ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1963

By: Peterson (Ron) of the House

and

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Brown of the Senate

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An Act relating to insurance; amending 36 O.S. 2001, Section 4101, as amended by Section 15, Chapter 129, O.S.L. 2005 (36 O.S. Supp. 2006, Section 4101), which relates to requirements of certain insurance policies; modifying requirements; amending 36 O.S. 2001, Section 4101.1, which relates to certain group life insurance policies; modifying provisions related to coverage of dependents; amending 36 O.S. 2001, Section 6202, which relates to the Insurance Adjusters Licensing Act; modifying definitions; amending 36 O.S. 2001, Section 6205, which relates to nonresident adjuster licensing; modifying application requirements; amending 36 O.S. 2001, Section 6208, which relates to examination for adjuster license; modifying reciprocity requirements for adjusters; amending 36 O.S. 2001, Sections 6601, 6602, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 169, O.S.L. 2004, 6604, 6605, 6607, 6614, 6615, as amended by Section 2, Chapter 169, O.S.L. 2004, 6616, 6617, 6619, as amended by Section 4, Chapter 409, O.S.L. 2002, 6620, as amended by Section 5, Chapter 409, O.S.L. 2002, 6622, 6626, 6628 and 6631 (36 O.S. Supp. 2006, Sections 6602, 6615, 6619 and 6620), which relate to the Service Warranty Insurance Act; updating language; modifying definitions; increasing fee; providing for appointment of administrator; excluding certain

agreement from insurance; removing bond agreement; requiring consideration in lieu of premium; providing

standards for insurer; modifying amount of premium

Insurance Commissioner; limiting amount of

Act; and providing an effective date.

returned after cancellation; requiring consideration in

lieu of premium; providing exemptions for persons from registration; providing reference; deleting reference

to exemption; clarifying grounds for certain actions by

administrative penalty; modifying disclosure statement; limiting liability; repealing 36 O.S. 2001, Section

6606, which relates to the Service Warranty Insurance

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

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2 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 36 O.S. 2001, Section 4101, as
3 amended by Section 15, Chapter 129, O.S.L. 2005 (36 O.S. Supp. 2006,
4 Section 4101), is amended to read as follows:

Section 4101. No policy of group life insurance shall be delivered in this state unless it conforms to one of the following descriptions:

- 1. A policy issued to an employer, or to the trustees of a fund established by an employer, which employer or trustees shall be deemed the policyholder, to insure employees of the employer for the benefit of persons other than the employer, subject to the following requirements:
 - a. The employees eligible for insurance under the policy shall be all of the employees of the employer, or all of any class or classes thereof determined by conditions pertaining to their employment. The policy may provide that the term "employees" shall include the employees of one or more subsidiary corporations, and the employees, individual proprietors and partners of one or more affiliated corporations, proprietors or partnerships if the business of the employer and of such affiliated corporations, proprietors or partnerships is under common control through stock ownership or contract, or otherwise. The policy may

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provide that the term "employees" shall include the individual proprietor or partners if the employer is an individual proprietor or a partnership. The policy may provide that the term "employees" shall include retired employees. No director of a corporate employer shall be eligible for insurance under the policy unless such a person is otherwise eligible as a bona fide employee of the corporation by performing services other than the usual duties of a director. No individual proprietor or partner shall be eligible for insurance under the policy unless he is actively engaged in and devotes a substantial part of his time to the conduct of the business of the proprietor or The policy may provide that the term partnership. "employees" shall include the trustees or their employees, or both, if their duties are principally connected with such trusteeship. A policy issued to insure the employees of a public body may provide that the term "employee" shall include elected or appointed officials.

b. The premium for the policy shall be paid by the policyholder, either wholly from the employer's funds or funds contributed by him, or partly from such funds and partly from funds contributed by the insured

employees, or from funds contributed wholly by the insured employees. A policy on which part or all of the premium is to be derived from funds contributed by the insured employees may be placed in force only if at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the then eligible employees, excluding any as to whom evidence of individual insurability is not satisfactory to the insurer, elect to make the required contributions. A policy on which no part of the premium is to be derived from funds contributed by the insured employees must insure all eligible employees, or all except any as to whom evidence of insurability is not satisfactory to the insurer.

- c. The amounts of insurance under the policy must be based upon some plan precluding individual selection either by the employees or by the employer or trustee;
- 2. A policy issued to a creditor, who shall be deemed to be the policyholder, to insure debtors of the creditor. Credit unions and associations formed for the purpose of making loans to their members shall be deemed to be creditors within the meaning of this section. Policies issued to a creditor to insure debtors of the creditor are subject to the following requirements:
 - a. The debtors eligible for insurance under the policy shall be all of the debtors of the creditor or all of

any class or classes thereof determined by conditions pertaining to the indebtedness or to the purchase giving rise to the indebtedness. The policy may provide that the term "debtors" shall include the debtors of one or more subsidiary corporations, and the debtors of one or more affiliated corporations, proprietors or partnerships if the business of the policyholder and of such affiliated corporations, proprietors or partnerships is under common control through stock ownership, contract or otherwise.

b. The premium for the policy shall be paid by the policyholder, either from the creditor's funds, or from charges collected from the insured debtors, or from both. A policy on which part or all of the premium is to be derived from the collection from the insured debtors of identifiable charges not required of uninsured debtors shall not include, in the class or classes of debtors eligible for insurance, debtors under obligation outstanding at its date of issue without evidence of individual insurability unless at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the then eligible debtors elect to pay the required charges. A policy on which no part of the premium is to be derived from the collection of such identifiable charges must

insure all eligible debtors, or all except any as to whom evidence of individual insurability is not satisfactory to the insurer.

