Model Regulation Service—October 1996

# CREDIT FOR REINSURANCE MODEL LAW

# **Table of Contents**

| Section 1. | Purpose                                                                             |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Section 2. | Credit Allowed a Domestic Ceding Insurer                                            |
| Section 3. | Asset or Reduction from Liability for Reinsurance Ceded by a Domestic Insurer to an |
|            | Assuming Insurer not Meeting the Requirements of Section 2                          |
| Section [] | <u> Credit Allowed a Foreign Ceding Insurer [Optional]</u>                          |
| Section 4. | Qualified U.S. Financial Institutions                                               |
| Section 5. | Rules and Regulations                                                               |
| Section 6. | Reinsurance Agreements Affected                                                     |

# Section 1. Purpose

The purpose of this Act is to protect the interest of insureds, claimants, ceding insurers, assuming insurers and the public generally. The legislature hereby declares its intent is to ensure adequate regulation of insurers and reinsurers and adequate protection for those to whom they owe obligations. In furtherance of that state interest, the legislature hereby provides a mandate that upon the insolvency of a non-U.S. insurer or reinsurer that provides security to fund its U.S. obligations in accordance with this Act, the assets representing the security shall be maintained in the United States and claims shall be filed with and valued by the state insurance commissioner with regulatory oversight, and the assets shall be distributed, in accordance with the insurance laws of the state in which the trust is domiciled that are applicable to the liquidation of domestic U.S. insurance companies. The legislature declares that the matters contained in this Act are fundamental to the business of insurance in accordance with 15 U.S.C. §§ 1011-1012.

# Section 2. Credit Allowed a Domestic Ceding Insurer

Credit for reinsurance shall be allowed a domestic ceding insurer as either an asset or a reduction from liability on account of reinsurance ceded only when the reinsurer meets the requirements of Subsections A, B, C,  $D_x$ -or E or F of this section. Credit shall be allowed under Subsections A, B or C of this section only as respects cessions of those kinds or classes of business which the assuming insurer is licensed or otherwise permitted to write or assume in its state of domicile or, in the case of a U.S. branch of an alien assuming insurer, in the state through which it is entered and licensed to transact insurance or reinsurance. Credit shall be allowed under Subsections C or D of this section only if the applicable requirements of Subsection FG have been satisfied.

A. Credit shall be allowed when the reinsurance is ceded to an assuming insurer that is licensed to transact insurance or reinsurance in this state.

**Drafting Note:** A state that provides for licensing of reinsurance by line, for consistency should adopt an amended version of Subsection A requiring the assuming insurer to be "licensed to transact reinsurance in this state."

- B. (1) Credit shall be allowed when the reinsurance is ceded to an assuming insurer that is accredited as a reinsurer in this state. An accredited reinsurer is one that:
  - (a) Files with the commissioner evidence of its submission to this state's jurisdiction;
  - (b) Submits to this state's authority to examine its books and records;

#### Credit for Reinsurance Model Law

- (c) Is licensed to transact insurance or reinsurance in at least one state, or in the case of a U.S. branch of an alien assuming insurer, is entered through and licensed to transact insurance or reinsurance in at least one state;
- (d) Files annually with the commissioner a copy of its annual statement filed with the insurance department of its state of domicile and a copy of its most recent audited financial statement; and
  - (i) Maintains a surplus as regards policyholders in an amount not less than \$20,000,000 and whose accreditation has not been denied by the commissioner within ninety (90) days of its submission; or
  - (ii) Maintains a surplus as regards policyholders in an amount less than \$20,000,000 and whose accreditation has been approved by the commissioner.
- (2) Credit shall not be allowed a domestic ceding insurer if the assuming insurer's accreditation has been revoked by the commissioner after notice and hearing.

**Drafting Note:** To qualify as an accredited reinsurer, an assuming insurer must meet all of the requirements and the standards set forth in Subsection B. If the commissioner of insurance determines that the assuming insurer has failed to continue to meet any of these qualifications, the commissioner may, upon written notice and hearing, revoke accreditation.

