ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1063

Introduced by Assembly Member Bradford

February 18, 2011

An act to amend Section 11580.2 of the Insurance Code, relating to automobile insurance.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1063, as introduced, Bradford. Automobile insurance: underinsured motorist coverage.

Existing law prohibits a policy of bodily injury liability insurance covering liability arising out of the ownership, maintenance, or use of any motor vehicle from being issued or delivered in this state to the owner or operator of a motor vehicle, or from being issued or delivered by any insurer licensed in this state upon any motor vehicle then principally used or principally garaged in this state, unless the policy contains, or has added to it by endorsement, a provision with specified coverage limits insuring the insured, the insured's heirs, or legal representative for all sums within the limits that he, she, or they are legally entitled to recover as damages for bodily injury or wrongful death from the owner or operator of an uninsured motor vehicle, except as specified. Uninsured motorist coverage includes underinsured motorist coverage, as specified.

Existing law prohibits the maximum liability of an insurer providing underinsured motorist coverage for bodily injury to the insured caused by one or more vehicles from exceeding the insured's underinsured motorist coverage limits, less the amount paid to the insured by or for any person or organization that may be held legally liable for the injury.

This bill would eliminate the authority of the insurer to deduct the amount paid to the insured by or for any person or organization that may be held legally liable for the injury from its maximum liability in those circumstances.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 11580.2 of the Insurance Code is 2 amended to read:

3 11580.2. (a) (1) No policy of bodily injury liability insurance 4 covering liability arising out of the ownership, maintenance, or 5 use of any motor vehicle, except for policies that provide insurance in the Republic of Mexico issued or delivered in this state by 6 7 nonadmitted Mexican insurers, shall be issued or delivered in this 8 state to the owner or operator of a motor vehicle, or shall be issued 9 or delivered by any insurer licensed in this state upon any motor 10 vehicle then principally used or principally garaged in this state, unless the policy contains, or has added to it by endorsement, a 11 12 provision with coverage limits at least equal to the limits specified 13 in subdivision (m) and in no case less than the financial 14 responsibility requirements specified in Section 16056 of the 15 Vehicle Code insuring the insured, the insured's heirs or legal 16 representative for all sums within the limits that he, she, or they, 17 as the case may be, shall be legally entitled to recover as damages 18 for bodily injury or wrongful death from the owner or operator of 19 an uninsured motor vehicle. The insurer and any named insured, 20 prior to or subsequent to the issuance or renewal of a policy, may, 21 by agreement in writing, in the form specified in paragraph (2) or 22 paragraph (3), (1)(A) delete the provision covering damage caused 23 by an uninsured motor vehicle completely, or (2)(B) delete the 24 coverage when a motor vehicle is operated by a natural person or 25 persons designated by name, or (3)(C) agree to provide the 26 coverage in an amount less than that required by subdivision (m) 27 but not less than the financial responsibility requirements specified 28 in Section 16056 of the Vehicle Code. Any of these agreements 29 by any named insured or agreement for the amount of coverage 30 shall be binding upon every insured to whom the policy or 31 endorsement provisions apply while the policy is in force, and

1 shall continue to be so binding with respect to any continuation or 2 renewal of the policy or with respect to any other policy that 3 extends, changes, supersedes, or replaces the policy issued to the 4 named insured by the same insurer, or with respect to reinstatement 5 of the policy within 30 days of any lapse thereof. A policy shall 6 be excluded from the application of this section if the automobile 7 liability coverage is provided only on an excess or umbrella basis. 8 Nothing in this section shall require that uninsured motorist 9 coverage be offered or provided in any homeowner policy, personal 10 and residents' liability policy, comprehensive personal liability 11 policy, manufacturers' and contractors' policy, premises liability 12 policy, special multiperil policy, or any other policy or endorsement 13 where automobile liability coverage is offered as incidental to 14 some other basic coverage, notwithstanding that the policy may 15 provide automobile or motor vehicle liability coverage on insured 16 premises or the ways immediately adjoining.