- c. The policy may be issued only if the group of eligible debtors is then receiving new entrants at the rate of at least one hundred persons yearly, or may reasonably be expected to receive at least one hundred new entrants during the first policy year, and only if the policy reserves to the insurer the right to require evidence of individual insurability if less than seventy-five percent (75%) of the new entrants become insured.
- d. The amount of insurance on the life of any debtor shall at no time exceed the amount owed by him which is repayable to the creditor, or One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00), whichever is less, provided further, no company licensed to do business in this state shall issue in excess of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) group credit life insurance on one individual in the State of Oklahoma.
- e. The insurance shall be payable to the policyholder.

 Such payment shall reduce or extinguish the unpaid indebtedness of the debtor to the extent of such payment;

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- 3. A policy issued to a labor union, which shall be deemed the policyholder, to insure members of such union for the benefit of persons other than the union or any of its officials, representatives or agents, subject to the following requirements:
 - a. The members eligible for insurance under the policy shall be all of the members of the union, or all of any class or classes thereof determined by conditions pertaining to their employment, or to membership in the union, or both.
 - The premium for the policy shall be paid by the b. policyholder, either wholly from the union's funds, or partly from such funds and partly from funds contributed by the insured members specifically for their insurance, or from funds contributed wholly by the insured members. A policy on which part or all of the premium is to be derived from funds contributed by the insured members specifically for their insurance may be placed in force only if at least seventy five percent (75%) of the then eligible members, excluding any as to whom evidence of individual insurability is not satisfactory to the insurer, elect to make the required contributions. A policy on which no part of the premium is to be derived from funds contributed by the insured members specifically for their insurance

must insure all eligible members or all except any as to whom evidence of individual insurability is not satisfactory to the insurer.

- c. The policy must cover at least ten members at date of issue.
- d. The amount of insurance under the policy must be based upon some plan precluding individual selection either by the members or by the union;
- A policy issued to the trustees of a fund established in this state by two or more employers in the same industry, provided a majority of the employees to be insured of each employer are located within this state, or to the trustees of a fund established by one or more labor unions, or by one or more employers in the same industry and one or more labor unions or by one or more employers and one or more labor unions whose members are in the same or related occupation or trades, or by an association of persons, licensed by the State of Oklahoma to engage in a recognized profession, which trustees shall be deemed the policyholder to insure employees of the employers or members of the unions or members of an association of persons, licensed by the State of Oklahoma to engage in a recognized profession, for the benefit of persons other than the employers or the unions, or the association of persons, licensed by the State of Oklahoma to engage in a recognized profession, subject to the following requirements:

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The persons eliqible for insurance shall be all of the employees of the employers or all of the members of the union, or all the members of an association of persons, licensed by the State of Oklahoma to engage in a recognized profession, or all of any class or classes thereof determined by conditions pertaining to their employment, or to membership in the unions, or to both, or pertaining to membership in the association of persons, licensed by the State of Oklahoma to engage in a recognized profession. policy may provide that the term "employees" shall include the individual proprietor or partners if any employer is an individual proprietor or a partnership. The policy may provide that the term "employees" shall include retired employees. No director of a corporate employer shall be eligible for insurance under the policy unless such person is otherwise eligible as a bona fide employee of the corporation by performing services other than the usual duties of a director. No individual proprietor or a partner shall be eliqible for insurance under the policy unless he is actively engaged in and devotes a substantial part of his time to the conduct of the business of the proprietor or partnership. The policy may provide

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that the term "employees" shall include the trustees or their employees, or both if their duties are principally connected with such trusteeship, and that the term "members of an association" shall include employees of members.

The premium for the policy shall be paid by the b. trustees wholly from funds contributed by the employer or employers of the insured persons, or by the union or unions, or by both, or by an association of persons, licensed by the State of Oklahoma to engage in a recognized profession, or from funds contributed wholly or in part by the insured persons. A policy on which part of the premium is to be derived from funds contributed by the insured persons specifically for their insurance may be placed in force only if at least seventy five percent (75%) of the then eligible persons, excluding any as to whom evidence of insurability is not satisfactory to the insurer, elect to make the required contributions. A policy issued to the trustees of a fund established by an association of persons, licensed by the State of Oklahoma to engage in a recognized profession, on which part or all the premium is to be derived from funds contributed by the insured persons specifically

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for their insurance, may be placed in force only if
the total number of persons covered at the date of
issue exceeds six hundred or seventy-five percent
(75%) of the eligible persons, whichever is less,
excluding any as to whom evidence of insurability is
not satisfactory to the insurer, elect to make the
required contribution. A policy on which no part of
the premium is to be derived from funds contributed by
the insured persons specifically for their insurance
must insure all eligible persons, or all except any as
to whom evidence of individual insurability is not
satisfactory to the insurer.

c. The policy must cover at date of issue at least one hundred persons; and if the fund is established by the members of an association of employers the policy may be issued only if (a) either (i) the participating employers constitute at date of issue at least sixty percent (60%) of those employer members whose employees are not already covered by group life insurance or (ii) the total number of persons covered at date of issue exceeds six hundred; and (b) the policy shall not require that if a participating employer discontinues membership in the association,

- 1 the insurance of his employees shall cease solely by reason of such discontinuance.
 - d. The amounts of insurance under the policy must be based upon some plan precluding individual selection either by the insured persons or by the policyholder, employers, or unions;
 - A policy issued to any nonprofit industrial association to 5. insure the executives of employer members of a nonprofit industrial association, which is now and has been actively functioning for a period of not less than ten (10) years, such policy to be issued to such association which shall be deemed to be the employer for the purposes of this article, or to the association and executives of such employer members jointly and insuring only all of such executives for amounts of insurance based upon some plan which will preclude individual selection, for the benefit of persons other than such association, and the premium on which shall be paid by the employer members or the employer members and the executives of such employer members jointly;
 - 6. A policy issued to a credit union which shall be deemed the policyholder, to insure eligible members for the benefit of someone other than the credit union or its officials and subject to the following requirements:

