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trust indenture or other such instrument;

(b) To permit any separate account registered under the Act as a unit investment trust to hold the securities of any underlying portfolio companies in uncertificated form;

(c) To permit any separate account registered under the Act as a management investment company to hold its assets in any manner permitted by section 17(f) of the Act [15 U.S.C. 80a-17(f)] or any rules thereunder; and

(d) To permit the deduction from the assets of the separate account of amounts for premium taxes imposed by any State or other governmental entity and, if the separate account is registered under the Act as an open-end management investment company, an investment advisory fee.

(Secs. 6(c) and 38(a) (15 U.S.C. 80a-6(c) and 80a-37(a), respectively))

[49 FR 31064, Aug. 3, 1984]

§ 270.27a-1 Conditions for compliance with and exemptions from certain provisions of section 27(a)(1) and section 27(h)(1) of the Act for certain registered separate accounts.

(a) A registered separate account, and any depositor of or underwriter for such account, shall with respect to any variable annuity contract participating in such account, be deemed to satisfy the requirements of section 27(a)(1) and section 27(h)(1) of the Act if such contract provides for a sales load which will not exceed 9 per centum of the total payments to be made thereon as of a date not later than the end of the 12th year of such payments: *Provided*, That if a contract be issued for any stipulated shorter payment period the sales load under such contract shall not exceed 9 per centum of the total payments thereunder for such period.

[36 FR 11645, June 17, 1971]

§ 270.27a-2 Exemption from section 27(a)(3) and section 27(h)(3) of the Act for certain registered separate accounts.

(a) A registered separate account, and any depositor of or underwriter for such account, shall be exempt from paragraph (3) of section 27(a) and paragraph (3) of section 27(h) of the Act: *Provided*, That with respect to any

variable annuity contract participating in such account the proportionate amount of sales load deducted from any payment during the contract period shall not exceed the proportionate amount deducted from any prior payment during the contract period.

[36 FR 11645, June 17, 1971]

§ 270.27a-3 Exemption from section 27(a)(4) and section 27(h)(5) of the Act for certain registered separate accounts.

(a) A registered separate account, and any depositor of or underwriter for such account, shall be exempt from paragraph (4) of section 27(a) of the Act and paragraph (5) of section 27(h) of the Act as to payments under any variable annuity contract participating in such account which (1) is purchased in connection with a plan which meets the requirements for qualification under section 401 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended (Code), or the requirements for deduction of the employer's contributions under section 404(a)(2) of the Code, or (2) meets the requirements of section 403(b) of the Code, but such exemptions shall apply only to contributions or payments within the exclusion allowance for any employee under section 403(b) except as clause (3) hereof applies, or (3) permits no sales load deduction from any payment in excess of 9 per centum of such payment.

[36 FR 11645, June 17, 1971, as amended at 36 FR 23624, Dec. 11, 1971]

§ 270.27c-1 Exemption from section 27(c)(1) and section 27(d) of the Act during annuity payment period of variable annuity contracts participating in certain registered separate accounts.

(a) A registered separate account, and any depositor of or underwriter for such account, shall, during the annuity payment period of variable annuity contracts participating in such account, be exempt from the requirement of paragraph (1) of section 27(c) of the Act that a periodic payment plan certificate be a redeemable security and from section 27(d) of the Act with respect to such contracts under which

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payments are being made based upon life contingencies.

(Sec. 6(c), 54 Stat. 800, 841; sec. 16, 84 Stat. 1424, 15 U.S.C. 80a-27(h))

[36 FR 11645, June 17, 1971]

§ 270.27d-1 Reserve requirements for principal underwriters and depositors to carry out the obligations to refund charges required by section 27(d) and section 27(f) of the Act.

(a)(1) Every depositor or principal underwriter for the issuer of a periodic payment plan certificate sold subject to section 27(d) or section 27(f) of the Act or both, shall deposit and maintain funds in a segregated trust account as a reserve and as security for the purpose of assuring the refund of charges required by sections 27(d) and 27(f) of the Act.

(2) The assets of such trust account may be held as cash or invested only in one or more of (i) government securities as defined in section 2(a)(16) of the Act (except equity securities) or (ii) negotiable certificates of deposit issued by a bank, as defined in section 2(a)(5) of the Act and having capital and surplus of at least \$10 million: *Provided*, That no such investment may have a maturity of more than 5 years, no more than 50 percent of the assets may be invested in obligations having a maturity of more than 1 year, and certificates of deposit of a single issuer may not constitute more than 10 percent of the value of the assets in the account.

(3) Any income, gains, or losses from assets allocated to such account, whether or not realized, shall be credited to or charged against such account without regard to other income, gains, or losses of the depositor or principal underwriter.

(4) The assets of such trust account may be withdrawn only as permitted by paragraph (f) of this section and shall in no event be chargeable with liabilities arising out of any aspect of the business of the depositor or principal underwriter other than assuring the ability of the depositor or principal underwriter to refund the amounts required by such sections.

(b) For purposes of this section:

(1) "Excess sales load" on any payment is that portion of the sales load in excess of 15 percent of that payment.

(2) "Monthly payment" shall be the amount of the smallest monthly installment scheduled to be paid during the life of the plan. If payments are required or permitted to be made on a basis less frequently than monthly, an equivalent monthly payment shall be the amount determined by dividing the smallest minimum payment required or permitted in a payment period by the number of months included in such period.

(3) The assets in the segregated trust account shall be valued as follows: (i) With respect to securities for which market quotations are readily available, the market value of such securities; and (ii) with respect to other securities, fair value as determined in good faith by the depositor or principal underwriter.

(c) For every periodic payment plan certificate governed by section 27(d), the depositor or principal underwriter shall deposit into the segregated trust account not less than 45 percent of the excess sales load on each of the first six monthly payments or their equivalent.

(d) For all periodic payment plan certificates governed by section 27(d) which have not been surrendered in accordance with their terms, and for which the depositor or principal underwriter may be liable for the refund of any sales load, the depositor or principal underwriter shall maintain in the segregated trust account an amount equal to not less than 15% of the total refundable sales load on the payments made on those certificates. The depositor or principal underwriter shall also maintain in the segregated trust account such additional amounts as the Commission by order may require for the depositor or principal underwriter to carry out refund obligations pursuant to sections 27(d) and 27(f) of the Act.

(e) For every periodic payment plan certificate governed by section 27(f) of the Act, and for which the depositor or principal underwriter has no obligation to refund any excess sales load pursuant to section 27(d) of the Act, the depositor or principal underwriter shall deposit and maintain during the refund period, at least the following amounts in the segregated trust account: