

**Statutory Accounting Principles (E) Working Group
Maintenance Agenda Submission Form
Form A**

Issue: Related Party Reporting

Check (applicable entity):

	P/C	Life	Health
Modification of Existing SSAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
New Issue or SSAP	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Interpretation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Description of Issue: This agenda item has been drafted in response to recent discussions on the reporting and disclosure requirements for investments with related parties. This agenda item intends to encompass two main goals:

1. Clarify the reporting of affiliate transactions within existing reporting lines in the investment schedules. This clarification intends to be consistent with the definition of an “affiliate” pursuant to the *Insurance Holding Company System Regulatory Act (Model #440)*, *SSAP No. 25—Affiliates and Other Related Parties* and *SSAP No. 97—Investments in Subsidiary, Controlled and Affiliated Entities*.
2. Incorporate new reporting requirements for investment transactions with related parties. Pursuant to recent discussions, regulators desire additional information on investment transactions involving related parties, regardless of whether the related party is “affiliated” pursuant to Model #440. To preserve the affiliate definition and reporting categories, these additional proposed reporting elements will be captured outside of the current affiliate reporting requirements.

Affiliate Definition and Identified Reporting Issues:

The *Insurance Holding Company System Regulatory Act (Model #440)* defines “affiliate” and “control” as:

- **Affiliate:** An “affiliate” of, or person “affiliated” with, a specific person, is a person that directly, or indirectly through one or more intermediaries, controls, or is controlled by, or is under common control with, the person specified.
- **Control:** The term “control” (including the terms “controlling,” “controlled by” and “under common control with”) means the possession, direct or indirect, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of a person, whether through the ownership of voting securities, by contract other than a commercial contract for goods or nonmanagement services, or otherwise, unless the power is the result of an official position with or corporate office held by the person. Control shall be presumed to exist if any person, directly or indirectly, owns, controls, holds with the power to vote, or holds proxies representing, ten percent (10%) or more of the voting securities of any other person. This presumption may be rebutted by a showing made in the manner provided by Section 4K that control does not exist in fact. The commissioner may determine, after furnishing all persons in interest notice and opportunity to be heard and making specific findings of fact to support the determination, that control exists in fact, notwithstanding the absence of a presumption to that effect.

The guidance / concepts from Model #440 are reflected in SSAP No. 25, paragraphs 5-7 and SSAP No. 97, paragraphs 5-7 and are summarized as follows:

- An affiliate is defined as an entity that is within the holding company system or a party that, directly or indirectly, through one or more intermediaries, controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with the reporting entity. An affiliate includes a parent or subsidiary and may also include partnerships, joint ventures, and limited liability companies as defined in *SSAP No. 48—Joint Ventures, Partnerships and Limited Liability Companies*. An affiliate is any person that is directly or indirectly, owned or

controlled by the same person or by the same group of persons, that, directly or indirectly, own or control the reporting entity.

- Control is defined as the possession, directly or indirectly, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of the investee, whether through the (a) ownership of voting securities, (b) by contract other than a commercial contract for goods or nonmanagement services, (c) by contract for goods or nonmanagement services where the volume of activity results in a reliance relationship (d) by common management, or (e) otherwise. Control shall be presumed to exist if a reporting entity and its affiliates directly or indirectly, own, control, hold with the power to vote, or hold proxies representing 10% or more of the voting interests of the entity.
- Control shall be measured at the holding company level. For example, if one member of an affiliated group has a 5% interest in an entity and a second member of the group has an 8% interest in the same entity, the total interest is 13%, and therefore, each member of the affiliated group shall be presumed to have control. This presumption will stand until rebutted by an evaluation of all the facts and circumstances relating to the investment based on the criteria in *FASB Interpretation No. 35, Criteria for Applying the Equity Method of Accounting for Investments in Common Stock, an Interpretation of APB Opinion No. 18*. The corollary is required to demonstrate control when a reporting entity owns less than 10% of the voting securities of an investee. The insurer shall maintain documents substantiating its determination for review by the domiciliary commissioner. Examples of situations where the presumption of control may be in doubt include the following:
 1. Any limited partner investment in a limited partnership, unless the limited partner is affiliated with the general partner.
 2. An entity where the insurer owns less than 50% of an entity and there is an unaffiliated individual or group of investors who own a controlling interest.
 3. An entity where the insurer has given up participation rights as a shareholder to the investee.

The Annual Statement Instructions identifies what is captured in the reporting lines for “Parent, Subsidiary and Affiliates” as “Defined by *SSAP No. 97—Investments in Subsidiary, Controlled and Affiliated Entities*.”

