HOUSE BILL 2585

State of Washington 61st Legislature 2010 Regular Session

By Representatives Kelley, Kirby, and Moeller; by request of Insurance Commissioner

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- AN ACT Relating to insurance; amending RCW 48.02.060, 48.38.010,
- 2 48.66.045, 48.155.010, 4.28.080, 48.05.200, 48.05.215, 48.10.170,
- 3 48.15.150, 48.17.380, 48.36A.350, 48.94.010, 48.102.011, 48.102.021,
- 4 48.110.030, 48.110.055, and 48.155.020; adding a new section to chapter
- 5 48.02 RCW; and repealing RCW 48.05.210.
- 6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 7 **Sec. 1.** RCW 48.02.060 and 2009 c 335 s 1 are each amended to read 8 as follows:
- 9 (1) The commissioner has the authority expressly conferred upon him 10 or her by or reasonably implied from the provisions of this code.
- 11 (2) The commissioner ((shall)) <u>must</u> execute his or her duties and 12 ((shall)) <u>must</u> enforce the provisions of this code.
 - (3) The commissioner may:

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- (a) Make reasonable rules for effectuating any provision of this code, except those relating to his or her election, qualifications, or compensation. Rules are not effective prior to their being filed for public inspection in the commissioner's office.
- 18 (b) Conduct investigations to determine whether any person has 19 violated any provision of this code.

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- (c) Conduct examinations, investigations, hearings, in addition to those specifically provided for, useful and proper for the efficient administration of any provision of this code.
 - (4) When the governor proclaims a state of emergency under RCW 43.06.010(12), the commissioner may issue an order that addresses any or all of the following matters related to insurance policies issued in this state:
 - (a) Reporting requirements for claims;

- 9 (b) Grace periods for payment of insurance premiums and performance of other duties by insureds;
 - (c) Temporary postponement of cancellations and ((renewals))
 nonrenewals; and
 - (d) Medical coverage to ensure access to care.
 - (5) An order by the commissioner under subsection (4) of this section may remain effective for not more than sixty days unless the commissioner extends the termination date for the order for an additional period of not more than thirty days. The commissioner may extend the order if, in the commissioner's judgment, the circumstances warrant an extension. An order of the commissioner under subsection (4) of this section is not effective after the related state of emergency is terminated by proclamation of the governor under RCW 43.06.210. The order must specify, by line of insurance:
 - (a) The geographic areas in which the order applies, which must be within but may be less extensive than the geographic area specified in the governor's proclamation of a state of emergency and must be specific according to an appropriate means of delineation, such as the United States postal service zip codes or other appropriate means; and
 - (b) The date on which the order becomes effective and the date on which the order terminates.
 - (6) The commissioner may adopt rules that establish general criteria for orders issued under subsection (4) of this section and may adopt emergency rules applicable to a specific proclamation of a state of emergency by the governor.
- 34 (7) The rule-making authority set forth in subsection (6) of this 35 section does not limit or affect the rule-making authority otherwise 36 granted to the commissioner by law.

Sec. 2. RCW 48.38.010 and 1998 c 284 s 1 are each amended to read 2 as follows:

The commissioner may grant a certificate of exemption to any insurer or educational, religious, charitable, or scientific institution conducting a charitable gift annuity business:

- (1) Which is organized and operated exclusively as, or for the purpose of aiding, an educational, religious, charitable, or scientific institution which is organized as a nonprofit organization without profit to any person, firm, partnership, association, corporation, or other entity;
- (2) Which possesses a current tax exempt status under the laws of the United States;
- (3) Which serves such purpose by issuing charitable gift annuity contracts only for the benefit of such educational, religious, charitable, or scientific institution;
- (4) Which appoints the insurance commissioner as its true and lawful attorney upon whom may be served lawful process in any action, suit, or proceeding in any court, which appointment $((shall\ be))$ is irrevocable, ((shall)) binds the insurer or institution or any successor in interest, ((shall)) remains in effect as long as there is in force in this state any contract made or issued by the insurer or institution, or any obligation arising therefrom, and ((shall)) must be processed in accordance with ((shall)) section 6 of this act;
- (5) Which is fully and legally organized and qualified to do business and has been actively doing business under the laws of the state of its domicile for a period of at least three years prior to its application for a certificate of exemption;
- (6) Which has and maintains minimum unrestricted net assets of five hundred thousand dollars. "Unrestricted net assets" means the excess of total assets over total liabilities that are neither permanently restricted nor temporarily restricted by donor-imposed stipulations;
- (7) Which files with the insurance commissioner its application for a certificate of exemption showing:
 - (a) Its name, location, and organization date;
- 35 (b) The kinds of charitable annuities it proposes to offer;
- 36 (c) A statement of the financial condition, management, and affairs 37 of the organization and any affiliate thereof, as that term is defined

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- in RCW 48.31B.005, on a form satisfactory to, or furnished by the insurance commissioner;
 - (d) ((Such)) Other documents, stipulations, or information as the insurance commissioner may reasonably require to evidence compliance with the provisions of this chapter;
 - (8) Which subjects itself and any affiliate thereof, as that term is defined in RCW 48.31B.005, to periodic examinations conducted under chapter 48.03 RCW as may be deemed necessary by the insurance commissioner;
 - (9) Which files with the insurance commissioner for the commissioner's advance approval a copy of any policy or contract form to be offered or issued to residents of this state. The grounds for disapproval of the policy or contract form ((shall be those)) are set forth in RCW 48.18.110; and
 - (10) Which:

- (a) Files with the insurance commissioner ((on or before March 1 of each)) annually, within sixty days of the end of its fiscal year a ((copy of its annual statement prepared pursuant to the laws of its state of domicile)) report of its current financial condition, management, and affairs, on a form and in a manner prescribed by the commissioner, as well as such other financial material as may be requested, including the annual statement or other such financial materials as may be requested relating to any affiliate, as that term is defined in RCW 48.31B.005; ((and))
- (b) ((Coincident with the filing of its annual statement, pays an annual filing fee of twenty-five dollars plus five dollars for each charitable gift annuity contract written for residents of this state during the previous calendar year; and
- (c) Which includes on or)) Attaches to the ((first page of the annual statement)) report of its current financial condition the statement of a qualified actuary setting forth the actuary's opinion relating to annuity reserves and other actuarial items for the fiscal year covered by the report. "Qualified actuary" as used in this subsection means a member in good standing of the American academy of actuaries or a person who has otherwise demonstrated actuarial competence to the satisfaction of the insurance regulatory official of the domiciliary state; and

- (c) On or before March 1st of each year, pays an annual filing fee of twenty-five dollars plus five dollars for each charitable gift annuity contract written for residents of this state during its fiscal year ending on or before December 31st of the previous calendar year.
- **Sec. 3.** RCW 48.66.045 and 2009 c 161 s 5 are each amended to read 6 as follows:

- (1) Every issuer of a medicare supplement insurance policy or certificate providing coverage to a resident of this state issued on or after January 1, 1996, and before June 1, 2010, ((shall)) must:
- (a) Unless otherwise provided for in RCW 48.66.055, issue coverage under its standardized benefit plans B, C, D, E, F, G, K, and L without evidence of insurability to any resident of this state who is eligible for both medicare hospital and physician services by reason of age or by reason of disability or end-stage renal disease, if the medicare supplement policy replaces another medicare supplement standardized benefit plan policy or certificate B, C, D, E, F, G, K, or L, or other more comprehensive coverage than the replacing policy; and
- (b) Unless otherwise provided for in RCW 48.66.055, issue coverage under its standardized plans A, H, I, and J without evidence of insurability to any resident of this state who is eligible for both medicare hospital and physician services by reason of age or by reason of disability or end-stage renal disease, if the medicare supplement policy replaces another medicare supplement policy or certificate which is the same standardized plan as the replaced policy. After December 31, 2005, plans H, I, and J may be replaced only by the same plan if that plan has been modified to remove outpatient prescription drug coverage.
- (2)(a) Unless otherwise provided for in RCW 48.66.055, every issuer of a medicare supplement insurance policy or certificate providing coverage to a resident of this state issued on or after June 1, 2010, ((shall)) must issue coverage under its standardized plans B, C, D, $((E_r))$ F_r F with high deductible, G, K, L, M, or N without evidence of insurability to any resident of this state who is eligible for both medicare hospital and physician services by reason of age or by reason of disability or end-stage renal disease, if the medicare supplement policy or certificate replaces another medicare supplement policy or certificate or other more comprehensive coverage; and

