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        (In the Senate - Filed March 7, 2011; March 16, 2011, read first time and referred to Committee on State Affairs; May 4, 2011,
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        reported adversely, with favorable Committee Substitute by the
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        following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0; May 4, 2011, sent to printer.)
        COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1213
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                                                                                      By: Duncan
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                                         A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
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                                                   AN ACT
 1-9
        relating to consumer protections in the purchase of life settlement
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        contracts; imposing penalties.
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                 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
                             ARTICLE 1. LIFE SETTLEMENT CONTRACTS
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                 SECTION 1.01. Subtitle A, Title 7, Insurance Code,
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                                                                                                   is
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        amended by adding Chapter 1111A to read as follows:

CHAPTER 1111A. LIFE SETTLEMENT CONTRACTS
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                        1111A.001. SHORT TITLE. This Act may be cited as the
        Life Settlements Act.
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        Sec. 1111A.002. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Advertisement" means a written, electronic, or printed communication or a communication by means of a recorded
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        telephone message or transmitted on radio, television, the
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        Internet, or similar communications media, including film strips,
        motion pictures, and videos, published, disseminated, circulated, or placed directly before the public for the purpose of creating an interest in or inducing an individual to purchase or sell, assign,
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        devise, bequest, or transfer the death benefit or ownership of a
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        life insurance policy or an interest in a life insurance policy
        under a life settlement contract.

(2) "Broker" means a person who, on behalf of an owner and for a fee, commission, or other valuable consideration, offers or attempts to negotiate a life settlement contract between an
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        owner and a provider. A broker represents only the owner and owes a
        fiduciary duty to the owner to act according to the owner's instructions, and in the best interest of the owner, notwithstanding the manner in which the broker is compensated. A
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        broker does not include an attorney, certified public accountant,
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        or financial planner retained in the type of practice customarily
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        performed in a professional capacity to represent the owner whose compensation is not paid directly or indirectly by the provider or any other person, except the owner.

(3) "Business of life settlements" means an activity
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                       in, but not limited to, offering to enter into,
        involved
        soliciting, negotiating, procuring, effectuating, monitoring, or tracking, of life settlement contracts.

(4) "Chronically ill" means:
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                                (A) being unable to
                                                                   perform at
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                                                                                       least two
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        activities of daily living such as eating, toileting, transferring,
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        bathing, dressing, or continence;
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        (B) requiring substantial supervision to protect the individual from threats to health and safety due to severe
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        cognitive impairment; or
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                                (C) having a level of disability similar to that
        described in Paragraph (A) as determined under rules adopted by the
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        commissioner after consideration of any applicable regulation, guideline, or determination of the United States Secretary of
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        Health and Human Services.
        (5) "Financing entity" means an underwriter, placement agent, lender, purchaser of securities, purchaser of a
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        policy or certificate from a provider, credit enhancer, or any entity that has a direct ownership in a policy or certificate that
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        is the subject of a life settlement contract whose principal
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        activity related to the transaction is providing funds to effect
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By: Carona

S.B. No. 1213

the life settlement contract or purchase of a policy, and who has an

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C.S.S.B. No. 1213
agreement in writing with a provider to finance the acquisition of a
life settlement contract. The term does
                                                      not
non-accredited investor or purchaser.
                  "Financing transaction" means a transaction
            (6)
which a licensed provider obtains financing from a financing entity
including secured or unsecured financing, a securitization
transaction, or a securities offering that is either registered or
exempt from registration under federal and state securities law.
                  "Fraudulent life settlement act" includes:
                  (A) an act or omission committed by a person who,
knowingly and with intent to defraud, for the purpose of depriving another of property or for pecuniary gain, commits, or permits an
employee or an agent to engage in, acts including:
                        (i) presenting, causing to be presented, or
preparing with knowledge and belief that it will be presented to or
by a provider, premium finance lender, broker, insurer, insurance
producer, or any other person, false material information, or
concealing material information, as part of, in support of,
concerning a fact material to one or more of the following:
                              (a)
                                   an application for the issuance of
a life settlement contract or an insurance policy;
                             (b) the underwriting
                                                         of
                                                                   life
settlement contract or an insurance policy;
(c) a claim for
                                                               benefit
                                                  payment
                                                           or
pursuant to a life settlement contract or an insurance policy;
                              (d) premium paid on an insurance
policy;
                                             f<u>or</u>
                              (e) payment
                                                   and
                                                        changes
ownership or beneficiary made in accordance with the terms of a life
settlement contract or an insurance policy;
                              (f)
                                   the reinstatement or conversion
of an insurance policy;
                                            solicitation,
                              (g)
                                   in
                                       the
enter into, or effectuation of a life settlement contract, or an
insurance policy;
                                   the issuance of written evidence
                              (h)
of life settlement contracts or insurance; or
                                        appl<u>ic</u>ation
                             (i) an
existence of or any payment related
                                       to a loan secured directly or
indirectly by an interest in a life insurance policy;
(ii) failing to disclose to the insurer
the insurer has requested the disclosure, that the prospective
insured has undergone a life expectancy evaluation by any person or
entity other than the insurer or its authorized representatives in
connection with the issuance of the policy; or (iii) employing a device,
                                                          scheme,
artifice to defraud in the business of life settlements; and
                  (B) acts or omissions in the furtherance
fraud or to prevent the detection of a fraud, or acts or omissions
that permit an employee or an agent to:
                        (i) remove, conceal,
                                                 alter,
                                                          destroy,
sequester from the commissioner the assets or records of a license
holder or another person engaged in the business of life
settlements;
(ii) misrepresent or conceal the financial condition of a license holder, financing entity, insurer, or other
person;
                        (iii)
                               transact
                                           the
                                                 business
                                                             of
settlements in violation of laws requiring a license, certificate
  authority,
of authority, or other legal authority for the transaction of business of life settlements;
                        (iv) file
                                    with the commissioner
chief insurance regulatory official of another jurisdiction a
document containing false information or concealing information
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about a material fact;

or

misappropriation,

credits, or other property of a provider, insurer, insured, owner,

insurance policy owner, or any other person engaged in the business

(v) engage in embezzlement, theft, conversion of monies, funds, premiums,

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of life settlements or insurance;

(vi) knowingly and with intent to defraud, enter into, broker, or otherwise deal in a life settlement contract, the subject of which is a life insurance policy that was obtained by presenting false information concerning any fact material to the policy or by concealing that fact, for the purpose of misleading another, or providing information concerning any fact material to the policy, if the owner or the owner's agent intended to defraud the policy's issuer;

(vii) attempt to commit, assist, aid or abet in the commission of, or engage in conspiracy to commit the acts or omissions specified in this paragraph; or

(viii) misrepresent the state of residence of an owner to be a state or jurisdiction that does not have a law substantially similar to this chapter for the purpose of evading or avoiding the provisions of this chapter.

(8) "Insured" means a person covered under the policy

being considered for sale in a life settlement contract.

(9) "Life expectancy" means the arithmetic mean of the number of months the insured under the life insurance policy to be settled can be expected to live as determined by a life expectancy company or provider considering medical records and appropriate

experiential data.

(10) "Life insurance agent" means a person licensed in who has (10) "Life insurance agent" means a person licensed in this state as a resident or nonresident insurance agent who has received qualification or authority to write life insurance

coverage under this code.

