

General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 1037

January Session, 2023

LCO No. 4162



Referred to Committee on INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE

Introduced by: (INS)

AN ACT CONCERNING SELF-SERVICE STORAGE INSURANCE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. Section 38a-1 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):
- 3 Terms used in this title <u>and section 2 of this act</u>, unless it appears from
- 4 the context to the contrary, shall have a scope and meaning as set forth
- 5 in this section.
- 6 (1) "Affiliate" or "affiliated" means a person that directly, or indirectly
- 7 through one or more intermediaries, controls, is controlled by or is
- 8 under common control with another person.
- 9 (2) "Alien insurer" means any insurer that has been chartered by or
- organized or constituted within or under the laws of any jurisdiction or
- 11 country without the United States.
- 12 (3) "Annuities" means all agreements to make periodical payments
- where the making or continuance of all or some of the series of the
- 14 payments, or the amount of the payment, is dependent upon the

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- 15 continuance of human life or is for a specified term of years. This
- 16 definition does not apply to payments made under a policy of life
- 17 insurance.

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- (4) "Commissioner" means the Insurance Commissioner.
- 19 (5) "Control", "controlled by" or "under common control with" means 20 the possession, direct or indirect, of the power to direct or cause the 21 direction of the management and policies of a person, whether through 22 the ownership of voting securities, by contract other than a commercial 23 contract for goods or nonmanagement services, or otherwise, unless the 24 power is the result of an official position with the person.
- 25 (6) "Domestic insurer" means any insurer that has been chartered by, 26 incorporated, organized or constituted within or under the laws of this 27 state.
- 28 (7) "Domestic surplus lines insurer" means any domestic insurer that 29 has been authorized by the commissioner to write surplus lines 30 insurance.
- 31 (8) "Foreign country" means any jurisdiction not in any state, district 32 or territory of the United States.
 - (9) "Foreign insurer" means any insurer that has been chartered by or organized or constituted within or under the laws of another state or a territory of the United States.
 - (10) "Insolvency" or "insolvent" means, for any insurer, that it is unable to pay its obligations when they are due, or when its admitted assets do not exceed its liabilities plus the greater of: (A) Capital and surplus required by law for its organization and continued operation; or (B) the total par or stated value of its authorized and issued capital stock. For purposes of this subdivision "liabilities" shall include but not be limited to reserves required by statute or by regulations adopted by the commissioner in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 or specific requirements imposed by the commissioner upon a subject

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45 company at the time of admission or subsequent thereto.

- (11) "Insurance" means any agreement to pay a sum of money, provide services or any other thing of value on the happening of a particular event or contingency or to provide indemnity for loss in respect to a specified subject by specified perils in return for a consideration. In any contract of insurance, an insured shall have an interest which is subject to a risk of loss through destruction or impairment of that interest, which risk is assumed by the insurer and such assumption shall be part of a general scheme to distribute losses among a large group of persons bearing similar risks in return for a ratable contribution or other consideration.
- (12) "Insurer" or "insurance company" includes any person or combination of persons doing any kind or form of insurance business other than a fraternal benefit society, and shall include a receiver of any insurer when the context reasonably permits.
- (13) "Insured" means a person to whom or for whose benefit an insurer makes a promise in an insurance policy. The term includes policyholders, subscribers, members and beneficiaries. This definition applies only to the provisions of this title and does not define the meaning of this word as used in insurance policies or certificates.
- (14) "Life insurance" means insurance on human lives and insurances pertaining to or connected with human life. The business of life insurance includes granting endowment benefits, granting additional benefits in the event of death by accident or accidental means, granting additional benefits in the event of the total and permanent disability of the insured, and providing optional methods of settlement of proceeds. Life insurance includes burial contracts to the extent provided by section 38a-464.
- 73 (15) "Mutual insurer" means any insurer without capital stock, the 74 managing directors or officers of which are elected by its members.
 - (16) "Person" means an individual, a corporation, a partnership, a

