State of Arizona House of Representatives Fifty-fourth Legislature Second Regular Session 2020

# **HOUSE BILL 2645**

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 20-611, 20-614, 20-630, 20-631, 20-636, 20-637, 20-676 AND 20-694, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO INSURER INSOLVENCY.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

Section 1. Section 20-611, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

20-611. <u>Definitions</u>

For the purpose of IN this article, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

- 1. "Ancillary state" means any state other than a domiciliary state.
- 2. "Commodity exchange act" means the federal commodity exchange act (7 United States Code chapter 1).
- 3. "Court" means, unless the context otherwise requires, the judge of the superior court assigned to the delinquency proceeding.
- 4. "Delinquency proceeding" means any proceeding commenced against an insurer pursuant to this article for the purpose of liquidating, rehabilitating, reorganizing or conserving such insurer.
- 5. "Domiciliary state" means the state in which an insurer is incorporated or organized, or in the case of an insurer incorporated or organized in a foreign country, the state in which such insurer, having become authorized to do business in such state, has, at the commencement of delinquency proceedings, the largest amount of its assets held in trust and assets held on deposit for the benefit of its policyholders or policyholders and creditors in the United States, and any such insurer is deemed to be domiciled in such state.
- 6. "FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK" MEANS AN INSTITUTION THAT IS ESTABLISHED UNDER THE FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK ACT (12 UNITED STATES CODE SECTIONS 1421 THROUGH 1449) OR ITS SUCCESSOR STATUTE.
  - 6. 7. "Foreign country" means territory not in any state.
- 7. 8. "General assets" means all property, real, personal or otherwise, not specifically mortgaged, pledged, deposited or otherwise encumbered for the security or benefit of specified persons or a limited class or classes of persons, and as to such specifically encumbered property the term includes all such property or its proceeds in excess of the amount necessary to discharge the amount or amounts secured thereby. Assets held in trust and assets held on deposit for the security or benefit of all policyholders or all policyholders and creditors in the United States shall be deemed general assets.
- 8. 9. "Impairment" or "insolvency" means that the capital of a stock insurer or limited capital stock insurer, or the surplus of a mutual or reciprocal insurer, shall be IS deemed to be impaired and the insurer shall be IS deemed to be insolvent, when such THE insurer is not possessed of assets at least equal to all liabilities and required reserves together with its total issued and outstanding capital stock if a stock insurer, or the minimum surplus if a mutual or reciprocal insurer, required by this title to be maintained for the kind or kinds of insurance it is then authorized to transact.

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- 9. 10. "Insurer" means any person, firm, corporation, association or aggregation of persons doing an insurance business and subject to the insurance supervisory authority of, or to liquidation, rehabilitation, reorganization or conservation by the director or the equivalent insurance supervisory official of another state.
- 11. "INSURER MEMBER" MEANS AN INSURER THAT IS A MEMBER OF A FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK.
  - 10. "Netting agreement" means:
- (a) A contract or an agreement including a master agreement that documents one or more transactions between the parties to the agreement for or involving one or more qualified financial contracts and that provides for the netting, liquidation, setoff, termination, acceleration or close out under or in connection with one or more qualified financial contracts or present or future payment or delivery obligations or payment or delivery entitlements thereunder, including liquidation or close-out values relating to such THE obligations or entitlements, among the parties to the netting agreement. A master agreement, together with all schedules, confirmations, definitions and addenda thereto and transactions under any thereof, shall be treated as one netting agreement.
- (b) Any master agreement or bridge agreement for one or more master agreements described in subdivision (a) of this paragraph.
- (c) Any security agreement or arrangement or other credit enhancement or guarantee or reimbursement obligation related to any contract or agreement described in subdivision (a) or (b) of this paragraph. Any contract or agreement described in subdivision (a) or (b) of this paragraph relating to agreements or transactions that are not qualified financial contracts are deemed to be a netting agreement only with respect to those agreements or transactions that are qualified financial contracts.
- 11. 13. "Preferred claim" means any claim with respect to which the law of the state or of the United States accords priority of payments from the general assets of the insurer.
- 12. 14. "Qualified financial contract" means any commodity contract, forward contract, repurchase agreement, securities contract, AND swap agreement and any similar agreement that the director determines by rule or order to be a qualified financial contract for the purposes of this article. For the purposes of this paragraph:
  - (a) "Commodity contract" means:
- (i) A contract for the purchase or sale of a commodity for future delivery on, or subject to the rules of, a board of trade or contract market under the commodity exchange act or a board of trade outside the United States.
- (ii) An agreement that is subject to regulation under section 19 of the commodity exchange act and that is commonly known to the commodities

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trade as a margin account, margin contract, leverage account or leverage contract.