- (11) "Life settlement contract" means a written agreement entered into between a provider and an owner establishing the terms under which compensation or anything of value will be paid and is less than the expected death benefit of the insurance policy or certificate, in return for the owner's assignment, transfer, sale, devise, or bequest of the death benefit or a portion of an insurance policy or certificate of insurance for compensation; provided, however, that the minimum value for a life settlement contract must be greater than a cash surrender value or accelerated death benefit available at the time of an application for a life settlement contract. The term also includes the transfer for compensation or value of ownership or beneficial interest in a trust or other entity that owns the policy if the trust or other entity was formed or used for the principal purpose of acquiring one or more life insurance contracts that insure the life of an individual residing in this state. The term also includes:
- (A) a written agreement for a loan or lending transaction, secured primarily by an individual or life insurance policy; and other

(B) a premium finance loan made for a policy on or

before the date of issuance of the policy if:

(i) the loan proceeds are not used solely to pay premiums for the policy and any costs or expenses incurred by the lender or the borrower in connection with the financing;

(ii) the owner receives on the date premium finance loan a guarantee of the future life settlement value of the policy; or

(iii) the owner agrees on the date of the premium finance loan to sell the policy or any portion of its death benefit on a date following the issuance of the policy.
(11-A) "Life settlement contract" does not include:

(A) a policy loan by a life insurance company under the terms of a life insurance policy or accelerated death provision contained in the life insurance policy, whether issued with the original policy or as a rider;

(B) a premium finance loan or any loan made by a bank or other licensed financial institution, provided that neither default on the loan nor the transfer of the policy in connection with the default is under an agreement or understanding with any other person for the purpose of evading regulation under this chapter;

(C) a collateral assignment of a life insurance

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4-1 policy by an owner;
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(D) a loan made by a lender that does not violate Chapter 651, provided that the loan is not described in Subdivision (11) and is not otherwise within the definition of life settlement contract;

(E) an agreement with respect to which all the parties are closely related to the insured by blood or law or have a lawful substantial economic interest in the continued life, health, and bodily safety of the person insured, or are trusts established primarily for the benefit of the parties;

(F) a designation, consent, or agreement by an insured who is an employee of an employer in connection with the purchase by the employer, or trust established by the employer, of life insurance on the life of the employee;

(G) a bona fide business succession planning

4-15 4-16 <u>arrangement:</u> 4-17

(i) between one or more shareholders in a corporation or between a corporation and one or more of its shareholders or one or more trusts established by its shareholders;

(ii) between one or more partners in a partnership or between a partnership and one or more of its partners or one or more trusts established by its partners.

or one or more trusts established by its partners; or (iii) between one or more members in

limited liability company or between a limited liability company and one or more of its members or one or more trusts established by its members;

(H) an agreement entered into by a service recipient, or a trust established by the service recipient, and a service provider, or a trust established by the service provider, who performs significant services for the service recipient's trade or business; or

(I) any other contract, transaction, or arrangement from the definition of life settlement contract that the commissioner determines is not of the type intended to be regulated by this chapter.

regulated by this chapter.

(12) "Net death benefit" means the amount of the life insurance policy or certificate to be settled less any outstanding debts or liens.

(13) "Owner" means the owner of a life insurance policy or a certificate holder under a group policy, with or without a terminal illness, who enters or seeks to enter into a life settlement contract. In this chapter, the term "owner" is not limited to an owner of a life insurance policy or a certificate holder under a group policy that insures the life of an individual with a terminal or chronic illness or condition except as specifically provided. The term does not include:

(A) a provider or other license holder under this

4-48 <u>chapter;</u> 4-49

(B) a qualified institutional buyer as defined by 17 C.F.R. Section 230.144A, as amended;

(C) a financing entity;

(D) a special purpose entity; or

(E) a related provider trust.

(14) "Patient identifying information" means an insured's address, telephone number, facsimile number, e-mail address, photograph or likeness, employer, employment status, social security number, or any other information that is likely to lead to the identification of the insured.

(15) "Policy" means an individual or group policy, group certificate, contract, or arrangement of life insurance owned by a resident of this state, regardless of whether delivered or issued for delivery in this state.

issued for delivery in this state.

(16) "Premium finance loan" is a loan made primarily for the purposes of making premium payments on a life insurance policy that is secured by an interest in the life insurance policy.

(17) "Person" means an individual or legal entity,

including a partnership, limited liability company, association, trust, or corporation.

(18) "Provider" means a person, other than an owner,

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C.S.S.B. No. 1213
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who enters into or effectuates a life settlement contract with an 5-1 owner. The term does not include: 5-2

(A) a bank, savings bank, savings and loan

association, or credit union;

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(B) a licensed lending institution or creditor or secured party pursuant to a premium finance loan agreement that takes an assignment of a life insurance policy or certificate issued pursuant to a group life insurance policy as collateral for a loan;

(C) the insurer of a life insurance policy or rider to the extent of providing accelerated death benefits or riders under Subchapter B, Chapter 1111, or cash surrender value;

(D) an individual who enters into or effectuates not more than one agreement in a calendar year for the transfer of a life insurance policy or certificate issued pursuant to a group life insurance policy, for compensation or anything of value less than the expected death benefit payable under the policy;

a purchaser; (E)

(F) any authorized or eligible insurer that provides stop loss coverage to a provider, purchaser, financing entity, special purpose entity, or related provider trust;
(G) a financing entity;

a special purpose entity; (H)

a related provider trust; (I)

(J)a broker; or

(K) accredited an investor qualified institutional buyer as those terms are defined by 17 C.F.R. Section 230.144A, as amended, who purchases a life settlement policy from a provider.

(19) "Purchased policy" means a policy or group certificate that has been acquired by a provider pursuant to a life settlement contract.

(20) "Purchaser" means a person who pays compensation or anything of value as consideration for a beneficial interest in a trust that is vested with, or for the assignment, transfer, or sale of, an ownership or other interest in a life insurance policy or a certificate issued pursuant to a group life insurance policy that has been the subject of a life settlement contract.

(21) trust PC (21) "Related provider trust" means a titling trust or other trust established by a licensed provider or a financing entity for the sole purpose of holding the ownership or beneficial interest in purchased policies in connection with a financing transaction. In order to qualify as a related provider trust, the trust must have a written agreement with the licensed provider under which the licensed provider is responsible for ensuring compliance with all statutory and regulatory requirements and under which the trust agrees to make all records and files relating to life settlement transactions available to the department as if those records and files were maintained directly by the licensed provider.

"Settled policy" means a life insurance policy or certificate that has been acquired by a provider pursuant to a life settlement contract.

(23) "Special purpose entity" means a corporation, partnership, trust, limited liability company, or other legal entity formed solely to provide either directly or indirectly access to institutional capital markets:

for a financing entity or provider; or (A)

(B) in connection with a transaction in which:

(i) the securities in the special purpose entity are acquired by the owner or by a qualified institutional buyer as defined by 17 C.F.R. Section 230.144A, as amended; or

(ii) the securities pay a fixed rate return commensurate with established asset-backed institutional

capital markets. (24) "Terminally ill" having an illness means or sickness that can reasonably be expected to result in death not later than 24 months after the date of diagnosis.