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- (b) Unless otherwise provided for in RCW 48.66.055, issue coverage under its standardized plan A without evidence of insurability to any resident of this state who is eligible for both medicare hospital and physician services by reason of age or by reason of disability or endstage renal disease, if the medicare supplement policy or certificate replaces another standardized plan A medicare supplement policy or certificate.
- (3) Every issuer of a medicare supplement insurance policy or certificate providing coverage to a resident of this state issued on or after January 1, 1996, ((shall)) must set rates only on a community-rated basis. Premiums ((shall)) must be equal for all policyholders and certificate holders under a standardized medicare supplement benefit plan form, except that an issuer may vary premiums based on spousal discounts, frequency of payment, and method of payment including automatic deposit of premiums and may develop no more than two rating pools that distinguish between an insured's eligibility for medicare by reason of:
- 18 (a) Age; or

- 19 (b) Disability or end-stage renal disease.
- **Sec. 4.** RCW 48.155.010 and 2009 c 175 s 3 are each amended to read 21 as follows:
- The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.
 - (1) "Affiliate" means a person that directly, or indirectly through one or more intermediaries, controls, or is controlled by, or is under common control with, the person specified.
- 27 (2) "Commissioner" means the Washington state insurance 28 commissioner.
 - (3)(a) "Control" or "controlled by" or "under common control with" means the possession, direct or indirect, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of a person, whether through the ownership of voting securities, by contract other than a commercial contract for goods or nonmanagement services, or otherwise, unless the power is the result of an official position with or corporate office held by the person.
- (b) Control exists when any person, directly or indirectly, owns, controls, holds with the power to vote, or holds proxies representing

- ten percent or more of the voting securities of any other person. 1 2 presumption of control may be rebutted by a showing made in the manner 3 provided by RCW 48.31B.005(2) and 48.31B.025(11) that control does not 4 exist in fact. The commissioner may determine, after furnishing all 5 persons in interest notice and opportunity to be heard and making specific findings of fact to support the determination, that control 6 7 exists in fact, notwithstanding the absence of a presumption to that 8 effect.
 - (4)(a) "Discount plan" means a business arrangement or contract in which a person or organization, in exchange for fees, dues, charges, or other consideration, provides or purports to provide discounts to its members on charges by providers for health care services.
 - (b) "Discount plan" does not include:

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- 14 (i) A plan that does not charge a membership or other fee to use 15 the plan's discount card;
 - (ii) A patient access program as defined in this chapter;
- 17 (iii) A medicare prescription drug plan as defined in this chapter; 18 or
- 19 (iv) A discount plan offered by a health carrier authorized under 20 chapter 48.20, 48.21, 48.44, or 48.46 RCW.
 - (5)(a) "Discount plan organization" means a person that, in exchange for fees, dues, charges, or other consideration, provides or purports to provide access to discounts to its members on charges by providers for health care services. "Discount plan organization" also means a person or organization that contracts with providers, provider networks, or other discount plan organizations to offer discounts on health care services to its members. This term also includes all persons that determine the charge to or other consideration paid by members.
 - (b) "Discount plan organization" does not mean:
- 31 (i) Pharmacy benefit managers;
 - (ii) Health care provider networks, when the network's only involvement in discount plans is contracting with the plan to provide discounts to the plan's members;
 - (iii) Marketers who market the discount plans of discount plan organizations which are licensed under ((to)) this chapter as long as all written communications of the marketer in connection with a

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- discount plan clearly identify the licensed discount plan organization as the responsible entity; or
- 3 (iv) Health carriers, if the discount on health care services is 4 offered by a health carrier authorized under chapter 48.20, 48.21, 5 48.44, or 48.46 RCW.
- 6 (6) "Health care facility" or "facility" has the same meaning as in RCW 48.43.005(15).
- 8 (7) "Health care provider" or "provider" has the same meaning as in 9 RCW 48.43.005(16).
- 10 (8) "Health care provider network," "provider network," or
 11 "network" means any network of health care providers, including any
 12 person or entity that negotiates directly or indirectly with a discount
 13 plan organization on behalf of more than one provider to provide health
 14 care services to members.
- 15 (9) "Health care services" has the same meaning as in RCW 16 48.43.005(17).
- 17 (10) "Health carrier" or "carrier" has the same meaning as in RCW 48.43.005(18).
 - (11) "Marketer" means a person or entity that markets, promotes, sells, or distributes a discount plan, including a contracted marketing organization and a private label entity that places its name on and markets or distributes a discount plan pursuant to a marketing agreement with a discount plan organization.
 - (12) "Medicare prescription drug plan" means a plan that provides a medicare part D prescription drug benefit in accordance with the requirements of the federal medicare prescription drug improvement and modernization act of 2003.
 - (13) "Member" means any individual who pays fees, dues, charges, or other consideration for the right to receive the benefits of a discount plan, but does not include any individual who enrolls in a patient access program.
 - (14) "Patient access program" means a voluntary program sponsored by a pharmaceutical manufacturer, or a consortium of pharmaceutical manufacturers, that provides free or discounted health care products for no additional consideration directly to low-income or uninsured individuals either through a discount card or direct shipment.
- 37 (15) "Person" means an individual, a corporation, a governmental

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entity, a partnership, an association, a joint venture, a joint stock company, a trust, an unincorporated organization, any similar entity, or any combination of the persons listed in this subsection.

- (16)(a) "Pharmacy benefit manager" means a person that performs pharmacy benefit management for a covered entity.
- (b) For purposes of this subsection, a "covered entity" means an insurer, a health care service contractor, a health maintenance organization, or a multiple employer welfare arrangement licensed, certified, or registered under the provisions of this title. "Covered entity" also means a health program administered by the state as a provider of health coverage, a single employer that provides health coverage to its employees, or a labor union that provides health coverage to its members as part of a collective bargaining agreement.
- **Sec. 5.** RCW 4.28.080 and 1997 c 380 s 1 are each amended to read 15 as follows:

Service made in the modes provided in this section ((shall be)) are taken and held to be personal service. The summons ((shall)) must be served by delivering a copy thereof, as follows:

- (1) If the action be against any county in this state, to the county auditor or, during normal office hours, to the deputy auditor, or in the case of a charter county, summons may be served upon the agent, if any, designated by the legislative authority.
- (2) If against any town or incorporated city in the state, to the mayor, city manager, or, during normal office hours, to the mayor's or city manager's designated agent or the city clerk thereof.
- (3) If against a school or fire district, to the superintendent or commissioner thereof or by leaving the same in his or her office with an assistant superintendent, deputy commissioner, or business manager during normal business hours.
- 30 (4) If against a railroad corporation, to any station, freight, 31 ticket or other agent thereof within this state.
 - (5) If against a corporation owning or operating sleeping cars, or hotel cars, to any person having charge of any of its cars or any agent found within the state.
- 35 (6) If against a domestic insurance company, to any agent 36 authorized by such company to solicit insurance within this state.