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- limited liability company, an association, a joint stock company, a business trust, an unincorporated organization or other legal entity.
- 78 (17) "Policy" means any document, including attached endorsements 79 and riders, purporting to be an enforceable contract, which 80 memorializes in writing some or all of the terms of an insurance 81 contract.
- 82 (18) "State" means any state, district, or territory of the United States.
- 83 (19) "Subsidiary" of a specified person means an affiliate controlled 84 by the person directly, or indirectly through one or more intermediaries.
- 85 (20) "Unauthorized insurer" or "nonadmitted insurer" means an 86 insurer that has not been granted a certificate of authority by the 87 commissioner to transact the business of insurance in this state or an 88 insurer transacting business not authorized by a valid certificate.
- (21) "United States" means the United States of America, its territories
 and possessions, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the District of
 Columbia.
- 92 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2023*) (a) For the purposes of this section:
- 94 (1) "Insurance producer" or "producer" has the same meaning as 95 provided in section 38a-702a of the general statutes;
- 96 (2) "Location" means (A) any physical location in this state, or (B) any 97 Internet web site or call center site directed at residents of this state;
- 98 (3) "Occupant" means any person, or the assignee, successor or 99 sublessee of any person, entitled to use, to the exclusion of others, 100 storage space at any self-service storage facility under any rental 101 agreement;
- 102 (4) "Owner" has the same meaning as provided in section 42-159 of 103 the general statutes;

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(5) "Personal property" has the same meaning as provided in section42-159 of the general statutes;

- (6) "Rental agreement" means any written agreement or lease that establishes or modifies the terms, conditions, rules or any other provisions concerning the use and occupancy of storage space at any self-service storage facility;
- (7) "Self-service storage facility" has the same meaning as provided in section 42-159 of the general statutes;
- (8) "Self-service storage insurance" means property and casualty insurance (A) insuring personal property stored at, or in transit to or from, any self-service storage facility during the term of a rental agreement, and (B) offered or sold in connection with, and incidental to, a rental agreement; and
- (9) "Supervising person" means any insurer licensed to transact insurance business in this state and authorized to write personal or commercial risk insurance business in this state, or any insurance producer licensed in this state, appointed by any insurer to supervise the owners who are offering or selling self-service storage insurance coverage on behalf of the appointing insurer.
- (b) (1) No owner shall offer or sell self-service storage insurance coverage in this state without first obtaining a self-service storage insurance license from the commissioner pursuant to this section. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subdivision, each owner who offers or sells self-service storage insurance coverage in this state prior to October 1, 2023, may continue to offer or sell such insurance coverage until such owner's initial application for a self-service storage insurance license is approved or denied by the commissioner, provided such owner files such application not later than ninety days after the date on which the commissioner prescribes a form for such application. Each self-service storage insurance license issued by the commissioner pursuant to this section shall be in force until January thirty-first of the next even-numbered year, unless such license is revoked or suspended

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by the commissioner prior to such date.

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- 137 (2) No owner shall be required to be licensed under this section solely 138 to display and make available to occupants and prospective occupants 139 brochures and other promotional materials created by or on behalf of 140 any insurer licensed to transact insurance business, and authorized to 141 write property and casualty insurance, in this state.
- (3) Each self-service storage insurance license shall authorize each employee and authorized representative of such owner to offer and sell self-service storage insurance coverage at each location where such owner conducts business. No such employee or authorized representative shall be required to be licensed under chapter 701a of the general statutes, provided:
- 148 (A) The owner obtains and maintains such self-service storage 149 insurance license;
 - (B) The insurer issuing such coverage, or the supervising person appointed by such insurer, supervises such owner; and
 - (C) No such employee or authorized representative holds himself or herself out as an insurance producer licensed in this state unless such employee or authorized representative is an insurance producer licensed in this state.
- (4) (A) Each owner who seeks to obtain a self-service storage insurance license pursuant to this section shall submit to the commissioner, in a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, an initial application. Such application shall be signed and sworn to by such owner and include, at a minimum:
 - (i) (I) The name and business address of such owner and any other information that the commissioner may require concerning such owner or any employee or officer of such owner, or the insurer or supervising person supervising such owner, who will serve as the person responsible for such owner's compliance with this section; and

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(ii) The address of such owner's home office.