- (iii) An agreement or transaction that is subject to regulation under section 6c(b) of the commodity exchange act and that is commonly known to the commodities trade as a commodity option.
- (iv) Any combination of the agreements or transactions referred to in this paragraph.
- (v) Any option to enter into an agreement or transaction referred to in this paragraph.
- (b) "Forward contract", "repurchase agreement", "securities contract" and "swap agreement" have the same meanings prescribed in the federal deposit insurance act, 12 United States Code section 1821(e)(8)(D), as amended.
- 13. 15. "Receiver" means the director as receiver, liquidator, rehabilitator or conservator as the context may require.
- 14. 16. "Reciprocal state" means any state other than this state in which in substance and effect the provisions of the uniform insurers liquidation act, as defined in section 20-631, are in force, including the provisions requiring that the director of insurance or equivalent insurance supervisory official be the receiver of a delinquent insurer.
- 15. 17. "Secured claim" means any claim secured by mortgage, trust deed, pledge, deposit as security, escrow or otherwise, including federal, state or local tax liens that are perfected before the commencement of a delinquency proceeding but not including a special deposit claim or claims against general assets. The term also includes claims that more than four months prior to BEFORE the commencement of delinquency proceedings in the state of the insurer's domicile have become liens on specific assets by reason of judicial process.
- $\frac{16.}{18.}$  "Special deposit claim" means any claim secured by a deposit made pursuant to statute for the security or benefit of a limited class or classes of persons, but not including any general assets.
- 17. 19. "State" means any state of the United States, the District of Columbia and the territories and possessions of the United States.
- Sec. 2. Section 20-614, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

#### 20-614. Injunctions

- A. Upon ON application by the director for an order to show cause, or at any time thereafter, the court may without notice issue an injunction restraining the insurer, its officers, directors, stockholders, members, subscribers and agents and all other persons from the transaction of its business or the waste or disposition of its property until further order of the court.
- B. The court may at any time during a proceeding under this article issue such other injunctions or orders as is deemed necessary to prevent any of the following:

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- 1. Interference with the receiver or the proceeding.
- 2. The waste of the assets of the insurer.
- 3. The commencement or prosecution of any actions.
- 4. The obtaining of preferences, judgments, attachments or other liens.
- 5. The making of any levy against the insurer or against its assets or any part of its assets.
- C. An injunction issued pursuant to subsection A or B of this section does not operate to enjoin or prohibit any right to cause the netting, liquidation, setoff, termination, acceleration or close out of obligations or enforcement of any security agreement or arrangement or other credit enhancement or guarantee or reimbursement obligation under or in connection with any netting agreement or qualified financial contract as provided in section 20-637.
- D. The court may also prescribe exclusive conditions and procedures for access to information from the receiver including procedures for the inspection or copying of the records of the insurer or receiver. The court may not place conditions on a reinsurer's contract rights to access to claim files other than the payment of reasonable charges for locating and copying the records.
- E. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no A bond shall be IS NOT required of the director or receiver as a prerequisite for the issuance of any injunction or restraining order pursuant to this section or for the filing of any appeal or other action for which a bond may be required.
- F. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS CHAPTER, A FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK MAY NOT BE STAYED, ENJOINED OR PROHIBITED FROM EXERCISING OR ENFORCING ANY RIGHT OR CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST COLLATERAL PLEDGED BY AN INSURER MEMBER UNDER ANY FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK SECURITY AGREEMENT OR ANY PLEDGE, SECURITY, COLLATERAL OR GUARANTEE AGREEMENT OR OTHER SIMILAR ARRANGEMENT OR CREDIT ENHANCEMENT RELATING TO A SECURITY AGREEMENT TO WHICH THAT FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK IS A PARTY.
- Sec. 3. Section 20-630, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

## 20-630. Attachment and garnishment of assets

- A. During the pendency of delinquency proceedings in this or any reciprocal state, no AN action or proceeding in the nature of an attachment, garnishment or execution shall MAY NOT be commenced or maintained in the courts of this state against the delinquent insurer or its assets. Any lien obtained by any such action or proceeding within four months prior to BEFORE the commencement of any such delinquency proceeding or at any time thereafter shall be IS void as against any rights arising in the delinquency proceeding.
- B. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS CHAPTER, A FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK MAY NOT BE STAYED, ENJOINED OR PROHIBITED FROM EXERCISING

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 OR ENFORCING ANY RIGHT OR CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST COLLATERAL PLEDGED BY AN INSURER MEMBER UNDER ANY FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK SECURITY AGREEMENT OR ANY PLEDGE, SECURITY, COLLATERAL OR GUARANTEE AGREEMENT OR OTHER SIMILAR ARRANGEMENT OR CREDIT ENHANCEMENT RELATING TO A SECURITY AGREEMENT TO WHICH THAT FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK IS A PARTY.

