM SUCH OTHER FUNCTIONS AS MAY BE NECESSARY OR APPROPRI-50 ATE TO ACHIEVE THE PURPOSES OF THIS COMPACT CONSISTENT WITH THE STATE REGULATION OF THE BUSINESS OF INSURANCE. 51

(B) ALL DONATIONS, GRANTS OF MONEY, EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES, MATERIALS OR 52 SERVICES, PURCHASES, GIFTS, DONATIONS, CONVEYANCES, MORTGAGES, PLEDGES, 53 54 LEASES AND EXCHANGES, AS AUTHORIZED BY SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION, RECEIVED BY OR ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION SHALL BE LIMITED TO THE 55

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OR

DIRECT FUNDING OF THE LAWFUL AND AUTHORIZED OPERATIONS OF THE COMMIS-1 2 SION. 3 S 8806. ORGANIZATION OF THE COMMISSION. (A) EACH COMPACTING STATE 4 SHALL HAVE AND BE LIMITED TO ONE MEMBER. THE SUPERINTENDENT, OR HIS OR 5 HER DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE, SHALL BE NEW YORK'S MEMBER OF SUCH 6 COMMISSION. EACH MEMBER SHALL BE QUALIFIED TO SERVE IN SUCH CAPACITY 7 PURSUANT TO APPLICABLE LAW OF THE COMPACTING STATE. ANY MEMBER MAY BE 8 REMOVED OR SUSPENDED FROM OFFICE AS PROVIDED BY THE LAW OF THESTATE FROM WHICH HE OR SHE SHALL BE APPOINTED. ANY VACANCY OCCURRING IN THE 9 10 COMMISSION SHALL BE FILLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE COMPACTING 11 STATE WHEREIN SUCH VACANCY EXISTS. NOTHING HEREIN SHALL BE CONSTRUED TO 12 AFFECT THE MANNER IN WHICH A COMPACTING STATE DETERMINES THE ELECTION OR APPOINTMENT AND OUALIFICATION OF ITS OWN COMMISSIONER. 13 14 (B) EACH MEMBER SHALL BE ENTITLED TO ONE VOTE AND SHALL HAVE AN OPPOR-15 TUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GOVERNANCE OF THE COMMISSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BY-LAWS. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY PROVISION OF THIS ARTICLE TO THE 16 17 CONTRARY, NO ACTION OF THE COMMISSION WITH RESPECT TO THE PROMULGATION 18 OF A UNIFORM STANDARD SHALL BE EFFECTIVE UNLESS TWO-THIRDS OF THE MEMBERS VOTE IN FAVOR THEREOF. 19 THE COMMISSION SHALL, BY A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS, PRESCRIBE 20 (C) 21 BY-LAWS TO GOVERN ITS CONDUCT AS MAY BE NECESSARY OR APPROPRIATE TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSES, AND EXERCISE THE POWERS, OF THE COMPACT, INCLUD-22 23 ING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO: 24 (1) ESTABLISHING THE FISCAL YEAR OF THE COMMISSION; 25 (2) PROVIDING REASONABLE PROCEDURES FOR HOLDING MEETINGS OF THE 26 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE; 27 (3) PROVIDING REASONABLE STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES FOR THE ESTABLISH-28 OTHER COMMITTEES, AND GOVERNING ANY GENERAL OR SPECIFIC DELEG-MENT OF 29 ATION OF ANY AUTHORITY OR FUNCTION OF THE COMMISSION; (4) PROVIDING REASONABLE PROCEDURES FOR CALLING AND CONDUCTING MEET-30 INGS OF THE COMMISSION THAT CONSIST OF A MAJORITY OF COMMISSION MEMBERS, 31 32 ENSURING REASONABLE ADVANCE NOTICE OF EACH SUCH MEETING, AND PROVIDING 33 FOR THE RIGHT OF CITIZENS TO ATTEND EACH SUCH MEETING WITH ENUMERATED 34 EXCEPTIONS DESIGNED TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC'S INTEREST, THE PRIVACY OF 35 INDIVIDUALS AND INSURERS' PROPRIETARY INFORMATION, INCLUDING TRADE SECRETS. THE COMMISSION MAY MEET IN CAMERA ONLY AFTER A MAJORITY OF THE 36 37 ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP VOTES TO CLOSE A MEETING IN TOTO OR IN PART. AS SOON PRACTICABLE, THE COMMISSION MUST MAKE PUBLIC A COPY OF THE VOTE TO 38 AS 39 CLOSE THE MEETING REVEALING THE VOTE OF EACH MEMBER WITH NO PROXY VOTES 40 ALLOWED, AND VOTES TAKEN DURING SUCH MEETING; 41 (5) ESTABLISHING THE TITLES, DUTIES AND AUTHORITY AND REASONABLE PROCEDURES FOR THE ELECTION OF THE OFFICERS OF THE COMMISSION; 42 43 (6) PROVIDING REASONABLE STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES FOR THE ESTABLISH-44 MENT OF THE PERSONNEL POLICIES AND PROGRAMS OF THE COMMISSION. NOTWITH-45 STANDING ANY CIVIL SERVICE OR OTHER SIMILAR LAWS OF ANY COMPACTING STATE, THE BY-LAWS SHALL EXCLUSIVELY GOVERN THE PERSONNEL POLICIES AND 46 47 PROGRAMS OF THE COMMISSION; 48 (7) PROMULGATING A CODE OF ETHICS TO ADDRESS PERMISSIBLE AND PROHIBIT-49 ED ACTIVITIES OF COMMISSION MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES; AND 50 (8) PROVIDING A MECHANISM FOR WINDING UP THE OPERATIONS OF THE COMMIS-51 SION AND THE EOUITABLE DISPOSITION OF ANY SURPLUS FUNDS THAT MAY EXIST AFTER THE TERMINATION OF THE COMPACT AFTER THE PAYMENT AND/OR RESERVING 52 53 OF ALL OF ITS DEBTS AND OBLIGATIONS. 54 (D) THE COMMISSION SHALL PUBLISH ITS BY-LAWS IN A CONVENIENT FORM AND 55 FILE A COPY THEREOF AND A COPY OF ANY AMENDMENT THERETO, WITH THE APPRO-56 PRIATE AGENCY OR OFFICER IN EACH OF THE COMPACTING STATES.

