

2021 Kansas Statutes

40-3304. Transactions affecting control of domestic insurer; approval of commissioner; statement filed with commissioner, contents, filing fee; substitution of securities registration statement; disapproval of transaction, hearing; consolidated hearing and opt-out; retainer of professionals and experts to assist review; exempt transactions; violations; jurisdiction of courts; service of process. (a) (1) No person other than the issuer shall make a tender offer for or a request or invitation for tenders of, or enter into any agreement to exchange securities or, seek to acquire, or acquire, in the open market or otherwise, any voting security of a domestic insurer if, after the consummation thereof, such person would, directly or indirectly, or by conversion or by exercise of any right to acquire, be in control of such insurer, and no person shall enter into an agreement to merge with or otherwise to acquire control of a domestic insurer or any person controlling a domestic insurer unless, at the time any such offer, request, or invitation is made or any such agreement is entered into, or prior to the acquisition of such securities if no offer or agreement is involved, such person has filed with the commissioner of insurance and has sent to such insurer, a statement containing the information required by this section and such offer, request, invitation, agreement or acquisition has been approved by the commissioner of insurance in the manner hereinafter prescribed. The requirements of this section shall not apply to the merger or consolidation of those companies subject to the requirements of K.S.A. 40-507 and 40-1216 through 40-1225, and amendments thereto.

(2) For purposes of this section, any controlling person of a domestic insurer seeking to divest its controlling interest in the domestic insurer, in any manner, shall file with the commissioner, with a copy to the insurer, confidential notice of its proposed divestiture at least 30 days prior to the cessation of control. The commissioner shall determine those instances in which each party seeking to divest or to acquire a controlling interest in an insurer shall be required to file for and obtain approval of the transaction. The information shall remain confidential until the conclusion of the transaction unless the commissioner, in the commissioner's discretion, determines that confidential treatment will interfere with enforcement of this section. If the statement referred to in paragraph (1) is otherwise filed, this paragraph shall not apply.

(3) With respect to a transaction subject to this section, the acquiring person shall also be required to file a preacquisition notification with the commissioner, and such preacquisition notification shall contain the information in the form and manner prescribed by the commissioner through rules and regulations.

(4) For the purposes of this section:

(A) A domestic insurer shall include any person controlling a domestic insurer unless such person as determined by the commissioner of insurance is either directly or through its affiliates primarily engaged in business other than the business of insurance.

(B) "Person" shall not include any securities broker holding, in the usual and customary broker's function, less than 20% of the voting securities of the insurance company or of any person which controls the insurance company.

(b) The statement to be filed with the commissioner of insurance hereunder shall be made under oath or affirmation, shall be accompanied by a nonrefundable filing fee of \$1,000 and shall contain the following information:

(1) The name and address of each person by whom or on whose behalf the merger or other acquisition of control referred to in subsection (a) is to be affected, hereinafter called "acquiring party," and:

(A) If such person is an individual, such individual's principal occupation, all offices and

positions held by such individual during the past five years and any conviction of crimes other than minor traffic violations during the past 10 years;

(B) if such person is not an individual, a report of the nature of its business operations during the past five years or for such lesser period as such person and any predecessors thereof shall have been in existence; an informative description of the business intended to be done by such person and such person's subsidiaries; and a list of all individuals who are or who have been selected to become directors or executive officers of such person, or who perform or will perform functions appropriate to such positions. Such list shall include for each such individual the information required by subparagraph (A);

(2) the source, nature and amount of the consideration used or to be used in effecting the merger or other acquisition of control, a description of any transaction wherein funds were or are to be obtained for any such purpose including any pledge of the insurer's stock, or the stock of any of its subsidiaries or controlling affiliates, and the identity of persons furnishing such consideration, except that where a source of such consideration is a loan made in the lender's ordinary course of business, the identity of the lender shall remain confidential, if the person filing such statement so requests;

(3) fully audited financial information as to the earnings and financial condition of each acquiring party for the preceding five fiscal years of each such acquiring party or for such lesser period as such acquiring party and any predecessors thereof shall have been in existence and similar unaudited information as of a date not earlier than 90 days prior to the filing of the statement;