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- a. The members eligible for insurance under the policy shall be all the members of the credit union or all of any class or classes thereof.
- b. The premiums for the policy shall be paid by the policyholder, either wholly from the credit union's funds, or partly from such funds and partly from funds contributed by the insured members specifically for their insurance. A policy on which no part of the premium is to be derived from funds contributed by the insured members specifically for their insurance must insure all eligible members or all except any as to whom evidence of individual insurability is not satisfactory to the insurer.
- c. The amount of insurance under the policy may be based on the amount of the member's savings in the credit union or upon some other plan precluding individual selection either by the members or by the credit union;
- 7. A policy issued to a charitable, benevolent, educational or religious institution, or their agencies, to insure the members thereof for the purpose set forth in subsection D of Section 3604 of this title;
- 8. A policy issued to an alumni association of an institution of higher education accredited by the Oklahoma State Regents for

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Higher Education, to insure the members thereof for the purpose set forth in subsection E of Section 3604 of this title:

9. A policy to an association, which has a constitution and bylaws and which has been organized and is maintained in good faith for purposes other than that of obtaining insurance, that insures at least ten members, employees, or employees of members of the association or its officers or trustees. The term "employees" as used in this paragraph shall include retired employees.

"Association" means, with respect to life insurance coverage offered, an association which:

- a. has been actively in existence for at least five (5) years,
- b. has been formed and maintained in good faith for purposes other than obtaining insurance,
- c. does not condition membership in the association on any health status-related factor relating to an individual, including an employee of an employer or a dependent of an employee or association member,
- d. makes life insurance coverage offered through the association available to all members regardless of any health status-related factor relating to such member or individuals eligible for coverage through a member,

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1 does not make life insurance coverage offered through e. the association available other than in connection 2 with a member of the association, and 3 f. meets such additional requirements as may be imposed 4 5 under state law; A policy issued to cover any other group subject to the 6 following requirements: 7 no such group life insurance policy shall be delivered 8 9 in this state unless the Commissioner of Insurance finds that: 10 the issuance of such group policy is not contrary 11 (1)to the best interest of the public, 12 (2) the issuance of the group policy would result in 13 economies of acquisition or administration, and 14 (3) the benefits are reasonable in relation to the 15 premiums charged, and 16 b. the premium for the policy shall be paid either from 17 the policyholder's funds or from funds contributed by 18 the covered person or from both; or 19 A policy issued to cover any other substantially similar 20 group which, in the discretion of the Insurance Commissioner, may be 21 subject to the issuance of a group life policy or contract. 2.2

amended to read as follows:

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AMENDATORY

36 O.S. 2001, Section 4101.1, is

Section 4101.1 A. Insurance under any group life insurance policy issued pursuant to subsections A, C, and D, of Section 4101 of this title, may if seventy five percent (75%) of the then insured employees or members who then have eligible dependents elect, be extended to insure the dependents, or any class or classes thereof, of each insured employee or member who so elects in amounts in accordance with a plan which precludes individual selection and for each insured dependent shall not be in excess of fifty percent (50%) of the insurance on the life of such employee or member. The term "dependent" is the spouse of the insured employee or member and an insured employee's or member's child under twenty-one (21) years of age or his or her child twenty-one (21) years or older who is attending an educational institution and relying upon the insured employee or member for financial support.

- B. Premiums for the insurance on such dependents shall be paid by the policyholder either wholly from policyholder's funds, or from funds contributed wholly by the employees or members, or partly from funds contributed by the policyholder and partly by the employees or members.
- C. A dependent pursuant to this section shall have the same conversion right as to the insurance on his or her life as is vested in the employee or union member.
- D. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 7 of Section 4103 of this title, only one certificate need be issued for each

- 1 family unit if a statement concerning any dependent's coverage is 2 included in such certificate.
- 3 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 36 O.S. 2001, Section 6202, is 4 amended to read as follows:
- Section 6202. Terms used in the Insurance Adjusters Licensing

 6 Act are defined as follows:
 - 1. "Commissioner" means the Insurance Commissioner of the state or his or her lawfully authorized representative;
 - 2. "Adjuster" means either an insurance adjuster or a public adjuster;
 - 3. "Insurance adjuster" means any person, firm, association, company, or legal entity that acts in this state for an insurer, and that investigates claims, adjusts losses, negotiates claim settlements, or performs incidental duties arising pursuant to the provisions of insurance contracts on behalf of an insurer and includes:
 - a. "independent adjusters", meaning any insurance
 adjuster that suggests or presents to the insurance
 industry and public that said adjuster acts as an
 adjuster for a fee or other compensation, and
 - b. "company or staff adjusters", meaning adjusters who engage in the investigation, adjustment, and negotiation of claims as salaried employees of an insurer;

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- 4. "Public adjuster" means any person, firm, association,

 company, or corporation that suggests or presents to members of the

 public that said public adjuster represents the interests of an

 insured or third party for a fee or compensation. Public adjusters
- 5 may investigate claims and negotiate losses to property only; and
 - 5. "Insurer" means any authorized insurance company, corporation, reciprocal group, mutual group, underwriting association or bureau, or any combination thereof, writing or underwriting any insurance contracts; and
 - 6. "Home state" means the District of Columbia and any state or territory of the United States in which the adjuster's principal place of residence or principal place of business is located. If neither the state in which the adjuster maintains the principal place of residence nor the state in which the adjuster maintains the principal place of business has a licensing or examination requirement, the adjuster may declare another state which has an examination requirement and in which the adjuster is licensed to be the "home state".
 - SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 36 O.S. 2001, Section 6205, is amended to read as follows:
 - Section 6205. A. Application for a license as an adjuster shall be made to the Insurance Commissioner upon forms prescribed and furnished by the Commissioner. As a part of and in connection with the application, the applicant shall furnish such information