Sec. 1111A.003. LICENSING REQUIREMENTS; EXEMPTION. (a) A

\$C.S.S.B.\$ No. 1213 person, wherever located, may not act as a provider or broker with an owner who is a resident of this state, unless the person holds a license from the department. If there is more than one owner on a single policy and the owners are residents of different states, the life settlement contract is governed by the law of the state in which the owner having the largest percentage ownership resides or, if the owners hold equal ownership, the state of residence of one owner agreed on in writing by all owners.

(b) An application for a provider or broker license must be

made to the department by the applicant on a form prescribed by rule by the commissioner. The application must be accompanied by a fee in an amount established by the commissioner by rule. The license and renewal fees for a provider license must be reasonable and the license and renewal fees for a broker license may not exceed those established for an insurance agent, as otherwise provided by this

chapter.

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(c) A person who has been licensed as a life insurance agent in this state or the person's home state for at least one year and is licensed as a nonresident agent in this state meets the licensing requirements of this section and may operate as a broker.

(d) Not later than the 30th day after the first date of operating as a broker, a life insurance agent shall notify the commissioner on a form prescribed by the commissioner that the agent is acting as a broker and shall pay any applicable fee to be determined by the commissioner by rule. Notification must include an acknowledgement by the life insurance agent that the agent will operate as a broker in accordance with this chapter.

(e) An insurer that issued a policy that is the subject of a life settlement contract is not responsible for any act or omission of a broker or provider or purchaser arising out of or in connection with the life settlement transaction, unless the insurer receives compensation for the placement of a life settlement contract from the provider, purchaser, or broker in connection with the life settlement contract.

(f) A person licensed as an attorney, certified public accountant, or financial planner accredited by a nationally recognized accreditation agency, who is retained to represent the owner and whose compensation is not paid directly or indirectly by the provider or purchaser, may negotiate life settlement contracts for the owner without having to obtain a license as a broker.

(g) A license expires on the second anniversary of the date

of issuance. A license holder may renew the license on payment of a

renewal fee. As specified by Subsection (b), the renewal fee for a provider license may not exceed a reasonable fee.

(h) An applicant shall provide the information that the commissioner requires on forms adopted by the commissioner. The commissioner may, at any time, require an applicant to fully disclose the identity of the applicant's stockholders that own at least 10 percent of the shares of an applicant the shares of which are publicly traded, partners, officers and employees, and the commissioner may, in the exercise of the commissioner's sole discretion, refuse to issue a license in the name of any person if the commissioner is not satisfied that an officer, an employee, a stockholder, or a partner of the applicant who may materially influence the applicant's conduct meets the standards of Sections 1111A.001 to 1111A.018.

(i) A license issued to a partnership, corporation, or other entity authorizes each member, officer, and designated employee named in the application and any supplement to the application to act as a license holder under the license.

(j) After the filing of an application and the payment of

license fee, the commissioner shall investigate each applicant and may issue a license if the commissioner finds that the applicant:

if a provider, has provided a detailed plan of (1)operation;

(2) is competent and trustworthy and intends to

transact business in good faith;
(3) has a good business reputation and has had

training, or education to qualify in the business for 7 - 1which the license is applied; 7-2

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if the applicant is a legal entity, is formed or organized under the laws of this state or is a foreign legal entity authorized to transact business in this state, or provides a certificate of good standing from the state of its domicile; and

has provided to the commissioner an antifraud plan

that meets the requirements of Section 1111A.024 and includes:

(A) a description of the procedures for detecting investigating possible fraudulent acts and procedures for resolving material inconsistencies between medical records and insurance applications;

(B) a description of the procedures for reporting

fraudulent insurance acts to the commissioner;

(C) a description of the plan for antifraud education and training of its underwriters and other personnel; and

(D) a written description or chart outlining the arrangement of the antifraud personnel who are responsible for the investigation and reporting of possible fraudulent insurance acts and the investigation of unresolved material inconsistencies and the investigation of unresolved material inconsist between medical records and insurance applications.

(k) The commissioner may not issue a nonresident applicant unless a written designation of an agent for service of process is filed and maintained with the department or unless the applicant has filed with the department the applicant's written irrevocable consent that any action against the applicant may be commenced by service of process on the commissioner.

(1) A license holder shall file with the department not later than March 1 of each year an annual statement containing the information as the commissioner by rule prescribes.

(m) A provider may not allow any person to perform the

functions of a broker unless the person holds a current, valid license as a broker, and as provided in this section.

(n) A broker may not allow any person to perform the functions of a provider unless the person holds a current, valid license as a provider, and as provided in this section.

(o) A provider or broker shall provide to the commissioner or revised information about officers, stockholders described by Subsection (h), partners, directors, members, or designated employees within 30 days of the change.

(p) An individual licensed as a broker shall complete on a

biennial basis 15 hours of training related to life settlements and life settlement transactions, as required by the commissioner. A life insurance agent who is operating as a broker under this section

is not subject to the requirements of this subsection.

Sec. 1111A.004. LICENSE SUSPENSION, REVOCATION, OR REFUSAL TO RENEW. (a) The commissioner may suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew the license of a license holder if the commissioner finds that:

there was a material misrepresentation in application for the license;

the license holder or an officer, partner, member, (2) or director of the license holder has been guilty of fraudulent or dishonest practices, is subject to a final administrative action, is otherwise shown to be untrustworthy or incompetent to act as a license holder;

the license holder is a provider and demonstrates (3) a pattern of unreasonably withholding payments to policy owners;

license holder no longer meets (4) the

requirements for initial licensure;
(5) the license holder (5) any officer, or partner, or director of the license holder has been convicted of a felony, or of any misdemeanor with respect to which criminal fraud is an element, or has pleaded guilty or nolo contendere with respect to a felony or a misdemeanor with respect to which criminal fraud or moral turpitude is an element, regardless of whether a judgment of conviction has been entered by the court;

(6) the license holder is a provider and has entered into a life settlement contract that has not been approved under

8-1 this chapter;

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the license holder is a provider and has failed to honor contractual obligations in a life settlement contract;

(8) the license holder is a provider and has assigned, transferred, or pledged a settled policy to a person other than a provider licensed in this state, a purchaser, an accredited investor or qualified institutional buyer as defined respectively in 17 C.F.R. Section 230.144A, as amended, a financing entity, a

special purpose entity, or a related provider trust; or

(9) the license holder or any officer, partner,
member, or key management personnel of the license holder has

violated this chapter.

(b) The commissioner may deny a license application or suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew the license of a license holder only after a hearing in accordance with Chapter 2001, Government Code.

Sec. 1111A.005. REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTRACT DISCLOSURE FORMS, AND ADVERTISEMENTS. (a) A person may not use any form of life settlement contract in this state unless the form has been filed with and approved, if required, by the commissioner in a manner that conforms with the filing procedures and any time restrictions or deeming provisions for life insurance forms, policies, and contracts.

(b) An insurer may not, as a condition of responding to a request for verification of coverage or in connection with the transfer of a policy pursuant to a life settlement contract, require that the owner, insured, provider, or broker sign any form, disclosure, consent, waiver, or acknowledgment that has not been expressly approved by the commissioner for use in connection with life settlement contracts.