Sec. 4. Section 20-631, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

### 20-631. Uniform insurers liquidation act

- A. Section 20-611, paragraphs 1, 4, through 5, 7, 8,  $\frac{9}{7}$ , 10,  $\frac{11}{11}$ , 13, through 15, 16, 17, 18 AND 19 and sections 20-613, 20-614, 20-624, 20-625, 20-626, 20-627, 20-628, 20-629 and 20-630 are and may be cited as the uniform insurers liquidation act.
- B. The uniform insurers liquidation act shall be so interpreted and construed as to effectuate its general purpose to make uniform the law of those states that enact it. To the extent that its provisions when applicable conflict with other provisions of this article the provisions of such act shall control.
- Sec. 5. Section 20-636, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

## 20-636. <u>Voidable transfers</u>

- A. Any transfer of, or lien upon ON, the property of an insurer which THAT is made or created within four months prior to BEFORE the granting of an order to show cause under this article with the intent of giving to any creditor or of enabling such creditor to obtain a greater percentage of his THE CREDITOR'S debt than any other creditor of the same class, and which THAT is accepted by such creditor having reasonable cause to believe that such preference will occur, shall be voidable.
- B. Every director, officer, employee, stockholder, member and subscriber and any other person acting on behalf of the insurer who is concerned in any such act or deed and every person receiving thereby any property of the insurer or the benefit thereof shall be personally liable therefor and shall be bound to account to the receiver.
- C. The receiver in any proceeding under this article may avoid any transfer of or lien upon ON the property of an insurer which THAT any creditor, stockholder, subscriber or member of such THE insurer might have avoided and may recover the property so transferred unless such THE person was a bona fide holder for value prior to BEFORE the date of the granting of an order to show cause under this article. Such property or its value may be recovered from anyone who has received it except a bona fide holder for value as specified in this article.
- D. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS CHAPTER, A RECEIVER, REHABILITATOR, LIQUIDATOR OR CONSERVATOR MAY NOT VOID ANY TRANSFER OF, OR ANY OBLIGATION TO TRANSFER, MONEY OR OTHER PROPERTY ARISING UNDER OR IN CONNECTION WITH ANY FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK SECURITY AGREEMENT WITH AN INSURER MEMBER, OR ANY PLEDGE, SECURITY, COLLATERAL OR GUARANTEE AGREEMENT

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OR ANY OTHER SIMILAR ARRANGEMENT OR CREDIT ENHANCEMENT RELATING TO A FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK SECURITY AGREEMENT WITH AN INSURER MEMBER UNLESS THE TRANSFER WAS MADE WITH ACTUAL INTENT TO HINDER, DELAY OR DEFRAUD EITHER EXISTING OR FUTURE CREDITORS.

Sec. 6. Section 20-637, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

## 20-637. Qualified financial contracts: definition

- A. Notwithstanding any other provision of this article, a person shall not be enjoined or prohibited from exercising:
- 1. A contractual right to cause the termination, liquidation, acceleration or close out of obligations under or in connection with any netting agreement or qualified financial contract with an insurer because of either:
- (a) The insolvency, financial condition or default of the insurer at any time if the right is enforceable under applicable law other than this article.
- (b) The commencement of a formal delinquency proceeding under this article.
- 2. Any right under a pledge, security, collateral, reimbursement or guarantee agreement or arrangement or any other similar security agreement or arrangement or other credit enhancement relating to one or more netting agreements or qualified financial contracts.
- 3. Subject to section 20-638, subsection B, any right to offset or net out any termination value, payment amount or other transfer obligation arising under or in connection with one or more qualified financial contracts where the counterparty or its guarantor is organized under the laws of the United States or a state or a foreign jurisdiction approved by the securities valuation office of the national association of insurance commissioners as eligible for netting.
- B. If a counterparty to a master netting agreement or a qualified financial contract with an insurer subject to a proceeding under this article terminates, liquidates, closes out or accelerates the agreement or contract, damages shall be measured as of the date or dates of termination, liquidation, close out or acceleration. The amount of a claim for damages shall be actual direct compensatory damages calculated pursuant to subsection H of this section.
- C. On termination of a netting agreement or qualified financial contract, the net or settlement amount owed by a nondefaulting party to an insurer against which a proceeding under this article has been commenced shall be transferred to or on the order of the receiver for the insurer, even if the insurer is the defaulting party, notwithstanding any walkaway clause in the netting agreement or qualified financial contract. Any limited two-way payment or first method provision in a netting agreement or qualified financial contract with an insurer that has defaulted shall be deemed to be a full two-way payment or second method provision as