- C. (1) Credit shall be allowed when the reinsurance is ceded to an assuming insurer that is domiciled in, or in the case of a U.S. branch of an alien assuming insurer is entered through, a state that employs standards regarding credit for reinsurance substantially similar to those applicable under this statute and the assuming insurer or U.S. branch of an alien assuming insurer:
  - (a) Maintains a surplus as regards policyholders in an amount not less than \$20,000,000; and
  - (b) Submits to the authority of this state to examine its books and records.
  - (2) The requirement of Section 2 C(1)(a) does not apply to reinsurance ceded and assumed pursuant to pooling arrangements among insurers in the same holding company system.

**Drafting Note:** The term "substantially similar" means standards that equal or exceed the standards of the enacting state, as determined by the commissioner of the enacting state. It is expected that the NAIC will maintain a list of states whose laws establish standards that equal or exceed the standards of this model act.

D. (1) Credit shall be allowed when the reinsurance is ceded to an assuming insurer that maintains a trust fund in a qualified U.S. financial institution, as defined in Section 4B, for the payment of the valid claims of its U.S. ceding insurers, their assigns and successors in interest. To enable the commissioner to determine the sufficiency of the trust fund, the assuming insurer shall report annually to the commissioner information substantially the same as that required to be reported on the NAIC Annual Statement form by licensed insurers. The assuming insurer shall submit to examination of its books and records by the commissioner and bear the expense of examination.

- (2) (a) Credit for reinsurance shall not be granted under this subsection unless the form of the trust and any amendments to the trust have been approved by:
  - (i) The commissioner of the state where the trust is domiciled; or
  - (ii) The commissioner of another state who, pursuant to the terms of the trust instrument, has accepted principal regulatory oversight of the trust.
  - (b) The form of the trust and any trust amendments also shall be filed with the commissioner of every state in which the ceding insurer beneficiaries of the trust are domiciled. The trust instrument shall provide that contested claims shall be valid and enforceable upon the final order of any court of competent jurisdiction in the United States. The trust shall vest legal title to its assets in its trustees for the benefit of the assuming insurer's U.S. ceding insurers, their assigns and successors in interest. The trust and the assuming insurer shall be subject to examination as determined by the commissioner.
  - (c) The trust shall remain in effect for as long as the assuming insurer has outstanding obligations due under the reinsurance agreements subject to the trust. No later than February 28 of each year the trustee of the trust shall report to the commissioner in writing the balance of the trust and listing the trust's investments at the preceding year-end and shall certify the date of termination of the trust, if so planned, or certify that the trust will not expire prior to the following December 31.
- (3) The following requirements apply to the following categories of assuming insurer:
  - (a) The trust fund for a single assuming insurer shall consist of funds in trust in an amount not less than the assuming insurer's liabilities attributable to reinsurance ceded by U.S. ceding insurers, and, in addition, the assuming insurer shall maintain a trusteed surplus of not less than \$20,000,000, except as provided in paragraph 3(b) of this subsection.
  - At any time after the assuming insurer has permanently (b) discontinued underwriting new business secured by the trust for at least three full years, the commissioner with principal regulatory oversight of the trust may authorize a reduction in the required trusteed surplus, but only after a finding, based on an assessment of the risk, that the new required surplus level is adequate for the protection of U.S. ceding insurers, policyholders and claimants in light of reasonably foreseeable adverse loss development. The risk assessment may involve an actuarial review, including an independent analysis of reserves and cash flows, and shall consider all material risk factors, including when applicable the lines of business involved, the stability of the incurred loss estimates and the effect of the surplus requirements on the assuming insurer's liquidity or solvency. The minimum required trusteed surplus may not be reduced to an amount less than thirty percent (30%) of the assuming insurer's liabilities attributable to reinsurance ceded by U.S. ceding insurers.