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- (B) Each application submitted to the commissioner pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this subdivision shall be accompanied by the fees set forth in section 38a-11 of the general statutes, as amended by this act.
- (5) (A) Each owner seeking to renew a self-service storage insurance license shall submit to the commissioner, in a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, an updated application. Such application shall be signed and sworn to by such owner and include, at a minimum:
- (i) Any changes to such owner's initial application filed pursuant to subparagraph (A) of subdivision (4) of this subsection; and
- 185 (ii) Any other information that the commissioner, in the 186 commissioner's discretion, may require.
- (B) Each updated application submitted to the commissioner pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this subdivision shall be accompanied by the applicable fee specified in section 38a-11 of the general statutes, as amended by this act.
- 191 (C) Each renewal of any self-service storage insurance license granted 192 by the commissioner in response to an application filed pursuant to 193 subparagraph (A) of this subdivision shall be valid for two years.
 - (c) Each owner who offers or sells self-service storage insurance coverage shall make available, at each location where such owner offers

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- or sells such coverage to occupants or prospective occupants in this state, brochures or other written or electronic materials that contain, at a minimum, the following:
- 199 (1) A statement disclosing that self-service storage insurance 200 coverage may provide insurance coverage that is duplicative of 201 insurance coverage provided to occupants under their homeowners, 202 renter's or other insurance policies;
- 203 (2) A statement disclosing that occupants are not required to 204 purchase self-service storage insurance coverage from such owner to 205 lease storage space from such owner;
- 206 (3) The identity of the insurer issuing such self-service storage 207 insurance coverage;
- 208 (4) The identity of any supervising person appointed by the insurer identified pursuant to subdivision (3) of this subsection;
- 210 (5) The amount of any deductible under such self-service storage 211 insurance coverage and a summary of how such deductible shall be 212 paid;
- 213 (6) A summary of the benefits under such self-service storage 214 insurance coverage;
- 215 (7) The terms and conditions of such self-service storage insurance 216 coverage, or a summary of the key terms and conditions of such 217 coverage;
- 218 (8) A summary of the process for filing a claim under such self-service 219 storage insurance coverage; and
- 220 (9) A statement disclosing that any occupant covered under self-221 service storage insurance may cancel such coverage at any time, and that 222 the person who pays the premium for such coverage will receive a 223 refund of, or a credit for, any unearned premium under such coverage.

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(d) (1) If self-service storage insurance coverage is included at no additional charge with any lease of storage space, the owner shall clearly and conspicuously disclose, in writing, to the occupant or prospective occupant that such insurance is included at no additional charge with the lease of the storage space.

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- 229 (2) Any owner may bill and collect payments for self-service storage 230 insurance coverage, provided:
 - (A) Any payment that is not attributable to the cost of any occupant's occupancy of self-service storage space is itemized separately on each invoice that such owner issues to the occupant; and
 - (B) Such owner remits such payment to the insurer issuing such selfservice storage insurance coverage, or the supervising person appointed by such insurer, not later than sixty days after such owner receives such payment.
 - (3) Any owner shall not be required to maintain payments collected pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection in a segregated account if the insurer that issued the self-service storage insurance coverage, or the supervising person appointed by such insurer, authorizes the owner to commingle such payments. All premium payments collected by any owner pursuant to said subdivision shall be held by the owner in a fiduciary capacity for the benefit of the insurer.
- 245 (4) Any owner may receive compensation for billing and collection 246 services.
 - (e) (1) Self-service storage insurance coverage shall not be offered or sold in this state unless such insurance coverage is issued by an insurer that is authorized to write such lines of business in this state. Such insurance coverage may be issued as an individual, group, master, corporate or commercial policy. Any insurer authorized to issue selfservice storage insurance coverage in this state shall file a copy of the form for such coverage in accordance with subsection (c) of section 38a-676 of the general statutes.