Under the existing guidance, the following investments would likely not be reported as affiliated unless a domiciliary state has directed otherwise:

- Qualifying affiliated investments for which the domiciliary state has approved a disclaimer of affiliation or disclaimer of control from the affiliated entity. Once a disclaimer has been granted, the qualifying affiliate relationship is no longer considered an affiliate and any investments issued or held from the entity would not be reported as affiliated.
- Investments held from entities that do not qualify as affiliates, even if the entity qualifies as a related party. The determination of an affiliate is based on direct or indirect control. If the control determinants are not met, investments held from related parties are not reported as affiliated.
- Any investments acquired that were sponsored / originated by an affiliate, but the actual investment is not in the affiliate or other companies within the controlled holding company structure.

Model #440 explicitly excludes the purchase of securities solely for investment purposes from the determination of a change in control, so long as the securities are not used by voting or otherwise to cause or attempt to cause the substantial lessening of competition in any insurance market in the state. This guidance further states that if the purchase of securities results in a presumption of control, then the acquisition of securities would not be considered solely for investment purposes unless the commissioner of the insurer’s state of domicile accepts a disclaimer of control of affirmatively finds that control does not exist.

Proposed Related Party Revisions

Although the affiliate definition may preclude certain investments from being captured in the “affiliated” reporting lines, there is a regulator desire to have improved information on investments with non-affiliated related parties as well as investments acquired from affiliates and non-affiliated related parties that do not reflect an investment within the affiliate/related party. For example, if the affiliate/related party was to sponsor or originate the investment, such investment would likely not be captured in the designated affiliate reported lines. This agenda item proposes revisions to SSAP No. 25 and SSAP No. 43R, as well as proposed concepts for an annual statement reporting change to capture information on these investments. Additionally, the proposed revisions would provide clarity, consistent with the existing affiliate definition, on scenarios that would qualify as affiliated transactions.

As an additional item, the existing reference in SSAP No. 25 to *FASB Interpretation No. 35, Criteria for Applying the Equity Method of Accounting for Investments in Common Stock, an Interpretation of APB Opinion No. 18* (FIN 35) has been proposed to be removed. Although the intent was to originally update the U.S. GAAP reference to reflect the current Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) citations, it was noted that the original provisions in FIN 35 (captured now in ASC 323-10-15-8, 323-10-15-10 and 323-10-15-11) only reiterate that the presumption that the investor has the ability to exercise significant influence over the investee’s operating and financial policies based on ownership of voting stock stands until overcome by prominent evidence to the contrary. The ASC includes the following indicators originally in FIN 35 for when investors would be unable to exercise significant influence over the operating and financial policies of an investee:

- Opposition by the investee, such as litigation or complaints to government regulatory authorities, challenges the investor’s ability to exercise significant influence.
- The investor and investee sign an agreement (such as a standstill agreement) under which the investor surrenders significant rights as a shareholder.
- Majority ownership of the investee is concentrated among a small group of shareholders who operate the investee without regards to the views of the investor.
- The investor wants or needs more financial information to apply the equity method than is available to the investee’s other shareholders, tries to obtain that information, and fails. (The ASC example is a request for quarterly info when the investee only provides public information annually.)
- The investor tries and fails to obtain representation on the investee’s board of directors.

The ASC also notes that these situations are just indicators and are not all-inclusive and that none of the individual circumstances are necessarily conclusive that the investee is unable to exercise significant influence over the investee’s operating and financial policies. Rather, if any of these situations exist, an investor with controlling voting ownership shall evaluate all facts and circumstances related to the investment to reach a judgment about whether the presumption that the investor has the ability to exercise significant influence over the investee’s operating and financial policies is overcome. Furthermore, the guidance indicates that it may be necessary to evaluate the facts and circumstances over a period of time before reaching a judgment.

After a review of the ASC / FIN 35 guidance, it is proposed that the reference be deleted from SSAP No. 25. The general concepts for a review of all facts and circumstances, as well as example indicators, are already reflected directly in SSAP No. 25. Lastly, the reference to FIN 35 / ASC could be confusing as U.S. GAAP utilizes a different (higher) percentage of voting ownership than statutory accounting.

