

ASSURANT INC  
Form S-3ASR  
January 22, 2018

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 22, 2018

Registration No. 333-

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM S-3

REGISTRATION STATEMENT  
UNDER  
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

ASSURANT, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

<b>Delaware</b> (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization)	<b>6321</b> (Primary Standard Industrial Classification Code number)	<b>39-1126612</b> (I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)
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**28 Liberty Street**  
**41st Floor**  
**New York, New York 10005**  
**(212) 859-7000**

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

**Carey S. Roberts**  
**Executive Vice President, Chief Legal Officer & Secretary**  
**Assurant, Inc.**  
**28 Liberty Street**  
**41st Floor**  
**New York, New York 10005**  
**(212) 859-7000**

(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

*Copy to:*

**Richard D. Truesdell, Jr.**

**Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP**

**450 Lexington Avenue**

**New York, NY 10017**

**(212) 450-4000**

**Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public:** From time to time after the effective date of this registration statement.

If the only securities being registered on this Form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box.

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box.

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.D. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check, the following box.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.D. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

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Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of “large accelerated filer,” “accelerated filer,” “smaller reporting company” and “emerging growth company” in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer (Do not check if a smaller reporting company) Smaller reporting company

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 7(a)(2)(B) of the Securities Act.

**CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE**

Title of Each Class of Securities to be Registered	Amount to be Registered	Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Unit	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price	Amount of Registration Fee(1)(2)
Debt Securities				
Common Stock				
Preferred Stock				
Depository Shares(3)		(1)(2)		\$0
Warrants(4)				
Stock Purchase Contracts				
Units				

(1) An unspecified aggregate initial offering price or number of the securities of each identified class is being registered as may from time to time be offered, reoffered or resold, at indeterminate prices. Separate consideration may or may not be received for securities that are issuable on exercise, conversion or exchange of other securities or that are issued in units or represented by depository shares. In reliance on Rule 456(b) and Rule 457(r) under the Securities Act, the Registrant hereby defers payment of the registration fee required in connection with this registration statement.

(2) This registration statement also covers an indeterminate number of debt securities, common stock, preferred stock, warrants, stock purchase contracts and units of Assurant, Inc. that may be reoffered and resold on an ongoing basis after their initial sale in remarketing or other resale transactions by the Registrant or affiliates of the Registrant.

(3) Each depository share of the Registrant will be issued under a deposit agreement, will represent an interest in a fractional share or multiple shares of preferred stock of the Registrant and will be evidenced by a depository

receipt.

- (4) Warrants may be sold separately or with senior debt securities, subordinated debt securities, common stock, preferred stock or depositary shares.

PROSPECTUS

ASSURANT, INC.

Debt Securities

Common Stock

Preferred Stock

Depositary Shares

Warrants

Stock Purchase Contracts

Units

We may offer these securities or a combination of these securities from time to time on terms to be determined at the time of the offering. We may sell these securities to or through one or more underwriters, dealers or agents, or directly to purchasers, on a continued or delayed basis. We will provide the specific terms of the securities and describe the manner in which they may be offered in supplements to this prospectus. You should read this prospectus and any supplement carefully before you invest.

Our shares of common stock are listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the trading symbol "AIZ".

This prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement may be used in the initial sale of the securities or in resales by selling securityholders. In addition, Assurant, Inc. or any of its affiliates may use this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement in a remarketing or other resale transaction involving the securities after their initial sale. These transactions may be executed at negotiated prices that are related to market prices at the time of purchase or sale, or at other prices, as determined from time to time.

**You should consider carefully the risk factors beginning on page 3 of this prospectus and included in our reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and in any applicable prospectus supplement before purchasing any of our securities.**

**Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined whether this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.**

The date of this prospectus is January 22, 2018

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About This Prospectus

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we have filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) using a “shelf” registration process. Using this process, we may offer any combination of the securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer and the manner in which they may be offered. Each time we use this prospectus to offer securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement and, if applicable, a pricing supplement, that will describe the specific terms of the offering and the specific manner in which the securities will be offered. We and any underwriter or agent that we may from time to time retain may also provide you with other information relating to the offering, which we refer to as “other offering material”. The prospectus supplement, pricing supplement and any other offering material may add to, update or change the information contained in this prospectus. Throughout this prospectus, where we indicate that material may be supplemented in a prospectus supplement, that information may also be supplemented in other offering material provided to you. If there is any inconsistency between the information in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement or other offering material, you should rely on the information in the prospectus supplement or other offering material. Please carefully read this prospectus, the prospectus supplement, the pricing supplement and any other offering material together with the information contained in the documents we refer to under the heading “Where You Can Find More Information”.

**We are responsible for the information contained in or incorporated by reference in this prospectus, the applicable prospectus supplement and any pricing supplement or other offering material, if any, provided by us or any underwriter or agent that we may from time to time retain. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different information and we take no responsibility for any other information that others may give you. You should assume that the information appearing in or incorporated by reference into this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and any pricing supplement or other offering material is accurate only as of the date on its cover page and that any information we have incorporated by reference is accurate only as of the date of the document incorporated by reference. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since such dates. Neither we nor any underwriters or agent whom we may from time to time retain is making or will make an offer of the securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.**



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FORWARD-LOOKING Information

Some of the statements included in this prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus, particularly those anticipating future financial performance, business prospectus, growth and operating strategies and similar matters, are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. You can identify these statements by the fact that they may use words such as “will,” “may,” “anticipates,” “expects,” “estimates,” “projects,” “intends,” “plans,” “believes,” “targets,” “forecasts,” “potential,” “approximately” or the ne versions of those words and terms with a similar meaning. Any forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus are based upon our historical performance and on current plans, estimates and expectations. The inclusion of this forward-looking information should not be regarded as a representation by us or any other person that the future plans, estimates or expectations contemplated by us will be achieved. Our actual results might differ materially from those indicated in this prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus. We believe that these factors include but are not limited to those described under the subsections entitled “Risk Factors” and “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K and Quarterly report on Form 10-Q. These factors should not be construed as exhaustive and should be read in conjunction with the other cautionary statements that are included in this prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus. We undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statements in this prospectus as a result of new information or future events or developments.

The following factors could cause our actual results to differ materially from those currently estimated by management:

- the successful completion of the pending transaction with The Warranty Group and the effective integration of its operations;

- the impact of recently enacted tax reform legislation in the U.S.;

- the loss of significant client relationships or business, distribution sources and contracts;

- the impact of general economic, financial market and political conditions;

- the adequacy of reserves established for future claims;

- the impact of catastrophic losses, including human-made catastrophic losses;

- a decline in our credit or financial strength ratings;

- risks related to our international operations, including fluctuations in exchange rates;

- an impairment of the Company's goodwill or other intangible assets resulting from a sustained significant decline in the Company's stock price, a decline in actual or expected future cash flows or income, a significant adverse change in the business climate or slower growth rate, among other circumstances;

- a failure to effectively maintain and modernize our information technology systems;

the Company's vulnerability to system security threats, data protection breaches, cyber attacks and data breaches compromising client information and privacy;

- significant competitive pressures in our businesses or changes in customer preferences;

- the failure to find and integrate suitable acquisitions and new ventures;

a decline in the sales of our products and services resulting from an inability to develop and maintain distribution sources or attract and retain sales representatives;

- a decline in the value of our investment portfolio;

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· the failure to successfully manage outsourcing activities, such as functions in our mortgage solution business and call center services;

· a decline in the value of mobile devices in our inventory or those that are subject to guaranteed buyback provisions;

· the unavailability or inadequacy of reinsurance coverage;

· the insolvency of third parties to whom we have sold or may sell businesses through reinsurance or modified co-insurance;

· the credit risk of some of our agents that we are exposed to due to the structure of our commission program;

· the inability of our subsidiaries to pay sufficient dividends to the holding company;

· the failure to attract and retain key personnel and to provide for succession of senior management and key executives;

· the extensive regulations we are subject to could increase our costs; restrict the conduct of our business and limit our growth; and

· the impact of unfavorable outcomes in potential litigation and/or potential regulatory investigations.

For a more detailed discussion of the risks that could affect our actual results, please refer to the risk factors identified in our SEC reports, including, but not limited to, our Annual Reports on Form 10-K and our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, as filed with the SEC.

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### About Assurant, Inc.

Assurant is a global provider of risk management solutions in the housing and lifestyle markets in North America, Latin America, Europe and Asia. As used in this prospectus, unless we state otherwise or the context indicates otherwise, “Assurant,” the “Company,” “we,” “our” and similar terms mean Assurant, Inc., and its subsidiaries.

We currently are comprised of three operating segments: Global Housing, Global Lifestyle, and Global Preneed. We partner with clients who are leaders in their industries to provide consumers a diverse range of protection products and services. Through our Global Housing segment, we provide lender-placed homeowners, manufactured housing and flood insurance; renters insurance and related products (also referred to as our “multi-family housing” business); and field services, valuation services and other property risk management services (also referred to as our “mortgage solutions” business). Through our Global Lifestyle segment, we provide mobile device protection products and related services and extended service products and related services for consumer electronics and appliances (also referred to as our “global connected living” business); vehicle protection services; and credit insurance. Global Preneed provides pre-funded funeral insurance and annuity products.

Assurant’s vision is to be the premier provider of risk management solutions in our addressable markets within the housing and lifestyle markets globally. To achieve this vision, we are focused on maintaining an attractive portfolio of market-leading businesses in the housing and lifestyle markets with integrated risk offerings to drive distinct competitive advantage and attractive economics within a more efficient operating structure. We recently underwent a multi-year transformation including the implementation of a more agile operating model, reorganizing our global business operating structure to increase competitive agility and deliver superior customer experience as well as centralizing key support functions to benefit from economies of scale. We expect to profitably grow over time by investing in niche capabilities, further expanding our offerings beyond our risk-based businesses to fee-based services along the lifecycle of our core products and diversifying our distribution channels. In addition, we look to deploy capital strategically – both to invest in our businesses and return capital to shareholders via share repurchase and dividends.

