Session of 2014

SENATE BILL No. 299

By Committee on Financial Institutions and Insurance

1-23

AN ACT concerning insolvent insurance companies; pertaining to certain 1 2 exemptions for the federal home loan bank; amending K.S.A. 40-3609, 40-3619, 40-3625, 40-3629, 40-3630 and 40-3631 and repealing the 3 4 existing sections. 5 6 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:* 7 Section 1. K.S.A. 40-3609 is hereby amended to read as follows: 40-8 3609. (a) Except as provided in subsection (c), any receiver appointed in a proceeding under this act may at any time apply for, and the district court 9 of Shawnee county may grant, such restraining orders, preliminary and 10 11 permanent injunctions and other orders as may be deemed necessary and 12 proper to prevent: 13 (1) The transaction of further business; 14 (2) the transfer of property; (3) interference with the receiver or with a proceeding under this act; 15 (4) waste of the insurer's assets; 16 (5) dissipation and transfer of bank accounts; 17 18 (6) the institution or further prosecution of any actions or 19 proceedings; 20 judgments, (7) the obtaining of preferences, attachments. 21 garnishments or liens against the insurer, its assets or its policyholders; 22 (8) the levying of execution against the insurer, its assets or its 23 policyholders: 24 (9) the making of any sale or deed for nonpayment of taxes or 25 assessments that would lessen the value of the assets of the insurer; 26 (10) the withholding from the receiver of books, accounts, documents 27 or other records relating to the business of the insurer; or 28 (11) any other threatened or contemplated action that might lessen the 29 value of the insurer's assets or prejudice the rights of policyholders, 30 creditors or shareholders, or the administration of any proceeding under 31 this act. 32 (b) Except as provided in subsection (c), the receiver may apply to 33 any court outside the state for the relief described in subsection (a). 34 (c) No federal home loan bank shall be stayed, enjoined, or 35 prohibited from exercising or enforcing any right or cause of action regarding collateral pledged under: 36

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(1) Any federal home loan **bank** security agreement; or

2 (2) any pledge, security, collateral or guarantee agreement or other
 3 similar arrangement or credit enhancement relating to such security
 4 agreement.

5 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 40-3619 is hereby amended to read as follows: 40-6 3619. (a) Except as provided in subsection (d), any court in this state 7 before which any action or proceeding in which the insurer is a party, or is 8 obligated to defend a party, is pending when a rehabilitation order against 9 the insurer is entered shall stay the action or proceeding for 90 days and 10 such additional time as is necessary for the rehabilitator to obtain proper representation and prepare for further proceedings. The rehabilitator shall 11 take such action respecting the pending litigation as necessary in the 12 13 interests of justice and for the protection of creditors, policyholders and 14 the public. The rehabilitator shall immediately consider all litigation 15 pending outside this state and shall petition the courts having jurisdiction 16 over such litigation for stays whenever necessary to protect the estate of 17 the insurer

18 (b) Except as provided in subsection (d), no statute of limitation or 19 defense of laches shall run with respect to any action by or against an 20 insurer between the filing of a petition for appointment of a rehabilitator 21 for that insurer and the order granting and denying that petition. Any 22 action against the insurer that might have been commenced when the 23 petition was filed may be commenced for at least 60 days after the order or 24 rehabilitation is entered or the petition is denied. The rehabilitator, upon an 25 order for rehabilitation, within one year or such other longer time as applicable law may permit, may institute an action or proceeding on behalf 26 27 of the insurer upon any cause of action against which the period of 28 limitation fixed by applicable law has not expired at the time of the filing 29 of the petition upon which such order is entered.

(c) Any guaranty association or foreign guaranty association covering life or health insurance or annuities shall have standing to appear in any court proceeding concerning the rehabilitation of a life or health insurer if such association is or may become liable to act as a result of the rehabilitation.

(d) No federal home loan bank shall be stayed, enjoined, or
 prohibited from exercising or enforcing any right or cause of action
 regarding collateral pledged under:

(1) Any federal home loan **bank** security agreement; or

any pledge, security, collateral or guarantee agreement or other
 similar arrangement or credit enhancement relating to such security
 agreement.

42 Sec. 3. K.S.A. 40-3625 is hereby amended to read as follows: 40-43 3625. (a) The liquidator shall have the power: 1 (1) To appoint a special deputy or deputies to act for the liquidator 2 under this act, and to determine reasonable compensation for such 3 deputies. The special deputy shall have all powers of the liquidator granted 4 by this section. The special deputy shall serve at the pleasure of the 5 liquidator;

6 (2) to employ employees and agents, legal counsel, actuaries, 7 accountants, appraisers, consultants and other personnel necessary to assist 8 in the liquidation;

9 (3) to appoint an advisory committee of policyholders, claimants or 10 other creditors including guaranty associations should such a committee be 11 deemed necessary. Such committee shall serve at the pleasure of the 12 commissioner and shall serve without compensation other than 13 reimbursement for personal travel and per diem living expenses. No other 14 committee of any nature shall be appointed by the commissioner or the 15 court in liquidation proceedings conducted under this act;

16 (4) to fix the reasonable compensation of employees and agents, legal 17 counsel, actuaries, accountants, appraisers and consultants with the 18 approval of the court;

(5) to pay reasonable compensation to persons appointed and to
defray from the funds or assets of the insurer all expenses of taking
possession of, conserving, conducting, liquidating, disposing of, or
otherwise dealing with the business and property of the insurer;

(6) to hold hearings, to subpoena witnesses to compel their attendance, to administer oaths, to examine any person under oath, and to compel any person to subscribe to testimony of the person after the testimony has been correctly reduced to writing; and in connection therewith to require the production of any books, papers, records or other documents which are relevant to the inquiry. Such hearings shall be held in accordance with the Kansas administrative procedure act;

30 (7) to audit the books and records of all agents of the insurer insofar
31 as those records relate to the business activities of the insurer;

32 (8) to collect all debts and moneys due and claims belonging to the33 insurer, wherever located, and for this purpose:

(A) To institute timely action in other jurisdictions, in order toforestall garnishment and attachment proceedings against such debts;

(B) to do such other acts as are necessary or expedient to collect,
conserve or protect such insurer's assets or property, including the power
to sell, compound, compromise or assign debts for purposes of collection
upon reasonable terms and conditions; and

40 41 (C) to pursue any creditor's remedies available to enforce claims;

(9) to conduct public and private sales of the property of the insurer;

42 (10) to use assets of the estate of an insurer under a liquidation order 43 to transfer policy obligations to a solvent assuming insurer, if the transfer can be arranged without prejudice to applicable priorities under K.S.A. 40 3641, and amendments thereto;

(11) to acquire, hypothecate, encumber, lease, improve, sell, transfer, abandon or otherwise dispose of or deal with, any property of the insurer at its market value or upon such terms and conditions as are fair and reasonable. The liquidator shall also have power to execute, acknowledge and deliver any and all deeds, assignments, releases and other instruments necessary or proper to effectuate any sale of property or other transaction in connection with the liquidation;

(12) to borrow money on the security of the insurer's assets or
without security and to execute and deliver all documents necessary to that
transaction for the purpose of facilitating the liquidation. Any such funds
borrowed may be repaid as an administrative expense and have priority
over any other claims in class 1 under the priority of distribution;

15 (13) to enter into such contracts as are necessary to carry out the 16 order to liquidate, and to affirm or disavow any contracts to which the 17 insurer is a party, *except that no liquidator shall have the power to* 18 *disavow, reject or repudiate:*

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(A) Any federal home loan bank security agreement; or

(B) any pledge, security, collateral or guarantee agreement or any
other similar arrangement or credit enhancement relating to such security
agreement;

(14) to continue to prosecute and to institute in the name of the insurer or in the liquidator's name any and all suits and other legal proceedings, in this state or outside this state, and to abandon the prosecution of unprofitable claims. If the insurer is dissolved under K.S.A. 40-3624, *and amendments thereto*, the liquidator shall have the power to apply to any court in this state or elsewhere for leave to substitute such liquidator for the insurer as plaintiff;

(15) to prosecute any action which may exist on behalf of the
creditors, members, policyholders or shareholders of the insurer against
any officer of the insurer, or any other person;