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- 1 (7)(a) If against ((a)) an authorized foreign or alien insurance company, as provided in ((chapter 48.05)) RCW (48.05.200).
- 3 <u>(b) If against an unauthorized insurer, as provided in RCW</u> 4 48.05.215 and 48.15.150.
- 5 (c) If against a reciprocal insurer, as provided in RCW 48.10.170.
- 6 (d) If against a nonresident surplus line broker, as provided in RCW 48.15.073.
- 8 (e) If against a nonresident insurance producer or title insurance 9 agent, as provided in RCW 48.17.173.
- 10 <u>(f) If against a nonresident adjuster, as provided in RCW</u>
 11 <u>48.17.380.</u>
- 12 (g) If against a fraternal benefit society, as provided in RCW 48.36A.350.
- 14 (h) If against a nonresident reinsurance intermediary, as provided 15 in RCW 48.94.010.
- 16 <u>(i) If against a nonresident life settlement provider, as provided</u>
 17 in RCW 48.102.011.
- 18 <u>(j) If against a nonresident life settlement broker, as provided in</u>
 19 RCW 48.102.021.
- 20 <u>(k) If against a service contract provider, as provided in RCW</u> 21 <u>48.110.030.</u>
- (1) If against a protection product guarantee provider, as provided in RCW 48.110.055.
- 24 (m) If against a discount plan organization, as provided in RCW 25 48.155.020.
 - (8) If against a company or corporation doing any express business, to any agent authorized by said company or corporation to receive and deliver express matters and collect pay therefor within this state.
 - (9) If the suit be against a company or corporation other than those designated in ((the preceding subdivisions)) subsections (1) through (8) of this section, to the president or other head of the company or corporation, the registered agent, secretary, cashier or managing agent thereof or to the secretary, stenographer or office assistant of the president or other head of the company or corporation, registered agent, secretary, cashier or managing agent.
- 36 (10) If the suit be against a foreign corporation or nonresident 37 joint stock company, partnership or association doing business within 38 this state, to any agent, cashier or secretary thereof.

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(11) If against a minor under the age of fourteen years, to ((such)) the minor personally, and also to his or her father, mother, guardian, or if there be none within this state, then to any person having the care or control of ((such)) the minor, or with whom he or she resides, or in whose service he or she is employed, if such there be.

- 7 (12) If against any person for whom a guardian has been appointed 8 for any cause, then to ((such)) the guardian.
 - (13) If against a foreign or alien steamship company or steamship charterer, to any agent authorized by ((such)) the company or charterer to solicit cargo or passengers for transportation to or from ports in the state of Washington.
- 13 (14) If against a self-insurance program regulated by chapter 48.62 RCW, as provided in chapter 48.62 RCW.
 - (15) In all other cases, to the defendant personally, or by leaving a copy of the summons at the house of his or her usual abode with some person of suitable age and discretion then resident therein.
 - (16) In lieu of service under subsection (15) of this section, where the person cannot with reasonable diligence be served as described, the summons may be served as provided in this subsection, and ((shall be)) are deemed complete on the tenth day after the required mailing: By leaving a copy at his or her usual mailing address with a person of suitable age and discretion who is a resident, proprietor, or agent thereof, and by thereafter mailing a copy by first-class mail, postage prepaid, to the person to be served at his or her usual mailing address. For the purposes of this subsection, "usual mailing address" ((shall)) does not include a United States postal service post office box or the person's place of employment.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. A new section is added to chapter 48.02 RCW to read as follows:
 - (1) Legal process against a person: (a) For whom the commissioner has been appointed attorney for service of process, or (b) who may be served by service of process upon the commissioner, must be served upon the commissioner either by a person competent to serve a summons, or by registered mail. At the time of service the plaintiff must pay to the commissioner ten dollars, taxable as costs in the action.

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1 (2) As soon as practicable, the commissioner must send by mail, 2 electronic means, or other means reasonably calculated to give notice 3 a copy of the process to the person on whose behalf he or she has been 4 served.

- (3) The commissioner must keep a record of the day and hour of service upon him or her of all legal process.
- (4) Proceedings must not be had against the person, and the person must not be required to appear, plead, or answer until the expiration of forty days after the date of service upon the commissioner.
 - (5) The commissioner may adopt rules to implement this section.
- **Sec. 7.** RCW 48.05.200 and 1985 c 264 s 3 are each amended to read 12 as follows:
 - (1) Each authorized foreign or alien insurer ((shall)) must appoint the commissioner as its attorney to receive service of, and upon whom ((shall)) must be served, all legal process issued against it in this state upon causes of action arising within this state. Service upon the commissioner as attorney ((shall)) constitutes service upon the insurer. Service of legal process against ((such)) the insurer can be had only by service upon the commissioner, except actions upon contractor bonds pursuant to RCW 18.27.040, where service may be upon the department of labor and industries.
 - (2) With the appointment the insurer ((shall)) <u>must</u> designate ($(byname \ and \ address)$) the person to whom the commissioner ((shall)) <u>must</u> forward legal process so served upon him or her. The insurer may change ((such)) the person by filing a new designation.
 - (3) The appointment of the commissioner as attorney (($\frac{\text{shall be}}{\text{or irrevocable}}$, (($\frac{\text{shall}}{\text{shall}}$)) binds any successor in interest or to the assets or liabilities of the insurer, and (($\frac{\text{shall}}{\text{shall}}$)) remains in effect as long as there is in force in this state any contract made by the insurer or liabilities or duties arising therefrom.
- 31 (4) The service of process must be accomplished and processed in the manner prescribed under section 6 of this act.
- **Sec. 8.** RCW 48.05.215 and 1981 c 339 s 4 are each amended to read as follows:
- 35 (1) Any foreign or alien insurer not ((thereunto)) authorized by 36 the commissioner, whether it be a surplus lines insurer operating under

chapter 48.15 RCW or not, who, by mail or otherwise, solicits insurance business in this state or transacts insurance business in this state as defined by RCW 48.01.060, thereby submits itself to the jurisdiction of the courts of this state in any action, suit or proceeding instituted by or on behalf of an insured, beneficiary or the commissioner arising out of ((such)) the unauthorized solicitation of insurance business, including, but not limited to, an action for injunctive relief by the commissioner.

- (2) In any ((such)) action, suit, or proceeding instituted by or on behalf of an insured or beneficiary, service of legal process against ((such)) the unauthorized foreign or alien insurer ((may be made by service of duplicate copies of legal process on the commissioner by a person competent to serve a summons or by registered mail. At the time of service the plaintiff shall pay to the commissioner ten dollars, taxable as costs in the action. The commissioner shall forthwith mail one of the copies of the process, by registered mail with return receipt requested, to the defendant at its last known principal place of business)) must be accomplished and processed in the manner prescribed in section 6 of this act. The defendant insurer ((shall have)) has forty days from the date of the service on the commissioner within which to plead, answer or otherwise defend the action.
- (3) In any such action, suit, or proceeding by the commissioner, service of legal process against ((such)) the unauthorized foreign or alien insurer may be made by personal service of legal process upon any officer of such insurer at its last known principal place of business outside the state of Washington. The summons upon ((such)) the unauthorized foreign or alien insurer ((shall)) must contain the same requisites and be served in like manner as personal summons within the state of Washington; except, the insurer ((shall have)) has forty days from the date of ((such)) personal service within which to plead, answer, or otherwise defend the action.
- **Sec. 9.** RCW 48.10.170 and 2009 c 549 s 7042 are each amended to 33 read as follows:
 - (1) ((A certificate of authority shall not be issued to a domestic)) Each authorized reciprocal insurer ((unless prior thereto the attorney has executed and filed with the commissioner the insurer's

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irrevocable authorization of the commissioner to receive legal process issued in this state against the insurer upon any cause of action arising within this state.