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(E) A MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE COMPRISING NO MORE THAN FOURTEEN MEMBERS 1 2 SHALL BE ESTABLISHED AS FOLLOWS: 3 (1) ONE MEMBER FROM EACH OF THE SIX COMPACTING STATES WITH THE LARGEST 4 PREMIUM VOLUME FOR INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP ANNUITIES, LIFE, DISABILITY 5 INCOME AND LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE PRODUCTS, DETERMINED FROM THE 6 RECORDS OF THE NAIC AS OF DECEMBER THIRTY-FIRST OF THE PRIOR YEAR; 7 (2) FOUR MEMBERS FROM THOSE COMPACTING STATES WITH AT LEAST TWO 8 PERCENT OF THE MARKET BASED ON THE PREMIUM VOLUME DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH 9 ONE OF THIS SUBSECTION, OTHER THAN SIX COMPACTING STATES WITH THE LARG-10 EST PREMIUM VOLUME, SELECTED ON A ROTATING BASIS AS PROVIDED IN THE 11 BY-LAWS; AND 12 (3) FOUR MEMBERS FROM THOSE COMPACTING STATES WITH LESS THAN TWO PERCENT OF THE MARKET, BASED ON THE PREMIUM VOLUME DESCRIBED IN PARA-13 14 GRAPH ONE OF THIS SUBSECTION, WITH ONE SELECTED FROM EACH OF THE FOUR 15 ZONE REGIONS OF THE NAIC AS PROVIDED IN THE BY-LAWS. 16 (F) THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE SHALL HAVE SUCH AUTHORITY AND DUTIES AS MAY BE SET FORTH IN THE BY-LAWS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO: 17 (1) MANAGING THE AFFAIRS OF THE COMMISSION IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH 18 19 THE BY-LAWS AND PURPOSES OF THE COMMISSION; 20 (2) ESTABLISHING AND OVERSEEING AN ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE WITHIN, AND APPROPRIATE PROCEDURES FOR, THE COMMISSION TO PROVIDE FOR THE 21 22 CREATION OF UNIFORM STANDARDS AND OTHER RULES, RECEIPT AND REVIEW OF PRODUCT FILINGS, ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT FUNCTIONS, REVIEW 23 OF DECISIONS REGARDING THE DISAPPROVAL OF A PRODUCT FILING, AND THE 24 25 REVIEW OF ELECTIONS MADE BY A COMPACTING STATE TO OPT OUT OF A UNIFORM 26 STANDARD; PROVIDED THAT A UNIFORM STANDARD SHALL NOT BE SUBMITTED TO THE 27 COMPACTING STATES FOR ADOPTION UNLESS APPROVED BY TWO-THIRDS OF THE MEMBERS OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE; 28 29 (3) OVERSEEING THE OFFICES OF THE COMMISSION; AND (4) PLANNING, IMPLEMENTING, AND COORDINATING COMMUNICATIONS AND ACTIV-30 ITIES WITH OTHER STATE, FEDERAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS IN 31 ORDER TO ADVANCE THE GOALS OF THE COMMISSION. 32 33 (G) THE COMMISSION SHALL ELECT ANNUALLY OFFICERS FROM THE MANAGEMENT 34 COMMITTEE, WITH EACH HAVING SUCH AUTHORITY AND DUTIES, AS MAY BE SPECI-FIED IN THE BY-LAWS. 35 (H) THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MAY, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE 36 37 COMMISSION, APPOINT OR RETAIN AN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR SUCH PERIOD, 38 UPON SUCH TERMS AND CONDITIONS AND FOR SUCH COMPENSATION AS THE COMMIS-39 SION MAY DEEM APPROPRIATE. THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHALL SERVE AS SECRE-40 TARY TO THE COMMISSION, BUT SHALL NOT BE A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION. THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHALL HIRE AND SUPERVISE SUCH OTHER STAFF AS MAY BE 41 42 AUTHORIZED BY THE COMMISSION. 43 (I) A LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE COMPRISING STATE LEGISLATORS OR THEIR DESIGNEES SHALL BE ESTABLISHED TO MONITOR THE OPERATIONS OF, AND MAKE 44 45 RECOMMENDATIONS TO, THE COMMISSION; PROVIDED THAT THE MANNER OF SELECTION AND TERM OF ANY LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER SHALL BE AS SET 46 47 FORTH IN THE BY-LAWS. PRIOR TO THE ADOPTION BY THE COMMISSION OF ANY 48 UNIFORM STANDARD, REVISION TO THE BY-LAWS, ANNUAL BUDGET OR OTHER 49 SIGNIFICANT MATTER AS MAY BE PROVIDED IN THE BY-LAWS, THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE SHALL CONSULT WITH AND REPORT TO THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE. 50 (J) THE COMMISSION SHALL ESTABLISH TWO ADVISORY COMMITTEES, ONE OF 51 WHICH SHALL COMPRISE CONSUMER REPRESENTATIVES INDEPENDENT OF THE INSUR-52 ANCE INDUSTRY AND THE OTHER COMPRISING INSURANCE INDUSTRY REPRESEN-53 54 TATIVES. 55 (K) THE COMMISSION MAY ESTABLISH ADDITIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES AS ITS 56 BY-LAWS MAY PROVIDE FOR THE CARRYING OUT OF ITS FUNCTIONS.

1 (L) THE COMMISSION SHALL MAINTAIN ITS CORPORATE BOOKS AND RECORDS IN 2 ACCORDANCE WITH THE BY-LAWS.

3 (M) THE MEMBERS, OFFICERS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, EMPLOYEES AND REPRESEN-4 TATIVES OF THE COMMISSION SHALL BE IMMUNE FROM SUIT AND LIABILITY, 5 EITHER PERSONALLY OR IN THEIR OFFICIAL CAPACITY, FOR ANY ACTION TAKEN 6 REASONABLY AND IN GOOD FAITH WHICH RESULTS IN A CLAIM FOR DAMAGE TO OR 7 LOSS OF PROPERTY OR PERSONAL INJURY OR OTHER CIVIL LIABILITY CAUSED ΒY 8 OR ARISING OUT OF ANY ACTUAL OR ALLEGED ACT, ERROR OR OMISSION THAT OCCURRED, OR THAT SUCH PERSON HAD A REASONABLE BASIS FOR BELIEVING 9 10 OCCURRED WITHIN THE SCOPE OF COMMISSION EMPLOYMENT, DUTIES OR RESPONSI-BILITIES; PROVIDED, THAT NOTHING IN THIS SECTION SHALL BE CONSTRUED TO 11 PROTECT ANY SUCH PERSON FROM SUIT AND/OR LIABILITY FOR ANY DAMAGE, LOSS, 12 INJURY OR LIABILITY CAUSED BY THE INTENTIONAL OR WILLFUL AND WANTON 13 14 MISCONDUCT OF THAT PERSON.

