### SENATE AMENDMENTS

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Printing

By: Wharton H.B. No. 4386

#### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1	AN ACT
2	relating to the exchange or surrender of an annuity contract.
3	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
4	SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 1114, Insurance Code, is
5	amended by adding Sections 1114.0541 and 1114.0542 to read as
6	follows:
7	Sec. 1114.0541. PROCESSING OF ANNUITY CONTRACT EXCHANGES.
8	(a) In this section, "exchange" means an annuity replacement
9	transaction:
10	(1) in which the money in an existing annuity contract
11	must pass directly from the existing annuity contract and existing
12	insurer to a new annuity contract and a replacing insurer; and
13	(2) in which the owner and annuitant of the new
14	contract are the same as the owner and annuitant of the existing
15	contract, regardless of whether the owner or annuitant may be
16	changed after completion of the transaction.
17	(b) If a transaction involves an exchange of an annuity
18	contract, the existing insurer and the replacing insurer shall
19	comply with this section.
20	(c) To initiate an exchange of an annuity contract, the
21	replacing insurer shall provide the existing insurer an exchange
22	request notice on a form provided by the existing insurer. An
23	existing insurer shall make an exchange request notice form
24	available on the insurer's Internet website or require a contract

- 1 owner or replacing insurer to request from the insurer a physical
- 2 copy of the form.
- 3 (d) An exchange request notice form may include or require
- 4 only the following elements:
- 5 (1) a statement that the contract owner has authorized
- 6 the replacing insurer to initiate the exchange;
- 7 (2) the existing annuity contract number;
- 8 (3) the name, mailing address, e-mail address, and
- 9 telephone number of the contract owner and annuitant;
- 10 (4) delivery instructions for the transfer of money;
- 11 (5) the ink or electronic signature of the contract
- 12 owner; and
- 13 (6) any disclosure documents required by federal law
- 14 relating to an exchange or replacement of an annuity.
- (e) An existing insurer that receives an exchange request
- 16 notice from the contract owner and the replacing insurer shall:
- 17 (1) acknowledge receipt of the notice not later than
- 18 the fifth business day after the date the existing insurer received
- 19 the notice; and
- 20 (2) unless the existing annuity contract being
- 21 exchanged has a provision that gives the existing insurer the right
- 22 to defer payment for a different period, and subject to Subsection
- 23 (f), transfer the contract value of the existing annuity to the
- 24 replacing insurer not later than the 30th business day after the
- 25 date the existing insurer receives the notice.
- 26 (f) If an exchange request notice form provided to an
- 27 existing insurer under Subsection (c) does not include all required

- 1 information, the applicable period to transfer the contract value
- 2 does not begin until the day the existing insurer receives all
- 3 required information from the replacing insurer or contract owner,
- 4 as applicable.
- 5 (g) If a transfer payment is not completed within the period
- 6 provided by Subsection (e)(2) or the existing annuity contract, as
- 7 applicable, the existing insurer shall pay penalty interest on the
- 8 unpaid amount at an annual rate of 10 percent accruing from the
- 9 first business day after the date the contract value was required to
- 10 be transferred until the contract value is transferred to the
- 11 replacing insurer in full.
- 12 (h) Nothing in this section is intended to:
- 13 (1) change the suitability requirements applicable to
- 14 an agent or insurer seeking to replace an annuity under Chapter
- 15 <u>1115; or</u>
- 16 (2) prohibit a replacing insurer and existing insurer
- 17 from agreeing to use different formats or modes for assisting
- 18 contract owners in the timely and efficient processing of
- 19 replacements or exchanges of annuity contracts.
- Sec. 1114.0542. PROCESSING OF SURRENDER REQUESTS FOR
- 21 ANNUITY CONTRACTS. (a) To initiate a surrender of an annuity
- 22 <u>contract, a contract owner must submit a surrender request on a form</u>
- 23 required by the insurer. An insurer that issues an annuity contract
- 24 shall make a surrender request form available on the insurer's
- 25 Internet website or require the contract owner to request a
- 26 physical copy of the form from the insurer. If a contract owner
- 27 submits a written request for a physical copy of the form, the

- 1 <u>insurer shall mail the form to the contract owner not later than the</u>
- 2 fifth business day after the date the insurer receives the request.
- 3 (b) A surrender request form may include or require only the
- 4 following elements:
- 5 (1) a statement that the contract owner intends to
- 6 surrender the annuity contract;
- 7 (2) the annuity contract number;
- 8 (3) the name, mailing address, e-mail address, and
- 9 telephone number of the contract owner;
- 10 (4) delivery instructions for the transfer of money;
- 11 (5) instructions for tax withholding;
- 12 (6) the ink or electronic signature of the contract
- 13 owner; and
- 14 (7) any other document or disclosure required by
- 15 <u>federal or state law.</u>
- 16 <u>(c) An insurer that receives a surrender request from a</u>
- 17 contract owner shall:
- 18 (1) acknowledge receipt of the request not later than
- 19 the fifth business day after the date the insurer receives the
- 20 request; and
- 21 (2) unless the contract being surrendered has a
- 22 provision that gives the insurer the right to defer payment for a
- 23 different period, and subject to Subsection (d), transfer the
- 24 current cash surrender value of the annuity contract to the
- 25 contract owner not later than the 30th business day after the date
- 26 the insurer receives the request.
- 27 (d) If a surrender request form submitted to an insurer