Existing Authoritative Literature:

- *Insurance Holding Company System Regulatory Act* (Model #440) – This model is an accreditation standard and is adopted by all states in a substantially similar manner. Only the territories of American Samoa, Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands do not have this model adopted.
- *SSAP No. 25—Affiliates and Other Related Parties* establishes statutory accounting principles and disclosure requirements for related party transactions. This statement shall be followed for all related party transactions, even if the transaction is also governed by other statutory accounting principles. As detailed in paragraph 1, related party transactions are subject to abuse as reporting entities may be induced to enter transactions that may not reflect economic realities or may not be fair and reasonable to the reporting entity or its policyholders. As such, related party transactions require specialized accounting rules and increased regulatory scrutiny. The guidance in paragraphs 4-8 include the definition of related parties and affiliates:
 4. Related parties are defined as entities that have common interests as a result of ownership, control, affiliation or by contract. Related parties shall include but are not limited to the following:
 - a. Affiliates of the reporting entity, as defined in paragraph 5;
 - b. Trusts for the benefit of employees, such as pension and profit-sharing trusts and Employee Stock Ownership Plans that are managed by or under the trusteeship of management of the reporting entity, its parent or affiliates;
 - c. The principal owners, directors, officers of the reporting entity;
 - d. Any immediate family member of a principal owner, director or executive officer of the reporting entity, which means any child, stepchild, parent, stepparent, spouse, sibling, mother-in-law, father-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, or sister-in-law, or individual related by blood or marriage whose close association is equivalent to a family relationship of such director, executive officer or nominee for director, or any person (other than a tenant or employee) sharing the household of such director, executive officer or nominee for director;
 - e. Companies and entities which share common control, such as principal owners, directors, or officers, including situations where principal owners, directors, or officers have a controlling stake in another reporting entity;
 - f. Any direct or indirect ownership greater than 10% of the reporting entity results in a related party classification regardless of any disclaimer of control or disclaimer of affiliation;
 - g. The management of the reporting entity, its parent or affiliates (including directors);
 - h. Members of the immediate families of principal owners and management of the reporting entity, its parent or affiliates and their management;
 - i. Parties with which the reporting entity may deal if either party directly or indirectly controls or can significantly influence the management or operating policies of the other to an extent that one of the transacting parties might be prevented from fully pursuing its own separate interest;
 - j. A party which can, directly or indirectly, significantly influence the management or operating policies of the reporting entity, which may include a provider who is contracting with the reporting entity. This is not intended to suggest that all provider contracts create related party relationships;

- k. A party which has an ownership interest in one of the transacting parties and can significantly influence the other to an extent that one or more of the transacting parties might be prevented from fully pursuing its own separate interests;
 - l. Attorney-in-fact of a reciprocal reporting entity or any affiliate of the attorney-in-fact; and
 - m. A U.S. manager of a U.S. Branch or any affiliate of the U.S. manager of a U.S. Branch.
5. An affiliate is defined as an entity that is within the holding company system or a party that, directly or indirectly, through one or more intermediaries, controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with the reporting entity. An affiliate includes a parent or subsidiary and may also include partnerships, joint ventures, and limited liability companies as defined in SSAP No. 48—Joint Ventures, Partnerships and Limited Liability Companies. Those entities are accounted for under the guidance provided in SSAP No. 48, which requires an equity method for all such investments. An affiliate is any person that is directly or indirectly, owned or controlled by the same person or by the same group of persons, that, directly or indirectly, own or control the reporting entity.
6. Control is defined as the possession, directly or indirectly, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of the investee, whether through the (a) ownership of voting securities, (b) by contract other than a commercial contract for goods or nonmanagement services, (c) by contract for goods or nonmanagement services where the volume of activity results in a reliance relationship (d) by common management, or (e) otherwise. Control shall be presumed to exist if a reporting entity and its affiliates directly or indirectly, own, control, hold with the power to vote, or hold proxies representing 10% or more of the voting interests of the entity.
7. Control as defined in paragraph 6 shall be measured at the holding company level. For example, if one member of an affiliated group has a 5% interest in an entity and a second member of the group has an 8% interest in the same entity, the total interest is 13%, and therefore, each member of the affiliated group shall be presumed to have control. This presumption will stand until rebutted by an evaluation of all the facts and circumstances relating to the investment based on the criteria in FASB Interpretation No. 35, Criteria for Applying the Equity Method of Accounting for Investments in Common Stock, an Interpretation of APB Opinion No. 18. The corollary is required to demonstrate control when a reporting entity owns less than 10% of the voting securities of an investee. The insurer shall maintain documents substantiating its determination for review by the domiciliary commissioner. Examples of situations where the presumption of control may be in doubt include the following:
- a. Any limited partner investment in a limited partnership, unless the limited partner is affiliated with the general partner.
 - b. An entity where the insurer owns less than 50% of an entity and there is an unaffiliated individual or group of investors who own a controlling interest.
 - c. An entity where the insurer has given up participation rights¹ as a shareholder to the investee.
 - d. Agreements where direct or indirect non-controlling ownership interest is less than 10% where the parties have structured the arrangement in this structure to avoid the 10% threshold in paragraph 4.f. and paragraph 8.
8. Any direct or indirect ownership interest of the reporting entity greater than 10% results in a related party classification regardless of any disclaimer of control or disclaimer of affiliation. The *Insurance Holding Company System Regulatory Act (#440)* and the *Insurance Holding Company System Model Regulation*