- (2) The provisions of RCW 48.05.210 shall apply to service of such process upon the commissioner)) must appoint the commissioner as its attorney to receive service of, and upon whom must be served, all legal process issued against it in this state upon causes of action arising within this state. Service upon the commissioner as attorney constitutes service upon the insurer.
- (2) With the appointment the insurer must designate the person to whom the commissioner must forward legal process so served upon him or her.
- (3) The appointment of the commissioner as attorney is irrevocable, binds any successor in interest or to the assets or liabilities of the insurer, and remains in effect as long as there is in force in this state any contract made by the insurer or liabilities or duties arising therefrom.
- 18 <u>(4) The service of process must be accomplished and processed in</u> 19 the manner prescribed in section 6 of this act.
- $((\frac{3}{3}))$ (5) In lieu of service on the commissioner, legal process may be served upon a domestic reciprocal insurer by serving the insurer's attorney at his or her principal offices.
 - ((4))) (6) Any judgment against the insurer based upon legal process so served ((shall be)) is binding upon each of the insurer's subscribers as their respective interests may appear and in an amount not exceeding their respective contingent liabilities.
- **Sec. 10.** RCW 48.15.150 and 1979 ex.s. c 199 s 4 are each amended to read as follows:
 - (1) An unauthorized insurer ((shall)) <u>must</u> be sued, upon any cause of action arising in this state under any contract issued by it as a surplus line contract, ((pursuant to)) <u>under</u> this chapter, in the superior court of the county in which the cause of action arose.
 - (2) ((Service of legal process against the insurer may be made in any such action by service upon the commissioner of duplicate copies of such legal process either by a person competent to serve a summons or by registered mail or certified mail with return receipt requested. At the time of such service the plaintiff shall pay to the commissioner

ten dollars, taxable as costs in the action. The commissioner shall forthwith mail the documents of process served, or a true copy thereof, to the insurer at its principal place of business last known to the commissioner, or to the person designated by the insurer for that purpose in the most recent document filed with the commissioner, on forms prescribed by the commissioner, by prepaid registered or certified mail with return receipt requested. The insurer shall have forty days from the date of service upon the commissioner within which to plead, answer, or otherwise defend the action. Upon service of process upon the commissioner in accordance with this provision, the court shall be deemed to have jurisdiction in personam of the insurer.

(3)) An unauthorized insurer issuing ((such)) <u>a</u> policy ((shall be)) <u>under this chapter is</u> deemed thereby to have authorized service of process against it in the manner ((and to the effect as provided in this)) <u>prescribed in section 6 of this act</u>. Any such policy ((shall)) <u>must</u> contain a provision designating the commissioner as the person upon whom service of process may be made.

- (3) The insurer has forty days from the date of the service upon the commissioner within which to plead, answer, or otherwise defend the action. Upon service of process upon the commissioner in accordance with this section, the court is deemed to have jurisdiction in personam of the insurer.
- **Sec. 11.** RCW 48.17.380 and 2009 c 162 s 23 are each amended to 24 read as follows:
 - (1) Application for a license to be an adjuster ((shall)) must be made to the commissioner upon forms furnished by the commissioner. As a part of or in connection with the application, an individual applicant ((shall)) must furnish information concerning his or her identity, including fingerprints for submission to the Washington state patrol, the federal bureau of investigation, and any governmental agency or entity authorized to receive this information for a state and national criminal history background check, personal history, experience, business record, purposes, and other pertinent facts, as the commissioner may reasonably require. If, in the process of verifying fingerprints, business records, or other information, the commissioner's office incurs fees or charges from another governmental

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agency or from a business firm, the amount of the fees or charges must be paid to the commissioner's office by the applicant.

- (2) Any person willfully misrepresenting any fact required to be disclosed in any application shall be liable to penalties as provided by this code.
- (3) The commissioner ((shall)) licenses as an adjuster only an individual or business entity which has otherwise complied with this code therefor and the individual or responsible officer of the business entity has furnished evidence satisfactory to the commissioner that the individual or responsible officer of the business entity is qualified as follows:
 - (a) Is eighteen or more years of age;
- (b) Is a bona fide resident of this state, or is a resident of a state which will permit residents of this state to act as adjusters in such other state;
 - (c) Is a trustworthy person;

- (d) Has had experience or special education or training with reference to the handling of loss claims under insurance contracts, of sufficient duration and extent reasonably to make the individual or responsible officer of the business entity competent to fulfill the responsibilities of an adjuster;
- (e) Has successfully passed any examination as required under this chapter;
 - (f) If for a public adjuster's license, has filed the bond required by RCW 48.17.430;
 - (g) If a nonresident business entity, it has designated an individual licensed adjuster responsible for the business entity's compliance with the insurance laws and rules of this state.
 - (4)(a) Each licensed nonresident adjuster, by application for and issuance of a license, is deemed to have appointed the commissioner as the adjuster's attorney to receive service of legal process against the adjuster in this state upon causes of action arising within this state. Service upon the commissioner as attorney constitutes effective legal service on the adjuster.
- 35 (b) The appointment of the commissioner as attorney is irrevocable, 36 binds any successor in interest or to the assets or liabilities of the 37 adjuster, and remains in effect for as long as there could be any cause 38 of action against the adjuster arising out of the adjuster's

transactions in this state. The service of process must be accomplished and processed in the manner prescribed in section 6 of this act.

(5) The commissioner may require any documents reasonably necessary to verify the information contained in an application and may, from time to time, require any licensed adjuster to produce the information called for in an application for a license.

- **Sec. 12.** RCW 48.36A.350 and 1987 c 366 s 35 are each amended to read as follows:
 - (1) Every society authorized to do business in this state ((shall:
- 11 (a) Appoint in writing the commissioner and each successor in
 12 office to be its true and lawful attorney upon whom all lawful process
 13 in any action or proceeding against it shall be served;
 - (b) Agree in writing that any lawful process against it which is served on the commissioner shall be of the same legal force and validity as if served upon the society; and
 - (c) Agree that the authority shall continue in force so long as any liability remains outstanding in this state.

Copies of such appointment, certified by said commissioner, shall be deemed sufficient evidence thereof and shall be admitted in evidence with the same force and effect as the original.

(2) Service shall only be made upon the commissioner, or if absent, upon the person in charge of the commissioner's office. It shall be made in duplicate and shall constitute sufficient service upon the society. When legal process against a society is served upon the commissioner, the commissioner shall forward one of the duplicate copies by registered mail, prepaid, directed to the secretary or corresponding officer. No service shall require a society to file its answer, pleading, or defense in less than forty days from the date of mailing the copy of the service to a society. Legal process shall not be served upon a society except in the manner provided in this section. At the time of serving any process upon the commissioner, the plaintiff or complainant in the action shall pay to the commissioner the fee established pursuant to RCW 48.05.210)) must appoint the commissioner as its attorney to receive service of, and upon whom must be served, all legal process issued against it in this state upon causes of action

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- 1 <u>arising within this state. Service upon the commissioner as attorney</u> 2 constitutes service upon the society.
- 3 (2) With the appointment the society must designate the person to
 4 whom the commissioner must forward legal process so served upon him or
 5 her.

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- (3) The appointment of the commissioner as attorney is irrevocable, binds any successor in interest or to the assets or liabilities of the society, and remains in effect as long as there is in force in this state any contract made by the society or liabilities or duties arising therefrom.
- 11 (4) The service of process must be accomplished and processed in 12 the manner prescribed in section 6 of this act.
- 13 **Sec. 13.** RCW 48.94.010 and 2005 c 274 s 317 are each amended to 14 read as follows:
 - (1) No person, firm, association, or corporation may act as a reinsurance intermediary-broker in this state if the person, firm, association, or corporation maintains an office either directly or as a member or employee of a firm or association, or an officer, director, or employee of a corporation:
- 20 (a) In this state, unless the person, firm, association, or 21 corporation is a licensed reinsurance intermediary-broker in this 22 state; or
- (b) In another state, unless the person, firm, association, or corporation is a licensed reinsurance intermediary-broker in this state or another state having a regulatory scheme substantially similar to this chapter.
- 27 (2) No person, firm, association, or corporation may act as a reinsurance intermediary-manager:
- 29 (a) For a reinsurer domiciled in this state, unless the person, 30 firm, association, or corporation is a licensed reinsurance 31 intermediary-manager in this state;
- 32 (b) In this state, if the person, firm, association, or corporation 33 maintains an office either directly or as a member or employee of a 34 firm or association, or an officer, director, or employee of a 35 corporation in this state, unless the person, firm, association, or 36 corporation is a licensed reinsurance intermediary-manager in this 37 state;

(c) In another state for a nondomestic reinsurer, unless the person, firm, association, or corporation is a licensed reinsurance intermediary-manager in this state or another state having a substantially similar regulatory scheme.