(c) A person may not use a life settlement contract form or provide to an owner a disclosure statement form unless the form is first filed with and approved by the commissioner. commissioner shall disapprove a life settlement contract form or disclosure statement form if, in the commissioner's opinion, the contract or contract provisions fail to meet the requirements of Sections 1111A.011, 1111A.012, 1111A.014, and 1111A.025(b), or are unreasonable, contrary to the interests of the public, or otherwise misleading or unfair to the owner.

(d) At the commissioner's discretion, the commissioner may require the submission of advertisements.

Sec. 1111A.006. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS AND For a policy settled not later than the fifth anniversary of the date of policy issuance, each provider shall file with the commissioner not later than March 1 of each year an annual statement containing the information that the commissioner prescribes by rule. In addition to any other requirements, the annual statement must specify the total number, aggregate face amount, and life settlement proceeds of policies settled during the immediately preceding calendar year, together with a breakdown of the information by policy issue year. The annual statement must also include the names of each insurance company whose policies have

(b) The information required under Subsection (a) is limited to only those transactions in which the insured is a resident of this state and may not include individual transaction data regarding the business of life settlements or information if there is a reasonable basis to find that the information could be

been settled and the brokers that have settled the policies.

used to identify the owner or the insured.

(c) A provider that wilfully fails to file an annual statement as required in this section, or wilfully fails to reply not later than the 30th day after the date the provider receives a written inquiry from the department about the filing of the annual statement, shall, in addition to other penalties provided by this chapter, after notice and opportunity for hearing be subject to a penalty of up to \$250 for each day of delay, not to exceed \$25,000 in the aggregate, for the failure to file or respond.

(d) Except as otherwise allowed or required by law, provider, broker, insurance company, insurance agent, information

bureau, rating agency or company, or any other person with actual knowledge of an insured's identity, may not disclose the identity of an insured or information that there is a reasonable basis to believe could be used to identify the insured or the insured's financial or medical information to any other person unless the disclosure is:

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(1) necessary to effect a life settlement contract between the owner and a provider and the owner and insured have provided prior written consent to the disclosure;

(2) necessary to effectuate the sale of a life settlement contract, or interests in the contract, as an investment, provided the sale is conducted in accordance with applicable state and federal securities law and provided further that the owner and the insured have both provided prior written consent to the disclosure;

(3) provided in response to an investigation examination by the commissioner or another governmental officer or agency or under Section 1111A.018;

(4) a term or condition of the transfer of a policy by one provider to another provider, in which case the receiving provider shall comply with the confidentiality requirements of this subsection;

necessary to allow the provider or broker or the provider's or broker's authorized representative to make contact for the purpose of determining health status provided that in this subdivision, authorized representative does not include a person who has or may have a financial interest in the settlement contract other than a provider, licensed broker, financing entity, related provider trust, or special purpose entity and that the provider or broker requires the authorized representative to agree in writing to adhere to the privacy provisions of this chapter; or

(6) required to purchase stop loss coverage.

Nonpublic personal information solicited or obtained in connection with a proposed or actual life settlement contract is subject to the provisions applicable to financial institutions under the federal Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (Pub. L. No. 106-102), and any other state and federal laws relating to confidentiality of nonpublic personal information.

Sec. 1111A.007. EXAMINATION. (a) The commissioner may, he commissioner finds it reasonably necessary to protect the when the commissioner finds it reasonably necessary to protect tinterests of the public, examine the business and affairs of license holder or applicant for a license. The commissioner may order a license holder or applicant to produce any records, books, files, or other information reasonably necessary to determine whether the license holder or applicant is acting or has acted in violation of the law or otherwise contrary to the interests of the public. The expenses incurred in conducting an examination must be paid by the license holder or applicant.

(b) In lieu of an examination under this chapter of any foreign or alien license holder licensed in this state, the commissioner may, at the commissioner's discretion, accept an examination report on the license holder as prepared by the commissioner for the license holder's state of domicile or port-of-entry state.

Names of and individual identification data for an owner insured is private and confidential information and may not be disclosed by the commissioner unless required by law.

(d) Records of all consummated transactions and settlement contracts must be maintained by the provider until the third anniversary of the date of the death of the insured and must be available to the commissioner for inspection during reasonable business hours.

(e) If the commissioner determines that an examination should be conducted, the commissioner shall issue an examination warrant appointing one or more examiners to perform the examination and instructing the examiners of the scope of the examination. conducting the examination, an examiner shall use methods common to the examination of a life settlement license holder and should use applicable guidelines and procedures set forth in an examiners' handbook adopted by a national organization.

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(f) Each officer, director, and agent of a license holder or person from whom an examiner seeks information shall provide to the examiners timely, convenient, and free access at all reasonable hours at the license holder's or person's offices to all books, records, accounts, papers, documents, assets, and computer or other recordings relating to the property, assets, business, and affairs of the license holder being examined. The officers, directors, employees, and agents of the license holder or person shall, to the extent possible, facilitate the examination and aid in the examination. The refusal of a license holder, through an officer, a director, an employee, or an agent, to submit to examination or to comply with a reasonable written request of the commissioner is grounds for suspension or refusal of, or nonrenewal of, any license or authority held by the license holder to engage in the life settlement business or other business subject to the commissioner's jurisdiction. A proceeding for suspension, revocation, or refusal of a license or authority shall be conducted as provided by Subtitle B, Title 2.

- (g) The commissioner has the power to issue subpoenas, to administer oaths, and to examine under oath any person about any matter relevant to the examination. If a person fails or refuses to obey a subpoena, the commissioner may petition a court of competent jurisdiction, and on proper showing, the court may enter an order compelling the witness to appear and testify or to produce documentary evidence.
- (h) When making an examination under this chapter, the commissioner may retain attorneys, appraisers, independent actuaries, independent certified public accountants, or other professionals and specialists as examiners, the reasonable cost of which must be borne by the license holder that is the subject of the examination.
- (i) Nothing contained in this chapter limits the commissioner's authority to terminate or suspend an examination in order to pursue other legal or regulatory action. Findings of fact and conclusions of law made in an examination are prima facie evidence in a legal or regulatory action.
- (j) An examination report must contain only facts appearing on the books, from the testimony concerning the affairs of an officer or agent or other person examined, and the conclusions and recommendations that the examiners find must be reasonably warranted from the facts.
- (k) Not later than the 60th day after the date of the examination is complete, the examiner in charge shall file with the commissioner a verified written report of examination under oath. On receipt of the verified report, the commissioner shall transmit the report to the license holder examined, together with a notice that affords the license holder a reasonable opportunity of not more than 30 days after the date of the notice to make a written submission on, or rebuttal to, any matter contained in the examination report or to request a hearing on any matter in dispute. The written submission or rebuttal is part of the report.
- (1) If the commissioner determines that regulatory action is appropriate as a result of an examination, the commissioner may initiate any proceeding or action authorized by law.
- initiate any proceeding or action authorized by law.

 (m) The name and individual identification data of an owner, purchaser, and insured that is obtained by the department as a result of an examination is confidential and may not be disclosed by the commissioner, unless the disclosure is to another regulator or is required by law.
- is required by law.