(4) any plans or proposals that each acquiring party may have to liquidate such insurer, to sell its assets, merge or consolidate it with any person or to make any other material change to its business, corporate structure or management;

(5) the number of shares of any security referred to in subsection (a) that each acquiring party proposes to acquire and the terms of the offer, request, invitation, agreement or acquisition referred to in subsection (a) and a statement regarding the method utilized to determine the fairness of the proposal;

(6) the amount of each class of any security referred to in subsection (a) that is beneficially owned or concerning which there is a right to acquire beneficial ownership by each acquiring party;

(7) a full description of any contracts, arrangements or understandings with respect to any security referred to in subsection (a) in which any acquiring party is involved, including, but not limited to, transfer of any of the securities, joint ventures, loan or option arrangements, puts or calls, guarantees of loans, guarantees against loss or guarantees of profits, division of losses or profits, or the giving or withholding of proxies. Such description shall identify the persons with whom such contracts, arrangements or understandings have been entered into;

(8) a description of the purchase of any security referred to in subsection (a) during the 12 calendar months preceding the filing of the statement, by any acquiring party, including the dates of purchase, names of the purchasers and consideration paid or agreed to be paid therefor;

(9) a description of any recommendations to purchase any security referred to in subsection (a) made during the 12 calendar months preceding the filing of the statement, by any acquiring party, or by anyone based upon interviews or at the suggestion of such acquiring party;

(10) copies of all tender offers for, requests or invitations for tenders of, exchange offers for and agreements to acquire or exchange any securities referred to in subsection (a) and, if distributed, of additional soliciting material relating thereto;

(11) the terms of any agreement, contract or understanding made with or proposed to be

made with any broker-dealer as to solicitation of securities referred to in subsection (a) for tender and the amount of any fees, commissions or other compensation to be paid to broker-dealers with regard thereto;

(12) an agreement by the person required to file the statement referred to in subsection (a) that such person will provide the annual report, specified in K.S.A. 40-3305(l), and amendments thereto, for so long as control exists;

(13) an acknowledgment by the person required to file the statement referred to in subsection (a) that the person and all subsidiaries within its control in the insurance holding company system will provide to the commissioner of insurance upon request such information as the commissioner of insurance deems necessary to evaluate enterprise risk to the insurer; and

(14) such additional information as the commissioner of insurance may by rule or regulation prescribe as necessary or appropriate for the protection of policyholders of the insurer or in the public interest.

If the person required to file the statement referred to in subsection (a) is a partnership, limited partnership, syndicate or other group, the commissioner of insurance may require that the information called for by paragraphs (1) through (14) shall be given with respect to each partner of such partnership or limited partnership, each member of such syndicate or group and each person who controls such partner or member. If any such partner, member or person is a corporation or the person required to file the statement referred to in subsection (a) is a corporation, the commissioner of insurance may require that the information called for by paragraphs (1) through (14) shall be given with respect to such corporation, each officer and director of such corporation and each person who is directly or indirectly the beneficial owner of more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of such corporation.

If any material change occurs in the facts set forth in the statement filed with the commissioner of insurance and sent to such insurer pursuant to this section, an amendment setting forth such change, together with copies of all documents and other material relevant to such change, shall be filed with the commissioner of insurance and sent to such insurer within two business days after the person learns of such change.

(c) If any offer, request, invitation, agreement or acquisition referred to in subsection (a) is proposed to be made by means of a registration statement under the securities act of 1933 or in circumstances requiring the disclosure of similar information under the securities exchange act of 1934, or under a state law requiring similar registration or disclosure, the person required to file the statement referred to in subsection (a) may utilize such documents in furnishing the information called for by that statement.

