DIGEST

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Seabaugh HB No. 665

Abstract: Prohibits insurers from reducing the limits of liability in an insurance policy by the cost of defense.

<u>Proposed law</u> prohibits insurers from issuing a liability policy that includes reducing the policy's limits of liability by the cost to defend a claim.

<u>Proposed law</u> prevents the commissioner of insurance from waiving the prohibition for all personal lines, and medical malpractice insurance, but allows the commissioner to waive the prohibition for other types of coverage.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides the requirements for any policy or contract of insurance issued pursuant to a waiver.

<u>Proposed law</u> authorizes the commissioner of insurance to promulgate rules in accordance with the APA.

(Adds R.S. 22:1272)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Insurance to the original bill.

- 1. Clarified that the insurance policy must be issued by an authorized insurer.
- 2. Deleted commercial vehicle and commercial general liability from the types of insurance for which the commissioner may not waive the prohibitions enacted by proposed law.
- 3. Deleted authority of commissioner of insurance to prescribe the form, content and placement of the notice that the insurance contract contain defense costs within the limit of liability.
- 4. Clarified that <u>proposed law</u> shall not apply to "surplus lines insurance".
- 5. Made technical changes.

House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill.

1. Made technical changes.