 (n) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, all preliminary and final examination reports, work papers, including license holder work papers, recorded information, and documents produced by, obtained by, or disclosed to the examiner, the commissioner, or any other person in the course of an examination under this chapter, or in the course of analysis or investigation by the commissioner of the financial condition or market conduct of a license holder are confidential and privileged, are not subject to disclosure under Chapter 552, Government Code, are not subject to

subpoena, and are not subject to discovery or admissible in evidence in any private civil action. The commissioner may use the 11-1 11-2 reports, papers, information, and documents in any regulatory or 11-3 legal action brought as part of the commissioner's official duties. 11-4 The license holder may have access to all papers, documents, and 11-5 11-6 information used to make the report.

(o) An examiner may not be appointed by the commissioner the examiner, either directly or indirectly, has a conflict of interest or is affiliated with the management of or owns a pecuniary interest in any person subject to examination under this chapter. This section does not automatically preclude an examiner from being:

an owner;

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an insured in a life settlement contract or (2) insurance policy; or

a beneficiary in an insurance policy that is

proposed for a life settlement contract.

(p) Notwithstanding the requirements of Subsection (o), the commissioner may retain from time to time, on an individual basis, a qualified actuary, certified public accountant, or other similar individual who is independently practicing a profession, even though the person may from time to time be similarly employed or retained by a person subject to examination under this chapter.

Sec. 1111A.008. IMMUNITY FROM LIABILITY. (a) No cause of action shall arise nor shall any liability be imposed against the commissioner, the commissioner's authorized representatives, or any examiner appointed by the commissioner for a statement made or conduct performed in good faith while carrying out this chapter.

(b) No cause of action shall arise, nor shall any liability be imposed against any person for the act of communicating or delivering information to the commissioner or the commissioner's authorized representative or examiner pursuant to an examination made under this chapter, if the act of communication or delivery was performed in good faith and without fraudulent intent or the intent to deceive. This subsection does not abrogate or modify in any way any common law or statutory privilege or immunity enjoyed by any person identified in Subsection (a).

Sec. 1111A.009. INVESTIGATIVE AUTHORITY COMMISSIONER. The commissioner may investigate a suspected fraudulent life settlement act and a person engaged in the business of life settlements.

Sec. 1111A.010. COST OF EXAMINATIONS. The reasonable and necessary cost of an examination under this chapter is to be assessed against the person being examined in accordance with Section 751.208.

Sec. 1111A.011. ADVERTISING. (a) A broker licensed pursuant to this chapter may conduct or participate in an advertisement in this state. The advertisement must comply with all advertising and marketing laws under Chapter 541 and rules adopted by the commissioner that are applicable to life insurers or to license holders under this chapter.

(b) Advertisements shall be accurate, truthful, and not misleading in fact or by implication.

(c) A person may not:

(1) directly market, advertise, solicit, or otherwise promote the purchase of a policy for the sole purpose of or with an emphasis on settling the policy; or

(2) use the words "free," "no cost," or words of similar import in the marketing, advertising, or soliciting of, or

otherwise promoting, the purchase of a policy.
Sec. 1111A.012. DISCLOSURES TO OWNERS. (a) A provider shall provide in writing, in a separate document that is signed by the owner and provider, the following information to the owner not later than the date the life settlement contract is signed by all parties:

<u>tha</u>t possible alternatives to the fact settlement contracts exist, including accelerated benefits offered by the issuer of the life insurance policy;
(2) the fact that some or all of the proceeds of a life

settlement contract may be taxable and that assistance should be 12 - 1sought from a professional tax advisor; 12-2

the fact that the proceeds from a life settlement

contract could be subject to the claims of creditors;

(4) the fact that receipt of proceeds contract may adversely affect the from a life recipients' eligibility for public assistance or other government benefits or entitlements and that advice should be obtained appropriate agency;

(5) the fact that the owner has a right to terminate a life settlement contract within 15 days of the date the contract is executed by all parties and the owner has received the disclosures described in this section, that rescission, if exercised by the owner, is effective only if both notice of the rescission is given and the owner repays all proceeds and any premiums, loans, and loan interest paid on account of the provider during the rescission period, and that if the insured dies during the rescission period, the contract is considered rescinded subject to repayment by the owner or the owner's estate of all proceeds and any premiums, loans,

and loan interest to the provider;

(6) the fact that proceeds will be sent to the owner within three business days after the provider has received the insurer or group administrator's acknowledgement that ownership of the policy or interest in the certificate has been transferred and the beneficiary has been designated in accordance with the terms of

the life settlement contract;

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(7) the fact that entering into a life settlement contract may cause the owner to forfeit other rights or benefits, including conversion rights and waiver of premium benefits that may exist under the policy or certificate of a group policy, and that assistance should be sought from a professional financial advisor;

(8) the amount and method of calculating the compensation, including anything of value, paid or given, or to be paid or given, to the broker, or any other person acting for the owner in connection with the transaction;
(9) the date by which the funds will be available to

the owner and the identity of the transmitter of the funds;

(10) the fact that the commissioner requires delivery a buyer's guide or a similar consumer advisory package in the many prescribed by the commissioner to owners during the

form prescribed by the commission process;

(11) the following language: "All medical, financial process or continuous co or personal information solicited or obtained by a provider or broker about an insured, including the insured's identity or the identity of family members or a spouse or a significant other, may be disclosed as necessary to effect the life settlement contract between the owner and provider. If you are asked to provide this information, you will be asked to consent to the disclosure. The information may be provided to someone who buys the policy or provides funds for the purchase. You may be asked to renew your permission to share information every two years.";

(12) the fact that the commissioner requires providers and brokers to print separate signed fraud warnings on the applications and on the life settlement contracts as follows: "Any person who knowingly presents false information in an application for insurance or a life settlement contract is guilty of a crime and may be subject to fines and confinement in prison.";

the fact that the insured may be contacted by (13)either the provider or broker or an authorized representative of the provider or broker for the purpose of determining the insured's health status or to verify the insured's address and that this contact is limited to once every three months if the insured has a life expectancy of more than one year, and not more than once per month if the insured has a life expectancy of one year or less;

(14) the affiliation, if any, between the provider and the issuer of the insurance policy to be settled;

12-66 (15) that a broker represents exclusively the owner, 12-67 and not the insurer or the provider or any other person, and owes a fiduciary duty to the owner, including a duty to act according to 12-68 12-69

the owner's instructions and in the best interest of the owner; 13 - 1

13-2 (16) the name, address, and telephone number of

13-3 provider;

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(17)the name, business address, and telephone number of the independent third party escrow agent, and the fact that the owner may inspect or receive copies of the relevant escrow or trust agreements or documents; and

(18) the fact that a change of ownership could in the future limit the insured's ability to purchase future insurance on the insured's life because there is a limit to how much coverage insurers will issue on one life.

(b) The written disclosures described by Subsection be conspicuously displayed in a life settlement contract furnished to the owner by a provider, including any affiliations or contractual arrangements between the provider and the broker.