Assurant, Inc. was incorporated in Delaware in 2004. Our predecessor, Fortis, Inc., was incorporated in Nevada in April 1969. Fortis, Inc. was merged with and into Assurant, Inc. in February 2004. Our principal executive offices are located at 28 Liberty Street, 41st Floor, New York, New York 10005. Our telephone number is (212) 859-7000.

### Where You Can Find More Information

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You can read and copy these materials at the SEC’s public reference room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You can obtain information about the operation of the SEC’s public reference room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. The

SEC also maintains an Internet site that contains information we have filed electronically with the SEC, which you can access over the Internet at <http://www.sec.gov>. You can also obtain information about us at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange, 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005 and on our website at <http://www.assurant.com>.

This prospectus is part of a registration statement we have filed with the SEC relating to the securities we may offer. As permitted by SEC rules, this prospectus does not contain all of the information we have included in the registration statement and the accompanying exhibits and schedules we file with the SEC. You may refer to the registration statement and its exhibits and schedules for more information about us and the securities. The registration statement, exhibits and schedules are available at the SEC's public reference room or through its Internet site.

The SEC allows us to "incorporate by reference" the information we have filed with it, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information we incorporate by reference is an important part of this prospectus, and later information that we file with the SEC will automatically update and supersede this information. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below and any future filings we make with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act") after the date of this prospectus and until all of the offered securities are sold other

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than the information that is deemed to be furnished and not filed in accordance with SEC rules. The documents we incorporate by reference are:

- our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016;
- our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the periods ended March 31, 2017, June 30, 2017 and September 30, 2017;
- our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on January 17, 2017, May 12, 2017, May 15, 2017, August 7, 2017, August 15, 2017, October 18, 2017 (only with respect to Items 1.01 and 9.01 and Exhibits 2.1, 4.1, 4.2, 10.1 and 10.2 thereto), December 21, 2017 and January 9, 2018 (only with respect to Items 1.01, 3.02 and 9.01 and Exhibits 2.1, 4.1, 4.2 and 10.1 thereto);
- our definitive proxy statement filed on March 24, 2017 pursuant to Section 14 of the Exchange Act; and

the description of our common stock contained in the section captioned “Description of Share Capital” in our prospectus included in the registration statement on Form S-1 (Registration No. 333-121820) originally filed with the SEC on January 3, 2005 and amended on January 10, 2005.

You may request a copy of these filings, other than an exhibit to these filings unless we have specifically incorporated that exhibit by reference into the filing, at no cost, by writing or calling:

Assurant, Inc.  
28 Liberty Street  
41st Floor  
New York, New York 10005  
Attn: Investor Relations  
(212) 859-7000

**We are responsible for the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus and the prospectus supplement and any pricing supplement or other offering material. We have not authorized any person, including any salesman or broker, to provide information other than that provided in this prospectus, the prospectus supplement, pricing supplement or other offering material. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different information and we take no responsibility for any other information that others may give you. Neither we nor any underwriters or agents whom we may from time to time retain is making or will make an offer of the securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should assume that the information in this prospectus, the prospectus supplement, any pricing supplement and any other offering material is accurate only as of the date on its cover page and that any information we have incorporated by reference is accurate only as of the date of the document incorporated by reference.**



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Risk Factors

Investing in our securities involves significant risks. Before making an investment decision, you should carefully consider the risks and other information we include or incorporate by reference in this prospectus. In particular, you should consider the risk factors set forth in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC, in each case as those risk factors are amended or supplemented by subsequent Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q. The risks and uncertainties we have described are not the only ones facing us. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us or that we currently deem immaterial may also affect our business operations. Additional risk factors may be included in a prospectus supplement relating to a particular series or offering of securities.



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Use of Proceeds

We intend to use the net proceeds from the sale or resale of the securities referenced in this prospectus for (a) general corporate purposes, which may include, among other things, working capital, contributions of capital to our insurance underwriting and other subsidiaries, capital expenditures, the repurchase of shares of common stock, the repayment of short-term borrowings or other debt or acquisitions, or (b) any other purpose disclosed in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Ratio of Consolidated Earnings to Fixed Charges

The following table presents our historical ratio of consolidated earnings to fixed charges for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2017 and for each of the years in the five-year period ended December 31, 2016.

	Nine months ended September 30, 2017	Year ended December 31,				
		2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Historical ratio of consolidated earnings to fixed charges	7.83	13.76	4.06	11.86	10.10	11.79

Earnings represent:

Income from operations before income taxes

plus

Fixed charges

Fixed charges include:

Interest expense

· Amortization of discounts related to indebtedness

- The proportion of rental expense deemed representative of the interest factor by the management of Assurant.

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### Description of Debt Securities We May Offer

References to “Assurant,” the “Company,” “ us,” “we” or “our” in this section mean Assurant, Inc., and do not include the subsidiaries of Assurant, Inc. Also, in this section, references to “holders” mean those who own debt securities registered in their own names, on the books that we or the applicable trustee maintain for this purpose, and not those who own beneficial interests in debt securities registered in street name or in debt securities issued in book-entry form through one or more depositaries. When we refer to “you” in this prospectus, we mean all purchasers of the securities being offered by this prospectus, whether they are the holders or only indirect owners of those securities. Owners of beneficial interests in the debt securities should read the section below entitled “Legal Ownership and Book-Entry Issuance”.

### Debt Securities May Be Senior or Subordinated

We may issue senior or subordinated debt securities. Neither the senior debt securities nor the subordinated debt securities will be secured by any of our property or assets or the property or assets of our subsidiaries. Thus, by owning a debt security, you are one of our unsecured creditors.

The senior debt securities and, in the case of senior debt securities in bearer form, any related interest coupons, will be issued under our senior debt indentures described below and will rank equally with all of our other unsecured and unsubordinated debt.

The subordinated debt securities and, in the case of subordinated debt securities in bearer form, any related interest coupons, will be issued under our subordinated debt indenture described below and will be subordinate in right of payment to all of our “senior indebtedness,” as defined in the subordinated debt indenture. Neither indenture limits our ability to incur additional unsecured indebtedness.

When we refer to “debt securities” in this prospectus, we mean both the senior debt securities and the subordinated debt securities issued under the indentures (as defined below).

### The Senior and Subordinated Debt Indentures

The senior debt securities are governed by documents called the “senior debt indentures” (the Senior Debt Indenture dated as of February 18, 2004 between us and U.S. Bank National Association, as successor to SunTrust Bank, as

trustee, which we refer to as the “2004 senior debt indenture”, and the Indenture, dated as of March 28, 2013, between us and U.S. Bank National Association, as trustee, which we refer to as the “2013 senior debt indenture”), and the subordinated debt securities are governed by the “subordinated debt indenture” (the Indenture, to be dated as of a date on or prior to the initial issuance of subordinated debt securities under such Indenture, between us and U.S. Bank National Association, as trustee, and together with the senior debt indentures, the “indentures”). A number of provisions of our three indentures are identical; however, the provisions relating to subordination are included only in the subordinated debt indenture and certain provisions described below under “—Notices”, “—Modification and Waiver of the Debt Securities”, “—Reports”, “—Restrictive Covenants” and “—Events of Default” vary substantially among the indentures.

Reference to the indenture or the trustee with respect to any debt securities, means the indenture under which those debt securities are issued and the trustee under that indenture. See “— Our Relationship with the Trustee”.

The trustee has two main roles:

1. The trustee can enforce the rights of holders against us if we default on our obligations under the terms of the indentures or the debt securities. There are some limitations on the extent to which the trustee acts on behalf of holders, described below under “— Events of Default — Remedies If an Event of Default Occurs”.

2. The trustee performs administrative duties for us, such as sending interest payments and notices to holders, and transferring a holder’s debt securities to a new buyer if a holder sells.

The indentures and their associated documents contain the full legal text of the matters described in this section. The indentures and the debt securities are governed by New York law. A copy of each indenture is an exhibit to our registration statement. See “Where You Can Find More Information” for information on how to obtain a copy.

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We may issue as many distinct series of debt securities under any of the indentures as we wish. The provisions of the senior debt indentures and the subordinated debt indenture allow us not only to issue debt securities with terms different from those previously issued under the applicable indenture, but also to “reopen” a previous issue of a series of debt securities and issue additional debt securities of that series. We may issue debt securities in amounts that exceed the total amount specified on the cover of your prospectus supplement at any time without your consent and without notifying you. In addition we may offer debt securities, together with other debt securities, warrants, stock purchase contracts, preferred stock or common stock in the form of units, as described below under “Description of Units We May Offer”.

This section summarizes the material terms of the debt securities that are common to all series, although the prospectus supplement which describes the terms of each series of debt securities may also describe differences from the material terms summarized here.

Because this section is a summary, it does not describe every aspect of the debt securities. This summary is subject to and qualified in its entirety by reference to all the provisions of the indenture, including definitions of certain terms used in the indenture. In this summary, we describe the meaning of only some of the more important terms. For your convenience, we also include references in parentheses to certain sections of the indenture. Whenever we refer to particular sections or defined terms of the indenture in this prospectus or in the prospectus supplement, such sections or defined terms are incorporated by reference here or in the prospectus supplement. You must look to the indenture for the most complete description of what we describe in summary form in this prospectus.

This summary also is subject to and qualified by reference to the description in the prospectus supplement of the particular terms of the series of debt securities you are offered. Those terms may vary from the terms described in this prospectus. The prospectus supplement relating to each series of debt securities will be attached to the front of this prospectus. There may also be a further prospectus supplement, known as a pricing supplement, which contains the precise terms of debt securities you are offered.