- (3) The commissioner may require a reinsurance intermediary-manager subject to subsection (2) of this section to:
- (a) File a bond in an amount and from an insurer acceptable to the commissioner for the protection of the reinsurer; and
- (b) Maintain an errors and omissions policy in an amount acceptable to the commissioner.
- $(4)((\frac{1}{4}))$ The commissioner may issue a reinsurance intermediary license to a person, firm, association, or corporation who has complied with the requirements of this chapter. Any such license issued to a firm or association authorizes all the members of the firm or association and any designated employees to act as reinsurance intermediaries under the license, and all such persons may be named in the application and any supplements to it. Any such license issued to a corporation authorizes all of the officers, and any designated employees and directors of it, to act as reinsurance intermediaries on behalf of the corporation, and all such persons must be named in the application and any supplements to it.
- (((b) If the applicant for a reinsurance intermediary license is a nonresident, the applicant, as a condition precedent to receiving or holding a license, shall designate the commissioner as agent for service of process in the manner, and with the same legal effect, provided for by this title for designation of service of process upon unauthorized insurers, and also shall furnish the commissioner with the name and address of a resident of this state upon whom notices or orders of the commissioner or process affecting the nonresident reinsurance intermediary may be served. The licensee shall promptly notify the commissioner in writing of every change in its designated agent for service of process, but the change does not become effective until acknowledged by the commissioner.))
- (5)(a) Each licensed nonresident reinsurance intermediary must appoint the commissioner as the reinsurance intermediary's attorney to receive service of legal process issued against the reinsurance intermediary in this state upon causes of action arising within this

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1 state. Service upon the commissioner as attorney constitutes effective
2 legal service upon the reinsurance intermediary.

- (b) With the appointment the reinsurance intermediary must designate the person to whom the commissioner must forward legal process so served upon him or her.
- (c) The appointment is irrevocable, binds any successor in interest or to the assets or liabilities of the reinsurance intermediary, and remains in effect for as long as there could be any cause of action against the reinsurance intermediary arising out of the reinsurance intermediary's insurance transactions in this state.
- (d) The service of process must be accomplished and processed in the manner prescribed in section 6 of this act.
- (6) The commissioner may refuse to issue a reinsurance intermediary license if, in his or her judgment, the applicant, anyone named on the application, or a member, principal, officer, or director of the applicant, is not trustworthy, or that a controlling person of the applicant is not trustworthy to act as a reinsurance intermediary, or that any of the foregoing has given cause for revocation or suspension of the license, or has failed to comply with a prerequisite for the issuance of such license. Upon written request, the commissioner will furnish a summary of the basis for refusal to issue a license, which document is privileged and not subject to chapter 42.56 RCW.
- $((\frac{(6)}{(6)}))$ <u>(7)</u> Licensed attorneys-at-law of this state when acting in their professional capacity as such are exempt from this section.
- **Sec. 14.** RCW 48.102.011 and 2009 c 104 s 3 are each amended to 26 read as follows:
 - (1) A person, wherever located, ((shall)) may not act as a provider with an owner who is a resident of this state or if there is more than one owner on a single policy and one of the owners is a resident of this state, without first having obtained a license from the commissioner.
 - (2) An application for a provider license ((shall)) <u>must</u> be made to the commissioner by the applicant on a form prescribed by the commissioner, and the application ((shall)) <u>must</u> be accompanied by a licensing fee in the amount of two hundred fifty dollars((, which shall be deposited to the insurance commissioner's regulatory account under RCW 48.02.190)) for deposit into the general fund.

(3) All provider licenses ((shall)) continue in force until suspended, revoked, or not renewed. A license ((shall be)) is subject to renewal annually on the first day of July upon application of the provider and payment of a renewal fee of two hundred fifty dollars((which shall be deposited to the insurance commissioner's regulatory account under RCW 48.02.190)) for deposit into the general fund. If not so renewed, the license ((shall)) automatically expires on the renewal date.

- (a) If the renewal fee is not received by the commissioner prior to the expiration date, the provider ((shall)) must pay to the commissioner in addition to the renewal fee, a surcharge as follows:
- (i) For the first thirty days or part thereof delinquency the surcharge is fifty percent of the renewal fee;
- (ii) For the next thirty days or part thereof delinquency the surcharge is one hundred percent of the renewal fee;
- (b) If the renewal fee is not received by the commissioner after sixty days but prior to twelve months after the expiration date the payment of the renewal fee ((shall be)) is for reinstatement of the license and the provider ((shall)) must pay to the commissioner the renewal fee and a surcharge of two hundred percent.
- (4) Subsection (3)(a) and (b) of this section does not exempt any person from any penalty provided by law for transacting a life settlement business without a valid and subsisting license.
- (5) The applicant ((shall)) must provide ((such)) information as the commissioner may require on forms prescribed by the commissioner. The commissioner has the authority, at any time, to require ((such)) an applicant to fully disclose the identity of its stockholders, partners, officers, and employees, and the commissioner may, in the exercise of the commissioner's sole discretion, refuse to issue ((such)) a license in the name of any person if not satisfied that any officer, employee, stockholder, or partner thereof who may materially influence the applicant's conduct meets the standards of this chapter.
- (6) A license issued to a partnership, corporation, or other entity authorizes all members, officers, and designated employees to act as a licensee under the license, if those persons are named in the application and any supplements to the application.
 - (7) Upon the filing of an application for a provider's license and

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- the payment of the license fee, the commissioner ((shall)) <u>must</u> make an investigation of each applicant and may issue a license if the commissioner finds that the applicant:
 - (a) Has provided a detailed plan of operation;

- (b) Is competent and trustworthy and intends to transact its business in good faith;
 - (c) Has a good business reputation and has had experience, training, or education so as to be qualified in the business for which the license is applied;
- (d)(i) Has demonstrated evidence of financial responsibility in a form and in an amount prescribed by the commissioner by rule.
 - (ii) The commissioner may ask for evidence of financial responsibility at any time the commissioner deems necessary;
 - (e) If the applicant is a legal entity, is formed or organized pursuant to the laws of this state, 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
 - (f) Has provided to the commissioner an antifraud plan that meets the requirements of RCW 48.102.140 and includes:
 - (i) A description of the procedures for detecting and investigating possible fraudulent acts and procedures for resolving material inconsistencies between medical records and insurance applications;
- (ii) A description of the procedures for reporting fraudulent insurance acts to the commissioner;
 - (iii) A description of the plan for antifraud education and training of its underwriters and other personnel; and
 - (iv) 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 investigating unresolved material inconsistencies between medical records and insurance applications.
- (8)(a) A nonresident provider ((shall)) must appoint the commissioner as its attorney to receive service of, and upon whom ((shall)) must be served, all legal process issued against it in this state upon causes of action arising within this state. Service upon the commissioner as attorney ((shall)) constitutes service upon the provider. Service of legal process against the provider can be had only by service upon the commissioner.

(b) With the appointment the provider ((shall)) must designate the person to whom the commissioner ((shall)) must forward legal process so served upon him or her. The provider may change the person by filing a new designation.