- (bc) (i) In the case of a group including incorporated and individual unincorporated underwriters:
  - (I) For reinsurance ceded under reinsurance agreements with an inception, amendment or renewal date on or after August 1, 1995, the trust shall consist of a trusteed account in an amount not less than the group's several liabilities attributable to business ceded by U.S. domiciled ceding insurers to any member of the group;
  - (II) For reinsurance ceded under reinsurance agreements with an inception date on or before July 31, 1995, and not amended or renewed after that date, notwithstanding the other provisions of this Act, the trust shall consist of a trusteed account in an amount not less than the group's several insurance and reinsurance liabilities attributable to business written in the United States; and
  - (III) In addition to these trusts, the group shall maintain in trust a trusteed surplus of which \$100,000,000 shall be held jointly for the benefit of the U.S. domiciled ceding insurers of any member of the group for all years of account; and
  - (ii) The incorporated members of the group shall not be engaged in any business other than underwriting as a member of the group and shall be subject to the same level of regulation and solvency control by the group's domiciliary regulator as are the unincorporated members.
  - (iii) Within ninety (90) days after its financial statements are due to be filed with the group's domiciliary regulator, the group shall provide to the commissioner an annual certification by the group's domiciliary regulator of the solvency of each underwriter member; or if a certification is unavailable, financial statements, prepared by independent public accountants, of each underwriter member of the group.
- (ed) In the case of a group of incorporated underwriters under common administration, the group shall:
  - (i) Have continuously transacted an insurance business outside the United States for at least three (3) years immediately prior to making application for accreditation;
  - (ii) Maintain aggregate policyholders' surplus of at least \$10,000,000,000;
  - (iii) Maintain a trust fund in an amount not less than the group's several liabilities attributable to business ceded by U.S. domiciled ceding insurers to any member of the group pursuant to reinsurance contracts issued in the name of the group;

- (iv) In addition, maintain a joint trusteed surplus of which \$100,000,000 shall be held jointly for the benefit of U.S. domiciled ceding insurers of any member of the group as additional security for these liabilities; and
- (v) Within ninety (90) days after its financial statements are due to be filed with the group's domiciliary regulator, make available to the commissioner an annual certification of each underwriter member's solvency by the member's domiciliary regulator and financial statements of each underwriter member of the group prepared by its independent public accountant.

**Drafting Note**: Unless otherwise stated, "commissioner" refers to the commissioner of insurance in the state where credit or a reduction from liability is taken.

**Drafting Note**: Consideration was given to deferring to state capital and surplus requirements as a threshold for the trusteed surplus, but it was concluded that, on the basis of risk exposure and current industry security practices, the standards for credit should be higher under Subsection D. The \$100,000,000 trusteed surplus requirement for a group including incorporated and individual unincorporated underwriters reflects the higher financial standards currently found among the states for a group of this type. The \$20,000,000 trusteed surplus requirement is an option available to assuming insurers that do not satisfy both the licensing and financial standards of Subsection B or C.

- <u>E.</u> Credit shall be allowed when the reinsurance is ceded to an assuming insurer that is certified by the commissioner as a reinsurer in this state and secures its obligations in accordance with the requirements of this subsection.
  - (1) In order to be eligible for certification, the assuming insurer shall meet the following requirements:
    - (a) The assuming insurer must be domiciled and licensed to transact insurance or reinsurance in a qualified jurisdiction, as determined by the commissioner pursuant to paragraph (3) of this subsection;
    - (b) The assuming insurer must maintain minimum capital and surplus in an amount to be determined by the commissioner pursuant to regulation;
    - (c) The assuming insurer must maintain financial strength ratings from two or more rating agencies deemed acceptable by the commissioner pursuant to regulation;
    - (d) The assuming insurer must agree to submit to the jurisdiction of this state, appoint the commissioner as its agent for service of process in this state, and agree to provide security for 100 percent of the assuming insurer's liabilities attributable to reinsurance ceded by U.S. ceding insurers if it resists enforcement of a final U.S. judgment;
    - (e) The assuming insurer must agree to meet applicable information filing requirements as determined by the commissioner, both with respect to an initial application for certification and on an ongoing basis; and
    - (f) The assuming insurer must satisfy any other requirements for certification deemed relevant by the commissioner.
  - (2) An association including incorporated and individual unincorporated underwriters may be a certified reinsurer. In order to be eligible for certification, in addition to satisfying requirements of paragraph (1):