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- (2) Any insurer that issues self-service storage insurance coverage in this state and does not directly supervise the owners offering or selling such coverage to occupants in this state shall appoint a supervising person, and shall provide the name and contact information of such supervising person to the commissioner and such owners.
- (3) Each supervising person shall maintain a registry containing the locations used by each owner in this state to offer or sell self-service storage insurance coverage issued by the insurer that appointed such supervising person. Each supervising person shall, not later than ten days after such supervising person receives any request from the commissioner, make such registry available for inspection by the commissioner or the commissioner's designee during such supervising person's regular business hours.
 - (f) The Insurance Commissioner may:

- (1) Refuse to issue or renew, for cause and after notice and a hearing, a self-service storage insurance license issued pursuant to this section. Any person aggrieved by the commissioner's refusal to issue or renew a self-service storage insurance license may appeal therefrom in accordance with the provisions of section 4-183 of the general statutes, except venue for such appeal shall be in the judicial district of New Britain; and
- (2) Suspend or revoke a self-service storage insurance license issued pursuant to this section, and impose a fine in addition to or in lieu of such suspension or revocation in accordance with section 38a-774 of the general statutes. The commissioner may, either in addition to or in lieu of such suspension or revocation, issue a cease and desist order suspending the privilege to offer or sell self-service storage insurance coverage at specific locations or by specific employees or authorized representatives.
- (g) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, no owner shall be required to undergo any examination, education or continuing education as a condition to receiving or renewing a self-service storage

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insurance license pursuant to this section.

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- (h) The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to implement the provisions of this section.
- Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 38a-11 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October* 1, 2023):
 - (a) The commissioner shall demand and receive the following fees: (1) For the annual fee for each license issued to a domestic insurance company, two hundred dollars; (2) for receiving and filing annual reports of domestic insurance companies, fifty dollars; (3) for filing all documents prerequisite to the issuance of a license to an insurance company, two hundred twenty dollars, except that the fee for such filings by any health care center, as defined in section 38a-175, shall be one thousand three hundred fifty dollars; (4) for filing any additional paper required by law, thirty dollars; (5) for each certificate of valuation, organization, reciprocity or compliance, forty dollars; (6) for each certified copy of a license to a company, forty dollars; (7) for each certified copy of a report or certificate of condition of a company to be filed in any other state, forty dollars; (8) for amending a certificate of authority, two hundred dollars; (9) for each license issued to a rating organization, two hundred dollars. In addition, insurance companies shall pay any fees imposed under section 12-211; (10) a filing fee of fifty dollars for each initial application for a license made pursuant to section 38a-769; (11) with respect to insurance agents' appointments: (A) A filing fee of fifty dollars for each request for any agent appointment, except that no filing fee shall be payable for a request for agent appointment by an insurance company domiciled in a state or foreign country which does not require any filing fee for a request for agent appointment for a Connecticut insurance company; (B) a fee of one hundred dollars for each appointment issued to an agent of a domestic insurance company or for each appointment continued; and (C) a fee of eighty dollars for each appointment issued to an agent of any other

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insurance company or for each appointment continued, except that (i) no fee shall be payable for an appointment issued to an agent of an insurance company domiciled in a state or foreign country which does not require any fee for an appointment issued to an agent of a Connecticut insurance company, and (ii) the fee shall be twenty dollars for each appointment issued or continued to an agent of an insurance company domiciled in a state or foreign country with a premium tax rate below Connecticut's premium tax rate; (12) with respect to insurance producers: (A) An examination fee of fifteen dollars for each examination taken, except when a testing service is used, the testing service shall pay a fee of fifteen dollars to the commissioner for each examination taken by an applicant; (B) a fee of eighty dollars for each license issued; (C) a fee of eighty dollars per year, or any portion thereof, for each license renewed; and (D) a fee of eighty dollars for any license renewed under the transitional process established in section 38a-784; (13) with respect to public adjusters: (A) An examination fee of fifteen dollars for each examination taken, except when a testing service is used, the testing service shall pay a fee of fifteen dollars to the commissioner for each examination taken by an applicant; and (B) a fee of two hundred fifty dollars for each license issued or renewed; (14) with respect to casualty claims adjusters: (A) An examination fee of twenty dollars for each examination taken, except when a testing service is used, the testing service shall pay a fee of twenty dollars to the commissioner for each examination taken by an applicant; (B) a fee of eighty dollars for each license issued or renewed; and (C) the expense of any examination administered outside the state shall be the responsibility of the entity making the request and such entity shall pay to the commissioner two hundred dollars for such examination and the actual traveling expenses of the examination administrator to administer such examination; (15) with respect to motor vehicle physical damage appraisers: (A) An examination fee of eighty dollars for each examination taken, except when a testing service is used, the testing service shall pay a fee of eighty dollars to the commissioner for each examination taken by an applicant; (B) a fee of eighty dollars for each license issued or renewed; and (C) the expense of any examination

