

STATE OF NEW YORK

769--A

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

(Prefiled)

January 9, 2019

Introduced by Sens. BRESLIN, BROOKS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Insurance -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the insurance law, in relation to permitting certain insurance coverage to be placed by licensed excess line broker with unauthorized insurers without regard to the diligent effort requirement and simplifying the excess line insurance placement affidavit requirements

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Subparagraph (A) of paragraph 3 of subsection (b) of
2 section 2118 of the insurance law, as amended by section 12 of part I of
3 chapter 61 of the laws of 2011, is amended to read as follows:

4 (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (F) and subject to subparagraph
5 (C) of this paragraph, submission of insurance documents to the excess
6 line association shall be accompanied by a statement subscribed to, and
7 affirmed by, the licensee or sublicensee as true under the penalties of
8 perjury that, after diligent effort, the full amount of insurance
9 required could not be procured, from authorized insurers, each of which
10 is authorized to write insurance of the kind requested and which the
11 licensee has reason to believe might consider writing the type of cover-
12 age or class of insurance involved, and further showing that the amount
13 of insurance procured from an unauthorized insurer is only the excess
14 over the amount procurable from an authorized insurer. The licensee,
15 however, shall be excused from affirming that a diligent effort, as
16 defined above, was made to procure the coverage from authorized insurers
17 if the licensee's affidavit is accompanied by the affidavit of another
18 broker involved in the placement affirming as true under the penalties
19 of perjury that, after diligent effort by the affirming broker, the

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

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1 required insurance could not be procured from an authorized insurer
2 which the affirming broker had reason to believe might consider writing
3 the type of coverage or class of insurance involved. The licensee and
4 the affirming broker shall be excused from affirming that a diligent
5 effort was made if the superintendent determines, pursuant to paragraph
6 four of this subsection, that no declinations are required. Notwith-
7 standing anything to the contrary contained in this chapter, where a
8 retail insurance broker seeks to procure or place commercial lines
9 insurance through an unaffiliated wholesale excess line insurance
10 broker, both the retail insurance broker and the wholesale excess line
11 insurance broker shall be excused from making any diligent effort other-
12 wise required by this article.

13 § 2. Subparagraph (C) of paragraph 3 of subsection (b) of section 2118
14 of the insurance law, as amended by chapter 684 of the laws of 1993, is
15 amended to read as follows:

16 (C) Every licensee, or affirming broker, in connection with the place-
17 ment of each risk pursuant to this section not otherwise exempt from the
18 diligent effort requirement, shall record on the affidavit required
19 pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this paragraph the name and National
20 Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) code of each authorized
21 insurer declining a risk and information relied upon that formed the
22 basis of such licensee's or affirming broker's reason to believe that
23 the authorized insurer might consider writing the type of coverage or
24 class of insurance involved. No additional diligent effort information
25 shall be reported on the affidavit.

26 § 3. Section 2118 of the insurance law is amended by adding a new
27 subsection (g) to read as follows:

28 (g) (1) For the purposes of this section:

29 (A) a "retail insurance broker" means an insurance broker licensee who
30 directly deals with an insured;

31 (B) a "wholesale excess line insurance broker" means the licensed
32 excess line insurance broker from whom or through whom the retail insur-
33 ance broker has procured excess line coverage on behalf of the insured;
34 and

35 (C) "commercial lines insurance" means any policy of insurance not
36 defined as a "covered policy" in subsection (a) of section three thou-
37 sand four hundred twenty-five of this chapter.

38 (2) A retail insurance broker and a wholesale excess line insurance
39 broke are unaffiliated if one does not control, is not controlled by, or
40 is not under common control with the other. One has control over the
41 other if the broker directly or indirectly or acting through one or more
42 other persons owns, controls, or has the power to vote twenty-five
43 percent or more of any class of voting securities of the other; or
44 controls in any manner the election of a majority of the directors or
45 trustees of the other.

46 § 4. This act shall take effect immediately, provided, however, that
47 the amendments to subparagraphs (A) and (C) of paragraph 3 of subsection
48 (b) of section 2118 of the insurance law made by sections one and two of
49 this act shall not affect the expiration of such paragraph and shall be
50 deemed to expire therewith.