(16) to remove any or all records and property of the insurer to the offices of the commissioner or to such other place as may be convenient for the purposes of efficient and orderly execution of the liquidation. Guaranty associations and foreign guaranty associations shall have such reasonable access to the records of the insurer as is necessary for them to carry out their statutory obligations;

(17) to deposit in one or more banks in this state such sums as are
 required for meeting current administration expenses and dividend
 distributions;

42 (18) to invest all sums not currently needed, unless the court orders 43 otherwise; 1 (19) to file any necessary documents for record in the office of any 2 register of deeds or record office in this state or elsewhere where property 3 of the insurer is located:

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(20) to assert all defenses available to the insurer as against third 5 persons, including statutes of limitation, statutes of frauds and the defense 6 of usury. A waiver of any defense by the insurer after a petition in 7 liquidation has been filed shall not bind the liquidator. Whenever a 8 guaranty association or foreign guaranty association has an obligation to defend any suit, the liquidator shall give precedence to such obligation and 9 may defend only in the absence of a defense by such guaranty 10 11 associations:

12 (21) to exercise and enforce all the rights, remedies and powers of any creditor, shareholder, policyholder or member; including any power to 13 14 avoid any transfer or lien that may be given by the general law and that is 15 not included with K.S.A. 40-3629 through 40-3631, and amendments 16 thereto:

17 (22) to intervene in any proceeding wherever instituted that might 18 lead to the appointment of a receiver or trustee, and to act as the receiver 19 or trustee whenever the appointment is offered;

20 (23) to enter into agreements with any receiver or commissioner of 21 any other state relating to the rehabilitation, liquidation, conservation or 22 dissolution of an insurer doing business in both states; and

23 (24) to exercise all powers now held or hereafter conferred upon 24 receivers by the laws of this state not inconsistent with the provisions of 25 this act.

26 (b) The enumeration, in this section, of the powers and authority of 27 the liquidator shall not be construed as limitation upon the liquidator, nor 28 shall it exclude in any manner the right to do such other acts not 29 specifically enumerated or otherwise provided for, as may be necessary or 30 appropriate for the accomplishment of or in aid of the purpose of 31 liquidation.

32 (c) Notwithstanding the powers of the liquidator as stated in 33 subsections (a) and (b), the liquidator shall have no obligation to defend 34 claims or to continue to defend claims subsequent to the entry of a 35 liquidation order.

36 Sec. 4. K.S.A. 40-3629 is hereby amended to read as follows: 40-37 3629. (a) Except as provided in subsection (e), every transfer made or 38 suffered and every obligation incurred by an insurer within one year prior 39 to the filing of a successful petition for rehabilitation or liquidation under 40 this act is fraudulent as to then existing and future creditors if made or incurred without fair consideration, or with actual intent to hinder, delay or 41 42 defraud either existing or future creditors. A transfer made or an obligation 43 incurred by an insurer ordered to be rehabilitated or liquidated under this

1 act, which is fraudulent under this section, may be avoided by the receiver,

2 except as to a person who in good faith is a purchaser, lienor or obligee for 3 a present fair equivalent value, and except that any purchaser, lienor or 4 obligee, who in good faith has given a consideration less than fair for such 5 transfer, lien or obligation, may retain the property, lien or obligation as 6 security for repayment. The court, on due notice, may order any such 7 transfer or obligation to be preserved for the benefit of the estate, and in 8 that event, the receiver shall succeed to and may enforce the rights of the 9 purchaser, lienor, or obligee.

10 (b) (1) A transfer of property other than real property shall be deemed 11 to be made or suffered when it becomes so far perfected that no 12 subsequent lien obtainable by legal or equitable proceedings on a simple 13 contract could become superior to the rights of the transferee.

(2) A transfer of real property shall be deemed to be made or suffered
when it becomes so far perfected that no subsequent bona fide purchaser
from the insurer could obtain rights superior to the rights of the transferee.

17 (3) A transfer which creates an equitable lien shall not be deemed to 18 be perfected if there are available means by which a legal lien could be 19 created.

(4) Any transfer not perfected prior to the filing of a petition for
 liquidation shall be deemed to be made immediately before the filing of
 the successful petition.

(5) The provisions of this subsection apply whether or not there are or
 were creditors who might have obtained any liens or persons who might
 have become bona fide purchasers.