17 (2) The agreement specified in paragraph (1) to delete the 18 provision covering damage caused by an uninsured motor vehicle 19 completely or delete the coverage when a motor vehicle is operated 20 by a natural person or persons designated by name shall be in the 21 following form:

22 "The California Insurance Code requires an insurer to provide 23 uninsured motorists coverage in each bodily injury liability 24 insurance policy it issues covering liability arising out of the 25 ownership, maintenance, or use of a motor vehicle. Those 26 provisions also permit the insurer and the applicant to delete the 27 coverage completely or to delete the coverage when a motor vehicle 28 is operated by a natural person or persons designated by name. 29 Uninsured motorists coverage insures the insured, his or her heirs, 30 or legal representatives for all sums within the limits established 31 by law, that the person or persons are legally entitled to recover 32 as damages for bodily injury, including any resulting sickness, 33 disease, or death, to the insured from the owner or operator of an 34 uninsured motor vehicle not owned or operated by the insured or a resident of the same household. An uninsured motor vehicle 35 36 includes an underinsured motor vehicle as defined in subdivision 37 (p) of Section 11580.2 of the Insurance Code."

38 The agreement may contain additional statements not in 39 derogation of or in conflict with the foregoing. The execution of 1 the agreement shall relieve the insurer of liability under this section

2 while the agreement remains in effect.

3 (3) The agreement specified in paragraph (1) to provide coverage

4 in an amount less than that required by subdivision (m) shall be 5 in the following form:

"The California Insurance Code requires an insurer to provide 6 uninsured motorists coverage in each bodily injury liability 7 8 insurance policy it issues covering liability arising out of the 9 ownership, maintenance, or use of a motor vehicle. Those 10 provisions also permit the insurer and the applicant to agree to 11 provide the coverage in an amount less than that required by 12 subdivision (m) of Section 11580.2 of the Insurance Code but not 13 less than the financial responsibility requirements. Uninsured 14 motorists coverage insures the insured, his or her heirs, or legal 15 representatives for all sums within the limits established by law, 16 that the person or persons are legally entitled to recover as damages 17 for bodily injury, including any resulting sickness, disease, or 18 death, to the insured from the owner or operator of an uninsured 19 motor vehicle not owned or operated by the insured or a resident 20 of the same household. An uninsured motor vehicle includes an 21 underinsured motor vehicle as defined in subdivision (p) of Section 22 11580.2 of the Insurance Code."

The agreement may contain additional statements not in 23 24 derogation of or in conflict with this paragraph. However, it shall 25 be presumed that an application for a policy of bodily injury 26 liability insurance containing uninsured motorist coverage in an 27 amount less than that required by subdivision (m), signed by the 28 named insured and approved by the insurer, with a policy effective 29 date after January 1, 1985, shall be a valid agreement as to the 30 amount of uninsured motorist coverage to be provided.

31 (b) As used in subdivision (a), "bodily injury" includes sickness 32 or disease, including death, resulting therefrom; "named insured" means only the individual or organization named in the declarations 33 34 of the policy of motor vehicle bodily injury liability insurance 35 referred to in subdivision (a); as used in subdivision (a) if the named insured is an individual "insured" means the named insured 36 37 and the spouse of the named insured and, while residents of the 38 same household, relatives of either while occupants of a motor 39 vehicle or otherwise, heirs and any other person while in or upon 40 or entering into or alighting from an insured motor vehicle and