¹ The term "participating rights" refers to the type of rights that allows an investor to effectively participate in significant decisions related to an investee's ordinary course of business and is distinguished from the more limited type of rights referred to as "protective rights". Refer to the sections entitled: "Protective Rights" and "Substantive Participating Rights" in EITF 96-16, *Investor's Accounting for an Investee When the Investor Owns a Majority of the Voting Stock but the Minority Shareholder or Shareholders Have Certain Approval or Veto Rights*. The term "participating rights" shall be used consistent with the discussion of substantive participating rights in this EITF.

(#450) include a provision that allows for the disclaimer of affiliation and/or the disclaimer of control for members of an insurance holding company system. The disclaimer must be filed with the state insurance commissioner. Entities whose relationship is subject to a disclaimer of affiliation or a disclaimer of control are related parties and are subject to the related party disclosures within this statement. Such a disclaimer does not eliminate a “related party” distinction or disclosure requirements for material transactions pursuant to SSAP No. 25.

- *SSAP No. 48—Joint Ventures, Partnerships and Limited Liability Companies* establishes guidance for these investments. The guidance in this SSAP provides different guidance when there is a “more than minor” or “minor ownership interest.” Pursuant to existing guidance, reporting entities must also identify whether the investment is a related-party transaction.

6. Investments in these ventures, except for joint ventures, partnerships and limited liability companies with a minor ownership interest¹, shall be reported using an equity method as defined in *SSAP No. 97—Investments in Subsidiary, Controlled and Affiliated Entities*, paragraphs 8.b.i. through 8.b.iv. (The equity method calculation may result with a negative valuation of the investment; therefore, the SSAP No. 97 equity method calculation shall occur regardless of whether the investment is supported by an audit and the reporting entity will nonadmit the investment.) A reporting entity whose shares of losses in a SSAP No. 48 entity exceeds its investment in the SSAP No. 48 entity shall disclose the information required by SSAP No. 97, paragraph 35.a.

Footnote: With the identification of whether the reporting entity has a minor ownership interest, reporting entities must also identify whether the investment is a related-party transaction. Pursuant to the concepts reflected in *SSAP No. 25—Affiliates and Other Related Parties*, consideration shall be given to the substance of the transaction and the parties whose action or performance materially impacts the insurance reporting entity holding the security. For example, if the underlying assets within a SSAP No. 48 entity represent assets issued by an affiliate, then the SSAP No. 48 entity shall be considered a related party (affiliate) investment, with the transaction subject to the accounting and reporting provisions of SSAP No. 25. As identified in SSAP No. 25, it is erroneous to conclude that the inclusion of a non-related intermediary, or the presence of non-related assets in a structure predominantly comprised of related party investments, eliminates the requirement to identify and assess the investment transaction as a related party arrangement.

- *SSAP No. 97—Investments in Subsidiary, Controlled and Affiliated Entities* establishes statutory accounting principles for investments in subsidiaries, controlled and affiliated entities. The guidance in paragraphs 3-6 include the definitions for parent, subsidiary, and affiliate. (The definition for an affiliate and control is identical to SSAP No. 25.) (As noted, the Annual Statement reporting lines for “Parent, Subsidiary and Affiliates” refers to the definition within SSAP No. 97. If an investment is held for an entity that does not meet the SSAP No. 97 definitions, or for which a disclaimer of control or affiliation has been received, then the investment would not be captured within the Parent, Subsidiary or Affiliate reporting line.)

3. Parent and subsidiary are defined as follows:

- a. Parent—An entity that directly or indirectly owns and controls the reporting entity;
- b. Subsidiary—An entity that is, directly or indirectly, owned and controlled by the reporting entity.