(c) Any transaction of the insurer with a reinsurer shall be deemed
fraudulent and may be avoided by the receiver under subsection (a) if:

(1) The transaction consists of the termination, adjustment or
settlement of a reinsurance contract in which the reinsurer is released from
any part of its duty to pay the originally specified share of losses that had
occurred prior to the time of the transactions, unless the reinsurer gives a
present fair equivalent value for the release; and

(2) any part of the transaction took place within one year prior to the
 date of filing of the petition through which the receivership was
 commenced.

(d) Every person receiving any property from the insurer or any
benefit thereof which is a fraudulent transfer under subsection (a) shall be
personally liable therefor and shall be bound to account to the liquidator.

39 (e) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), no receiver shall be 40 entitled to avoid any transfer of, or any obligation to transfer, money or 41 any other property arising under or in connection with:

42 (A) Any federal home loan bank security agreement; or

43 (B) any pledge, security, collateral or guarantee agreement or any

other similar arrangement or credit enhancement relating to such federal
 home loan bank security agreement.

3 (2) A transfer may be avoided under this section if such transfer was 4 made with actual intent to hinder, delay or defraud either existing or 5 future creditors.

6 Sec. 5. K.S.A. 40-3630 is hereby amended to read as follows: 40-7 3630. (a) Except as provided in subsection (e), after a petition for 8 rehabilitation or liquidation has been filed, a transfer of any of the real 9 property of the insurer made to a person acting in good faith shall be valid 10 against the receiver if made for a present fair equivalent value, or, if not made for a present fair equivalent value, then to the extent of the present 11 12 consideration actually paid therefor, for which amount the transferee shall 13 have a lien on the property so transferred. The commencement of a proceeding in rehabilitation or liquidation shall be constructive notice 14 15 upon the recording of a copy of the petition for or order of rehabilitation or 16 liquidation with the register of deeds in the county where any real property 17 in question is located. The exercise by a court of the United States or any 18 state or jurisdiction to authorize or effect a judicial sale of real property of 19 the insurer within any county in any state shall not be impaired by the 20 pendency of such a proceeding unless the copy is recorded in the county 21 prior to the consummation of the judicial sale.

(b) After a petition for rehabilitation or liquidation has been filed and
before either the receiver takes possession of the property of the insurer or
an order of rehabilitation or liquidation is granted:

(1) A transfer of any of the property of the insurer, other than real property, made to a person acting in good faith shall be valid against the receiver if made for a present fair equivalent value, or, if not made for a present fair equivalent value, then to the extent of the present consideration actually paid therefor, for which amount the transferee shall have a lien on the property so transferred.

(2) A person indebted to the insurer or holding property of the insurer,
if acting in good faith, may pay the indebtedness or deliver the property, or
any part thereof, to the insurer or upon the insurer's order, with the same
effect as if the petition were not pending.

(3) A person having actual knowledge of the pending rehabilitation orliquidation shall be deemed not to act in good faith.

(4) A person asserting the validity of a transfer under this section
shall have the burden of proof. Except as elsewhere provided in this
section, no transfer by or on behalf of the insurer after the date of the
petition for liquidation by any person other than the liquidator shall be
valid against the liquidator.

42 (c) Every person receiving any property from the insurer or any 43 benefit thereof which is a fraudulent transfer under subsection (a) shall be 1 personally liable therefor and shall be bound to account to the liquidator.

2 (d) Nothing in this act shall impair the negotiability of currency or 3 negotiable instruments.

4 (e) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), no receiver shall be 5 entitled to avoid any transfer of, or any obligation to transfer, money or 6 any other property arising under or in connection with:

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(A) Any federal home loan bank security agreement; or

8 (B) any pledge, security, collateral or guarantee agreement or any
9 other similar arrangement or credit enhancement relating to such federal
10 home loan bank security agreement.

(2) A transfer may be avoided under this section if such transfer was
 made with actual intent to hinder, delay or defraud either existing or
 future creditors.