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- 1 under Subsection (a) does not include all required information, the
- 2 applicable period to transfer the cash surrender value does not
- 3 begin until the day the insurer receives all required information
- 4 from the contract owner.
- 5 (e) If payment of a cash surrender value is not completed
- 6 within the period provided by Subsection (c)(2) or the annuity
- 7 contract, as applicable, the insurer shall pay penalty interest on
- 8 the unpaid amount at an annual rate of 10 percent accruing from the
- 9 first business day after the date the cash surrender value was
- 10 required to be transferred until the cash surrender value is
- 11 transferred to the contract owner in full.
- 12 (f) Nothing in this section is intended to change the
- 13 suitability requirements applicable to an agent or other person
- 14 advising a contract owner to surrender an annuity under Chapter
- 15 <u>1115.</u>
- 16 SECTION 2. Sections 1114.0541 and 1114.0542, Insurance
- 17 Code, as added by this Act, apply only to an exchange or surrender
- 18 of an annuity contract initiated on or after January 1, 2026.
- 19 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

### ADOPTED

MAY 22 2025

Latery Secretary of the Senate

By: Lan Vanher

H.B. No. 4386

Substitute A he following for H.B. No. 4384:

By: Phil King

c.s.<u>H</u>.B. No. 4386

#### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT 1 relating to the exchange or surrender of an annuity contract. 2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS: SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 1114, Insurance Code, is 4 amended by adding Sections 1114.0541 and 1114.0542 to read as 5 follows: 6 Sec. 1114.0541. PROCESSING OF ANNUITY CONTRACT EXCHANGES. 7 (a) In this section, "exchange" means an annuity replacement transaction: 9 (1) in which the money in an existing annuity contract 10 must pass directly from the existing annuity contract and existing 11 insurer to a new annuity contract and a replacing insurer; and 12 (2) in which the owner and annuitant of the new 13 contract are the same as the owner and annuitant of the existing 14 contract, regardless of whether the owner or annuitant may be 15 changed after completion of the transaction. 16 (b) If a transaction involves an exchange of an annuity 17 contract, the existing insurer and the replacing insurer shall 18 comply with this section. 19 (c) To initiate an exchange of an annuity contract, the 20 replacing insurer shall provide the existing insurer an exchange 21 request notice of the proposed exchange.

(d) An exchange request notice:

(1) must include:

23

24

1	(A) all information necessary for the exchange to
2	qualify as a tax-free exchange under 26 U.S.C. Section 1035; and
3	(B) any information required by state law; and
4	(2) may be provided on a form promulgated by the
5	Association for Cooperative Operations Research and Development or
6	another generally accepted form or in any other manner used by an
7	<u>insurer.</u>
8	(e) An existing insurer that receives an exchange request
9	<pre>notice shall:</pre>
10	(1) not later than the fifth business day after the
11	date the existing insurer received the notice, send a letter to the
12	contract owner, as required under Section 1114.054(c), unless the
13	existing insurer has previously provided it; and
14	(2) subject to Subsection (f), transfer the contract
15	value of the existing annuity to the replacing insurer not later
16	than the 30th business day after the date the existing insurer
17	receives the notice unless:
18	(A) the existing annuity contract being
19	exchanged has a provision that gives the existing insurer the right
20	to defer payment for a different period;
21	(B) the existing insurer, replacing insurer, and
22	contract owner agree to a different transfer period, including an
23	agreement to make the transfer on a specific future date;
24	(C) a different transfer period is required under
25	state or federal law; or
26	(D) the existing insurer makes a determination or
27	reasonably suspects the exchange involves a fraudulent insurance

- 1 act the insurer is required to report under Section 701.051.
- 2 (f) If an exchange request notice provided to an existing
- 3 insurer under Subsection (c) does not include all required
- 4 information necessary to complete the exchange, the applicable
- 5 period to transfer the contract value does not begin until the day
- 6 the existing insurer receives all required information from the
- 7 replacing insurer or contract owner, as applicable.
- 8 (g) If a required transfer payment is not completed within
- 9 the period provided by Subsection (e)(2) or the existing annuity
- 10 contract, as applicable, the existing insurer shall pay penalty
- 11 interest on the unpaid amount at an annual rate of 10 percent
- 12 accruing from the first business day after the date the contract
- 13 value was required to be transferred until the contract value is
- 14 transferred to the replacing insurer in full.
- 15 (h) Nothing in this section is intended to:
- 16 (1) change the suitability requirements applicable to
- 17 an agent or insurer seeking to replace an annuity under Chapter
- 18 <u>1115; or</u>
- (2) prohibit a replacing insurer and existing insurer
- 20 from agreeing to use different formats or modes for assisting
- 21 contract owners in the timely and efficient processing of
- 22 replacements or exchanges of annuity contracts.
- Sec. 1114.0542. PROCESSING OF SURRENDER REQUESTS FOR
- 24 ANNUITY CONTRACTS. (a) To initiate a surrender of an annuity
- 25 contract, a contract owner must submit a surrender request to the
- 26 insurer in the form and manner required by the insurer. An insurer
- 27 that issues an annuity contract shall make available to the