1 any person with respect to damages he or she is entitled to recover 2 for care or loss of services because of bodily injury to which the 3 policy provisions or endorsement apply; as used in subdivision 4 (a), if the named insured is an entity other than an individual, 5 "insured" means any person while in or upon or entering into or 6 alighting from an insured motor vehicle and any person with 7 respect to damages he or she is entitled to recover for care or loss 8 of services because of bodily injury to which the policy provisions 9 or endorsement apply. As used in this subdivision, "individual" 10 shall not include persons doing business as corporations, 11 partnerships, or associations. As used in this subdivision, "insured 12 motor vehicle" means the motor vehicle described in the underlying insurance policy of which the uninsured motorist endorsement or 13 14 coverage is a part, a temporary substitute automobile for which 15 liability coverage is provided in the policy or a newly acquired 16 automobile for which liability coverage is provided in the policy 17 if the motor vehicle is used by the named insured or with his or 18 her permission or consent, express or implied, and any other 19 automobile not owned by or furnished for the regular use of the 20 named insured or any resident of the same household, or by a 21 natural person or persons for whom coverage has been deleted in 22 accordance with subdivision (a) while being operated by the named 23 insured or his or her spouse if a resident of the same household, 24 but "insured motor vehicle" shall not include any automobile while 25 used as a public or livery conveyance. As used in this section, 26 "uninsured motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle with respect to 27 the ownership, maintenance, or use of which there is no bodily 28 injury liability insurance or bond applicable at the time of the 29 accident, or there is the applicable insurance or bond but the 30 company writing the insurance or bond denies coverage thereunder 31 or refuses to admit coverage thereunder except conditionally or 32 with reservation, or an "underinsured motor vehicle" as defined 33 in subdivision (p), or a motor vehicle used without the permission 34 of the owner thereof if there is no bodily injury liability insurance 35 or bond applicable at the time of the accident with respect to the 36 owner or operator thereof, or the owner or operator thereof be 37 unknown, provided that, with respect to an "uninsured motor 38 vehicle" whose owner or operator is unknown:

1 (1) The bodily injury has arisen out of physical contact of the 2 automobile with the insured or with an automobile that the insured 3 is occupying.

4 (2) The insured or someone on his or her behalf has reported 5 the accident within 24 hours to the police department of the city 6 where the accident occurred or, if the accident occurred in 7 unincorporated territory-then, either to the sheriff of the county 8 where the accident occurred or to the local headquarters of the 9 California Highway Patrol, and has filed with the insurer within 10 30 days thereafter a statement under oath that the insured or his 11 or her legal representative has or the insured's heirs have a cause 12 of action arising out of the accident for damages against a person 13 or persons whose identity is unascertainable and set forth facts in support thereof. As used in this section, "uninsured motor vehicle" 14 15 shall not include a motor vehicle owned or operated by the named insured or any resident of the same household or self-insured within 16 17 the meaning of the Financial Responsibility Law of the state in which the motor vehicle is registered or that is owned by the United 18 19 States of America, Canada, a state or political subdivision of any 20 of those governments or an agency of any of the foregoing, or a 21 land motor vehicle or trailer while located for use as a residence 22 or premises and not as a vehicle, or any equipment or vehicle 23 designed or modified for use primarily off public roads, except 24 while actually upon public roads. 25 As used in this section, "uninsured motor vehicle" also means

26 an insured motor vehicle where the liability insurer thereof is 27 unable to make payment with respect to the legal liability of its 28 insured within the limits specified therein because of insolvency. 29 An insurer's solvency protection shall be applicable only to 30 accidents occurring during a policy period in which its insured's 31 motor vehicle coverage is in effect where the liability insurer of 32 the tortfeasor becomes insolvent within one year of the accident. 33 In the event of payment to any person under the coverage required 34 by this section and subject to the terms and conditions of the 35 coverage, the insurer making the payment, shall, to the extent thereof, be entitled to any proceeds that may be recoverable from 36 37 the assets of the insolvent insurer through any settlement or 38 judgment of the person against the insolvent insurer.

39 Nothing in this section is intended to exclude from the definition 40 of an uninsured motor vehicle any motorcycle or private

1 passenger-type four-wheel drive motor vehicle if that vehicle was

2 subject to and failed to comply with the Financial Responsibility3 Law of this state.