(c) A broker shall provide the owner and the provider at least the following disclosures not later than the date on which the life settlement contract is signed by all parties and which must be conspicuously displayed in the life settlement contract or in a separate document signed by the owner:

(1) the name, business address, and telephone number of the broker;

a full, complete, and accurate description of all the offers, counter-offers, acceptances, and rejections relating to the proposed life settlement contract;

(3) a written disclosure of any affiliations contractual arrangements between the broker and any person making an offer in connection with the proposed life settlement contract;

(4) the name of each broker who receives compensation and the amount of compensation, including anything of value, paid or given to the broker in connection with the life settlement contract; and

(5) a complete reconciliation of the gross offer or bid by the provider to the net amount of proceeds or value to be

received by the owner.

(d) For the purpose of this section, "gross offer or bid" means the total amount or value offered by the provider for the purchase of one or more life insurance policies, inclusive of commissions and fees.

(e) The failure to provide the disclosures or rights described in this section is an unfair method of competition or an unfair or deceptive act or practice described by Section 1111A.027.

Sec. 1111A.013. DISCLOSURE TO INSURER. (a) Without limiting the ability of an insurer to assess the insurability of a policy applicant and to determine whether to issue the policy, and in addition to other questions an insurance carrier may lawfully pose to a life insurance applicant, an insurer may inquire in the application for insurance whether the proposed owner intends to pay premiums with the assistance of financing from a lender that will use the policy as collateral to support the financing.

(b) If, as described in Sections 1111A.002(11) and (11-A),

the loan provides funds that can be used for a purpose other than paying for the premiums, costs, and expenses associated with obtaining and maintaining the life insurance policy and loan, and notwithstanding any other law, the application must be rejected as a violation of Section 1111A.017.

(c) If the financing does not violate Section 1111A.017 as described by Subsection (b), the insurance carrier:

(1) may make disclosures, not later than the date of the delivery of the policy, to the applicant and the insured, either on the application or on an amendment to the application that include the following or substantially similar statements:

"If you have entered into a loan arrangement in which the policy is used as collateral, and the policy does change ownership at some point in the future in satisfaction of the loan, the following may be true:

(A) a change of could lead to a ownership stranger owning an interest in the insured's life;

(B) a change of ownership could in the future

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limit your ability to purchase future insurance on the insured's life because there is a limit to how much coverage insurers will 14-1 14-2 life because issue on one life;
(C) 14-3

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should there be a change of ownership and you wish to obtain more insurance coverage on the insured's life in the future, the insured's higher issue age, a change in health status, or other factors may reduce the ability to obtain coverage or may result in significantly higher premiums; and

(D) you should consult a professional advisor, since a change in ownership in satisfaction of the loan may result in tax consequences to the owner, depending on the structure of the

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may require certifications, such as the following,

from the applicant or the insured:

(A) "I have not (A) "I have not entered into any agreement or arrangement providing for the future sale of this life insurance policy";

"My loan arrangement for this policy provides funds sufficient to pay for some or all of the premiums, costs, and expenses associated with obtaining and maintaining my life insurance policy, but I have not entered into any agreement by which I am to receive consideration in exchange for procuring this

> "The borrower has an insurable interest in (C)

the insured."

Sec. 1111A.014. GENERAL RULES. (a) Before entering into a life settlement contract with an owner of a policy with respect to which the insured is terminally or chronically ill, the provider must obtain:

(1) if the owner is the insured, a written statement from a licensed attending physician that the owner is of sound mind and under no constraint or undue influence to enter into a settlement contract; and

(2) a document in which the insured consents to the release of medical records to a provider, settlement broker, or insurance agent and, if the policy was issued less than two years after the date of application for a settlement contract, to the

- insurance company that issued the policy.

 (b) An insurer shall respond to a request for verification of coverage submitted by a provider, settlement broker, or life insurance agent not later than the 30th calendar day after the date the request is received. The request for verification of coverage must be made on a form approved by the commissioner. The insurer shall complete and issue the verification of coverage or indicate which respects the insurer is unable to respond. In the ponse, the insurer shall indicate whether at the time of the response, based on the medical evidence and documents provided, the insurer intends to pursue an investigation about the validity of the insurance contract.
- (c) On or before the date of execution of the life settlement contract, the provider shall obtain a witnessed document in which the owner consents to the settlement contract, represents that the owner has a full and complete understanding of the settlement contract and of the benefits of the policy, acknowledges that the owner is entering into the settlement contract freely and voluntarily, and, for persons with a terminal or chronic illness or condition, acknowledges that the insured has a terminal or chronic illness and that the terminal or chronic illness or condition was diagnosed after the policy was issued.

(d) The insurer may not unreasonably delay effecting change ownership or beneficiary with any life settlement contract lawfully entered into in this state or with a resident of this

state. (e) If a settlement broker or life insurance producer performs any of these activities required of the provider, the provider is deemed to have fulfilled the requirements of this

(f) If a broker performs the verification of coverage activities required of the provider, the provider is deemed to have fulfilled the requirements of Section 1111A.012.

(g) Not later than the 20th day after the date that an owner executes the life settlement contract, the provider shall give written notice to the insurer that issued that insurance policy that the policy has become subject to a life settlement contract. The notice shall be accompanied by the documents required by Section 1111A.013(c).

(h) Medical information solicited or obtained by a license holder is subject to the applicable provision of state law relating to confidentiality of medical information, if not otherwise

provided in this chapter.

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(i) A life settlement contract entered into in this state must provide that the owner may rescind the contract on or before 15 days after the date the contract is executed by all parties to the contract. Rescission, if exercised by the owner, is effective only if notice of the rescission is given and the owner repays all proceeds and any premiums, loans, and loan interest paid on account of the provider within the rescission period. If the insured dies during the rescission period, the contract is rescinded subject to repayment by the owner or the owner's estate of all proceeds and any premiums, loans, and loan interest to the provider.

(j) Not later than the third business day after the date the

provider receives from the owner the documents to effect the transfer of the insurance policy, the provider shall pay the proceeds of the settlement into an escrow or trust account managed by a trustee or escrow agent in a state or federally chartered financial institution pending acknowledgement of the transfer by the issuer of the policy. The trustee or escrow agent shall transfer to the owner the proceeds due to the owner not later than the third business day after the date the trustee or escrow officer receives from the insurer acknowledgment of the transfer of the

insurance policy.

(k) Failure to tender the life settlement contract proceeds to the owner on or before the date disclosed to the owner renders the contract voidable by the owner for lack of consideration until the time the proceeds are tendered to and accepted by the owner. A failure to give written notice of the right of rescission under this subsection tolls the right of rescission for 30 days after the date the written notice of the right of rescission has been given.

(1) A fee paid by a provider, an owner, or other person to a broker in exchange for services provided to the owner pertaining to

a life settlement contract must be computed as a percentage of the offer obtained, not the face value of the policy. Nothing in this section prohibits a broker from voluntarily reducing the broker's fee to less than a percentage of the offer obtained.

(m) A broker shall disclose to the owner anything of value

paid or given to a broker that relates to a life settlement contract.

(n) A person, at any time prior to or at the time of the application for, or issuance of, a policy, or during a two-year period beginning on the date of issuance of the policy, may not enter into a life settlement contract regardless of the date the compensation is to be provided and regardless of the date the assignment, transfer, sale, devise, bequest, or surrender of the policy is to occur. The time covered under a group policy must be calculated without regard to a change in insurance carriers, provided the coverage has been continuous and under the same group sponsorship. This prohibition does not apply if:

(1) the owner certifies to the provider that the policy was issued on the owner's exercise of conversion rights arising out of a group or individual policy, provided the total of the time covered under the conversion policy plus the time covered

under the prior policy is at least 24 months; or

(2) the owner submits independent evidence to the provider that one or more of the following conditions have been met during the two-year period described by this subsection:

(A) the owner or insured is terminally or chronically ill.

15-68 chronically ill;

the owner or insured disposes of the owner's (B)

or insured's ownership interests in a closely held corporation, pursuant to the terms of a buyout or other similar agreement in 16-1 16-2 effect at the time the insurance policy was initially issued; 16-3 16-4

the owner's spouse dies; (C)

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the owner divorces the owner's spouse; (D)

(E) the owner retires from full-time employment; the owner becomes physically or mentally (F)

disabled and a physician determines that the disability prevents the owner from maintaining full-time employment; or

(G) a final order, judgment, or decree is entered by a court of competent jurisdiction, on the application of a creditor of the owner, adjudicating the owner bankrupt or insolvent, or approving a petition seeking reorganization of the owner or appointing a receiver, trustee, or liquidator to all or a substantial part of the owner's assets.

(o) Copies of the independent evidence described Subsection (n)(2) must be submitted to the insurer at the time the provider submits a request to the insurer for verification of coverage. The copies must be accompanied by a letter of attestation from the provider that the copies are true and correct copies of the documents received by the provider. This section does not prohibit an insurer from exercising its right to contest the validity of a policy.

If the provider submits to the insurer independent evidence provided for Subsection (n)(2)(A) at the time the provider submits a request to the insurer to effect the transfer of the policy to the provider, the copy is deemed to establish that the settlement contract satisfies the requirements of this section.

Sec. 1111A.015. AUTHORITY TO ADOPT RULES. The commissioner may adopt rules implementing this chapter and regulating activities and relationships of providers, brokers, insurers, the their authorized representatives.

Sec. 1111A.016. CONFLICT OF LAWS. (a) If there is more than one owner on a single policy, and the owners are residents of different states, the life settlement contract is governed by the law of the state in which the owner having the largest percentage ownership resides or, if the owners hold equal ownership, the state of residence of one owner agreed on in writing by all of the owners. The law of the state of the insured shall govern in the event that equal owners fail to agree in writing on a state of residence for jurisdictional purposes.

(b) A provider licensed in this state who enters into a life settlement contract with an owner who is a resident of another state that has enacted statutes or adopted rules governing life settlement contracts is governed in the effectuation of that life settlement contract by the statutes and rules of the owner's state of residence. If the state in which the owner is a resident has not enacted statutes or adopted rules governing life settlement contracts, the provider shall give the owner notice that neither state regulates the transaction on which the owner is entering. For transactions in those states, however, the provider shall maintain all records required by this chapter if the transactions were executed in this state. The forms used in those states need not be approved by the department.

(c) If there is a conflict in the laws that apply to an owner and a purchaser in any individual transaction, the laws of the state that apply to the owner shall take precedence and the provider shall

comply with those laws.

Sec. 1111A.017. PROHIBITED PRACTICES. (a) A person may not:

enter into a life settlement contract person knows or should have known that the life insurance policy was obtained by means of a false, deceptive, or misleading application for the policy;

 $\overline{(2)}$ engage in a transaction, practice, or course of business if the person knows or reasonably should have known that the intent of engaging in the transaction, practice, or course of business is to avoid the notice requirements of this chapter;

(3) engage in a fraudulent act or practice in

C.S.S.B. No. 1213 connection with a transaction relating to any settlement involving 17 - 1an owner who is a resident of this state; 17-2

(4) issue, solicit, market, or otherwise promote the purchase of an insurance policy for the sole purpose of, or with an

emphasis on, settling the policy;

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(5) if providing premium financing, fee, or other consideration from the policy or owner in proceeds, fee, or other consideration from the policy or owner in addition to the amounts required to pay principal, interest, and any reasonable costs or expenses incurred by the lender or borrower in connection with the premium finance agreement, except in event of a default, unless either the default on the loan or transfer of the policy occurs pursuant to an agreement or understanding with any other person for the purpose of evading regulation under this chapter;

with respect to any settlement contract οr insurance policy and to a broker, knowingly solicit an offer from, effectuate a life settlement contract with, or make a sale to any provider, financing entity, or related provider trust that is controlling, controlled by, or under common control with the broker unless the relationship is fully disclosed to the owner;

(7) with respect to any life settlement contract or policy and a provider, knowingly enter into a life settlement contract with an owner if, in connection with the life settlement contract, anything of value will be paid to a broker that is controlling, controlled by, or under common control with the provider or the financing entity or related provider trust that is involved in such settlement contract, unless the relationship is fully disclosed to the owner;

(8) with respect to a provider, enter into a life contract unless the life settlement promotional, and marketing materials, as may be prescribed by rule, advertising, have been filed with the commissioner, provided that in no event may any marketing materials expressly reference that the insurance is

free for any period of time; or

(9) with respect to any life insurance agent, insurance company, broker, or provider, make any statement or representation to the applicant or policyholder in connection with the sale or financing of a life insurance policy to the effect that the insurance is free or without cost to the policyholder for any period of time unless provided in the policy.
(b) A violation of this section

a frau<u>dulent life</u>

settlement act.

Sec. 1111A.018. FRAUD PREVENTION AND CONTROL.

person may not commit a fraudulent life settlement act.

(b) A person may not knowingly or intentionally interfere with the enforcement of this chapter or an investigation of a suspected or actual violation of this chapter.

(c) A person in the business of life settlements may not knowingly or intentionally permit a person convicted of a felony involving dishonesty or breach of business of life settlements. trust to participate

A life settlement contract and an application for a life (d) settlement contract, regardless of the form of transmission, must contain the following, or a substantially similar, statement: "Any person who knowingly presents false information in an application for insurance or a life settlement contract is guilty of a crime and may be subject to fines and confinement in prison."

(e) The failure to include a statement as required in Subsection (d) is not a defense in any prosecution for a fraudulent

life settlement act.
Sec. 1111A.019. MANDATORY REPORTING OF FRAUDULENT LIFE SETTLEMENT ACTS. A person engaged in the business of life settlements who has knowledge or a reasonable belief that a fraudulent life settlement act is being, will be, or has been committed shall provide to the commissioner the information required by, and in a manner prescribed by, the commissioner.

Sec. 1111A.020. VOLUNTARY REPORTING. Any person,

than a person described by Section 1111A.019, who has knowledge or a reasonable belief that a fraudulent life settlement act is being,

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or has been committed may provide to the commissioner the 18-1 information required by, and in a manner prescribed by, 18-2

18-3 commissioner 18-4 IMMUNITY FROM LIABILITY. Sec. 1111A.021. (a) Νo civil 18-5 liability shall be imposed on and no cause of action arises from a

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person furnishing information about a suspected, anticipated, completed fraudulent life settlement act or a suspected or completed fraudulent insurance act if the information is provided to or received from:

(1) the commissioner or an employee, agent, representative of the commissioner; (1) the or

(2) a federal, state, or local law enforcement οr official or an employee, agent, or representative of the regulatory official;

(3) a person involved in the prevention and detection a fraudulent life settlement act or that person's employee, agent, or representative;

(4) a regulatory body overseeing life insurance, life settlements, securities, or investment fraud or an employee, agent, or representative of that body;
(5) the life insurer that issued the life insurance

policy covering the life of the insured; or

(6) the license holder and any employee, agent, or representative of the license holder.