- (a) The association shall satisfy its minimum capital and surplus requirements through the capital and surplus equivalents (net of liabilities) of the association and its members, which shall include a joint central fund that may be applied to any unsatisfied obligation of the association or any of its members, in an amount determined by the commissioner to provide adequate protection;
- (b) The incorporated members of the association shall not be engaged in any business other than underwriting as a member of the association and shall be subject to the same level of regulation and solvency control by the association's domiciliary regulator as are the unincorporated members; and
- (c) Within ninety (90) days after its financial statements are due to be filed with the association's domiciliary regulator, the association shall provide to the commissioner an annual certification by the association's domiciliary regulator of the solvency of each underwriter member; or if a certification is unavailable, financial statements, prepared by independent public accountants, of each underwriter member of the association.
- (3) The commissioner shall create and publish a list of qualified jurisdictions, under which an assuming insurer licensed and domiciled in such jurisdiction is eligible to be considered for certification by the commissioner as a certified reinsurer.
  - (a) In order to determine whether the domiciliary jurisdiction of a non-U.S. assuming insurer is eligible to be recognized as a qualified jurisdiction, the commissioner shall evaluate the appropriateness and effectiveness of the reinsurance supervisory system of the jurisdiction, both initially and on an ongoing basis, and consider the rights, benefits and the extent of reciprocal recognition afforded by the non-U.S. jurisdiction to reinsurers licensed and domiciled in the U.S. A qualified jurisdiction must agree to share information and cooperate with the commissioner with respect to all certified reinsurers doing business within the jurisdiction. A jurisdiction may not be recognized as a qualified jurisdiction if the commissioner has determined that the jurisdiction does not adequately and promptly enforce final U.S. judgments and arbitration awards. Additional factors may be considered in the discretion of the commissioner.
  - (b) If the NAIC publishes a list of qualified jurisdictions, the commissioner may defer to this list.
  - (c) U.S. jurisdictions that meet the requirement for accreditation under the NAIC financial standards and accreditation program shall be recognized as qualified jurisdictions.
  - (d) If a certified reinsurer's domiciliary jurisdiction ceases to be a qualified jurisdiction, the commissioner has the discretion to suspend the reinsurer's certification indefinitely, in lieu of revocation.
- (4) The commissioner shall assign a rating to each certified reinsurer, giving due consideration to the financial strength ratings that have been assigned by

rating agencies recognized by the commissioner pursuant to regulation. The commissioner shall publish a list of all certified reinsurers and their ratings.

- (5) A certified reinsurer shall secure obligations assumed from U.S. ceding insurers under this subsection at a level consistent with its rating, as specified in regulations promulgated by the commissioner.
  - (a) In order for a domestic ceding insurer to qualify for full financial statement credit for reinsurance ceded to a certified reinsurer, the certified reinsurer shall maintain security in a form acceptable to the commissioner and consistent with the provisions of Section 3, or in a multibeneficiary trust in accordance with Subsection D of this section, except as otherwise provided in this subsection.
  - (b) If a certified reinsurer maintains a trust to secure its obligations subject to Subsection D of this section, the certified reinsurer shall maintain separate trust accounts for its obligations incurred under reinsurance agreements issued or renewed as a certified reinsurer with reduced security as permitted by this subsection or comparable laws of other U.S. jurisdictions and for its obligations subject to Subsection D of this section. Each trust account shall be secondarily obligated to secure all obligations secured by the other account, including the assuming insurer's obligation to fund any deficiency, but only after its own primary obligations have been fully discharged.
  - (c) The minimum trusteed surplus requirements provided in Subsection D are not applicable with respect to a multibeneficiary trust maintained by a certified reinsurer for the purpose of securing obligations incurred under this subsection.
  - (d) With respect to obligations incurred by a certified reinsurer under this subsection, if the security is insufficient, the commissioner shall reduce the allowable credit by an amount proportionate to the deficiency, and has the discretion to impose further reductions in allowable credit upon finding that there is a material risk that the certified reinsurer's obligations will not be paid in full when due.
  - (e) For purposes of this subsection, a certified reinsurer whose certification has been terminated for any reason shall be treated as a certified reinsurer required to secure 100% of its obligations. This subparagraph does not apply to a certified reinsurer in inactive status or to a reinsurer whose certification has been suspended, if the commissioner continues to assign a higher rating.
- (6) If an applicant for certification has been certified as a reinsurer in an NAIC accredited jurisdiction, the commissioner has the discretion to defer to that jurisdiction's certification, and has the discretion to defer to the rating assigned by that jurisdiction, and such assuming insurer shall be considered to be a certified reinsurer in this state.
- (7) A certified reinsurer that ceases to assume new business in this state may request to maintain its certification in inactive status in order to continue to qualify for a reduction in security for its in-force business. An inactive certified reinsurer shall continue to comply with all applicable requirements of this subsection, and the commissioner shall assign a rating that takes into account, if relevant, the reasons why the reinsurer is not assuming new business.