- 4 (c) The insurance coverage provided for in this section does not 5 apply either as primary or as excess coverage:
- 6 (1) To property damage sustained by the insured.
- 7 (2) To bodily injury of the insured while in or upon or while

8 entering into or alighting from a motor vehicle other than the 9 described motor vehicle if the owner thereof has insurance similar

10 to that provided in this section.

11 (3) To bodily injury of the insured with respect to which the 12 insured or his or her representative shall, without the written 13 consent of the insurer, make any settlement with or prosecute to 14 judgment any action against any person who may be legally liable 15 therefor.

(4) In any instance where it would inure directly or indirectly
to the benefit of any workers' compensation carrier or to any person
qualified as a self-insurer under any workers' compensation law,
or directly to the benefit of the United States, or any state or any

20 political subdivision thereof.

(5) To establish proof of financial responsibility as provided inSection 16054 of the Vehicle Code.

(6) To bodily injury of the insured while occupying a motor
vehicle owned by an insured or leased to an insured under a written
contract for a period of six months or longer, unless the occupied
vehicle is an insured motor vehicle. "Motor vehicle" as used in
this paragraph means any self-propelled vehicle.

(7) To bodily injury of the insured when struck by a vehicle
owned by an insured, except when the injured insured's vehicle
is being operated, or caused to be operated, by a person without
the injured insured's consent in connection with criminal activity
that has been documented in a police report and that the injured

33 insured is not a party to.

34 (8) To bodily injury of the insured while occupying a motor35 vehicle rented or leased to the insured for public or livery purposes.

36 (d) Subject to paragraph (2) of subdivision (c), the policy or
37 endorsement may provide that if the insured has insurance available
38 to the insured under more than one uninsured motorist coverage
39 provision, any damages shall not be deemed to exceed the higher
40 of the applicable limits of the respective coverages, and the

damages shall be prorated between the applicable coverages as
 the limits of each coverage bear to the total of the limits.

(e) The policy or endorsement added thereto may provide that
if the insured has valid and collectible automobile medical payment
insurance available to him or her, the damages that the insured
shall be entitled to recover from the owner or operator of an
uninsured motor vehicle shall be reduced for purposes of uninsured
motorist coverage by the amounts paid or due to be paid under the
automobile medical payment insurance.

10 (f) The policy or an endorsement added thereto shall provide that the determination as to whether the insured shall be legally 11 12 entitled to recover damages, and if so entitled, the amount thereof, 13 shall be made by agreement between the insured and the insurer 14 or, in the event of disagreement, by arbitration. The arbitration 15 shall be conducted by a single neutral arbitrator. An award or a 16 judgment confirming an award shall not be conclusive on any party 17 in any action or proceeding between $\frac{(i)}{(1)}$ (1) the insured, his or her 18 insurer, his or her legal representative, or his or her heirs and (ii) 19 (2) the uninsured motorist to recover damages arising out of the accident upon which the award is based. If the insured has or may 20 21 have rights to benefits, other than nonoccupational disability 22 benefits, under any workers' compensation law, the arbitrator shall 23 not proceed with the arbitration until the insured's physical 24 condition is stationary and ratable. In those cases in which the 25 insured claims a permanent disability, the claims shall, unless good 26 cause be shown, be adjudicated by award or settled by compromise 27 and release before the arbitration may proceed. Any demand or 28 petition for arbitration shall contain a declaration, under penalty 29 of perjury, stating whether (1) (1) the insured has a workers' 30 compensation claim; (ii) (2) the claim has proceeded to findings 31 and award or settlement on all issues reasonably contemplated to 32 be determined in that claim; and (iii) (3) if not, what reasons 33 amounting to good cause are grounds for the arbitration to proceed 34 immediately. The arbitration shall be deemed to be a proceeding 35 and the hearing before the arbitrator shall be deemed to be the trial 36 of an issue therein for purposes of issuance of a subpoena by an 37 attorney of a party to the arbitration under Section 1985 of the 38 Code of Civil Procedure. Title 4 (commencing with Section 39 2016.010) of Part 4 of the Code of Civil Procedure shall be 40 applicable to these determinations, and all rights, remedies,