Under the 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture (but not the 2004 senior debt indenture), we may issue the debt securities as original issue discount securities, which will be offered and sold at a substantial discount below their stated principal amount. (Section 101 of the 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture) The prospectus supplement relating to original issue discount securities will describe federal income tax consequences and other special considerations applicable to them. The debt securities may also be issued as indexed securities or securities denominated in foreign currencies or currency units, as described in more detail in the prospectus supplement relating to any of the particular debt securities. The prospectus supplement relating to specific debt securities will also describe the risks and certain additional tax considerations applicable to such debt securities.

In addition, the specific financial, legal and other terms particular to a series of debt securities will be described in the prospectus supplement and, if applicable, a pricing supplement relating to the series. The prospectus supplement relating to a series of debt securities will describe the following terms of the series:

- the title of the series of debt securities;
- whether it is a series of senior debt securities or a series of subordinated debt securities;
- any limit on the aggregate principal amount of the series of debt securities;
- the person to whom interest on a debt security is payable, if other than the holder on the regular record date;
- the date or dates on which the series of debt securities will mature;
- the rate or rates, which may be fixed or variable, per annum, at which the series of debt securities will bear interest, if any, and the date or dates from which that interest, if any, will accrue;
- the place or places where the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the debt securities is payable;

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the dates on which interest, if any, on the series of debt securities will be payable and the regular record dates for the interest payment dates;

any mandatory or optional sinking funds or similar provisions or provisions for redemption at the option of the issuer or the holder;

the date, if any, after which and the price or prices at which the series of debt securities may, in accordance with any optional or mandatory redemption provisions, be redeemed and the other detailed terms and provisions of those optional or mandatory redemption provisions, if any;

if the debt securities may be converted into or exercised or exchanged for our common stock or preferred stock or other of our securities or the debt or equity securities of third parties, the terms on which conversion, exercise or exchange may occur, including whether conversion, exercise or exchange is mandatory, at the option of the holder or at our option, the period during which conversion, exercise or exchange may occur, the initial conversion, exercise or exchange price or rate and the circumstances or manner in which the amount of common stock or preferred stock or other securities or the debt or equity securities of third parties issuable upon conversion, exercise or exchange may be adjusted;

if other than denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiples thereof, the denominations in which the series of debt securities will be issuable;

- the currency of payment of principal, premium, if any, and interest on the series of debt securities;

if the currency of payment for principal, premium, if any, and interest on the series of debt securities is subject to our election or that of a holder, the currency or currencies in which payment can be made and the period within which, and the terms and conditions upon which, the election can be made;

any index, formula or other method used to determine the amount of payment of principal or premium, if any, or interest on the series of debt securities;

- the applicability of the provisions described under “— Restrictive Covenants” and “— Defeasance” below;

any event of default under the series of debt securities if different from those described under “— Events of Default” below;

if the debt securities will be issued in bearer form, any special provisions relating to bearer securities that are not addressed in this prospectus;

if the series of debt securities will be issuable only in the form of a global security, the depositary or its nominee with respect to the series of debt securities and the circumstances under which the global security may be registered for transfer or exchange in the name of a person other than the depositary or the nominee; and

any other special feature of the series of debt securities.

In addition to the items above, the prospectus supplement relating to a series of debt securities issued under the 2004 senior debt indenture will also describe the following terms of the series:

the provisions of the indenture, if any, that shall not apply to the series of debt securities;

the right, if any, to defer payment of interest on the debt securities and the maximum length of any deferral period;  
and

whether the Company shall enter into an exchange and registration rights agreement with respect to the debt securities.

An investment in debt securities may involve special risks, including risks associated with indexed securities and currency-related risks if the debt security is linked to an index or is payable in or otherwise linked to a non-U.S. dollar currency. We will describe these risks in the prospectus supplement relating to specific debt securities.



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Overview of Remainder of this Description

The remainder of this description summarizes:

*Additional Mechanics* relevant to the debt securities under normal circumstances, such as how holders transfer ownership and where we make payments;

Holders' rights in several *Special Situations*, such as if we merge with another company or if we want to change a term of the debt securities;

*Subordination Provisions* in the subordinated debt indenture that may prohibit us from making payment on those securities;

Our right to release ourselves from all or some of our obligations under the debt securities and the indenture by a process called *Defeasance*; and

Holders' rights if we *Default* or experience other financial difficulties.

Additional Mechanics

Form, Exchange and Transfer

Unless we specify otherwise in the prospectus supplement, the debt securities will be issued:

only in fully registered form;

without interest coupons; and

in denominations that are even multiples of \$1,000 (Section 302 of the 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture, Section 3.2 of the 2004 senior debt indenture)

If a debt security is issued as a registered global debt security, only the depositary — e.g., DTC, Euroclear and Clearstream, each as defined below under “Legal Ownership and Book-Entry Issuance” — will be entitled to transfer and exchange the debt security as described in this subsection, since the depositary will be the sole holder of the debt security. Those who own beneficial interests in a global security do so through participants in the depositary’s securities clearance system, and the rights of these indirect owners will be governed solely by the applicable procedures of the depositary and its participants. We describe book-entry procedures below under “Legal Ownership and Book-Entry Issuance”.

Holders may have their debt securities broken into more debt securities of smaller denominations of not less than \$1,000 or combined into fewer debt securities of larger denominations, as long as the total principal amount is not changed. (Section 305 of the 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture, Section 3.5 of the 2004 senior debt indenture) This is called an exchange.

Holders may exchange or transfer debt securities at the office of the trustee. They may also replace lost, stolen or mutilated debt securities at that office. The trustee acts as our agent for registering debt securities in the names of holders and transferring debt securities. We may change this appointment to another entity or perform this service ourselves. The entity performing the role of maintaining the list of registered holders is called the security registrar. It will also perform transfers. (Section 305 of the 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture, Section 3.5 of the 2004 senior debt indenture) The trustee’s agent may require an indemnity against any loss, liability or expense incurred without negligence or bad faith on its part arising out of or in connection with the acceptance or administration of the trust or trusts before replacing any debt securities.

Holders will not be required to pay a service charge to transfer or exchange debt securities, but holders may be required to pay for any tax or other governmental charge associated with the exchange or transfer. The transfer or exchange will only be made if the security registrar is satisfied with your proof of ownership.

If we designate additional transfer agents, they will be named in the prospectus supplement. We may cancel the designation of any particular transfer agent. We may also approve a change in the office through which any transfer

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agent acts. (Section 1002 of the 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture, Section 10.2 of the 2004 senior debt indenture)

If the debt securities are redeemable and we redeem less than all of the debt securities of a particular series, we may block the transfer or exchange of debt securities during the period beginning 15 days before the day we mail the notice of redemption and ending on the day of that mailing, in order to freeze the list of holders to prepare the mailing. We may also refuse to register transfers or exchanges of debt securities selected for redemption, except that we will continue to permit transfers and exchanges of the unredeemed portion of any debt security being partially redeemed. (Section 305 of the 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture, Section 3.5 of the 2004 senior debt indenture)

The rules for exchange described above apply to exchange of debt securities for other debt securities of the same series and kind. If a debt security is convertible, exercisable or exchangeable into or for a different kind of security, such as one that we have not issued, or for other property, the rules governing that type of conversion, exercise or exchange will be described in the prospectus supplement.

Payment and Paying Agents

We will pay interest to the person listed in the trustee's records at the close of business on a particular day in advance of each due date for interest, even if that person no longer owns the debt security on the interest due date. That particular day, usually about two weeks in advance of the interest due date, is called the regular record date and will be stated in the prospectus supplement. (Section 307 of the 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture, Section 3.10 of the 2004 senior debt indenture) Holders buying and selling debt securities must work out between them how to compensate for the fact that we will pay all the interest for an interest period to the one who is the registered holder on the regular record date. The most common manner is to adjust the sale price of the securities to pro-rate interest fairly between buyer and seller. This prorated interest amount is called accrued interest.

We will pay interest, principal and any other money due on the debt securities at the corporate trust office of the trustee in the Borough of Manhattan, the City of New York. That office is currently located at U.S. Bank National Association, ATTN: Global Corporate Trust Services, 100 Wall Street, 16th Floor, New York, New York 10005. Holders must make arrangements to have their payments picked up at or wired from that office. We may also choose to pay interest by mailing checks.

**BOOK-ENTRY AND OTHER INDIRECT HOLDERS SHOULD CONSULT THEIR BANKS, BROKERS OR OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS FOR INFORMATION ON HOW THEY WILL RECEIVE PAYMENTS.**

We may also arrange for additional payment offices and may cancel or change these offices, including our use of the trustee's corporate trust office. These offices are called paying agents. We may also choose to act as our own paying agent or choose one of our subsidiaries to do so. We must notify holders of changes in the paying agents for any particular series of debt securities. (Section 1002 of the 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture, Section 10.2 of the 2004 senior debt indenture)

## Notices

We and the trustee will send notices regarding the debt securities only to holders, using their addresses as listed in the trustee's records. (Sections 101 and 106 of the 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture, Sections 1.1 and 1.6 of the 2004 senior debt indenture) With respect to who is a legal "holder" for this purpose, see "Legal Ownership and Book-Entry Issuance".

Regardless of who acts as paying agent, all money paid by us to a paying agent that remains unclaimed at the end of two years after the amount is due to holders, in the case of the 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture, or at the end of three years after the amount is due to holders in the case of the 2004 senior debt indenture, will be repaid to us. After that two- or three-year period, holders may look only to us for payment and not to the trustee or any other paying agent. (Section 1003 of the 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture, Section 10.5 of the 2004 senior debt indenture)

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Special Situations

Mergers and Similar Transactions

We are generally permitted to consolidate or merge with another company or firm. We are also permitted to sell or lease substantially all of our assets to another company or firm, or to buy or lease substantially all of the assets of another company or firm. However, we may not take any of these actions unless the following conditions, among others, are met:

If we merge with or into another company or firm or sell or lease substantially all our assets to another company or firm, the other company or firm must be a corporation, partnership or trust organized under the laws of a State of the United States or the District of Columbia or under federal law, and it must agree to be legally responsible for the debt securities.