15 (N) THE COMMISSION SHALL DEFEND ANY MEMBER, OFFICER, EXECUTIVE DIREC-16 EMPLOYEE OR REPRESENTATIVE OF THE COMMISSION IN ANY CIVIL ACTION TOR, 17 SEEKING TO IMPOSE LIABILITY ARISING OUT OF ANY ACTUAL OR ALLEGED ACT, ERROR OR OMISSION THAT OCCURRED WITHIN THE SCOPE OF COMMISSION EMPLOY-18 19 MENT, DUTIES OR RESPONSIBILITIES, OR THAT THE DEFENDANT HAD A REASONABLE 20 BASIS FOR BELIEVING OCCURRED WITHIN THE SCOPE OF COMMISSION EMPLOYMENT, 21 DUTIES OR RESPONSIBILITIES; PROVIDED, THAT NOTHING IN THIS SECTION SHALL 22 BE CONSTRUED TO PROHIBIT THAT PERSON FROM RETAINING HIS OR HER OWN COUN-SEL; AND PROVIDED FURTHER, THAT THE ACTUAL OR ALLEGED ACT, ERROR OR 23 24 OMISSION DID NOT RESULT FROM THAT PERSON'S INTENTIONAL OR WILLFUL AND 25 WANTON MISCONDUCT.

26 (O) THE COMMISSION SHALL INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS ANY MEMBER, OFFI-27 CER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, EMPLOYEE OR REPRESENTATIVE OF THE COMMISSION FOR THE AMOUNT OF ANY SETTLEMENT OR JUDGMENT OBTAINED AGAINST SUCH 28 PERSONS ARISING OUT OF ANY ACTUAL OR ALLEGED ACT, ERROR OR OMISSION THAT 29 OCCURRED WITHIN THE SCOPE OF COMMISSION EMPLOYMENT, DUTIES OR RESPONSI-30 BILITIES, OR THAT SUCH PERSON HAD A REASONABLE BASIS FOR BELIEVING 31 OCCURRED WITHIN THE SCOPE OF COMMISSION EMPLOYMENT, DUTIES OR RESPONSI-32 33 BILITIES, PROVIDED, THAT THE ACTUAL OR ALLEGED ACT, ERROR OR OMISSION DID NOT RESULT FROM THE INTENTIONAL OR WILLFUL AND WANTON MISCONDUCT OF 34 35 ANY SUCH PERSON.

36 S 8807. MEETINGS AND ACTS OF THE COMMISSION. (A) THE COMMISSION SHALL 37 MEET AND TAKE SUCH ACTIONS AS ARE CONSISTENT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS 38 COMPACT AND THE BY-LAWS.

(B) EACH MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT AND POWER TO
(CAST A VOTE TO WHICH THAT COMPACTING STATE IS ENTITLED AND TO PARTIC(IPATE IN THE BUSINESS AND AFFAIRS OF THE COMMISSION. A MEMBER SHALL VOTE
(IN PERSON OR BY SUCH OTHER MEANS AS PROVIDED IN THE BY-LAWS. THE BY-LAWS
(A) MAY PROVIDE FOR MEMBERS' PARTICIPATION IN MEETINGS BY TELEPHONE OR OTHER
(A) MEANS OF COMMUNICATION.

45 (C) THE COMMISSION SHALL MEET AT LEAST ONCE DURING EACH CALENDAR YEAR.
 46 ADDITIONAL MEETINGS SHALL BE HELD AS SET FORTH IN THE BY-LAWS.

47 8808. RULES AND OPERATING PROCEDURES; RULE MAKING FUNCTIONS OF THE S 48 COMMISSION AND OPTING OUT OF UNIFORM STANDARDS. (A) THE COMMISSION SHALL PROMULGATE REASONABLE RULES, INCLUDING UNIFORM STANDARDS AND OPERATING 49 50 PROCEDURES, IN ORDER TO EFFECTIVELY AND EFFICIENTLY ACHIEVE THE PURPOSES THE COMPACT. NOTWITHSTANDING THE FOREGOING, IN THE EVENT THE COMMIS-51 OF SION EXERCISES ITS RULE MAKING AUTHORITY IN A MANNER THAT IS BEYOND THE 52 SCOPE OF THE PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE, OR THE POWERS GRANTED IN THIS 53 54 SECTION, THEN SUCH ACTION BY THE COMMISSION SHALL BE INVALID AND HAVE NO 55 FORCE AND EFFECT.

(B) RULES AND OPERATING PROCEDURES SHALL BE MADE PURSUANT TO A RULE 1 MAKING PROCESS THAT CONFORMS TO THE MODEL STATE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE 2 1981 AS AMENDED, AS MAY BE APPROPRIATE TO THE OPERATIONS OF THE 3 ACT OF 4 COMMISSION. BEFORE THE COMMISSION ADOPTS A UNIFORM STANDARD, THE COMMIS-5 SION SHALL GIVE WRITTEN NOTICE TO THE RELEVANT STATE LEGISLATIVE COMMIT-6 EACH COMPACTING STATE RESPONSIBLE FOR INSURANCE ISSUES OF ITS TEE IN 7 INTENTION TO ADOPT SUCH UNIFORM STANDARD. THE COMMISSION IN ADOPTING A 8 UNIFORM STANDARD SHALL CONSIDER FULLY ALL SUBMITTED MATERIALS AND ISSUE A CONCISE EXPLANATION OF ITS DECISION. 9

10 (C) A UNIFORM STANDARD SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE NINETY DAYS AFTER ITS PROMULGATION BY THE COMMISSION OR SUCH LATER DATE AS THE COMMISSION MAY 11 DETERMINE; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT A COMPACTING STATE MAY OPT OUT OF A 12 UNIFORM STANDARD AS PROVIDED IN THIS ARTICLE. "OPT OUT" SHALL BE DEFINED 13 14 AS ANY ACTION BY A COMPACTING STATE TO DECLINE TO ADOPT OR PARTICIPATE 15 IN A PROMULGATED UNIFORM STANDARD. ALL OTHER RULES AND OPERATING PROCE-16 DURES, AND AMENDMENTS THERETO, SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE AS OF THE DATE SPECIFIED IN EACH RULE, OPERATING PROCEDURE OR AMENDMENT. 17