14 Sec. 6. K.S.A. 40-3631 is hereby amended to read as follows: 40-15 3631. (a) (1) A preference is a transfer of any of the property of an insurer 16 to or for the benefit of a creditor, for or on account of an antecedent debt, made or suffered by the insurer within one year before the filing of a 17 18 successful petition for liquidation under this act, the effect of which 19 transfer may be to enable the creditor to obtain a greater percentage of this 20 debt than another creditor of the same class would receive. If a liquidation 21 order is entered while the insurer is already subject to a rehabilitation 22 order, then such transfers shall be deemed preferences if made or suffered 23 within one year before the filing of the successful petition for 24 rehabilitation, or within two years before the filing of the successful 25 petition for liquidation, whichever time is shorter.

26 (2) *Except as provided in paragraph (4),* any preference may be 27 avoided by the liquidator if:

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(A) The insurer was insolvent at the time of the transfer;

(B) the transfer was made within four months before the filing of thepetition;

(C) the creditor receiving the preference or to be benefited thereby or
the creditor's agent acting with reference thereto had, at the time when the
transfer was made, reasonable cause to believe that the insurer was
insolvent or was about to become insolvent; or

35 (D) the creditor receiving the preference was an officer, or any 36 employee or attorney or other person who was in fact in a position of 37 comparable influence with the insurer to an officer whether or not such 38 creditor held such position, or any shareholder holding directly or 39 indirectly more than 5% of any class of any equity security issued by the 40 insurer, or any other person, firm, corporation, association, or aggregation 41 of persons with whom the insurer did not deal at arm's length.

42 (3) Where the preference is voidable, the liquidator may recover the 43 property or, if it has been converted, its value from any person who has 1 received or converted the property, except where a bona fide purchaser or

2 lienor has given less than fair equivalent value, such person shall have a 3 lien upon the property to the extent of the consideration actually given. 4 Where a preference by way of lien or security title is voidable, the court may on due notice order the lien or title to be preserved for the benefit of 5

6 the estate, in which event the lien or title shall pass to the liquidator.

7 (4) No liquidator or receiver shall be entitled to avoid any preference 8 arising under or in connection with: 9

Any federal home loan bank security agreement; or (A)

10 any pledge, security, collateral or guarantee agreement or any *(B)* other similar arrangement or credit enhancement relating to such security 11 12 agreement.

13 (b) (1) A transfer of property other than real property shall be deemed to be made or suffered when such transfer becomes so far perfected that no 14 15 subsequent lien obtainable by legal or equitable proceedings on a simple 16 contract could become superior to the rights of the transferee.

17 (2) A transfer of real property shall be deemed to be made or suffered 18 when such transfer becomes so far perfected that no subsequent bona fide 19 purchaser from the insurer could obtain rights superior to the rights of the 20 transferee.

21 (3) A transfer which creates an equitable lien shall not be deemed to 22 be perfected if there are available means by which a legal lien could be 23 created.

24 (4) A transfer not perfected prior to the filing of a petition for 25 liquidation shall be deemed to be made immediately before the filing of 26 the successful petition.

27 (5) The provisions of this subsection apply whether or not there are, 28 or were, creditors who might have obtained liens or persons who might 29 have become bona fide purchasers.

30 (c) (1) A lien obtainable by legal or equitable proceedings upon a 31 simple contract is one arising in the ordinary course of such proceedings 32 upon the entry or docketing of a judgment or decree, or upon attachment, 33 garnishment, execution or like process, whether before, upon, or after 34 judgment or decree and whether before or upon levy. It does not include 35 liens which under applicable law are given a special priority over other 36 liens which are prior in time.

37 (2) A lien obtainable by legal or equitable proceedings could become 38 superior to the rights of a transferee, or a purchaser could obtain rights 39 superior to the rights of a transferee within the meaning of subsection (b), 40 if such consequences would follow only from the lien or purchase itself, or from the lien or purchase followed by any step wholly within the control 41 of the respective lienholder or purchaser, with or without the aid of 42 43 ministerial action by public officials. Such a lien could not, however,

become superior and such a purchase could not create superior rights for
 the purpose of subsection (b) through any actions subsequent to the
 obtaining of such a lien or subsequent to such a purchase which requires
 the agreement or concurrence of any third party or which require any
 further judicial action or ruling.

