2015-2016 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 2, 2015

Introduced by Sen. SEWARD -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Insurance

AN ACT to amend the insurance law, in relation to revising the standards relating to the board of directors of domestic life insurance companies

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

Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 1202 of the insurance law, as amended by chapter 802 of the laws of 1985, paragraph 1 as amended by chapter 451 of the laws of 1993, and paragraph 2 as amended by chapter 668 of the laws of 1993, is amended to read as follows:

- (b) (1) Subject to item (v) of subparagraph (B) of paragraph five of subsection (a) of section one thousand two hundred one of this article, not less than one-third of the directors of a domestic stock life insurance company and not less than one-third of the members of each committee of the board of directors of any domestic life insurance company shall be persons who are not officers or employees of such company or of any entity controlling, controlled by, or under common control with such company and who are not beneficial owners of a controlling interest in the voting stock of such company or any such entity. At least one such person must be included in any quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the board of directors or any committee thereof.
- (2) The board of directors of a domestic life insurance company shall establish one or more committees comprised solely of directors who are not officers or employees of the company or of any entity controlling, controlled by, or under common control with the company and who are not beneficial owners of a controlling interest in the voting stock of the company or any such entity. Such committee or committees shall have responsibility for recommending the selection of independent certified public accountants, reviewing the company's financial condition, the scope and results of the independent audit and any internal audit, nomi-

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

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nating candidates for director for election by shareholders or policyholders, evaluating the performance of officers deemed by such committee or committees to be principal officers of the company and recommending to the board of directors the selection and compensation of such principal officers and in the case of a domestic stock life insurance company, recommending to its board of directors any plan to issue options to its officers and employees for the purchase of shares of stock, pursuant to section one thousand two hundred seven of this article.

- (3) The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to a DOMESTIC life insurance company [subsidiary] if the [parent company is a domestic insurance company] PERSON CONTROLLING SUCH INSURANCE COMPANY IS AN INSURANCE COMPANY, A MUTUAL INSURANCE HOLDING COMPANY OR A PUBLICLY HELD CORPORATION having a board of directors and committees thereof that meet the requirements of paragraphs one and two of this subsection.
  - S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.