(D) A COMPACTING STATE MAY OPT OUT OF A UNIFORM STANDARD, EITHER BY 18 19 LEGISLATION OR REGULATION DULY PROMULGATED BY THE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT 20 UNDER THE COMPACTING STATE'S ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT. IF A COMPACT-21 ING STATE ELECTS TO OPT OUT OF A UNIFORM STANDARD BY REGULATION, IT MUST GIVE WRITTEN NOTICE TO THE COMMISSION NO LATER THAN TEN BUSINESS 22 DAYS AFTER THE LATER OF THE UNIFORM STANDARD IS PROMULGATED OR AT THE TIME 23 THE STATE BECOMES A COMPACTING STATE, AND FIND THAT THE UNIFORM STANDARD 24 25 DOES NOT PROVIDE REASONABLE PROTECTIONS TO THE CITIZENS OF THESTATE THE CONDITIONS IN THE STATE. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL MAKE SPECIFIC 26 GIVEN FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, BASED ON A PREPONDERANCE OF THE 27 EVIDENCE, DETAILING THE CONDITIONS IN THE STATE WHICH WARRANT A DEPAR-28 TURE FROM THE UNIFORM STANDARD AND DETERMINING THAT THE UNIFORM STANDARD 29 WOULD NOT REASONABLY PROTECT THE CITIZENS OF THE STATE. THE COMMISSIONER 30 MUST CONSIDER AND BALANCE THE FOLLOWING FACTORS AND FIND THAT THE CONDI-31 32 TIONS IN THE STATE AND NEEDS OF THE CITIZENS OF THE STATE OUTWEIGH:

(1) THE INTENT OF THE LEGISLATURE TO PARTICIPATE IN, AND THE BENEFITS
 OF, AN INTERSTATE AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH NATIONAL UNIFORM CONSUMER
 PROTECTIONS FOR THE PRODUCTS SUBJECT TO THIS ARTICLE; AND

36 (2) THE PRESUMPTION THAT A UNIFORM STANDARD ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION37 PROVIDES REASONABLE PROTECTIONS TO CONSUMERS OF THE RELEVANT PRODUCT.

38 NOTWITHSTANDING THE FOREGOING, A COMPACTING STATE MAY, AT THE TIME OF 39 ITS ENACTMENT OF THE COMPACT, PROSPECTIVELY OPT OUT OF ALL UNIFORM STAN-40 INVOLVING THE LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE PRODUCTS BY EXPRESSLY DARDS PROVIDING FOR SUCH OPT OUT IN THE ENACTED COMPACT, AND SUCH OPT OUT 41 42 SHALL NOT BE TREATED AS A MATERIAL VARIANCE IN THE OFFER OR ACCEPTANCE 43 OF ANY STATE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE COMPACT. SUCH AN OPT OUT SHALL ΒE EFFECTIVE AT THE TIME OF ENACTMENT OF THE COMPACT BY THE COMPACTING 44 45 STATE AND SHALL APPLY TO ALL EXISTING UNIFORM STANDARDS INVOLVING LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE PRODUCTS AND THOSE SUBSEQUENTLY PROMULGATED. 46

47 (E) IF A COMPACTING STATE ELECTS TO OPT OUT OF A UNIFORM STANDARD, THE
48 UNIFORM STANDARD SHALL REMAIN APPLICABLE IN THE COMPACTING STATE ELECT49 ING TO OPT OUT UNTIL SUCH TIME THE OPT OUT LEGISLATION IS ENACTED INTO
50 LAW OR THE REGULATION OPTING OUT BECOMES EFFECTIVE.

(F) ONCE THE OPT OUT OF A UNIFORM STANDARD BY A COMPACTING STATE
BECOMES EFFECTIVE AS PROVIDED UNDER THE LAWS OF THAT STATE, THE UNIFORM
STANDARD SHALL HAVE NO FURTHER FORCE AND EFFECT IN THAT STATE UNLESS AND
UNTIL THE LEGISLATION OR REGULATION IMPLEMENTING THE OPT OUT IS REPEALED
OR OTHERWISE BECOMES INEFFECTIVE UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE. IF A
COMPACTING STATE OPTS OUT OF A UNIFORM STANDARD AFTER THE UNIFORM STAND-

1 ARD HAS BEEN MADE EFFECTIVE IN THAT STATE, THE OPT OUT SHALL HAVE THE 2 SAME PROSPECTIVE EFFECT AS PROVIDED UNDER SECTION EIGHT THOUSAND EIGHT 3 HUNDRED FIFTEEN OF THIS ARTICLE FOR WITHDRAWALS.

4 (G) IF A COMPACTING STATE HAS FORMALLY INITIATED THE PROCESS OF OPTING 5 OUT OF A UNIFORM STANDARD BY REGULATION, AND WHILE THE REGULATORY OPT 6 OUT IS PENDING, THE COMPACTING STATE MAY PETITION THE COMMISSION, AΤ 7 LEAST FIFTEEN DAYS BEFORE THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE UNIFORM STANDARD, TO 8 THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE UNIFORM STANDARD IN THAT STATE. THE STAY COMMISSION MAY GRANT A STAY IF IT DETERMINES THE REGULATORY OPT OUT IS 9 10 BEING PURSUED IN A REASONABLE MANNER AND THERE IS A LIKELIHOOD OF SUCCESS. IF A STAY IS GRANTED OR EXTENDED BY THE COMMISSION, THE STAY OR 11 EXTENSION THEREOF MAY POSTPONE THE EFFECTIVE DATE BY UP TO NINETY DAYS, 12 AFFIRMATIVELY EXTENDED BY THE COMMISSION; PROVIDED HOWEVER, A 13 UNLESS 14 STAY MAY NOT BE PERMITTED TO REMAIN IN EFFECT FOR MORE THAN ONE YEAR 15 UNLESS THE COMPACTING STATE CAN SHOW EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH 16 WARRANT A CONTINUANCE OF THE STAY INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE 17 EXISTENCE OF A LEGAL CHALLENGE WHICH PREVENTS THE COMPACTING STATE FROM OPTING OUT. A STAY MAY BE TERMINATED BY THE COMMISSION UPON NOTICE 18 THAT 19 THE RULE MAKING PROCESS HAS BEEN TERMINATED.

20 NOT LATER THAN THIRTY DAYS AFTER A RULE OR OPERATING PROCEDURE IS (H) 21 PROMULGATED, ANY PERSON MAY FILE A PETITION FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW OF THE 22 OR OPERATING PROCEDURE; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT THE FILING OF SUCH RULE A PETITION SHALL NOT STAY OR OTHERWISE PREVENT THE RULE OR OPERATING 23 24 PROCEDURE FROM BECOMING EFFECTIVE UNLESS THE COURT FINDS THAT THE PETI-25 TIONER HAS A SUBSTANTIAL LIKELIHOOD OF SUCCESS. THE COURT SHALL GIVE 26 DEFERENCE TO THE ACTIONS OF THE COMMISSION CONSISTENT WITH APPLICABLE 27 LAW AND SHALL NOT FIND THE RULE OR OPERATING PROCEDURE TO BE UNLAWFUL IF 28 THE RULE OR OPERATING PROCEDURE REPRESENTS A REASONABLE EXERCISE OF THE COMMISSION'S AUTHORITY. 29

