

HB 1531 -- INTERPLEADING IN CIVIL PROCEEDINGS (DeGroot)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Special Committee on Litigation Reform

This bill modifies the circumstances in which a party may be joined in a civil action. The bill clarifies that a plaintiff's insured may be joined as a defendant and required to interplead when the plaintiff may be exposed to multiple claims against the same insurance coverage. The bill further sets forth a procedure by which an insurer or risk management entity may timely deposit all applicable limits of coverage into court in an interpleader action, and will not be further liable for any amount in excess of its contractual limits of coverage so long as the insurer defends its insured from any further claim or lawsuit.