- 1 contract owner the form and manner in which the contract owner may
- 2 <u>submit the surrender request.</u>
- 3 (b) An insurer that receives a surrender request from a
- 4 contract owner shall, subject to Subsection (c), transfer the
- 5 current cash surrender value of the annuity contract to the
- 6 contract owner not later than the 30th business day after the date
- 7 the insurer receives the request unless:
- 8 (1) the contract being surrendered has a provision
- 9 that gives the insurer the right to defer payment for a different
- 10 period;
- 11 (2) the insurer and contract owner agree to a
- 12 different transfer period, including an agreement to make the
- 13 transfer on a specific future date;
- 14 (3) a different transfer period is required under
- 15 state or federal law; or
- 16 (4) the insurer makes a determination or reasonably
- 17 suspects the surrender request involves a fraudulent insurance act
- 18 the insurer is required to report under Section 701.051.
- (c) If a surrender request submitted to an insurer under
- 20 Subsection (a) does not include all required information, the
- 21 applicable period to transfer the cash surrender value does not
- 22 begin until the day the insurer receives all required information
- 23 from the contract owner.
- 24 (d) If a required payment of a cash surrender value is not
- 25 completed within the period provided by Subsection (b) or the
- 26 annuity contract, as applicable, the insurer shall pay penalty
- 27 interest on the unpaid amount at an annual rate of 10 percent

- 1 accruing from the first business day after the date the cash
- 2 surrender value was required to be transferred until the cash
- 3 surrender value is transferred to the contract owner in full.
- 4 (e) Nothing in this section is intended to change the
- 5 suitability requirements applicable to an agent or other person
- 6 advising a contract owner to surrender an annuity under Chapter
- 7 1115.
- 8 SECTION 2. Sections 1114.0541 and 1114.0542, Insurance
- 9 Code, as added by this Act, apply only to an exchange or surrender
- 10 of an annuity contract initiated on or after January 1, 2026.
- 11 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

#### FISCAL NOTE, 89TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

#### May 22, 2025

**TO:** Honorable Dustin Burrows, Speaker of the House, House of Representatives

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB4386 by Wharton (Relating to the exchange or surrender of an annuity contract.), As Passed 2nd

House

#### No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

It is assumed that any costs associated with the bill could be absorbed using existing resources.

#### **Local Government Impact**

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 454 Department of Insurance **LBB Staff:** JMc, SD, RStu, JPE, AAL, BFa

#### FISCAL NOTE, 89TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 20, 2025

TO: Honorable Charles Schwertner, Chair, Senate Committee on Business & Commerce

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB4386 by Wharton (relating to the exchange or surrender of an annuity contract.), Committee Report 2nd House, Substituted

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

It is assumed that any costs associated with the bill could be absorbed using existing resources.

#### **Local Government Impact**

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 454 Department of Insurance

LBB Staff: JMc, RStu, JPE, AAL, BFa

#### FISCAL NOTE, 89TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

#### May 9, 2025

TO: Honorable Charles Schwertner, Chair, Senate Committee on Business & Commerce

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB4386 by Wharton (Relating to the exchange or surrender of an annuity contract.), As Engrossed

#### No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

It is assumed that any costs associated with the bill could be absorbed using existing resources.

#### **Local Government Impact**

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 454 Department of Insurance

LBB Staff: JMc, JPE, AAL, BFa

#### FISCAL NOTE, 89TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

#### April 25, 2025

TO: Honorable Jay Dean, Chair, House Committee on Insurance

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB4386 by Wharton (relating to the exchange or surrender of an annuity contract.), Committee Report 1st House, Substituted

#### No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

It is assumed that any costs associated with the bill could be absorbed using existing resources.

#### **Local Government Impact**

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 454 Department of Insurance

LBB Staff: JMc, AAL, BFa

#### FISCAL NOTE, 89TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

#### April 15, 2025

TO: Honorable Jay Dean, Chair, House Committee on Insurance

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB4386 by Wharton (Relating to the replacement transactions of certain life insurance and annuity contracts from an insurer to a replacing insurer.), As Introduced

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

It is assumed that any costs associated with the bill could be absorbed using existing resources.

**Local Government Impact** 

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 454 Department of Insurance

LBB Staff: JMc, AAL, BFa