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- concerning the applicant's identity, personal history, business experience, business record and such other pertinent information which the Commissioner shall reasonably require.
- B. Application for a license as a nonresident adjuster shall be made to the Commissioner upon forms prescribed and furnished by the Commissioner. This license shall be issued to an applicant only if the state in which the applicant resides will accord the same privilege to a resident adjuster of this state. The Commissioner is authorized to enter into reciprocal agreements with the appropriate official of any state requiring a nonresident applicant for license as an adjuster to take an examination. Any such reciprocal agreement shall provide that:
- 1. An applicant for a license as an adjuster in such other state shall take an examination as prescribed by that state;
- 2. The applicant for a license as a nonresident adjuster in this state holds a valid license as an adjuster in such other state as certified by the appropriate official of that state;
- 3. A resident of this state is privileged to procure an adjuster's license in such other state upon the conditions provided in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this subsection without discrimination in favor of the residents of such other state as to fees or other licensing requirements; and
- 4. The nonresident applicant shall pay the fee required for a license as a resident adjuster in this state. Unless denied

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- 1 licensure pursuant to Section 6220 of this title, a nonresident
- 2 applicant shall receive a nonresident adjuster license if:
- 1. The applicant has passed an examination in the applicant's home state;
 - 2. The applicant is currently licensed and in good standing in the home state of the applicant;
 - 3. The applicant has submitted the proper request for licensure and has paid the fees required by Section 6212 of this title; and
 - 4. The applicant's home state awards nonresident adjuster licenses to residents of this state on the same basis.
- C. If a nonresident applicant's home state does not license or require an examination for an adjuster license, the applicant shall pass an examination in this state prior to receiving a nonresident adjuster license.
- SECTION 5. AMENDATORY 36 O.S. 2001, Section 6208, is amended to read as follows:
- Section 6208. A. Each applicant for a license as an adjuster shall, prior to issuance of said license, personally take and pass, to the satisfaction of the Commissioner, an examination given by the Commissioner as a test of the qualifications and competency of the applicant.
- B. The requirement of an examination shall not apply to the following:

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- 1. An applicant who is licensed as an adjuster in this state during the ninety-day period preceding November 1, 1983; or
- 2. An applicant who is licensed as an adjuster, as defined by the provisions of the Insurance Adjusters Licensing Act, in another state with which state a reciprocal agreement has been executed by the Commissioner A nonresident applicant who has passed an examination in the home state of the applicant and who is currently licensed and in good standing in the applicant's home state; or
- 3. Any applicant for a license covering the same class or classes of insurance for which the applicant was licensed in this state pursuant to a similar license during the twenty-four-month period immediately preceding the date of application, unless said previous license was revoked or suspended, or continuation of the license was refused by the Commissioner; or
- 4. An applicant for a resident license who has passed an examination in the former home state and who is licensed and in good standing in the former home state at the time the application is submitted. The applicant shall make application to become a resident adjuster within ninety (90) days after establishing legal residence in Oklahoma.
- SECTION 6. AMENDATORY 36 O.S. 2001, Section 6601, is amended to read as follows:

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- Section 6601. Sections <u>1 6601</u> through <u>39 6639</u> of this act <u>title</u>

 shall be known and may be cited as the "Service Warranty Insurance
- 4 SECTION 7. AMENDATORY 36 O.S. 2001, Section 6602, as
- 5 last amended by Section 1, Chapter 169, O.S.L. 2004 (36 O.S. Supp.
- 6 2006, Section 6602), is amended to read as follows:

Act".

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- 7 | Section 6602. As used in the Service Warranty Insurance Act:
 - 1. "Commissioner" means the Insurance Commissioner;
- 9 2. "Consumer product" means tangible personal property
 10 primarily used for personal, family, or household purposes;
 - 3. "Department" means the Insurance Department;
- 4. "Gross income" means the total amount of revenue received in connection with business-related activity;
 - 5. "Gross written premiums consideration" means the total amount of premiums consideration, inclusive of commissions, for which the association is obligated under service warranties issued in this state;
 - 6. "Impaired" means having liabilities in excess of assets;
- 7. "Indemnify" means to undertake repair or replacement of a consumer product or a newly-constructed residential structure, including any appliances, electrical, plumbing, heating, cooling or air conditioning systems, in return for the payment of a segregated premium, when the consumer product or residential structure becomes defective or suffers operational failure;

- 8. "Insolvent" means any actual or threatened delinquency including, but not limited to, any one or more of the following circumstances:
 - a. an association's total liabilities exceed the total assets of the association,
 - the business of any such association is being conducted fraudulently, or
 - c. the association has knowingly overvalued its assets;
- 9. "Insurer" means any property or casualty insurer duly authorized to transact such business in this state;
- 10. "Net assets" means the amount by which the total assets of an association, excluding goodwill, franchises, customer lists, patents or trademarks, and receivables from or advances to officers, directors, employees, salesmen, and affiliated companies, exceed the total liabilities of the association. For purposes of the Service Warranty Insurance Act, the term "total liabilities" does not include the capital stock, paid-in capital, or retained earning of an association;
- 11. "Person" includes an individual, company, corporation, association, insurer, agent and any other legal entity;
- 12. "Premium" means the total consideration received or to be received, by whatever name called, by an insurer or service warranty association for, or related to, the issuance and delivery of a service warranty, including any charges designated as assessments or

fees for membership, policy, survey, inspection, or service or other charges. However, a repair charge is not a premium unless it exceeds the usual and customary repair fee charged by the association, provided the repair is made before the issuance and delivery of the warranty paid to an insurer for a reimbursement insurance policy;