4. An affiliate is defined as an entity that is within the holding company system or a party that, directly or indirectly, through one or more intermediaries, controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with the reporting entity. An affiliate includes a parent or subsidiary and may also include partnerships, joint ventures, and limited liability companies as defined in *SSAP No. 48—Joint Ventures, Partnerships and Limited Liability Companies*. Those entities are accounted for under the guidance provided in SSAP No. 48, which requires an equity method for all such investments.

5. Control is defined as the possession, directly or indirectly, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of the investee, whether through the (a) ownership of voting securities, (b) by contract other than a commercial contract for goods or nonmanagement services, (c) by common management, or (d) otherwise. Control shall be presumed to exist if a reporting entity and its affiliates directly or indirectly, own, control, hold with the power to vote, or hold proxies representing 10% or more of the voting interests of the entity².

6. Control as defined in paragraph 5 shall be measured at the holding company level. For example, if one member of an affiliated group has a 5% interest in an entity and a second member of the group has an 8% interest in the same entity, the total interest is 13% and therefore each member of the affiliated group shall be presumed to have control. This presumption will stand until rebutted by an evaluation of all the facts and circumstances relating to the investment based on the criteria in *FASB Interpretation No. 35, Criteria for Applying the Equity Method of Accounting for Investments in Common Stock, an Interpretation of APB Opinion No. 18*. The corollary is required to demonstrate control when a reporting entity owns less than 10% of the voting securities of an investee. The insurer shall maintain documents substantiating its determination for review by the domiciliary commissioner. An investment in an SCA entity may fall below the level of ownership described in paragraph 5, in which case, the reporting entity would discontinue the use of the equity method, as prescribed in paragraph 13.g. Additionally, through an increase in the level of ownership, a reporting entity may become qualified to use the equity method of accounting (paragraph 8.b.), in which case, the reporting entity shall add the cost of acquiring additional interest to the current basis of the previously held interest and shall apply the equity method prospectively, as of the date the investment becomes qualified for equity method accounting. Examples of situations where the presumption of control may be in doubt include the following:

- a. Any limited partner investment in a limited partnership, unless the limited partner is affiliated with the general partner.
- b. An entity where the insurer owns less than 50% of an entity and there is an unaffiliated individual or group of investors who own a controlling interest.
- c. An entity where the insurer has given up participating rights³ as a shareholder to the investee.

Activity to Date (issues previously addressed by the Working Group, Emerging Accounting Issues (E) Working Group, SEC, FASB, other State Departments of Insurance or other NAIC groups): In March 2021, the Statutory Accounting Principles (E) Working Group adopted revisions to SSAP No. 25 pursuant to agenda item 2019-34: Related Parties, Disclaimers of Affiliation and Variable Interest Entities. Additionally, a new reporting Schedule Y, Part 3 was adopted by the Blanks (E) Working Group in proposal 2020-37BWG, with an initial effective date of Dec. 31, 2021, to capture information on all entities with ownership greater than 10%, the ultimate controlling parties of those owners and other entities that the ultimate controlling party controls.

² Investments in an exchange traded fund (ETF) or a mutual fund (as defined by the SEC) does not reflect ownership in an underlying entity, regardless of the ownership percentage the reporting entity (or the holding company group) has of the ETF or mutual fund unless ownership of the ETF actually results in “control” with the power to direct or cause the direction of management of an underlying company. ETFs and mutual funds are comprised of portfolios of securities subject to the regulatory requirements of the federal securities laws. ETFs and mutual funds held by a reporting entity shall be reported as common stock, unless the ETF qualifies for bond or preferred stock treatment per the *Purposes and Procedures Manual of the NAIC Investment Analysis Office*. Reporting entities are not required to verify that SCAs (subject to SSAP No. 97) are represented in the portfolio of securities held in ETFs or mutual funds or to adjust the value of SCAs as a result of investments in ETFs or mutual funds.

³ The term “participating rights” refers to the type of rights that allows an investor to effectively participate in significant decisions related to an investee’s ordinary course of business and is distinguished from the more limited type of rights referred to as “protective rights”. Refer to the sections entitled: “Protective Rights” and “Substantive Participating Rights” in *EITF 96-16, Investor’s Accounting for an Investee When the Investor Has a Majority of the Voting Interest but the Minority Shareholder or Shareholders Have Certain Approval or Veto Rights*. The term “participating rights” shall be used consistent with the discussion of substantive participating rights in this EITF.