- (c) The appointment of the commissioner as attorney (($\frac{\text{shall be}}{\text{be}}$)) is irrevocable, (($\frac{\text{shall}}{\text{shall}}$)) binds any successor in interest or to the assets or liabilities of the provider, and (($\frac{\text{shall}}{\text{shall}}$)) remains in effect as long as there is in this state any contract made by the provider or liabilities or duties arising therefrom.
- (d) ((Duplicate copies of legal process against a provider for whom the commissioner is attorney shall be served upon him or her either by a person competent to serve summons, or by registered mail. At the time of service the plaintiff shall pay to the commissioner ten dollars, taxable as costs in the action.
- (e) The commissioner shall immediately send one of the copies of the process, by registered mail with return receipt requested, to the person designated for the purpose by the provider in its most recent designation filed with the commissioner.
- (f) The commissioner shall keep a record of the day and hour of service upon him or her of all legal process. Proceedings shall not be had against the provider, and the provider shall not be required to appear, plead, or answer until the expiration of forty days after the date of service upon the commissioner)) The service of process must be accomplished and processed in the manner prescribed in section 6 of this act.
- (9) A provider may not use any person to perform the functions of a broker unless the person is authorized to act as a broker under this chapter.
- (10) A provider ((shall)) <u>must</u> provide to the commissioner new or revised information about officers, stockholders, partners, directors, members, or designated employees within thirty days of the change.
- Sec. 15. RCW 48.102.021 and 2009 c 104 s 4 are each amended to read as follows:
 - (1) Only a life insurance producer who has been duly licensed as a resident insurance producer with a lifeline of authority in this state or his or her home state for at least one year and is licensed as a nonresident producer in this state is permitted to operate as a broker.

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(2) Not later than thirty days from the first day of operating as a broker, the life insurance producer ((shall)) must notify the commissioner that he or she intends acting as a broker on a form prescribed by the commissioner, pay a fee of one hundred dollars, and if a nonresident producer appoint the commissioner as attorney for service of process under subsection (6) of this section. Notification ((shall)) must include an acknowledgement by the life insurance producer that he or she will operate as a broker in accordance with this chapter.

- (3) 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, whose compensation is not paid directly or indirectly by the provider or purchaser, may negotiate life settlement contracts on behalf of the owner without having to obtain a license as a broker.
- (4) The authority to act as a broker ((shall)) continues in force until suspended, revoked, or not renewed. The authority to act as a broker ((shall)) automatically expires if not timely renewed. The authority to act as a broker ((shall be)) is valid for a time period coincident with the expiration date of the broker's insurance producer license. The authority to act as a broker is renewable at that time, upon payment of a renewal fee in the amount of one hundred dollars and if the payment is received by the commissioner prior to the expiration date, the broker's authority to act as a broker continues in effect.
- (a) If the renewal fee is not received by the commissioner prior to the expiration date, the broker ((shall)) must pay to the commissioner in addition to the renewal fee, a surcharge as follows:
- (i) For the first thirty days or part thereof of delinquency the surcharge is fifty percent of the renewal fee;
- (ii) For the next thirty days or part thereof delinquency the surcharge is one hundred percent of the renewal fee;
- (b) If the payment of the renewal fee is not received by the commissioner after sixty days the surcharge is two hundred percent of the renewal fee.
- 35 (5) Subsection (4)(a) of this section does not exempt any person 36 from any penalty provided by law for transacting life settlement 37 business without the valid authority to act as a broker.

(6)(a) A nonresident broker (($\frac{\text{shall}}{\text{shall}}$)) $\underline{\text{must}}$ appoint the commissioner as its attorney to receive service of, and upon whom (($\frac{\text{shall}}{\text{shall}}$)) $\underline{\text{must}}$ be served, all legal process issued against it in this state upon causes of action arising within this state. Service upon the commissioner as attorney (($\frac{\text{shall}}{\text{shall}}$)) constitutes service upon the broker. Service of legal process against the broker can be had only by service upon the commissioner.

- (b) ((With the appointment the broker shall designate the person to whom the commissioner shall forward legal process so served upon him or her. The broker may change the person by filing a new designation.
- (c)) The appointment of the commissioner as attorney ((shall be)) is irrevocable, ((shall)) binds any successor in interest or to the assets or liabilities of the broker, and ((shall)) remains in effect as long as there is in this state any contract made by the broker or liabilities or duties arising therefrom.
- ((d) Duplicate copies of legal process against a broker for whom the commissioner is attorney shall be served upon him or her either by a person competent to serve summons, or by registered mail. At the time of service the plaintiff shall pay to the commissioner ten dollars, taxable as costs in the action.
- (e) The commissioner shall immediately send one of the copies of the process, by registered mail with return receipt requested, to the person designated for the purpose by the broker in its most recent designation filed with the commissioner.
- (f) The commissioner shall keep a record of the day and hour of service upon him or her of all legal process. Proceedings shall not be had against the broker, and the broker shall not be required to appear, plead, or answer until the expiration of forty days after the date of service upon the commissioner)) (c) The service of process must be accomplished and processed in the manner prescribed in section 6 of this act.
- 32 (7) A broker may not use any person to perform the functions of a 33 provider unless such a person holds a current, valid license as a 34 provider, and as provided in this chapter.
- **Sec. 16.** RCW 48.110.030 and 2006 c 274 s 4 are each amended to read as follows:
 - (1) A person may not act as, or offer to act as, or hold himself or

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herself out to be a service contract provider in this state, nor may a service contract be sold to a consumer in this state, unless the service contract provider has a valid registration as a service contract provider issued by the commissioner.

- (2) Applicants to be a service contract provider must make an application to the commissioner upon a form to be furnished by the commissioner. The application must include or be accompanied by the following information and documents:
- (a) All basic organizational documents of the service contract provider, including any articles of incorporation, articles of association, partnership agreement, trade name certificate, trust agreement, shareholder agreement, bylaws, and other applicable documents, and all amendments to those documents;
- (b) The identities of the service contract provider's executive officer or officers directly responsible for the service contract provider's service contract business, and, if more than fifty percent of the service contract provider's gross revenue is derived from the sale of service contracts, the identities of the service contract provider's directors and stockholders having beneficial ownership of ten percent or more of any class of securities;
- (c) Audited annual financial statements or other financial reports acceptable to the commissioner for the two most recent years which prove that the applicant is solvent and any information the commissioner may require in order to review the current financial condition of the applicant. If the service contract provider is relying on RCW 48.110.050(2)(c) to assure the faithful performance of its obligations to service contract holders, then the audited financial statements of the service contract provider's parent company must also be filed;
- (d) An application fee of two hundred fifty dollars, which ((shall)) <u>must</u> be deposited into the general fund; and
 - (e) Any other pertinent information required by the commissioner.
- (3) ((The applicant shall appoint the commissioner as its attorney to receive service of legal process in any action, suit, or proceeding in any court. This appointment is irrevocable and shall bind the service contract provider or any successor in interest, shall remain in effect as long as there is in force in this state any contract or any obligation arising therefrom related to residents of this state, and

shall be processed in accordance with RCW 48.05.210)) Each registered service contract provider must appoint the commissioner as the service contract provider's attorney to receive service of legal process issued against the service contract provider in this state upon causes of action arising within this state. Service upon the commissioner as attorney constitutes effective legal service upon the service contract provider.