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against the defaulting insurer. Any such property or amount shall be a general asset of the insurer, except to the extent it is subject to one or more secondary liens or encumbrances or rights of netting or offset. For the purposes of this subsection, "walkaway clause" means a provision in a netting agreement or a qualified financial contract that, after calculation of a value of a party's position or an amount due to or from one of the parties in accordance with its terms on termination, liquidation or acceleration of the netting agreement or qualified financial contract, either does not create a payment obligation of a party or extinguishes a payment obligation of a party in whole or in part solely because of the party's status as a nondefaulting party.

- D. In making any transfer of a netting agreement or qualified financial contract of an insurer subject to a proceeding under this article, the receiver shall either:
- 1. Transfer to one party, other than an insurer subject to a proceeding under this article, all netting agreements and qualified financial contracts between a counterparty or any affiliate of the counterparty and the insurer that is the subject of the proceeding including:
- (a) All rights and obligations of each party under each netting agreement and qualified financial contract.
- (b) All property, including any guarantees or other credit enhancement, securing any claims of each party under each netting agreement and qualified financial contract.
- 2. Transfer none of the netting agreements, qualified financial contracts, rights, obligations or property referred to in paragraph 1 of this subsection with respect to the counterparty and any affiliate of the counterparty.
- E. If the receiver makes a transfer of one or more netting agreements or qualified financial contracts, the receiver shall use its best efforts to notify any person who is a party to the netting agreements or qualified financial contracts of the transfer by noon in the receiver's local time on the business day following the transfer. For the purposes of this subsection, "business day" means a day other than a Saturday, Sunday or other day on which either the New York stock exchange or the federal reserve bank of New York is closed.
- F. Notwithstanding any other provision of this article, the receiver may not avoid a transfer of money or other property arising under or in connection with a netting agreement or qualified financial contract or any pledge, security, collateral or guarantee agreement or any other similar security arrangement or credit support document relating to a netting agreement or qualified financial contract that is made before the commencement of a delinquency proceeding under this article. However, a transfer may be avoided under section 20-636, subsection C if the transfer

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was made with actual intent to hinder, delay or defraud the insurer, a receiver appointed for the insurer or existing or future creditors.

- G. In disaffirming or repudiating any netting agreement or qualified financial contract to which an insurer is a party, the receiver for the insurer shall either:
- 1. Disaffirm or repudiate all netting agreements and qualified financial contracts between a counterparty or any affiliate of the counterparty and the insurer that is the subject of the proceeding.
- 2. Disaffirm or repudiate none of the netting agreements and qualified financial contracts referred to in paragraph 1 of this subsection with respect to the person or any affiliate of the person.
- H. Notwithstanding any other provision of this article, any claim of a counterparty against the estate arising from the receiver's disaffirmance or repudiation of a netting agreement or qualified financial contract that has not been previously affirmed in the proceeding under this article shall be determined and shall be allowed or disallowed as if the claim had arisen before the date of the commencement of a proceeding under this article. The amount of the claim shall be the actual direct compensatory damages determined as of the date of the disaffirmance or repudiation of the netting agreement or qualified financial contract. For the purposes of this subsection, "actual direct compensatory damages":
- 1. Does not include punitive or exemplary damages, damages for lost profit or lost opportunity or damages for pain and suffering.
- 2. Includes normal and reasonable costs of cover or other reasonable measures of damages used in the derivatives, securities or other market for the contract and agreement claims.
- I. This section does not apply to persons who are affiliates of the insurer that is the subject of the proceeding.
- J. All rights of counterparties under this article apply to netting agreements and qualified financial contracts entered into on behalf of the general account or separate accounts if the assets of each separate account are available only to counterparties to netting agreements and qualified financial contracts entered into on behalf of that separate account.
- K. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS CHAPTER, A FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK MAY NOT BE STAYED, ENJOINED OR PROHIBITED FROM EXERCISING OR ENFORCING ANY RIGHT OR CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST COLLATERAL PLEDGED BY AN INSURER MEMBER UNDER ANY FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK SECURITY AGREEMENT OR ANY PLEDGE, SECURITY, COLLATERAL OR GUARANTEE AGREEMENT OR OTHER SIMILAR ARRANGEMENT OR CREDIT ENHANCEMENT RELATING TO A SECURITY AGREEMENT TO WHICH THAT FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK IS A PARTY.