The adopted revisions to SSAP No. 25 from agenda item 2019-34 are summarized as follows:

- Clarify the identification of related parties and ensure that any related party identified under U.S. GAAP or SEC reporting requirements would be considered a related party under statutory accounting principles.
- Clarify that non-controlling ownership over 10% results in a related party classification regardless of any disclaimer of control or disclaimer of affiliation.
- Clarify the impact of a disclaimer of control or disclaimer of affiliate under SAP. As detailed, such disclaimers impact holding company group allocation and reporting as an SCA under SSAP No. 97, but do not eliminate the classification as a “related party” and the disclosure of material transactions as required under SSAP No. 25.
- Rejected several U.S. GAAP standards addressing variable interest entities.

Information or issues (included in *Description of Issue*) not previously contemplated by the Working Group:
None

Convergence with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS): Not applicable.

Staff Recommendation:

NAIC staff recommends that the Working Group move this item to the active listing, categorized as a nonsubstantive change, and expose revisions to SSAP No. 25 and SSAP No. 43R to clarify application of the existing affiliate definition as well as to incorporate new disclosure requirements for investments acquired through, or in, related parties, regardless of if they meet the affiliate definition. (Staff Note: Pursuant to the NAIC Policy Statement on Maintenance of Statutory Accounting Principles, new disclosures and modifications to existing disclosures are considered nonsubstantive changes.)

Proposed edits to SSAP No. 25: (New paragraph 9. Remaining paragraphs would be renumbered.)

This new paragraph 9 clarifies the application of the existing affiliate and control definitions to limited partnerships, trusts and other special purpose entities when control is held by an affiliated general partner, servicer or other arrangement. (The proposed deletion of FIN 35 is discussed earlier in the agenda item, but is noted as not necessary with the existing statutory accounting guidance.)

5. An affiliate is defined as an entity that is within the holding company system or a party that, directly or indirectly, through one or more intermediaries, controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with the reporting entity. An affiliate includes a parent or subsidiary and may also include partnerships, joint ventures, and limited liability companies as defined in SSAP No. 48—Joint Ventures, Partnerships and Limited Liability Companies. Those entities are accounted for under the guidance provided in SSAP No. 48, which requires an equity method for all such investments. An affiliate is any person that is directly or indirectly, owned or controlled by the same person or by the same group of persons, that, directly or indirectly, own or control the reporting entity.

6. Control is defined as the possession, directly or indirectly, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of the investee, whether through the (a) ownership of voting securities, (b) by contract other than a commercial contract for goods or nonmanagement services, (c) by contract for goods or nonmanagement services where the volume of activity results in a reliance relationship (d) by common management, or (e) otherwise. Control shall be presumed to exist if a reporting entity and its affiliates directly or indirectly, own, control, hold with the power to vote, or hold proxies representing 10% or more of the voting interests of the entity.

7. Control as defined in paragraph 6 shall be measured at the holding company level. For example, if one member of an affiliated group has a 5% interest in an entity and a second member of the group has an 8% interest in the same entity, the total interest is 13%, and therefore, each member of the affiliated group

shall be presumed to have control. This presumption will stand until rebutted by an evaluation of all the facts and circumstances relating to the investment ~~based on the criteria in FASB Interpretation No. 35, Criteria for Applying the Equity Method of Accounting for Investments in Common Stock, an Interpretation of APB Opinion No. 18. The corollary is required to demonstrate control when a reporting entity owns less than 10% of the voting securities of an investee.~~ The insurer shall maintain documents substantiating its determination for review by the domiciliary commissioner. Examples of situations where the presumption of control may be in doubt include the following:

- a. Any limited partner investment in a limited partnership, unless the limited partner is affiliated with the general partner.
- b. An entity where the insurer owns less than 50% of an entity and there is an unaffiliated individual or group of investors who own a controlling interest.
- c. An entity where the insurer has given up participation rights⁴ as a shareholder to the investee.

8. Any direct or indirect ownership interest of the reporting entity greater than 10% results in a related party classification regardless of any disclaimer of control or disclaimer of affiliation. The *Insurance Holding Company System Regulatory Act* (#440) and the *Insurance Holding Company System Model Regulation* (#450) include a provision that allows for the disclaimer of affiliation and/or the disclaimer of control for members of an insurance holding company system. The disclaimer must be filed with the state insurance commissioner. Entities whose relationship is subject to a disclaimer of affiliation or a disclaimer of control are related parties and are subject to the related party disclosures within this statement. Such a disclaimer does not eliminate a “related party” distinction or disclosure requirements for material transactions pursuant to SSAP No. 25.

