Steven W. Jennings Crowley, Haughey, Hanson, Toole & Dietrich P.L.L.P. P. O. Box 2529 Billings, MT 59103-2529 (406) 252-3441 Attorneys for American Alternative Insurance Corp. American Re-Insurance Company Centre Insurance Company Clarendon National Insurance Company Everest National Insurance Company Markel Insurance Company **Evanston Insurance Company** SCOR Reinsurance Company General Security Insurance Company General Security National Insurance Company Penn Star Insurance Company Fairfield Insurance Company General Reinsurance Corp. Genesis Insurance Company North Star Reinsurance Corp. XL Insurance America, Inc. XL Insurance Company of New York XL Reinsurance America XL Specialty Insurance Company Greenwich Insurance Company American Guarantee & Liability Insurance Company American Zurich Insurance Company Assurance Company of America Colonial American Casualty & Surety Fidelity & Deposit Company of Maryland Maryland Casualty Company Northern Insurance Company of New York Valiant Insurance Company Zurich American Insurance Company Zurich American Insurance Company of Illinois

### FILED

FEB 2 4 2006

OFFICE OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION JUDGE HELENA MONTANA

#### IN THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

Individually and on Behalf of Others Similarly Situated,	) ) ) WCC No. 2000-0222
Petitioners, vs.  MONTANA STATE FUND,	) ) ) MOTION TO EXTEND DEADLINE ) FOR FILING SIMULTANEOUS ) ANSWER BRIEF )
Respondent/Insurer,	
and	
LIBERTY NORTHWEST INSURANCE CORPORATION,	
Intervenor.	

COMES NOW the above listed respondents (Moving Respondents) and move this court for an extension of the deadline to file a simultaneous answer brief on the issue of "settled," "final," "closed" or "inactive" claims. This motion is supported by the following brief. Counsel for Petitioner has been contacted and does not oppose this motion provided that any extension granted be applicable to all parties.

#### BRIEF

On January 3, 2006, this Court issued its *Amended Order Setting Briefing Schedule* which established February 27, 2006, as the deadline for parties to file simultaneous answer briefs on the issue of "settled," "final," "closed" or "inactive" claims. Counsel for the Moving Respondents will have completed that answer brief by the current deadline. However, counsel represents a large number of Respondents in this action who must be consulted with respect to the arguments presented in that brief. While counsel does not anticipate significant revisions to the completed answer brief, it is quite time consuming to contact all Respondents to obtain their input and concerns. It is unlikely that counsel can effect such contact by February 27, 2006.

WHEREFORE, the Moving Respondents respectfully request this Court to issue an order continuing the deadline for filing simultaneous answer briefs regarding the issue of "settled," "final," "closed" or "inactive" claims until March 3, 2006.

## Dated this 24th day of February, 2006.

CROWLEY, HAUGHEY, HANSON, TOOLE & DIETRICH P.L.L.P. Attorneys for American Alternative Insurance Corp. American Re-Insurance Company Centre Insurance Company Clarendon National Insurance Company Everest National Insurance Company Markel Insurance Company **Evanston Insurance Company** SCOR Reinsurance Company General Security Insurance Company General Security National Insurance Company Penn Star Insurance Company Fairfield Insurance Company General Reinsurance Corp. Genesis Insurance Company North Star Reinsurance Corp. XL Insurance America, Inc. XL Insurance Company of New York XL Reinsurance America XL Specialty Insurance Company Greenwich Insurance Company American Guarantee & Liability Insurance Company American Zurich Insurance Company Assurance Company of America Colonial American Casualty & Surety Fidelity & Deposit Company of Maryland Maryland Casualty Company Northern Insurance Company of New York Valiant Insurance Company Zurich American Insurance Company Zurich American Insurance Company of Illinois

STEVEN W. JENNINGS

# CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, STEVEN W. JENNINGS, one of the attorneys for the law firm of Crowley, Haughey, Hanson, Toole & Dietrich P.L.L.P., hereby certify that on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2006, I mailed a true and correct copy of the foregoing document, postage prepaid, to the following:

Mr. Rex Palmer Attorneys Inc., PC 301 W. Spruce Missoula, MT 59802

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