87R3672 RDS-F

By:  Frullo H.B. No. 3545

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the applicability of certain insurance laws to certain farm mutual insurance companies.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1.  Section 221.001(b), Insurance Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b)  This chapter does not apply to:

(1)  a fraternal benefit society, including a fraternal benefit society operating under Chapter 885;

(2)  a group hospital service corporation operating under Chapter 842;

(3)  a stipulated premium company operating under Chapter 884;

(4)  a mutual assessment association, company, or corporation regulated under Chapter 887;

(5)  a purely cooperative or mutual fire insurance company carried on by its members solely for the protection of their own property and not for profit, except as provided by Section 221.002(b)(13); or

(6)  a farm mutual insurance company operating under Chapter 911, unless the company:

(A)  insures property in more than five counties in this state;

(B)  has gross annual premium receipts greater than $50 million;

(C)  is a member of an insurance group that includes insurance companies writing lines of insurance other than those a farm mutual insurance company is authorized to write under Section 911.151; or

(D)  is acting as a fronting insurer.

SECTION 2.  Section 252.005, Insurance Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 252.005.  EXCEPTION. This chapter does not apply to:

(1)  a farm mutual insurance company operating under Chapter 911, unless the company:

(A)  insures property in more than five counties in this state;

(B)  has gross annual premium receipts greater than $50 million;

(C)  is a member of an insurance group that includes insurance companies writing lines of insurance other than those a farm mutual insurance company is authorized to write under Section 911.151; or

(D)  is acting as a fronting insurer as defined by Section 221.001(c); or

(2)  a mutual insurance company engaged in business under Chapter 12, Title 78, Revised Statutes, before that chapter's repeal by Section 18, Chapter 40, Acts of the 41st Legislature, 1st Called Session, 1929, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 60, General Laws, Acts of the 41st Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 1929, that retains the rights and privileges under the repealed law to the extent provided by those sections.

SECTION 3.  Section 2210.006(b), Insurance Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b)  This chapter does not apply to:

(1)  a farm mutual insurance company operating under Chapter 911, unless the company:

(A)  insures property in more than five counties in this state;

(B)  has gross annual premium receipts greater than $50 million;

(C)  is a member of an insurance group that includes insurance companies writing lines of insurance other than those a farm mutual insurance company is authorized to write under Section 911.151; or

(D)  is acting as a fronting insurer, as defined by Section 221.001(c);

(2)  a nonaffiliated county mutual fire insurance company described by Section 912.310 that is writing exclusively industrial fire insurance policies as described by Section 912.310(a)(2); or

(3)  a mutual insurance company or a statewide mutual assessment company engaged in business under Chapter 12 or 13, Title 78, Revised Statutes, respectively, before those chapters' repeal by Section 18, Chapter 40, Acts of the 41st Legislature, 1st Called Session, 1929, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 60, General Laws, Acts of the 41st Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 1929, that retains the rights and privileges under the repealed law to the extent provided by those sections.

SECTION 4.  (a) Sections 221.001(b) and 252.005, Insurance Code, as amended by this Act, do not affect tax liability accruing before the effective date of this Act. That liability continues in effect as if this Act had not been enacted, and the former law is continued in effect for the collection of taxes due and for civil and criminal enforcement of the liability for those taxes.

(b)  Section 2210.006(b), Insurance Code, as amended by this Act, applies only to participation in the Texas Windstorm Insurance Association on or after the effective date of this Act, including the payment of assessments the liability for which accrues on or after that date. Participation in the Texas Windstorm Insurance Association before the effective date of this Act, including the payment of assessments the liability for which accrued before that date, is governed by the law as it existed immediately before that date, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 5.  This Act takes effect January 1, 2022.