The merger, sale of assets or other transaction must not cause a default on the debt securities, and we must not already be in default, unless the merger or other transaction would cure the default. For purposes of this no-default test, a default would include an event of default that has occurred and not been cured. A default for this purpose would also include any event that would be an event of default if the requirements for giving us notice of our default or our default having to exist for a specific period of time were disregarded.

It is possible that the merger, sale of assets or other transaction would cause some of our property to become subject to certain liens or other preferential rights in that property over other lenders, including the holders of the senior debt securities. We have promised in our senior debt indentures to limit these preferential rights on voting stock of any Restricted Subsidiary (as defined in the 2013 senior debt indenture) or Principal Subsidiary (as defined in the 2004 senior debt indenture) as discussed under “— Restrictive Covenants — Limitation on Liens on Stock of Restricted and Principal Subsidiaries and on Issuance or Disposition of Stock of Restricted and Principal Subsidiaries”. If a merger or other transaction would create any liens on the voting stock of our Restricted Subsidiaries (as defined in the 2013 senior debt indenture) or Principal Subsidiaries (as defined in the 2004 senior debt indenture), as applicable, we must comply with that restrictive covenant. Either the liens will be permitted under the covenant, or we would be required to grant an equivalent or higher-ranking lien on the same voting stock to the holders of the senior debt securities.

Modification and Waiver of the Debt Securities

There are four types of changes we can make to the indenture and the debt securities issued under that indenture.

*Changes Requiring Approval of All Holders.* First, there are changes that cannot be made to the indenture or the debt securities without specific approval of each holder of a debt security affected in any material respect by the change under a particular debt indenture. Affected debt securities may be all or less than all of the debt securities issued under that debt indenture or all or less than all of the debt securities of a series.

Following is a list of those types of changes under the 2004 senior debt indenture:

- changing the fixed maturity;

- reducing the principal amount;

- reducing the rate of or changing the time of payment of interest, reducing any premium payable upon the redemption or changing the time at which the debt security may be redeemed or purchased;

- reducing the percentage of debt securities referred to above, the holders of which are required to consent to any amendment, supplement or waiver;

- waiving a default or event of default in the payment of principal of or interest or additional interest, if any, on the debt securities (except a rescission of acceleration of the debt securities by the holders of at least a majority in aggregate principal amount of a series of debt securities and a waiver of the payment default that resulted from such acceleration);

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- making any debt security payable in money other than that stated in the indenture and the debt securities;
  
- making any change in the provisions of the indenture relating to waivers of past defaults or the rights of holders of debt securities to receive payments of principal of or interest or additional interest, if any, on the debt securities;
  
- making any change to the abilities of holders of debt securities to enforce their rights under the indenture or the provisions of the clauses above; or
  
- except as permitted under the 2004 senior debt indenture, increasing the conversion price with regard to any series of debt securities or modifying any provision of the 2004 senior debt indenture relating to conversion of any debt securities in a manner adverse to the holders thereof. (Section 9.2)

Following is a list of those types of changes under the 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture:

- changing the stated maturity of the principal, any installment of principal or interest on a debt security, or reducing the principal amount or the rate of interest or any premium payable upon the redemption;
  
- reducing any amounts due on a debt security;
  
- reducing the amount of principal payable upon acceleration of the maturity of a debt security (including the amount payable on an original issue discount debt security) following a default;
  
- changing the place or currency of payment on a debt security;
  
- impairing a holder's right to sue for payment;
  
- impairing any right that a holder of a debt security may have to exchange or convert the debt security for or into other property;
  
- reducing the percentage of holders of debt securities whose consent is needed to modify or amend the indenture;
  
- reducing the percentage of holders of debt securities whose consent is needed to waive compliance with certain provisions of the indenture or to waive certain defaults; or
  
- modifying any other aspect of the provisions dealing with modification and waiver of the indenture. (Section 902)

*Changes Requiring a Majority Vote.* The second type of change to the indenture and the debt securities is the kind that requires a vote in favor by holders of debt securities owning not less than a majority of the principal amount of the particular series affected or, if so provided and to the extent permitted by the Trust Indenture Act, of particular debt securities affected thereby. Most changes fall into this category, except for clarifying changes and certain other changes that would not adversely affect in any material respect holders of the debt securities. (Section 902 of the 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture, Section 9.2 of the 2004 senior debt indenture) We may also obtain a waiver of a past default from the holders of debt securities owning a majority of the principal amount of the particular series affected. However, we cannot obtain a waiver of a payment default or any other aspect of the indenture or the debt securities listed in the first category described above under “— Changes Requiring Approval of All Holders” unless we obtain the individual consent of each holder to the waiver. (Section 513 of the 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture, Section 5.13 of the 2004 senior debt indenture)

*Changes Not Requiring Approval.* The third type of change to the indenture and the debt securities does not require any vote by holders of debt securities. This type is limited to clarifications and certain other changes that would not adversely affect in any material respect holders of the debt securities. (Section 901 of the 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture, Section 9.1 of the 2004 senior debt indenture)



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We may also make changes or obtain waivers that do not adversely affect in any material respect a particular debt security, even if they affect other debt securities. In those cases, we do not need to obtain the approval of the holder of that debt security; we need only obtain any required approvals from the holders of the affected debt securities.

*Modification of Subordination Provisions.* We may not modify the subordination provisions of the subordinated debt indenture in a manner that would adversely affect in any material respect the outstanding subordinated debt securities without the consent of the holders of a majority of the principal amount of the particular series affected or, if so provided and to the extent permitted by the Trust Indenture Act, of particular subordinated debt securities affected thereby. Also, we may not modify the subordination provisions of any outstanding subordinated debt securities without the consent of each holder of our senior indebtedness that would be adversely affected thereby. The term “senior indebtedness” is defined below under “—Subordination Provisions”.

*Further Details Concerning Voting.* When taking a vote, we will use the following rules to decide how much principal amount to attribute to a debt security:

For original issue discount securities, we will use the principal amount that would be due and payable on the voting date if the maturity of the debt securities were accelerated to that date because of a default.

For debt securities whose principal amount is not known (for example, because it is based on an index), we will use a special rule for that debt security described in the prospectus supplement.

For debt securities denominated in one or more foreign currencies or currency units, we will use the U.S. dollar equivalent.

Debt securities will not be considered outstanding, and therefore not eligible to vote, if we have given a notice of redemption and deposited or set aside in trust for the holders money for the payment or redemption of the debt securities. Debt securities will also not be eligible to vote if they have been fully defeased as described below under “—Defeasance — Full Defeasance”. (Section 1302 of the 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture, Section 4.2 of the 2004 senior debt indenture)

Under the 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture, we will generally be entitled to set any day as a record date for the purpose of determining the holders of outstanding debt securities that are entitled to vote or take other action under the indenture. In certain limited circumstances, the trustee will be entitled to set a record date for action by holders. If we or the trustee set a record date for a vote or other action to be taken by holders of a particular series, that vote or action may be taken only by persons who are holders of outstanding securities of that series on the record date. We or the trustee, as applicable, may shorten or lengthen this period from time to time. (Section 104 of the 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture)

Under the 2004 senior debt indenture, the Company may set a day as a record date for the purpose of determining the holders of outstanding debt securities that are entitled to vote or take other action under the indenture that is not more than 90 days prior to the date of such vote or other action. (Section 3.10 of the 2004 senior debt indenture)

**BOOK-ENTRY AND OTHER INDIRECT HOLDERS SHOULD CONSULT THEIR BANKS, BROKERS OR OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS FOR INFORMATION ON HOW APPROVAL MAY BE GRANTED OR DENIED IF WE SEEK TO CHANGE THE INDENTURE OR THE DEBT SECURITIES OR REQUEST A WAIVER.**

## Reports

The 2004 senior debt indenture provides that any documents or reports that we may be required to file with the SEC pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act will be filed with the trustee within 30 days after we have filed those documents or reports with the SEC.

The 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture provide that any documents or reports that we may be required to file with the SEC pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act will be filed with the trustee within 15 days after we have filed those documents or reports with the SEC (the "Filing Obligation"). Under the Trust Indenture Act, we may have a separate obligation to file with the trustee documents or reports that we are

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required to file with the SEC. Under the 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture (but not under the 2004 senior debt indenture), our failure to comply with the requirements of Section 314(a) of the Trust Indenture Act or our Filing Obligation or to file a report with the SEC as contemplated in the indenture or otherwise will not constitute an event of default under the 2013 senior debt indenture or the subordinated debt indenture. Accordingly, acceleration of our obligations under the debt securities will not be a remedy for our failure to file those documents or reports with the trustee, and you may have no remedy for the failure other than an action for damages.

## Restrictive Covenants

### General

We have made certain promises in each indenture called covenants where, among other things, we promise to maintain our corporate existence and all licenses and material permits necessary for our business. In addition, in the senior debt indentures, but not in the subordinated debt indenture, we have made the promises described below.