- insurer or service warranty association for the purpose of selling or issuing service warranties and includes any individual possessing a certificate of competency who has the power to legally obligate the insurer or service warranty association or who merely acts as the qualifying agent to qualify the association in instances when a state statute or local ordinance requires a certificate of competency to engage in a particular business. However, in the case of service warranty associations selling service warranties from five or more business locations, the store manager or other person in charge of each such location shall be considered the sales representative;
- 14. "Service warranty" means any warranty, home warranty, guaranty, extended warranty or extended guaranty, contract agreement, or other written promise entered into between a consumer and a service warranty association under the terms of which there is an undertaking to indemnify against the cost of repair or replacement of a consumer product or newly constructed residential

structure, including any appliances, electrical, plumbing, heating, cooling or air conditioning systems, in return for the payment of a segregated charge by the consumer a contract or agreement for a separately stated consideration for a specific duration to perform the repair or replacement of property or indemnification for repair or replacement for the operational or structural failure due to a defect in materials or workmanship, with or without additional provision for incidental payment of indemnity under limited circumstances, including, but not limited to, failure due to normal wear and tear, towing, rental and emergency road service, road hazard, power surge, and accidental damage from handling; however:

- a. maintenance service contracts under the terms of which there are no provisions for such indemnification are expressly excluded from this definition,
- b. those contracts issued solely by the manufacturer, distributor, importer or seller of the product, or any affiliate or subsidiary of the foregoing entities, whereby such entity has contractual liability insurance in place, from a company licensed in the state, which covers one hundred percent (100%) of the claims exposure on all contracts written without being predicated on the failure to perform under such contracts, are expressly excluded from this definition,

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- c. the term "service warranty" does not include service contracts entered into between consumers and nonprofit organizations or cooperatives the members of which consist of condominium associations and condominium owners, which contracts require the performance of repairs and maintenance of appliances or maintenance of the residential property,
- d. the term "service warranty" does not include
 warranties, guarantees, extended warranties, extended
 guarantees, contract agreements or any other service
 contracts issued by a company which performs at least
 seventy percent (70%) of the service work itself and
 not through subcontractors, which has been selling and
 honoring such contracts in Oklahoma for at least
 twenty (20) years, and
- e. the term "service warranty" does not include

 warranties, guarantees, extended warranties, extended

 guarantees, contract agreements or any other service

 contracts, whether or not such service contracts

 otherwise meet the definition of "service warranty",

 issued by a company which has net assets in excess of

 One Hundred Million Dollars (\$100,000,000.00). The

 calculation of the net assets shall include the assets

 of a parent company. When the net assets of the

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parent company are used to calculate the total net

assets of the company, A service warranty association

may use the net assets of a parent company to qualify

under this section if the net assets of the company

issuing the policy shall total at least Twenty-five

Million Dollars (\$25,000,000.00) and the parent

company maintains net assets of at least Seventy-five

Million Dollars (\$75,000,000.00);

- 15. "Service warranty association" or "association" means any person, other than an authorized insurer, issuing service warranties contractually obligated to a service contract holder under the terms of a service warranty; provided, this term shall not mean any person engaged in the business of erecting or otherwise constructing a new home;
- 16. "Warrantor" means any service warranty association engaged in the sale of service warranties and deriving not more than fifty percent (50%) of its gross income from the sale of service warranties; and
- 17. "Warranty seller" means any service warranty association engaged in the sale of service warranties and deriving more than fifty percent (50%) of its gross income from the sale of service warranties.
- 23 SECTION 8. AMENDATORY 36 O.S. 2001, Section 6604, is 24 amended to read as follows:

- Section 6604. A. No person in this state shall provide or offer to provide service warranties act as a service warranty association unless licensed by the Insurance Commissioner.
- B. A service warranty association shall pay to the Insurance Department a license fee of Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) Three

 Hundred Dollars (\$300.00) for such license for each year, or part thereof, the license is in force. All license fees received pursuant to this section shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the Insurance Commissioner Revolving Fund and shall be used for the implementation of the Service Warranty Insurance Act.
- C. An insurer, while authorized to transact property or casualty insurance in this state, may also transact a service warranty business without additional qualifications or licensure as required by the Service Warranty Insurance Act, but shall be otherwise subject to the provisions of the Service Warranty Insurance Act.
- D. A service warranty association may appoint an administrator or other designee to be responsible for any or all of the administration of service contracts and compliance with this act.
- E. An agreement which provides specified scheduled maintenance

 services over a stated period of time does not constitute insurance

 or a service warranty.
- 23 SECTION 9. AMENDATORY 36 O.S. 2001, Section 6605, is 24 amended to read as follows:

Section 6605. The Insurance Commissioner shall not issue or renew a license to any service warranty association unless the association:

1. Is a solvent association;

- 2. Furnishes the Insurance Department with evidence satisfactory to it that the management of the association is competent and trustworthy and can successfully manage the affairs of the association in compliance with law;
- 3. Proposes to use and uses in its business a name together with a trademark or emblem, if any, which is distinctive and not so similar to the name or trademark of any other person already doing business in this state as will tend to mislead or confuse the public; and
- 4. Makes the deposit or files the bond required by the Service
 Warranty Insurance Act; and
 - 5. Is formed under the laws of this state or another state, district, territory, or possession of the United States, if the association is other than a natural person.
- 19 SECTION 10. AMENDATORY 36 O.S. 2001, Section 6607, is 20 amended to read as follows:
- Section 6607. A. An association licensed pursuant to the

 Service Warranty Insurance Act shall maintain a funded, unearned

 premium reserve account, consisting of unencumbered assets, equal to

 a minimum of twenty-five percent (25%) of the gross written premiums

1 consideration received on all warranty contracts in force, wherever In the case of multiyear contracts which are offered by associations having net assets of less than Five Hundred Thousand 3 Dollars (\$500,000.00) for which premiums are consideration is 4 5 collected in advance for coverage in a subsequent year, one hundred percent (100%) of the premiums consideration for such subsequent 6 years shall be placed in the funded, unearned premium reserve 7 account. Additionally, an association establishing such reserve 9 account shall also place in trust with the Insurance Commissioner a 10 surety bond issued by an authorized surety having a value of not 11 less than five percent (5%) of the gross consideration received, 12 less claims paid, on the sale of the service warranties for all service contracts issued and in force in this state, but in no event 13 shall the bond be less than Twenty-five Thousand Dollars 14 15 (\$25,000.00).