8809. COMMISSION RECORDS AND ENFORCEMENT. (A) THE COMMISSION SHALL 30 S PROMULGATE RULES ESTABLISHING CONDITIONS AND PROCEDURES FOR PUBLIC 31 32 INSPECTION AND COPYING OF ITS INFORMATION AND OFFICIAL RECORDS, EXCEPT SUCH INFORMATION AND RECORDS INVOLVING THE PRIVACY OF INDIVIDUALS 33 AND INSURERS' TRADE SECRETS. THE COMMISSION MAY PROMULGATE ADDITIONAL RULES 34 35 UNDER WHICH IT MAY MAKE AVAILABLE TO FEDERAL AND STATE AGENCIES, INCLUD-ING LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, RECORDS AND INFORMATION OTHERWISE EXEMPT 36 37 FROM DISCLOSURE, AND MAY ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS WITH SUCH AGENCIES TO 38 RECEIVE OR EXCHANGE INFORMATION OR RECORDS SUBJECT TO NONDISCLOSURE AND 39 CONFIDENTIALITY PROVISIONS.

40 (B) EXCEPT AS TO PRIVILEGED RECORDS, DATA AND INFORMATION, THE LAWS OF ANY COMPACTING STATE PERTAINING TO CONFIDENTIALITY OR NONDISCLOSURE 41 SHALL NOT RELIEVE ANY COMPACTING STATE COMMISSIONER OF THE DUTY TO DISCLOSE ANY RELEVANT RECORDS, DATA OR INFORMATION TO THE COMMISSION; 42 TO 43 44 PROVIDED HOWEVER, THAT DISCLOSURE TO THE COMMISSION SHALL NOT BE DEEMED 45 WAIVE OR OTHERWISE AFFECT ANY CONFIDENTIALITY REOUIREMENT; AND ΤO PROVIDED FURTHER THAT, EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE EXPRESSLY PROVIDED 46 IN THIS 47 ARTICLE, THE COMMISSION SHALL NOT BE SUBJECT TO THE LAWS OF ANY COMPACT-48 ING STATE PERTAINING TO CONFIDENTIALITY AND NONDISCLOSURE WITH RESPECT 49 TO RECORDS, DATA AND INFORMATION IN ITS POSSESSION. CONFIDENTIAL INFOR-50 MATION OF THE COMMISSION SHALL REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL AFTER SUCH INFORMA-51 TION IS PROVIDED TO ANY COMMISSIONER.

(C) THE COMMISSION SHALL MONITOR COMPACTING STATES FOR COMPLIANCE WITH
DULY ADOPTED BY-LAWS, RULES, INCLUDING UNIFORM STANDARDS, AND OPERATING
PROCEDURES. THE COMMISSION SHALL NOTIFY SUCH NONCOMPLYING COMPACTING
STATE IN WRITING OF ITS NONCOMPLIANCE WITH COMMISSION BY-LAWS, RULES OR
OPERATING PROCEDURES. IF THE NONCOMPLYING COMPACTING STATE FAILS TO

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5 (D) THE COMMISSIONER OF ANY STATE IN WHICH AN INSURER IS AUTHORIZED TO 6 DO BUSINESS, OR IS CONDUCTING THE BUSINESS OF INSURANCE, SHALL CONTINUE 7 TO EXERCISE HIS OR HER AUTHORITY TO OVERSEE THE MARKET REGULATION OF THE 8 ACTIVITIES OF THE INSURER IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE 9 STATE'S LAW. THE COMMISSIONER'S ENFORCEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE 10 COMPACT IS GOVERNED BY THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS:

(1) WITH RESPECT TO THE COMMISSIONER'S MARKET REGULATION OF A PRODUCT
OR ADVERTISEMENT THAT IS APPROVED OR CERTIFIED TO THE COMMISSION, THE
CONTENT OF THE PRODUCT OR ADVERTISEMENT SHALL NOT CONSTITUTE A VIOLATION
OF THE PROVISIONS, STANDARDS OR REQUIREMENTS OF THE COMPACT EXCEPT UPON
A FINAL ORDER OF THE COMMISSION, ISSUED AT THE REQUEST OF A COMMISSIONER
AFTER PRIOR NOTICE TO THE INSURER AND AN OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING BEFORE
THE COMMISSION.

(2) BEFORE A COMMISSIONER MAY BRING AN ACTION FOR VIOLATION OF 18 ANY 19 PROVISION, STANDARD OR REQUIREMENT OF THE COMPACT RELATING TO THE CONTENT OF AN ADVERTISEMENT NOT APPROVED OR CERTIFIED TO THE COMMISSION, 20 21 THE COMMISSION OR AN AUTHORIZED COMMISSION OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE, MUST 22 AUTHORIZE THE ACTION. HOWEVER, AUTHORIZATION PURSUANT TO THIS PARAGRAPH DOES NOT REQUIRE NOTICE TO THE INSURER, OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING OR 23 DISCLOSURE OF REQUESTS FOR AUTHORIZATION OR RECORDS OF THE COMMISSION'S 24 25 ACTION ON SUCH REQUESTS.

S 8810. DISPUTE RESOLUTION. THE COMMISSION SHALL ATTEMPT, UPON THE REQUEST OF A MEMBER, TO RESOLVE ANY DISPUTES OR OTHER ISSUES THAT ARE SUBJECT TO THIS COMPACT AND WHICH MAY ARISE BETWEEN TWO OR MORE COMPACT-ING STATES, OR BETWEEN COMPACTING STATES AND NON-COMPACTING STATES, AND THE COMMISSION SHALL PROMULGATE AN OPERATING PROCEDURE PROVIDING FOR RESOLUTION OF SUCH DISPUTES.

32 S 8811. PRODUCT FILING AND APPROVAL. (A) INSURERS AND THIRD-PARTY 33 SEEKING TO HAVE A PRODUCT APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION SHALL FILE FILERS 34 SUCH PRODUCT WITH, AND PAY APPLICABLE FILING FEES TO, THE COMMISSION. NOTHING IN THIS ARTICLE SHALL BE CONSTRUED TO RESTRICT OR OTHERWISE 35 PREVENT AN INSURER FROM FILING ITS PRODUCT WITH THE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT 36 37 IN ANY STATE WHEREIN SUCH INSURER IS LICENSED TO CONDUCT THE BUSINESS OF 38 INSURANCE, AND SUCH FILING SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE LAWS OF THE STATES 39 WHERE FILED.