9. For entities not controlled by voting interests, such as limited partnerships, trusts and other special purpose entities, control may be held by a general partner, servicer, or by other arrangements. The ability of the reporting entity or its affiliates to direct the management and policies of an entity through such arrangements shall constitute control as defined in paragraph 6. Additionally, a reporting entity or its affiliates may have indirect control of other entities through such arrangements. For example, if a limited partnership were to be controlled by an affiliated general partner, and that limited partnership held greater than 10% of the voting interests of another company, indirect control shall be presumed to exist. If direct or indirect control exists, whether through voting securities, contracts, common management or otherwise, the arrangement is considered affiliated under paragraph 5. Consistent with paragraph 8, a disclaimer of affiliation does not eliminate a “related party” distinction or disclosure requirements for material transactions pursuant to SSAP No. 25

Proposed edits to SSAP No. 43R:

These revisions move the existing guidance in paragraph 4.a. to paragraph 6 and notes the requirement to identify related party investments in the investment schedules. (Note Footnote 5 is just moved to a new paragraph.)

4. Loan-backed securities are issued by special-purpose corporations or trusts (issuer) established by a sponsoring organization. The assets securing the loan-backed obligation are acquired by the issuer and pledged to an independent trustee until the issuer’s obligation has been fully satisfied. The investor only has direct recourse to the issuer’s assets, but may have secondary recourse to third parties through insurance or guarantee for repayment of the obligation. As a result, the sponsor and its other affiliates may have no financial obligation under the instrument, although one of those entities may retain the responsibility for servicing the underlying assets. Some sponsors do guarantee the performance of the underlying assets.

⁴ The term “participating rights” refers to the type of rights that allows an investor to effectively participate in significant decisions related to an investee’s ordinary course of business and is distinguished from the more limited type of rights referred to as “protective rights”. Refer to the sections entitled: “Protective Rights” and “Substantive Participating Rights” in EITF 96-16, *Investor’s Accounting for an Investee When the Investor Owns a Majority of the Voting Stock but the Minority Shareholder or Shareholders Have Certain Approval or Veto Rights*. The term “participating rights” shall be used consistent with the discussion of substantive participating rights in this EITF.

~~a. In determining whether a loan-backed structure is a related party investment, consideration shall be given to the substance of the transaction, and the parties whose action or performance materially impacts the insurance reporting entity holding the security. For example, although a loan-backed security may be acquired from a non-related issuer, if the assets held in trust predominantly⁵ reflect assets issued by affiliates of the insurance reporting entity, and the insurance reporting entity only has direct recourse to the assets held in trust, the transaction shall be considered an affiliated investment, and the transaction shall also be subject to the accounting and reporting provisions in SSAP No. 25—Affiliates and Other Related Parties.~~

5. Mortgage-referenced securities do not meet the definition of a loan-backed or structured security but are explicitly captured in scope of this statement. In order to qualify as a mortgage-referenced security, the security must be issued by a government sponsored enterprise⁶ or by a special purpose trust in a transaction sponsored by a government sponsored enterprise in the form of a “credit risk transfer” in which the issued security is tied to a referenced pool of mortgages and the payments received are linked to the credit and principal payment risk of the underlying mortgage loan borrowers captured in the referenced pool of mortgages. For these instruments, reporting entity holders may not receive a return of their full principal as principal repayment is contingent on repayment by the mortgage loan borrowers in the referenced pool of mortgages. Unless specifically noted, the provisions for loan-backed securities within this standard apply to mortgage-referenced securities.

6. Investments within the scope of this statement issued by a related party or acquired through a related party transaction or arrangement are also subject to the provisions, admittance assessments and disclosure requirements of SSAP No. 25. ~~In determining whether a security is a related party investment, consideration should be given to the substance of the transaction, and the parties whose action or performance materially impacts the insurance reporting entity holding the security if the SSAP No. 43R transaction is a related party arrangement⁷.~~ Loan-backed and structured securities meet the definition of assets as defined in SSAP No. 4—Assets and Nonadmitted Assets and are admitted assets to the extent they conform to the requirements of this statement and SSAP No. 25.

a. Although a loan-backed or structured security may be acquired from a non-related issuer, if the assets held in trust predominantly⁸ reflect assets issued by affiliates of the insurance reporting entity, and the insurance reporting entity only has direct recourse to the assets held in trust, the transaction shall be considered an affiliated investment. In such situations where the underlying collateral assets are issued by related parties that do not qualify as affiliates, these securities shall be identified as related party investments in the investment schedules.

