Legislative Analysis



ELIMINATE VALUATION MANUAL EXEMPTION

Phone: (517) 373-8080 http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa

House Bill 5241 as referred to second committee Sponsor: Rep. Daire Rendon

Analysis available at http://www.legislature.mi.gov

Committee: Insurance Complete to 12-3-19

SUMMARY:

House Bill 5241 would amend Chapter 8 (Assets and Liabilities) of the Insurance Code to remove a provision that currently exempts certain insurers from the requirement to establish reserves using a principle-based valuation that meets certain conditions for policies or contracts as specified in the manual of valuation instructions (*Valuation Manual*) adopted by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC).

In 2009, the NAIC adopted revisions to its standard valuation model law, authorizing the use of the *Valuation Manual*, which contains the minimum reserve standards for various life and health insurance and annuity contracts. The *Valuation Manual* was to become operative when 42 states representing at least 75% of direct written premiums adopted the 2009 revisions. Michigan adopted the revisions in 2014. The *Valuation Manual* became operative on January 1, 2017. The adoption of the 2009 revisions is an NAIC accreditation requirement effective January 1, 2020.

Under current law, a Michigan-based company is exempt from the principle-based valuation and *Valuation Manual* requirements if it meets both of the following:

- The company has less than \$500.0 million of ordinary life premiums and, if the company is a member of a group of life insurers, the group has combined ordinary life premiums of less than \$1.0 billion.
- The company reported total adjusted capital of at least 450% of the authorized control level risk-based capital in the most recent risk-based capital report and the appointed actuary has provided an unqualified opinion on the reserves.

However, a company exempt as above may elect in writing to be bound for a calendar year by the requirements.

The bill would eliminate this exemption and election.

MCL 500.836b

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¹ See https://www.naic.org/documents/cmte f pbr referal 2009 revisions standard valuation law 820.pdf

² See http://legislature.mi.gov/doc.aspx?2014-HB-5932

³ See https://www.michigan.gov/documents/difs/Bulletin 2016-17-INS 529165 7.pdf

⁴ See https://www.naic.org/documents/cmte_legislative_liaison_brief_accreditation.pdf

See also https://content.naic.org/sites/default/files/inline-files/FRSA%20Pamphlet%208-2019.pdf

FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 5241 would not have an appreciable fiscal impact on any unit of state or local government.

POSITIONS:

Representatives from the Department of Insurance and Financial Services testified in support of the bill. (12-3-19)

The following entities indicated support for the bill (12-3-19):

- Life Insurance Association of Michigan
- John Hancock
- American Council of Life Insurers

Legislative Analyst: Rick Yuille Fiscal Analyst: Marcus Coffin

[■] This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.