40 (B) THE COMMISSION SHALL ESTABLISH APPROPRIATE FILING AND REVIEW PROC-ESSES AND PROCEDURES PURSUANT TO COMMISSION RULES AND OPERATING PROCE-41 DURES. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY PROVISION IN THIS SECTION TO THE CONTRARY, 42 43 THE COMMISSION SHALL PROMULGATE RULES TO ESTABLISH CONDITIONS AND PROCE-44 DURES UNDER WHICH THE COMMISSION WILL PROVIDE PUBLIC ACCESS TO PRODUCT 45 FILING INFORMATION. IN ESTABLISHING SUCH RULES, THE COMMISSION SHALL CONSIDER THE INTERESTS OF THE PUBLIC IN HAVING ACCESS TO SUCH INFORMA-46 47 TION, AS WELL AS PROTECTION OF PERSONAL MEDICAL AND FINANCIAL INFORMA-48 TION AND TRADE SECRETS, THAT MAY BE CONTAINED IN A PRODUCT FILING OR 49 SUPPORTING INFORMATION.

50 (C) ANY PRODUCT APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION MAY BE SOLD OR OTHERWISE 51 ISSUED IN THOSE COMPACTING STATES IN WHICH THE INSURER IS LEGALLY 52 AUTHORIZED TO DO BUSINESS.

53 S 8812. REVIEW OF COMMISSION DECISIONS REGARDING FILINGS. (A) NOT 54 LATER THAN THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE COMMISSION HAS GIVEN NOTICE OF A DISAP-55 PROVED PRODUCT OR ADVERTISEMENT FILED WITH THE COMMISSION, THE INSURER 56 OR THIRD PARTY FILER WHOSE FILING WAS DISAPPROVED MAY APPEAL THE DETER-

MINATION TO A REVIEW PANEL APPOINTED BY THE COMMISSION. THE COMMISSION 1 SHALL PROMULGATE RULES TO ESTABLISH PROCEDURES FOR APPOINTING SUCH 2 3 REVIEW PANEL AND PROVIDE FOR NOTICE AND HEARING. AN ALLEGATION THAT THE 4 COMMISSION, IN DISAPPROVING A PRODUCT OR ADVERTISEMENT FILED WITH THE 5 COMMISSION, ACTED ARBITRARILY, CAPRICIOUSLY OR IN A MANNER THAT IS AN 6 ABUSE OF DISCRETION OR OTHERWISE NOT IN ACCORDANCE WITH LAW, IS SUBJECT 7 TO JUDICIAL REVIEW IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (E) OF SECTION EIGHT THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED FOUR OF THIS ARTICLE. 8

9 (B) THE COMMISSION SHALL HAVE AUTHORITY TO MONITOR, REVIEW AND RECON-10 SIDER PRODUCTS AND ADVERTISEMENT SUBSEQUENT TO THEIR FILING OR APPROVAL 11 UPON A FINDING THAT THE PRODUCT DOES NOT MEET THE RELEVANT UNIFORM STAN-12 DARD. WHERE APPROPRIATE, THE COMMISSION MAY WITHDRAW OR MODIFY ITS 13 APPROVAL AFTER PROPER NOTICE AND HEARING, SUBJECT TO THE APPEAL PROCESS 14 SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION.

15 S 8813. FINANCE. (A) THE COMMISSION SHALL PAY OR PROVIDE FOR THE 16 PAYMENT OF THE REASONABLE EXPENSES OF ITS ESTABLISHMENT AND ORGANIZA-17 TION. TO FUND THE COST OF ITS INITIAL OPERATIONS, THE COMMISSION MAY ACCEPT CONTRIBUTIONS AND OTHER FORMS OF FUNDING FROM THE NAIC, COMPACT-18 19 ING STATES AND OTHER SOURCES. CONTRIBUTIONS AND OTHER FORMS OF FUNDING 20 FROM OTHER SOURCES SHALL BE OF SUCH A NATURE THAT THE INDEPENDENCE OF 21 THE COMMISSION CONCERNING THE PERFORMANCE OF ITS DUTIES SHALL NOT BE 22 COMPROMISED.

(B) THE COMMISSION SHALL COLLECT A FILING FEE FROM EACH INSURER AND
THIRD PARTY FILER FILING A PRODUCT WITH THE COMMISSION TO COVER THE COST
OF THE OPERATIONS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION AND ITS STAFF IN A
TOTAL AMOUNT SUFFICIENT TO COVER THE COMMISSION'S ANNUAL BUDGET.

(C) THE COMMISSION'S BUDGET FOR A FISCAL YEAR SHALL NOT BE APPROVED
UNTIL IT HAS BEEN SUBJECT TO NOTICE AND COMMENT AS SET FORTH IN SECTION
EIGHT THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED EIGHT OF THIS ARTICLE.

30 (D) THE COMMISSION SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM ALL TAXATION IN AND BY THE 31 COMPACTING STATES.

32 (E) THE COMMISSION SHALL NOT PLEDGE THE CREDIT OF ANY COMPACTING 33 STATE, EXCEPT BY AND WITH THE APPROPRIATE LEGAL AUTHORITY OF THAT 34 COMPACTING STATE.

35 COMMISSION SHALL KEEP COMPLETE AND ACCURATE ACCOUNTS OF ALL (F) THE ITS INTERNAL RECEIPTS, INCLUDING GRANTS AND DONATIONS AND DISBURSEMENTS 36 37 OF ALL FUNDS UNDER ITS CONTROL. THE INTERNAL FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS OF THE 38 COMMISSION SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE ACCOUNTING PROCEDURES ESTABLISHED UNDER ITS BY-LAWS. THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS AND REPORTS INCLUDING THE 39 40 SYSTEM OF INTERNAL CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES OF THE COMMISSION SHALL BE AUDITED ANNUALLY BY AN INDEPENDENT CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT. UPON THE 41 DETERMINATION OF THE COMMISSION, BUT NO LESS FREQUENTLY THAN EVERY THREE 42 43 YEARS, THE REVIEW OF SUCH INDEPENDENT AUDITOR SHALL INCLUDE A MANAGEMENT 44 AND PERFORMANCE AUDIT OF THE COMMISSION. THE COMMISSION SHALL MAKE AN 45 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATURE OF THE COMPACTING STATES, WHICH SHALL INCLUDE A REPORT OF SUCH INDEPENDENT AUDIT. THE COMMISSION'S 46 47 INTERNAL ACCOUNTS SHALL NOT BE CONFIDENTIAL AND SUCH MATERIALS MAY BE 48 SHARED WITH THE COMMISSIONER OF ANY COMPACTING STATE UPON REQUEST, PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT ANY WORK PAPERS RELATED TO ANY INTERNAL OR INDE-49 50 PENDENT AUDIT AND ANY INFORMATION REGARDING THE PRIVACY OF INDIVIDUALS 51 AND INSURERS' PROPRIETARY INFORMATION, INCLUDING TRADE SECRETS, SHALL 52 REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL.