B. An association shall not be required to establish an unearned premium reserve or demonstrate minimum net worth if it has purchased contractual liability an insurance policy which demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Insurance Commissioner that one hundred percent (100%) of its claim exposure is covered by such policy and satisfies the requirements of this section. The contractual liability insurance shall be obtained from an insurer that holds a certificate of authority to do business within the state or from an insurer approved by the Commissioner as financially

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- capable of meeting the obligations incurred pursuant to the policy

 is licensed, registered, or otherwise authorized to do business in

 this state and that meets the requirements of subsection C of this

 section. For the purposes of this subsection, the contractual

 liability insurance policy shall contain the following provisions:
 - 1. In the event that the service warranty association is unable to fulfill its obligation under contracts issued in this state for any reason, including insolvency, bankruptcy, or dissolution, the contract liability insurer will pay losses and unearned premiums consideration under such plans directly to the person making a claim under the contract;
 - 2. The insurer issuing the contractual liability insurance policy shall assume full responsibility for the administration of claims in the event of the inability of the association to do so; and
 - 3. The policy may not be canceled or not renewed by either the insurer or the association unless sixty (60) days' written notice thereof has been given to the Commissioner by the insurer before the date of such cancellation or nonrenewal.
 - C. The insurer providing the insurance policy used to satisfy the financial responsibility requirements of subsection B of this section must meet one of the following standards:
- 23 <u>1. The insurer shall, at the time the policy is filed with the</u> 24 Commissioner, and continuously thereafter:

1	<u>a.</u>	maintain surplus as to policyholders and paid-in
2		capital of at least Fifteen Million Dollars
3		(\$15,000,000.00), and
4	<u>b.</u>	annually file copies of the audited financial
5		statements of the insurer, its NAIC Annual Statement,
6		and the actuarial certification required by and filed
7		in the state of domicile of the insurer; or
8	2. The i	nsurer shall, at the time the policy is filed with the
9	Commissioner,	and continuously thereafter:
10	<u>a.</u>	maintain surplus as to policyholders and paid-in
11		capital of less than Fifteen Million Dollars
12		(\$15,000,000.00) but at least equal to Ten Million
13		Dollars (\$10,000,000.00),
14	<u>b.</u>	demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Commissioner
15		that the company maintains a ratio of net written
16		premiums, wherever written, to surplus as to
17		policyholders and paid-in capital of not greater than
18		three to one, and
19	<u>C.</u>	annually file copies of the audited financial
20		statements of the insurer, its NAIC Annual Statement,
21		and the actuarial certification required by and filed
22		in the state of domicile of the insurer.
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- <u>D.</u> No warrantor <u>or warranty seller</u> shall allow its gross written premiums <u>consideration</u> to exceed seven to one ratio to net assets.
- D. No warranty seller shall allow its gross written premiums to exceed a five to one ratio to net assets.
- E. If the gross written premiums consideration of a warrantor or a warranty seller exceed exceeds the required net asset ratios, the Commissioner may require, in addition to other measures as the Commissioner deems necessary, any one or more of the following:
 - 1. A complete review of financial condition;
 - 2. An increase in deposit;
 - 3. A suspension of any new writings; or
- 4. Capital infusion into the business.
- 14 SECTION 11. AMENDATORY 36 O.S. 2001, Section 6614, is 15 amended to read as follows:
- Section 6614. A. No service warranty form or related form
 shall be issued or used in this state unless the form has been filed
 with and approved by the Insurance Commissioner.
- B. Each filing of a form shall be made not less than thirty
 (30) days in advance of its issuance or use. At the expiration of
 thirty (30) days from date of filing, a form so filed shall be
 deemed approved unless prior thereto it has been affirmatively
 disapproved by written order of the Commissioner.

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- 1 C. Each service warranty contract shall contain a cancellation 2 In the event the contract is canceled by the warranty provision. holder, return of premium consideration shall be based upon ninety 3 percent (90%) of the unearned pro rata premium consideration less 4 5 the actual cost of any service provided under the service warranty In the event the contract is canceled by the association, 6 contract. return of premium consideration shall be based upon one hundred 7 percent (100%) of unearned pro rata premium consideration less the 9 actual cost of any service provided under the service warranty 10 contract.
- D. The Commissioner shall disapprove any form filed pursuant to this section if the form:
 - 1. Violates the Service Warranty Insurance Act;
 - 2. Is misleading in any respect; or
- 3. Is reproduced so that any material provision is substantially illegible.
- 17 SECTION 12. AMENDATORY 36 O.S. 2001, Section 6615, as
 18 amended by Section 2, Chapter 169, O.S.L. 2004 (36 O.S. Supp. 2006,
 19 Section 6615), is amended to read as follows:
- Section 6615. A. In addition to the license fees provided in the Service Warranty Insurance Act for service warranty associations each such association and insurer shall, annually on or before the last day of February April, file with the Insurance Commissioner its annual statement in the form prescribed by the Commissioner showing

- all premiums gross written consideration or assessments received by
 it in connection with the issuance of service warranties in this
 state during the preceding calendar year and other relevant
 financial information as deemed necessary by the Commissioner, using
 accounting principles which will enable the Commissioner to
 ascertain whether the financial requirements set forth in Section
 6607 of this title have been satisfied.
 - B. The Commissioner may levy a fine of up to One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) a day for each day an association neglects to file the annual statement in the form and within the time provided by the Service Warranty Insurance Act.
 - C. In addition to an annual statement, the Commissioner may require of licensees, under oath and in the form prescribed by it, quarterly statements or special reports which the Commissioner deems necessary for the proper supervision of licensees under the Service Warranty Insurance Act.
 - D. Premiums Consideration and assessments received by associations and insurers for service warranties shall not be subject to the premium tax provided for in Section 624 of this title, but shall be subject to an administrative fee of Two Dollars (\$2.00) for each service warranty issued that provides coverage not to exceed Seventy-five Dollars (\$75.00), Five Dollars (\$5.00) for each service warranty issued that provides coverage in excess of Seventy-five Dollars (\$75.00) but not to exceed Two Hundred Fifty

1 Dollars (\$250.00), and Ten Dollars (\$10.00) for each service warranty that provides coverage in excess of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00). However, associations and insurers that have 3 contractual liability insurance in place, from a company licensed or 4 5 registered to issue automobile service warranties in the state, an insurer which satisfies the requirements of subsection C of Section 6 7 6607 of this title and which covers one hundred percent (100%) of the claims exposure of the association or insurer on all contracts 9 written without being predicated on the failure to perform under such contracts shall be subject to an annual administrative fee of 10 Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00). Said fees shall be 11 12 paid quarterly to the Insurance Commissioner. All such fees, up to a maximum of Two Hundred Seventy-five Thousand Dollars (\$275,000.00) 13 per year, received by the Insurance Commissioner shall be deposited 14 into the State Treasury to the credit of the Insurance Commissioner 15 Revolving Fund for the payment of costs incurred by the Insurance 16 Department in the administration of the Service Warranty Insurance 17 Act. Amounts received in excess of the annual limitation shall be 18 deposited to the credit of the General Revenue Fund. 19

SECTION 13. AMENDATORY 36 O.S. 2001, Section 6616, is amended to read as follows:

Section 6616. A. Service warranty associations licensed pursuant to the Service Warranty Insurance Act are subject to periodic examination by the Insurance Commissioner, in the same

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- 1 manner and subject to the same terms and conditions that apply to 2 insurers.
- The Commissioner is not required to examine an association 3 В. that has less than Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) in gross 4 5 written premiums consideration as reflected in its most recent annual statement. The Commissioner may examine such an association 6 if the Commissioner has reason to believe that the association may 7 be in violation of the Service Warranty Insurance Act or is 9 otherwise in an unsound financial condition. If the Commissioner examines such an association the examination fee shall not exceed 10 five percent (5%) of the gross written premiums consideration of the 11 12 association.
 - SECTION 14. AMENDATORY 36 O.S. 2001, Section 6617, is amended to read as follows:
 - Section 6617. As a minimum requirement for permanent office records, each licensed service warranty association shall maintain:
 - 1. A complete set of accounting records, including but not limited to, a general ledger, cash receipts and disbursements journals, accounts receivable registers and accounts payable registers;
- 2. A detailed warranty register of warranties in force, by

 unique identifier. The register shall include the unique

 identifier, date of issue, issuing sales representative, name of

 warranty holder, location of the property, warranty period, gross

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- premium consideration, commission to sales representative, and net
 premium consideration; and
- 3. A detailed centralized claims or service record register which includes the unique identifier, date of issue, date of claim, issuing service representative, amount of claim or service, date claim paid, and, if applicable, disposition other than payment and reason therefor.
- 8 SECTION 15. AMENDATORY 36 O.S. 2001, Section 6619, as
 9 amended by Section 4, Chapter 409, O.S.L. 2002 (36 O.S. Supp. 2006,
 10 Section 6619), is amended to read as follows:
 - Section 6619. A. No person shall solicit, negotiate, advertise, or effectuate service warranty contracts in this state unless such person is registered as a sales representative or acts under the supervision of a sales representative, or is exempt from registration as provided herein. Sales representatives shall be responsible for the actions of persons under their supervision.
 - B. The following persons shall be exempt from registration as a sales representative:
 - $\underline{a.}$ an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of Oklahoma, \underline{or}
 - <u>b.</u> an individual licensed under the Oklahoma Real Estate
 License Code, Oklahoma Mortgage Broker Licensure Act,
 or Home Inspection Licensing Act,

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an individual licensed under the Oklahoma Insurance 1 C. 2 Code as an Insurance Agent or Broker, a service warranty association or an employee of 3 d. either a service warranty association or an affiliate 4 5 of a service warranty association, a financial institution or an employee of a financial 6 e. institution, or 7 a dealership licensed pursuant to Sections 561 through 8 f. 9 595 of Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes or an employee of such a dealership. 10 Sales representatives shall be responsible for the actions of 11 12 persons under their supervision. 13 SECTION 16. AMENDATORY 36 O.S. 2001, Section 6620, as amended by Section 5, Chapter 409, O.S.L. 2002 (36 O.S. Supp. 2006, 14 Section 6620), is amended to read as follows: 15 Section 6620. Each service warranty association or insurer 16 shall register, on forms prescribed by the Insurance Commissioner, 17 on or before March 1 of each odd-numbered year, the name and 18 business address of each sales representative required to be 19 registered under Section 6619 of this title utilized by it in this 20 state and, within thirty (30) days after termination of the 21 contract, shall notify the Commissioner of such termination. At the 2.2

time of biennial registration, a filing fee of Forty Dollars

(\$40.00) for each sales representative shall be paid by the service

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1 warranty association or insurer to the Commissioner. All such filing fees shall be deposited in the State Treasury to the credit of the Insurance Commissioner Revolving Fund to be used for the 3 implementation of the Service Warranty Insurance Act. Any sales 4 5 representative utilized subsequent to the March 1 filing date shall be registered with the Commissioner within ten (10) days after such 6 utilization. Pursuant to Section 6619 of this title, any individual 7 who is an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of Oklahoma 9 or an individual licensed under the Oklahoma Real Estate License 10 Code, Oklahoma Mortgage Broker Licensure Act, or Home Inspection Licensing Act, shall not be subject to the registration or filing 11 12 fee requirements of this section. No employee or sales 13 representative of a service warranty association or insurer may directly or indirectly solicit or negotiate insurance contracts, or 14 hold himself out in any manner to be an insurance agent, unless so 15 qualified and licensed pursuant to Section 1421 et seq. of Title 36 16 of the Oklahoma Statutes this title. 17