(d) (1) The commissioner of insurance shall approve any merger or other acquisition of control referred to in subsection (a) unless, after a public hearing thereon conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Kansas administrative procedure act, the commissioner of insurance finds that:

(A) After the change of control the domestic insurer referred to in subsection (a) would not be able to satisfy the requirements for the issuance of a license to write the line or lines of insurance for which it is presently licensed;

(B) the financial condition of any acquiring party is such as might jeopardize the financial stability of the insurer or prejudice the interest of its policyholders;

(C) the plans or proposals which the acquiring party has to liquidate the insurer, sell its assets, consolidate or merge it with any person, or to make any other material change in its business, corporate structure or management, are unfair and unreasonable to policyholders of the insurer or are not in the public interest;

(D) the competence, experience and integrity of those persons who would control the

operation of the insurer are such that it would not be in the interest of policyholders of the insurer or of the public to permit the merger or other acquisition of control; or

(E) the acquisition is likely to be hazardous or prejudicial to the insurance-buying public.

(2) The public hearing referred to in subsection (d)(1) shall be held as soon as practical after the statement required by this subsection (a) is filed, and at least 20 days' notice thereof shall be given by the commissioner of insurance to the person filing the statement. Not less than seven days' notice of such public hearing shall be given by the person filing the statement to the insurer and to such other persons as may be designated by the commissioner of insurance. At such hearing, the person filing the statement, the insurer, any person to whom notice of hearing was sent and any other person whose interests may be affected thereby shall have the right to present evidence, examine and cross-examine witnesses and offer oral and written arguments in accordance with the Kansas administrative procedure act. In the absence of intervention, such insurer or person shall have the right to present oral or written statements in accordance with K.S.A. 77-523(c), and amendments thereto.

(3) If the proposed acquisition of control will require the approval of more than one commissioner of insurance, the public hearing referred to in paragraph (2) may be held on a consolidated basis upon request of the person filing the statement referred to in subsection (a). Such person shall file the statement referred to in subsection (a) with the national association of insurance commissioners within five days of making the request for a public hearing. A commissioner of insurance may opt out of a consolidated hearing and shall provide notice to the applicant of the opt-out within 10 days of the receipt of the statement referred to in subsection (a). A hearing conducted on a consolidated basis shall be public and shall be held within the United States before the commissioners of insurance of the states in which the insurers are domiciled. Such commissioners of insurance shall hear and receive evidence. A commissioner of insurance may attend such hearing in person or by telecommunication.

(4) As a condition of a change of control of a domestic insurer, any determination by the commissioner of insurance that the person acquiring control of the insurer shall be required to maintain or restore the capital of the insurer to the level required by the laws and regulations of this state shall be made not later than 60 days after the date of notification of the change in control submitted pursuant to subsection (a).

(5) The commissioner of insurance may retain at the acquiring person's expense any attorneys, actuaries, accountants and other experts not otherwise a part of the staff of the commissioner of insurance as the commissioner of insurance deems to be reasonably necessary to assist the commissioner of insurance in reviewing the proposed acquisition of control.

(e) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any offer, request, invitation, agreement or acquisition that the commissioner of insurance by order shall exempt therefrom as:

(1) Not having been made or entered into for the purpose and not having the effect of changing or influencing the control of a domestic insurer; or

(2) as otherwise not comprehended within the purposes of this section.

(f) The following shall be violations of this section:

(1) The failure to file any statement, amendment or other material required to be filed pursuant to subsection (a) or (b); or

(2) the effectuation or any attempt to effectuate an acquisition of control of, or merger with, a domestic insurer unless the commissioner of insurance has given the requisite approval thereto.

(g) The courts of this state are hereby vested with jurisdiction over every securityholder of

a domestic insurer and every person not resident, domiciled or authorized to do business in this state who files a statement with the commissioner of insurance under this section and over all actions involving such person arising out of violations of this section. Each such person shall be deemed to have performed acts equivalent to and constituting an appointment by such a person of the commissioner of insurance to be such person's true and lawful attorney upon whom may be served all lawful process in any action, suit or proceeding arising out of violations of this section. Copies of all such lawful process shall be served on the commissioner of insurance and transmitted by registered or certified mail by the commissioner of insurance to such person at such person's last known address.

History: L. 1974, ch. 183, § 4; L. 1976, ch. 217, § 2; L. 1983, ch. 159, § 1; L. 1988, ch. 356, § 119; L. 1990, ch. 173, § 2; L. 1992, ch. 288, § 2; L. 1997, ch. 166, § 3; L. 2013, ch. 15, § 4; L. 2021, ch. 108, § 11; July 1.