(G) NO COMPACTING STATE SHALL HAVE ANY CLAIM TO OR OWNERSHIP OF ANY
PROPERTY HELD BY OR VESTED IN THE COMMISSION OR TO ANY COMMISSION FUNDS
HELD PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS COMPACT.

1 S 8814. COMPACTING STATES, EFFECTIVE DATE AND AMENDMENT. (A) ANY STATE 2 IS ELIGIBLE TO BECOME A COMPACTING STATE.

3 (B) THE COMPACT SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE AND BINDING UPON LEGISLATIVE 4 ENACTMENT OF THE COMPACT INTO LAW BY TWO COMPACTING STATES; PROVIDED 5 THAT THE COMMISSION SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE FOR PURPOSES OF HOWEVER, 6 ADOPTING UNIFORM STANDARDS FOR REVIEWING, AND GIVING APPROVAL OR DISAP-7 PROVAL OF, PRODUCTS FILED WITH THE COMMISSION THAT SATISFY APPLICABLE 8 UNIFORM STANDARDS ONLY AFTER TWENTY-SIX STATES ARE COMPACTING STATES OR, 9 ALTERNATIVELY, BY STATES REPRESENTING GREATER THAN FORTY PERCENT OF THE 10 PREMIUM VOLUME FOR LIFE INSURANCE, ANNUITY, DISABILITY INCOME AND LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE PRODUCTS, BASED ON RECORDS OF THE NAIC FOR THE PRIOR 11 YEAR. THEREAFTER, IT SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE AND BINDING AS TO ANY OTHER 12 COMPACTING STATE UPON ENACTMENT OF THE COMPACT INTO LAW BY THAT STATE. 13

14 (C) AMENDMENTS TO THE COMPACT MAY BE PROPOSED BY THE COMMISSION FOR
15 ENACTMENT BY THE COMPACTING STATES. NO AMENDMENT SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE
16 AND BINDING UPON THE COMMISSION AND THE COMPACTING STATES UNLESS AND
17 UNTIL ALL COMPACTING STATES ENACT THE AMENDMENT INTO LAW.

18 S 8815. WITHDRAWAL, DEFAULT AND TERMINATION. (A)(1) ONCE EFFECTIVE, 19 THE COMPACT SHALL CONTINUE IN FORCE AND REMAIN BINDING UPON EACH AND 20 EVERY COMPACTING STATE; PROVIDED THAT A COMPACTING STATE MAY WITHDRAW 21 FROM THE COMPACT ("WITHDRAWING STATE") BY ENACTING A STATUTE SPECIF-22 ICALLY REPEALING THE STATUTE WHICH ENACTED THE COMPACT INTO LAW.

(2) THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF WITHDRAWAL IS THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE
REPEALING STATUTE. HOWEVER, THE WITHDRAWAL SHALL NOT APPLY TO ANY PRODUCT FILINGS APPROVED OR SELF-CERTIFIED, OR ANY ADVERTISEMENT OF SUCH
PRODUCTS, ON THE DATE THE REPEALING STATUTE BECOMES EFFECTIVE, EXCEPT BY
MUTUAL AGREEMENT OF THE COMMISSION AND THE WITHDRAWING STATE UNLESS THE
APPROVAL IS RESCINDED BY THE WITHDRAWING STATE AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH
FIVE OF THIS SUBSECTION.

(3) THE COMMISSIONER OF THE WITHDRAWING STATE SHALL IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY
 THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE IN WRITING UPON THE INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
 REPEALING THIS COMPACT IN THE WITHDRAWING STATE.

33 (4) THE COMMISSION SHALL NOTIFY THE OTHER COMPACTING STATES OF THE 34 INTRODUCTION OF SUCH LEGISLATION WITHIN TEN DAYS AFTER ITS RECEIPT OF 35 NOTICE THEREOF.

(5) THE WITHDRAWING STATE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL OBLIGATIONS, DUTIES 36 37 AND LIABILITIES INCURRED THROUGH THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF WITHDRAWAL, INCLUDING ANY OBLIGATIONS, THE PERFORMANCE OF WHICH EXTEND BEYOND THE 38 39 EFFECTIVE DATE OF WITHDRAWAL, EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT THOSE OBLIGATIONS MAY 40 HAVE BEEN RELEASED OR RELINOUISHED BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT OF THE COMMISSION THE WITHDRAWING STATE. THE COMMISSION'S APPROVAL OF PRODUCTS AND 41 AND ADVERTISEMENT PRIOR TO THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF WITHDRAWAL SHALL CONTINUE 42 43 то BE EFFECTIVE AND BE GIVEN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT IN THE WITHDRAWING STATE, UNLESS FORMALLY RESCINDED BY THE WITHDRAWING STATE IN THE 44 SAME 45 MANNER AS PROVIDED BY THE LAWS OF THE WITHDRAWING STATE FOR THE PROSPEC-TIVE DISAPPROVAL OF PRODUCTS OR ADVERTISEMENT PREVIOUSLY APPROVED UNDER 46 47 STATE LAW.

48 (6) REINSTATEMENT FOLLOWING WITHDRAWAL OF ANY COMPACTING STATE SHALL
 49 OCCUR UPON THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE WITHDRAWING STATE'S LEGISLATION
 50 REENACTING THE COMPACT.

(B) (1) IF THE COMMISSION DETERMINES THAT ANY COMPACTING STATE HAS AT
ANY TIME DEFAULTED ("DEFAULTING STATE") IN THE PERFORMANCE OF ANY OF ITS
OBLIGATIONS OR RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THIS COMPACT, THE BY-LAWS OR DULY
PROMULGATED RULES OR OPERATING PROCEDURES, THEN, AFTER NOTICE AND HEARING AS SET FORTH IN THE BY-LAWS, ALL RIGHTS, PRIVILEGES AND BENEFITS
CONFERRED BY THE COMPACT ON THE DEFAULTING STATE SHALL BE SUSPENDED FROM

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THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF DEFAULT AS FIXED BY THE COMMISSION. THE GROUNDS 1 2 INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO, FAILURE OF A COMPACTING FOR DEFAULT 3 STATE TO PERFORM ITS OBLIGATIONS OR RESPONSIBILITIES, AND ANY OTHER GROUNDS DESIGNATED IN COMMISSION RULES. THE COMMISSION SHALL IMMEDIATELY 4 5 NOTIFY THE DEFAULTING STATE IN WRITING OF THE DEFAULTING STATE'S SUSPEN-PENDING A CURE OF THE DEFAULT. THE COMMISSION SHALL STIPULATE THE 6 SION 7 CONDITIONS AND THE TIME PERIOD WITHIN WHICH THE DEFAULTING STATE MUST ITS DEFAULT. IF THE DEFAULTING STATE FAILS TO CURE THE DEFAULT 8 CURE WITHIN THE TIME PERIOD SPECIFIED BY THE COMMISSION, THE DEFAULTING STATE 9 10 SHALL BE TERMINATED FROM THE COMPACT AND ALL RIGHTS, PRIVILEGES AND BENEFITS CONFERRED BY THE COMPACT SHALL BE TERMINATED FROM THE EFFECTIVE 11 12 DATE OF TERMINATION.