~~⁵In applying this guidance, a reporting entity is not required to complete a detailed review of the assets held in trust to determine the extent, if any, the assets were issued by related parties. Rather, this guidance is a principle concept intended to prevent situations in which related party transactions (particularly those involving affiliates) is knowingly captured in a SSAP No. 43R structure and not identified as a related party transaction (or not reported as an affiliated investment on the investment schedule) because of the involvement of a non-related trustee or SSAP No. 43R security issuer. As identified in SSAP No. 25—Affiliates and Other Related Parties, it is erroneous to conclude that the inclusion of a non-related intermediary, or the presence of non-related assets in a structure predominantly comprised of related party investments, eliminates the requirement to identify and assess the investment transaction as a related party arrangement.~~

⁶ Currently, only Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac are the government sponsored entities that either directly issue qualifying mortgage-referenced securities or sponsor transactions in which a special purpose trust issues qualifying mortgage-reference securities. However, this guidance would apply to mortgage-referenced securities issued by any other government sponsored entity that subsequently engages in the transfer of mortgage credit risk.

~~⁷As discussed in paragraph 4.a. of this statement, a SSAP No. 43R security may still be considered a related party transaction even if the asset trustee or security issuer is a non-related party.~~

⁸ In applying this guidance, a reporting entity is not required to complete a detailed review of the assets held in trust to determine the extent, if any, the assets were issued by related parties. Rather, this guidance is a principle concept intended to prevent situations in which related party transactions (particularly those involving affiliates) is knowingly captured in a SSAP No. 43R structure and not identified as a related party transaction (or not reported as an affiliated investment on the investment schedule) because of the involvement of a non-related trustee or SSAP No. 43R security issuer. As identified in SSAP No. 25—Affiliates and Other Related Parties, it is erroneous to conclude that the inclusion of a non-related intermediary, or the presence of non-related assets in a structure predominantly comprised of related party investments, eliminates the requirement to identify and assess the investment transaction as a related party arrangement.

- b. A loan-backed or structured security may involve a relationship with a related party but not be considered an affiliated investment. This may be because the relationship does not result in direct or indirect control of the issuer or because there is an approved disclaimer of control or affiliation. Regardless of whether investments involving a related party relationship are captured in the affiliated investment reporting lines, these securities shall be identified as related party investments in the investment schedules. Examples of related party relationships would include involvement of a related party in sponsoring or originating the loan-backed or structured security or any type of underlying servicing arrangement. For the avoidance of doubt, investments from any arrangement that results in direct or indirect control, including control through a servicer or other controlling arrangement, shall be reported as affiliated in accordance with SSAP No. 25—*Affiliates and Other Related Parties*.

Proposed Annual Statement Reporting Changes: *(These will be captured in a blanks proposal.)*

These reflect a new electronic-only column for the investment schedules and the related instructions.

Column XX: Investments Involving Related Parties:

Required for all investments involving related parties including, but not limited to, those captured as affiliate investments. This disclosure intends to capture information on investments held that reflect interactions involving related parties, regardless of whether the related party meets the affiliate definition, or the reporting entity has received domiciliary state approval to disclaim control / affiliation.

Enter one of the following codes to identify the role of the related party in the investment.

1. Direct loan or direct investment (excluding securitizations) in a related party, for which the related party represents a direct credit exposure.
2. Securitization or similar investment involving a relationship with a related party as sponsor, originator, manager, servicer, or other similar influential role and for which 50% or more of the underlying collateral represents investments in or direct credit exposure to related parties.
3. Securitization or similar investment involving a relationship with a related party as sponsor, originator, manager, servicer, or other similar influential role and for which less than 50% (including 0%) of the underlying collateral represents investments in or direct credit exposure to related parties.
4. Securitization or similar investment in which the structure reflects an in-substance related party transaction but does not involve a relationship with a related party as sponsor, originator, manager, servicer, or other similar influential role.
5. The investment is identified as related party, but the role of the related party represents a different arrangement than the options provided in choices 1-4.

Staff Review Completed by: Julie Gann, NAIC Staff – October 2021

Status:

On December 11, 2021, the Statutory Accounting Principles (E) Working Group moved this agenda item to the active listing, categorized as nonsubstantive, and exposed revisions to SSAP No. 25 and SSAP No. 43R, as illustrated above, to clarify application of the existing affiliate definition and incorporate disclosure requirements for all investments that involve related parties, regardless of if they meet the affiliate definition. In addition, draft annual statement reporting revisions were also exposed, in anticipation of incorporating those revisions into a Blanks (E) Working Group proposal.