6 (d) A transfer of property for or on account of a new and 7 contemporaneous consideration which is deemed under subsection (b) to 8 be made or suffered after the transfer because of delay in perfecting such 9 transfer does not thereby become a transfer for or on account of an 10 antecedent debt if any acts required by the applicable law to be performed in order to perfect the transfer as against liens or bona fide purchasers' 11 12 rights are performed within 21 days or any period expressly allowed by 13 law, whichever is less. A transfer to secure a future loan, if such a loan is actually made, or a transfer which becomes security for a future loan, shall 14 have the same effect as a transfer for or on account of a new and 15 16 contemporaneous consideration.

17 (e) If any lien deemed voidable under subsection (a)(2) has been 18 dissolved by the furnishing of a bond or other obligation, the surety on 19 which has been indemnified directly or indirectly by the transfer of or the 20 creation of a lien upon any property of an insurer before the filing of a 21 petition under this act which results in a liquidation order, the 22 indemnifying transfer or lien shall also be deemed voidable.

(f) The property affected by any lien deemed voidable under subsections (a) and (e) shall be discharged from such lien, and that property and any of the indemnifying property transferred to or for the benefit of a surety shall pass to the liquidator, except that the court may on due notice order any such lien to be preserved for the benefit of the estate and the court may direct that such conveyance be executed as may be proper or adequate to evidence the title of the liquidator.

30 (g) The district court of Shawnee county shall have summary 31 jurisdiction of any proceeding by the liquidator to hear and determine the 32 rights of any parties under this section. Reasonable notice of any hearing 33 in the proceeding shall be given to all parties in interest, including the 34 obligee of a releasing bond or other like obligation. Where an order is 35 entered for the recovery of indemnifying property in-kind or for the 36 avoidance of an indemnifying lien, the court, upon application of any party 37 in interest, shall in the same proceeding ascertain the value of the property 38 or lien, and if the value is less than the amount for which the property is 39 indemnity or than the amount of the lien, the transferee or lienholder may 40 elect to retain the property or lien upon payment of its value, as 41 ascertained by the court, to the liquidator, within such reasonable times as 42 the court shall fix.

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(h) The liability of the surety under a releasing bond or other like

obligation shall be discharged to the extent of the value of the
 indemnifying property recovered or the indemnifying lien nullified and
 avoided by the liquidator, or where the property is retained under
 subsection (g) to the extent of the amount paid to the liquidator.

5 (i) If a creditor has been preferred, and afterward in good faith gives 6 the insurer further credit without security of any kind, for property which 7 becomes a part of the insurer's estate, the amount of the new credit 8 remaining unpaid at the time of the petition may be setoff against the 9 preference which would otherwise be recoverable.

10 (i) If an insurer shall, directly or indirectly, within four months before the filing of a successful petition for liquidation under this act, or at any 11 12 time in contemplation of a proceeding to liquidate such insurer, pay money 13 or transfer property to an attorney-at-law for services rendered or to be rendered, the transactions may be examined by the court on its own motion 14 15 or shall be examined by the court on petition of the liquidator and shall be 16 held valid only to the extent of a reasonable amount to be determined by 17 the court, and the excess may be recovered by the liquidator for the 18 benefits of the estate provided that where the attorney is in a position of 19 influence with the insurer or an affiliate thereof payment of any money or 20 the transfer of any property to the attorney-at-law for services rendered or 21 to be rendered shall be governed by the provision of subsection (a)(2)(D).

22 (k) (1) Every officer, manager, employee, shareholder, member, 23 subscriber, attorney or any other person acting on behalf of the insurer who 24 knowingly participates in giving any preference when such person has 25 reasonable cause to believe the insurer is or is about to become insolvent at 26 the time of the preference shall be personally liable to the liquidator for the 27 amount of the preference. It is permissible to infer that there is a reasonable cause to so believe if the transfer was made within four months 28 29 before the date of filing of this successful petition for liquidation.

30 (2) Every person receiving any property from the insurer or the 31 benefit thereof as a preference voidable under subsection (a) shall be 32 personally liable therefor and shall be bound to account to the liquidator.

33 (3) Nothing in this subsection shall prejudice any other claim by the34 liquidator against any person.

Sec. 7. K.S.A. 40-3609, 40-3619, 40-3625, 40-3629, 40-3630 and 40-3631 are hereby repealed.

Sec. 8. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after itspublication in the statute book.