

FedFin Daily Briefing

Friday, October 7, 2022

FIO Notes Growing PE Insurance Role, Demurs on Action

Treasury's Federal Insurance Office today issued an annual report replete with data and largely devoid of policy. However, reflecting strong pressure from Sen. Brown (D-OH) (see Client Report INSURANCE61), the report addresses credit risk transfer and private-equity participation in the reinsurance industry. FIO notes that the alternative risk-transfer market grew by \$3 billion from 2020 to 2021, with both the property & casualty and life & health insurance sectors seeing over ten percent growth in reinsurance, which boosted total sector revenue growth. It also finds that private equity-owned insurer cash and invested assets grew over 100% over the same period. FIO thus pledges to continue to monitor developments regarding private equity in insurance and will provide updates in future annual reports. The report signals no effort by Treasury to influence state regulators to slow PE entry into this sector.

Recent Files Available for Downloading

The following reports and analyses have been sent to retainer clients recently. Copies are also available to retainer clients on the Archives section of Federal Financial Analytics' website: www.fedfin.com or clients may obtain the reports/analyses by e-mailing info@fedfin.com giving the requested item name, firm, and e-mail address. To learn more about GSE Activity Reports, click here.

- ➤ <u>GSE-100622</u>: FHA's <u>request for input</u> on small-dollar loans could mean much for this equality-essential product or little beyond a lot more public debate.
- **CRYPTO33:** In this report, we build on our <u>initial assessment</u> of FSOC's conclusion that cryptoassets now pose systemic risk and the Council's recommendations about what should be done to curtail it.
- GSE-100422: Although one witness at the FHFA listening session on the Home Loan Banks took strong issue with their mission and meaning, another who called them the "most successful program of the last hundred years" pretty much summed up today's testimony.
- ➤ GSE-100322: Our take on the first two days of FHFA's FHLB "listening session" last week is that battle lines are shaping up much as we expected with the exception of a couple of powerful groups with new ideas about how the System could be put to better use for themselves and/or the public interest.
- MORTGAGE121: The CFPB has asked for views on the extent to which it can facilitate certain refinancing (refi) products it believes enhance economic justice.
- ➢ GSE-092622: As will be evident in our forthcoming in-depth analysis, the CFPB's fusillade <u>last week</u> on mortgage-finance could have far-reaching implications for the entire market based on how far it takes its new campaign for equitable housing finance and whether the market is willing to come along on at least some of the agency's new ideas.
- > <u>AML136</u>: Treasury is seeking comments on issues raised by the President's executive order (EO) on digital assets to guide further work curbing illicit-finance and national-security risks in this sector.
- ➤ REFORM213: Senate Banking's hearing with big-bank CEOs proved much more combative than HFSC's session yesterday (see *Client Report* REFORM212).
- GSE-092222: In this report, we follow our earlier analysis of Treasury's CBDC recommendations

and <u>housing finance</u> with an analysis of another Treasury report in response the President's <u>executive</u> <u>order</u> focused on the overall construct of cryptoassets in the U.S.

- <u>REFORM212</u>: At today's big-bank oversight HFSC hearing, Committee Democrats focused on each bank's progress on social issues, such as internal diversity, unionization, and historic roles in financing slavery.
- ➤ <u>GSE-092122</u>: In this analysis, we drill down in Treasury's high-impact reports to the President on the future of digital assets to identify key considerations and strategic implications for housing finance.
- CRYPTO32: We follow our prior in-depth analysis of Treasury's CBDC and payments report (see Client Report CBDC14) with a detailed assessment of the Department's assessment of overall cryptoasset policy.
- SANCTION19: Today's Senate Banking hearing on Russian sanctions showcased bipartisan concern that anti-Russian sanctions have yet to have meaningful impact and doubts about the extent to which oil-price caps will reverse this.
- **CBDC14:** In this in-depth report, we follow through as promised on our initial analysis of key sections in last Friday's Treasury report on CBDC and changes to the payment system.
- ➤ <u>INVESTOR20</u>: The Senate Banking hearing with Chairman Gensler today went as <u>expected</u>: Democrats generally praised his work while Republicans strongly opposed it on both substantive and procedural grounds.
- ➤ <u>INSURANCE61</u>: Chairman Brown (D-OH) convened a hearing today focused on the insurance industry largely focusing on the extent to which private-equity takeovers endanger insurance solvency and threaten pensioners following risk transfers.