1 obligations, liabilities, and procedures set forth in Title 4 2 (commencing with Section 2016.010) of Part 4 of the Code of 3 Civil Procedure shall be available to both the insured and the 4 insurer at any time after the accident, both before and after the 5 commencement of arbitration, if any, with the following 6 limitations:

7 (1) Whenever in Title 4 (commencing with Section 2016.010) 8 of Part 4 of the Code of Civil Procedure, reference is made to the 9 court in which the action is pending, or provision is made for 10 application to the court or obtaining leave of court or approval by 11 the court, the court that shall have jurisdiction for the purposes of 12 this section shall be the superior court of the State of California, 13 in and for any county that is a proper county for the filing of a suit 14 for bodily injury arising out of the accident, against the uninsured 15 motorist, or any county specified in the policy or an endorsement 16 added thereto as a proper county for arbitration or action thereon. 17 (2) Any proper court to which application is first made by either 18 the insured or the insurer under Title 4 (commencing with Section 19 2016.010) of Part 4 of the Code of Civil Procedure for any 20 discovery or other relief or remedy, shall thereafter be the only 21 court to which either of the parties shall make any applications 22 under Title 4 (commencing with Section 2016.010) of Part 4 of 23 the Code of Civil Procedure with respect to the same accident, 24 subject, however, to the right of the court to grant a change of 25 venue after a hearing upon notice, upon any of the grounds upon 26 which change of venue might be granted in an action filed in the 27 superior court. 28 (3) A deposition pursuant to Chapter 9 (commencing with

Section 2025.010) of Title 4 of Part 4 of the Code of Civil Procedure may be taken without leave of court, except that leave of court, granted with or without notice and for good cause shown, must be obtained if the notice of the taking of the deposition is

33 served by either party within 20 days after the accident.

34 (4) Subdivision (a) of Section 2025.280 of the Code of Civil35 Procedure is not applicable to discovery under this section.

36 (5) For the purposes of discovery under this section, the insured 37 and the insurer shall each be deemed to be "a party to the action,"

38 where that phrase is used in Section 2025.260 of the Code of Civil

39 Procedure.

1 (6) Interrogatories under Chapter 13 (commencing with Section

2 2030.010) of Title 4 of Part 4 of the Code of Civil Procedure and
 requests for admission under Chapter 16 (commencing with Section

4 2033.010) of Title 4 of Part 4 of the Code of Civil Procedure may

5 be served by either the insured or the insurer upon the other at any

6 time more than 20 days after the accident without leave of court.

7 (7) Nothing in this section limits the rights of any party to 8 discovery in any action pending or that may hereafter be pending 9 in any court.

10 (g) The insurer paying a claim under an uninsured motorist 11 endorsement or coverage shall be entitled to be subrogated to the 12 rights of the insured to whom the claim was paid against any person 13 legally liable for the injury or death to the extent that payment was 14 made. The action may be brought within three years from the date 15 that payment was made hereunder.

(h) An insured entitled to recovery under the uninsured motorist 16 17 endorsement or coverage shall be reimbursed within the conditions stated herein without being required to sign any release or waiver 18 of rights to which he or she may be entitled under any other 19 insurance coverage applicable; nor shall payment under this section 20 21 to the insured be delayed or made contingent upon the decisions 22 as to liability or distribution of loss costs under other bodily injury 23 liability insurance or any bond applicable to the accident. Any loss 24 payable under the terms of the uninsured motorist endorsement or 25 coverage to or for any person may be reduced:

(1) By the amount paid and the present value of all amounts
payable to him or her, his or her executor, administrator, heirs, or
legal representative under any workers' compensation law,
exclusive of nonoccupational disability benefits.