- (a) With the appointment the service contract provider must designate the person to whom the commissioner must forward legal process so served upon him or her.
- (b) The appointment is irrevocable, binds any successor in interest or to the assets or liabilities of the service contract provider, and remains in effect for as long as there could be any cause of action against the service contract provider arising out of any of the service contract provider's contracts or obligations in this state.
- (c) The service of process must be accomplished and processed in the manner prescribed in section 6 of this act.
- (4) The commissioner may refuse to issue a registration if the commissioner determines that the service contract provider, or any individual responsible for the conduct of the affairs of the service contract provider under subsection (2)(b) of this section, is not competent, trustworthy, financially responsible, or has had a license as a service contract provider or similar license denied or revoked for cause by any state.
- (5) A registration issued under this section is valid, unless surrendered, suspended, or revoked by the commissioner, or not renewed for so long as the service contract provider continues in business in this state and remains in compliance with this chapter. A registration is subject to renewal annually on the first day of July upon application of the service contract provider and payment of a fee of two hundred dollars, which ((shall)) must be deposited into the general fund. If not so renewed, the registration expires on the June 30th next preceding.
- (6) A service contract provider ((shall)) <u>must</u> keep current the information required to be disclosed in its registration under this section by reporting all material changes or additions within thirty days after the end of the month in which the change or addition occurs.

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Sec. 17. RCW 48.110.055 and 2006 c 274 s 17 are each amended to 2 read as follows:

- (1) This section applies to protection product guarantee providers.
- (2) A person ((shall)) may not act as, or offer to act as, or hold himself or herself out to be a protection product guarantee provider in this state, nor may a protection product be sold to a consumer in this state, unless the protection product guarantee provider has:
- (a) A valid registration as a protection product guarantee provider issued by the commissioner; and
- (b) Either demonstrated its financial responsibility or assured the faithful performance of the protection product guarantee provider's obligations to its protection product guarantee holders by insuring all protection product guarantees under a reimbursement insurance policy issued by an insurer holding a certificate of authority from the commissioner or a risk retention group, as defined in 15 U.S.C. Sec. 3901(a)(4), as long as that risk retention group is in full compliance with the federal liability risk retention act of 1986 (15 U.S.C. Sec. 3901 et seq.), is in good standing in its domiciliary jurisdiction, and properly registered with the commissioner under chapter 48.92 RCW. The insurance required by this subsection must meet the following requirements:
- (i) The insurer or risk retention group must, at the time the policy is filed with the commissioner, and continuously thereafter, maintain surplus as to policyholders and paid-in capital of at least fifteen million dollars and annually file audited financial statements with the commissioner; and
- (ii) The commissioner may authorize an insurer or risk retention group that has surplus as to policyholders and paid-in capital of less than fifteen million dollars, but at least equal to ten million dollars, to issue the insurance required by this subsection if the insurer or risk retention group demonstrates to the satisfaction of the commissioner that the company maintains a ratio of direct written premiums, wherever written, to surplus as to policyholders and paid-in capital of not more than three to one.
- (3) Applicants to be a protection product guarantee provider $((\frac{\text{shall}}{\text{shall}}))$ must make an application to the commissioner upon a form to be furnished by the commissioner. The application $((\frac{\text{shall}}{\text{shall}}))$ must include or be accompanied by the following information and documents:

(a) The names of the protection product guarantee provider's executive officer or officers directly responsible for the protection product guarantee provider's protection product guarantee business and their biographical affidavits on a form prescribed by the commissioner;

- (b) The name, address, and telephone number of any administrators designated by the protection product guarantee provider to be responsible for the administration of protection product guarantees in this state;
- (c) A copy of the protection product guarantee reimbursement insurance policy or policies;
- (d) A copy of each protection product guarantee the protection product guarantee provider proposes to use in this state;
- (e) Any other pertinent information required by the commissioner; and
 - (f) A nonrefundable application fee of two hundred fifty dollars.
- (4) ((The applicant shall appoint the commissioner as its attorney to receive service of legal process in any action, suit, or proceeding in any court. This appointment is irrevocable and shall bind the protection product guarantee provider or any successor in interest, shall remain in effect as long as there is in force in this state any protection product guarantee or any obligation arising therefrom related to residents of this state, and shall be processed in accordance with RCW 48.05.210)) Each registered protection product guarantee provider must appoint the commissioner as the protection product guarantee provider's attorney to receive service of legal process issued against the protection product guarantee provider in this state upon causes of action arising within this state. Service upon the commissioner as attorney constitutes effective legal service upon the protection product guarantee provider.
- (a) With the appointment the protection product guarantee provider must designate the person to whom the commissioner must forward legal process so served upon him or her.
- (b) The appointment is irrevocable, binds any successor in interest or to the assets or liabilities of the protection product guarantee provider, and remains in effect for as long as there could be any cause of action against the protection product guarantee provider arising out of any of the protection product guarantee provider's contracts or obligations in this state.

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1 (c) The service of process must be accomplished and processed in the manner prescribed in section 6 of this act.

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- (5) The commissioner may refuse to issue a registration if the commissioner determines that the protection product guarantee provider, or any individual responsible for the conduct of the affairs of the protection product guarantee provider under subsection (3)(a) of this section, is not competent, trustworthy, financially responsible, or has had a license as a protection product guarantee provider or similar license denied or revoked for cause by any state.
- (6) A registration issued under this section is valid, unless surrendered, suspended, or revoked by the commissioner, or not renewed for so long as the protection product guarantee provider continues in business in this state and remains in compliance with this chapter. A registration is subject to renewal annually on the first day of July upon application of the protection product guarantee provider and payment of a fee of two hundred fifty dollars. If not so renewed, the registration expires on the June 30th next preceding.
- (7) A protection product guarantee provider ((shall)) <u>must</u> keep current the information required to be disclosed in its registration under this section by reporting all material changes or additions within thirty days after the end of the month in which the change or addition occurs.
- 23 **Sec. 18.** RCW 48.155.020 and 2009 c 175 s 5 are each amended to 24 read as follows:
 - (1) Before conducting discount plan business to which this chapter applies, a person ((shall)) <u>must</u> obtain a license from the commissioner to operate as a discount plan organization.
 - (2) Except as provided in subsection $((\frac{3}{3}))$ $\underline{(4)}$ of this section, each application for a license to operate as a discount plan organization:
 - (a) Must be in a form prescribed by the commissioner and verified by an officer or authorized representative of the applicant; and
- 33 (b) Must demonstrate, set forth, or be accompanied by the 34 following:
- 35 (i) The two hundred fifty dollar application fee, which must be deposited into the general fund;

1 (ii) A copy of the organization documents of the applicant, such as 2 the articles of incorporation, including all amendments;

- (iii) A copy of the applicant's bylaws or other enabling documents that establish organizational structure;
 - (iv) The applicant's federal identification number, business
 address, and mailing address;
 - (v)(A) A list of names, addresses, official positions, and biographical information of the individuals who are responsible for conducting the applicant's affairs, including all members of the board of directors, board of trustees, executive committee, or other governing board or committee, the officers, contracted management company personnel, and any person or entity owning or having the right to acquire ten percent or more of the voting securities of the applicant; and
 - (B) A disclosure in the listing of the extent and nature of any contracts or arrangements between any individual who is responsible for conducting the applicant's affairs and the discount plan organization, including all possible conflicts of interest;
 - (vi) A complete biographical statement, on forms prescribed by the commissioner, with respect to each individual identified under (b)(v) of this subsection;
 - (vii) A statement generally describing the applicant, its facilities and personnel, and the health care services for which a discount will be made available under the discount plan;
 - (viii) A copy of the form of all contracts made or to be made between the applicant and any health care providers or health care provider networks regarding the provision of health care services to members and discounts to be made available to members;
- (ix) A copy of the form of any contract made or arrangement to be made between the applicant and any individual listed in (b)(v) of this subsection;
- (x) A list identifying by name, address, telephone number, and email address all persons who will market each discount plan offered by the applicant. If the person who will market a discount plan is an entity, only the entity must be identified. This list must be maintained and updated within sixty days of any change in the information. An updated list must be sent to the commissioner as part

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of the discount plan organization's renewal application under (b)(vii)
of this subsection;

