12 5lr2492

By: Delegate Kullen

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2005 Assigned to: Economic Matters

|                            | A BILL ENTITLED   |
|----------------------------|---|
| 1                          | AN ACT concerning   |
| 2 3                        | Credit Regulation - Loans Secured by Real Property - Insurance Coverage<br>Requirements   |
| 4<br>5<br>6<br>7<br>8<br>9 | FOR the purpose of altering the manner in which certain lenders and credit grantors may determine the replacement value of improvements on real property that secures certain loans made by the lenders and credit grantors; requiring any property insurance coverage required by certain lenders and credit grantors to bear a reasonable relation to the existing risk of loss; correcting certain erroneous references; and generally relating to loans secured by real property. |
| 10<br>11<br>12<br>13<br>14 | Annotated Code of Maryland  |
| 15<br>16                   | SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:  |
| 17                         | Article - Commercial Law  |
| 18                         | 12-124.   |
| 19                         | (a) (1) (i) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.  |
| 22                         | (ii) "Property insurance coverage" means property insurance against losses caused by perils that commonly are covered in insurance policies described with terms similar to "standard fire" or "standard fire with extended coverage".  |
|                            | (iii) "Flood insurance coverage" means flood insurance against losses caused by flooding that are covered under a policy issued under the National Flood Insurance Act by:  |
| 27                         | 1. The federal government; or   |

| 1        | 2. An insurer.  |
|----------|---|
| 4<br>5   | (2) A lender may not require a borrower, as a condition to receiving or maintaining a loan secured by a first mortgage or first deed of trust, to provide or purchase property insurance coverage against risks to any improvements on any real property in an amount exceeding the replacement value of the improvements on the real property. |
| 9        | (3) A lender may not require a borrower, as a condition to receiving or maintaining a loan secured by a first mortgage or first deed of trust, to provide or purchase flood insurance coverage in an amount exceeding the replacement value of the improvements on the real property.   |
| 11<br>12 | (4) In determining the replacement value of the improvements on any real property, the lender [may]:  |
| 13<br>14 | (i) [Accept] MAY ACCEPT the value placed on the improvements by the insurer; [or] AND   |
| 15<br>16 | (ii) [Use] MAY NOT USE the value placed on the improvements that is determined by the lender's appraisal of the real property.  |
| 17<br>18 | (5) ANY PROPERTY INSURANCE COVERAGE REQUIRED BY A LENDER SHALL BEAR A REASONABLE RELATION TO THE EXISTING RISK OF LOSS.   |
| 19<br>20 | [(5)] (6) A lender may not require that the insurance be purchased through a particular insurance producer or insurance company.  |
| 21       | (b) (1) A violation of this section shall entitle the borrower to:  |
| 22<br>23 | (i) Seek an injunction to prohibit the lender who has engaged or is engaging in the violation from continuing or engaging in the violation;   |
| 24       | (ii) Reasonable attorney's fees; and  |
| 25       | (iii) Damages directly resulting from the violation.  |
| 26<br>27 | (2) A violation of this section does not affect the validity of the first mortgage or first deed of trust securing the loan.  |
| 28       | 12-410.   |
| 31       | (f) (1) (i) In this paragraph, "property insurance coverage" means property insurance against losses caused by perils that commonly are covered in insurance policies described with terms similar to "standard fire" or "standard fire with extended coverage".  |
| 35       | (ii) A lender may not require a borrower, as a condition to receiving or maintaining a secondary mortgage loan, to provide or purchase property insurance coverage against risks to any improvements on any real property in an amount exceeding the replacement value of the improvements on the real property.                                |

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| 1 2      | (iii) In determining the replacement value of the improvements on ny real property, the lender [may]:  |
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| 3        | 1. [Accept] MAY USE the value placed on the improvements by the insurer; [or] AND  |
| 5<br>6   | 2. [Use] MAY NOT USE the value placed on the mprovements that is determined by the lender's appraisal of the real property.  |
| 7<br>8   | (iv) Any property insurance coverage required by a lender shall bear reasonable relation to the existing risk of loss.   |
| 9<br>10  | (v) A violation of this paragraph or of subsection (h) of this section shall entitle the borrower to:  |
| 11<br>12 | 1. Seek an injunction to prohibit the lender who has engaged or is engaging in the violation from continuing or engaging in the violation;   |
| 13       | 2. Reasonable attorney's fees; and   |
| 14       | 3. Damages directly resulting from the violation.  |
|          | (vi) A violation of this paragraph or of subsection (h) of this section does not affect the validity of the mortgage or deed of trust securing the secondary mortgage loan.  |
| 18       | 12-909.  |
| 21       | (e) (1) In this subsection, "property insurance coverage" means property insurance against losses caused by perils that commonly are covered in insurance policies described with terms similar to "standard fire" or "standard fire with extended coverage".  |
| 25<br>26 | (2) (i) A credit grantor may not require a borrower, as a condition to receiving or maintaining a loan secured by a first lien, to provide or purchase property insurance coverage against risks to any improvements on any real property in an amount exceeding the replacement value of the improvements on the real property. |
| 28<br>29 | (ii) In determining the replacement value of the improvements on any real property, the [lender may] CREDIT GRANTOR:   |
| 30<br>31 | 1. [Accept] MAY ACCEPT the value placed on the improvements by the insurer; [or] AND   |
|          | 2. [Use] MAY NOT USE the value placed on the improvements that is determined by the [lender's] CREDIT GRANTOR'S appraisal of the real property.  |
| 35<br>36 | (3) ANY PROPERTY INSURANCE COVERAGE REQUIRED BY A CREDIT GRANTOR SHALL BEAR A REASONABLE RELATION TO THE EXISTING RISK OF LOSS.  |

A violation of this subsection does not affect the validity of the

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[(4)]

33 first lien securing the loan.

(5)

- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
- 2 effect October 1, 2005.