SECTION 17. AMENDATORY 36 O.S. 2001, Section 6622, is amended to read as follows:

Section 6622. The Insurance Commissioner shall deny, suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew or continue the registration of any sales representative if it is found that any one or more of the following grounds applicable to the sales representative exist:

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- 1. Material misstatement, misrepresentation, or fraud in
 2 registration;
 - 2. The registration is willfully used to circumvent any of the requirements or prohibitions of the Service Warranty Insurance Act;
 - 3. Willful misrepresentation of any service warranty contract or willful deception with regard to any such contract, done either in person or by any form of dissemination of information or advertising;
 - 4. In the adjustment of claims arising out of warranties, material misrepresentation to a service warranty holder or other interested party of the terms and coverage of a contract with the intent and for the purpose of effecting settlement of such claim on less favorable terms than those provided in and contemplated by the contract;
 - 5. Demonstrated lack of fitness or trustworthiness to engage in the business of service warranty;
 - 6. Demonstrated lack of adequate knowledge and technical competence to engage in the transactions authorized by the registration;
 - 7. Fraudulent or dishonest practices in the conduct of business under the registration;
 - 8. Misappropriation, conversion, or unlawful withholding of moneys belonging to an association, insurer, or warranty holder, or

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- 1 to others, and received in the conduct of business under the 2 registration;
 - 9. Rebating <u>Unlawfully rebating</u>, or attempting to <u>unlawfully</u> rebate, or unlawfully dividing, or offering to divide, his commission with another;
 - 10. Willful failure to comply with, or willful violation of, any proper order or rule of the Commissioner, or willful violation of any provision of the Service Warranty Insurance Act; or
 - 11. Being found guilty of or pleading nolo contendere to a felony or a crime punishable by imprisonment of one (1) year or more under the law of the United States of America or any state thereof or under the law of any other country involving moral turpitude, without regard to whether judgment of conviction has been entered by the court having jurisdiction of such case.
- SECTION 18. AMENDATORY 36 O.S. 2001, Section 6626, is amended to read as follows:
- Section 6626. A. If, pursuant to procedures provided for in 17 the Service Warranty Insurance Act, it is found that one or more 18 grounds exist for the suspension, revocation, or refusal to renew or 19 continue any registration issued under the Service Warranty 20 Insurance Act, on a first offense and except when such suspension, 21 revocation, or refusal is mandatory, an order may be entered 22 imposing upon the registrant, in lieu of such suspension, 23 revocation, or refusal, an administrative penalty for each violation 24

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1 in the amount of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), or in the event of willful misconduct or willful violation on the part of the 2 registrant, an administrative fine not to exceed One Thousand 3 Dollars (\$1,000.00) for each violation. The administrative penalty 4 5 may be augmented by an amount equal to any commissions received by or accruing to the credit of the registrant in connection with any 6 transaction to which the grounds for suspension, revocation, or 7 refusal are related. An administrative penalty imposed under this 9 section shall not exceed Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) in the 10 aggregate for all nonwillful violations of a similar nature or Fifty 11 Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) in the aggregate for all willful 12 violations of a similar nature. For purposes of this section, 13 violations shall be of a similar nature if the violation consists of the same or similar course of conduct, action, or practice, 14 irrespective of the number of times the act, conduct, or practice 15 which is determined to be a violation of this act occurred. 16

B. The order may allow the registrant a reasonable period, not to exceed thirty (30) days, within which to pay to the Insurance Commissioner the amount of the penalty so imposed. If the registrant fails to pay the penalty in its entirety to the Commissioner within the period allowed, the registration of the registrant shall stand suspended or revoked or renewal or continuation may be refused, as the case may be, upon expiration of such period and without any further proceedings.

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SECTION 19. AMENDATORY 36 O.S. 2001, Section 6628, is amended to read as follows:

Section 6628. If a A service warranty is issued by a person or entity that is not the manufacturer of the product or a wholesale company marketing the product, shall contain a disclosure statement containing substantially the following information in ten point or larger type shall be attached to the buyer's copy of the service warranty: "This service warranty is not issued by the manufacturer or wholesale company marketing the product. This warranty will not be honored by such manufacturer or wholesale company." No other information shall be placed on the disclosure statement: Coverage afforded under this contract is not guaranteed by the Oklahoma

Insurance Guaranty Association.

SECTION 20. AMENDATORY 36 O.S. 2001, Section 6631, is amended to read as follows:

Section 6631. A. Any person damaged by a violation of the provisions of the Service Warranty Insurance Act may bring a civil action against a person violating such provisions in the district court of the county in which the alleged violator resides or has his principal place of business or in the county in which the alleged violation occurred. Upon adverse adjudication, the defendant shall be liable for actual damages or Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) whichever is greater, together with court costs and reasonable attorney's fees incurred by the plaintiff. Liability under this

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1	section shall not exceed Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) in the		
2	aggregate for all violations of a similar nature. For purposes of		
3	this section, violations shall be of a similar nature if the		
4	violation consists of the same or similar course of conduct, action,		
5	or practice, irrespective of the number of times the act, conduct,		
6	or practice which is determined to be a violation of the Service		
7	Warranty Insurance Act occurred.		
8	B. This section shall not be construed to authorize a civil		
9	action against the Insurance Department, its employees, or the		
10	Insurance Commissioner.		
11	SECTION 21. REPEALER 36 O.S. 2001, Section 6606, is		
12	hereby repealed.		
13	SECTION 22. This act shall become effective November 1, 2007.		
14	Passed the House of Representatives the 13th day of March, 2007.		
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17	Presiding Officer of the House of Representatives		
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19	Passed the Senate the day of, 2007.		
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