### Limitation on Liens on Stock of Restricted and Principal Subsidiaries and on Issuance or Disposition of Stock of Restricted and Principal Subsidiaries

The 2013 senior debt indenture provides that we will not, nor will we permit any Restricted Subsidiary to, directly or indirectly, issue, assume, incur or guarantee any indebtedness for borrowed money (which we refer to in this prospectus as “Debt”) secured by a mortgage, security interest, pledge, lien or other encumbrance upon any shares of stock of any Restricted Subsidiary without effectively providing that the senior debt securities (together with, if we shall so determine, any other indebtedness of or guarantee by us ranking equally with the senior debt securities and then existing or thereafter created) will be secured equally and ratably with that Debt. (Section 1006 of the 2013 senior debt indenture)

For purposes of the 2013 senior debt indenture, “Restricted Subsidiary” means each of Interfinancial Inc., Union Security Insurance Company and American Security Insurance Company so long as each remains a subsidiary, as well as any successor to all or a principal part of the business of that subsidiary and any other subsidiary which our board of directors designates as a Restricted Subsidiary. (Section 101 of the 2013 senior debt indenture)

The 2004 senior debt indenture provides that we will not, nor will we permit any of our Principal Subsidiaries to, directly or indirectly, create, issue, assume, incur, guarantee or permit to exist any Indebtedness that is secured by a mortgage, pledge, lien, security interest or other encumbrance on any of the common stock of a Principal Subsidiary owned by us or by any of our Principal Subsidiaries, unless our obligations under the debt securities and, if we so

elect, any other of our Indebtedness ranking on a parity with, or prior to, the debt securities, shall be secured equally and ratably with, or prior to, such secured Indebtedness so long as it is outstanding and is so secured. (Section 10.3 of the 2004 senior debt indenture)

For the purposes of the 2004 senior debt indenture, "Indebtedness" is defined as the principal of and interest due on indebtedness of a Person, whether outstanding on the original date of issuance of the debt securities or thereafter created, incurred or assumed, which is (a) indebtedness for money borrowed and (b) any amendments, renewals, extensions, modifications and refundings of any such indebtedness. For the purposes of this definition, (i) "Person" means any individual, corporation, partnership, joint venture, association, joint stock company, trust, unincorporated organization or government or any agency or political subdivision thereof and (ii) "indebtedness for money borrowed" means (1) any obligation of, or any obligation guaranteed by, such Person for the repayment of borrowed money, whether or not evidenced by bonds, debentures, notes or other written instruments, (2) any obligation of, or any such obligation guaranteed by, such Person evidenced by bonds, debentures, notes or similar written instruments, including obligations assumed or incurred in connection with the acquisition of property, assets or businesses (provided, however, that (x) the deferred purchase price of any business or property or assets shall not be considered Indebtedness if the purchase price thereof is payable in full within 90 days from the date on which such indebtedness was created and (y) trade accounts payable and accrued liabilities arising in the ordinary course of business shall not be considered Indebtedness) and (3) any obligations of such Person as lessee under leases required to be capitalized on the balance sheet of the lessee under generally accepted accounting principles and leases of property or assets made as part of any sale and lease-back transaction to which such Person is a party. (Section 1.1 of the 2004 senior debt indenture)

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Furthermore, for the purposes of the 2004 senior debt indenture, “Principal Subsidiary” means a consolidated subsidiary of Assurant that, as of the time of the determination of whether such consolidated subsidiary is a “Principal Subsidiary,” accounted, in each case, for 10% or more of the total assets of Assurant and its consolidated subsidiaries, as set forth in the most recent balance sheet filed by Assurant with the SEC. (Section 1.1 of the 2004 senior debt indenture)

We will not, nor will we permit any Restricted Subsidiary (under the 2013 senior debt indenture) or Principal Subsidiary (under the 2004 senior debt indenture) to, issue, sell, assign, transfer or otherwise dispose of, directly or indirectly, any capital stock, other than nonvoting preferred stock, of any Restricted Subsidiary or Principal Subsidiary, as applicable, except for:

the purpose of qualifying directors;

sales or other dispositions to us or one or more Restricted Subsidiaries (under the 2013 senior debt indenture) or Principal Subsidiaries (under the 2004 senior debt indenture);

the disposition of all or any part of the capital stock of any Restricted Subsidiary (under the 2013 senior debt indenture) or Principal Subsidiary (under the 2004 senior debt indenture) for consideration which is at least equal to the fair value of that capital stock as determined by our board of directors acting in good faith; or

an issuance, sale, assignment, transfer or other disposition required to comply with an order of a court or regulatory authority of competent jurisdiction, other than an order issued at our request or the request of any Restricted Subsidiary (under the 2013 senior debt indenture) or Principal Subsidiary (under the 2004 senior debt indenture). (Section 1006 of the 2013 senior debt indenture and Section 10.4 of the 2004 senior debt indenture)

For the purposes of the senior debt indentures, “capital stock” means any and all shares, interests, rights to purchase, warrants, options, participations or other equivalents of or interests in corporate stock. (Section 101 of the 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture, Section 1.1 of the 2004 senior debt indenture)

Subordination Provisions

Holders of subordinated debt securities should recognize that contractual provisions in the subordinated debt indenture may prohibit us from making payments on those securities. Subordinated debt securities are subordinate and junior in right of payment, to the extent and in the manner stated in the subordinated debt indenture, to all of our senior indebtedness, as defined in the subordinated debt indenture, including all debt securities we have issued and will issue under the senior debt indentures.

The subordinated debt indenture defines “senior indebtedness” as all indebtedness and obligations of, or guaranteed or assumed by, us for borrowed money or evidenced by bonds, debentures, notes or other similar instruments, whether existing now or in the future and all amendments, renewals, extensions, modifications and refundings of any indebtedness or obligations of that kind. Senior debt excludes the subordinated debt securities and any other indebtedness or obligations that would otherwise constitute indebtedness if it is specifically designated as being subordinate in right of payment or equal in rank and right of payment to the subordinated debt securities.

The subordinated debt indenture provides that, unless all principal of and any premium or interest on the senior indebtedness has been paid in full, no payment or other distribution may be made in respect of any subordinated debt securities in the following circumstances:

in the event of any insolvency or bankruptcy proceedings, or any receivership, liquidation, reorganization, assignment for creditors or other similar proceedings or events involving us or our assets;

(a) in the event and during the continuation of any default in the payment of principal, premium or interest on any senior indebtedness beyond any applicable grace period, (b) in the event that any event of default with respect to any senior indebtedness has occurred and is continuing, permitting the holders of that senior indebtedness (or a trustee) to accelerate the maturity of that senior indebtedness, whether or not the maturity is in fact accelerated (unless, in the case of (a) or (b), the payment default or event of default has

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been cured or waived or ceases to exist and any related acceleration has been rescinded) or (c) in the event that any judicial proceeding is pending with respect to a payment default or event of default described in (a) or (b); or

· in the event that any subordinated debt securities have been declared due and payable before their stated maturity.

If the trustee under the subordinated debt indenture or any holders of the subordinated debt securities receive any payment or distribution that is prohibited under the subordination provisions, then the trustee or the holders will have to repay that money to the holders of the senior indebtedness.

Even if the subordination provisions prevent us from making any payment when due on the subordinated debt securities of any series, we will be in default on our obligations under that series if we do not make the payment when due. This means that the trustee under the subordinated debt indenture and the holders of that series can take action against us, but they will not receive any money until the claims of the holders of senior indebtedness have been fully satisfied.

The subordinated debt indenture allows the holders of senior indebtedness to obtain a court order requiring us and any holder of subordinated debt securities to comply with the subordination provisions.

Defeasance

The following discussion of full defeasance and covenant defeasance will be applicable to each series of debt securities that is denominated in U.S. dollars and has a fixed rate of interest and will apply to other series of debt securities if we so specify in the prospectus supplement. (Section 1301 of the 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture, Section 4.1 of the 2004 senior debt indenture)

Full Defeasance

If there is a change in U.S. federal tax law, as described below, we can legally release ourselves from any payment or other obligations on the debt securities, called full defeasance, if we put in place the following other arrangements for holders to be repaid:

We must deposit in trust for the benefit of all holders of the debt securities a combination of money and notes or bonds of the U.S. government or a U.S. government agency or U.S. government-sponsored entity (the obligations of which are backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government) that will generate enough cash to make interest, principal and any other payments on the debt securities on their various due dates as certified by a nationally recognized firm of independent public accountants.

There must be a change in current U.S. federal tax law or a U.S. Internal Revenue Service ruling that lets us make the above deposit without causing the holders to be taxed on the debt securities any differently than if we did not make the deposit and just repaid the debt securities ourselves. (Under current federal tax law, the deposit and our legal release from the obligations pursuant to the debt securities would be treated as though we took back your debt securities and gave you your share of the cash and notes or bonds deposited in trust. In that event, you could recognize gain or loss on the debt securities you give back to us.)

We must deliver to the trustee a legal opinion of counsel confirming the tax law change described above. (Sections 1302 and 1304 of the 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture, Sections 4.2 and 4.4 of the 2004 senior debt indenture)

In the case of the subordinated debt securities, the following requirements must also be met:

No event or condition may exist that, under the provisions described under “— Subordination Provisions” above, would prevent us from making payments of principal, premium or interest on those subordinated debt securities on the date of the deposit referred to above or during the 90 days after that date; and

We must deliver to the trustee an opinion of counsel to the effect that (a) the trust funds will not be subject to any rights of direct holders of senior indebtedness and (b) after the 90-day period referred to



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above, the trust funds will not be subject to any applicable bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization or similar laws affecting creditors' rights generally, except that if a court were to rule under any of those laws in any case or proceeding that the trust funds remained our property, then the relevant trustee and the direct holders of the subordinated debt securities would be entitled to some enumerated rights as secured creditors in the trust funds.

If we ever did accomplish full defeasance, as described above, a holder would have to rely solely on the trust deposit for repayment on the debt securities. In addition, in the case of subordinated debt securities, the provisions described above under “— Subordination Provisions” would not apply. A holder could not look to us for repayment in the unlikely event of any shortfall.