**EF**. Credit shall be allowed when the reinsurance is ceded to an assuming insurer not meeting the requirements of Subsections A, B, C, or D or E of this section, but only as to the insurance of risks located in jurisdictions where the reinsurance is required by applicable law or regulation of that jurisdiction.

**Drafting Note:** For purposes of this subsection, "jurisdiction" refers to those jurisdictions other than the United States and also to any state, district or territory of the United States. Subsection E allows credit to ceding insurers that are mandated by these jurisdictions to cede to state-owned or controlled insurance or reinsurance companies or to participate in pools, guaranty associations or residual market mechanisms.

- **F**<u>G</u>. If the assuming insurer is not licensed, or accredited or certified to transact insurance or reinsurance in this state, the credit permitted by Subsections C and D of this section shall not be allowed unless the assuming insurer agrees in the reinsurance agreements:
  - (1) (a) That in the event of the failure of the assuming insurer to perform its obligations under the terms of the reinsurance agreement, the assuming insurer, at the request of the ceding insurer, shall submit to the jurisdiction of any court of competent jurisdiction in any state of the United States, will comply with all requirements necessary to give the court jurisdiction, and will abide by the final decision of the court or of any appellate court in the event of an appeal; and
    - (b) To designate the commissioner or a designated attorney as its true and lawful attorney upon whom may be served any lawful process in any action, suit or proceeding instituted by or on behalf of the ceding company.
  - (2) This subsection is not intended to conflict with or override the obligation of the parties to a reinsurance agreement to arbitrate their disputes, if this obligation is created in the agreement.
- $\frac{\text{GH}}{\text{C}}$  If the assuming insurer does not meet the requirements of Subsections A, B or C, the credit permitted by Subsection D<u>or E</u> of this section shall not be allowed unless the assuming insurer agrees in the trust agreements to the following conditions:
  - (1) Notwithstanding any other provisions in the trust instrument, if the trust fund is inadequate because it contains an amount less than the amount required by Subsection D(3) of this section, or if the grantor of the trust has been declared insolvent or placed into receivership, rehabilitation, liquidation or similar proceedings under the laws of its state or country of domicile, the trustee shall comply with an order of the commissioner with regulatory oversight over the trust or with an order of a court of competent jurisdiction directing the trustee to transfer to the commissioner with regulatory oversight all of the assets of the trust fund.
  - (2) The assets shall be distributed by and claims shall be filed with and valued by the commissioner with regulatory oversight in accordance with the laws of the state in which the trust is domiciled that are applicable to the liquidation of domestic insurance companies.
  - (3) If the commissioner with regulatory oversight determines that the assets of the trust fund or any part thereof are not necessary to satisfy the claims of the U.S. ceding insurers of the grantor of the trust, the assets or part thereof shall be returned by the commissioner with regulatory oversight to the trustee for distribution in accordance with the trust agreement.