30 (2) By the amount the insured is entitled to recover from any

31 other person insured under the underlying liability insurance policy

32 of which the uninsured motorist endorsement or coverage is a part,

33 including any amounts tendered to the insured as advance payment

on behalf of the other person by the insurer providing theunderlying liability insurance.

(i) (1) No cause of action shall accrue to the insured under any
policy or endorsement provision issued pursuant to this section
unless one of the following actions have been taken within two
wears from the date of the accident:

39 years from the date of the accident:

1 (A) Suit for bodily injury has been filed against the uninsured 2 motorist, in a court of competent jurisdiction.

3 (B) Agreement as to the amount due under the policy has been 4 concluded.

5 (C) The insured has formally instituted arbitration proceedings 6 by notifying the insurer in writing sent by certified mail, return 7 receipt requested. Notice shall be sent to the insurer or to the agent

8 for process designated by the insurer filed with the department.

9 (2) Any arbitration instituted pursuant to this section shall be 10 concluded either:

11 (A) Within five years from the institution of the arbitration 12 proceeding.

(B) If the insured has a workers' compensation claim arising
from the same accident, within three years of the date the claim is
concluded, or within the five-year period set forth in subparagraph
(A), whichever occurs later.

17 (3) The doctrines of estoppel, waiver, impossibility,18 impracticality, and futility apply to excuse a party's noncompliance19 with the statutory timeframe, as determined by the court.

20 (4) Parties to the insurance contract may stipulate in writing to21 extending the time to conclude arbitration.

22 (j) Notwithstanding subdivisions (b) and (i), in the event the 23 accident occurs in any other state or foreign jurisdiction to which 24 coverage is extended under the policy and the insurer of the 25 tortfeasor becomes insolvent, any action authorized pursuant to 26 this section may be maintained within three months of the 27 insolvency of the tortfeasor's insurer, but in no event later than 28 the pertinent period of limitation of the jurisdiction in which the 29 accident occurred.

30 (k) Notwithstanding subdivision (i), any insurer whose insured 31 has made a claim under his or her uninsured motorist coverage, 32 and the claim is pending, shall, at least 30 days before the expiration of the applicable statute of limitation, notify its insured 33 34 in writing of the statute of limitation applicable to the injury or death. Failure of the insurer to provide the written notice shall 35 36 operate to toll any applicable statute of limitation or other time 37 limitation for a period of 30 days from the date the written notice 38 is actually given. The notice shall not be required if the insurer 39 has received notice that the insured is represented by an attorney.

(l) As used in subdivision (b), "public or livery conveyance," 1 2 or terms of similar import, shall not include the operation or use 3 of a motor vehicle by the named insured in the performance of 4 volunteer services for a nonprofit charitable organization or 5 governmental agency by providing social service transportation as defined in subdivision (f) of Section 11580.1. This subdivision 6 7 shall apply only to policies of insurance issued, amended, or 8 renewed on or after January 1, 1976.

9 (m) Coverage provided under an uninsured motorist 10 endorsement or coverage shall be offered with coverage limits 11 equal to the limits of liability for bodily injury in the underlying 12 policy of insurance, but shall not be required to be offered with 13 limits in excess of the following amounts:

(1) A limit of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) because of bodilyinjury to or death of one person in any one accident.

(2) Subject to the limit for one person set forth in paragraph (1),
a limit of sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000) because of bodily injury
to or death of two or more persons in any one accident.