Subsection (a) does not apply to a statement made with ce. In an action brought against a person for filing a (b) malice. report or furnishing other information concerning a fraudulent life settlement act or a fraudulent insurance act, the party bringing the action shall plead specifically any allegation that Subsection (a) does not apply because the person filing the report furnishing the information did so with actual malice.

(c) This section does not abrogate or modify common law or statutory privileges or immunities enjoyed by a person described in

Subsection (a).
Sec. 1111A.022. Sec. 1111A.022. CONFIDENTIALITY. (a) The documents and evidence provided as described by Section 1111A.021 or obtained by CONFIDENTIALITY. the commissioner in an investigation of a suspected or an actual fraudulent life settlement act are privileged and confidential, are not a public record, and are not subject to discovery or subpoena in a civil or criminal action.
(b) Subsection (a)

does not prohibit release commissioner of documents and evidence obtained in an investigation of a suspected or an actual fraudulent life settlement act:

in an administrative or judicial proceeding (1) to this code or another insurance law of this enforce a provision of state;

to a federal, state, or local law enforcement or regulatory agency, to an organization established for the purpose of detecting and preventing a fraudulent life settlement act, or to the National

Association of Insurance Commissioners; or (3) at the discretion of the commissioner, to a person is aggrieved by a business of life settlements that fraudulent life settlement act.

(c) Release of documents and evidence under Subsection (b) abrogate or modify the privilege granted in Subsection does not (a).

Sec. 1111A.023. OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT OR REGULATORY This chapter does not: AUTHORITY.

(1) preempt the authority or relieve the duty of another law enforcement or regulatory agency to investigate, examine, and prosecute a suspected violation of law;

(2) preempt, supersede, or limit any provision of any state securities law or any rule, order, or notice issued under the law;

(3) prevent or prohibit a person from disclosing voluntarily information concerning life settlement fraud to a law enforcement or regulatory agency other than the department; or

(4) limit the powers granted by the laws of this state to the commissioner or an insurance fraud unit to investigate and 18-68 18-69

19-1 examine a possible violation of law and to take appropriate action against wrongdoers.

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19**-**68 19**-**69 Sec. 1111A.024. LIFE SETTLEMENT ANTIFRAUD INITIATIVES.

(a) A provider or broker shall implement antifraud initiatives reasonably calculated to detect, prosecute, and prevent fraudulent life settlement acts. At the discretion of the commissioner, the commissioner may order, or a license holder may request and the commissioner may grant, a modification of the following required initiatives as necessary to ensure an effective antifraud program. A modification granted under this section may be more or less restrictive than the required initiatives so long as the modification may reasonably be expected to accomplish the purpose of this section. Antifraud initiatives must include:

(1) fraud investigators, who may be provider or broker mployees or independent contractors: and

employees or independent contractors; and

(2) an antifraud plan, which must be submitted to the commissioner and must include:

(A) a description of the procedures for detecting and investigating possible fraudulent life settlement acts and procedures for resolving material inconsistencies between medical records and insurance applications;

(B) a description of the procedures for reporting possible fraudulent life settlement acts to the commissioner;

(C) a description of the plan for antifraud education and training of underwriters and other personnel; and

(D) a description or chart outlining the organizational arrangement of the antifraud personnel who are responsible for the investigation and reporting of possible fraudulent life settlement acts and investigating unresolved material inconsistencies between medical records and insurance applications.

(b) An antifraud plan submitted to the commissioner is privileged and confidential, is not subject to disclosure under Chapter 552, Government Code, and is not subject to discovery or subpoena in a civil or criminal action.

Sec. 1111A.025. INJUNCTION; CIVIL REMEDIES; CEASE AND DESIST ORDERS. (a) In addition to the penalties and other

Sec. 1111A.025. INJUNCTION; CIVIL REMEDIES; CEASE AND DESIST ORDERS. (a) In addition to the penalties and other enforcement provisions of this chapter, if any person violates this chapter or any rule implementing this chapter, the commissioner may seek an injunction in a court in the county where the person resides or has a principal place of business and may apply for temporary and permanent orders that the commissioner determines necessary to restrain the person from further committing the violation.

(b) The commissioner may issue a cease and desist order against a person who violates any provision of this chapter, any rule or order adopted by the commissioner, or any written agreement entered into with the commissioner, in accordance with Chapter 82.

(c) If the commissioner finds that an action in violation of this chapter presents an immediate danger to the public and requires an immediate final order, the commissioner may issue an emergency cease and desist order under Chapter 83.

(d) The provisions of this chapter may not be waived by agreement. No choice of law provision may prevent the application of this chapter to any settlement.

Sec. 1111A.026. PENALTIES. (a) It is a violation of this chapter for any person, provider, broker, or any other party related to the business of life settlements to commit a fraudulent life settlement act.

(b) For criminal liability purposes, a person who commits a fraudulent life settlement act is guilty of committing insurance fraud and shall be subject to penalties under Chapter 35, Penal Code.

(c) Subtitle B, Title 2, applies to a violation of this chapter.

SECTION 1.02. (a) A provider lawfully transacting business in this state before the effective date of this Act may continue to do so pending approval or disapproval of the person's application for a license as long as the application is filed with the commissioner of insurance not later than 30 days after the date

of the publication by the commissioner of an application form and 20-1 20-2 instructions for licensure of providers. If the publication of the 20-3 application form and instructions is before the effective date of 20-4 this Act, then the filing of the application may not be later than 30 days after the effective date of this Act and the applicant may use any form of life settlement contract that has been filed with 20-5 20-6 the commissioner pending approval, provided that the form is otherwise in compliance with the provisions of this Act. A person 20-7 20-8 transacting business in this state under this provision shall 20-9 20-10 comply with all other requirements of this Act. 20-11

(b) A person who has lawfully negotiated a life settlement contract between an owner residing in this state and one or more providers for at least one year immediately before the effective date of this Act may continue to do so pending approval or disapproval of the person's application for a license provided that the application is filed with the commissioner of insurance not later than the 30th day after the date of publication by the commissioner of an application form and instructions for licensure of brokers. If the publication of the application form and instructions is before the effective date of this Act, then the filing of the application may not be later than the 30th day after the effective date of this Act. Any person transacting business in this state under this provision shall comply with all other requirements of this Act.

ARTICLE 2. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS

SECTION 2.01. The heading to Chapter 1111, Insurance Code, is amended to read as follows:

CHAPTER 1111. [LIFE AND VIATICAL SETTLEMENTS AND] ACCELERATED TERM LIFE INSURANCE BENEFITS

SECTION 2.02. Subsection (a), Section 1551.255, Insurance Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) In this section, "viatical settlement" has the meaning assigned to "life settlement contract" by Section $\underline{1111A.002}$ [$\underline{1111.001}$].

SECTION 2.03. Subchapter A, Chapter 1111, Insurance Code, is repealed.

ARTICLE 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

SECTION 3.01. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

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