Covenant Defeasance

Under current U.S. federal tax law, we can make the same type of deposit as described above and we will be released from the restrictive covenants under the debt securities that are described above under “— Restrictive Covenants” and that may be described in the prospectus supplement. This is called covenant defeasance. In that event, the holder would lose the protection of these covenants but would gain the protection of having money and U.S. government or U.S. government agency notes or bonds set aside in trust to repay the debt securities. In order to achieve covenant defeasance, we must do the following:

We must deposit in trust for the benefit of all holders of the debt securities a combination of money and notes or bonds of the U.S. government or a U.S. government agency or U.S. government sponsored-entity (the obligations of which are backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government) that will generate enough cash to make interest, principal and any other payments on the debt securities on their various due dates as certified by a nationally recognized firm of independent public accountants; and

We must deliver to the trustee a legal opinion of counsel confirming that under current U.S. federal income tax law we may make the above deposit without causing the holders to be taxed on the debt securities any differently than if we did not make the deposit and just repaid the debt securities ourselves.

If we accomplish covenant defeasance, certain provisions of the indenture and the debt securities would no longer apply:

Covenants applicable to the series of debt securities that are described above under “— Restrictive Covenants” and described in the prospectus supplement.

Any events of default relating to breach of those covenants.

In addition, in the case of subordinated securities, the provisions described above under “— Subordination Provisions” will not apply if we accomplish covenant defeasance.

If we accomplish covenant defeasance, a holder can still look to us for repayment of the debt securities if there were a shortfall in the trust deposit. In fact, if one of the remaining events of default occurred (such as a bankruptcy) and the debt securities become immediately due and payable, there may be such a shortfall. (Sections 1303 and 1304 of the 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture, Sections 4.3 and 4.4 of the 2004 senior debt indenture)

#### Events of Default

A holder will have special rights if an event of default occurs and is not cured, as described later in this subsection.

*What Is An Event of Default?* The term “Event of Default” means any of the following:

- We do not pay the principal of or any premium on a debt security on its due date;
- We do not pay interest on a debt security within 30 days of its due date;

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We do not deposit money in a separate account, known as a sinking fund, on its due date, if we agree to maintain any sinking fund;

We remain in breach of the restrictive covenant described above under “—Restrictive Covenants—Limitation on Liens on Stock of Restricted and Principal Subsidiaries and on Issuance or Disposition of Stock of Restricted and Principal Subsidiaries” or any other term of the indenture for 60 days after we receive a notice of default stating we are in breach; provided that under the 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated indenture our failure to comply with the requirements of Section 314(a) of the Trust Indenture Act or our Filing Obligation, as defined above, or to file a report with the SEC as contemplated in the indenture or otherwise will not constitute an event of default. The notice must be sent by either the trustee or holders of at least 10% of the principal amount of debt securities of the affected series under the 2013 senior debt indenture or the subordinated debt indenture or 25% of the principal amount of debt securities of the affected series under the 2004 senior debt indenture.

We file for bankruptcy or certain other events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization occur;

Under the 2004 senior debt indenture, a default occurs under any mortgage, indenture or instrument under which there may be issued or by which there may be secured or evidenced any Indebtedness of us or any of our subsidiaries (other than Indebtedness owed to us or one of our subsidiaries) where such Indebtedness exists as of the date of the 2004 senior debt indenture, or is created after the date of the 2004 senior debt indenture, if such default (i) is caused by a failure to pay principal of or interest on such Indebtedness after final maturity prior to the expiration of the grace period provided by such Indebtedness on the date of such default; or (ii) results in the acceleration of such Indebtedness prior to its express maturity; and, in the case of clause (i) and (ii), the principal amount of such Indebtedness, together with the principal amount of any other such Indebtedness the maturity of which has been so accelerated, aggregates to \$50 million or more and such acceleration is not rescinded or annulled within 30 days of notice from the trustee or the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of the affected series; or

Any other event of default described in the prospectus supplement occurs. (Section 501 of the 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture, Section 5.1 of the 2004 senior debt indenture)

*Remedies If an Event of Default Occurs.* If you are the holder of a subordinated debt security, all remedies available upon the occurrence of an event of default under the subordinated debt indenture will be subject to the restrictions on the subordinated debt securities described above under “— Subordination Provisions”. If an event of default occurs, the trustee will have special duties. In that situation, the trustee will be obligated to use those of its rights and powers under the indenture, and to use the same degree of care and skill in doing so, that a prudent person would use in that situation in conducting his or her own affairs. If an event of default has occurred and has not been cured, the trustee or the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the debt securities of the affected series may declare the entire principal amount (or, in the case of original issue discount securities, the portion of the principal amount that is specified in the terms of the affected debt security) of all the debt securities of that series to be due and immediately payable. This is called a declaration of acceleration of maturity. However, a declaration of acceleration of maturity may be cancelled, but only before a judgment or decree based on the acceleration has been obtained, by the holders of at least a majority in principal amount of the debt securities of the affected series. (Section 502 of the 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture, Section 5.2 of the 2004 senior debt indenture) If we file for bankruptcy or certain other events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization occur, then the principal amount of all the

securities of that series (or, if any securities of that series are original issue discount securities, such portion of the principal amount of such securities as may be specified by the terms thereof) shall automatically, and without any declaration or other action on the part of the trustee or any holder, become immediately due and payable.

You should read carefully the prospectus supplement relating to any series of debt securities which are original issue discount securities for the particular provisions relating to acceleration of the maturity of a portion of the principal amount of original issue discount securities upon the occurrence of an event of default and its continuation.

Except in cases of default, where the trustee has the special duties described above, the trustee is not required to take any action under the indenture at the request of any holders unless the holders offer the trustee reasonable protection from expenses and liability called an indemnity. (Section 603 of the 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture, Section 6.3 of the 2004 senior debt indenture) If indemnity reasonably satisfactory to

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the trustee is provided, the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding securities of the relevant series may direct the time, method and place of conducting any lawsuit or other formal legal action seeking any remedy available to the trustee. These majority holders may also direct the trustee in performing any other action under the applicable indenture with respect to the debt securities of that series, provided that:

it is not in conflict with any law or the indenture;

the trustee may take any other action deemed proper by it that is not inconsistent with directions from the holders of the debt securities of the affected series; and

under the 2004 senior debt indenture, unless otherwise provided under the Trust Indenture Act, the trustee need not take any action that might involve it in personal liability or might be unduly prejudicial to the holders of the debt securities of the affected series not involved in the proceeding. (Section 512 of the 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture, Section 5.12 of the 2004 senior debt indenture)

Before you bypass the trustee and bring your own lawsuit or other formal legal action or take other steps to enforce your rights or protect your interests relating to the debt securities, the following must occur:

The holder of the debt security must give the trustee written notice that an event of default has occurred and remains uncured;

The holders of 25% in principal amount of all outstanding securities of the relevant series must make a written request that the trustee take action because of the default, and they must offer reasonable indemnity to the trustee against the costs, expenses and liabilities of taking that action;

The trustee must have not taken action for 60 days after receipt of the above notice and offer of indemnity; and

No direction inconsistent with such written request has been given to the trustee during such 60-day period by the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding securities of that series. (Section 507 of the 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture, Section 5.7 of the 2004 senior debt indenture)

However, you are entitled at any time to bring a lawsuit for the payment of money due on your debt security on or after its due date. (Section 508 of the 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture, Section 5.8 of the 2004 senior debt indenture)

**BOOK-ENTRY AND OTHER INDIRECT HOLDERS SHOULD CONSULT THEIR BANKS, BROKERS OR OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS FOR INFORMATION ON HOW TO GIVE NOTICE OR DIRECTION TO OR MAKE A REQUEST OF THE TRUSTEE AND TO MAKE OR CANCEL A DECLARATION OF ACCELERATION.**

We will give to the trustee every year a written statement of certain of our officers certifying that to their knowledge we are in compliance with the applicable indenture and the debt securities issued under it, or else specifying any default. (Section 1004 of the 2013 senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture, Section 10.6 of the 2004 senior debt indenture)

Governing Law

The indentures are, and the debt securities will be, governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York.

Our Relationship with the Trustee

U.S. Bank National Association is one of our lenders and from time to time provides other banking customary services to us and our subsidiaries.

U.S. Bank National Association is initially serving as the trustee for our senior debt securities issued under the 2004 senior debt indenture and the 2013 senior debt indenture, and subordinated debt securities issued under the

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subordinated debt indenture. If an actual or potential event of default occurs with respect to any of these securities, the trustee may be considered to have a conflicting interest for purposes of the Trust Indenture Act of 1939. In that case, the trustee must eliminate the conflict or may be required to resign under one or more of the indentures and we would be required to appoint a successor trustee. For this purpose, a “potential” event of default means an event that would be an event of default if the requirements for giving us default notice or for the default having to exist for a specific period of time were disregarded.

The recitals contained in this prospectus and in the debt securities shall be taken as statements of the Company and the trustee assumes no responsibility for their correctness. U.S. Bank National Association makes no representations or warranties regarding the debt securities or the adequacy or accuracy of this prospectus.

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Description of Common Stock We May Offer

References to “Assurant,” the “Company,” “us,” “we” or “our” in this section mean Assurant, Inc., and do not include the subsidiaries of Assurant, Inc. Also, in this section, references to “holders” mean those who own shares of common stock registered in their own names, on the books that the registrar or we maintain for this purpose, and not those who own beneficial interests in shares registered in street name or in shares issued in book-entry form through one or more depositories. Owners of beneficial interests in shares of common stock should read the section below entitled “Legal Ownership and Book-Entry Issuance”.

The certificate of incorporation of Assurant, Inc. authorizes 800,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$0.01 per share. The following summary of the terms and provisions of our capital stock does not purport to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated by-laws, forms of which have been filed as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part, and applicable law. See “Where You Can Find More Information” for information about where you can obtain a copy of these documents.

**General.** All outstanding shares of common stock are, and all shares of common stock to be outstanding upon completion of the offering will be, fully-paid and nonassessable. As of January 16, 2018, we had 52,432,603 shares of common stock outstanding.

**Dividends.** Subject to any preferential rights of any outstanding series of preferred stock that our board of directors may create from time to time, including the Series C Preferred Stock, the holders of our common stock will be entitled to dividends as may be declared from time to time by the board of directors from funds available therefor.