(xi) A copy of the form of any contract made or to be made between the applicant and any person, corporation, partnership, or other entity for the performance on the applicant's behalf of any function, including marketing, administration, enrollment, and subcontracting for the provision of health care services to members and discounts to be made available to members;

(xii) A copy of the applicant's most recent financial statements audited by an independent certified public accountant, except that, subject to the approval of the commissioner, an applicant that is an affiliate of a parent entity that is publicly traded and that prepares audited financial statements reflecting the consolidated operations of the parent entity may submit the audited financial statement of the parent entity and a written guaranty that the minimum capital requirements required under RCW 48.155.030 will be met by the parent entity instead of the audited financial statement of the applicant;

(xiii) A description of the proposed methods of marketing including, but not limited to, describing the use of marketers, use of the internet, sales by telephone, electronic mail, or facsimile machine, and use of salespersons to market the discount plan benefits;

(xiv) A description of the member complaint procedures which must be established and maintained by the applicant;

(xv) If domiciled in this state, the name and address of the applicant's Washington statutory agent for service of process, notice, or demand ((or, if not domiciled in this state, a power of attorney duly executed by the applicant, appointing the commissioner and duly authorized deputies as the true and lawful attorney of the applicant in and for this state upon whom all law process in any legal action or proceeding against the discount plan organization on a cause of action arising in this state may be served)); and

(xvi) Any other information the commissioner may reasonably require.

(3)(a) If the applicant is not domiciled in this state, the applicant must appoint the commissioner as the discount plan organization's attorney to receive service of legal process issued against the discount plan organization in this state upon causes of

action arising within this state. Service upon the commissioner as attorney constitutes effective legal service upon the discount plan organization.

- (b) With the appointment the discount plan organization must designate the person to whom the commissioner must forward legal process so served upon him or her.
- (c) The appointment is irrevocable, binds any successor in interest or to the assets or liabilities of the discount plan organization, and remains in effect for as long as there could be any cause of action against the discount plan organization arising out of the discount plan organization's transactions in this state.
- (d) The service of process must be accomplished and processed in the manner prescribed in section 6 of this act.
- (4)(a) Upon application to and approval by the commissioner and payment of the applicable fees, a discount plan organization that holds a current license or other form of authority from another state to operate as a discount plan organization, at the commissioner's discretion, may not be required to submit the information required under subsection (2) of this section in order to obtain a license under this section if the commissioner is satisfied that the other state's requirements, at a minimum, are equivalent to those required under subsection (2) of this section or the commissioner is satisfied that the other state's requirements are sufficient to protect the interests of the residents of this state.
- (b) Whenever the discount plan organization loses its license or other form of authority in that other state to operate as a discount plan organization, or is the subject of any disciplinary administrative proceeding related to the organization's operating as a discount plan organization in that other state, the discount plan organization ((shall)) must immediately notify the commissioner.
- $((\frac{4}{}))$ (5) After the receipt of an application filed under subsection (2) or $((\frac{3}{}))$ (4) of this section, the commissioner $(\frac{3}{2})$ must review the application and notify the applicant of any deficiencies in the application.
- (((+5))) <u>(6)</u>(a) Within ninety days after the date of receipt of a completed application, the commissioner ((shall)) must:
- (i) Issue a license if the commissioner is satisfied that the applicant has met the following:

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1 (A) The applicant has fulfilled the requirements of this section 2 and the minimum capital requirements in accordance with RCW 48.155.030; 3 and

- (B) The persons who own, control, and manage the applicant are competent and trustworthy and possess managerial experience that would make the proposed operation of the discount plan organization beneficial to discount plan members; or
- (ii) Disapprove the application and state the grounds for disapproval.
 - (b) In making a determination under (a) of this subsection, the commissioner may consider, for example, whether the applicant or an officer or manager of the applicant: (i) Is not financially responsible; (ii) does not have adequate expertise or experience to operate a medical discount plan organization; or (iii) is not of good character. Among the factors that the commissioner may consider in making the determination is whether the applicant or an affiliate or a business formerly owned or managed by the applicant or an officer or manager of the applicant has had a previous application for a license, or other authority, to operate as any entity regulated by the commissioner denied, revoked, suspended, or terminated for cause, or is under investigation for or has been found in violation of a statute or regulation in another jurisdiction within the previous five years.
 - $((\frac{(6)}{(6)}))$ <u>(7)</u> Prior to licensure by the commissioner, each discount plan organization $(\frac{(shall)}{(shall)})$ <u>must</u> establish an internet web site in order to conform to the requirements of RCW 48.155.070(2).
 - (((7))) (8)(a) A license is effective for <u>up to</u> one year, unless prior to its expiration the license is renewed in accordance with this subsection or suspended or revoked in accordance with subsection (((8))) (9) of this section. <u>Licenses issued or renewed on or after July 1, 2010, will be subject to renewal annually on July 1st. If not so renewed, the license will automatically expire on the renewal date.</u>
 - (b) At least ninety days before a license expires, the discount plan organization ((shall)) <u>must</u> submit:
 - (i) A renewal application form; and
- 35 (ii) A two hundred dollar renewal application fee for deposit into 36 the general fund.
- 37 (c) The commissioner ((shall)) must renew the license of each

holder that meets the requirements of this chapter and pays the appropriate renewal fee required.

- ((+8))) <u>(9)</u>(a) The commissioner may suspend the authority of a discount plan organization to enroll new members or refuse to renew or revoke a discount plan organization's license if the commissioner finds that any of the following conditions exist:
- (i) The discount plan organization is not operating in compliance with this chapter;
- (ii) The discount plan organization does not have the minimum net worth as required under RCW 48.155.030;
- (iii) The discount plan organization has advertised, merchandised, or attempted to merchandise its services in such a manner as to misrepresent its services or capacity for service or has engaged in deceptive, misleading, or unfair practices with respect to advertising or merchandising;
- (iv) The discount plan organization is not fulfilling its obligations as a discount plan organization; or
 - (v) The continued operation of the discount plan organization would be hazardous to its members.
 - (b) If the commissioner has cause to believe that grounds for the nonrenewal, suspension, or revocation of a license exists, the commissioner ((shall)) must notify the discount plan organization in writing specifically stating the grounds for the refusal to renew or suspension or revocation and may also pursue a hearing on the matter under chapter 48.04 RCW.
 - (c) When the license of a discount plan organization is nonrenewed, surrendered, or revoked, the discount plan organization ((shall)) must immediately upon the effective date of the order of revocation or, in the case of a nonrenewal, the date of expiration of the license, stop any further advertising, solicitation, collecting of fees, or renewal of contracts, and proceed to wind up its affairs transacted under the license.
 - (d)(i) When the commissioner suspends a discount plan organization's authority to enroll new members, the suspension order must specify the period during which the suspension is to be in effect and the conditions, if any, that must be met by the discount plan organization prior to reinstatement of its license to enroll members.

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1 (ii) The commissioner may rescind or modify the order of suspension 2 prior to the expiration of the suspension period.

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- (iii) The license of a discount plan organization may not be reinstated unless requested by the discount plan organization. The commissioner ((shall)) may not grant the request for reinstatement if the commissioner finds that the circumstances for which the suspension occurred still exist or are likely to recur.
- ((+9)) (10) Each licensed discount plan organization (+8) must notify the commissioner immediately whenever the discount plan organization's license, or other form of authority to operate as a discount plan organization in another state, is suspended, revoked, or nonrenewed in that state.
- (((10))) <u>(11)</u> A health care provider who provides discounts to his or her own patients without any cost or fee of any kind to the patient is not required to obtain and maintain a license under this chapter as a discount plan organization.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 19. RCW 48.05.210 (Service of process--18 Procedure) and 2009 c 549 s 7018, 1981 c 339 s 3, & 1947 c 79 s .05.21 19 are each repealed.

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