

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
1993 SESSION

CHAPTER 495
SENATE BILL 1111

AN ACT TO ALLOW EACH OF THE MEMBERS OF THE FARMERS MUTUAL
FIRE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF NORTH CAROLINA TO BE
INDEPENDENTLY CHARTERED.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. Article 8 of Chapter 58 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

"§ 58-8-60. Independent charters for members of the Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Association of North Carolina.

(a) Each branch of the Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Association of North Carolina ('Association'), created by Chapter 343 of the 1893 Private Laws of North Carolina, as amended, shall adopt articles of incorporation by a majority vote of its board of directors.

(b) The articles of incorporation shall provide for the name of the corporation, to be approved by the Commissioner; the kinds of insurance it proposes to transact and on what business plan or principle; and the place of its location in the State. The certificate of incorporation must be subscribed and sworn to by a majority of the board of directors before an officer authorized to take acknowledgement of deeds, who shall certify the certificate to the Commissioner. The Commissioner shall review the certificate and articles of incorporation and file them with the Secretary of State in accordance with G.S. 58-7-35 upon payment of the required fees.

(c) The independently chartered former branches of the Association shall transact the same kinds of insurance and operate under the same business plan as they did as members of the Association. The assets of each independently chartered former branch shall remain the assets of the corporation to which the branch is converted pursuant to this section.

(d) The independently chartered former branches of the Association may change their methods of operation upon compliance with G.S. 58-8-5 and applicable provisions of this Chapter.

(e) The corporations created under this section are subject to applicable provisions of this Chapter.

(f) The corporations created under this section shall enjoy the same rights, privileges, and exemptions as enjoyed by the former Association.

(g) No officer nor member of the board of directors of an independently chartered former branch shall incur any liability for actions taken in good faith pursuant to this section.

Sec. 2. Chapter 343 of the 1893 Private Laws of North Carolina, Chapter 15 of the 1895 Private Laws of North Carolina, Chapter 123 of the 1897 Private Laws of North Carolina, Chapter 18 of the 1903 Private Laws of North Carolina, Chapter 212 of the 1909 Private Laws of North Carolina, Chapter 445 of the 1911 Private Laws of North Carolina, Chapter 187 of the 1921 Private Laws of North Carolina, Chapter 285 of the 1945 Session Laws of North Carolina, and Chapter 674 of the 1949 Session Laws of North Carolina are repealed; and the Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Association of North Carolina is hereby abolished.

Sec. 3. Nothing in this act affects any policy that was written or issued by any branch of the Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Association of North Carolina.

Sec. 4. G.S. 105-228.4(a) reads as rewritten:

"(a) Each insurance company shall, as a condition precedent for doing business in this State, on or before the first day of March of each year apply for and obtain from the Commissioner of Insurance a certificate of registration, or license, effective the first day of July, and shall pay for such certificate the following annual fees except as hereinafter provided in subsections (b) and (c):

For each domestic farmer's mutual assessment fire insurance company or association, and branch thereof	\$ 25.00
For each fraternal order	100.00
For each of all other insurance companies, except mutual burial associations taxed under G.S. 105-121.1	500.00

The fees levied above shall be in addition to those specified in G.S. 58-6-5."

Sec. 5. This act becomes effective January 1, 1994.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 23rd day of July, 1993.

Dennis A. Wicker
President of the Senate

Daniel Blue, Jr.
Speaker of the House of Representatives