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administered outside the state shall be the responsibility of the entity making the request and such entity shall pay to the commissioner two hundred dollars for such examination and the actual traveling expenses of the examination administrator to administer such examination; (16) with respect to certified insurance consultants: (A) An examination fee of twenty-six dollars for each examination taken, except when a testing service is used, the testing service shall pay a fee of twenty-six dollars to the commissioner for each examination taken by an applicant; (B) a fee of two hundred fifty dollars for each license issued; and (C) a fee of two hundred fifty dollars for each license renewed; (17) with respect to surplus lines brokers: (A) An examination fee of twenty dollars for each examination taken, except when a testing service is used, the testing service shall pay a fee of twenty dollars to the commissioner for each examination taken by an applicant; and (B) a fee of six hundred twentyfive dollars for each license issued or renewed; (18) with respect to fraternal agents, a fee of eighty dollars for each license issued or renewed; (19) a fee of twenty-six dollars for each license certificate requested, whether or not a license has been issued; (20) with respect to domestic and foreign benefit societies shall pay: (A) For service of process, fifty dollars for each person or insurer to be served; (B) for filing a certified copy of its charter or articles of association, fifteen dollars; (C) for filing an annual statement or report, twenty dollars; and (D) for filing any additional paper required by law, fifteen dollars; (21) with respect to foreign benefit societies: (A) For each certificate of organization or compliance, fifteen dollars; (B) for each certified copy of permit, fifteen dollars; and (C) for each copy of a report or certificate of condition of a society to be filed in any other state, fifteen dollars; (22) with respect to reinsurance intermediaries, a fee of six hundred twenty-five dollars for each license issued or renewed; (23) with respect to life settlement providers: (A) A filing fee of twenty-six dollars for each initial application for a license made pursuant to section 38a-465a; and (B) a fee of forty dollars for each license issued or renewed; (24) with respect to life settlement brokers: (A) A filing fee of twenty-six dollars for each initial application for a license made pursuant to section 38a-465a; and (B) a fee of forty dollars for each license issued or renewed; (25) with

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respect to preferred provider networks, a fee of two thousand seven hundred fifty dollars for each license issued or renewed; (26) with respect to rental companies, as defined in section 38a-799, a fee of eighty dollars for each permit issued or renewed; (27) with respect to medical discount plan organizations licensed under section 38a-479rr, a fee of six hundred twenty-five dollars for each license issued or renewed; (28) with respect to pharmacy benefits managers, an application fee of one hundred dollars for each registration issued or renewed; (29) with respect to captive insurance companies, as defined in section 38a-91aa, a fee of three hundred seventy-five dollars for each license issued or renewed; (30) with respect to each duplicate license issued a fee of fifty dollars for each license issued; (31) with respect to surety bail bond agents, as defined in section 38a-660, (A) a filing fee of one hundred fifty dollars for each initial application for a license, and (B) a fee of one hundred dollars for each license issued or renewed; (32) with respect to third-party administrators, as defined in section 38a-720, (A) a fee of five hundred dollars for each license issued, and (B) a fee of four hundred fifty dollars for each license renewed; (33) with respect to portable electronics insurance licenses under section 38a-397, (A) a filing fee of one hundred dollars for each initial application for a license, (B) a fee of five hundred dollars for each license issued, and (C) a fee of four hundred fifty dollars for each license renewed; [and] (34) with respect to limited lines travel insurance producer licenses under section 38a-398, (A) a filing fee of one hundred dollars for each initial application for a license, (B) a fee of six hundred fifty dollars for each license issued, and (C) a fee of six hundred fifty dollars for each license renewed; and (35) with respect to self-service storage insurance licenses under section 2 of this act, (A) a filing fee of one hundred dollars for each initial application for a license, (B) a fee of five hundred dollars for each license issued, and (C) a fee of four hundred fifty dollars for each license renewed.

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This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:			
Section 1	October 1, 2023	38a-1	
Sec. 2	October 1, 2023	New section	

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Sec. 3	October 1, 2023	38a-11(a)

Statement of Purpose:

To regulate the sale of self-service storage insurance in this state.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

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