- (4) The grantor shall waive any right otherwise available to it under U.S. law that is inconsistent with this provision.
- <u>I.</u> If an accredited or certified reinsurer ceases to meet the requirements for accreditation or certification, the commissioner may suspend or revoke the reinsurer's accreditation or certification.
  - (1) The commissioner must give the reinsurer notice and opportunity for hearing. The suspension or revocation may not take effect until after the commissioner's order on hearing, unless:
    - (a) The reinsurer waives its right to hearing;
    - (b) The commissioner's order is based on regulatory action by the reinsurer's domiciliary jurisdiction or United States port of entry, or the voluntary surrender or termination of the reinsurer's eligibility to transact insurance or reinsurance business in its domiciliary jurisdiction or in its United States port of entry; or
    - (c) The commissioner finds that an emergency requires immediate action and a court of competent jurisdiction has not stayed the commissioner's action.
  - (2) While a reinsurer's accreditation or certification is suspended, no reinsurance contract issued or renewed after the effective date of the suspension qualifies for credit except to the extent that the reinsurer's obligations under the contract are secured in accordance with section 3. If a reinsurer's accreditation or certification is revoked, no credit for reinsurance may be granted after the effective date of the revocation except to the extent that the reinsurer's obligations under the contract are secured in accordance with Paragraph E(5) or Section 3.

# Section 3. Asset or Reduction from Liability for Reinsurance Ceded by a Domestic Insurer to an Assuming Insurer not Meeting the Requirements of Section 2

An asset or a reduction from liability for the reinsurance ceded by a domestic insurer to an assuming insurer not meeting the requirements of Section 2 shall be allowed in an amount not exceeding the liabilities carried by the ceding insurer. The reduction shall be in the amount of funds held by or on behalf of the ceding insurer, including funds held in trust for the ceding insurer, under a reinsurance contract with the assuming insurer as security for the payment of obligations thereunder, if the security is held in the United States subject to withdrawal solely by, and under the exclusive control of, the ceding insurer; or, in the case of a trust, held in a qualified U.S. financial institution, as defined in Section 4B. This security may be in the form of:

- A. Cash;
- B. Securities listed by the Securities Valuation Office of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners and qualifying as admitted assets;
- C. (1) Clean, irrevocable, unconditional letters of credit, issued or confirmed by a qualified U.S. financial institution, as defined in Section 4A, effective no later than December 31 of the year for which the filing is being made, and in the possession of, or in trust for, the ceding company on or before the filing date of its annual statement;
  - (2) Letters of credit meeting applicable standards of issuer acceptability as of the dates of their issuance (or confirmation) shall, notwithstanding the issuing

785-9

(or confirming) institution's subsequent failure to meet applicable standards of issuer acceptability, continue to be acceptable as security until their expiration, extension, renewal, modification or amendment, whichever first occurs; or

**Drafting Note**: Providing for the continuing acceptability of letters of credit whose issuers were acceptable when the credit support facility was first obtained is intended to avoid abrupt interruptions in the acceptability of credit support arrangements that run for specific periods of time, and thus unnecessary disruptions in the marketplace, on account of the issuing (or confirming) institution's subsequent failure to meet applicable standards of issuer acceptability (whether by virtue of a change in the issuing institution's ability to qualify under the original standards or as a result of revisions to the applicable standards). The provision stipulates that letters of credit acceptable when first obtained will, in the event of the subsequent nonqualification of the issuing (or confirming) institution, continue to be acceptable as security until the account party and beneficiary would first have, in the normal course of business, an opportunity to replace the credit support facility.

#### D. Any other form of security acceptable to the commissioner.

**Drafting Note**: There is no implication in the requirement that the security for the payment of obligations must be held under the exclusive control of the ceding insurer that either the reserve liability or the assets held in relation to the reserve liability have not been transferred for the purposes of statutory accounting by the ceding insurer to the reinsurer.

**Optional Section Drafting Note:** This model act applies only to the domestic ceding insurers of the enacting state. However, if the enacting state wishes to impose credit for reinsurance standards on foreign insurers, the following language should be inserted as Section 4 and the succeeding sections of the model act should be renumbered accordingly:

# Section []. Credit Allowed a Foreign Ceding Insurer [Optional]

A. Credit for reinsurance or reduction from liability shall be allowed a foreign ceding insurer to the extent that credit has been allowed by the ceding insurer's state of domicile if:

(1) The state of domicile is accredited by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners; or

(2) Credit or reduction from liability would be allowed under this statute if the foreign ceding insurer were domiciled in this state.