(2) PRODUCT APPROVALS BY THE COMMISSION OR PRODUCT SELF-CERTIFICATIONS, OR ANY ADVERTISEMENT IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH PRODUCT, THAT ARE IN
FORCE ON THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF TERMINATION SHALL REMAIN IN FORCE IN THE
DEFAULTING STATE IN THE SAME MANNER AS IF THE DEFAULTING STATE HAD WITHDRAWN VOLUNTARILY UNDER THIS SECTION.

18 (3) REINSTATEMENT FOLLOWING TERMINATION OF ANY COMPACTING STATE 19 REQUIRES A REENACTMENT OF THE COMPACT BY THAT STATE.

20 (C)(1) THE COMPACT DISSOLVES EFFECTIVE UPON THE DATE OF THE WITHDRAWAL 21 OR DEFAULT OF THE COMPACTING STATE WHICH REDUCES MEMBERSHIP IN THE 22 COMPACT TO ONE COMPACTING STATE.

(2) UPON THE DISSOLUTION OF THE COMPACT, THE COMPACT BECOMES NULL AND
VOID AND SHALL BE OF NO FURTHER FORCE OR EFFECT, AND THE BUSINESS AND
AFFAIRS OF THE COMMISSION SHALL BE WOUND UP AND ANY SURPLUS FUNDS SHALL
BE DISTRIBUTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BY-LAWS.

27 S 8816. SEVERABILITY AND CONSTRUCTION. (A) THE PROVISIONS OF THE 28 COMPACT SHALL BE SEVERABLE; AND IF ANY PHRASE, CLAUSE, SENTENCE OR 29 PROVISION IS DEEMED UNENFORCEABLE, THE REMAINING PROVISIONS OF THE 30 COMPACT SHALL BE ENFORCEABLE.

31 (B) THE PROVISIONS OF THE COMPACT SHALL BE LIBERALLY CONSTRUED TO 32 EFFECTUATE ITS PURPOSES.

S 8817. BINDING EFFECT OF COMPACT AND OTHER LAWS. (A) NOTHING IN THIS
 SECTION PREVENTS THE ENFORCEMENT OF ANY OTHER LAW OF A COMPACTING STATE,
 EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION.

(B) FOR ANY PRODUCT APPROVED OR CERTIFIED TO THE COMMISSION, THE 36 RULES, UNIFORM STANDARDS AND ANY OTHER REQUIREMENTS OF THE COMMISSION 37 38 SHALL CONSTITUTE THE EXCLUSIVE PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO THE CONTENT, 39 APPROVAL AND CERTIFICATION OF SUCH PRODUCTS. FOR ADVERTISEMENT THAT IS 40 SUBJECT TO THE COMMISSION'S AUTHORITY, ANY RULE, UNIFORM STANDARD OR OTHER REQUIREMENT OF THE COMMISSION WHICH GOVERNS THE CONTENT OF THE 41 ADVERTISEMENT SHALL CONSTITUTE THE EXCLUSIVE PROVISION THAT A COMMIS-42 43 SIONER MAY APPLY TO THE CONTENT OF THE ADVERTISEMENT. NOTWITHSTANDING 44 THE FOREGOING, NO ACTION TAKEN BY THE COMMISSION SHALL ABROGATE OR 45 **RESTRICT:**

(1) THE ACCESS OF ANY PERSON TO STATE COURTS;

47 (2) REMEDIES AVAILABLE UNDER STATE LAW RELATED TO BREACH OF CONTRACT, 48 TORT OR OTHER LAWS NOT SPECIFICALLY DIRECTED TO THE CONTENT OF THE PROD-49 UCT;

50 (3) STATE LAW RELATING TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF INSURANCE CONTRACTS; OR 51 (4) THE AUTHORITY OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE INCLUDING, BUT 52 NOT LIMITED TO, MAINTAINING ANY ACTIONS OR PROCEEDINGS AS AUTHORIZED BY 53 LAW.

54 (C) ALL INSURANCE PRODUCTS FILED WITH INDIVIDUAL STATES SHALL BE 55 SUBJECT TO THE LAWS OF THOSE STATES. 1 (D) ALL LAWFUL ACTIONS OF THE COMMISSION, INCLUDING ALL RULES AND 2 OPERATING PROCEDURES PROMULGATED BY THE COMMISSION, ARE BINDING UPON THE 3 COMPACTING STATES.

4 (E) ALL AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE COMMISSION AND THE COMPACTING STATES 5 ARE BINDING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR TERMS.

6 (F) UPON THE REQUEST OF A PARTY TO A CONFLICT OVER THE MEANING OR
7 INTERPRETATION OF COMMISSION ACTIONS, AND UPON A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE
8 COMPACTING STATES, THE COMMISSION MAY ISSUE ADVISORY OPINIONS REGARDING
9 THE DISPUTED MEANING OR INTERPRETATION.

10 IN THE EVENT ANY PROVISION OF THIS ARTICLE EXCEEDS THE CONSTITU-(G) TIONAL LIMITS IMPOSED ON THE LEGISLATURE OF ANY COMPACTING 11 STATE, THE 12 OBLIGATIONS, DUTIES, POWERS OR JURISDICTION SOUGHT TO BE CONFERRED BY THAT PROVISION UPON THE COMMISSION SHALL BE 13 INEFFECTIVE AS TO SUCH COMPACTING STATE, AND SUCH OBLIGATIONS, DUTIES, POWERS OR JURISDICTION 14 SHALL REMAIN IN THE COMPACTING STATE AND SHALL BE EXERCISED BY THE AGEN-15 16 CY THEREOF TO WHICH SUCH OBLIGATIONS, DUTIES, POWERS OR JURISDICTION ARE 17 DELEGATED BY LAW IN EFFECT AT THE TIME THE COMPACT BECOMES EFFECTIVE.

18 S 3. This act shall take effect January 1, 2014 and shall expire and 19 be deemed repealed December 31, 2016; provided, however, that any policy 20 or contract issued during the period that the provisions of this act are 21 in effect that has been approved in accordance with the provisions of 22 this act shall continue in full force and effect.