**Voting Rights.** Each share of common stock entitles the holder thereof to one vote on all matters, including the election of directors, and, except as otherwise required by law or provided in any resolution adopted by our board of directors with respect to any series of preferred stock, the holders of the shares of our common stock will possess all voting power. Our certificate of incorporation does not provide for cumulative voting in the election of directors. Generally, all matters to be voted on by the stockholders must be approved by a majority of the votes cast, subject to state law and any voting rights granted to any of the holders of preferred stock.

**Preemptive Rights.** The holders of common stock do not have any preemptive rights. There are no subscription, redemption, conversion or sinking fund provisions with respect to the common stock.



**Liquidation Rights.** Upon dissolution, liquidation or winding-up of Assurant, subject to the rights of holders of any preferred stock outstanding or any other class or series of stock having preferential rights, the holders of shares of common stock will be entitled to receive our assets available for distribution proportionate to their pro rata ownership of the outstanding shares of common stock.

#### Anti-takeover Effects of Certain Provisions of the Certificate of Incorporation, By-Laws and Delaware General Corporation Law

The provisions of the Delaware General Corporation Law and our certificate of incorporation and by-laws summarized below may have the effect of discouraging, delaying or preventing hostile takeovers, including those that might result in a premium being paid over the market price of our common stock, and discouraging, delaying or preventing changes in control or management of our Company.

#### Certificate of Incorporation and By-Laws

Our certificate of incorporation, which provides for the issuance of preferred stock, may have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a change in control of our Company without further action by the stockholders and may adversely affect the voting and other rights of the holders of shares of common stock. Further, our certificate of incorporation requires that any action required or permitted to be taken by our stockholders must be effected at a duly called annual or special meeting of our stockholders and may not be effected by a consent in writing. Special meetings of our stockholders may be called only by our Chief Executive Officer or by our board of directors pursuant to a resolution approved by the board of directors. In addition, our by-laws establish advance notice procedures with respect to stockholder proposals and the nomination of candidates for election as directors. These provisions may have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a change in control.

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*Issuance of Preferred Stock.* Our board of directors has the authority, without further action of our stockholders, to issue up to 200,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$1.00 per share, in one or more series and to fix the powers, preferences, rights and qualifications, limitations or restrictions thereof. The issuance of preferred stock on various terms could adversely affect the holders of common stock. The potential issuance of preferred stock may discourage bids for shares of our common stock at a premium over the market price of our common stock, may adversely affect the market price of shares of our common stock and may discourage, delay or prevent a change of control of Assurant.

The anti-takeover and other provisions of our certificate of incorporation and by-laws could discourage potential acquisition proposals and could delay or prevent a change in control. These provisions are intended to enhance the likelihood of continuity and stability in the composition of the board of directors and in the policies formulated by the board of directors and to discourage certain types of transactions that may involve an actual or threatened change of control. These provisions are designed to reduce our vulnerability to an unsolicited acquisition proposal. The provisions also are intended to discourage certain tactics that may be used in proxy fights. However, these provisions could have the effect of discouraging others from making tender offers for our shares and, as a consequence, they also may inhibit fluctuations in the market price of our shares that could result from actual or rumored takeover attempts. These provisions also may have the effect of preventing changes in our management.

Delaware General Corporation Law

We are subject to Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law, which we refer to as “Section 203”. In general, Section 203 prevents a person who owns 15% or more of our outstanding voting stock, an “interested stockholder,” from engaging in some business combinations, as described below, with us for three years following the time that that person becomes an interested stockholder unless one of the following occurs:

the board of directors either approves the business combination or the transaction in which the person became an interested stockholder before that person became an interested stockholder;

upon consummation of the transaction which resulted in the person becoming an interested stockholder, the interested stockholder owned at least 85% of our voting stock outstanding at the time the transaction commenced, excluding stock held by:

directors who are also officers of our Company; and

employee stock plans that do not provide employees with the right to determine confidentially whether shares held subject to the plan will be tendered in a tender or exchange offer; or

at or subsequent to the time that the transaction in which the person became an interested stockholder, the business combination is:

approved by the board of directors; and

authorized at a meeting of stockholders by the affirmative vote of the holders of at least two-thirds of our outstanding voting stock which is not owned by the interested stockholder.

For purposes of Section 203, the term “business combinations” includes mergers, consolidations, asset sales or other transactions that result in a financial benefit to the interested stockholder and transactions that would increase the interested stockholder’s proportionate share ownership of our Company.

Under some circumstances, Section 203 makes it more difficult for an interested stockholder to effect various business combinations with us for a period of three years after the stockholder becomes an interested stockholder. Although our stockholders have the right to exclude us from the restrictions imposed by Section 203, they have not done so. Section 203 may encourage companies interested in acquiring us to negotiate in advance with the board of directors, because the requirement stated above regarding stockholder approval would be avoided if a majority of the directors approves, prior to the time the party became an interested stockholder, either the business combination or the transaction which results in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder.

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Listing

Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the trading symbol “AIZ”.

Transfer Agent and Registrar

The transfer agent and registrar for our common stock is Computershare, P.O. Box 505000, Louisville, KY 40233.

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Description of Preferred Stock and  
Depositary Shares Representing Preferred Stock We May Offer

References to “Assurant,” the “Company,” “us,” “we” or “our” in this section mean Assurant, Inc., and do not include the subsidiaries of Assurant, Inc. Also, in this section, references to “holders” mean those who own shares of preferred stock or depositary shares, as the case may be, registered in their own names, on the books that the registrar or we maintain for this purpose, and not those who own beneficial interests in shares registered in street name or in shares issued in book-entry form through one or more depositaries. When we refer to “you” in this section, we mean all purchasers of the securities being offered by this prospectus, whether they are the holders or only indirect owners of those securities. Owners of beneficial interests in shares of preferred stock or depositary shares should read the section below entitled “Legal Ownership and Book-Entry Issuance”.

General

We may issue preferred stock in one or more series. We may also “reopen” a previously issued series of preferred stock and issue additional preferred stock of that series. In addition, we may issue preferred stock together with other preferred stock, debt securities, warrants, stock purchase contracts and common stock in the form of units as described below under “Description of Units We May Offer”. This section summarizes terms of the preferred stock that apply generally to all series. The description of most of the financial and other specific terms of your series will be in your prospectus supplement. Those terms may vary from the terms described here.

Because this section is a summary, it does not describe every aspect of the preferred stock and any related depositary shares. As you read this section, please remember that the specific terms of your series of preferred stock and any related depositary shares as described in your prospectus supplement will supplement and, if applicable, modify or replace the general terms described in this section. If there are differences between your prospectus supplement and this prospectus, your prospectus supplement will control. Thus, the statements we make in this section may not apply to your series of preferred stock or any related depositary shares.

Reference to a series of preferred stock means all of the shares of preferred stock issued as part of the same series under a certificate of designations filed as part of our amended and restated certificate of incorporation. Reference to your prospectus supplement means the prospectus supplement describing the specific terms of the preferred stock and any related depositary shares you purchase. The terms used in your prospectus supplement will have the meanings described in this prospectus, unless otherwise specified.

Authorized and Outstanding Preferred Stock

Our board of directors has the authority, without further action of our stockholders, to issue up to 200,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$1.00 per share, in one or more series and to fix the powers, preferences, rights and qualifications, limitations or restrictions thereof, which may include dividend rights, conversion rights, voting rights, terms of redemption, liquidation preferences and the number of shares constituting any series or the designations of the series.

At January 16, 2018, no shares of our preferred stock were outstanding.

Holders of the Series C Preferred Stock are entitled to receive dividends at the rate of 4.5% per share per annum multiplied by the \$1,000 per share liquidation price. All dividends are payable in arrears on a quarterly basis. Any dividend that is not paid on a specified dividend payment date with respect to a share of such Preferred Stock shall be deemed added to the liquidation price of such share for purposes of computing the future dividends on such share, until such delinquent dividend has been paid.

Holders of the Series C Preferred Stock may elect to have any or all of their shares redeemed by the Company any time after April 1, 2022, and the Company must redeem all shares of the Series C Preferred Stock no later than July 1, 2027. The Company also has the right and the obligation to redeem the Series C Preferred Stock upon the occurrence of certain specified events. The redemption price in all cases shall equal the \$1,000 per share liquidation price plus all accumulated and unpaid dividends. The Company is not required to establish any sinking fund or similar funds with respect to such redemptions.

None of the shares of Series C Preferred Stock are convertible into common stock or any other equity security of the Company. However, holders of the Series C Preferred Stock are entitled to one vote per share owned of

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record on all matters voted upon by the Company stockholders, voting with the holders of common stock as a single class, and not as a separate class or classes. The shares of Series C Preferred Stock are subject to certain restrictions on transferability, and the Company has the right of first refusal to acquire the shares if any holder thereof desires to make a transfer not otherwise permitted by the terms thereof.

In addition, as we described below under “—Fractional or Multiple Shares of Preferred Stock Issued as Depositary Shares”, we may, at our option, instead of offering whole individual shares of any series of preferred stock, offer depositary shares evidenced by depositary receipts, each representing a fraction of a share or some multiple of shares of the particular series of preferred stock issued and deposited with a depositary. The fraction of a share or multiple of shares of preferred stock which each depositary share represents will be stated in the prospectus supplement relating to any series of preferred stock offered through depositary shares.

The rights of holders of preferred stock may be adversely affected by the rights of holders of preferred stock that may be issued in the future. Our board of directors may cause shares of preferred stock to be issued in public or private transactions for any proper corporate purpose. Examples of proper corporate purposes include issuances to obtain additional financing for acquisitions and issuances to officers, directors and employees under their respective benefit plans. Our issuance of shares of preferred stock may have the effect of discouraging or making an acquisition more difficult.