B. Credit for reinsurance or reduction from liability may be disallowed a foreign ceding insurer upon a finding by the commissioner that neither the condition of the reinsurer nor the collateral or other security provided by the reinsurer satisfies the credit for reinsurance requirements of this Act applicable to ceding insurers domiciled in this state.

# Section 4. Qualified U.S. Financial Institutions

- A. For purposes of Section 3C, a "qualified U.S. financial institution" means an institution that:
  - (1) Is organized or (in the case of a U.S. office of a foreign banking organization) licensed, under the laws of the United States or any state thereof;
  - (2) Is regulated, supervised and examined by U.S. federal or state authorities having regulatory authority over banks and trust companies; and
  - (3) Has been determined by either the commissioner or the Securities Valuation Office of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners to meet such standards of financial condition and standing as are considered necessary and appropriate to regulate the quality of financial institutions whose letters of credit will be acceptable to the commissioner.

**Drafting Note**: The NAIC's Securities Valuation Office (SVO) maintains, on a current basis, a list of all U.S. financial institutions that have, upon application to the SVO, been determined to meet the eligibility standards of its *Purposes and Procedures Manual*. These standards, developed by the NAIC's Letter of Credit (EX4) Study Group, make use of nationally recognized ratings services, and are more rigorous in the case of foreign banking organizations (whose standby letters of credit

must be issued or confirmed by a qualified U.S. financial institution) than those that are applicable to domestic financial institutions whose standby letters of credit would be considered acceptable.

- B. A "qualified U.S. financial institution" means, for purposes of those provisions of this law specifying those institutions that are eligible to act as a fiduciary of a trust, an institution that:
  - (1) Is organized, or, in the case of a U.S. branch or agency office of a foreign banking organization, licensed, under the laws of the United States or any state thereof and has been granted authority to operate with fiduciary powers; and
  - (2) Is regulated, supervised and examined by federal or state authorities having regulatory authority over banks and trust companies.

**Drafting Note**: Because assets held in a fiduciary capacity are not subject to the claims of the trustee's creditors, and because the trust departments of all U.S. financial institutions (including U.S. branch or agency offices of foreign banking organizations having fiduciary powers in the U.S.) are regulated, supervised and examined by the institution's primary U.S. bank regulatory authority (federal or state), there is no need to apply additional standards measuring the financial condition or standing of the institution, as in the case of determining those institutions whose standby letter of credit obligations will be considered acceptable.

# Section 5. Rules and Regulations

The commissioner may adopt rules and regulations implementing the provisions of this law.

**Drafting Note:** It is recognized that credit for reinsurance also can be affected by other sections of the enacting state's code, e.g., a statutory insolvency clause or an intermediary clause. It is recommended that states that do not have a statutory insolvency clause or an intermediary clause consider incorporating such clauses in their legislation.

### Section 6. Reinsurance Agreements Affected

This Act shall apply to all cessions after the effective date of this Act under reinsurance agreements that have an inception, anniversary or renewal date not less than six (6) months after the effective date of this Act.

**Drafting Note:** The enacting state may wish to provide a delay in the applicability greater than six (6) months to allow time for the insurance commissioner to promulgate regulations and to allow reinsurers to prepare and submit qualifying data.

Legislative History (All references are to the <u>Proceedings of the NAIC</u>).

<sup>1984</sup> Proc. II 9, 29, 822, 836, 837-839 (adopted).

<sup>1986</sup> Proc. I 9-10, 24, 799, 811, 812 (corrected).

<sup>1987</sup> Proc. II 15, 24, 444-448, 832, 854, 856 (amended and reprinted).

<sup>1990</sup> Proc. I 12-14, 851, 857-861 (amended at special plenary session September 1989 and reprinted).

<sup>1990</sup> Proc. I 6, 30, 840, 872, 875-878 (technical amendments adopted at winter plenary and reprinted).

<sup>1990</sup> Proc. II 7, 18, 748, 766, 780-783 (amended).

<sup>1993</sup> Proc. 4th Quarter 6, 31, 835-836, 874, 891 (amended).

<sup>1996</sup> Proc. 2nd Quarter 12, 12-17, 24, 862 (amended and reprinted).