19 (n) Underinsured motorist coverage shall be offered with limits equal to the limits of liability for the insured's uninsured motorist 20 21 limits in the underlying policy, and may be offered with limits in 22 excess of the uninsured motorist coverage. For the purposes of 23 this section, uninsured and underinsured motorist coverage shall be offered as a single coverage. However, an insurer may offer 24 25 coverage for damages for bodily injury or wrongful death from 26 the owner or operator of an underinsured motor vehicle at greater 27 limits than an uninsured motor vehicle. 28 (o) If an insured has failed to provide an insurer with wage loss

29 information or medical treatment record releases within 15 days 30 of the insurer's request or has failed to submit to a medical 31 examination arranged by the insurer within 20 days of the insurer's 32 request, the insurer may, at any time prior to 30 days before the actual arbitration proceedings commence, request, and the insured 33 34 shall furnish, wage loss information or medical treatment record 35 releases, and the insurer may require the insured, except during 36 periods of hospitalization, to make himself or herself available for 37 a medical examination. The wage loss information or medical 38 treatment record releases shall be submitted by the insured within 39 10 days of request and the medical examination shall be arranged 40 by the insurer no sooner than 10 days after request, unless the

1 insured agrees to an earlier examination date, and not later than

2 20 days after the request. If the insured fails to comply with the 3 requirements of this subdivision, the actual arbitration proceedings

4 shall be stayed for at least 30 days following compliance by the

5 insured. The proceedings shall be scheduled as soon as practicable

6 following expiration of the 30-day period.

7 (p) This subdivision applies only when bodily injury, as defined 8 in subdivision (b), is caused by an underinsured motor vehicle. If 9 the provisions of this subdivision conflict with subdivisions (a) 10 through (o), *inclusive*, the provisions of this subdivision shall 11 prevail.

12 (1) As used in this subdivision, "an insured motor vehicle" is 13 one that is insured under a motor vehicle liability policy, or 14 automobile liability insurance policy, self-insured, or for which a 15 cash deposit or bond has been posted to satisfy a financial 16 responsibility law.

(2) "Underinsured motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle thatis an insured motor vehicle but insured for an amount that is lessthan the uninsured motorist limits carried on the motor vehicle ofthe injured person.

(3) This coverage does not apply to any bodily injury until the
limits of bodily injury liability policies applicable to all insured
motor vehicles causing the injury have been exhausted by payment
of judgments or settlements, and proof of the payment is submitted
to the insurer providing the underinsured motorist coverage.

(4) When bodily injury is caused by one or more motor vehicles,
whether insured, underinsured, or uninsured, the maximum liability
of the insurer providing the underinsured motorist coverage shall
not exceed the insured's underinsured motorist coverage limits,
less the amount paid to the insured by or for any person or
organization that may be held legally liable for the injury.

(5) The insurer paying a claim under this subdivision shall, to
the extent of the payment, be entitled to reimbursement or credit
in the amount received by the insured from the owner or operator
of the underinsured motor vehicle or the insurer of the owner or
operator.

(6) If the insured brings an action against the owner or operator
of an underinsured motor vehicle, he or she shall forthwith give
to the insurer providing the underinsured motorist coverage a copy
of the complaint by personal service or certified mail. All pleadings

- 1 and depositions shall be made available for copying or copies
- 2 furnished the insurer, at the insurer's expense, within a reasonable3 time.
- 4 (7) Underinsured motorist coverage shall be included in all 5 policies of bodily injury liability insurance providing uninsured 6 motorist coverage issued or renewed on or after July 1, 1985.
- 7 Notwithstanding this section, an agreement to delete uninsured8 motorist coverage completely, or with respect to a person or
- 8 motorist coverage completely, or with respect to a person or 9 persons designated by name, executed prior to July 1, 1985, shall
- 10 remain in full force and effect.
- 11 (q) Regardless of the number of vehicles involved whether
- 12 insured or not, persons covered, claims made, premiums paid, or
- 13 the number of premiums shown on the policy, in no event shall
- 14 the limit of liability for two or more motor vehicles or two or more
- 15 policies be added together, combined, or stacked to determine the
- 16 limit of insurance coverage available to injured persons.

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