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## Insurance Business Transfer and Corporate Division Transactions and Legislation

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## Panelists:

## Richard P. Bowman

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- Chair, ACLI Receivership Committee

## **Chris Cramer**

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## Moderator: Wayne Mehlman

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## What are these types of transactions?

## Insurance Business Transfer ("IBT")

- A transfer and novation by operation of law in which a company will transfer existing insurance obligations to an assuming insurer without policyholder consent
- The assuming insurer becomes directly liable to policyholders and the transferring insurer's obligations under the contracts are extinguished
- Legislation has been enacted in Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Vermont and Arizona
- The Oklahoma bill was based on legislation enacted in the United Kingdom (Part VII of its Financial Services and Markets Act of 2000)



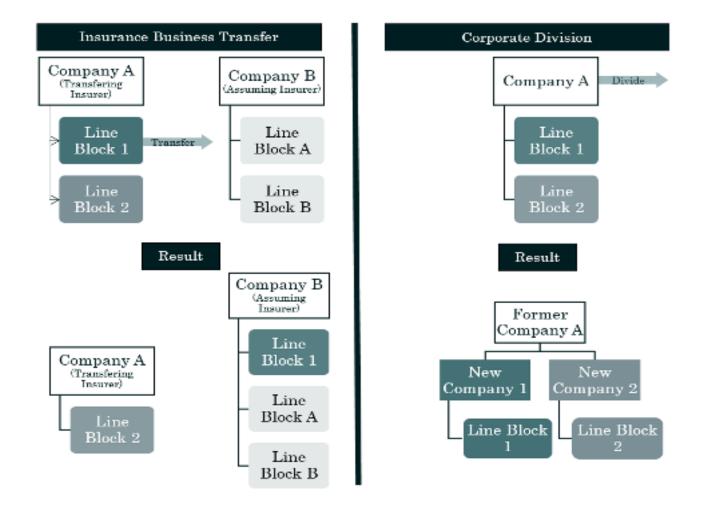
## What are these types of transactions?

#### **Corporate Division**

- A division of one insurer into two or more resulting insurers through a corporate level transaction
- Unlike an IBT, there is no transfer or novation by operation of law of existing insurance obligations
- Instead, the dividing insurer's assets and liabilities are allocated between or among the resulting insurers without policyholder consent
- Legislation has been enacted in Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Connecticut, Arizona and Pennsylvania
- Legislation is pending in Nebraska

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#### **COMPLIANCE & LEGAL SECTIONS ANNUAL MEETING 2019**





## Why do some insurers support and/or promote these types of transactions?

- There is a growing need for solutions that provide legal and economic finality to insurance risks in order to improve the efficient allocation of capital and management resources
- Assumption reinsurance is not a practical option, and indemnity reinsurance does not provide legal or economic finality
- Policyholders benefit when the "run-off" of legacy business is a management's core focus, rather than a "distraction" for an ongoing enterprise's management, shareholders, and regulators



## Why do some insurers support and/or promote these types of transactions?

- They permit an insurer to align its insurance business(es) with its current business strategy
- They allow an insurer to move policyholder obligations to a different qualified insurer and to extinguish its related obligations
- They allow for a company with specific expertise in managing legacy blocks of business to "run-off" closed blocks of business
- Policyholders may benefit when insurers are given flexibility to acquire and divest blocks of business



Why do some insurers oppose, or have concerns with, these types of transactions?

- Policyholders' contractual expectations to continue doing business with their insurers could be disrupted
- The transactions could be used to isolate poorlyperforming and/or difficult-to-value lines of business
  - This could result in an assuming or resulting insurer inheriting and/or incurring financial difficulties, which could lead to its eventual insolvency



Why do some insurers oppose, or have concerns with, these types of transactions?

- An assuming or resulting insurer may be licensed in only one state or in fewer states than the original insurer was licensed
  - If that entity were to become insolvent, it could create "orphan" policyholders across the country and single-state guaranty association coverage, which in turn could result in capacity issues and a delay in payments to policyholders
- The industry's long-standing credibility and reputation for keeping its promises could be jeopardized



What issues are regulators looking at with regard to these types of transactions?

- Appropriate financial and other standards for the original insurers and the assuming/resulting companies
- Policyholder and guaranty fund protections
- Legal issues relating to state reciprocity
- Potential constitutional challenges (e.g., due process, Contracts Clause)



## **Regulator Activity**

## <u>NAIC</u>

- Restructuring Mechanisms (E) Working Group
  - Review restructuring statutes and prepare a White Paper
  - Consider potential changes to the Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association Model Act and the Protected Cell Companies Model Act
  - <u>https://www.naic.org/cmte\_e\_res\_mech\_wg.htm</u>
- Restructuring Mechanisms (E) Subgroup
  - Consider the development of financial surveillance tools for companies in run-off, including capital, surplus and reserve requirements
  - <u>https://www.naic.org/cmte e res mech sg.htm</u>



## **Regulator Activity**

#### <u>NCOIL</u>

- Developing an IBT Model Act based on Oklahoma legislation
- Currently being addressed by its Joint State-Federal Relations
  & International Insurance Issues Committee
- Discussed at its Summer Meeting on July 11
- Discussion Draft can be found at: <u>http://ncoil.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/IBT-Model-Law-Draft.pdf</u>



## **ACLI** Principles

## **Development and adoption of Principles**

- Directive from ACLI's CEO Steering Committee on Prudential Issues
- Overseen by Receivership Committee, Reinsurance Committee and State Legislative Strategy Group
- A Drafting Group consisting of 22 ACLI member companies formulated potential Principles earlier this year
- Receivership Committee and Reinsurance Committee approved Principles in May
- Steering Committee adopted Principles on June 13
- Board of Directors adopted Principles on June 14



## **ACLI** Principles

## **Overview of Principles**

- Policyholders and other impacted stakeholders must have access to the process
- The regulatory review process must be robust
- Independent experts must be utilized as part of the process
- Court approval is required for IBT transactions, but not necessarily for corporate division transactions
- Policyholders and the state-based guaranty association system should be protected



## **ACLI** Principles

#### Sources used in developing Principles

- IBT laws from Oklahoma and Rhode Island
- Corporate division laws from Illinois, Connecticut and Michigan
- NAIC's Insurance Holding Company System Model Act (including "Form A")
- NAIC's Assumption Reinsurance Model
- United Kingdom's Part VII transfer law



## **ACLI** Principles

## **Topics addressed in developing Principles**

- Policyholder consent
- Court approval
- Regulatory oversight
- Transaction approval process
- Potential impact to policyholders
- Financial condition review
- Balance sheet considerations
- Operational impacts
- Owner and management qualifications



## **ACLI** Principles

## Topics addressed in developing Principles (continued)

- Independent expert report
- Public hearing
- Notice to policyholders and the general public
- Licensing in other states
- Consideration of guaranty association coverage of policyholders



## **ACLI** Principles

#### The following handouts are available on our Meeting App

- This Powerpoint presentation
- Overview of Principles
- Detailed chart of Principles
- Memorandum on U.K. Part VII Transfers



## Any Questions?



If you need any additional information, please contact:

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