Preferred stock will be fully paid and nonassessable when issued, which means that our holders will have paid their purchase price in full and that we may not ask them to surrender additional funds. Unless otherwise provided in your prospectus supplement, holders of preferred stock will not have preemptive or subscription rights to acquire more stock of Assurant.

The transfer agent, registrar, dividend disbursing agent and redemption agent for shares of each series of preferred stock will be named in the prospectus supplement relating to that series.

Form of Preferred Stock

We may issue preferred stock in book-entry form. Preferred stock in book-entry form will be represented by a global security registered in the name of a depositary, which will be the holder of all the shares of preferred stock represented by the global security. Those who own beneficial interests in shares of preferred stock will do so through participants in the depositary’s system, and the rights of these indirect owners will be governed solely by the applicable procedures of the depositary and its participants. However, beneficial owners of any preferred stock in book-entry form will have the right to obtain their shares in non-global form. We describe book-entry securities below under “Legal Ownership and Book-Entry Issuance”. All preferred stock will be issued in registered form.

## Overview of Remainder of this Description

The remainder of this description summarizes:

- preferred stockholders' rights relative to common stockholders, such as the right of preferred stockholders to receive dividends and amounts on our liquidation, dissolution or winding-up before any such amounts may be paid to our common shareholders;

- our ability to issue fractional or multiple shares of preferred stock in the form of depositary shares; and

- various provisions of the deposit agreement, including how distributions are made, how holders vote their depositary shares and how we may amend the deposit agreement.

## Preferred Stockholders' Rights

### Rank

Shares of each series of preferred stock will rank senior to our common stock with respect to dividends and distributions of assets. However, we will generally be able to pay dividends and distributions of assets to holders of our preferred stock only if we have satisfied our obligations on our indebtedness then due and payable.



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### Dividends

Holders of each series of preferred stock will be entitled to receive cash dividends when, as and if declared by our board of directors, from funds legally available for the payment of dividends. The rates and dates of payment of dividends for each series of preferred stock will be stated in your prospectus supplement. Dividends will be payable to holders of record of preferred stock as they appear on our books on the record dates fixed by our board of directors. Dividends on any series of preferred stock may be cumulative or noncumulative, as set forth in the prospectus supplement.

### Redemption

If specified in your prospectus supplement, a series of preferred stock may be redeemable at any time, in whole or in part, at our option or the holder's, and may be redeemed mandatorily.

Any restriction on the repurchase or redemption by us of our preferred stock while there is an arrearage in the payment of dividends will be described in your prospectus supplement.

Any partial redemptions of preferred stock will be made in a way that our board of directors decides is equitable.

Unless we default in the payment of the redemption price, dividends will cease to accrue after the redemption date on shares of preferred stock called for redemption and all rights of holders of these shares, including voting rights, will terminate except for the right to receive the redemption price.

### Conversion or Exchange Rights

Our prospectus supplement relating to any series of preferred stock that is convertible, exercisable or exchangeable will state the terms on which shares of that series are convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for shares of common stock, another series of preferred stock or other of our securities or securities of third parties.

### Liquidation Preference

Upon any voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of Assurant, holders of each series of preferred stock will be entitled to receive distributions upon liquidation in the amount described in your prospectus supplement, plus an amount equal to any accrued and unpaid dividends. These distributions will be made before any distribution is made on our common stock. If the liquidation amounts payable relating to the preferred stock of any series and any other parity securities ranking on a parity regarding liquidation rights are not paid in full, the holders of the preferred stock of that series and the other parity securities will share in any distribution of our available assets on a ratable basis in proportion to the full liquidation preferences of each security. Holders of our preferred stock will not be entitled to any other amounts from us after they have received their full liquidation preference and accrued and unpaid dividends.

### Voting Rights

The holders of preferred stock of each series will have no voting rights, except:

- as stated in the prospectus supplement and in the certificate of designations establishing the series; or
- as required by applicable law.

### Fractional or Multiple Shares of Preferred Stock Issued as Depositary Shares

We may choose to offer fractional shares or some multiple of shares of our preferred stock, rather than whole individual shares. If we decide to do so, we will issue the preferred stock in the form of depositary shares. Each depositary share would represent a fraction or multiple of a share of the preferred stock and would be evidenced by a depositary receipt, as further described in the prospectus supplement relating to any series of preferred stock offered through depositary shares.

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Deposit Agreement

We will deposit the shares of preferred stock to be represented by depositary shares under a deposit agreement. The parties to the deposit agreement will be:

Assurant;

a bank or other financial institutional selected by us and named in the prospectus supplement, as preferred stock depositary; and

the holders from time to time of depositary receipts issued under that deposit agreement.

Each holder of a depositary share will be entitled to all the rights and preferences of the underlying preferred stock, including, where applicable, dividend, voting, redemption, conversion and liquidation rights, in proportion to the applicable fraction or multiple of a share of preferred stock represented by the depositary share. The depositary shares will be evidenced by depositary receipts issued under the deposit agreement. The depositary receipts will be distributed to those persons purchasing the fractional or multiple shares of preferred stock. A depositary receipt may evidence any number of whole depositary shares. The depositary for the depositary shares may charge certain fees for holding the preferred stock on behalf of the holders of the depositary shares or in connection with certain transfers, redemptions, dividend payments, distributions or other transactions involving the depositary shares.

We will file the deposit agreement, including the form of depositary receipt, with the SEC, either as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part or as an exhibit to a current report on Form 8-K.

Dividends and Other Distributions

The preferred stock depositary will distribute any cash dividends or other cash distributions received in respect of the deposited preferred stock to the record holders of depositary shares relating to the underlying preferred stock in proportion to the number of depositary shares owned by the holders. The preferred stock depositary will distribute any property received by it other than cash to the record holders of depositary shares entitled to those distributions, unless it determines that the distribution cannot be made proportionally among those holders or that it is not feasible to make a distribution. In that event, the preferred stock depositary may, with our approval, sell the property and distribute the net proceeds from the sale to the holders of the depositary shares in proportion to the number of depositary shares they own.

The amounts distributed to holders of depositary shares will be reduced by any amounts required to be withheld by the preferred stock depositary or by us on account of taxes or other governmental charges.

#### Redemption of Preferred Stock

If we redeem preferred stock represented by depositary shares, the preferred stock depositary will redeem the depositary shares from the proceeds it receives from the redemption. The preferred stock depositary will redeem the depositary shares at a price per share equal to the applicable fraction or multiple of the redemption price per share of preferred stock. Whenever we redeem shares of preferred stock held by the preferred stock depositary, the preferred stock depositary will redeem as of the same date the number of depositary shares representing the redeemed shares of preferred stock. If fewer than all the depositary shares are to be redeemed, the preferred stock depositary will select the depositary shares to be redeemed by lot or ratably or by any other equitable method it chooses.

After the date fixed for redemption, the depositary shares called for redemption will no longer be deemed to be outstanding, and all rights of the holders of those shares will cease, including voting rights, except the right to receive the amount payable and any other property to which the holders were entitled upon the redemption. To receive this amount or other property, the holders must surrender the depositary receipts evidencing their depositary shares to the preferred stock depositary. Any funds that we deposit with the preferred stock depositary for any depositary shares that the holders fail to redeem will be returned to us after a period of two years from the date we deposit the funds.

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### Withdrawal of Preferred Stock

Unless the related depositary shares have previously been called for redemption, any holder of depositary shares may receive the number of whole shares of the related series of preferred stock and any money or other property represented by those depositary receipts after surrendering the depositary receipts at the corporate trust office of the preferred stock depositary, paying any taxes, charges and fees provided for in the deposit agreement and complying with any other requirement of the deposit agreement. Holders of depositary shares making these withdrawals will be entitled to receive whole shares of preferred stock, but holders of whole shares of preferred stock will not be entitled to deposit that preferred stock under the deposit agreement or to receive depositary receipts for that preferred stock after withdrawal. If the depositary shares surrendered by the holder in connection with withdrawal exceed the number of depositary shares that represent the number of whole shares of preferred stock to be withdrawn, the preferred stock depositary will deliver to that holder at the same time a new depositary receipt evidencing the excess number of depositary shares.

### Voting Deposited Preferred Stock

When the preferred stock depositary receives notice of any meeting at which the holders of any series of deposited preferred stock are entitled to vote, the preferred stock depositary will mail the information contained in the notice to the record holders of the depositary shares relating to the applicable series of preferred stock. Each record holder of the depositary shares on the record date, which will be the same date as the record date for the preferred stock, may instruct the preferred stock depositary to vote the amount of the preferred stock represented by the holder's depositary shares. To the extent possible, the preferred stock depositary will vote the amount of the series of preferred stock represented by depositary shares in accordance with the instructions it receives. We will agree to take all reasonable actions that the preferred stock depositary determines are necessary to enable the preferred stock depositary to vote as instructed. If the preferred stock depositary does not receive specific instructions from the holders of any depositary shares representing a series of preferred stock, the preferred stock depositary will vote all shares of that series in proportion to the instructions received.

### Conversion of Preferred Stock

If our prospectus supplement relating to the depositary shares says that the deposited preferred stock is convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for common stock, preferred stock of another series or other securities, or debt or equity securities of one or more third parties, our depositary shares, as such, will not be convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for any securities. Rather, any holder of the depositary shares may surrender the related depositary receipts to the preferred stock depositary with written instructions to instruct us to cause conversion, exercise or exchange of our preferred stock represented by the depositary shares into or for whole shares of common stock, shares of another series of preferred stock or other of our securities or securities of the relevant third party, as applicable. Upon receipt of those instructions and any amounts payable by the holder in connection with the conversion, exercise or exchange, we will cause the conversion, exercise or exchange using the same procedures as those provided for

conversion, exercise or exchange of the deposited preferred stock. If only some of the depositary shares are to be converted, exercised or exchanged, a new depositary receipt or receipts will be issued for any depositary shares not to be converted, exercised or exchanged.