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 K. L. For the purposes of this section, "contractual right" includes:

- 1. Any right set forth:
- (a) In a rule or bylaw of a derivatives clearing organization as defined in the commodity exchange act, a multilateral clearing organization as defined in the federal deposit insurance corporation improvement act of 1991 (12 United States Code section 4421), a national securities exchange, a national securities association, a securities clearing agency, a contract market designated under the commodity exchange act, a derivatives transaction execution facility registered under the commodity exchange act or a board of trade as defined in the commodity exchange act.
- (b) In a resolution of the governing board of any entity described in subdivision (a) of this paragraph.
- 2. Any right, whether or not evidenced in writing, arising under statutory or common law, or under law merchant or by reason of normal business practice.
- Sec. 7. Section 20-676, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

#### 20-676. Stay of proceedings

- A. All proceedings in which the insolvent insurer or the insolvent insurer's insured is a party in any court of this state shall be stayed for six months from the date the insolvency is determined or an ancillary proceeding is instituted in this state, whichever is later, to permit proper defense by the fund of all pending causes of action as to any covered claim. At the request of any party and on a showing of good cause, the court may shorten or lengthen the stay prescribed in this section. This subsection does not apply to proceedings in which the insolvent insurer is a party to a proceeding before the industrial commission regarding an employee's entitlement to benefits under title 23, chapter 6, except that, on a showing of good cause, the industrial commission shall grant up to a ninety-day continuance of any scheduled hearing to allow the fund to assume the defense and investigate the claim.
- B. On application of the fund, either on the fund's own behalf or on the insured's behalf, the court may set aside any judgment, order, decision, verdict, finding or award arising from the default of the insolvent insurer or the insurer's failure to defend the insured and the fund shall be permitted ALLOWED to defend the claim on the merits.
- C. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS CHAPTER, A FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK MAY NOT BE STAYED, ENJOINED OR PROHIBITED FROM EXERCISING OR ENFORCING ANY RIGHT OR CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST COLLATERAL PLEDGED BY AN INSURER MEMBER UNDER ANY FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK SECURITY AGREEMENT OR ANY PLEDGE, SECURITY, COLLATERAL OR GUARANTEE AGREEMENT OR OTHER SIMILAR ARRANGEMENT OR CREDIT ENHANCEMENT RELATING TO A SECURITY AGREEMENT TO WHICH THAT FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK IS A PARTY.

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Sec. 8. Section 20-694, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

20-694. Stay of proceedings; reopening default judgments

A. All proceedings in which the impaired insurer or insolvent insurer or the impaired insurer's or insolvent insurer's insured is a party in any court in this state shall be stayed sixty days from the date an order of liquidation, rehabilitation or conservation is final to permit proper legal action by the board on any matters germane to its powers or duties. At the request of the board and on a showing of good cause, the court may lengthen the stay prescribed in this section. As to a judgment under any decision, order, verdict or finding based on default, the board may apply to have such judgment set aside by the same court that made such judgment and shall be permitted to defend against such suit on the merits.

B. NOTWITHSTANDING SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION OR ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS CHAPTER, A RECEIVER, REHABILITATOR, LIQUIDATOR OR CONSERVATOR MAY NOT VOID ANY TRANSFER OF, OR ANY OBLIGATION TO TRANSFER, MONEY OR OTHER PROPERTY ARISING UNDER OR IN CONNECTION WITH ANY FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK SECURITY AGREEMENT WITH AN INSURER MEMBER, OR ANY PLEDGE, SECURITY, COLLATERAL OR GUARANTEE AGREEMENT OR ANY OTHER SIMILAR ARRANGEMENT OR CREDIT ENHANCEMENT RELATING TO A FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK SECURITY AGREEMENT WITH AN INSURER MEMBER UNLESS THE TRANSFER WAS MADE WITH ACTUAL INTENT TO HINDER, DELAY OR DEFRAUD EITHER EXISTING OR FUTURE CREDITORS.

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